



monthly news of the cooperative community

NASCO monthly Journal Adopts Guest Editor Policy

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Because different co-ops have special resources (and interests) for certain topics relating to co-op organizing and operation, we have decided to 'farm-out' and fund the *Journal of the New Harbinger* as a project of co-op groups and/or individuals at the local level for (provisionally) six months of 1972.

The objective of this 'guest editor' policy is to facilitate (by funding and by widely disseminating information gathered) short-term projects of concern to the general NASCO membership of student and community cooperatives. Please direct inquiries to me (david m. friedrichs) at NASCO in Ann Arbor.

General Manager's Job at Neill-Wycik Co-op College Open

The position of General Manager of Neill-Wycik College Residence in Toronto is opening as of February, 1972. People interested in the job should contact John Rowsome, Chairman of the Management Committee. The job pays between \$7000 and \$10000 depending on experience. People applying should have some knowledge of co-op organization, and the skills to handle a high-rise co-op residence.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is now taking applications for student housing projects. If you are unsure about the application, and need advice on some of the paperwork, write us (NASCO/Ann Arbor).

Co-ops Form Help Yourself Center in Columbia, Missouri

Three groups pooled their resources last month in Columbia (in a working model which other co-op groups might follow) to open a **Co-op Center**. The center (915E. Broadway) offers health and organic foods through a food cooperative, hand-made articles through its arts and crafts co-op, and yoga classes in its practice rooms.

A 'household membership fee' of \$10 for groups under four, \$15 for groups of five to nine, and \$20 for groups of ten and up is in effect at the food co-op. This entitles you to a 10 percent discount in purchasing. A straight \$10 membership fee is charged at the Arts and Crafts Co-op. Articles in the store have two prices, the higher one for non-members.

Phillipine Co-op Credit Union League Setting organizing Precedent

In a growing university town the Credit Union League is putting down its time and money to build the co-op movement. Statewide leagues in the US could do much good by putting their resources to work as the Phillipine league does.

A **Cooperative Information Center** has been set up. Students from five universities form the League's **Youth Advisory Board for the Advancement of Cooperatives**. This group is organizing Teach-ins in university areas to spread the co-op idea. For the moment, organizing activities are focusing on co-op housing and eating facilities.

Bread and Law Task Force Organizing Co-ops in Vermont

Using consultant and organizational skills, a group co-sponsored by Vermont Legal Aid and OEO is planning to assist groups in their state in setting up and operating food co-ops. Their purpose is to get more food to low income people. They are now working at setting up a communication network among co-ops to raise consciousness and further co-op organizing efforts. 94 Church St., Burlington, Vt. 05401

STUDENT Group Organizing CO-OPS in Alaska

Word has arrived of new student co-op efforts in College, Alaska. Technical assistance (and a lot of encouraging talk) is being sent from NASCO.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The 1971 publication *The Man From Margaree: writings and speeches of M.M.Coady* by A. F. Laidlaw is now available @ NASCO/Ann Arbor at a discounted price. NASCO's *Journal of the New Harbinger* was dedicated to Coady, and passages from the book comprised the lead article in the first edition.

Regional AFSC Group Beginning CO-OP Work

Perhaps inspired by co-op worker and educator Ray Arvio's April article on 'A Quaker's Questions About the Co-op Movement', the New England American Friends Service Committee is starting a **NEW SOCIETY PROGRAM** which will involve, among other things, talking to people about alternative economic institutions and systems. (48 Inman Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02139)

News from Behavior Research Institute in Boston

A community of people has formed around their work with children and behavior technology. They are planning an experimental community, philosophically based on **Walden II**, with the objective of maximizing the quality of life for its members. The group welcomes inquiries. They also publish the **Journal of Behavior Technology** (3 Goodwin Place, Boston, Ma. 02114)

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The first of thirteen **SOURCE CATALOGS** is now available. Begun as a result of the travels of the Education Liberation Front (ELF) Bus during 1969 and 1970, **SOURCE** attempts to draw together and share information about our Movement, its resources, projects, skills and dreams. The first edition is entitled **COMMUNICATIONS**, and is available from **SOURCE**, P.O. Box 21066, Washington D.C. 20009 for \$1.50

COMMENTARY: for those who ask themselves Why Should I Support (Join) a Credit Union Instead of a non-co-op Bank ?

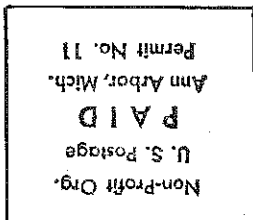
Besides the price, which is likely to be just as good, if not better, with a credit union:

1. you are technically an owner and as soon as you join you have an equal share in the policy making of the (your) credit union -- one member, one vote.
2. credit unions are co-ops, and are more likely than banks to be doing good things with their money. And, even if they're not, your vote, and a little internal organizing, can change policy.
3. money orders can be had for a dime at most credit unions (if not at yours, then get the policy changed !); and, they can be used nearly as conveniently as checks. There is no cost/check or service charge from any bank. No minimum balance, etc.
4. all the interest you pay when you borrow is income tax deductible. This is not true on certain revolving accounts with 'carrying charge' costs.
5. credit union dealings are communitarian: members have some common bond, either locationally, occupationally, or in some field of interest. Most credit unions will personally help get things squared away if you get into difficulty with repayments (rarely are third parties used).
6. no favoritism, nor discrimination, in interest rates -- it is uniform for all.
7. as a borrower, you know the total cost of your credit before you sign. A true interest rate is used, and there are no concealed charges.
8. records and accounts are strictly confidential.
9. no merchandise bought with a credit union loan is used as security for the loan (i.e., there no conditional sales contracts).

If there is no credit union that suits you and your community ---- charter one, under either federal or state charters. **Take control of the financial institutions you use.**

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