

Alternate life styles

The forest floor teems with undergrowth, delicate moss coverings, sprouting seeds and a maze of rootlets. Something quiet and essential grows underfoot.

This sense of unobtrusive new life characterizes the spirit of hope evident in many of the young "back-to-the-land" people. They are individuals, couples and whole groups who have moved without fanfare from the confines, congestion and blatant corruption of the city to a place where the rhythms of nature speak of greater sanity.

During the summer of 1971, several unrelated people from a variety of urban backgrounds found themselves drawn to central New Brunswick, and the seeds of a new community were planted. In the midst of older established farms and rural communities, the "new people" moved in, bringing their dreams and visions, their special skills and talents, a common caring and respect for the land and a disenchantment with much of urban life.

Down one bush-lined road, a mailbox painted with a bright sunflower marks Jeff Solway's 20-acre property bordering the Nashwaak River. A geodesic dome, one of four structures at Sunflower Settlement, is where Jeff and friend Laurel spend much of their time; where they can talk of their concerns, plans and hopes.

"There are only two things that could make me leave here", says Jeff. "Lack of people and lack of money". It is their firm hope that other compatible people

might build close by; people, who like themselves, have learned not merely to survive, but to live comfortably on annual incomes of two or three thousand dollars.

Meanwhile their dreams of inter-connected cooperatives is partly realized as they get together with other new groups nearby. Gary, a young man who makes pottery, lives in a remodelled chicken coop. Behind his property and further from the main road, a group of seven adults and three children live, work and play together, sharing resources, incomes and skills. Within a few years, the people of "Hog-Wallow Flats" have built several houses, developed an extensive vegetable garden and used their skills in leather work to make the money necessary for their survival. Still another part of this new community are Hal and Judy, an energetic couple whose organic farm edges the highway.

Added to the sense of kinship is the help, support, friendship and mutual respect the "new people" have received from the "old timers" in the district.

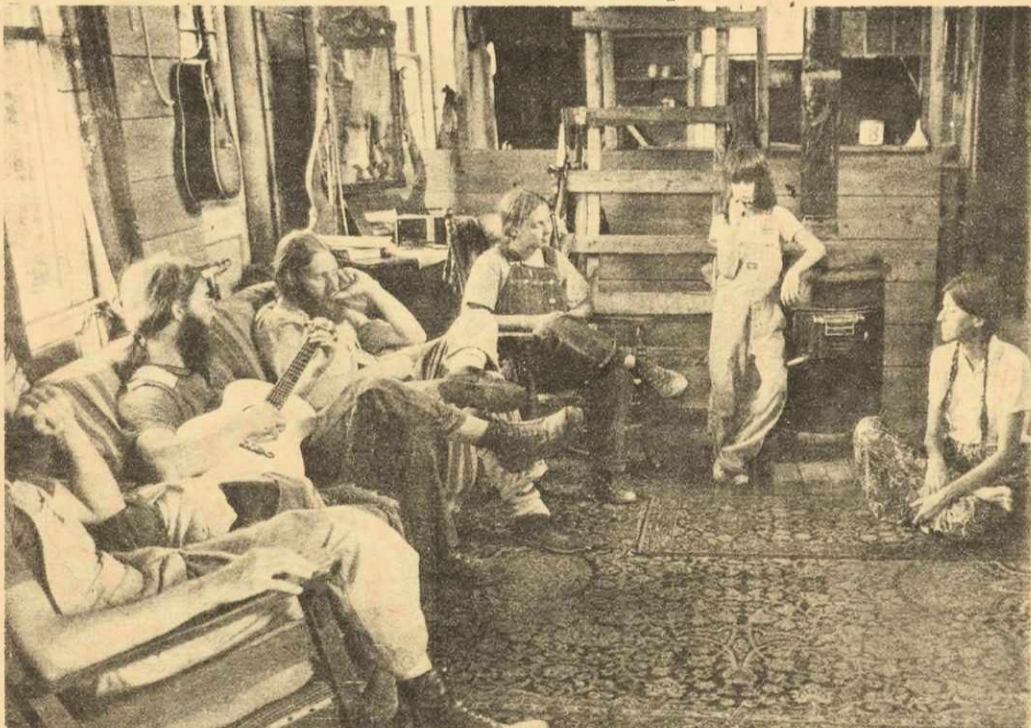
When they are not working on their gardens or buildings, Jeff and Laurel spend time on special projects. They believe that a creative solution to their need for a fulfilling life involves a recognition that they need a certain minimal but non-slavish economic, material and social dependency on urban centres.

Jeff has worked on contract with the Secretary of State Department, doing research in the field of long-



term youth policy; exploring and reviewing alternatives. His publication "The Alternative in Canada", available from the Youth Participation Development Group, Secretary of State Department, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0M5, outlines a variety of approaches and suggestions for individual, group and governmental consideration.

The dream has not yet taken on the dimensions of a large utopian landscape. A leaky roof and hungry hordes of black flies, mosquitoes and "no-see-ums" are little reminders that the best of all worlds has its price. But when one wakens to a "think small" morning of almost unbelievable bird song and great clusters of wild strawberries, one suspects that the price is all right.



Check this actress out !

The theatre department at Dalhousie University is very pleased to announce that Wanda Graham, a recent theatre department graduate has been awarded the \$1,000.00 Jean A. Chalmers Award presented annually to the most promising theatre apprentice at the Stratford Festival.

Upon graduation from the theatre department at Dal-

housie University, Ms. Graham was the only woman from across Canada to be offered an apprenticeship at Stratford. Now completing her first season at Stratford, Ms. Graham appeared in Pericles and King John, as well as participating in advanced classes in fencing, voice and historical dances.

Prior to her Stratford engagement, Mr. Graham

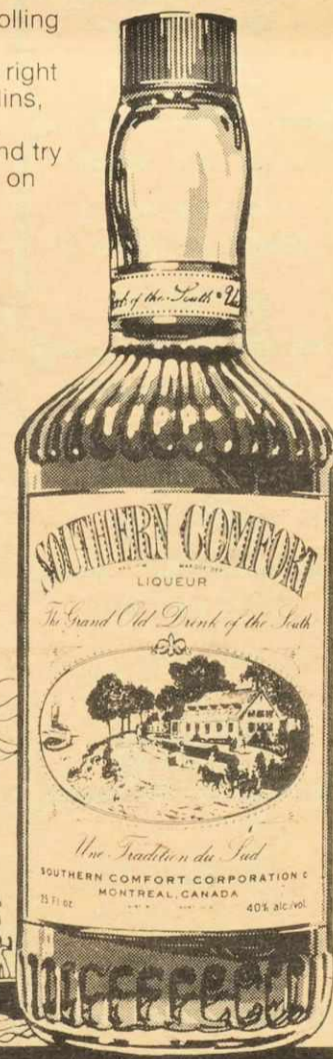
had been seen on the Neptune stage in the 1971 production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. She has also acted widely in University theatre, her work in Anastasis in 1970 won her a best performance award. The 21 year old actress has also worked with an educational theatre group in Halifax called "Three Women".

SOUTHERN COMFORT

What a way to travel!

Southern Comfort keeps on rolling along wherever people mix, because Southern Comfort is right on board with soda, cola, collins, orange, lemon-lime, tonic... almost anything that's wet. And try Southern Comfort straight, or on the rocks.

Southern Comfort: the grand old drink of the South.



Port of Entry
5680 SPRING GARDEN ROAD HALIFAX, N. S.
featuring: THE CAPTAINS CABIN
with EL PASO

coming Dec. 16 Doc Holiday