# WINTER OUR

These are bones of contention.

The Western Shoshone retained the title to their lands, by treaty. When the People, the Newe, pursued legal affirmation of their land rights, their legal counsel pursued monetary compensation instead.

The undying resistance of the Newe to surrender their lands is focussed today in the insistence of the Dann family that their stock grazes on land that belongs to the Western Shoshone people. The Bureau of Land Management has charged the Danns with trespass, and has attempted to round up livestock on the contested land.

Although Western Shoshone territory was never sold or signed away, encroachment and harrassment led tribal elders in the 1930's to enlist the assistance of Judge Milton Badt to defend their interests. Knowing that the Indians wished to assert their land rights, the Judge instead pursued financial compensation.

In 1946 the task was handed to Salt Lake City attorney Ernest Wilkinson who continued to seek compensation even though the Newe sought confirmation of their treaty title. The same year Wilkinson's law firm helped create the Indian Claims Commission, designed to terminate claims with financial settlements. Wilkinson's partner, Robert Barker, filed a claim for compensation in 1951, and resistance to the claim remained unorganised until the early 1970's. By 1979, the Indian's request for a compromise, approximately one-eighth of the treaty land, had been approved by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice. Then came the MX missle and Secretary of the Interior

The trespass charges against the Danns are the latest extension of our government's dishonorable treatment of the Newe, and perhaps the last. These are some of the people who can teach all of us how to live on this earth without using it up, without poisoning each other. They may be our last, best hope. and we should help them.

Supporters of the Newe and the Danns have maintained a vigil for several weeks to monitor the activities of the BLM. These people are under a high level of surveillance and access to the Dann ranch has been restricted, partly due to severe winter weather.

It is now very, very cold in the high country in Nevada. The Danns' supporters need clothing -- wool socks, gloves and hats -- and non-perishable food. If you wish to know more, Donna Osborne is in contact with supporters in the area who are collecting supplies to send to the Dann ranch. Call her at 436-2420.

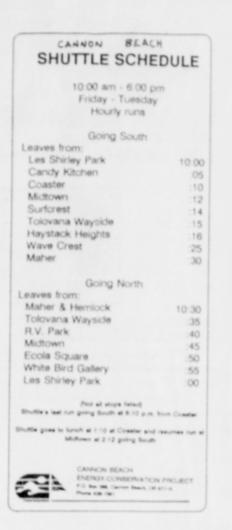
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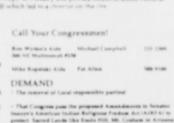
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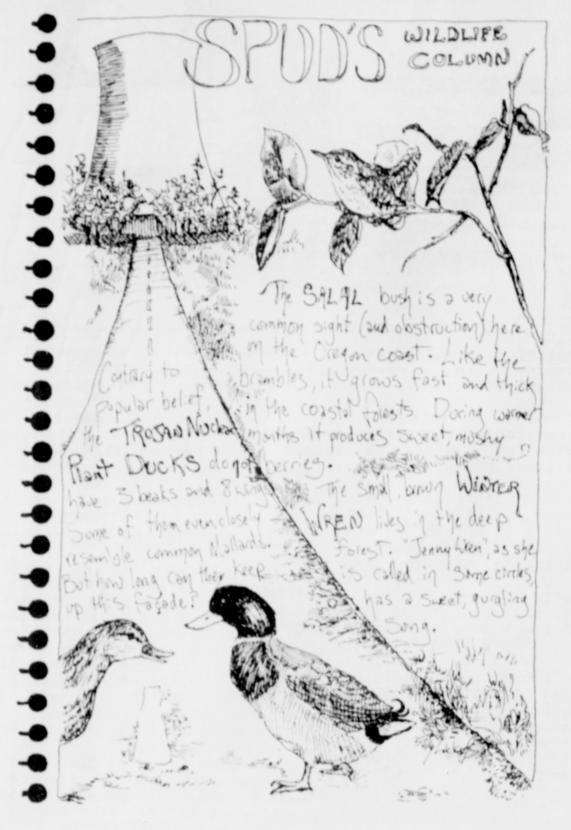
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If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter, floating a few feet above a field somewhere, people would come from everywhere to marvel at it. People would walk around it, marvelling at its big pools of water, its little pools and the water flowing between the pools. People would marvel at the bumps on it, and the holes in it, and they would marvel at the very thin layer of gas surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The people would marvel at all the creatures walking around the surface of the ball, and at the creatures in the water. The people would declare it as sacred because it was the only one, and they would protect it so that it would not be hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and people would come to pray to it, to be healed, to gain knowledge, to know beauty and to wonder how it could be. People would love it, and defend it with their lives because they would somehow know that their lives, their own roundness, could

be nothing without it. If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter.

