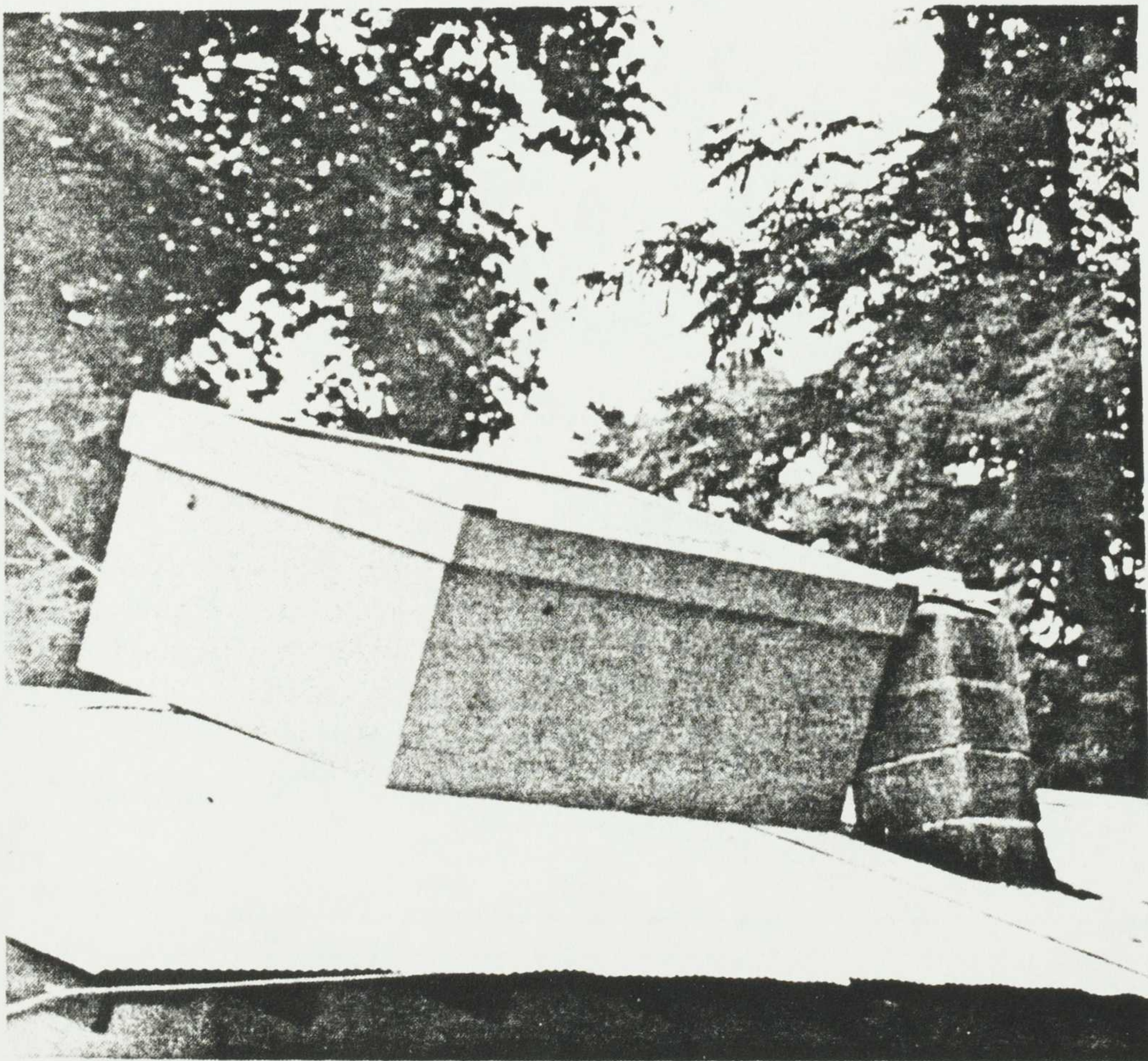


SOLAR AT CRANKS

The Cranks Creek Survival Center had their annual homecoming in July. In addition to live music, a wedding, over 200 folks, and lots of good food, ASPI built a "breadbox" solar water heater for the Center.

The "breadbox" is a simple hot water device for spring, summer and fall. It consists of two black water heater tanks set in a double-glazed, insulated, foil-lined box facing south. The tanks act as collectors and storage so water circulating pumps aren't needed. By restricting use to warmer periods a complex, costly anti-freeze system is avoided. Tanks are connected in series with cold water entering the lower tank and hot water drawn off the upper one. By using two tanks, cold water dilution of hot water is reduced.



The "breadbox" costs around \$250 and will provide ordinary household needs in non-freezing weather. It needs to be drained in very cold weather. If you are interested in such a system, please let us know. We're here to assist.

R. A. S. FORMS

A three-year old dream by public interest people is taking shape, i.e., an auditing service capable of a complete analysis of all physical resources (land, heating, interior space, water, solid waste use, trees, buildings, roads and walkways, library, and insulation) for social change groups. The Resource Auditing Service (RAS) focuses on comprehensive analyses both for Appalachian groups (generally on a pro bono basis) and for outside groups. From the modest fees collected it is hoped that the Appalachian projects can be supported.

One novel RAS feature is that it does not rely on expensive in-house expertise; the project workers are drawn from a listing of Appalachian and national experts who are willing to perform RAS analyses. One problem is to fairly distribute the work load so that all are called upon at least once annually. A second feature is that the client becomes a participant. The group must draw up social change goals, furnish data for the analysis, and take steps to implement changes suggested.

Actual auditing involves initial on-site visits, assembling basic data, assembling a team of experts, and conducting a thorough on-site analysis. The report which follows includes a plan for conserving resources, pertinent references and literature, support agencies which are near-at-hand, and a time table and approximate cost of implementation. An optional step includes furnishing experts to conduct specific workshops in one or other suggested areas such as aquaculture or edible landscaping.

Currently the RAS is performing a county waste management plan for Lyons County, Kentucky and a community plan for the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph at Tipton, Indiana. Two pro bono projects are being performed for Appalachian groups.

For further Information write to:

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