

tion urging a single wage rate on the project, which was approved, 137 to 6.

But Stephen W. Kimbell, the Vermont state planning director, called the discrimination issue "baloney," and said the wage would depend not on where a worker lived, but on which side of the bridge he worked. That seemed to raise the prospect of lower wages for New Yorkers as much as higher ones for Vermonters.

New York, Mr. Kimbell said, has agreed to let Vermont resolve the issue, and at week's end, Vermont Secretary of Transportation Susan C. Crampton said she was "gathering facts," and might have to delay the opening of bids, scheduled for March 22. "It's certainly an extreme situation here," she said. "A very unfortunate disparity."

When parts of the Maine coast were struck last summer by an infestation of paralytic shellfish poisoning, better known as red tide, the Town of Brunswick was forced to close its clam flats, and dozens of clam-diggers from the town drove a short distance up the coast to Waldoboro to earn their living.

"If we restricted them from coming in here to dig, some people wouldn't have been able to meet their mortgages or make their car payments," said Robert Wareheim, a Waldoboro clam-digger.

Brunswick, however, has a local ordinance that restricts nonresidents from digging clams within the town, and so would not be able to return the favor. "It just doesn't seem fair that they can come here and dig but we can't go there," Mr. Wareheim said.

In Maine, where clam-digging is serious business, the issue has now become a matter of hot debate. There are some 3,500 commercial diggers in the state, and the economies of coastal towns like Jonesboro depend on clams. Forty-two towns, about half the communities on the coast, have passed ordinances restricting access to their clam flats.

Control and cultivation are necessary to protect the future of the industry, said John Cox, a Jonesboro digger. Mr. Cox and others created a hatchery in Jonesboro that last year seeded the town flats with 130,000 young clams.

But the Maine Legislature is now considering a bill that would give control of the flats to the state, though it is not a prospect that the State Department of Marine Resources welcomes. The agency could not do the job that towns like Jonesboro are doing, said its commissioner, Spen-

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Santa Cruz Struggling With a Vestige of Its 60's, Street People

Homeless to

ROBERT LINDSEY

Special to The New York Times

SANTA CRUZ, Calif., March 17 — Time, in some ways, seems to have stood still in the center of this seaside city in central California.

Lining the main street, bearded men with long hair and women wearing clothing stylish in the student protests of a generation ago seem everywhere. They recall the "hippies" of the 1960's and the "Beat Generation" of the 1950's.

But nowadays they are called "street people," and to some of the 42,000 residents of this community that in recent years has prided itself as a kind of laboratory for liberal social change, they are neither welcome nor romantic figures of nostalgia but vagrants, free-

loaders and targets for physical abuse.

Since last summer, according to social workers and police officials, there have been at least 40 incidents, including four in the last month, in which street people have been beaten or otherwise attacked by local residents.

Opponents of Street People

Peter Carota, who operates a Roman Catholic soup kitchen for the homeless, said: "It's usually middle-class kids, teen-agers or in their early 20's, who are from Establishment families and don't understand or like it that the street people don't have jobs." Although some of the drifters that he feeds each day "don't work because they don't want to," he said, the majority have serious mental or emotional problems.

Until the mid-1960's, Santa Cruz was a city with virtually one thing on its mind: its pleasant white beach, which attracted tourists from as far away as San Francisco, 80 miles to the north.

In a period of rapid expansion in 1965, the University of California opened an experimental liberal arts campus in a redwood grove overlooking Monterey Bay a few miles from the city, and the city has not been the same.

The University of California at Santa Cruz reflected its times. Academic life was virtually unstructured. Social dissent was encouraged. Students were given broad latitude in their studies. The same laissez-faire attitude prevailed for the faculty.

Complaints About Campus

For several years Santa Cruz was the university's most popular campus. Then complaints began and in the 1970's applications plummeted.

Some graduates complained that they had had so much freedom and had spent so much time in campus protests on social issues that they had learned little in four years. There were reports of widespread heroin usage.

In recent years, administrators have embraced a more traditional academic curriculum. But the institution's early days left a deep mark on the city. Many students stayed in and have begun to help govern Santa Cruz.

One recent mayor, Michael Rotki, a lecturer on community studies at the school, is a Socialist who fought for a



The New York Times/Terrence McCarthy

Police officer removing effigy posted by street people in a park in Santa Cruz. It bore sign saying, "We still exist after dark," a reference to proposal to ban camping in the county without the property owner's permission.

poor. The current Mayor, John Laird, a graduate of the university, is a homosexual who has said he hoped his election would encourage other homosexuals to enter politics.

Frustration Is Voiced

Despite their generally liberal outlook, leaders of Santa Cruz concede frustration over how to deal with the city's jobless vagabonds, some of whom are former university students or campus hangers-on.

"It really polarizes the community," Mayor Laird said of the street people. "I'm not sure there is anything we can do from the enforcement angle."

No one knows how many street people there are — the population changes daily — but more than 200 people eat free each day at Mr. Carota's St. Francis Catholic Kitchen. They sleep in parks, under bridges, on sidewalks in the shopping mall, on the beach or in nearby forests.

Robert P. Rader, who operates a

says, "Santa Cruz has become the arm-pit of the world."

"I get tired of supporting people like this," Mr. Rader said. He said the university had "ruined" Santa Cruz.

One effort to oust the street people involves a proposal before the County Board of Supervisors that would ban camping anywhere in the county without the owner's permission and subject violators to a \$500 fine.

Leaders of the street people have called the proposal "Fascist."

Al Noren, the county Sheriff, author of the proposed camping ban, said, "I'm a little tired of hearing about these people as if they're ready for sainthood."

"We've had an inordinate amount of these people because of the temperature and the climate, and the street people have been welcomed by a certain attitude," the Sheriff added.

The word went out, he said, that Santa Cruz was run by liberals and had a "permissive" attitude. "Now, no one

really knows what to do about it," he said. "How can you be against homeless people?"

Barbara Ryan, who described herself as a 53-year-old recovering alcoholic, sorted through a bin of clothes at the soup kitchen and said she had been turned down by every public service agency she had applied to here for help.

"This is a Garden of Eden compared to where I was," she said, referring to the rough San Francisco Tenderloin district, "but here nobody seems to care about other people who are in need. They are so cold."

"Last night, I slept in the Mall," she said. "I don't know where I'll go tonight. Where's the Christianity?"

The subject turned to teen-age toughs who had been attacking the street people. A street person, Don Freeland, 26, turned to his new acquaintance, Mrs. Ryan, and said:

"These kids come from affluent families. They have cars and televisions and everything. They don't understand why people are on the streets."



The New York Times

Peter Carota readying bread for lunch at the soup kitchen he oper-