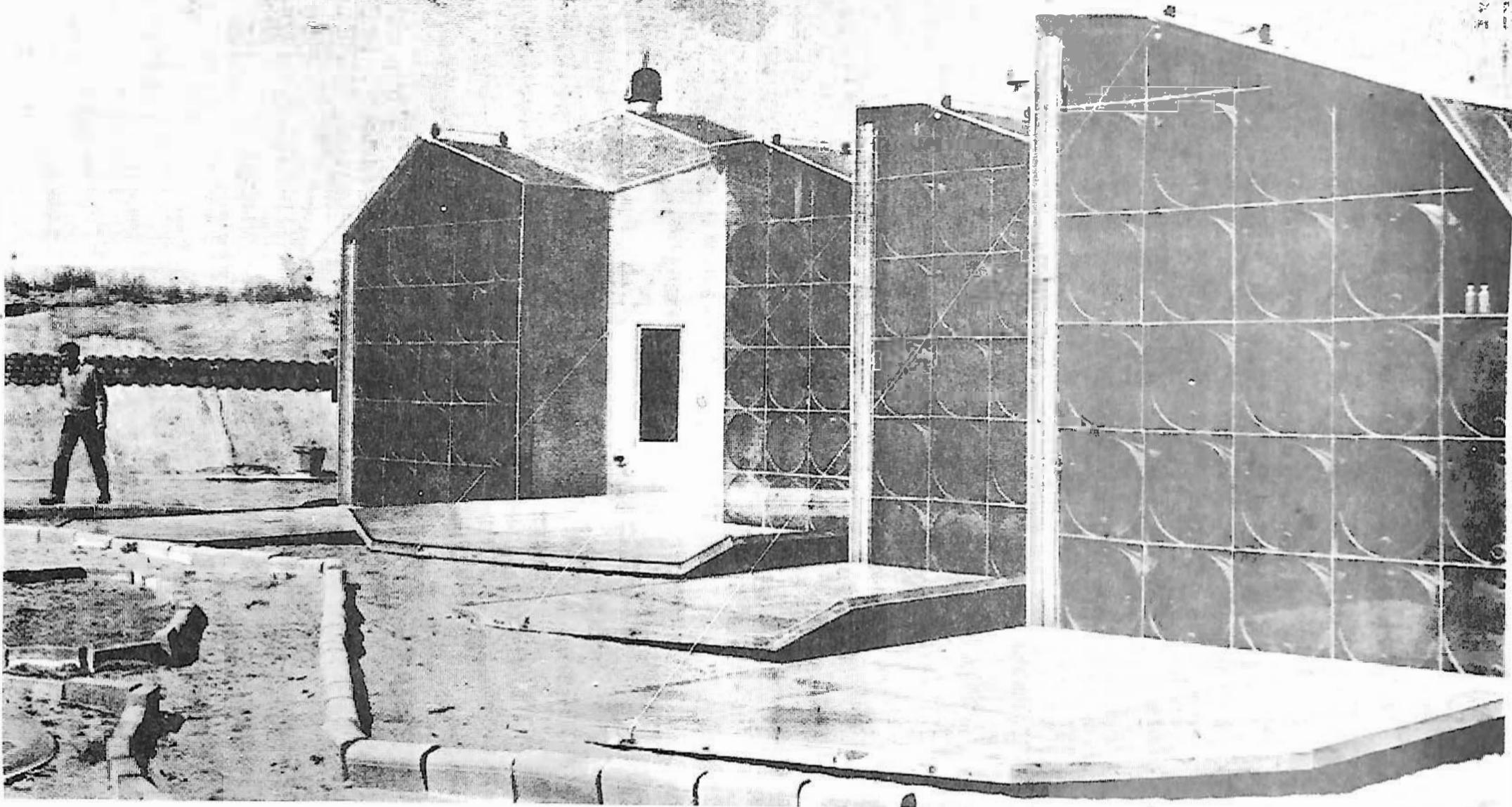


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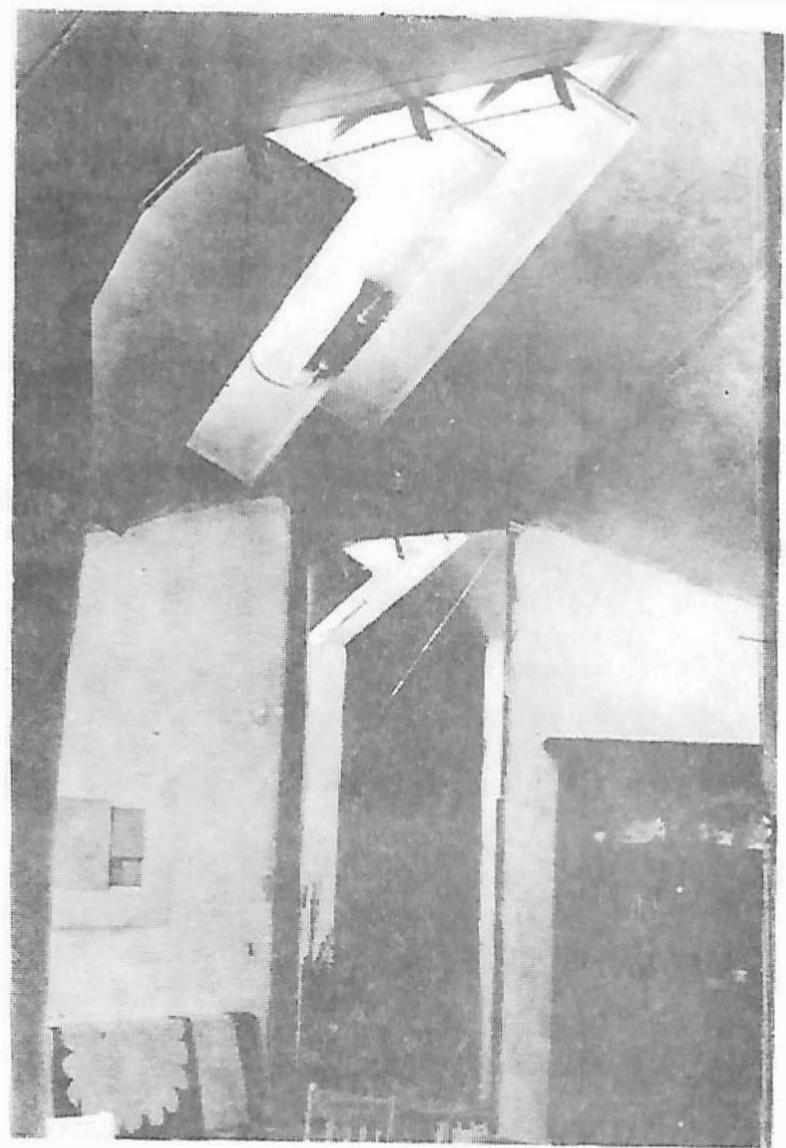


Old 55 gallon oil barrels filled with water, painted black, absorb heat from sun during day, In the evening side panels (seen laying on ground) are drawn shut. Barrels give off warmth all night long heating most of house.

ALL FOTOS BY MEL BUFFINGTON

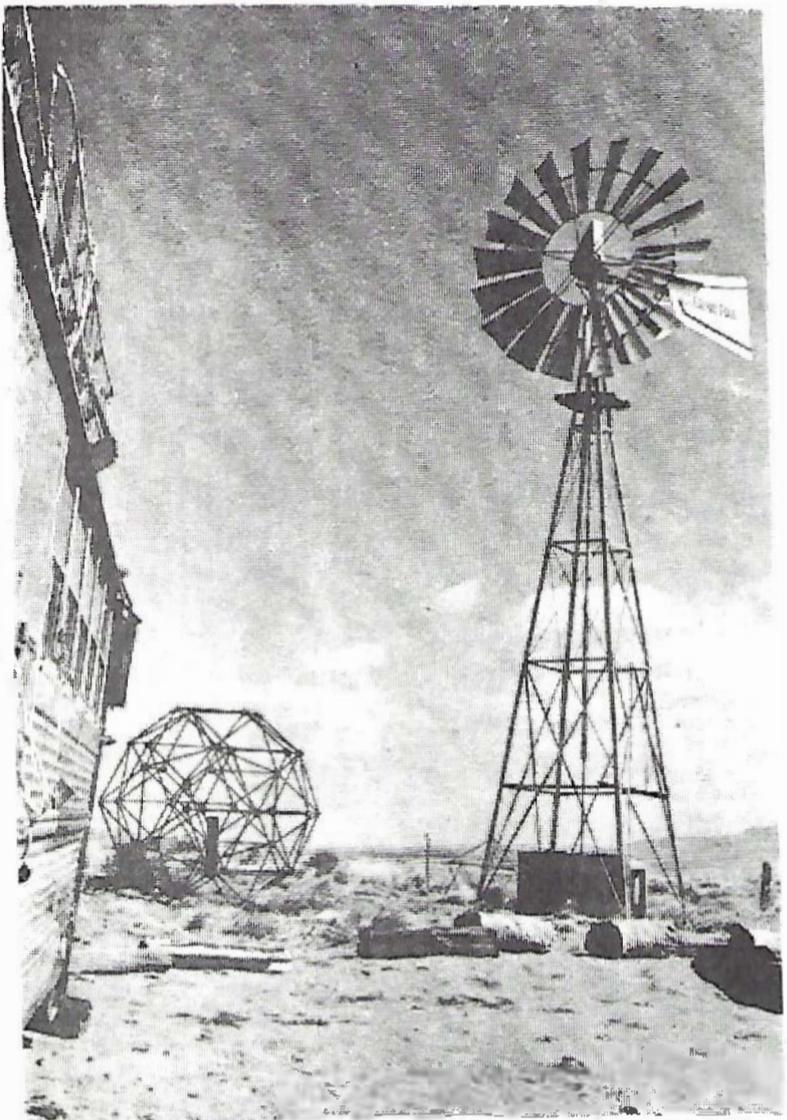
Like a dream, surreal. at first; coming up to it. a couple of "wow"s. maybe a "far out", or two. but then a quietness, a calm. no big-city hum, for one thing: the loudest noise comes from the windmill, behind and beyond the house. but the calm is more than that: it is a strong presence of order; of logic; and plain old common sense. further; it is the presence of space - all around you - inside and out. space to move in; to move thru. nothing cramped, or close. and the light: it touches everything. its presence, too, is soft and undemanding. simplicity is often the most difficult state to attain. in architecture, in art, or just living day-to-day. when you come across it (simplicity), it is a pleasure. this new mexico sunshine home is that. it is enough.

---mel buffington

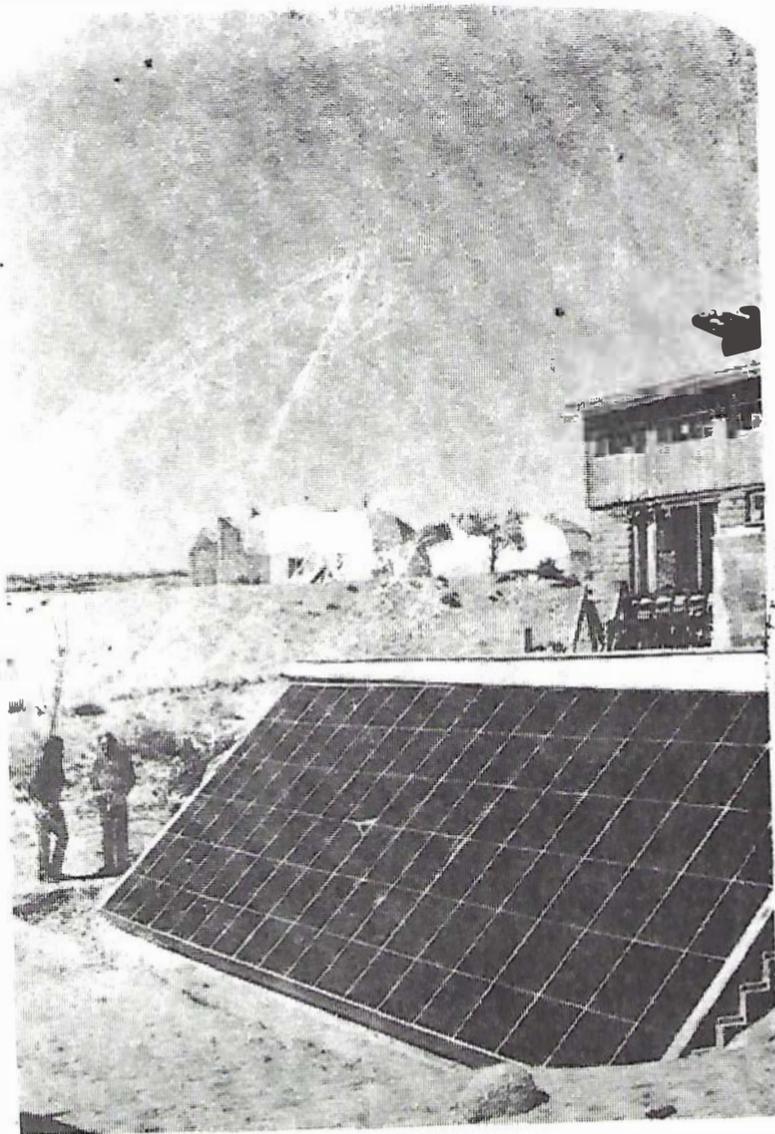


A motor with a light-sensitive switch automatically opens windows in morning and self-adjusts to allow the best angle for sunlight.

TRIBAL MESSENGER 12 MAR 1973



Side of bus, zome, & windmill.



Solar panels at neighbor's house.

Since Atomic Power is not yet a safe useable fuel for commercial purposes there are three main fuels commonly considered for home heading: Electricity, Natural Gas, and fuel oil.

Electricity, in our-part of the West where water power is very scarce, is largely produced by burning coal, or in a few instances gas or oil, therefore ultimately, almost all of our homes are heated by fuels that are a result of centuries of slow chemical actions working on the remains of plant and animal life.

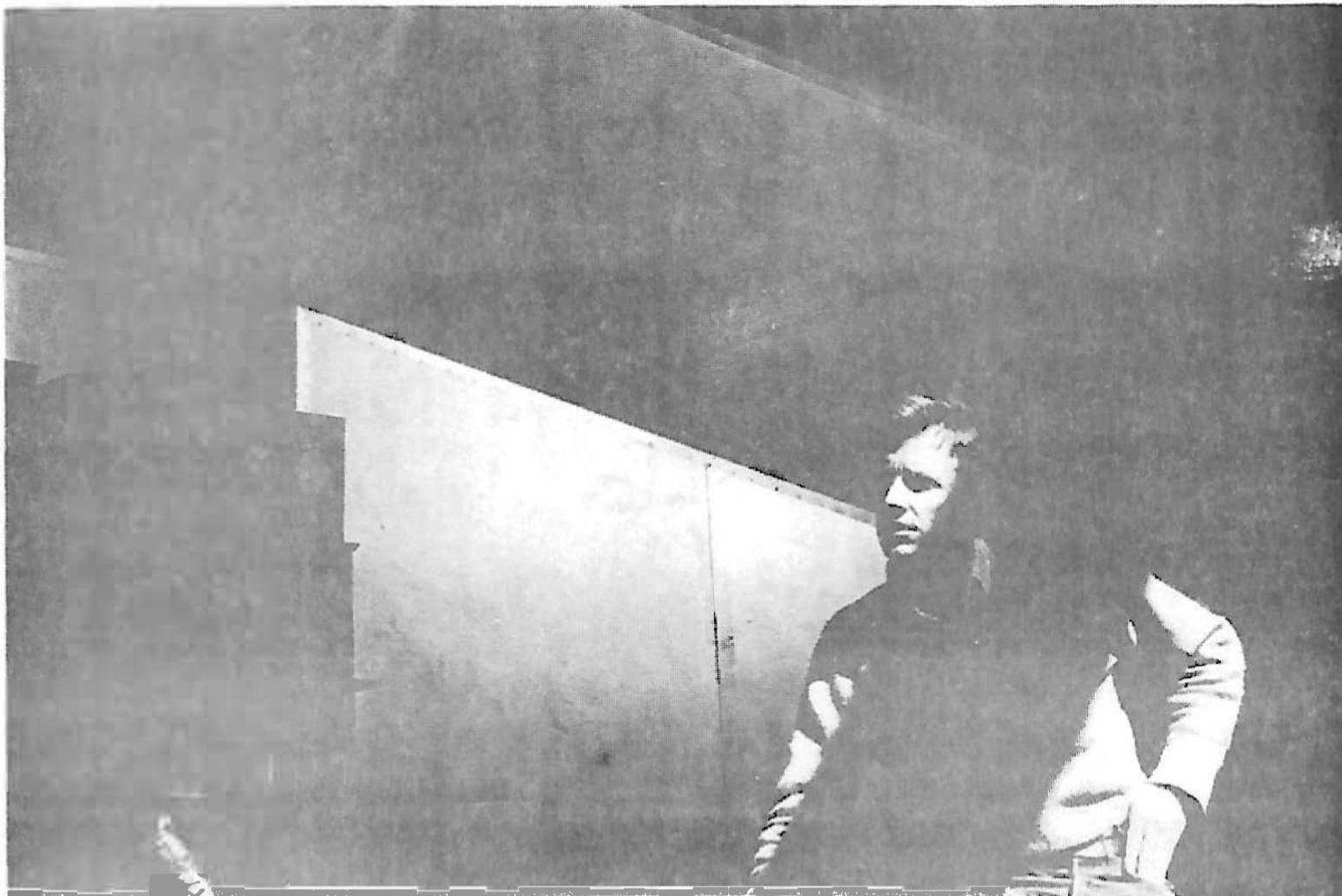
You might say then that we all are using the Solar Energy that sustained the lives of those plants and animals of so long ago.

Despite the increasing hardships to produce fossil fuels, and the rising costs of them, few people seem serious about taking steps to harness the SOURCE of the power in fossil fuels: THE SUN.

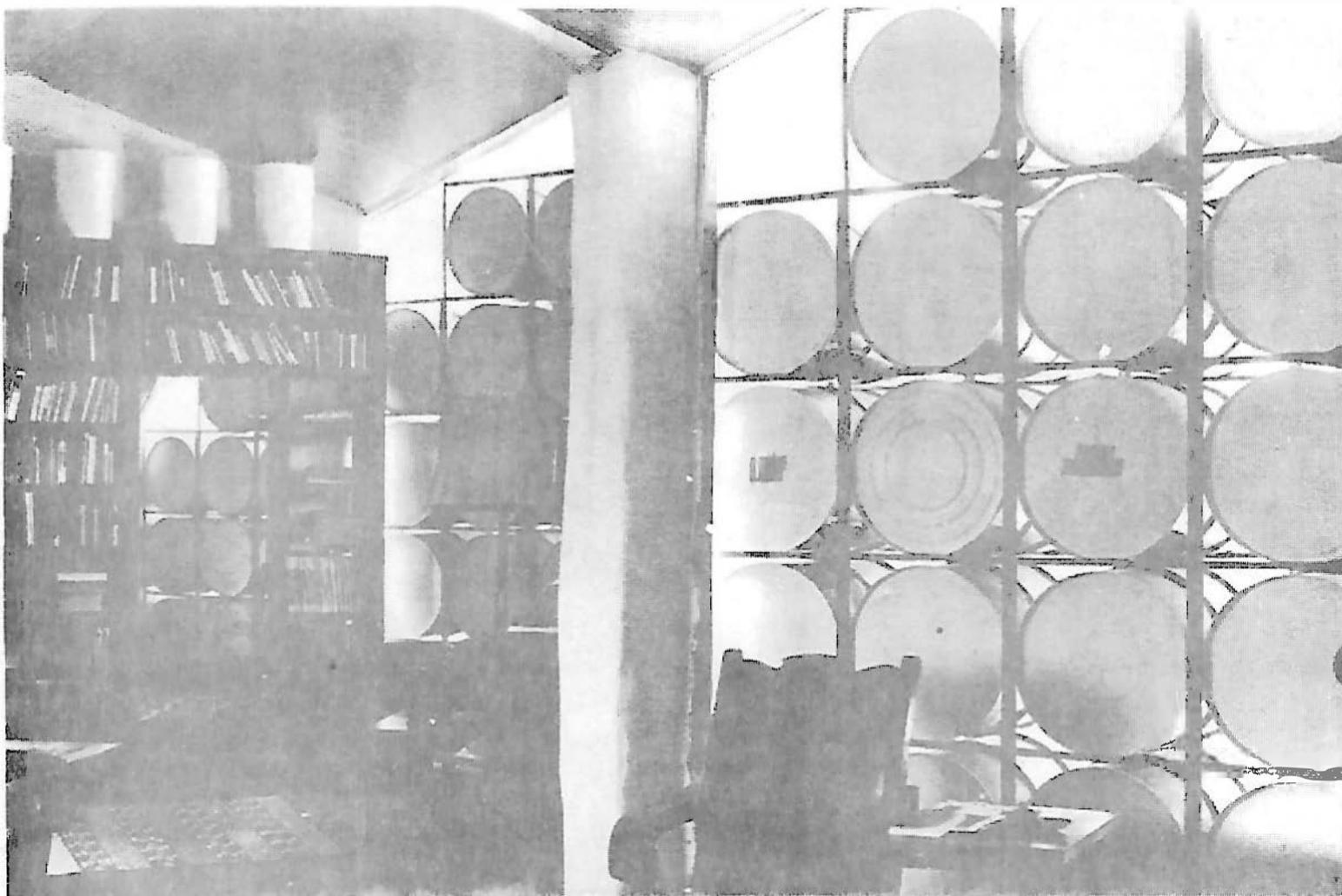
These photographs tell the story of two young families, next door neighbors, that have built their home environments to respond to the sun's energy out-put, and are using a variety of contrivances to capture and utilize this energy to heat their homes and to warm their house holds hot water supplies. L.K.



This small panel-area heats bath water.



Whole Earth Catalog calls Steve Baer an energy-generating young inventor. Steve can be reached thru his "Zomeworks" company, P.O. Box 712, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. s.w.



Inside of Steve Baer's house (in Corrales) showing the white side of oil barrels.