

# NEWSLETTER

# TURNING POINT

August 1985

Turning Point is an international network of people whose individual concerns range very widely - environment, sex equality, third world, peace and disarmament, community politics, appropriate technology and alternatives in economics, health, education, agriculture, religion, etc. - but who share a common feeling that humankind is at a turning point. We see that old values, old lifestyles and an old system of society are breaking down, and that new ones must be helped to break through. Turning Point does not demand adherence to doctrines, manifestos and resolutions. It enables us, as volunteers, to help and to seek help from one another.

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## NEWSLETTERS, MAILING LIST AND CORRESPONDENCE

Turning Point does not have "members" and formal subscriptions. The printing, postage and stationery costs of the twice-yearly newsletter, enquiries and correspondence are covered by donations. As a guide, we suggest an annual contribution of £3 - more if you can, less if you can't. For recipients abroad £4 (sterling if possible, please). Cheques to "Turning Point". We take people off the mailing list when we haven't heard from them for some time. Reciprocal arrangements are welcome if you send us your newsletters, etc., free. Thank you for your contributions and your letters. Forgive us if we don't always acknowledge them.

The next newsletter will be in February 1986. Please send us items for it by mid-January. Don't be disappointed if we don't put you or your organisation in every issue. This is a newsletter, not a directory.

## NEXT TURNING POINT MEETING

Saturday 30th November  
From 10am to 5.30pm at Friends House, Euston Road, London NW1

"NEW DIRECTIONS FOR HEALTH AND WORK:  
Self-Reliance in the Community"

Speakers:

DR. ELIZABETH BRYAN (Paediatrician - Home Start, Twins Association)  
"Self Help Groups In Family Care"

DR. ILONA KICKBUSCH (World Health Organisation)  
"Community Resources for Health"

JOHN PEARCE (Strathclyde Community Business)  
"Community-Based Economic Development"

Details and Tickets (£4 each, unwaged £2) by post from Alison Pritchard (address above).

## TEN YEARS ON

The first Turning Point meeting was held on 29th November 1975. For many of us - personally and in our perceptions of the world - this has been a time of change and reorientation. In some respects that phase may now be coming to an end.

To take two examples, Health and Work - the subjects of our meeting on 30th November this year - the basic rethinking has been done; the new direction for the future is fairly clear; and the time has come for innovative action, on lines now being encouraged even by established organisations like WHO, EEC and OECD. In the wider sphere of Economics, although there is still much innovative intellectual work to do as well as practical and political action, its general direction - giving economic value to the needs of person, society and planet - is now fairly well defined. On the other hand there are vital areas, such as Peace and Security, where many of us are still unsure what we can do for the best.

So, a thought for the next ten years: "The day is short, and the work is great...It is not your duty to complete the work but neither are you free to desist from it". Rabbi Tarphon quoted in FROM POETRY TO POLITICS - see p.14.

## THE NEW ECONOMICS

450 people from 20 countries took part in THE OTHER ECONOMIC SUMMIT 1985 in London in April. The 3-day conference focussed on one main subject per day (Agriculture, Trade and Health), with three main themes (Human Needs, Targets and Indicators, and Self-Reliance) running through each day. A Draft Agenda for Economic Recovery and World Development, and Conference Recommendations, were submitted to the Bonn Summit of World Leaders in May. Conference papers (£15 per set or £6 per day; £5 foreign airmail postage or free surface mail) from Paul Ekins (TOES, 42 Warriner Gardens, London SW11 4DU). Conference Report and Summary, £1.20.

As follow-up to the Health day at TOES 1985, sponsored by the World Health Organisation, a report by James Robertson on HEALTH, WEALTH AND THE NEW ECONOMICS is also available from TOES - price £1.20. (Useful background reading for the forthcoming TP meeting - see p.1.)

A TOES PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, and also James Robertson's new book FUTURE WORK (see p.4), will be launched at a meeting (details from Paul Ekins) in the House of Commons at 6.30pm on 19th November.

Community Business Scotland (39 Vicar Street, Falkirk FK1 1LL) has drawn up a 10-point COMMUNITY BUSINESS MANIFESTO '85. The EASTERHOUSE FESTIVAL SOCIETY has created 140 jobs in community businesses. Information from Chris Elphick (EFS, 10 Trondra Place, Wellhouse Road, Easterhouse, Glasgow G34) who is also working for the CENTRE FOR EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES - journal "Initiatives" - (140A Gloucester Mansions, Cambridge Circus, London WC2E 8PA).

Is worker self-management taking off in the United States? Will Gorbachev bring worker co-operatives back to the Soviet Union? Paul Derrick (30 Wandsworth Bridge Road, London SW6) and Prof. Severyn Bruyn (Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 08167, USA) contribute to a special issue of SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY (Science Policy Foundation, 29 Craven Street, London WC2N 5NT) on co-operatives.

"Building a New Economy" (Jan/Feb 1985) and "Three Strategies for Community Development" (May/June 1985) describe practical contributions to local economic revival - in RAIN (\$18 pa + \$5 foreign surface mail from 3116 N. Williams, Portland, OR 97227, USA).

COMMONSENSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR CITIES. The Institute For Local Self-Reliance (2425 18th Street NW, Washington DC 20009, USA) helps cities to become more efficient and equitable, and to extract maximum value from their human, material, and technological resources.

Self-reliant local development is also discussed in the July 1985 issue of New Options (PO Box 19324, Washington DC 20036, USA) with participants in: ECONOMIC RENEWAL PROJECT (Rocky Mountain Institute, Drawer 248, Old Snowmass, CO 81654, USA); and REGENERATION PROJECT (Rodale Press, 33 E. Minor Street, Emmaus, PA 18049, USA).

THE INFORMAL ECONOMY AND BEYOND in issue No.31 of Ecodevelopment News (54 Bd Raspail, 75270 Paris Cedex 06, France) includes examples from Chile, Brazil, Tunisia, Senegal, Poland and France.

Following their international conference, November 1984, on "Third World: Development or Crisis?" (Conference Report available), the Consumers' Association of Penang (87 Cantonment Road, Penang, Malaysia) are co-ordinating a THIRD WORLD NETWORK linking individuals and groups actively involved in Third World development issues.

"Global security is not merely a question of military disarmament... Widespread and profligate biological and agronomic deficit financing pose equally profound threats to the security of future generations...". Sadruddin Aga Khan in REDEFINING NATIONAL SECURITY: An Environmental Perspective (IFDA Dossier 48, July/August 1985, 2 Place du Marche 1260 Nyon, Switzerland).

"Taxation experts, statisticians and economists alike should be looking for ways to foster the sharing and caring which characterise informal economic activity, instead of targeting the informal economy for abuse that is better aimed at the illegal and underground economies". In the June 1985 TRANSITION (Vanier Inst. of the Family, 151 Slater, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H3, Canada) Dr. Seymour Hamilton underlines the crucial distinction between "the creative forces at work in the informal economy and the destructive effects of the illegal, the underground, and in some cases the formal economies".

In his paper, PROBLEMS IN REMOTE RURAL AREAS - A FOURTH SECTOR APPROACH, Anders Wadeskog (Institute for Socio-Ecological Economics, Karlshall, 153 00 Jarna, Sweden) suggests combinations of public sector, private sector and informal activities for the economy of the future, e.g. young people taking over certain social service work.

THE HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY is a workbook (\$1.50) and COMMUNITY RENEWAL is a resource kit (\$3.50) from Community Initiatives (Digest, 2832 West 36th Ave Vancouver BC, V6N 2R1, Canada).

Mario Kamenetzky (3701 So. Mason George Dr., 2515N, Falls Church VA 22041, USA) puts forward a new economic paradigm and proposals for research in a July 1983 paper on TOWARDS A MORE COMPREHENSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS: A Contribution to Future Sociological Design.

"Evaluation and Evolution of Economic Systems" and "An Introduction to Socio-Economic Democracy" are interesting short theoretical papers by Robley E. George (Box 475, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266, USA).

## WORK

James Robertson's new book, **FUTURE WORK: Jobs, Self-Employment and Leisure after the Industrial Age**, will be published by Maurice Temple Smith, £6.95, in November. Advance mail order copies will shortly be available from James Robertson (address p.1).

**WORK & SOCIETY** is a quarterly newsletter (£10 pa from 78-80 St. John Street, London EC1). In the July 1985 issue Robin Guthrie identifies two main differences of approach to the problem of unemployment: one that the answer is to create more jobs; and the other that the answer is to change the definition of work, both as a criterion of social recognition and as a means of distributing income. (Our own view is that the second is crucial and that the creation of more jobs on a significant scale will depend on redefining jobs to include forms of work - e.g. part-time jobs, community work and unpaid work - not now regarded as "real" jobs.)

"No job is more important than raising a child in the first three years of life". Booklet (Spring 1985) from The Canadian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (Box 700, 246 King Street, Midland, Ontario, Canada L4R 4P4).

**WORK AND ITS PLACE IN SOCIETY**, IMS Report No.92, 1984 (£10 from the Institute of Manpower Studies, Mantell Building, Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9RF) is the report of a conference held in October 1984 jointly by Work and Society and the IMS.

**UNEMPLOYMENT - A PERMANENT REALITY?**, edited by Sean Cooney, is the proceedings of a meeting and workshop (May 1983) held by the Irish Futures Society. Sean McBride's contribution was on "Coping With Irreversible Unemployment". Prof. Ivor Brown, speaking about the "Canute syndrome", said: "After all the shouting and promises, blaming and disclaiming has piled confusion and increased stress upon the problem, we are bound to find an alternative solution to unemployment other than jobs for everybody". (IR £1 from Irish Futures Society, Shelbourne House, Shelbourne Road, Dublin 4).

**MANAGING NEW PATTERNS OF WORK** is an informative report, 1985, from the British Institute of Management (Management House, Parker Street, London WC2).

One way for local authorities to manage new patterns of work is by community contracting. This involves community groups carrying out some local services (e.g. housing management, school buses, day care) now provided - or not provided - by public service employees. SCAN (Scotland's Community Education Newsletter, Atholl House, 2 Canning Street, Edinburgh EH3 8EG), August 1985, reports criticism of the Scottish Office for its opposition to community contracting.

**THE RESPONSE OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN ENGLAND TO THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT** by Raymond Elliot (Greystones, 17 Newland Street, Eynsham, Oxford OX8 1LB) includes the results of a questionnaire sent out to leading Christians.

William Nicholls and Jeannie Corsi (4311 West 14th Ave, Vancouver BC, Canada V6R 2X9) have sent out two interesting progress reports (March and June 1985) on their University of British Columbia study project on **UNEMPLOYMENT, YOUTH AND THE FUTURE OF WORK**. Useful information gathered on visits to England, Scotland, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, Austria, Denmark and Sweden.

## HEALTH

NB: TP Meeting - see p.1 - TOES 1985 pamphlet and papers - see p.2.

BEYOND HEALTH CARE: Healthy Public Policy Conference Proceedings, special May/June 1985 issue of the Canadian Journal of Public Health (1335 Carling Avenue, Suite 210, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1Z 8N8). Essential reading on the future of health care.

The Institute for the Advancement of Health (16 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022, USA) promotes scientific understanding of how mind/body interactions affect health and disease. Quarterly journal, ADVANCES, Summer 1984, includes Aaron Antonovsky on "The Sense of Coherence as a Determinant of Health". Antonovsky identifies three main components of a sense of coherence - comprehensibility, manageability, and meaningfulness.

A UK national SELF HELP SUPPORT NETWORK now exists to link people working on a local basis to support self-help and mutual-aid groups. Reports of the Network's first two meetings (September 1984 and March 1985) are available - £1 each - from Judy Wilson (The Self-Help Team, 114 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3HL). There is also a valuable newsletter from The International Information Centre on Self-Help and Health (E. van Evenstraat 2c, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium).

The decline of dental disease "has not come about through advances in dentistry but by simple preventive measures we have ourselves adopted". See SELF HEALTH, June 1985, the journal of the College of Health (18 Victoria Park Square, London E2 9PF - sub. £10 pa).

"Every country with high infant mortality shares similar shortcomings in basic development. Primary education, health care, clean drinking water, water for hygiene, and tools for food production are lacking or non-existent". INVESTING IN CHILDREN, Worldwatch Paper 64, June 1985 (\$4 from Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Mass Ave NW, Washington DC 20036, USA. Or, for a full list of Worldwatch Papers, see to Third World Publications, 151 Stratford Road, Birmingham B11 1RD).

"The great question is shall we all be able to counter the old trend to delegate life problems to experts?" APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR HEALTH newsletter 16, 1985 (Claudine Brelet, WHO, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland) is about communities in action to create wellness.

"Throughout the United States, employers are coming to the realisation that most of their employees don't smoke, and that those who do cost their companies money". The life and health insurance business has taken a lead in developing non-smoking initiatives by employers. See "Corporate Smoking Policies Clearing the Air" in RESPONSE, May 1985 (Center for Corporate Public Involvement, 1850 K Street NW, Washington DC 20006, USA).

Medical research confirms the findings of the HYPER-ACTIVE CHILDREN'S SUPPORT GROUP. Details in HACSG's useful Journal for May 1985. Enquiries about HACSG, which seems to go from strength to strength, to The Secretary, (59 Meadowside, Angmering, W.Sussex BN17 4BW).

THE RESEARCH COUNCIL FOR COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE (Secretary, Harold Wicks, Suite 1, 19a Cavendish Square, London W1M 9AD) is currently supporting six research projects, for example on acupuncture, homeopathy, and herbal remedies.

An exhibition of maps of the body, shown at a recent Dartington conference on THE MEANING OF ILLNESS, contrasts the western scientific tradition of medicine with the more holistic approach of other cultures in terms of energy, symbols, and the imagination. Available for hire from Mark Kidel (Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon).

Ilse Pope (1 Garry Close, Romford, Essex RM1 4AE) has a lot of information on the links between earth radiation and health. Apparently dowsers can pick up and neutralise various kinds of radiation that cause cancer and other diseases.

THE WOMEN'S HEALTH INFORMATION CENTRE (52 Featherstone Street, London EC1, sub. £5 pa) publishes a newsletter and broadsheets on the social causes of ill-health, e.g. Unemployment, Food, Smoking, Stress.

The Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development's Sister-to-Sister programme is a practical "way for British women and other women in the developed world to show solidarity with their... sisters in the developing world". Details from Stella Efua Graham, (FORWARD, Africa Centre, 38 King Street, London WC2E 8JT).

Melinda Moore Meigs (261 Grove Street, London SE8 3PZ), a musician and counsellor, promotes SOUND HEALTH in individual sessions and workshops through the use of voice and breathing techniques for the re-tuning and healing of body, mind and spirit.

STOP PRESS: Dr. Trevor Hancock (64 Merton St, Toronto, Canada M4S 1A1) tells us of HEALTH PROBE, a new health advocacy group. Also of a new HEALTH FUTURES PROJECT (Jennifer Welsh, Dept. of Food & Nutrition Studies, Ryerson Polytechnical Inst., 350 Victoria St, Toronto M5B 2K3), and other PARADIGM HEALTH activities.

### RESOURCES, FOOD, AGRICULTURE

THE RECYCLERS' GUIDE TO GREATER LONDON (£3.00 from London Energy & Employment Network, 6 Avonmouth Street, London SE1 6NX) is a useful directory of re-use, repair and recycling of domestic and commercial waste, and a good model for similar directories elsewhere.

The July/August 1985 NATTA Newsletter (c/o Technology Faculty, Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, Bucks) also features recycling, including CROP, the Community Recycling Opportunities Programme (40 Berners Lane, Kiln Farm, Milton Keynes) which provides 6 part-time and 14 full-time jobs.

"The risk of failure in conserving energy, whether from undue pessimism or failure of will, is great. The risk includes overbuilding energy facilities, overstressing energy capital budgets, and overburdening the environment". William Chandler: Worldwatch Paper 63 (see p.5), ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY: Key to Environmental Protection and Economic Progress.

Mayer Hillman and Alan Bollard identify many aspects of Government policy as obstacles to a cost-effective energy programme in their important report LESS FUEL, MORE JOBS: The Promotion of Energy Conservation in Buildings (Policy Studies Institute, 100 Park Village East, London NW1 3SR, July 1985, £3.50). An alternative energy conservation programme consisting of many small projects would be difficult for Whitehall to manage; the energy supply industry is a powerful lobby; and 50 times as much public money is spent on energy supply research as on research on energy demand.

The Urban Centre for Appropriate Technology (82 Colston Street, Bristol BS1 5BB) is opening its COMMUNITY ENERGY WORKSHOP in September. For details of jobs with the BRISTOL ENERGY ACTION TEAM contact Nigel Heggles (UCAT, 101 Philip Street, Bedminster, Bristol).

The Centre for Alternative Technology (Machynlleth, Powys SY20 9AZ) is 10 years old. Send them £1.50 for TEN YEARS AT THE QUARRY.

ACID NEWS, Summer 1985 (Box 6400, S-113 82 Stockholm, Sweden) reports that Friends of the Earth International (PO Box 17170, 1001 JD Amsterdam, Holland) are campaigning to boycott tourism in Britain until we clean up our power stations and reduce acid rain.

Jack Hornsby (PO Box 4, Duns, Berwickshire, Scotland TD11 3YH) has information about "the Bedini device", which produces energy out of the air, following the suppressed scientific discoveries of Nikola Tesla at the turn of the century.

To maintain price levels in 1983 the EEC destroyed 8661b of apples, 1648 lemons, 1358 oranges, and 41 cauliflowers every minute - June 1985 newsletter from the SMALLFARMERS ASSOCIATION, which argues that farm structure based on the family unit is essential for healthy rural communities. Details from SFA (Freepost, London EC3B 3EH).

"Within a decade, no child will go to bed hungry, no family will fear for its next day's bread, no human being's future and capacities will be stunted by malnutrition". So pronounced the FAO in November 1974. In November 1984 the WORLD FOOD ASSEMBLY, an international coalition of independent groups, convinced that radical changes are needed to ensure food for all, met in Rome. An important manifesto and follow-up newsletters from WFA (15 Devonshire Terrace, London W2 3DW).

Food additives, acid rain and organic farming are among recent topics discussed in NORTH-WEST NEWSLETTER, the Journal of Irish Rural Alternatives (£4 - 6 issues pa - from Jane Thompson, Annaghcor, Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo, Ireland).

THE LONG WAY AHEAD: New Concepts of Agriculture, 75p from the Farm and Food Society (4 Willifield Way, London NW11) suggests practical steps towards a saner agriculture.

CENDHRA DEVELOPMENT MEMO, February 1985 (Centre for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia, PO Box 458, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila, Philippines), reports that small-scale, artisanal fishermen are being systematically displaced and marginalised by the development of capital-intensive mechanised fishing. (Dr. Mira Shiva confirms this for India in her TOES 1985 paper "Health Action to Meet Contemporary Challenges" - see p.2).

Lionel Pollard (7 Duncan Ave, Boronia, Victoria 3155, Australia) organises ORGANIC FARMING STUDENTSHIPS as an extension of the "Willing Workers on Organic Farms" (WWOOF) concept.

You can sponsor a giant carrot buildboard poster in aid of the campaign for PESTICIDE-FREE FOOD launched by Friends of the Earth. Details from Chris Church (FOE, 377 City Road, London EC1V 1NA).

A prototype of a cheap, simple tractor for peasant farmers in the Third World is described in "Power to the People" in the March/April 1985 INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (John and Alison Madeley, 19 Woodford Close, Caversham, Reading RG4 7HN).

## BOOKS RECEIVED

Norman Myers (Ed.): THE GAIA ATLAS OF PLANET MANAGEMENT for today's caretakers of tomorrow's world: Pan 1985. This splendid and beautiful book is a must for libraries, schools and literate households - and for the desks of politicians, policy makers, and business leaders.

"Few national political leaders have a vision of the future. And fewer still have a plan for translating that vision into a reality". Lester R. Brown and Colleagues: STATE OF THE WORLD 1985: Norton 1985, \$8.95, is the Worldwatch Institute's second annual report measuring worldwide progress (or lack of it) towards a sustainable society.

Diana Schumacher: ENERGY: CRISIS OR OPPORTUNITY?: Macmillan 1985, .12. This fine introduction to energy studies for sixth-formers and students of engineering, economics, geography, environmental studies and other energy-related courses, as well as for interested laypeople, is immensely informative and thought-provoking.

Marilyn Carr: THE AT READER: IT Publications (9 King Street, London WC2E 8HW) 1985, £9.95. We recommend this comprehensive anthology on "theory and practice in Appropriate Technology" as an indispensable introduction to AT in its economic and social context.

Lloyd Timberlake: AFRICA IN CRISIS: the causes, the cures of environmental bankruptcy: Earthscan (3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD) 1985, £3.95, shows how famines are the direct result of unsound economic, agricultural and environmental strategies - also how small-scale, grass roots aid to villages can help.

"We are living in one of those rare times in history when the two crucial elements for social change are present - new values and economic necessity". John Naisbitt (author of Megatrends) and Patricia Aburdene: REINVENTING THE CORPORATION: transforming your job and your company for the new information society: Warner 1985, \$17.50, argue that personal values can now shape corporate policy.

David Andrews: THE IRG SOLUTION: hierarchical incompetence and how to overcome it: Souvenir 1984, £8.95, shows that "only well-informed networks of individuals outside the official systems can force existing hierarchies to act sensibly". (An IRG is an Information Routing Group - fascinating stuff.)

A HOLY TRADITION OF WORKING: Golgonooza (3 Cambridge Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk IP2 9EP) 1983, £8.95, is a beautifully produced selection from the writings of Eric Gill. Brian Keeble, who edited it and wrote an interesting introduction, suggests that "perhaps it is time for Turning Point to acknowledge that the arts must have a place in the coming society". (For a musical Turning Point, see p.14.)

David Morris: THE NEW CITY STATES: Institute for Local Self-Reliance (see p.3) 1982, \$5.95. Useful guidance for an urban economic development strategy based on local self-reliance.

Yona Friedman: ALTERNATIVE ENERGETIQUES: ou la civilisation paysanne modernisee: Edition Dangles 1982. Local self-reliance and energy.

Angela King and Sue Clifford: HOLDING YOUR GROUND: Maurice Temple Smith 1985, £5.95, is an excellent practical Action Guide to Local Conservation for people who want to get to know their own locality and take part in local action to protect it.



Dick Kitto (Ed.): RURAL RESETTLEMENT HANDBOOK (3rd edition, revised, enlarged, updated): Prism Alpha 1984, £4.95 (post-free from RRG, 27a Sydney Street, Brightlingsea, Essex) is another valuable practical tool for people thinking of moving to the countryside, people already there, and people who share a concern for rural problems.

Andrzej Sicinski and Monica Wemegah (Eds.): ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF LIFE IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPE: UN Univ. (Toho Seimei Building, 15-1, Shibuya 2-chome, Shibuya-KU, Tokyo 150, Japan) 1983, US\$9.13 authors from 7 countries discuss "concrete actions and strategies of change".

Joseph Huber: DIE REGENBOGEN-GESELLSCHAFT: Okologie und Sozialpolitik: Fischer 1985. An introduction to the philosophy of "social ecology", its history and future potential. The rainbow society is a modern and western society, but ecologically adapted.

Soren Bergstrom (Ed.): ECONOMIC GROWTH AND THE ROLE OF SCIENCE: Stockholm, 1984. Proceedings of an August 1983 symposium on alternatives to industrial growth. Details from Soren Bergstrom, Dept. of Business Admin., Stockholm Univ, S-106 91 Stockholm, Sweden.

Abraham Rotstein: REBUILDING FROM WITHIN: Remedies for Canada's Ailing Economy: Canadian Institute for Economic Policy (Suite 409, 350 Sparks St, Ottawa K1R 7S8, Canada) 1984, recommends innovative measures in the expanding informal economy.

"The true builders and planners of Third World cities are the urban poor". Patrick McAuslan: URBAN LAND AND SHELTER FOR THE POOR: Earthscan (see p.8) 1985, £3.50. Governments must harness the ambitions and skills of poor people to improve the cities.

Elizabeth Sommerlad (and colleagues): RURAL LAND SHARING COMMUNITIES: an alternative economic model?: Bureau of Labour Market Research Monograph Series No.7, Australian Govt. Publishing Service, Canberra 1985. Rural land sharing, homesteading, cooperatives and small mixed farming can be helped towards sustainability and financial viability.

Nigel Dudley: THE DEATH OF TREES: Pluto 1985, £3.50, describes the dangers facing forests worldwide and suggests what you can do.

Mairie Mullarney: ANYTHING SCHOOL CAN DO YOU CAN DO BETTER: Fontana 1985, £1.95, is the story of a family of 11 children (5 girls and 6 boys) who learned at home.

Neville Hodgkinson: WILL TO BE WELL: The Real Alternative Medicine: Hutchinson 1984, £5.95, questions the central assumptions of conventional medicine; examines various illnesses (e.g. heart attack, cancer); points to spiritual self-awareness as the key to health.

OTHER BOOKS: We have heard about these, but haven't yet seen them.

Beata Bishop: A TIME TO HEAL: Severn House 1985, £4.95. An account of the author's recovery from cancer through the vegetarian, detoxification Gerson Therapy.

Robert A. de J. Hart: ECOSOCIETY: A Historical Study of Ecological Man: published in India, £9.50 post-free from Burway Bookshop, Beaumont Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire.

Jon Wynne-Tyson (Ed.): THE EXTENDED CIRCLE: A Dictionary of Humane Thought: Centaur, September 1985, £4.95.

## MONEY

For Asian NGOs there is a "special role in promoting new forms of rural financing, and in acting as intermediaries between existing banking systems and rural communities to deploy local resources in local investment; and even to reverse the present outflow of rural resources to urban centres, so that the financial system genuinely serves the rural economy instead of - as now - banking on rural underdevelopment". LOKNITI, the journal of the Asian NGO Coalition, (11/1 Sunetra Lane, Thimbrigasyaya Road, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka), Vol.2, No.4, is all about money and banking, including barefoot banking, and the Third World debt crisis.

The Third World debt crisis is the subject of the June 1985 IDOC (Via Santa Maria dell'Anima 30, 00186 - Rome, Italy).

"For Africa to acquiesce in the current rules and conventions of international finance has certain inescapable consequences... Ultimately, and following a period of chaos, these imply a return to subsistence economies, and mass malnutrition leading to rising infant and child mortality rates... Africa's debt burden is now intolerable. We cannot pay. You know it. And all our other creditors know it". President Nyerere, in a speech in the City of London on 18th March 1985. Text reprinted in Summer 1985 LOMBARD STREET LETTER (Rev. Hereward R.G. Cooke, St. Edmund the King Church, Lombard Street, London EC3V 9EA), an occasional Church/City Newsletter.

"It is clear that current trends in the international economy cannot continue indefinitely". DEBT PROBLEMS, TRADE OFFENSIVES, AND PROTECTIONISM: The Uncharted International Economic Environment of the 1980s, a 1985 Trend Analysis Programme (TAP) report from the American Council of Life Insurance (1850 K Street NW, Washington DC 20006, USA) highlights three intractable problems: unrepayable international debts; protectionism; unstable currencies.

"The US debt today represents a third of US GNP and twice the debt of the Third World. This debt will have to be repaid unless it can be offset with fake money through money creation or inflation". Michel Gudet (CNAM, 2 Rue Conte, 75003 Paris, France) argues in FUTURES, June 1985, that Reaganomics is "virtually a kind of Keynesianism financed from outside".

The continuing growth of personal, corporate and government debt "will force taxes, prices and interest rates to rise exponentially, causing the erosion and eventual disintegration of the US economy". BRITAIN OVERSEAS, Winter 1984/85 issue, (Economic Research Council, 55 Park Lane, London W1).

Islamic insurance, as well as Islamic banking, is discussed in the June 1985 AFKAR INQUIRY (55 Banner Street, London EC1Y 8PX, monthly, \$25 pa), the Islamic magazine of events and ideas.

Serious work on a Basic Income Scheme is now under way. A regular BASIC INCOME RESEARCH GROUP (BIRG) Bulletin is available from Peter Ashby (NCVO, 26 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HU). La Revue Nouvelle, April 1985, (Rue des Mouchérons 3/5, 1000 Brussels, Belgium) on L'ALLOCATION UNIVERSELLE: Une Idee Pour Vivre Autrement? includes a scenario by the Collectif Charles Fourier (Phillipe Van Parijs, 3 Place Montesquieu, 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium), exploration of its consequences by ecologists and sociologists, and a left v. right debate about its political implications.

Income distribution patterns are becoming more polarised. America's economy is going through transition pains much like those experienced when the economy moved from an agricultural to a manufacturing base. Eventually wages may become more equalised, but the polarisation between rich and poor will continue for the near future. From HAVES AND HAVE NOTS, another recent TAP Report - see p.10.

The E.F. SCHUMACHER SOCIETY's newsletter, Spring 1985 (Bob Swann, Box 76, RD3 Great Barrington, MA 01230, USA) contains items on local currencies, community land trusts, and SHARE (self-help association for a regional economy) low interest loans.

"In May 1974 the SEWA Bank was registered as a co-operative bank. Since then, we have shattered the existing myths about banking with poor illiterate women and have proved it to be a viable financial venture." From "Banking With Poor Women", in the July 1984 SEWA publication describing the remarkable achievements of the SELF-EMPLOYED WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (Ela Bhatt, SEWA Reception Centre, Opp. Victoria Garden, Ahmedabad-380 001, India).

A handbook on Credit and Savings has been commissioned from CHANGE (Georgina Ashworth, 29 Great James St., London WC1N 3ES) by the Rural Employment Branch of the ILO. It will quote examples from Zimbabwe, Cameroun, Kenya, Indonesia, India and other countries to show how the problems - e.g. the insistence by many conventional credit institutions on men's signatures - have been overcome.

"SARVODAYA's credit schemes have achieved a record of 89% repayment of loans because of their success in encouraging members to plan wisely and by getting members to identify their own welfare with the welfare and viability of the lending institution." May/June 1985 Sarvodaya News (Damsak Mandira, 98 Rawatawatte Road, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka). DANA is a monthly journal published by the Sarvodaya International Institute for Development Education (same address).

The present rules of the money game ensure that the wealth and the currency are siphoned off into the economic stratosphere - where the rules are made - with the concomitant creation of "regions of sacrifice", followed by economic collapse. So argues David Weston (Ruskin College, Oxford) in a postscript to his TOES 1985 paper on "Community Use of Currency" - see p.2. He is also inviting participation in compiling a "New Economics Dictionary".

Scrapping Value Added Tax (VAT) and replacing it with UNITAX - a unit of currency levied for every so many units of energy at the point of entry into the economy - would provide the basis for a dynamic economy. People's effort and work would be encouraged, and unnecessary use of valuable natural resources would be discouraged - not vice versa as at present. Farel Bradbury (Bradbury Controls, P.O. Box 4, Ross-on-Wye HR9 6EB) has worked this out in detail.

The FINANCIAL INITIATIVE supports enterprises that are economically sound and ecologically and humanly responsible. Interested people in the Salisbury area should contact Giles Chitty, (Yonderover House, Stratford Toney, Salisbury SP5 4AT).

The proposals in the government's Green Paper on Building Societies (Cmnd. 9316, July 1984) discriminate against the provision of credit to small enterprise and local self-reliance. A detailed critique is available from the Ecology Building Society, (43 Main St., Cross Hills, via Keighley, West Yorkshire).

## SPIRITUAL, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE

The Church and Christian theology have, throughout history, rejected a politics based on reason, co-operation, altruism, justice, fellowship and peace; and an economics based on the meeting of needs. In "Christian Theology and the Politics of Imperfection" in MODERN CHURCHMAN, No.2 1985 (£1.20 from Rev. F.E. Compton, The School House, Leysters, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 0HB), Paul Wilding disputes the view that the Church should keep out of politics.

A moving DECLARATION OF ONENESS FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY, suggested by Robert Muller, UN Assistant Secretary-General, is on the back cover of World Faiths Insight, Summer 1985 (£2.50 pa from World Congress of Faiths, 28 Powis Gardens, London W11 1JG).

"The progress of science has inflicted on modern man...first cosmological humiliation (Copernicus), then biological humiliation (Darwin), to bring him finally to the point of discovering that the ego is not the master of itself (Freud)." NOVA SPES (Via di Villa Emiliani 10, 00197 Rome, Italy) newsletter/manifesto, December 1984.

"To pretend that the world can change and the Cold War depart without fundamental change in the Soviet and American empires is cloud-cuckoo-land stuff." Peter Cadogan of EAST/WEST PEACE PEOPLE (Studio House, 1 Hampstead Hill Gardens, London NW3) in "E.P.Thompson: Another Prophet Disarmed?" in GREENLINE, July 1985 (40p from 34 Cowley Rd., Oxford OX4 1HZ).

"What I believe we've been seeing in Britain over the last six months are many little bits of evidence of ordinary citizens withdrawing the identification they have had with established social groupings and leaderships." April 1985 Bulletin from OPUS (see p.16).

LOKAYAN (Dialogue of the People) from Rajni Kothari (13 Alipur Rd., Delhi 110 054, India) seeks support from those "concerned with threats to the survival of the poor and dispossessed under the impact of development policies that are basically anti-people, ecologically destructive, socially discriminating and economically exploitative". Six issues yearly of 80-page Bulletin.

"Gandhian decentralisation means...(that)...people's power is institutionalised to counter the centralising and alienating forces of the modern state and then...to overtake the state itself. Thus the Gandhian decentralised polity has a built-in process of the withering away of the state." J.D.Sethi in GANDHI MARG, May 1985 (Gandhi Peace Foundation, 221-223 Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi 110 002, India). In the June 1985 issue Johan Galtung writes on THE GREEN MOVEMENT: A Socio-historical Explanation. Johan Galtung's comparison between Gandhi and Mao Tse Tung is summarised in the GANDHI FOUNDATION'S Summer 1985 newsletter (£2.50 pa from Surur Hoda, 68 Downlands Rd., Purley, Surrey).

A GREEN POLITICS directory is in the Summer 1985, and a dictionary of ALTERNATIVE ECONOMICS in the Spring 1985, TRANET (\$30 pa from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970, USA).

Details of the new GRESHAM CENTRE FOR ETHICS AND BUSINESS from Rachel Steare (Gresham College, Frobisher Crescent, Barbican, London EC2).

ROADS TO THE FUTURE (Soren Bergstrom - see p.9) is a Scandinavian network of researchers into alternative futures.

## COMMUNICATION, AND INFORMATION

A manipulable, mass society has manipulable, mass communication systems as well as mass systems of politics, government and money managed by the few. The new technology now permits widespread access to the means of information production and dissemination. But will it be used that way?

**INFORMATION MANAGEMENT: TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE HUMAN ELEMENT** by Gurth Higgin, Professor of Continuing Management Education, Loughborough University, in *Aslib Proceedings*, 37(2) February 1985, discusses the psychological implications of the new technology and the value choices concerning the socio-technical systems we set up around it.

"Informatics - Is There A Choice?" is the subject of **DEVELOPMENT** 1985/1, the journal of the Society for International Development (Palazzo della Civiltà del Lavoro, 00144 Rome, Italy). Plenty of good quotes, e.g. "the mass media, by giving us more people, more things, more images, hinder real communication".

Rajni Kothari on "Communications for Alternative Development" and Andreas Fugelsang on "The Myth of People's Ignorance" are in **DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE** 1984:1-2 (Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, Övre Slottsgatan 2, S-752 20 Uppsala, Sweden), which also contains seven pieces on "Developing Autonomous Publishing Capacity in Africa".

"Development is twisted and slowed down not only by arms escalation and by dollar dictate, but also by powerful monopolies of information and communication technologies". IDOC 85/1 (see p.10) is on **INFORMATICS AND THE THIRD WORLD**. IDOC 84/11-12 was all about computer/communication networks in support of NGO research and documentation centres.

Oleh Liber and his colleagues at CommuNITel, based at the Nottingdale Technology Centre, (189 Freston Road, London W10 6TH) are developing telecomputing systems for linking local centres and individuals in community exchanges.

Mitra (47 Lancaster Grove, London NW3) is involved in the London Network and Planet-Tree Communications - which are also about telecomputing for communities and alternative groups.

Andre Spies (PO Box 149, Zaventem 1, B1930 Belgium) is organising **FREENETWORK** as a worldwide linkage to promote individual freedom through networking.

James Robertson's 26-minute BBC film "The Sane Alternative" (video hire £10) is among the wide choice of films and videos on TP topics available for sale and hire from **CONCORD FILMS COUNCIL LTD** (201 Felixstowe Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9BJ).

**PREFERRED FUTURES** is a series of radio tapes from Radio Communautaire de l'Estrie. Details from Claude Saint-Jarre (1755 Prospect No.9, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1J 1K6, Canada).

**MEDIA NETWORK** - programme of activities from co-ordinator, Candice Temple (38 Goldhurst Terrace, London NW6).

**MEDIA WOMEN FOR PEACE** is a broadly based group working in all branches of the media. Details from Wendy Rose-Neil (5 Franconia Road, London SW4 9NB).

## PEOPLE AND PROJECTS

"The new reproductive technology is a technology of dependence and it will make women more dependent on men". Dinah Freer (Old Rise Rocks, Copt Oak, Markfield, Leics LE6 OPJ), a historian and sociologist and an active Green, is available to lecture on this subject.

THE BUILDING & SOCIAL HOUSING FOUNDATION is offering two £10,000 awards, one for a developed country and the other for a developing country, in each of the years 1985, 1986 and 1987, with the aim of identifying human settlement projects that offer sustainable futures to the residents. 1985 deadline for preliminary submission is 30 September. Details from Peter Elderfield (BSHF, Memorial Square, Coalville, Leics LE6 4EU).

The LIGHTMOOR New Neighbourhood Project has now acquired land, and low-cost, 'shell' houses are being designed for new residents with little capital. Enquiries to Tony Gibson (10 Hilton Terrace, St. Georges, Telford, Shropshire).

Fritjof Capra (PO Box 5805, Berkeley, CA 94705, USA) has set up THE ELMWOOD INSTITUTE as a "greenhouse for new ecological visions" - a forum for ecotinking, a bridge between ideas and action, and a place of inspiration and support. Membership \$25 per year.

Paul Hague (47 University Road, London SW19 2BU), whose implicate relational logic builds on David Bohm's philosophy, has set up THE PARAGONIAN INSTITUTE, open to all who are striving for world peace through cultural and personal transformation.

Nicholas Albery is chairman and Margaret Chisman is a director of the new INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL INVENTIONS (24 Abercorn Place, London NW8).

"Poetry presupposes future". FROM POETRY TO POLITICS (£1 from Anthony Rudolf, 8 The Oaks, Woodside Avenue, London N12 8AR), a fine account (1969-1984) of the Menard Press and its series of thoughtful and informative booklets, includes a "little anthology of texts".

A rare breeds survival centre, summer camps, self-training sessions for adults and now, it is hoped, a children's farm and wilderness centre in the Scottish Borders. Enquiries and offers of support to Alan Emmerson (FLYSHEET CAMPS Scotland Ltd, 36 Whitesands, Dumfries).

Peter Wiegold (82 Lordship Park, London N16 5UA) tells us of a musical TURNING POINT - a group of four musicians developing their own material co-operatively, involving children, teachers and students in creative performing, and interested in alternative philosophy. He envisages a movement in the Arts parallel to our Turning Point.

NEW TRAVEL BULLETIN (sae to NTB, 7/8 Lyme Street, London NW1 0EH) contains ideas for educational, cultural, holistic, spiritual holidays and tours.

Counselling, OD and social change. John Baker-Rabe (90 Milton Road, Croydon CR0 2BL) has details of conferences, networks, etc.

William Irving (ACORN, Cheltenham House, The Square, Stow-on-the-Wold Glos) publishes posters, cards and small books "to awaken the world".

CREATIVE MIND No.14 (annual sub. £3.80 from Helen Prescott, 80 Lark Lane, Liverpool L17) includes an alternative directory for Britain.

Fred Richards (7557 Cayuse Way, Sacramento, CA 95823, USA) has set up EARTH 2000 Political Action Committee for a saner future.

LIFESTYLES RESEARCH NETWORK - details from Robert Vint (Future in our Hands, 120 York Road, Swindon, Wilts).

LINKMAN is a men's studies newsletter. £1 for three issues to Harry Gray (Dept. of Educ. Research, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YL). Richard Slaughter (same address) is starting a FUTURES EDUCATION NETWORK - £1 and A4 sae for details.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR FUTURE EDUCATION. Details from Marguerite Smithwhite (Sri Aurobindo Centre, 82 Bell Street, London NW1 6SP).

Austin Arnold on "Learning World History: An Idea Whose Time Has Come" is one of many contributors - including Michael Harbottle and Willis Harman on "Peace Perspectives" in EDUCARE, June-September 1985 (Universal Education Association, PO Box 482, London SE15 6HR, which also publishes a network newsletter called ELEMENTS).

In WHAT IS "DEVELOPMENT"?, an Oxford Polytechnic research paper, June 1985, Graham Barnes (16 Sidney Street, Oxford OX4 3AG) criticises the westernised, industrialising development model.

In "The Political Economy of Utopia: Realities of Economic Progress" (STUDIES, Summer 1985, £2.50 + 50p p&p from 35 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2, Ireland) Douglas McCulloch links philosophical ideals and economic principles.

#### SOME DATES TO NOTE (Cont'd. from p.16)

6 November, 7.30pm, Canterbury Cathedral. A DEBATE ON ECONOMIC STRATEGIES. Details from Canon David Clift, Council for Social Responsibility, 60 Marsham Street, Maidstone ME14 1EW.

7-16 November, Oxford. GREENWEEK. Details from Kevin Armstrong, Oxford Green Group, 119 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1XA.

9 November, Bristol. Schumacher Lectures on ECOLOGY AND FAITH. Schumacher Society, Ford House, Hartland, Bideford, Devon.

18-20 November, Leeds. COMMUNITY CO-OPERATIVES AND LOCAL ECONOMY PROCESSES. Details of this and other courses on co-ops and self-management from Beechwood College Elmete Lane, Leeds LS8 2LQ.

19 November, 6.30pm, House of Commons. Launch of TOES PARLIAMENTARY GROUP and James Robertson's FUTURE WORK (see p.4). Details from Paul Ekins, The Other Economic Summit (see p.2).

21-23 November, Glasgow. COMMUNITY BUSINESS CONVENTION 1985. Speakers include James Robertson. Details from John Pearce, Strathclyde Community Business, Six Harmony Row, Govan, Glasgow G51 3BA.

23 November, 10am-5pm, Wadham College, Oxford. ALTERNATIVE CAREERS FAIR. Details from Oxford University Student Union New Barnett House, 28 Little Clarendon Street, Oxford OX1 2HU.

30 November - TP Mtg - NEW DIRECTIONS FOR HEALTH & WORK - see p.1.

### SOME DATES TO NOTE

- 11-13 September, Heerlen, Holland. FOSTERING AND FINANCING LOCAL BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES. Details from European Centre For Work And Society, PO Box 3073, 6202 NB Maastricht, Holland.
- 14 September, Edinburgh. PERMACULTURE seminar with Sego Jackson. Details from Angus Marland, Centre for Human Ecology, 15 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LM.
- 17 September, 7pm, Royal Albert Hall, London. UN PEACE DAY FESTIVAL. Peter Ustinov, Sir George Trevelyan, Sir Sonny Ramphal. Details from Wickham House, 10 Cleveland Way, London E1 4TR.
- 20 September, St. Martin's College, Lancaster. NEW LIFE FOR OLD BUILDINGS. Details from Pauline Roscoe, North West Civic Trust, Environmental Inst., Greaves School, Bolton Rd., Swinton, Manchester.
- 20-22 September, Edinburgh. EDUCATION 2000. Speakers include Satish Kumar, Roger Orgill. Details from Planetary Initiative, Centre for Human Ecology (see above).
- 21 September, Bournemouth Town Hall. DORSET PEACE FESTIVAL. Details from Peter Thompson, 9 Roman Road, Broadstone, Dorset.
- 23 September. THE DYNAMICS & PATHOLOGY OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE with Drs. Helen and William Caldicott. One of the 'Turning Points at St. James's', Mondays at 7pm. Details from Sabine Kurjo, 21a Goldhurst Terrace, London NW6 3HD.
- 28 September, Dorset. The Rolf Gardiner Lectures on LAND AND THE PEOPLE. Details from Dawn Eldridge, The Springhead Trust, Fontmell Magna, Shaftsbury, Dorset.
- 28-29 September, London. AFTER 1984: NEW DIRECTIONS. OPUS Conference on understanding and interpreting current shifts in British society. Details from OPUS, 10 Golders Rise, London NW4 2HR.
- 5 October, Dundee. McCarrison Society Scottish Group Cnfce. on FEEDING CHILDREN. Details from Mrs. C. Wade, 36 Norwood, Newport-on-Tay, Fife DD6 8DW.
- 5 October, Zoological Society, London. SCIENCE, RELIGION AND HEALING AT THE CROSSROADS? with Glen Schaefer. Details from Wrekin Trust, Marbury House, St. Owen Street, Hereford.
- 14 October, Charing Cross Hotel, London. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL with Janet Johnston. Details from World Goodwill, Suite 54, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EF.
- 17 October, 8pm, Odeon, New St., Birmingham. SRI CHINMOY PEACE CONCERT. Details from 5 The Crescent, Barnes, London SW13.
- 18-20 October, High Wycombe. PEOPLE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT. Speakers include Canon Peter Challen. Details from London Inst. for Contemporary Christianity, St. Peter's Church, Vere St., London W1M 9HP or Christian Ecology Group, 58 Quest Hills Rd., Malvern, Worcs.
- 29 October, London. Annual Teilhard Lecture by Claude Curling. ASCENDING, CONVERGING, EVOLVING - THE DAWN OF A NEW REALITY. Details from The Teilhard Centre, 23 Kensington Sq., London W8.

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