

TURNING POINT 2000

March 1993

TURNING POINT 2000 is about an enabling (for people), conserving (for the Earth), one-world human community for the 21st century. As the year 2000 comes closer, systematic programmes of change in this direction - personal, local, national, international - are taking shape. We aim to encourage these, to report our own activities and ideas and those of others, to bring out potential links and synergies between them, and help readers to take part or initiate projects of their own, and to press governments, businesses and other organisations to move in the right direction through the 1990s.

NEWSLETTER AND MAILING LIST

The newsletter comes out twice yearly - the next issue in August/September. Please send items for it by end-July. Space being limited, we shall give priority to news about programmes and initiatives targeted through the 1990s. We shall give preference, other things being equal, to mentioning new people and organisations rather than repeating ones in previous issues. (Some back issues are available for new readers who ask us for them.) If we don't include an item you send us - and even if we do - please use the newsletter to make contact directly with people likely to share your concerns.

Suggested Annual Subscriptions. Personal, voluntary groups, NGOs, etc.: UK and Europe, £5; Worldwide outside Europe, £6. Business Corporations and Government Departments: £20. Other institutions: £10. Reduced charge or free to people, especially in Third World and Eastern European countries, who cannot pay the suggested rates. Donations towards this are welcomed from people who can pay more. All payments in sterling please. Cheques to Turning Point please.

Enquiries and communications to Alison Pritchard or James Robertson, The Old Bakehouse, Cholsey, Oxon OX10 9NU, England. Tel: Cholsey (0491) 652346.

TURNING POINT 2000 SEMINARS

James Robertson will lead three Saturday seminars here on BEYOND MARX, KEYNES AND THATCHER: A New Political Economy.

8th May: THE FUTURE OF MONEY, As Servant Not Master
19th June: THE FUTURE OF WORK, What To do About Unemployment
26th June: A NEW POLITICAL ECONOMY For The 21st-Century.

The Money seminar will be a repeat of last year's, that on Work a development from last year's, and that on Political Economy will be new. A leaflet is enclosed for readers in the UK and Europe. If anyone further afield would like to have details, please let us know.

WHEN WILL "ALTERNATIVES" BECOME THE NEW MAINSTREAM?

Harford Thomas died last year. He was a good friend and a great source of encouragement and help. For many of us his ALTERNATIVES columns in *The Guardian* in the 1970s and '80s were a beacon of light and hope. Browsing through them again recently, we wondered whether the last 15 or 20 years had brought much progress. Here is what Harford wrote on 20th November 1975. "Sustainability is the word. Not beautiful but very much to the point. You may have noticed that sustainable is becoming one of the routine adjectives in the economic debate." Not much seems to have changed!

November 1975 saw the first Turning Point meeting and the origin of these newsletters. Around that time Colin Hutchinson (Kingswood, 23 Beatrice Road, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0PZ) - who started Turning Point with Peter Cadogan (3 Hinchinbrook House, Greville Road, London NW6 5UP) and us - was also already advocating a "sustainable" society, in a Conservation Society pamphlet on "Crisis of Lifestyles". And Peter Cadogan was already publishing his "Direct Democracy".

But although the basic ideas may not have changed much and the actual state of the world today may be no more sustainable and little more democratic than in 1975 - in many ways the 1980s can be seen as a write-off or worse - there is a bright side. Many more people are now aware of the new direction the world must take. Many of the fledgling initiatives we have reported during these years have spread their wings and are now flying strongly. Established professionals - for example in economics (see p.9, REAL-LIFE ECONOMICS) - are beginning to grapple systematically with the important new questions. Worldwide action has gathered momentum. Countless newsletters and magazines, TV programmes and videos, focus on the need for sustainability and on enabling and conserving ideas. A flood of books comes from groups with their own publishing arms like Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, Intermediate Technology and WWF, from new (and newly influential) publishers - from Adamantine to Zed, including Earthscan, Gaia, Green Books, Greenprint, Jon Carpenter - and from more general, older established publishers too.

The challenge now is to break through the relevance barrier. Few of today's careerist "decision-makers" can yet make social justice, quality of life and genuine ecological sustainability relevant to their professional work, even if they see the need. As Harford Thomas wrote on 10th November 1976, "While the atmosphere of unrest, worldwide as it is, provides the right conditions for reappraisal of outmoded assumptions, and for a bit of lateral thinking on alternatives, one must recognise that the instinct to go on doing the same old thing, and chase the same familiar objectives, is still liable to be overwhelmingly strong".

Dr. Robert Muller, former UN Assistant Secretary-General, wants a UN initiative to celebrate the year 2000 and the start of a better third millennium. Fall 1992 WORLD CITIZEN (Association of World Citizens, 110 Sutter Street, Suite 708, San Francisco, CA 94104, USA).

BEGIN (Bimillennial Global Interaction Network) is a network of groups around the world which are making bimillennial plans. Ask Jay Gary (AD 2000 Global Service Office, PO Box 1777, Colorado Springs, CO 80901, USA) for their "Get Ready To Celebrate The Year 2000" leaflet and other materials.

BEYOND UNEMPLOYMENT

Readers have used our draft letter (see last issue) to ask MPs what changes they propose in the benefits system, the tax system, and the rules which apply to unemployed people - to make it easier for them to take up useful work (paid or unpaid) without having to get a job from an employer. Most MPs have replied: "our policies" - "economic recovery" - "back to full employment" - "blah! blah!". But chinks of light include (Conservative) the idea of "an Education Allowance similar in principle to the original Enterprise Allowance so that unemployed people could study on a full-time basis while drawing benefit", and (Labour) recognition that "we should be searching for ways of enabling people to work rather than imprisoning them in the dependency culture to which you very fairly refer in your letter".

The debate is now on the move. Let us keep up the pressure. NEW SECTOR, Feb/Mar 1992/3 (Society Place, West Calder, EH55 8EA, Scotland; ed. Kay Caldwell) has published our draft letter and recommended its readers to write to MPs. NEW ECONOMICS (New Economics Foundation, 88-94 Wentworth Street, London E1 7SA) may do the same. For a copy of the draft letter please send us sae (18p).

Please encourage the Labour Party's Commission on Social Justice (Secretary David Miliband, Institute for Public Policy Research, 30-32 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7RA) to think bold new thoughts about unemployment. For James Robertson's paper to the Commission - "Social Justice, Economic Efficiency, Environmental Sustainability" - please send us sae (18p) plus an extra 50p-worth of stamps.

"The so-called 'employment' issue should long ago have been unravelled to demonstrate who, in modern conditions, is really occupied doing what, and how a myriad of different work patterns - part-time, two-time, paid, unpaid, formal, informal, at home, at factory or office, recorded in the national statistics or unrecorded (e.g. work involved in bringing up children), employed, self-employed - all make utter nonsense of the concept of the unemployed." David Howell, Conservative MP and former Cabinet Minister, in "The Party's Direction Now" - a major "feature" in CROSSBOW, Autumn 1992 - sets out his vision of a Conservative future of "an ever more diverse and diversifying world of self-governing and self-organising groups of people". If only more Conservative MPs were as perceptive!

"With 3 million unemployed and many more now seeking secondary and part-time incomes, the demand for work outside of traditional employment is substantial." ALTERNATIVE INCOME OPTIONS '93 - THE ALTERNATIVE INCOMES SHOW (Simon Hooper, Mainstream Exhibitions Ltd., Gemini House, 180 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3TQ) will be held at Wembley Exhibition Centre on 22nd to 25th April. James Robertson will speak there on 23rd April.

He will also give the keynote address at a 3-day conference on "Beyond Unemployment: Future Strategies For Work, Wealth And Worth" at Cleveland in June. Details from Nina Boydell (RESPOND!, 98 Dovecot Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS18 1HA).

Environmental Information Service (PO Box 197, Cawston, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 4BH) is starting an environmental employment register. Seeking government co-operation was like "trying to convince Attila the Hun to take on non-violent policies... For all the patronising views that this government prattles on about employment, we can state that they do not care enough to encourage new schemes".

POLITICAL ECOLOGY AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN ONE WORLD

"We emerge from these deliberations with a profound sense that in the richness of our diversity we share a common vision of a human society grounded in the values of simplicity, love, peace and reverence for life. We now go forth in solidarity to mobilise the moral and human resources of the civil societies of all nations in a unified social movement committed to the realisation of this vision". Copies of THE PEOPLE'S EARTH DECLARATION, from Green Forum Philippines (3rd Floor, Liberty Building, 835 Pasay Road, Makati 1200, Metro Manila, Philippines); or Canadian Council for International Cooperation (1 Nicholas Street, Suite 300, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B7, Canada).

"The lack of a politics that will carry people beyond the contemporary social and environmental plight, towards a free ecological society, is perhaps the greatest single failing of the green movement". SOCIAL ECOLOGY NETWORK (c/o The Dolehouse, 372 Coldharbour Lane, London SW9 8PL; co-ordinator, Gideon Kossoff).

SOCIETY AND NATURE, Vol.1, No.2, Sept-Dec.92 (233pp) (PO Box 637, Littleton, CO 80160, USA) is on "The Philosophy of Ecology". Takis Fotopoulos (20 Woodberry Way, London N12) writes: "Our choice of the autonomy worldview constrains us to see the roots of the ecological crisis in terms of hierarchical social relations and structures (as social ecology does), and not in terms of the relationship between an undifferentiated 'society' and nature (as environmentalists, deep ecologists and others do)... What is lacking today is not a new 'objective' justification of the liberatory project, but the political will to define it and take part in its realisation". This International Journal of Political Ecology fills a real need.

"The green expectation is that the old order will collapse of its own accord because it has no answers. We have seen this happen in Eastern Europe. There were no 'revolutions'. Six Soviet satellites dissolved, followed by the Soviet Union itself. Their tragedy was that they had no concept of people-power ready when it came to the crunch. It is in that respect exactly that we have to be different." In VALUES AND VISION: HUMAN ECOLOGY AND COMMUNITY POLITICS (8pp, price 20p + postage) Peter Cadogan (see p.2) argues that we need a well worked out political and personal alternative.

"The improvement of post-communist economies cannot consist simply in transplanting, without adjustments, the free market model... The free market system presupposes a society composed of individuals who are used to fending for themselves". A SOCIETY IN SEARCH OF ITS FUTURE - POLAND IN 1992 by Prof. Jerzy A. Wojciechowski (80 Pleasant Park Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 5L9, Canada) published by the Adam Mickiewicz Foundation (129 Medland Street, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2N4).

Katrin Gillwald (WZB, Reichpietschstr. 50, D-1000 Berlin 30, Germany) guest edited FUTURES, Vol.24, No.2, March 92, a Special Issue on Central and East European Futures. In "Transition From Authoritarian/Totalitarian Systems" Bart van Steenbergen says "The transition from a communist command economy to a market economy is without precedent in history, so in that respect we can learn only little from other countries. There is much more to learn from other regions about the political system, and especially from the countries of Southern Europe and Latin America". In "Lessons from the Third World" Ziauddin Sardar and Merryll Wyn Davies show why Eastern European countries and Third World states should together set an agenda for genuine structural changes in the global economic system.

"The problem of strengthening civil society is the legacy of the type of politics where information concerning public affairs is guarded by a very narrow circle of leaders... The patron-client base of political relations has encouraged leaders to misappropriate public funds and hide from the public view just how much they spend on keeping themselves in power". THE STATE AND THE CRISIS IN AFRICA: IN SEARCH OF A SECOND LIBERATION (32pp, 1992) from the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation (Ovre Slottsgatan 2, S-753 10 Uppsala, Sweden).

SANGONET is a new non-profit electronic information and communications network for South African NGOs, associated with the emerging global people's development movement and seeking to promote justice, sustainability and inclusiveness as basic principles of people-centred development. Anriette Esterhuysen (Development Resources Centre, PO Box 6079, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa).

Must participatory action research be a liberationist strategy of inquiry by researchers working from a politically radical perspective with oppressed and disadvantaged people? COLLABORATIVE INQUIRY, No.8, Dec.92 (Peter Reason, Centre for the Study of Organisational Change and Development, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY).

Are the new social movements - environmentalism, feminism, etc. - really new? For at least 200 years similar 'romantic' movements have coincided with the 60-year long-wave ('Kondratieff') cycles. We recommend the provocative article on "Social Movements" in TECHNOLOGICAL FORECASTING AND SOCIAL CHANGE 35 (1989) by Joseph Huber (Mommсенstrasse 2, 1000 Berlin 12, Germany).

In DEVELOPMENT 1992:4 (Society for International Development, Palazzo Civiltà del Lavoro, 00144 Rome, Italy) Paul Ekins (42 Warriner Gardens, London SW11 4DU) describes three possible new world orders: the 'neoliberal', based on the so-called free market; the 'social democratic', as advocated by the Brandt Reports; and the 'grassroots', based on neither the market nor the state but civil society. The real world is almost certainly going to be a mixture of all three, but the dominant thrust must be towards the third.

ECOCURRENTS, Dec. 1992 (Matthias Finger, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027, USA), is on "The Same Old Order". The Earth Summit process has extended global management in the name of environmentalism. Power will still be held by the very same people and organisations that mismanaged the planet. But, although the established green movement may have been coopted by global business and government, hope lies in a new political ecology movement based on radical, grassroots, and especially Third World environmentalists.

Reforms in the United Nations system will be proposed in time for the UN's 50th anniversary in 1995 by the new Independent International Commission on Global Cooperation and Governance (CP 184, CH-1211, Geneva 28, Switzerland; Secretary-General Hans Dahlgren). How is the great miscellany of UN institutions, including the new ones like the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) of the World Bank, the Earth Council, and the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, to be coherently restructured and made democratically accountable? Dr. Robert Muller, former UN Assistant Secretary-General (see p.2), proposes a Peoples' Assembly in addition to the UN General Assembly.

The United Nations have adopted 17th October as an INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR OVERCOMING EXTREME POVERTY. Congratulations to ATD Fourth World (48 Addington Square, London SE5 7LB) on their successful campaign.

HUMAN ECOLOGY: HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, PEACE

The Centre for Human Ecology (see p. 8) is offering a course on Human Ecology (MSc/Diploma, Oct.93 - Sept.94) for qualified people, e.g. with experience in government, industry or voluntary organisations.

"By 2010, we see good health increasingly becoming a national and global priority... Individuals view their lives and futures as valuable and worth preserving both for their own sake and as participants in a community of people who collectively seek to enhance the survival and quality of life. The promotion of health and the prevention of disease are central values of our caring society. Individual behaviour, organisational behaviour, the management of societal and environmental hazards, and healthcare, all combine to create a healthy society". HEALTHY PEOPLE IN A HEALTHY WORLD: THE BELMONT VISION FOR HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA, is a heartening and concise 1992 report from a group of 18 healthcare leaders and decision-makers - project director Clem Bezold (Institute for Alternative Futures, 108 N Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA).

In HEALTHCARE FORUM JOURNAL, May/June 1992, Clem Bezold (above) describes five alternative futures for 21st-century healthcare: Continued Growth/High Tech; Hard Times/Government Leadership; Buyers' Market; A New Civilisation; Healing and Healthcare.

"Health protection is based on a model of democracy in which experts and elected politicians make decisions on behalf of the general public. This somewhat paternalistic and frequently secretive style of decision-making is a legacy of the democratic system developed in the 18th and 19th centuries ... Times have changed... People want not merely to be represented but to participate... Health promotion's commitment to public participation and community empowerment challenges the more traditional decision-making processes of health protection". Trevor Hancock (28 Napier Street, Box 428, Kleinburg, Ontario L0J 1C0, Canada) writes in SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS FOR HEALTH, a 42pp booklet from WHO Regional Office for Europe (8 Scherfigsvej, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark). It also includes the important Sundsvall Declaration on Supportive Environments for Health. This urges WHO and UNEP to develop guidelines for member states based on the principle of sustainable health development.

"In 1985 North Americans were consuming half the grains and potatoes they did at the turn of the century, 33% more dairy products, 50% more beef and 280% more poultry. This shift resulted in a diet with one third more fat, one fifth less carbohydrates, and levels of protein consumption far exceeding official recommendations. The increased demand for animal products has resulted in a vast reallocation of resources, has promoted the degradation of global ecosystems, and has disrupted and displaced indigenous cultures worldwide. The impact on human health has been equally devastating". OUR FOOD, OUR WORLD: THE REALITIES OF AN ANIMAL-BASED DIET, a 24pp report (1992, \$2.50 from Earthsave Foundation, 706 Frederick Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95062, USA) is packed with facts and figures.

"Developing countries need a new energy path for reasons quite apart from threats to the Earth's climate. Simply reducing the cost of energy services, as well as the environmental and health costs of air pollution, would allow developing countries to invest in more pressing areas". Worldwatch Paper 111 (\$5 from Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036, USA) is by Nicholas Lenssen on EMPOWERING DEVELOPMENT: THE NEW ENERGY EQUATION.

"Energy efficiency could be the linchpin of environmental and economic reform in the 1990s. ... The industrialised nations are responsible for most of the damage already caused by burning fossil fuels: we therefore have a moral responsibility both to reduce our own waste, and at the same time to help other nations to develop with the minimum environmental costs". ENERGY: DOING MORE WITH LESS, a 19pp paper for the Churches Energy Group by Linda Taylor (Association for the Conservation of Energy, 9 Sherlock Mews, London W1M 3RH).

Diana Schumacher and Alison Pritchard are on the Executive Committee of the ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FOUNDATION (Kings College London, Atkins Building South (128), Campden Hill Road, London W8 7AH). Chairman Martin Polden reports 255 cases in ELF's first ten months, helping local residents to protect the environment. Future plans include an annual conference and newsletter for ELF's country-wide network of lawyers and environmentalists.

Ecological Design Association (20 High Street, Stroud, Glos GL5 1AS) publish a newsletter and ECODESIGN, the magazine of green design.

Splendid news! Our old friend, limnologist Jack Vallentyne (36 Longwood Road N, Hamilton, Ontario L8S 3V4, Canada), alias "Johnny Biosphere" with a globe on his back, received the RACHEL CARSON AWARD on the 30th anniversary of "Silent Spring" in November.

According to Dr. Terry Moore (the MISSION RAINFOREST FOUNDATION, The Centre, Codicote Road, Welwyn, Herts AL6 9TU), purchase of rainforest habitat is the best way to preserve our international heritage, climate control, future food and world security. The Foundation already manages an initial 10,000 acres of rainforest in Argentina.

One inheritance of apartheid is that "the accepted ethos of many conservation organisations is perceived by some as perpetuating the narrow sectional interests of a privileged society". From a paper on BUSINESS AND ENVIRONMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA - OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS (Jon Hobbs, Industrial Environmental Forum of Southern Africa, PO Box 1091, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa).

The most dangerous nuclear reactors in Eastern Europe could be shut down without replacement, if 600 million incandescent lightbulbs were replaced with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). ACID NEWS, October 1992 (Box 245, S-401 24 Goteborg, Sweden).

UN Solar Energy Group for Environment and Development (UNSEGED) and Stockholm Environment Institute say renewables could meet at least 50% of energy needs by the year 2050. CLEAN SLATE, Winter 1992/93 (Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, Powys SY20 9AZ).

"For scientists the choice seems to be between research for war and research for something else unrelated to dealing with conflict.... There is, though, one alternative to war that has a significant potential role for scientists and technologists: social defence". Brian Martin (Department of Science and Technology Studies, University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong, NSW 2500, Australia) writes on "Science For Non-Violent Struggle" in SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY, Vol.19, No.1, 1992.

"The Cold War may have ended but the global arms race continues largely unabated". The Project on Demilitarisation (PRODEM, Suite 26, Vassalli House, 20 Central Road, Leeds LS1 6DE) has been set up to advance public education on militarism and disarmament.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Joanne O'Brien, Martin Palmer, Ranchor Prime: A WEALTH OF FAITHS: ECONOMICS AND RELIGION: WWF UK, 1992, 68pp, pbk, mail order £8.99 + £1 p&p from New Economics Foundation (see page 3). This finely produced classroom book for 10-to-14-year-olds is the fruit of NEF's work with ICOREC on Economics and Religion. Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islamic, Jewish and Sikh stories show how "all around the world, people from all sorts of religions, cultures, ideologies and backgrounds are trying to find a new way to live - a new economics".

Sheila Moorcroft (ed): VISIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY: Adamantine Press, 1992, 178pp, pbk, £14.95. "It will not be a world of civilisation as we know it: both modernism and post-modernism are ultimately about maintaining a world in the single image of Western civilisation. It will be a world of civilisations - Western, Islamic, Indian, Chinese, and numerous smaller ones." Ziauddin Sardar is one of the 21 contributors. Others include James Robertson, Keith Suter and Francis Kinsman.

Alan Beattie, Marjorie Gott, Linda Jones, Moyra Sidell (eds): HEALTH AND WELLBEING: Macmillan/Open University, 1993, 322pp, pbk, £10.99. "... a 'social model' of health ... a new paradigm of health which recognises the dynamic interaction between individuals and their environment, and attempts to promote health-enhancing social and material conditions of life and work." This Reader for a new OU course (manager: Carole Jeffery) has 3 parts - "Health as a Contested Concept", "Debates and Decisions in Everyday Health", and "Health on Wider Agendas". Contributors to Part 3 include Mayer Hillman, Peter Draper, James Robertson, David Gee and Patrick Pietroni.

Catherine Budgett-Meakin (ed): MAKE THE FUTURE WORK: Longman, 1992, 190pp, pbk, £14.99. This first Teacher's Guide to appropriate technology emphasises that values and value judgements are "the engine" of design and technology. "Judgements about what is possible and worthwhile initiate activity; judgements about how intentions are to be realised shape the activity."

Joe Dominguez and Vicki Robin: YOUR MONEY OR YOUR LIFE: Viking, 1992, 350pp, hbk, \$21. Acclaimed in the USA, the Road Map Foundation's (PO Box 15981, Seattle, WA 98115, USA) 9-step programme empowers its readers to value our life energy by how we use our money, our time and our work, to help to save the planet by saving money, and to achieve financial intelligence, integrity and independence.

Ruben A. Mnatsakanian: ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY OF THE FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS: Centre for Human Ecology (15 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LN), 1992, 209pp, pbk, £20 + £1.50 p&p. "Stalin called a declaration of war on Nature ... The attitude that Man must master Nature and exploit and change it completely at his wish, was the predominant dogma among the communist leaders." A uniquely comprehensive review of official reports on the environmental situation in the USSR as it broke up.

Alan Marston (ed): THE OTHER ECONOMY: ECONOMICS NATURE CAN LIVE WITH: LBD Publishers (PO Box 10344, Auckland 3, New Zealand), 1992, 219pp, pbk, NZ\$19.95. Contributors include Shann Turnbull (see p.15).

HOUSMANS PEACE DIARY AND WORLD PEACE DIRECTORY (£5.50 from Housmans, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX) lists 2100 peace, environmental and human rights organisations in more than 130 countries.

Paul Ekins and Manfred Max-Neef: REAL-LIFE ECONOMICS: UNDERSTANDING WEALTH CREATION: Routledge, 1992, 460pp, pbk, £12.99. Although it does not claim to be "the definitive statement of a new school of economic thought", this contribution to new economic thinking is a must for all serious students of economics and social science. That academic economists and sociologists are now producing textbook analyses of such concepts as the 'informal economy' and 'seeing the economy whole' is a tremendous step forward.

Richard Douthwaite, THE GROWTH ILLUSION: Green Books, 1992, 367pp, pbk, £14.95. A wide-ranging and well-written account of "how economic growth has enriched the few, impoverished the many, and endangered the planet". The already converted will enjoy the way it is done. Novices will find it an eye-opener.

Manfred Max-Neef: FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN: EXPERIENCES IN 'BAREFOOT ECONOMICS': Zed Books, 1992, 208pp, pbk, £10.95. A classic account, originally published by the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation in 1982, of the conversion of a distinguished international economic civil servant to a barefoot economist in Ecuador and Brazil.

Nicholas Albery (ed): THE BOOK OF VISIONS: AN ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF SOCIAL INNOVATIONS: Virgin Books, 1992, 336pp, pbk, £14.99. This bumper collection of "bright ideas", "amazing ideas", "inspired ideas", "global ideas", "small ideas", "wild ideas", and "brainwaves" has been compiled by the Institute for Social Inventions (20 Heber Road, London NW2 6AA) as a "global manifesto, written by the people, for a safer, simpler and saner future". Great stuff! Now we need a sequel on putting social inventions into practice. Which ones do social entrepreneurs take up? How does social change take place?

David Engwicht: TOWARDS AN ECO-CITY: CALMING THE TRAFFIC: Envirobook: Sydney, 1992, 190pp, pbk; published in UK by Jon Carpenter Publishing, £9.99 from bookshops, and £10.99 from JCP Mail Order (33 Newton Road, Oxford OX1 4PT). "Cities are for us, not for juggernauts, concrete wastelands or muck. This book shows how we can reclaim our cities."

Thijs de la Court: DIFFERENT WORLDS: ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT BEYOND THE 90S: Jon Carpenter Publishing, 1992, 144pp, pbk, £6.99 from bookshops, and £7.84 from JCP Mail Order (see above). Grassroots stories from Sri Lanka, Chile and India illustrate this critique of Dutch environment and development policy, and support a people-oriented approach to local community development.

Herbert Girardet: EARTHRISE: HOW WE CAN HEAL OUR INJURED PLANET: Paladin, 1992, 238pp, pbk, £6.99. "Our very destructiveness is giving rise to a nascent global consciousness. The Earth is rising in our minds, and as we see it whole for the first time, we are also conscious of a new sense of needing to cherish it."

Tara Singh: THE FUTURE OF MANKIND: Life Action Press, 1992, 278pp, pbk, \$12.95. "So do not look for wise people outside of yourself. Every single person has the potential." Tara Singh's wise, reflective book draws on many sources of inspiration - including Emerson, Thoreau, Tolstoy, Guru Nanak, Krishnamurti, and A Course In Miracles - as well as his own experiences.

Archie J. Bahm: NATURE AND INTELLIGENCE: World Books, Albuquerque, 1992, 129pp, pbk. Handy, pocket-sized English translation (with commentary) of the Chinese classic TAO TEH KING by Lau Tzu.

SUSTAINABILITY AND SUBSIDIARITY

Yawn! Yawn! Boring, abstract words. But behind them is an important truth. We have to reverse the unsustainable, centralising drive of modern Western "progress". It systematically generates poverty, ill-health and crime; systematically damages and pollutes the environment; and systematically feeds ambition for centralised power.

Robert Goodland and Herman Daly (Environment Department, World Bank, Washington, DC 20433, USA) give "Ten Reasons Why Northern Income Growth Is Not The Solution To Southern Poverty". The best way for the North to help the South is to get its own house in order, by "transforming today's Northern consumer and borrowing economy into a more sustainable model. An accelerated transition to renewable energy for a stable population is the major element".

"The culture of the West, its knowledge system and lifestyle, operate a magnetic force that disempowers other cultures and destroys nature. Sustainability, in contrast, depends on mutual recognition of the distinct identity and destiny of different cultural systems. Since the economic paradigm of the West precludes that, what is required is a new paradigm". Alastair Hulbert in QUID PRO QUO 1/1993, South-North Network (174 Rue Joseph II, 1040 Brussels, Belgium).

"Does it really matter whether or not population is pinpointed as the fundamental problem? Yes - because if it turns out not to be the real source of the global ecological crisis,... the affluent North will have victimised these Southern children twice over: first by contributing to the poverty they were born into and second by wrongly representing them as the source of the environmental crisis." Anuradha Vittachi (Word Pictures, Hedgerley Wood Centre, Red Lane, Chinnor, Oxon OX9 4BW) in the September 1992 NEW INTERNATIONALIST.

Pippa Cookson (442 Springfield Road, Belfast BT12 7DW) has sent us EARTH CHARTER from the Bahai International Community (Office of the Environment, 866 UN Plaza, Suite 120, New York, NY 10017, USA). "Only as women are welcomed into full partnership in all fields of human endeavour, including environment and development, will the moral and psychological climate be created in which a peaceful, harmonious and sustainable civilisation can emerge and flourish".

EQUITY AND SURVIVAL: CLIMATE CHANGE, POPULATION AND THE PARADOX OF GROWTH, from Global Commons Institute (42 Windsor Road, London NW2 5DS: Aubrey Meyer), explores the "linkage between economic growth in the wealthy economies and population growth in the poorer economies".

SUSTAINABILITY: FROM VISION TO REALITY, from Canadian Council for International Cooperation (see p.4), is a report of an Alternative Economics Conference in February 1992. Speakers included Martin Khor (Malaysia), Maximo Kalaw (Philippines) and James Robertson.

"Sustained yield cannot work if you are shipping your logs out of the area to be processed... True sustained yield must involve value added through manufacture in the greater community where the trees are logged". For holistic or sustainable forestry, watershed management must be controlled by the local people. FORESTREE NEWS (Institute for Sustainable Forestry, PO Box 1580, Redway, CA 95560, USA).

THE LADAKH PROJECT, Summer 1992 Newsletter (International Society for Ecology and Culture, 21 Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4ES) reports the emergence of Community Supported Agriculture.

In its 14-page "Briefing For The Danish Presidency", WWF supports the subsidiarity concept... It implies environmental responsibilities for all levels of government - local, regional, national and European Community. But an effective European Environmental Agency is needed to monitor and enforce standards in Member States. Tony Long (WWF International, 608 Chaussee de Waterloo, B-1060 Brussels, Belgium).

An important Berlin conference, November 1992, on "Employment And Regeneration Policies In Crisis Regions" has resulted in a new EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR ECONOMIC SELF-HELP AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT. Details and Conference Proceedings from Dr. Karl Birkholzer (Technische Universitat Berlin, Sekr. FR 4-8, Franklinstr. 28/29, D-1000 Berlin 10, Germany). His keynote paper discusses whether local economies will become the kernel of a "new, future-orientated economic system". James Robertson's opening speech (bringing together the practical meanings of sustainability and subsidiarity), will shortly be published in FUTURES as "The Fallacy Of Single-Level Control: Local Economies In A Changing Global Environment".

"An international currency appears to many businessmen as an obvious, vital ingredient for the creation of a stable global environment for business. Of course, this is right, but it need not be a single currency ... Robertson's notion of multilevel currencies may be particularly important in respect both of the problems of eastern and western Europe and of solving the even vaster problems between the industrialised countries and the Third World". From John Coleman's editorial in NEW EUROPEAN, Vol.5, No.4, 1992 (14-16 Carroun Road, London SW8 1JT). More on the multi-level approach to economic integration in Europe - and the subsidiarity principle - is in NEW ECONOMICS, Winter 1992 and NEW SECTOR, Dec/Jan 1992/3 (see page 3).

Dr. Bob Colenutt, DOCKLANDS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE SUPPORT UNIT (4 Stratford Office Village, 4 Romford Road, London E15 4EA) says - in a 64pp report "Social Regeneration: Directions For Urban Policy In The 1990s" for the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (Alberton House, St. Mary's Parsonage, Manchester M3 2WJ) - that "unemployment, homelessness and crime continue to rise in Britain's inner cities despite 13 years of 'urban regeneration'. Over that period, there has been a huge injection of government funding through Urban Development Corporations, Enterprise Zones and City Grant aimed at attracting private investment... The UDCs, despite their massive spending on property development, have done little to transform the opportunities for those living in inner city stress areas". In "A Critical Assessment of Canary Wharf, May 1992" (44pp), he estimates taxpayers' expenditure on London Docklands at f6 billion by the mid-1990s. Most of this is due to Canary Wharf, now bust!

"Despite a decade of private investment in urban regeneration, most towns and cities are struggling once again... Based upon experience dating back to the mid-1970s we believe it is more important than ever to make the most of local initiatives and assets". 1992 Review from URBED (3 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NT; Dr. Nicholas Falk).

GAP UK (PO Box 893, London E5 9RU) is a Global Action Plan for translating global environmental goals into measurable household, workplace and community actions.

Building and Social Housing Foundation (Memorial Square, Coalville, Leics LE6 4EU; contact Diane Diacon) seeks entries for its 1993 WORLD HABITAT AWARDS - projects in both developed and developing countries, which offer sustainable futures to residents.

WOMEN, CHILDREN AND MEN

"Women perform the lion's share of work in subsistence economies, toiling longer hours and contributing more to family income than their male relatives, but are viewed as 'unproductive' in the eyes of government statisticians, economists, development experts, and even their husbands. A huge proportion of the world's real productivity therefore remains undervalued, and the essential contributions women make to the welfare of families and nations remain unrecognised". GENDER BIAS: ROADBLOCK TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT by Jodi L. Jacobson is Worldwatch Paper 110 (\$5 from Worldwatch Institute - see p.6).

"Women are more responsible, hard-working, studious, innovative, co-operative and altruistic than men. Further, women are more likely to repay debts, and to form and successfully run organisations and co-ops. Men, grassroots development workers say, fritter away their money on coffee, alcohol, cigarettes, other drugs, fortune-tellers and gambling, whereas women use their income to feed, clothe and educate their children". "Women-Centred Development" and "Responsible Women, Childish Men" are themes of Elizabeth W. Moen's article on "Grassroots Development in South India" in GANDHI MARG, Vol.13, No.4, 1992 (221-223 Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi 1100 02, India).

Valerie A. Brown (Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia) has carried out consultations on women and the environment for the National Women's Consultative Council. Her reports on "What On Earth Can A Woman Do?", "A Question of Balance: Australian Women's Priorities for Environmental Action", and "Engendering Sustainable Development", contain many specific findings and recommendations.

"In Africa 77% of women who have stated they do not want any more children remain without any contraceptive provision. In Asia the figure is 57%, in Latin America it is 43%. There is an increasing awareness that providing women with the means to take charge of their own fertility and improving their health, education and status are central to achieving slower population growth and sustainable development". Annual Report, 1992 from Population Concern (231 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9AE).

"Fatherhood was invented by humans during the agricultural revolution about 6000 years ago. Symbolised by the new god-king, it incorporated the mother's originally superior role in primate families - the control or ownership of children... In modern Europe and North America it is fashionable to identify a new kind of father who is nurturant and involved with his children... I argue that this welcome trend has had little significant impact on domestic, political or religious institutions of the modern world. Men as fathers are handicapped as long as they remain in thrall to the inflated god-king, who inspires in the ordinary mortal a hollow performance of parenthood, stripped of its maternal qualities". Sebastian Kraemer (Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA) on "The Origins of Fatherhood: An Ancient Family Process" in FAMILY PROCESS, Vol.30, Dec.1991, pp.377-392.

Sister Patricia Milner (70 Harcourt Street Dublin 2, Ireland) tells us that after reading *Future Wealth* she was reminded of Maria Montessori whose ideas on education she propagates. "New people" will be needed to bring an enabling, conserving, one-world human community into existence, and it is as "new children" in the first six years of their lives that their character and personality will be formed".

RELIGION

1993 is a year of interreligious understanding and co-operation. Many events in Britain and elsewhere - see ONE FAMILY, newsletter from the World Congress of Faiths (28 Powis Gardens, London W11 1JG). The Dalai Lama, Raimundo Panikkar and A.T. Ariyaratne will be among many of the world's spiritual leaders at the PARLIAMENT OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS in Chicago from 28th August to 4th September. Details from Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions (105 West Adams Street, Suite 800, PO Box 1630, Chicago, IL 60690, USA).

"A kind of socially engaged Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Christianity have to be brought to the fore to get individuals, groups and communities to practice meditation, cultivate respect for life, and radiate loving kindness far and wide. Material resources have also to be harnessed and directed to bring about a realisation both of the utter futility of violence and of the alternative sustainable social system that can be put into place by non-violence". A.T. Ariyaratne's "Practical Non-Violent Responses to New Forms of Violence" is one of 20 papers in GANDHI MARG Vol.14, No.1, 1992, (see p.12) special issue (283pp) on non-violence.

"A theology of political economy reminds us that economics should be the servant and not the master of a good society." MC, Vol.34, No.2, 1992 (quarterly journal from The Modern Churchpeople's Union, The Schoolhouse, Leysters, Leominster HR6 0HB) includes articles on theology of work, and theology and economics.

"Many British Christians seem largely unaware of the links which exist between economic and environmental issues". The churches were conspicuous by their absence at the Earth Summit and Global Forum, says David Gosling in "The Road to Rio" in GREEN CHRISTIANS, Nov.92-Jan.93 (The Abbey, Sutton Courtenay, Oxon OX14 4AF).

Instead of proclaiming that "Christ is the way" could Christians say simply that "Christ is a way"? ... Has the time come for Jews to proclaim that they are "a chosen people" rather than "the chosen people"? This "heretical suggestion" comes from a recent AUDENSHAW PAPER from The Hinksey Centre, Westminster College (Oxford OX2 9AT). The Hinksey Centre is collaborating with the School of Theology there in a programme on "Values, Economics and Society".

"The nature of the society which is emerging amongst the dispossessed on the fringes of Irish society may be loosely termed as post-modern. ...It equates personal growth with social commitment; it espouses spirituality but discards religiosity; it is committed to democracy but distrusts politicians; it has a fundamental commitment to work but is likely to be unemployed; it is locally committed but globally orientated". Tom Collins, at a Social Policy Conference in September 1992 - proceedings edited as POWER, PARTICIPATION AND EXCLUSION (120pp) by Brigid Reynolds and Sean Healy (Conference of Major Religious Superiors, Milltown Park, Dublin 6, Ireland).

"Poverty, powerlessness, inequity, low purchasing power are all indicators that we do not live in a spiritual society. Spirituality is not merely about realising the Ultimate, but it is about creating the necessary living conditions in which everyone has an equal opportunity to realise the Transcendental". Sohail Inayatullah writes about P.R. Sarkar and his Progressive Utilisation Theory (PROUT) in NEW RENAISSANCE, Vol.4, No.1, 1993 (Weisenauer weg 4, 6500 Mainz 42, Germany).

ENTERPRISE - SOCIAL AND OTHERWISE

"The reality is that a new economy is unfolding in our midst. The state enterprise economy of the communist world has collapsed. The free enterprise economy of the capitalist world with infinite growth as its motivation has reached its outer limits in the finite world. What is emerging is a social enterprise economy that is ethical, life-centred, community-focussed and sustainable". MINSOC (Bishan Singh or Valerie Laurie, Management Institute for Social Change, B-2114, Tingkat Satu, Jalan Merpati, 25300 Kuantan, Pahang Darul Makmur, Malaysia) trains social entrepreneurs as pioneers of the new social enterprise economy.

As organisations and businesses increasingly aim to benefit people in the local community as well as be commercially viable, the need grows for methods to assess their social effectiveness. A conference in Edinburgh on Thursday, 25th March will discuss COUNTING COMMUNITY PROFIT (details from Community Enterprise Lothian, Holyrood Business Park, 146 Duddingston Road West, Edinburgh EH16 4AP: Tel: 031-659 6813). Speakers include James Robertson, Rob Gray ("Greening of Accountancy"), Robin Heal (Chair, London Enterprise Agency), Duncan Power (Mercury Provident) and Colin Ball (Chair, COMMACT - Commonwealth Association for Local Action and Development).

TOWARDS A NEW SECTOR: MACRO-POLICIES FOR COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE - one of 150 publications available from New Economics Foundation (see p3).

CATALYST (56 Kingsbench Street, Hull, HU3 2TX; Andy Hill) is a collective of ordinary people who realise the need to reclaim control of our own lives and so regain responsibility for the impact that our actions have on the Earth. Practical activities include tree-planting, green parenting, co-operatives, animal rights.

David Hopson (UNET Electronic Publishing, The Office, 45B Blythe Street, London E2 6LN) is an independent computer consultant working in the voluntary sector. He will be happy to advise on his INFORMATION STUDIO package for voluntary and community organisations.

TOMORROW'S COMPANY. The Royal Society of Arts (Mark Goyder, RSA, 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ), has set up an inquiry and a network on the role of business in a changing world. Good news but, following the collapse of communism, is the conventional business company really being seen "as the universal vehicle for wealth creation"? Surely wealth creation is being redefined to include the family, the local community, the school, etc., and to exclude damaging business activities. That is what alternative economic indicators, environmental and social audit, etc., are about.

Industrial chaplains have set up a BUSINESS ETHICS NETWORK. Details from Canon Peter Challen (South London Industrial Mission, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY).

"Today's business corporation is an artificial creation, shielding owners and managers while preserving corporate privilege and existence". TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS: CITIZENSHIP AND THE CHARTER OF INCORPORATION by Richard L. Grossman and Frank T. Adams (32pp., \$4 from Charter, Ink., PO Box 806, Cambridge, MA 02140, USA), advises American citizens how to recover the legal right to licence businesses and supervise them. Bill Ellis (TRANET, PO Box 567, Rangely, ME 04970, USA) believes that how much control citizens have over business, will be a key issue for the next few years.

MONEY

Is human competence incapable of evolving a fair, efficient and reliable money system? Surely not. Come to our seminar (see p.1).

"The events in the money markets of the last few months should leave no one in any doubt about the importance of money in all our lives and the need for radically new ways of working." The social bank Mercury Provident (Orlingbury House, Lewes Road, Forest Row, Sussex RH18 5AA) reports (newsletter 27, Nov.92) a new phase of development in co-operation with Rubicon Link and the Dutch Triodosbank.

The World Bank is in the wrong business. Instead of making loans they should be teaching Third World countries how to make development internally self-financing. But "it is not in the self-interest of the employees of any international bank to teach poor countries to become independent of foreign bankers". Shann Turnbull (PO Box 4359, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia) in the November 1992 WORLD CITIZEN NEWS (NWO Publications, 113 Church Street, Burlington, VT 05401, USA).

A new local investment organisation, which uses money innovatively to create social wealth by developing the capacities of local people, is planned for Aston, Birmingham. Pat Conaty (Birmingham Settlement, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham B19 3RL) outlined the ASTON INVESTMENT TRUST in a paper on "Community Development Finance: New Initiatives in Birmingham" at the Berlin conference in November (see p.11).

At the same conference Liz Shephard (LETSLINK UK Network, 61 Woodcock Road, Warminster, Wiltshire) discussed local employment trading systems (LETS) - a form of local quasi-currency which members use between themselves. The LETS experiment at Stroud is described in the Jan-Feb 1993 COMMON GROUND (Patricia Beggan, Smutternagh, Knockvicar, Boyle, Co Roscommon, Ireland).

The Basic Income Research Group (BIRG) has a new name and address: CITIZENS INCOME (Citizens Income Study Centre, St.Philips Building, Sheffield Street, London WC2A 2EX). A new set of 14 information sheets on "Aspects of Citizens Income" is available. There are regional representatives in The Midlands, North-West and South-West.

"The special thing about the creation of money through bank credit - an important feature of 'modern' economy - is that the new productivity or consumption to be undertaken with that money will be added to present activities. Nothing or little has been saved beforehand, nothing or little has been sacrificed for it. In this way huge bills are being drawn on the future". Willem Hoogendijk (Stichting Milieu Educatie, PO Box 13030, 3507 LA Utrecht, Holland) in his 6-page paper "Money Just Following?".

William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, said in 1942 that the banks should be limited in their lending power to that which depositors have entrusted to them - CHRISTIAN COUNCIL FOR MONETARY JUSTICE (W.J. Searl, 2 Quilters Close, Basildon, Essex SS14 2TD).

More than 30 social organisations in Germany, Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and Italy, have set up BANKWATCH, to monitor bank behaviour. Details from Udo Reifner (Institute for Financial Services and Consumer Protection, Grosse Bleichen 23, D-2000 Hamburg, Germany) on BankWatch Network, BankWatch Database, a conference on "Bank Safety and the Consumer in Europe" in Italy in September 1993, and a new book on "Banking For People".

SOME DATES TO NOTE

23 March, 6.30pm, Edinburgh. HOW TO MAKE A NEW ECONOMICS RELEVANT: James Robertson. Last in a weekly series of lectures on ENVISIONING THE FUTURE. Details from Centre for Human Ecology (see p.8).

25 March, 9.15-4.15, Edinburgh. COUNTING COMMUNITY PROFIT (see p.14).

27 March, 10.15-5pm, London. A GREEN ROUTE OUT OF RECESSION. Speakers include Michael Jacobs. Details: Socialist Environmental and Resources Association (SERA, 11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ).

29-30 March, 10.15-4.30, Brussels. VIOLENCE AND SHARING IN THE ECONOMY. Seminar details from Quaker Council for European Affairs (50 Square Ambiorix, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium).

2-4 April, New Zealand. TOES SOUTH 93. Alan Marston (see p.8).

6 April, London. A RESURRECTION OF CULTURE AND OF THE EARTH by Matthew Fox. For details send sae to Centre for Creation Spirituality (St. James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1V 9LF).

21, 28 April, 5 May. WOMEN, POWER AND THE HUMAN FUTURE. Dunamis Lectures at St. James's Church Hall, 197 Piccadilly (see above).

22-25 April, Wembley, London. THE ALTERNATIVE INCOME SHOW (see p.3).

3 May, 6pm, London. GANDHI FOUNDATION LECTURE by the Dalai Lama. Sae to Gandhi Foundation (Kingsley Hall, Powis Road, London E3 3HJ).

3-4 June, Wiesbaden, Germany. EUROPROSPECTIVE III on Science and Technology for the 8 Billion People of the Planet by 2010-2020. Details from Prof. Dr. Peter H. Mettler (Fachhochschule Wiesbaden, Kurt-Schumacher-Ring 18, D-62 Wiesbaden, Germany).

22-24 June, Cleveland, Teesside. BEYOND UNEMPLOYMENT (see p.3).

26-27 June, London. LIVING THE NEW STORY. Workshop with Pritjof Capra. Details from Centre for Creation Spirituality (see above).

5-7 July, Kawasaki City, Japan. THE OTHER ECONOMIC SUMMIT, 1993. TOES/Japan Conference Organising Committee (Alternative Seikatsu Kan, 2-8-4 Shin Yokohama, Kohoku-ku, Yokohama City, Japan 222).

20-22 July, Cardiff. PHILOSOPHY AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. Royal Institute of Philosophy Conference 1993. Robin Attfield (Philosophy Section, University of Wales, PO Box 94, Cardiff CF1 3XB).

23-27 August, Turku, Finland. COHERENCE AND CHAOS IN OUR UNCOMMON FUTURES. World Futures Studies Federation. Ms Merja Laaksonen (Turku School of Economics, Rehtorinpellonkatu 3, sf-20500 Turku, Finland).

September, Manchester. British Government international conference for voluntary bodies, etc., on the practical implementation of sustainable development. Craig Jones (Department of the Environment, Room A305, 43 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3PY).

For their programmes of events apply to: The Abbey, Sutton Courtenay, Oxon OX14 4AF; Friends of the Centre, 8th Floor, Rodwell House, Middlesex Street, London E1 7HJ; and Schumacher College, Old Postern, Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EA.