

NEWSLETTER TURNING POINT

September 1987

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.

1988: A YEAR TO TAKE STOCK

There will be no TP newsletter in 1988. The first was in 1976 and we are now halfway to the year 2000 - a good time to pause and reflect.

In the last 12 years our concerns have become much more widely discussed. Many other networks, newsletters, etc. have been set up and there is no need for us to duplicate the information they provide. For the coming years, we think the TP newsletter might usefully focus more selectively on a smaller number of projects, activities and issues with which we ourselves are more directly connected and involved.

So the TP newsletter is going to take a break in 1988 while we think about this. We hope to resume the newsletter in a rather different form thereafter, and we will communicate again then with everyone now on the TP mailing list. This means that, for the time being, we won't have anything to exchange for your newsletters, etc. If anyone who has recently sent a donation wants some of their money back, please let us know. Otherwise, it will go towards the next mailing. Meanwhile, please keep in touch with Alison Pritchard or James Robertson, The Old Bakehouse, Cholsey, Nr. Wallingford, Oxon OX10 9NU, England. Tel: Cholsey (0491) 652346.

NEXT TURNING POINT MEETING - SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER

From 10am to 6pm at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1

THE CONSCIOUS CONSUMER

Speakers and workshops on opportunities for people to use their money power as consumers (and savers) to help to shape a better world.

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

TOWARDS HEALTHIER SOCIETIES

Social investment to prevent ill-health - and crime, poverty, ignorance and war - would pay off. Why don't we do more of it?

"The challenge now is to find ways to shape public policy which comes to grips with emerging health perceptions and realities... health service policy sensitive to quality-of-life issues... social policy responsive to changing lifestyle patterns and developing ideas of well-being... economic development policies that recognise the health threats associated with industrial and technological change." The 2nd International Conference on Health Promotion - Adelaide, April 1988 - will discuss HEALTHY PUBLIC POLICY. Details from Dr. Iloa Kickbusch (WHO-Europe, Scherfigsvej 8, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark).

HEALTH PROMOTION, Vol 1, No 4, contains proceedings of the 1st International Conference on Health Promotion - Ottawa, November 1986. Sample copies and subscription details from Journals Subscription Dept., OUP (Walton Street, Oxford OX2 6DP).

SUSTAINABLE HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE is the sixth Lifestyle Movement pamphlet on the "Sustainable Society", offering guidance on what the individual can do. Price 50p from Manor Farm, Little Gidding, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5RJ.

HEALTH AND HEALING is the subject of World Goodwill Newsletter 1987 No.2 from World Goodwill (see p.16). An excellent brief overview.

The recently formed Public Health Alliance (c/o HVA, 50 Southwark Street, London SE1 1UN), has issued a 10-point Charter on the essential basis of every citizen's right to good health.

THE HEALTH DIVIDE: INEQUALITIES IN HEALTH IN THE 1980s by Margaret Whitehead was the last report, published in March 1987, by the Health Education Council amidst public controversy just before its reconstitution as the Health Education Authority (78 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1AH). Among the report's findings are that social inequalities in health in Britain have widened in recent decades, and that public opinion is readier to accept that people may not themselves be to blame for being poor.

Sally Bunday, secretary of the HYPERACTIVE CHILDREN'S SUPPORT GROUP is now at 71 Whyke Lane, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 2LD. The HACSG's Summer 1987 Journal confirms the remarkable achievements of this self-help group.

Broadcroft is an informal network of laypersons in support of nutritional and other wholistic ways to health, particularly the GERSON THERAPY for the treatment of serious breakdowns including cancer, diabetes, multiple sclerosis. For basic information, cassette, contacts for help with treatment and for any financial and personal support you are able to give, write to Riccardo Ling (Broadcroft, 103 Westwood Hill, London SE26).

Melinda Moore Meigs and Ray Didcock (261 Grove Street, London SE8 3PZ) offer SOUND HEALTH WORKSHOPS and individual sessions in voice work, singing, psychotherapy.

THE OUTSIDERS CLUB (Tuppy Owens, Box 4ZB, London W1A 4ZB) is a network of people who feel isolated because of social or physical handicap. Newsletter, events, library-by-post, etc.

NEW WAYS TO WORK

"A new model for a theology of work, based on the importance of relationships, would enable us to see our lives as a whole. It would include everyone, whatever their context or relationship to the formal economy... It would give place to the concepts of life which women live with. It would give a theology which could be understood by both women and men." Elizabeth J. Nash in **A NEW MODEL FOR A THEOLOGY OF WORK**, Modern Churchman, Vol 29, No 1, 1986 (£5 p.a. from Rev. F.E. Compton, The School House, Leysters, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6).

After its initial conference in 1986 the **WEST EUROPEAN NETWORK ON WORK, UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE CHURCHES** (contact: Rev. Roger Clarke, William Temple Foundation, Manchester Business School, Manchester M15 6PB) has published four thoughtful collections of papers: "1986 Conference Report"; "Work and the Quality of Life"; "Divisions of Labour"; and "Local Economic Strategies". Each costs £1.50. A second conference, April 1988 in West Germany, will be on **Strategies To Combat The Dual Society In Western Europe**.

We recommend the following recent items from **INVOLVE**, the journal of the Volunteer Centre (29, Lower King's Road, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2AB): "Why the labour market view of volunteers should be resisted" by Jos Sheard (Spring 1987); "Voluntary work and state intervention" by Peter Stubbings (Summer 1987); and especially "The changing environment of volunteering" (Involve Extra, March 1987).

EVERY FAMILY IS A WORKING FAMILY. Keynote speaker at the 1987 annual conference of the Vanier Institute of the Family (120 Holland Ave., Ottawa K1Y 0X6, Canada) in Edmonton on September 18-19 will be Dr. Margrit Eichler, author of "Families in Canada Today".

THE CHANGING WORLD OF WORK is a useful bibliography, compiled by Rona Passmore for **NOWME** (National Organisation for Women's Management Education, 17 Acol Road, London NW6 3AD), for a conference on that subject held jointly by NOWME and the Pepperell Unit of the Industrial Society in July 1987.

"The resolution of a number of key inequalities will play a critical role in determining whether Britain has a post-industrial or a de-industrial future... The continued focus on just the monetary economy ignores the real world at work, and represents an irritating, irresponsible, and ultimately futile diversion from the social issues which society will have to face". Paul Sparrow's recent 10-page paper (Centre for Corporate Strategy and Change, School of Industrial and Business Studies, Warwick University, Coventry CV4 7AL) examines **THE EROSION OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE UK; THE NEED FOR A NEW RESPONSE**.

The majority of newly created jobs in deprived inner city areas are taken by commuters from the suburbs. In the Spring 1987 **BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY** Magazine (from BiC, 227A City Road, London EC1V 1LX) Prof. Brian Robson, Manchester University, describes a recent initiative to target new jobs to local community residents.

James Fearnley (Howe House, Egton, Whitby, N. Yorks YO21 1UH) tells us that the **COMMONBOX CLUB**, set up to foster mutual help amongst small friendly businesses, is developing a training programme for young people with the Whitby Youth Trust.

Peter W. Etherden (6 Forest Street, Cambridge, MA 02140, USA) is preparing a Fourth World Tutorial on Work.

NEW ECONOMICS

In A BLUEPRINT FOR A SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT in the June 1987 *New Economics* (newsletter of the New Economics Foundation, 27 Thames House, South Bank Business Centre, 140 Battersea Park Road, London SW11 4NB), Anne Miller (Department of Economics, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh) discusses the different aspects, theoretical and practical, normative and descriptive, of any school of economic thought, and considers how The Other Economic School of Thought (TOEST) can be developed in a systematic and coherent way. Some aspects of this will be taken up in the September issue by James Robertson in an article on A NEW ECONOMICS BY THE YEAR 2000.

We are organising a one-day seminar for The New Economics Foundation in London on 29th October for about 30 invited participants, to discuss THE NEW ECONOMICS OF INFORMATION and clarify issues for further study and action. Opening paper by Prof. Tom Stonier. Seminar topics will include "The Information Economy", "Money as Information", and "Communication and Information Technology for Self-Reliant Development".

Arthur Cordell (Science Council of Canada, 100 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, Canada K1P 5M1), reported in the July 1987 *WORLD FUTURES STUDIES* newsletter (ed. Jim Dator, University of Hawaii, Social Sciences Research Institute, Porteus 720, 2424 Maile Way, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, USA), suggests that a new "post-scarcity economics" may be based on "an information theory of value".

In a recent publication on information economics Prof. D.M. Lambertson (Information Research Unit, Dept. of Economics, University of Queensland, St. Lucia 4067, Australia) suggests that the role of information casts doubt on much conventional economic reasoning.

Should the world economy be seen as an inherently destructive demonic adult, or as a basically benevolent adolescent, needing guidance to maturity through difficult growing pains? This is one of many thought-provoking questions raised by Michael Marien in recent issues of *FUTURE SURVEY* (4916 St. Elmo Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA), his monthly abstract of books, articles and reports, concerning forecasts, trends and ideas about the future. The June issue includes a long abstract of Douglas LaBier's "brilliant, humane, fundamental, and well-written" *MODERN MADNESS: THE EMOTIONAL FALLOUT OF SUCCESS*: Addison-Wesley, 1986, about how today's success-oriented career professionals are emotionally damaged by their work. The July issue covers emerging impacts of information technology, including massive job displacements, the growing gap between the information rich and the information poor, the degree to which Artificial Intelligence expert systems will deskill professionals, and whether information technology will eventually outsmart humans.

"The dignity of the human person, realised in community with others, is the criterion against which all aspects of economic life must be measured". From the US Bishops' Pastoral Message and Letter on *ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ALL: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND THE US ECONOMY*, \$3.50 inc. p&p from Origins (1312 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington DC 20005, USA).

A recent prize competition on *QUALITY OF LIFE INDEXES* was organised by the Institute for Social Inventions (24 Abercorn Place, London NW8 9XP). Write to them for details about this and their other competitions and publications.

"If a book was written about the major values of the age in ancient Greece, it would be called Wisdom and Ignorance. If..during the medieval ages...Virtue and Evil. If in the 18th century,..Progress and Decline! But if it would be written in the 20th century, we would have to call it Efficiency and Inefficiency. Every age can be characterised by what it values the most and by what it abhors. Future writers will call our age the Age of Irrational Efficiency". The Human Economy Newsletter, June 1987 (Box 14, Department of Economics, Mankato State University, Mankato, MN 56001, USA).

The Spring 1987 issue of The New Catalyst (PO Box 99, Lillooet, British Columbia V0K 1V0, Canada), on BUCKING THE SYSTEM: ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIES contains interesting articles and concludes that economics is something with which the alternative/green movement is actively grappling and coming to terms.

In GANDHI, ECOLOGY AND THE LAST PERSON in the Feb.1987 Gandhi Marg (Gandhi Peace Foundation, 221-223 Deen Dayal, Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi 110002, India) Anil Agarwal argues for Gross Nature Product as compared to Gross National Product. This does not mean going "back to nature", but needs more sophisticated science and technology. "We have to organise our village communities to manage the commons, and push our scientists away from highly simplistic monocultures to complex polycultures for integrated production of crucial biomass needs". In POLITICS OF ENVIRONMENT in the June 1987 issue, he writes that environmental programmes "seem to be based on the belief that concern for the environment essentially means protecting and conserving it, partly from development programmes but mainly from the people themselves. There is little effort to modify the development process itself in a manner that will bring it into greater harmony with the needs of the people and with the need to maintain ecological balance, while increasing the productivity of our land, water, and forest resources."

The 1986 Scott Bader Common Ownership Lecture on INDUSTRIAL PARTNERSHIP: UTOPIA OR NECESSITY? by Prof. Branko Horvat, together with his answers to questions, is available from Scott Bader Commonwealth (Wollaston, Wellingborough, Northants NN9 7RL). This year's lecture will be by the Bishop of Durham - see p.16.

The 1987 No.3 Newsletter from World Goodwill (Suite 54, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2KF) on the new international order contains a list of groups working to transform the global economy.

"The only proper proprietor of land is the community. It should be held on trust and used (not owned) by individuals and associations who then have full rights to the fruits of their labours. This is usufruct. Its restitution will make it possible for people to go back to the land, build agro-towns, rethink town-country relations and diversify". From 1987 TO 1990, 2-page note, July 1987 by Peter Cadogan (3 Hinchinbrook House, Greville Road, London NW6 5UP).

CHRISTIANS AND WEALTH is a 40pp booklet (1987) by Keith Suter (\$5 from Trinity Peace Research Institute, 72 St. George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia 6000).

The June 1987 issue of TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY: A MULTILOGUE ON NEW SOCIO-ECONOMIC INSIGHTS, \$1.50 from Richard Clark (1339-B Rose Street, Berkeley, CA 94702, USA), contains responses to a questionnaire on various aspects of the new economics.

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental sustainability cannot be separated from economic wellbeing and development. (Nor can social sustainability.) The environment cannot be made the responsibility of "environmentalists".

"The fact is, Mr. Conable, that the only way to avoid the terrible destruction caused by the development schemes that your Bank has so irresponsibly financed over the last 40 years is to stop financing them." The March/June 1987 ECOLOGIST (£5 from Worthyvale Manor Farm, Camelford, Cornwall PL32 9TT) includes an Open Letter to the President of the World Bank from Edward Goldsmith and articles on damaging World Bank projects in India and Brazil.

"A first step may be for governments to abandon the false division between 'productive' or 'economic' expenditures and 'social' expenditures. Policy makers must realise that spending on efforts to raise human potential is crucial to a nation's economic and productive activities". One of many wise conclusions in The Brundtland Report - OUR COMMON FUTURE: OUP, 1987, £5.95. (This profoundly significant report by the World Commission on Environment and Development has attracted little media attention. What does that tell us about the dynamics of social change and social inertia?)

A broiler-chicken and battery-egg industry spokesman has recently complained that "to deal with the activities of the welfarists requires the coordinated effort not only of the whole poultry industry but the whole farming industry"! The FARM AND FOOD SOCIETY newsletter (Joanne Bover, 4 Willifield Way, London NW11 7XT) contains many such revealing items and useful campaigning information.

Pesticide-based agriculture parallels drug-based allopathic medicine. PREVENTATIVE PEST CONTROL is one of many interesting papers by Stuart B. Hill (Ecological Agriculture Projects, PO Box 191, Macdonald College, Ste-Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, Canada H9X 1C0).

THE PERMACULTURE PLOT describes examples of designed polyculture in Britain (£2.50 from Permaculture Association, 8 Hunters Moon, Dartington, Totnes, S. Devon, who also run permaculture courses).

THE ENVIRONMENT DIGEST is a useful new monthly briefing on environmental affairs. Individual sub. £12 pa from Worthyvale Manor Farm, Camelford, Cornwall PL32 9TT. Editorial Office: Alexander Goldsmith, 3 Fernshaw Road, London SW10 0TB.

WORLDWISE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PACK costs £1 from Worldwise (PO Box 4000, London W3 6XJ). "Changing Horizons for the Environment" is discussed in the 1986 Shell Better Britain Campaign report (Nature Conservancy Council, Northminster House, Peterborough PE1 1UA).

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES is the main topic in the February 1987 ESRC Newsletter (Economic and Social Research Council, 160 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6BA).

Send sase for audio-visual catalogue to International Centre for Conservation Education (Greenfield House, Guiting Power, Cheltenham, Glos GL54 5TZ).

Projects of the Natural Rights Center (156 Drakes Lane, PO Box 90, Summertown, TN 38483, USA) include Toxic Waste Dumping, Protection of Natural Areas and Wildlife, Human Rights and Voting Rights.

WHAT FUTURE FOR CITIES?

Cities must become more resourceful, more self-reliant, more sustainable. Even so, the solution to today's urban problems may not be urban. It may lie outside the cities, in rural development and in the transformation of urbanised into post-urban societies.

The FUTURE CITIES conference held earlier this year by the New Economics Foundation (see p.4) will result in a book, edited by David Cadman (Property Market Analysis, 9 Broad Court, Long Acre, Covent Garden, London WC2B 5QN), to be published by Methuen. David Boyle reported the conference in the June 1987 *Town and Country Planning* (TCPA, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AS). In the April 1987 issue Barry Cooper (see p.9) and David Howell MP are among the authors arguing that a new, more dispersed and decentralised industrial, agricultural and employment landscape is on the way in.

"Work still gives meaning to rural life, the family, and to churches. But in the city today work and home, family and church, are separated. What the office workers do for a living is not part of their home life... Everything in modern American urban life is an effort either to simulate rural life or to compensate for its loss by artificial means". From THE IDIOCY OF URBAN LIFE, one of several articles in the May/June 1987 *UTNE Reader* (Box 1974, Marion, OH 43306, USA), analysing what's gone wrong in the modern city and offering visions of what we can do to set things right.

"The urban bias evident in the economic policies of so many Third World countries wastes both human talent and natural resources". In *Worldwatch Paper 77* on THE FUTURE OF URBANISATION: FACING THE ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS (\$4 from *Worldwatch Institute*, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington D.C. 20036, USA.), Lester Brown and Jodi Jacobson argue that more enlightened national economic development strategies would serve all the people, not merely the urban elite. Urban growth could be slowed by policies to arrest the growth in external debt and to foster a transition to renewable sources of energy. *Worldwatch Paper 76* by Cynthia Pollock is on MINING URBAN WASTES: THE POTENTIAL FOR RECYCLING.

In the 1986/4 *DEVELOPMENT* (Society for International Development, Palazzo della Civiltà del Lavoro, 00144 Rome, Italy) on Urban Self-Reliance, contributors include Ivan Illich, Ignacy Sachs and David Morris (Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Washington DC) writing on THE CITY AS NATION: "The first step is to view the city as a nation and to evaluate its balance of payments and balance of trade".

Contact Bertha Turner (AHAS, PO Box 397, London E8) about BUILDING COMMUNITY, a book of 20 case studies of community-based and non-governmental housing schemes in the Third World.

The ASEAN Association for Planning and Housing (Trans-Asia Building, 111 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines 3117) are expanding the databank of materials on planning, housing and human settlements development in their HUMAN SETTLEMENTS CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION.

The Spring 1987 *CONTACT*, Journal of the North West Civic Trust (Environmental Institute, Bolton Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 2UX) includes a report - "The Urban Centre Strikes Back" - emphasising that conservation of the local scene and sense of place promotes economic wellbeing and community spirit.

BOOKS RECEIVED

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL YEARBOOK 1987: (£45 from Docter, International Institute for Environmental Studies, 27 Kensington Court, London W8). This 800pp yearbook covers: 25 topics from agriculture to water supply; special supplements on problems of particular relevance, e.g. acid rain in Europe; and details of legislation, international conventions, international organisations and bibliographical references. Essential reference book for libraries, research institutes, environmental organisations, etc.

Lester R. Brown et al: STATE OF THE WORLD 1987: Norton, \$9.95. This 4th Worldwatch Institute report on progress towards a sustainable society begins by discussing "Thresholds of Change" and ends with a chapter on "Charting a Sustainable Course". "Never have so many systems vital to the earth's habitability been out of equilibrium simultaneously...the course corrections needed to restore a worldwide improvement in the human condition have no precedent".

William Graham-Smith: WHAT? ON EARTH: Conservation Foundation, London, 1987, £5.95. "A tentative working hypothesis, or theory, concerning the nature of the world, its development, its present state, and what we might usefully do about it." "Interactions between various kinds of things (i.e. between dynamic integrated entities such as atoms, or living cells, or human societies)... can result in reorganisations that give rise to a creation of new types of dynamic integrated entities... Such reorganisations are not merely mechanical (reductionist) processes, for the parts themselves undergo changes which are related to the nature of the new complex in which they now participate".

Jeremy Rifkin: TIME WARS: Henry Holt, New York, 1987, \$18.95. Rifkin argues that astronomical calendars, clock schedules, and now computer programs - the nanosecond culture of the information age - have all been used "to cordon off social time from natural time and to bind the human community to the dictates of those on top of the social ladder". The democratisation of time must take us closer to the "recycling rhythms of the earth's ecosystems".

Diarmuid O'Murchu: THE GOD WHO BECOMES REDUNDANT: Mercier Press, Ireland and Fowler Wright, England, 1986. "Out of the ashes and pains of a dying, mechanistic world-view and a declining western civilisation, our redundant God has new opportunities for employment in the emerging global consciousness, in the creative perception of reality, in the new wholistic paradigm...". As Frances O'Kelly says in *The Teilhard Review*, Spring, 1987, "This is a remarkable work...what is new is the author's masterful capturing of many threads of evolution in the way these are today grasped by forward thinking specialists in their various fields". The same author's **SHARING THE VISION** (1987) is a thoughtful and stimulating report on the Christian Community Movement in the UK. (£2 from NACCCAN, Westhill College, Weoley Park, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LL).

Tony Crofts: THE RETURN OF THE WILD: THE BRITISH COUNTRYSIDE AND THE WORLD-WIDE RURAL CRISIS: Friendly Press (High Street, Stonesfield, Oxon OX7 2PU), 1987, £5.50. "The last decade of the 20th century offers...a real chance of replacing mono-product mass-production in the countryside with multi-activity richness... The range of alternative and additional sources of income for members of the farm family will mean that agriculture... will have become just one of a portfolio of enterprises". Another important and valuable book.

ACCESS FOR ALL?: (£4 from Council for Science and Society, 3/4 St. Andrew's Hill, London EC4V 5BY, 1986). Written by **Berry Cooper** (Upper Butts, Orcop, Herefordshire HR2 8SF), this report on technology and urban movement clearly analyses many aspects of the post-industrial transition, including changes in work and its location, personal values and organisational structures. An impressive blend of vision and realism.

FACING THE FIGURES: WHAT REALLY IS HAPPENING TO THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE? (Radical Statistics Health Group, c/o BSSRS, 25 Horsell Road, London N5 1XL, 1987, £3.95 + 50p. p&p). A valuable resource for all concerned with health care services and how they need to be improved, and with health needs - e.g. food, incomes, welfare - that go beyond health care.

Alan S. Sutton (ed.): LOCAL INITIATIVES: ALTERNATIVE PATH FOR DEVELOPMENT: European Centre for Work and Society (PO Box 3073, 6202 NB Maastricht, Holland), 1987. In his introduction to this useful collection of papers Alan Sutton concludes that development by local initiative is now firmly established on the political agenda and pinpoints the important issues.

A.J. Veal: LEISURE AND THE FUTURE: Allen and Unwin, 1987. A balanced analysis of the issues, according to Bill Martin and Sandra Mason (Leisure Consultants, Lint Growis, Foxearth, Sudbury, Suffolk) in their forthcoming review in *Futures*. As they point out, the conventional "concept of leisure spending and the leisure industries as a source of growth and employment is based on the use of non-work time as an occasion for leisure consumption. A switch to alternative, non-market, uses of free time would undermine the formal economic process. ... the choice between paid and unpaid activities, and between consumption and doing, is a central theme for the western world".

URBAN SELF-RELIANCE DIRECTORY, 1987. Prepared by International Foundation for Development Alternatives (IFDA, 4 Place du Marche, 1260 Nyon, Switzerland) for the Food-Energy Nexus Programme of the UN University. 214 entries include small, grass roots organisations and urban projects of large international agencies.

Dick Sullivan: RIDING A RIVER: Coracle Books (1 Prince of Wales Passage, Hampstead Road, London NW1), 1987, £2. An adventure of the mind in novel form. "You can make a mantra out of rivers. Itchen and Dovey, Bovey and Beane, Tiddy and Ousel, Humber and Dean... good symbols, rivers. Heraclitean, symbolising change".

Keith Suter's recent books include **RESHAPING THE GLOBAL AGENDA: THE U.N. AT 40** (U.N. Association of Australia, Rm. 206, 147A King St, Sydney, NSW 2000, \$6.95) and **ALTERNATIVE TO WAR: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES** (Women's Intl. League for Peace and Freedom, PO Box 2598, GPO Sydney 2001, \$9).

BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THIS ADDRESS (p.1)

THE SAME ALTERNATIVE: A CHOICE OF FUTURES (rev. edn. 1983) by James Robertson. Copies by mail £2.95 inc. p&p within UK, sterling only, cheques payable to James Robertson, please.

FUTURE WORK: JOBS, SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND LEISURE AFTER THE INDUSTRIAL AGE by James Robertson: Temple Smith/Gower, 1985. £6.95, postage and cheques as above.

SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY, NEW PARADIGMS

In exploring NEW MODELS IN SCIENCE AND ECONOMICS jointly with the New Economics Foundation (see p.4) and the Scientific and Medical Network (David Lorimer, The Old School House, Hampnett, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3NN), we shall be looking for - among other things - examples of behaviour patterns, growth patterns, etc., in biological and physical systems and in economic systems - e.g. processes of cancer growth in living creatures and processes of uncontrolled overgrowth in cities or financial systems - that can be scientifically shown to be structurally and quantitatively, as well as qualitatively, equivalent or similar. If you know of such examples, please send us references.

"Understanding... is to see the way things are put together, and to see why and how they work as they do. If everything were constructed in a way that is unique and different from everything else, and if it worked in a way that was unlike the way anything else works, then we should have no hope of understanding and we would have to rely upon knowing everything piecemeal. ...The urge to understand ourselves and the world we live in is one of the noblest and most powerful of human motives; but often when we ask for the bread of understanding we are fed with the stone of knowledge". From the Spring 1987 issue of UniS, a new Journal for Discovering Universal Qualities (ed. Saul Ruchinsky, UniS Institute, Box 6615, Bridgewater, NJ 08807, USA. Correspondence outside North America: Michael Franklin, Shantock Hall, Bovington, Herts HP3 0NG). \$20 pa includes spring and fall Journals and summer and winter newsletters. A potentially exciting new initiative in the J.G. Bennett tradition.

"The central issue of our times is the relationship between man and his knowledge. ...Knowledge develops into an ever more serious problem and a potential threat for the individual and for mankind as a whole". In several recent publications Jerzy A. Wojciechowski (Dept. of Philosophy, University of Ottawa, Ottawa K1N 6N5, Canada) has developed a theory of the ecology of knowledge.

In the June 1987 newsletter of the PARAGONIAN INSTITUTE, Berit and Paul Hague (Springboard Two, Stonegate, Wadhurst, E.Sussex TN5 7EJ) interestingly develop the section in the Institute's prospectus (January 1987) which deals with the paradigm shift in economics.

We warmly recommend NORMAL PROFESSIONALISM, NEW PARADIGMS and DEVELOPMENT, a 39-page Discussion Paper, by Robert Chambers (Inst. of Development Studies, Sussex Univ., Brighton BN1 9RE).

"Normal professionals face the core
and turn their backs upon the poor
New ones by standing on their head
face the periphery instead."

In THE PRIMAL MATRIX OF SOCIAL PROGRESS, David Wasdell of URCHIN (Unit for Research into Changing Institutions, 115 Poplar High Street, London E14 0AE) suggests that the new paradigm exposes the relationship between primitive defences and the roots of religion, clarifies the paranoid projections which empower our politics and distort our economics, and indicates effective strategies of "disarmourment" at every level of the world system.

HOLISTIC HUMAN CONCERN FOR WORLD WELFARE will be the subject of the Silver Jubilee Bulletin of the Theosophy/Science Study Group (Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras-600 020, India). A holistic perspective in science will be one of the major sub-themes.

MONEY

Where we direct our spending and how we invest our savings helps to shape society and the world. Our money, even if we are not very rich, gives us more power and more responsibility in this respect than most of us realise. In terms of the social and environmental after-effects of who gets next use of our money (and who next after that), we are just beginning to become more conscious as consumers and investors. Some companies are beginning to develop new ranges of consumer choice and some financial institutions are beginning to develop new savings and investment options that make it easier for people to be socially responsible consumers and savers. And since all the money spent and invested by organisations belongs to people, they should be more answerable for how they use it.

John Elkington (SustainAbility Ltd., 1 Cambridge Road, Barnes, London SW13 0PE) is compiling **GREEN PAGES 1988**, a yearbook and directory for people who want to help the transition to a more sustainable economy. SustainAbility co-hosted (with the New Economics Foundation) a Green Consumer Workshop in May, to plan a **GREEN CONSUMER WEEK** for 1988.

The passing of the employment age calls for new ways of distributing incomes. Twenty green and alternative parties from fifteen West European countries were represented at a meeting in Brussels on 11/12 June 1987 on **THE GUARANTEED BASIC INCOME AND THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL SECURITY**. Further information from **Alexander de Roo** (Green-Alternative European Link (GRAEL), Rainbowgroup, European Parliament, Plateau du Kirchberg, BP 1601, Luxembourg).

New approaches are also needed to the distribution of capital. In the UK **The Wider Share Ownership Council** (Executive Secretary, 126 Hayes Lane, Kenley, Surrey CR2 5HR) and in the USA **The Council on International and Public Affairs** (777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017) have sponsored **SPEISER. ESSAY COMPETITIONS** for prizes awarded by **Stuart M. Speiser** - on how to spread ownership of productive assets more widely without confiscation or increased taxation. Prizes for the 1986 competition were given in the House of Commons on 2nd July.

Interest in **SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING** is growing. Recent items include: **RAIN** (1135 SE Salmon, Portland, OR 97214 USA) special issue 1987; **Building Economic Alternatives** (Coop America, 2100 M Street NW, Suite, 310, Washington DC 20063, USA) Spring 1987 issue; "Ethical Investment - a look at the environmental options" in the May/June 1987 Bulletin from **CEED** (UK Centre for Economic and Environmental Development, 10 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PH). The July 1987 **Mercury Newsletter** (Mercury Provident plc, Orlingbury House, Lewes Road, Forest Row, Sussex RH18 5AA) includes an interesting account by **Colin Ball** of how the Centre for Employment Initiatives - see p.13 - raised a £40,000 low-interest working capital loan through Mercury, secured by a "guarantee community". **Robert Rosen** (Earthbank Society, PO Box 93, Bowraville, NSW 2449, Australia) tells us that 1986 was a very exciting year for socially responsible investment in Australia. The **Pension and Investment Resource Centre** (Unit 313, 40 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0NE) issues a useful monthly Bulletin.

Only 5% of foreign exchange dealings relates to world trade. 95% is moving money around. **LOMBARD STREET LETTER**, July 1987 (Rev. Hereward Cooke, St. Edmund the King, Lombard St., London EC3 9EA).

Roger Pritchard (1514 McGee Street, Berkeley, CA94703, USA) can supply booklists and resource references on **LOCAL INVESTING**.

New ways of raising capital for small local enterprises with social objectives are needed. IOCF (Industrial Common Ownership Finance, 4 St. Giles Street, Northampton NN1 1AA) is raising £500,000 for lending to new co-ops. Closing date 31 December, 1987. Prospectus details from Nigel Mascon. 10 people each buying one £250 share will enable one new co-op to be set up over the next ten years. Pat Conaty (Money Advice Centre, Birmingham Settlement, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham B19 3RL) is helping local community initiatives in the Birmingham area to set up CREDIT UNIONS. Seamus McEoin (44 Woodlands Lawn, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin, Ireland) has much valuable information about the Credit Union movement, especially but not only in Ireland. Rev. Ian Fraser (42a Grosvenor Road, Greenock PA15 2DR), Community Minister at Cartsdyke Church, is exploring the feasibility of setting up a LOCAL INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT BANK.

"In December 1986 the total non-governmental debt burden of the United States stood at \$6.7 trillion, including all those farm loans, all that junk, and a lot of the money that went down the rat hole in the oil patch. By contrast, real money - cash, traveler's checks, and demand deposits - stood at only \$701 billion. No one knew what this discrepancy meant, exactly, but it would probably be wise never to find out. A panic, among other things, is a discovery process. And in a panic real money is the only money that counts." The July/August 1987 *Utne Reader* (see p.7) contains a good section on THE COMING CRASH: WHEN IT'S COMING, WHAT IT WILL BE LIKE, AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT.

"Among the social justice laws Moses gave the Israelites was one that was unique among legal codes: the Year of Grace, or Jubilee year. This law called for the restoration, at regular intervals, of the social order desired by God: the elimination of land accumulation by the few; the end of a social order in which some ruled and some served; the cancellation of all debts; and an order in which no one lacked what others had in abundance. The wiping out of debts appears in the Bible as an imperative of justice aimed at preventing accumulation by the few while others were impoverished." IDOC Internazionale, April/May 1987 (Via S.Maria dell'Anima 30, 00186 Roma, Italy) is all about the THIRD WORLD DEBT CRISIS. Recommended.

THE DELIGHT OF RESOURCE ECONOMICS, a thought-provoking 4-page paper from Farel Bradbury (P.O.Box 4, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 6KB), recommends shifting state revenue from taxes on human effort - e.g. VAT (value-added tax) - to taxes on resource consumption.

THE LOCAL DIMENSION

For The New Economics Foundation (see p.4), and with financial support from the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust, we organised a residential conference for 60 invited participants on CONVERGING LOCAL INITIATIVES: ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, FINANCIAL at Wadham College, Oxford on 15-17 July. Pending decisions on follow-up (including any publication), photocopies of James Robertson's 12-page paper on SOCIALLY DIRECTED INVESTMENT: AND ITS POTENTIAL ROLE IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT are available from him (address p.1) for £1.50.

Notes for a NEIGHBOURHOOD MANIFESTO by Tony Gibson are published in the July/August 1987 *Town and Country Planning* (see p.7). He is the Development Officer for the self-built new village at Lightmoor, Telford, to which Prince Charles recently presented an award for the most outstanding community enterprise project.

John Pearce (Strathclyde Community Business Ltd., 6 Harmony Row, Govan, Glasgow G51 3BA), speaking on **THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE** at the annual meeting of the **Community Initiatives Research Trust** (361 Royal Liver Building, Pier Head, Liverpool L3 1JH - Director: Paula Ridley), stressed the need for constructive social auditing to establish the social benefits achieved by community enterprises.

LESSONS FROM FRANCE by Andy Flockhart (£4.95) begins a series of international case studies of local employment initiatives published by the **Ubique Publishing Group**, set up by the **Centre for Employment Initiatives** (140A Gloucester Mansions, Cambridge Circus, London WC2H 8PA) with sister organisations in Australia, Canada and Sweden.

SCAN is a quarterly compilation (about 150pp) of summaries, abstracts and articles on local employment initiatives. **WORK MATTERS** is a quarterly magazine. Both are from the **National Clearinghouse on Local Employment Initiatives** (GPO Box 4, Canberra City 2601, Australia). We recommend you take a look at them.

COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE is a 32pp booklet published July 1986 by The Times and the Gulbenkian Foundation, edited by **Charles Knevitt**, Architectural Correspondent of The Times and Director of Inner City Aid (8 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4BA). Foreword by Prince Charles. Directory of relevant organisations and initiatives. Copies free from **Community Enterprise** (Dept. JD1, The Beacon Press, 33 Cliffe High Street, Lewes, E. Sussex BN7 2AN). Send 18p sae 9" x 6.5".

COMMUNITY NETWORK (Editor: **David Boyle**, Co-ordinator: **Stephen Joseph**, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AS - £6 for 5 issues.) is a new magazine for the community planning and architecture movements.

Joan Davidson (64 Painswick Road, Cheltenham Glos GL50 2EX) recently reported to the ESRC on **RESOURCEFUL COMMUNITIES: ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES IN THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR**. She would like to hear about more examples to report in the "Ecologue" column in "The Guardian".

"The trade unions' attitude to the local employment initiatives movement... is usually one of reserve or suspicion..." **FKKDBACK ILE**, May 1987 (OECD, 2 Rue Andre Pascal, 75775 Paris 16, France) is on the trade union movement and local development.

"Development trusts are independent not-for-profit organisations which take action to renew an area physically, socially and in spirit. They bring together public, private and voluntary sectors, and obtain financial and other resources from a wide range of organisations and individuals. They encourage substantial involvement by local people, and aim to sustain their operations at least in part by generating revenue." **PARTNERSHIP LTD** (13 Pelham Square, Brighton BN1 4ET: Contact **Diane Warburton**) recently completed a study of development trusts for the Department of the Environment.

Bob Finch (The Spring Bank Parish Council Steering Group, Spring Bank Community Centre, Wellington Lane, Hull HU3 1SG) shows, in a number of interesting pamphlets, that the best way to enable poor people to organise themselves and protect their own interests is to introduce parish councils into inner city areas.

SEEDS (**South East Economic Development Strategy**, Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage, Herts SG1 1HN) undertakes studies and publishes reports on decentralised local strategies for a group of eight Local Authorities which include Brighton, Cambridge and Oxford.

PEOPLE, PROJECTS AND POLITICS

TACIN (Town and Country Information Network) links individuals and organisations using electronic mail. Contact **Barry Cooper** (Upper Butts, Orcop, Herefordshire HR2 8SF). Also for information about **ORCOP BRAMBLES**, a parish-based sheltered housing project.

CABOOTS magazine and north-west guide to alternatives (163 Palatine Road, Manchester M20 8GH) is published quarterly, £4 p.a.

OXFORD GRAPEVINE is a Green Pages directory of Alternatives in Oxfordshire, 1986-1987. 95p from **The Inner Bookshop** (34 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1HZ).

Colin Hunter (24 Rose Bank, Burley-in-Wharfedale, Nr. Ilkley, W.Yorks LS29 7PQ) is exploring the implications of the new paradigm for education theory and policy.

Douglas Ogilvie (Division of External Studies, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia) has completed his series of working papers relating organisation theory to education, with No.4, **THE RADICAL ALTERNATIVE**, and No.5, **THE ANARCHIST**.

John Raven (30 Great King Street, Edinburgh EH3 6QH) proposes a discussion network, electronically or by post, to clarify new policy proposals on devolution, unemployment and the economy, education, and competitiveness.

After a year's research, **Lindsay and Esther Rawlings** (Box 214, 9/11 Kensington High Street, London W8 5NP) are planning **A PLACE CALLED HOME**, as an informally elegant, exceptionally friendly membership restaurant and afternoon coffee house - a meeting point for networkers and friends. Potential investors write for prospectus.

GREEN OPTIONS is a new publication - £5.50 p.a. for 8 issues. The Launch Issue (late Spring 1987) discusses what strategies the Green Movement should adopt. Editor: **R.D. Oldfield** (12 Polden View, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 8DZ).

NEW GROUND, the Journal of Green Socialism, is published by **SKRA** (Socialist and Environmental Resources Association, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG).

Information about **BUILDING A GREEN MOVEMENT IN AMERICA** from National Clearinghouse, Committees of Correspondence, PO Box 30208, Kansas City, MO 64112, USA).

Contact **David Thew** (21 Yelverton Drive, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3NT) about joining the **WEST MIDLANDS FUTURES NETWORK**.

Thanks to **Francis O'Brien Donaghey** (Thatch Cottage, Ugate 19, Poringland, Norwich NR14 7SH) for sending a recent issue of **THE CHESTERTON REVIEW** (quarterly £10 p.a. from St. Thomas More College, 1437 College Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7N 0W6) on **Hilaire Belloc**. Belloc's "The Servile State" (1912) and the **Distributist Movement** led by **Chesterton** and **Belloc** between the wars raise many questions of interest to economic decentralists today.

Scott Foote is vice president of **COUNTDOWN 2001** (5635 Utah Avenue NW, Washington DC 20015, USA) dedicated to reflections, connections and new directions for the 21st century.

Martin Stott is Development Worker with the Oxfordshire Cooperative Development Agency (31 St. Giles, Oxford OX1 3LF). We like their first Annual Report, 1986/87. Also MEETING OUR PARTNERS (£1.75 from the Oxford-Leon Association, Town Hall, St. Aldates, Oxford OX1 1BX), the report edited by Martin after leading a recent Oxford City Council delegation to Nicaragua. In two recent articles in GREENLINE (34 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1HZ - £6 p.a. for 10 issues) Martin has reported on Green India.

Ernest Lowe is vice president of GLOBAL ADVANTAGE CORPORATION (33496 Success Valley Drive, Porterville, CA 93257, USA), recently set up to organise business ventures and non-profit projects addressing planetary needs for mutual security, environmental wellbeing, etc.

Patrick Wilson (99 Huldridge Road, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 5LJ) has sent us SOCIALISM AS A PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE - 1987 (30p from the Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UN).

THE SPARK is the magazine of a networking youth project. Contact Ted Allen (Broadstone Hostel, Park Road, Forest Row, East Sussex).

THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS (contact Fiona Berresford, 277 St. Ann's Road, London N15 5RG) is a worldwide network concerned with the human aspect of world development.

David Bowman (Box 34, Huntsville, AL 35804, USA) asks if anyone networking the leading edges of military R & D in Europe would like to link up with a MILITARY RESEARCH MONITORING NETWORK in the USA.

WOMEN WORKING FOR AN INDEPENDENT AND NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC. Details of publications and meetings from Sigrid Shaver (c/o 82 Colston Street, Bristol 1).

On its first open day in July, over 350 people visited MIDDLE WOOD TRUST Farm (Roeburndale West, Wray, Lancaster, LA2 8QR).

DATES. Cont'd. from p.16

11-17 November, Melbourne and Sydney, Australia. INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF SELF HELP HOUSING. Key speakers from Australia, France, USA, UK, China and S.E. Asia. Information from GPO Box 1670N, Melbourne 3001, Australia.

13-15 November, Maidstone, Kent. GROWING AWARENESS: FOOD, FARMING AND HEALTH. Details from Judith Pritchard, Christian Ecology Group, 58 Quest Hills Road, Malvern, Worcs.

15-30 November, Manchester Cathedral. COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION. Events, bookstall, etc. Details from Rev. Dr. S. Frost, Environmental Institute, University of Salford, Greaves School, Bolton Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 2UX.

28 November. TURNING POINT MEETING - see p.1.

13-17 April. 1988 Dartington Conference. WHAT FUTURE FOR THE ARTS? Speakers include Robin Guthrie, John Lane, John Pick, Kathleen Raine, James Robertson. Details from Sue Kellam, The Elmhist Centre, Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EL.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

12 September, Northants, 10.45 am. Common Ownership Lecture. **COMMON WEALTH, COMMON OWNERSHIP, COMMON CONFUSION** by Rt. Rev. David Jenkins, Bishop of Durham. Details from **June Starmer**, Scott Bader, Wollaston Hall, Northants NN9 7RL. (Tel: 0933-633100).

22 September, 6.30pm, Charing Cross Hotel, London. **SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT** by Ray Mitchell, Mercury Provident. Details from **World Goodwill**, Suite 54, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EF. Also **22 October**, same time and place, John Turner on **SUPPORTING PEOPLE BUILDING COMMUNITY**.

26 September-4 October, Kent. **COMMONWORK OPEN WEEK**. Arts project, development education project, field trail, farm visit, etc. Details from **The Commonwork Centre**, Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Nr. Edenbridge, Kent TN8 7AR.

27 September-1 October, San Francisco. 6th Assembly of the 4th World, **THE NEW ECONOMICS SYMPOSIUM**. Details from **The 4th World**, 24 Abercorn Place, London NW8 or **The School of Living**, RD no.1, Box 1508 AA, Spring Grove, PA 17362, USA).

28 & 30 September, Brighton. Labour Party Conference fringe meetings, 8pm. 28th, **INNER CITIES AND GREEN SOCIALISM**, Bedford Hotel; 30th, **HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT**, Royal Albion Hotel. Details from **Simon Fowler**, SKRA, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG.

3 October, 11am-6pm, Bristol Polytechnic. Schumacher Lectures on **THE AGE OF ECOLOGY** by Arne Naess, Jonathon Porritt, Hazel Henderson. Details from **Schumacher Society**, Ford House, Hartland, Bideford, Devon EX39 6KE.

3 October, 10am-4pm, London. **COLLECTIVITY TO COMMUNION** with Diarmuid O'Murchu on "Whither the Church?", James Robertson on "Money: I, Thou and It", and John Woodcock on "Spiritual Democracy". Details from **The Teilhard Centre**, 23 Kensington Square, London W8 5HN.

9-11 October, Edinburgh. **ECOLOGY AND HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY**. Speakers include Ulrich Loening, Hazel Henderson, Kathleen Raine, Tim O'Riordan, Satish Kumar. Details from **Terry Gower**, Centre for Human Ecology, 15 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LN.

10-17 October, Findhorn. **FROM ORGANISATION TO ORGANISM**. Speakers include Willis Harman, Christine McNulty, Francis Kinsman, Chris Elphick, Tony Gibson, Anita Roddick, Peter Russell. Details from **Findhorn Foundation**, Cluny Hill College, Forres, Scotland IV36 ORD.

10 October, 9.30-6.15, London. **DO WE NEED ENEMIES AND SCAPEGOATS?** Speakers include: James Thompson, Adam Curle, Michael Harbottle. Details from **David Lorimer**, Scientific and Medical Network, The Old School House, Hampnett, Northleach, Glos GL54 3NN.

23 October, London. **BIRG Seminar on BASIC INCOMES AND HOUSING**. Contact **Tony Walter**, 15 Southcot Place, Lyncombe Hill, Bath BA2 4PE.

3 November, 9.30am-4pm, Friends House, London. **CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS**, including exhibition of Volunteers in Action and 1987 Geraldine Aves Lecture on **THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT OF VOLUNTEERING** by James Robertson. Details from **Irene Helm**, The Volunteer Centre, 29 Lower Kings Road, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2AB.

Cont'd. p.15...