

TURNING POINT 2000

September 1994

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, to help readers to participate in them or to 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 March, 1995. Please send items for it by mid-February. 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.

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TURNING POINT 2000 SEMINARS

James Robertson will lead two Saturday seminars here on **MONEY AND VALUES: Post-Modern Prospects And Possibilities.**

26th November: **MONEY AND VALUES**
 The Post-Modern Transition
3rd December: **MONEY AND VALUES**
 Shaping The Future

A leaflet is enclosed for readers in the UK and Europe. If anyone further afield would like to have details, please let us know.

MAKING SENSE OF BENEFITS AND TAXES

Many institutions - political, economic and social - international, national and local - are ripe for post-modern transformation. The tax and social benefits systems are among them.

James Robertson's March 1994 discussion paper for the New Economics Foundation (NEF, 1st Floor, Vine Court, 112-116 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1JE - note new address) proposed that a citizen's income should replace many existing social benefits, and that taxes on value *subtracted* - involving ownership of land and use of energy and other resources created by nature or by society as a whole - should replace existing taxes on incomes, profits and value added.

These changes will kill three birds with one stone, (1) enabling more people to do useful work (paid and unpaid), (2) discouraging ecologically damaging activities, and (3) promoting economic efficiency. They reflect common sense: (a) people should be taxed, not on useful activities, but on using (and so preventing others from using) what nature and society has created; and (b) the proceeds should be distributed among all citizens - partly as a citizens income and partly as funding for public services.

James has summarised these proposals: in NEW ECONOMICS, Summer 1994 (from NEF - see above); in the 10th Anniversary issue of CITIZENS INCOME (£3 from Citizens Income Study Centre, St. Philips Building, Sheffield Street, London WC2A 2EX - Richard Clements); in a talk to the Centenary Conference of LAND AND LIBERTY (Fred Harrison, Centre for Incentive Taxation, 7 Kings Road, Teddington, Middx TW11 0QB); and at a NEF briefing in July at the House of Commons.

We shall have a one-day follow-up seminar here on 14th November for NEF associates. There may be spare places. So, if you are actively interested and would like to come, please let us know.

"Just as our physicists and engineers should be contemplating environmentally friendly schemes to supply us with power as fossil and fissile fuels are phased out, so our systems theorists should be contemplating organisational arrangements enabling us to live together without exhausting resources, polluting the planet or being brutal to our neighbours". Prof. Peter Roberts (Lark Cottage, Rack Hill, Chalford, Stroud, Glos GL6 8LA), in "Systems and the Problematique" in FUTURES, September 1994, suggests that income tax is a perverse tax, that taxes on the consumption of scarce resources and the emission of pollutants have a desired disincentive effect, and that a basic income - to compensate the poor for the regressive effects of taxing energy - is best financed through resource taxes.

The German Institute for Economic Research (Konigin-Luise-Strasse 5, D-14195 Berlin, Germany; contact Michael Kohlhaas) has studied the effects of an energy tax, the revenue from which is returned to firms as a reduction in employers' social insurance contributions and to private households as an "ecobonus". [These, in effect, reduce tax on company profits and contribute towards a citizens income - eds.] The Institute's July 1994 ECONOMIC BULLETIN reports that this tax reform would have positive economic effects, be conducive to employment, would not endanger German competitiveness and would be progressive in the sense of reducing the net tax burden for households with low incomes. [Comparable studies in Switzerland and the USA have come up with similar conclusions - eds.]

Conall Boyle (6 Vicarage Road, Birmingham B17 OSP) is coordinating the new Network for the Promotion of UNITAX and Resource Economics. The Unitax idea, developed by Farel Bradbury (PO Box 4, Ross-on-Wye HR9 6EB), is to tax energy comprehensively at source. The Network's first step is a campaign to end the "Poll Tax on Wheels", i.e. to replace the annual Vehicle Excise Duty with extra tax on fuel.

The BASIC INCOME EUROPEAN NETWORK (BIEN) is holding its fifth biennial Congress in London on 8th - 10th September. International speakers. Details from Citizens Income Study Centre (see p.2).

The February 1994 FUTURIBLES, monthly review from Futuribles (55 Rue de Varenne, 75341 Paris Cedex 07, France; director Hugues de Jouvenel) is all about basic income or citizens income (le revenu minimum, l'allocation universelle, le revenu d'existence). Authors include Philippe van Parijs, Andre Gorz and Denis Clerc.

Another idea now publicly discussed is tax hypothecation, i.e. the earmarking of specific tax revenues for specific items of government spending. THE PEACE TAX CAMPAIGN (6 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DX) - to allow people conscientiously opposed to war to allocate the military part of their taxes to peacebuilding - welcomes it.

A HANDFUL OF DATES

17 September, 9.30am-4.30pm, London. ENVIRONMENTAL POISONING AND THE LAW. Environmental Law Foundation (ELF - see p.14) and South West Environmental Protection Agency (SWEPA) conference. Details from William Sigmund, Heathfield Farmhouse, Callington, Cornwall PL17 7HP.

30 September-1 October, A GUARDIAN FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS - STATUS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, and 10-12 October, OUR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS FUTURE GENERATIONS - JEWISH, CHRISTIAN AND ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVES. At Foundation for International Studies, University, St. Paul Street, Valletta VLT 07, Malta; contact Vlatka Krsmanovic.

11 October, 7pm, London. RITUAL - GATEWAY TO THE SUBCONSCIOUS WORLD. Talk by Diarmuid O'Murchu. Details from Centre for Creation Spirituality, St. James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1V 9LF.

21 October. APPLE DAY. Details in 12-page pamphlet (50p + sae) and "The Apple Broadcast" Newspaper (£2) from Common Ground (see p.14).

29 October, 10am-6pm, Bristol. SCHUMACHER LECTURES by Wangari Maathai and David Orr. Also presentation by David Bellamy and Diana Schumacher of THE SCHUMACHER SOCIETY AWARDS to celebrate the 21st Anniversary of "Small Is Beautiful". Details from Schumacher Society, Ford House, Hartland, Bideford, Devon EX39 6EE.

10 November, London (St. John's, Smith Square). Gala Concert for the MULTIPLE BIRTHS FOUNDATION (director, Dr. Elizabeth Bryan). All taking part are twins. Details from MBF (Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, Goldhawk Road, London W6 0XG).

11 November, London. POWER Concert. Details - Stan Windass (p.16).

26 November & 3 December, Cholsey. Turning Point Seminars - see p.1.

31 March, London. THE POLITICS OF ATTACHMENT. Conference (part of the 75th Anniversary Celebrations of the Tavistock Clinic). Details from Sebastian Kraemer - see p.10.

GOVERNANCE AND POLITICS

RENEWING THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, by Erskine Childers with Brian Urquart, a 213pp report published by the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation (Ovre Slottsgatan 2, S-753 10 Uppsala, Sweden) as DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE 1994:1, is a major contribution to comprehensive reorganisation and reform. Proposals include bringing international economic cooperation under UN leadership and creating an equitably governed capital lending facility, an equitably governed monetary fund and an equitably governed universal trade organisation out of the existing Bretton Woods institutions and the new post-GATT World Trade Organisation - also a new UN Parliamentary Assembly, as suggested by Ernest Bevin when the UN was set up in 1945.

"The subject of UN reform has been virtually ignored in Britain by Parliament, the media and the general public. This is not the case in the USA". Jeffrey Segall (Campaign for a More Democratic United Nations, 308 Cricklewood Lane, London NW2 2PX) has produced a 2-page CAMDUN BRIEFING (UK), May 1994, on "Reforming the United Nations and Participatory Global Governance", for globally concerned UK citizens.

"Economic power and a concern for justice should go hand in hand. When they don't, as is the case with the World Bank and IMF, then Christian Aid supporters should act". "Who Runs the World?" is a new 2-year campaign for alternatives to the present economic strategy of these faceless institutions and the damage it causes to poor communities in poor countries - July/September 1994 CHRISTIAN AID NEWS (PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT).

The Bretton Woods system, run by rich industrialised countries and transnational corporations, has promoted mega-projects and the export industries of developing countries. As a result it has widened the gap between rich and poor. PEOPLE'S MODELS FOR A CHANGING WORLD, the proceedings of The Other Economic Summit 1993 (Takashi Iwami, Institute of Japanese Renaissance, 20-1, 4 cho-me, Nogata, Nakano-ku, Tokyo, Japan 165), includes proposals for the reform of the IMF, the World Bank and GATT, and the rectification of global inequity. [Also see the first three items under MONEY BUSINESS (p.13) - eds.]

SOCIETY AND NATURE, Vol.2, No.2, 194pp (\$9.50/£7.00 from PO Box 637, Littleton, CO 80160, USA), on "Nationalism and the New World Order", includes Noam Chomsky on the IMF, World Bank, GATT and the G-7 as a de facto world government - the governing institutions of a new imperial age. Takis Fotopoulos (20 Woodberry Way, London N12) argues for the abolition of the concentration of both political and economic power, and for a process leading, e.g. in Europe, to a confederation of autonomous regions instead of a supra-national state, and a confederation of communities instead of the decaying nation-state.

"We shall have to replace today's states with political structures leading in two directions. For one, we shall have to create effective international forces to take over the power monopolised by today's states. At the same time, at the base, we shall have to create political units in tune with the diversity of peoples and cultures existing in human societies... For centuries, the state has represented progress, rationality and order. The persistence of the large conventional states is now beginning to represent backwardness, irrationality and disorder". See "The World After the States" by Felix Marti, and other stimulating articles in PROSPECTIVA, May 1994 (Centre Catala de Prospectiva, Mallorca 285, 08037 Barcelona, Spain).

To make the transition to healthy fisheries, governments and fishers will have to move beyond the current state of political deadlock. A combination of government oversight and community-based management promises the best solution. Without community-based control, marine fisheries will be depleted not only of fish but also of the social benefits they provide. NET LOSS: FISH, JOBS, AND THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT by Peter Weber is Paper 120, July 1994 (\$5, Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036, USA).

Humans have the unique and sacred capacity of moral development, and the great common political responsibility is to create the conditions of community that will enable this capacity to flourish... The central economic problem is to clarify the meaning and measurement of progress. PEGS, Spring 1994 - newsletter of the Committee on the Political Economy of The Good Society (Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, USA) - includes major features on these topics.

How to communicate with people from different cultures without projecting one's own cultural values and cognitive codes on to them? Sophia Mappa asks "Can Democracy Be Transferred?" in CULTURES AND DEVELOPMENT, June 1994, Journal of the South-North Network (174 Rue Joseph II, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium; editor Thierry Verhelst).

ECO, the Campaign for Political Ecology (57 Haliburton Road, St. Margarets, Twickenham, Middx TW1 1PD; chair, Judy Maciejowska) aims for an ecologically focused political realignment in Britain. Members receive 8-page pamphlet, "Expectations and Realities: the Case for Ecopolitics" - also quarterly "Real World: the Voice of Ecopolitics" (91 Nuns Moor Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 9BA).

"The government has launched a study of local government from the top down and has got itself into deep trouble all over the country. If they had started from the bottom up, the issue would have been a lot happier. London is a case in point". Peter Cadogan (3 Hinchinbrook House, Greville Road, London NW6 5UP) supports a new strategic authority for London as a whole, balanced by newly-created community authorities on the ground, and is campaigning for this in Kilburn.

"Human nature, being what it is, there is always someone who feels an urge to have power over others. This thirst for power is very dangerous and it creates the over-size, but the author of THE BREAKDOWN OF NATIONS told us how to ride the tiger. Leopold Kohr was a gentle, good man. His genius was recognised in his lifetime, but not as widely as it should have been." Sir Richard Body writes in FOURTH WORLD REVIEW, No.62 (24 Abercorn Place, London NW8 - £1), a commemorative issue for Leopold Kohr.

Gunnar Adlar-Karlsson (The Capri Institute for International Social Philosophy, Box 79, I-80071 Anacapri, Italy) identifies a tendency in world history to minimise the ratio of A to P, where A means Active Adrenalinomaniac leaders and P the Passive Population. "History can be seen as a continuous duel between adrenalinomaniac males. Their different societies can be considered as instruments for their individual success. Society is the sword with which one power-hungry leader tries to beat the other". His 16-pp paper A MONOTHEISTIC THEORY OF POWER-II identifies managers of multinational companies as the adrenalinomaniacs best fitted for this historic task today. Gunnar Adlar-Karlsson holds an annual seminar in Capri in the first week of July on various aspects of The Human and Global Condition.

PEOPLE-CENTRED DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION

"We are presently in a transition towards a new post-modern and post-European civilisation, much as Europeans were in transition 500 years ago from the medieval to the modern era. People-centred development is about facilitating this transition to a new civilisation - a sharp contrast to more familiar forms of development that have taken their mission to be the modernisation and Europeanisation of the world". PEOPLE-CENTRED DEVELOPMENT: PRINCIPLES FOR A NEW CIVILISATION is a 2-page version (20th May 1994) from the People-Centred Development Forum (14 East 17th Street, Suite 5, New York, NY 10003, USA), of James Robertson's presentation to the 21st World Conference (Mexico City, April 1994) of the Society for International Development (SID, Palazzo Civiltà del Lavoro, 00144 Rome, Italy). [The next two items are from the same conference.]

"It is community rather than nation state or national economy, or even project, or enterprise, or industry, that should concern us when we talk development. It is development as transformation rather than growth..." - Sixto Roxas (Foundation for Community Management and Technology, 59 Hillside Loop, Blueridge A, Quezon City, Philippines) in "STRATEGIES FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION".

"In contrast with all the revolutions of the twentieth century, from right or left, tied to the market or the State, the [Chiapas] revolution that has started here [in Mexico] is not oriented towards seizing political power, to establish the regime defined by an enlightened vanguard or a recognised elite. It is the revolution of the new commons. It affirms itself in cultural autonomy, in the local capacities for self-government in the shared power of villages and neighbourhoods". Gustavo Esteva (M.Bravo 210-Altos, Centro, Oaxaca, Oax. 68 000, Mexico) in REBELLION OF DISCONTENTS.

"People-centred development is about people developing themselves and their country, based on the strengths and resources of their own country and community. Many of our national governments suffer from a poverty of vision. Prodded by organisations like the World Bank, they look abroad for short-cut alternatives to building local self-reliance and self-determination. They don't think about whether involvement of transnationals will build local capacities and the values of community. But thousands of citizen's organisations are forging a new vision of the human future". From PCD Forum (see above) column No.70 by Anwar Fazal (18 Solok Pierce, 10350 Penang, Malaysia). [Also see Shann Turnbull - page 13 - eds.]

"A globalised capitalist monoculture would lead, and is already leading, countries, including our own, into a dead end of evolution... Let us put out the message that we require other models, and that the humanist and socialist endeavours in Cuba, that have brought forth the best health and literacy standards in this hemisphere, might have something to teach us". Renee-Marie Croose Parry (PO Box 15778, Gainesville, FL 32604, USA) writes on "Cuba - And the Future of History" in the March-April 1994 HUMAN QUEST (1074 23rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33704, USA).

The aim of Chinese 'development' of Tibet is the destruction of everything Tibetan - the theme of TIBET NEWS, No.15, from Tibet Support Group (9 Islington Green, London N1 2XH; Alyson Evans). The Tibet Support Group campaigns for the Tibetans' right to choose their future, to perpetuate their culture, and preserve their national identity. It relies for funding solely on members and supporters.

"Many of the detrimental consequences of development can be traced to a narrowly economic vision that views the growth of the economy as an end and the meeting of social needs as a means to enhance economic performance... The issues that economic development ignores have been the focus of several recent UN conferences on the Environment, Education, Water, Nutrition, Children and Human Rights. They will receive further attention in forthcoming conferences on Population, Women, and Social Development - all of which seek a social or people-centred vision of development". Sarah L. Timpson (UN Development Program, New York) says "Instead of Growing Economies, Let's Develop Human Societies" in THE OTHER STOCK EXCHANGE, 1994, 3/27 (Tlaloc 40-3, 11370 Mexico DF, Mexico; Luis Lopezllera Mendez).

The Center of Concern (3700 13th Street NE, Washington DC 20017, USA) works with international networks, promoting social analysis, theological reflection, policy advocacy and public education on issues of global development, peace and justice. Bi-monthly newsletter CENTER FOCUS, June 1994, discusses preparations for the UN World Summit on Social Development, Copenhagen, March 1995 and the UN World Conference on Women in Beijing in September 1995. It includes a useful Action Page for NGOs and community groups concerned that these conferences embody the true views and concerns of people.

"The broad answer to the question 'Is population growth an issue?' is 'No'. The problem is not how to achieve population targets but how to ensure women's reproductive rights, food security, better distribution of resources, and an end to crippling national debt payments and structural adjustment policies". DEVELOPMENT, 1994:1 (SID - see p.6) is on "People, Politics and Power: Shifting the Population Debate".

"There is no coherence between international commercial policies and development aid policies. Cattle-raising in the Sahel has been ruined by subsidised meat exports from the EEC to the African countries". Poverty, development, quality of life, human rights, and production and consumption patterns are issues for the Independent Commission on Population and Quality of Life (1 Rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France) - newsletter No.3, April/June 1994.

"Do Population Programmes Violate Women's Human Rights?" by Karen Oppenheim Mason is Paper No.15 on Asia Pacific Issues from EAST-WEST CENTER (1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848, USA).

"How cheap Third World life is in the eyes of those who wield power in the West." In the 1993 Summary Report of the Council on International and Public Affairs (777 UN Plaza, Suite 3C, New York, NY 10017, USA), Ward Morehouse and David Dembo contrast the \$470 million for 600,000 claimants in Bhopal against a settlement in US asbestos litigation of \$2.5 billion for 60,000 claims. They say that the ten years since Bhopal have seen the denial of justice to the victims at virtually every turn by Union Carbide and by the Indian Government often seemingly acting in collusion, and have revealed the extent of corporate immunity even when criminal acts are involved.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights gives everyone the right to rest and leisure. But this is no consolation to indigenous and other communities whose way of life or access to local beaches or water supply is damaged by tourism. HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION Newsletter is from Margot Brown (University College of Ripon and York St. John, Lord Mayor's Walk, York, YO3 7EX) and TOURISM CONCERN is at Southlands College, Roehampton Institute, Wimbledon Parkside, London SW19 5NN.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Ernst von Weizsacker: EARTH POLITICS: Zed Books, 1994, 234pp, pbk, £14.95. "If the days of the Economic Century are numbered, what of the future? Whether we like it or not, we are now entering a Century of the Environment... Seeking new sustainable models of wealth is not an idealistic daydream but an absolute imperative". The race will be "to overcome the dinosaur technologies and to gain the lead in creating the efficiency revolution in the use of scarce resources". This authoritative exploration of sustainable development offers many practical insights and "a new cultural direction for humanity". Essential reading.

Claude Whitmyer (ed): MINDFULNESS AND MEANINGFUL WORK: EXPLORATIONS IN RIGHT LIVELIHOOD: Parallax Press, Berkeley, 1994, 304pp, pbk, \$16. "Working is the natural human response to being alive, our way of participating in the universe. Work allows us to make full use of our potential, to open to the infinite range of experience that lies within even the most mundane activity". 36 thoughtful contributions from Californian Buddhists, other American writers, E.F. Schumacher and James Robertson. Foreword by Ernest Callenbach.

Richard Boot, Jean Lawrence & John Morris (eds): MANAGING THE UNKNOWN - BY CREATING NEW FUTURES: McGraw-Hill, 1994, 259pp, hdbk, £27.95. Chapters by 12 'leading management innovators', including Judi Marshall on "Re-Visioning Organisations by Developing Female Values", Eden Charles on "New Futures, At Whose Cost?", Olya Khaleelee on "New Futures: New Citizenship", Coralie Palmer on "The Equitable Company: Social Justice in Business", and James Robertson on "Shaping the Post-Modern Economy: Can Business Play a Creative Part?".

Thomas H. Greco Jr: NEW MONEY FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: Thomas H. Greco (PO Box 42663, Tucson, AZ 85733, USA), 1994, 216pp, pbk, \$15.95 + \$3 p&p. A first-class account, theoretical and practical, of the need and scope for "new, transformational structures based on different values and assumptions" in place of today's dominating monetary and financial institutions. Many examples of "operational alternatives which can better serve the needs of people and the Earth". All students of money in the new economics should read it.

John Tomlinson: HONEST MONEY: A CHALLENGE TO BANKING: Helix (Centrepoint, Chapel Square, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0SG), 1993, 119pp, hdbk, £12.99. Why do governments license the banks to create money and then pay them interest on government debt? The cost to taxpayers is huge. More generally, lenders should lose their privileged position in the economy. All debt should be converted to equity. This powerful critique deserves attention.

Nicholas Albery and Matthew Mezey (eds): RE-INVENTING SOCIETY: A BUMPER BOOK OF BEST IDEAS, SCHEMES AND SPECULATIONS: Institute For Social Inventions (20 Heber Road, London NW2 6AA), 1994, 280pp, pbk, £14.85. Covers the 300 best ideas of 1994.

Jon Wyn-Tyson: ANYTHING WITHIN REASON: Oakroyd Press, 1994, 191pp, hdbk, £14.95. The author, well-known as a protagonist of animal rights, examines some of today's sacred cows in this macabre satirical novel. The unifying theme in his SEALSKIN TROUSERS AND OTHER STORIES: Oakroyd Press, 1994, 154pp, hdbk, £13.95, is the human role in the natural scheme of things and, in particular, our attitude towards the other creatures with whom we share the planet. An enjoyable novel and enjoyable stories with an important message.

Wendy Harcourt (ed): FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: Zed Books, 1994, 255pp, pbk, £14.95. This important collection of 17 essays by feminists involved in the ecological movement explores the current shift of emphasis from WID to WED - i.e. from Women In Development to Women and Environment and alternatives to Development. Part Two is on "Gendered Alternatives To Dominating Knowledge Systems" - including the idea that Mind is male and Matter female in the dominant Western concept of knowledge.

Rosi Braidotti, Ewa Charkiewicz, Sabine Hausler and Saskia Wieringa: WOMEN, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: TOWARDS A THEORETICAL SYNTHESIS: Zed Books, 1994, 220pp, pbk, £12.95. "Are women, especially poor women in the South, and nature simultaneously subordinated by a male drive for progress?". Many aspects of Western history, such as totalitarian political systems, genocides, colonialism, slavery, domination and the environmental crisis, require us to question the notion that progress and liberation result from an adequate use of reason. An excellent introduction to radical feminist epistemology as an aspect of post-modernism.

Peter Freund and George Martin: THE ECOLOGY OF THE AUTOMOBILE: Black Rose Books, 1993, 213pp, pbk (available from Jon Carpenter Publishing, PO Box 129, Oxford OX1 4PH, £11.99 + £1 p&p). Sociological, ecological and politically progressive analysis of auto-centred transport systems. Transport is inextricably bound up with the most basic parameters of human existence, including time, space and consciousness, and with every significant realm of social activity, including the workplace and the home. Curtailing macho attitudes to speed and power will be part of necessary social change.

Clive Hamilton: THE MYSTIC ECONOMIST: Willow Park Press (PO Box 496, Fyshwick, ACT 2609, Australia), 1994, 203pp, pbk, \$A16.50. Excellent critical account of the economic way of thinking and the poverty of environmental economics, in contrast to the symbolic worldview of Jung, Campbell, Fromm, Berman, etc. (This is a key conflict for the post-modern worldview to resolve.) Includes interesting chapters on a rejected proposal to mine uranium at a sacred Australian aboriginal site, and on the sacred or secular nature of money and work.

Geraint Williams: POLITICAL THEORY IN RETROSPECT: FROM THE ANCIENT GREEKS TO THE 20TH CENTURY: Edward Elgar, 1991, 208pp, pbk, £10.95. Stimulating introduction to political thinkers from Socrates to Marx, and to the modern ideologies of Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism. Seeing economics as the proper perspective for political theory betrays "an attitude which the major thinkers of the past would no doubt have seen as mistaking a consequence for a cause and as elevating a servant of politics into its master".

Demetrios I. Roussopoulos: POLITICAL ECOLOGY: Black Rose Books, 1993, 138pp, pbk (available from Jon Carpenter - see above - £9.99 + £1 p&p). Discusses: The State Management of the Environment; The Ecological Crisis and the Response of Citizens; and Political Ecology and Social Ecology. Includes a case study on the Greens in France.

David Wilcox: EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION, 1994 (64pp, £9.95 inc. p&p from Partnership Books, 13 Pelham Square, Brighton BN1 4ET) is a guide for people, e.g. in local government and local community groups, involved in processes of local participation. An A-Z section ranges from Access and Accountability to Workload Planning and Workshops. Useful resource lists - organisations and publications.

NEW UNDERSTANDING, NEW VISION

The new journal METANOIA (PO Box 4151, 7200 BD Zutphen, Netherlands; editor Jan Boelens) is an interdisciplinary forum - sciences, arts, humanities and business - to promote rethinking and transformation. Contributors to the Introductory Spring 1994 issue include Willis Harman on a radically innovative understanding of causation in "Cause for Change, Cause for Hope", Diana Clift on "Wealth Without Money" and LETSystems, David Lorimer reviewing Ervin Lazlo's "The Creative Cosmos: A Unified Science of Matter, Life and Mind" and James Robertson on the new economics as a pointer to a post-modern Ethical Revolution which will subordinate knowledge to right action.

In July we held a local meeting here for the Scientific and Medical Network (David Lorimer, Lesser Halings, Tilehouse Lane, Denham, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB9 5DG) on "Ethics, Knowledge and Power: the Significance of the New Economics".

Attachment Theory is relevant to social cohesion and citizenship, in fields like employment, leisure, social services, transport, education, law, and local government, and to a wide range of professions including architects, social scientists, economists, politicians, lawyers, planners, and philosophers. Details of Tavistock Clinic conference on 31st March, 1995 from Sebastian Kraemer (Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA).

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS (Willis Harman, Paul Ekins and Wolfgang Sachs), POLITICS OF CHANGE (Jonathon Porritt and Sara Parkin), and EMERGING UNDERSTANDING IN PHYSICS AND BIOLOGY: EXPLICATING THE IMPLICATE ORDER (Brian Goodwin and Basil Hiley), are among Schumacher College courses September 1994 - July 1995. Prospectus from Richard Wright (Schumacher College, The Old Postern, Dartington, Devon TQ9 6EA).

Intellectual respectability often stunts vision for the future. "All too often academics are cowed into modest solutions. This scepticism has been enshrined as an objective (and thus authoritative) definition of reality". In "Thinking Strategically About Development: A Typology of Action Programmes for Global Change" in WORLD DEVELOPMENT, Vol.21, No.12, 1993 (Pergamon Press), Elizabeth A. Morgan, Grant D. Power and Van B. Weigel identify six different strategies, focused on (1) global issues, (2) developed countries, (3) less developed countries, (4) local grass-roots institutions, (5) international conflict and (6) global value transformation.

In "Is Stewardship Enough?" in GREEN CHRISTIANS, May-July 1994 (editor Peter Cox, 32 St. George's Quay, Lancaster LA1 1RD), Robert Vint (Friends of the Centre, 8th Floor, Rodwell House, Middlesex Street, London E1 7BR) holds that an ecological ethic requires an ecological spirituality, which accepts both the transcendence and the immanence of God, and recognises that humans neither dominate Nature nor are subservient to it. Friends of the Centre are administering REEP, a new Religious Education and Environment Programme.

"We need to live as if there were a tomorrow". WHERE THE CHURCH STANDS ON THE ENVIRONMENT, a 24-page statement for the churches of Cumbria, concludes with "What Can We Do?". John Smith (County Librarian, Arroyo Block, The Castle, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 8XF).

Rev. Ron Shepherd ("Conifers" Unitary Faith Study Centre, 17 Wheatsheaf Lane, Staines, Middx TW18 2PD) edits quarterly newsletter THE TRANSFORMATIVE VISION - about a new monastics for a new humanity.

WORK, LEISURE AND PARTICIPATION

CAN SOCIETY BE ORGANISED AROUND A LEISURE ETHIC? Bill Martin and Sandra Mason (Leisure Consultants, Lint Growis, Foxearth, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7JX) doubt if the many current social problems arising from "unwanted leisure time and the lack of any clear ethic concerning the use of life outside the workplace" will be solved by a narrow work-oriented viewpoint focusing on international competitiveness and flexibility in the labour market. They argue for a shift towards uses of leisure that emphasise purpose, contribution and belonging - developmental or serious leisure. An interesting and important paper for a US Symposium on Leisure and Ethics, April 1994.

Can time no longer needed for work be redirected into new forms of participative democracy? The latter is increasingly necessary, now that societies can no longer control internal disorder by projecting it into external aggression. Should the concept of activity replace the concept of work? Many interesting questions were raised at a recent European meeting held by EUROPE 99, PROJET DE CIVILISATION (21 Bd de Grenelle, 75015 Paris, France; contact Valerie Peugeot).

THE CHALLENGE OF WORK and PARTICIPATION are Nos. 3 and 4 in a "Changing Ireland" series of half-hour videos by Kairos Communications Institute, 1994. Warmly recommended. Participants include President Mary Robinson, Anthony Clare, James Robertson, Sean Healy and Brigid Reynolds. (IR£19.95 per copy + p&p IR£1.95 for two, from Conference of Major Religious Superiors, Justice Office, Milltown Park, Dublin 6, Ireland). Sean Healy tells us the Irish Government is funding a CMRS pilot project to use social welfare money to pay 1000 unemployed people to work in the voluntary, community, education, healthcare, and local authority, sectors.

The twin ills of unemployment and environmental degradation are symptoms of a more general inefficiency in the use of resources - the under-use of human resources and the over-use of natural resources. The over-taxing of labour leads to job losses. Shifting the tax burden on to natural resources would help to create new jobs and restore ecological balance. Lesli O'Dowd (Earthwatch, Offices of the European Parliament, Dublin) reports on Friends of the Earth's Sustainable Europe Project in "The Role of Environmental NGOs in Sustainable Employment" in COMMON GROUND, July/August 1994 (Smutternagh, Knockvicar, Boyle, Co. Roscommon, Ireland).

"If there is too much producing and consuming going on, then what we urgently need is a huge increase in unemployment... The effort to create 'Jobs, Jobs, Jobs', the retraining schemes for the unemployed, and the attempt to solve the problem of unemployment by 'getting the economy going again', completely fail to take account of the limits to growth argument". Ted Trainer (School of Social Work, University of New South Wales, PO Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033, Australia) in "The Basic Limits to Growth Argument", 11 pages, 1994.

NEIGHBOURHOOD INITIATIVES FOUNDATION (The Poplars, Lightmoor, Telford, Shropshire TF4 3QN) works with local authorities, voluntary agencies and other groups on community participation, consultation, training and development.

NEW WAYS TO WORK Newsletter (309 Upper Street, London N1 2TY), July 1994, reports a project for Neighbourhood Offices at six telecottages across Europe, coordinated by the National Rural Enterprise Centre (Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV5 2RR).

NEW ECONOMICS

"Tracking the Ecological Footprint" is an important article by Nick Robins (45 Sisters Avenue, London SW11 5SR) in PERSPECTIVES, No.12, 1994 (International Institute of Environment and Development, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD). 'Ecological Footprint' describes the tendency of urban areas or of industrialised countries to appropriate the carrying capacity of 'distant elsewheres', and thus to exploit more than their fair share of 'environmental space'.

Welcome back to John Applegath (Human Economy Center, PO Box 28, West Swanzey, NH 03469, USA) who started the Human Economy Center in 1979 and has now resumed editorship of the quarterly HUMAN ECONOMY. Congratulations also to Gerald Alonzo Smith and colleagues at the Economics Department, Mankato State University (MSU 14, PO Box 8400, Mankato, MN 56002, USA) who have edited it for the last nine years. The Summer 1994 issue includes a report by Don Stone (Department of Accounting, School of Business Administration, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, USA) on his recent sabbatical with the Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research (CSEAR, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 4HN).

GROWING PAINS?, 12-page pamphlet from NEF (see p.2) outlines an Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare for the UK, 1950-1990. "Developing and applying such indicators goes right to the heart of how we measure the success of politicians, economists and society as a whole in delivering a better quality of life".

John Pearce (East Broomhill, Harburn, West Calder, West Lothian EH55 8RE) is researching ways of measuring the social and community benefits created by community enterprises and cooperatives. Please send him information about any such enterprises and local projects which have tried out some form of social accounting.

The 1993-1994 Social Audit of Traidcraft (Kingsway, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE11 0NE), audited and commended by the New Economics Foundation, provides a model for most other organisations.

ANIMAR (Rua do Engenho 10, 7600 Messejana, Portugal) is a new Portuguese Association for Local Development in Rural Areas. The first Assembly and Festival of Local Development in Portugal will be held from 5th-9th October in Santarem. Our contact is Prof. Alberto Melo (Associacao INLOCO, Apartado 603, 8000 Faro, Algarve, Portugal).

EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR ECONOMIC SELF-HELP AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (Wiesenstrasse 29, D-13357 Berlin, Germany) now has some 60 members in 8 countries - "Local work for local people using local resources".

NEW SECTOR, April/May 1994 (Society Place, West Calder, EH55 8EA), reports on rural poverty and development in Britain, including the roles of community cooperatives and rural community councils.

TRANET (PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970, USA; Bill Ellis) has launched a new Coalition for Cooperative Community Economics. Pamphlets and a clearing house aim to provide a comprehensive resource.

WESTERN HYPOCRISY ON ARMS CONVERSION (March 1994) is a Briefing from the Project on Demilitarisation (School of Business and Economic Studies, ESS Building, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT; contact Ian Davis). Bradford Arms Conversion Group (same address) has called for government support for the switch from military to civil jobs.

MONEY BUSINESS

PACIFIC WORLD, July 1994 (Pacific Institute of Resource Management, PO Box 10123, Wellington, New Zealand) reports that Canada's Auditor General can find no evidence that the billions of dollars contributed by Canadian taxpayers to the World Bank have helped to reduce Third World poverty. Instead, the World Bank - immune from legal action and financial or political accountability - has put Third World countries deeper in debt by supporting uneconomic projects, and forced Western countries to bail out its losses on bad debts.

Nancy Alexander (Bread for the World Institute, 1100 Wayne Ave, Suite 1000, Silver Spring, MD 20910, USA) circulates useful reports to WORLD BANK WATCHERS, including that the Group of Seven's 1995 Economic Summit will discuss what institutions are needed for the sustainable development of the 21st-century global economy.

Shann Turnbull (PO Box 266, Woollahra, NSW 2025, Australia) has asked the Australian Government to seek support for changing the role of the World Bank. Member countries should compare the poor economic, social and environmental achievements of the Bank with those of self-financing development institutions such as the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh and the Caja Laboral Popular in Spain. Instead of making external loans, the Bank should be required to show countries how to finance their economic and social development from internal sources.

The Grameen Bank took 17 years to disburse total loans of a billion dollars to its members. It expects to lend the second billion dollars in the two years 1994 and 1995 - GRAMEEN DIALOGUE, July 1994 (Grameen Trust, Mirpur Two, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh).

ICOF (Industrial Common Ownership Finance Ltd, 12-14 Gold Street, Northampton NN1 1RS) has launched a new ethical investment fund, ICOF Community Capital, to support sustainable, people-centred development in the social economy, by investing in co-ops, community businesses, voluntary sector businesses, and other social or green enterprises.

Janet Bunbury (115 Marshall Street, Watertown, MA 02172, USA) tells us that the \$10 ITHACA HOURS Notes issued since 1993 have increased local transactions in Ithaca by several hundred thousand dollars. A starter kit for similar local "currencies" elsewhere is available from E.F. Schumacher Center (Box 76A, RD3, Great Barrington, NY 01230, USA) or from Paul Glover (Ithaca Money, Box 6578, Ithaca, NY 14851, USA). (Ithaca Hours is among the projects described in Thomas Greco's "New Money for Healthy Communities" - see p.8.)

Are environmental NGOs being seduced by business cash? In PR WATCH (3318 Gregory Street, Madison, WI 53711, USA), Vol.1, No.3, 1994, editor John C. Stauber says that "a new type of toxic effluent - slick PR - is polluting efforts to achieve a sustainable future". PR WATCH Vol.1, No.4, focuses on Public Relations involvement in the tobacco industry. [We need something like PR WATCH in the UK - eds.]

".. A fantastic landscape of shopping temples and superstores; of maniacs attached to cellular phones barking orders; of daily stockmarket rites; of coupon games and junk mail on every porch; of endless hype about growth and progress and marketing yourself for success. You shake your head and marvel at the bizarre rituals of our business culture". ADBUSTERS, Summer 1994 (1243 West 7th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6H 1B7, Canada) is promoting Saturday September 24th as "Buy Nothing Day" - a 24-hour moratorium on consumer spending.

ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, TRANSPORT

"For developing countries, a top priority is to change the lending priorities of the World Bank and regional development banks, traditionally hostile to efficiency investments. Throughout the eighties, their lending for new power plants outstripped that for end-use efficiency by about 100 to 1". In POWERING THE FUTURE: BLUEPRINT FOR A SUSTAINABLE ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY, Worldwatch Paper 119, June 1994 (Worldwatch Institute - see p.5) Christopher Flavin and Nicholas Lenssen also forecast that, as in telecommunications and computing, new decentralised electricity technologies will open up a host of new business opportunities.

The Environmental Law Foundation has appointed its first Director, Katherine Davis (ELF, Lincolns Inn House, 42 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EX). On the basis of enquiries from local groups and citizens ELF had referred 237 environmental protection cases to its network of solicitors by the end of 1993 - to do with building developments, landfills and quarries, noise, road developments, air and water pollution, pesticides, etc.

ECODESIGN (Ecological Design Association, British School, Slad Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 1QW), Vol. III, No.1, includes Herbert Girardet on "The Metabolism of Greater London", and reports Greenpeace Australia (PO Box 800, Surry Hills, NSW) working with the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games Committee to provide a model of sustainable urban development and demonstrate Australia's environmental technologies. Also Tim Cooper on "Beyond Recycling" and Victor Papanek on "Eco-Logic".

"At our stage of urbanisation in the Indian context the divide between poverty and affluence and the regional economic imbalances between the rural setting and urban setting in India is so enormous that people suffering in rural areas rush to the megacities for employment". DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES, May 1994 (B-32 TARA Crescent, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi - 110 016, India) focuses on "The Urban Nightmare: Is It Upon Us?" - Delhi as a megacity under stress.

GREENING THE LOCAL ECONOMY is a 7-page guidance paper for local authority economic development officers from the Local Government Management Board (Arndale House, Arndale Centre, Luton, Beds LU1 2TS) by Martin Stott (Personnel, Policy and Review, Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND).

Katrin Gillwald (Berlin Institute of Social Research, Reichpietschufer 50, D-1000 Berlin 30, Germany) has begun a three-year study of Environmentally Sound Social Innovations, including case studies of: alternatives to private car use; leasing instead of buying; and shifting the burden of proof from environmental victims to polluters.

Anyone interested in Local Distinctiveness, Parish Maps, New Milestones (sculpture), Trees and Tree Dressing Day, or Orchards and Apple Day (see p.3), should send sae for Common Ground's (41 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9HJ) publications list. It includes their pack on "Celebrating Local Distinctiveness" and their collection of essays on "Local Distinctiveness: Place, Particularity and Identity".

NEW CONSERVATION (The New Conservation Society, Pwlllyfan, Llansadwrn, Llanwrda, Dyfed SA19 8LS; contact Peter Berry), Summer 1994, includes an article and directory on telecottages. Future issues will cover LETSystems and other local environmental initiatives.

EARTH ACTION (9 White Lion Street, London N1 9PD), an international network of over 900 citizens' organisations in 119 countries, produces a monthly Action Alert on one critical peace, environmental or development issue, e.g. desertification in April 1994.

Ruth West (24 Scala Street, London W1P 1LU) is Coordinator of the UN Environment and Development (UK) Round Table on Health and the Environment. Copies of its report to the meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in New York in May 1994 are available from UNED-UK (3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EL - £1.50).

"Our current health planning is upside-down, top-down instead of 'bottom-down'. It will take a long time for us to make the transition from a high technology disease care system to an appropriate technology health system... It is time that the transition started". From REDEFINING HEALTHCARE by Trevor Hancock (28 Napier Street, Box 428, Kleinburg, Ontario L0J 1C0, Canada).

A new INTERNATIONAL HEALTH FUTURES NETWORK will stimulate new thinking and research on the creation of healthier communities. Details from Clem Bezold (Institute for Alternative Futures, 108 North Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA). Also, IAF has recently advised the US Environmental Protection Agency that EPA's mandate should broaden from pollution control to pollution prevention and sustainable development.

Pioneer Health Centre: A POOL OF INFORMATION. This video (£40 + VAT + postage from Concord Films, 201 Felixstowe Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9BJ), based on archive material and interviews with former members and staff of the Centre, shows why the Peckham Experiment made so much impact in the 1930s and why it is relevant today. The House of Lords, Hansard Vol.553, No.67, discussed the Peckham Experiment on 11th April 1994. Contact Pam Elven ("Camolin", Birtley Rise, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0HZ).

In EAP News, Winter 1994, Stuart Hill (Ecological Agriculture Projects, Macdonald Campus, McGill University, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC H9X 3V9, Canada) points out that, rather than high-tech research to cure symptoms of agricultural problems, what we need is research on designing and maintaining agroecosystems resistant to problems. But, since such research produces few saleable products, there is not much money in it, so industry does not support it. And - Catch 22 - research funding from governments is increasingly dependent on matching support from industry.

Likewise, the HYPERACTIVE CHILDRENS SUPPORT GROUP (Sally Bunday, 71 Whyke Lane, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 2LD) experiences a tendency by established institutions and professions to seek expensive pharmaceutical cures for the symptoms of faulty nutrition (which include violent behaviour) instead of researching the dietary causes.

"Bike-and-Ride is exceptionally popular in Japan and much of Europe. In Denmark 25-30% of commuter rail passengers begin their trip from home on a bicycle. In the Netherlands bicycling is officially considered the most important means of transport to rail stations". Worldwatch Paper 118 by Marcia D. Lowe (Worldwatch Institute - see p.5) is called BACK ON TRACK: THE GLOBAL RAIL REVIVAL.

SUSTRANS (35 King Street, Bristol BS1 4DZ; Director John Grimshaw) is a charity which designs and builds traffic-free routes for cyclists, walkers and disabled people all over Britain.

PEOPLE AND PROJECTS

Sally Potter (58 Dernier Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 3EW) tells us of a **CHRISTIANS CARING** non-alcoholic pub project to provide a centre for young people who might otherwise be vulnerable to drug and alcohol abuse. Its potential for providing work experience will make it a suitable venue for a Training and Enterprise project to improve the literacy and numeracy of some less able school leavers.

Ian Bingham-Hall (Oakwood, 73 Glen Eyre Road, Bassett, Southampton SO2 3NN) is initiating a new community enterprise to offer inexpensive services to local residents, help to develop the local economy and to provide occupation for local citizens.

Dave Sharman (55 Mayhill Road, London SE7 7JG) is planning to set up **MILLENNIUM EXCHANGE** in south-east London as a holistic enterprise centre for personal creativity and sustainable communities.

WHOLE WORKS is a vocational environmental training co-op with ten members skilled in various trades, which plans to provide workshops and presentations in the use of organic paint and recycled/sustainable wood in carpentry, painting and decorating. Contact **Paul Wren** (156 Odessa Road, London E7 9DU).

EARTHSTEWARDS NETWORK aims to co-create a more peaceful, caring world through global communication, conflict resolution and citizen diplomacy. Information about European Earthstewards from **Britt** and **Philip Gaut** (Mill House, Cholsey, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 9HG).

Based on experience in Cambodia, **POWER** (Prosthetic and Orthotic Worldwide Education and Relief) is being set up in collaboration with the Red Cross, as a non-governmental organisation to care for victims of anti-personnel mines. Launch at a public concert, 11th November, Remembrance Day, at St. James's Church, Piccadilly. Details from **Stan Windass** (The Rookery, Adderbury, Banbury, Oxon OX17 3NA).

Wendy Ashby (PO Box 18, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2AU) tells us that **GLOSA**, the international language originally developed from Lancelot Hogben's *Interglossa*, is now being taught in some teacher training colleges, secondary schools and institutes in Africa, China and USA, and is being used on Internet and other computer networks.

Eleonora Masini (Via Bertoloni 23, 00197 Rome, Italy) is coordinating a "Futures of Cultures" project for UNESCO, and holds an annual course in Futures Studies at the Department of Social Sciences, Gregorian University, Rome.

UNITY DAY, on 20th August 1994, was held to call for the worldwide abolition of the death penalty. Information about follow-up from **Wenda Shehata** (46 Kensington Place, Brighton BN1 4EJ).

"The Skyros experience demonstrates the power, delight and magic which are possible when people blend together holistically to form a community linking mind, body and spirit". *I-to-I Magazine*, (92 Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 3NE; **Yannis Andricopoulos** and **Dina Glouberman**) reports the **OEKOS** project for a network of local groups.

Kathleen Jannaway's 4-page leaflet, October 1993, on "A Self-Reliant Village Culture" introduces a series of leaflets on lifestyle, farming, global warming, etc., from **MOVEMENT FOR COMPASSIONATE LIVING** (47 Highlands Road, Leatherhead, Surrey).