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RAIN

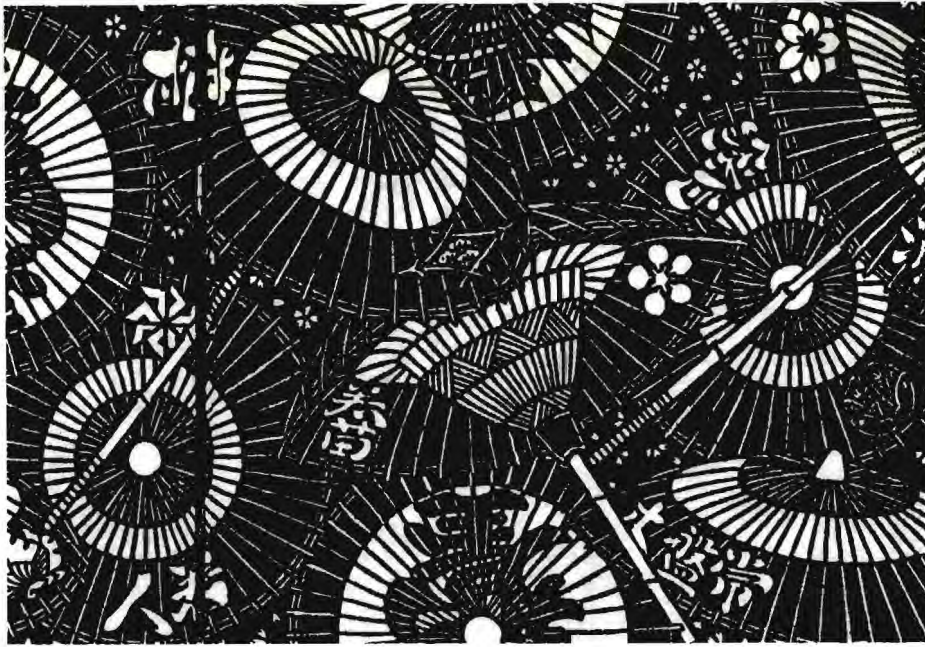
Coyote Questions
Recycling Ghettos
Lovins on Lemon Socialism

JUNE 1981



Volume VII No.

\$1.50 No Advertising



Hello RAIN People,

Your publication is thoroughly enjoyed by myself and my friends. Note however that *Architects and Engineers Guide to Energy Conservation in Existing Buildings* is actually \$32.00, not \$14.50 as listed in the Feb./Mar. issue of RAIN.

Warm Regards,
Jef Emery
Eugene, OR

Dear RAIN,

I wish to compliment you on your continued excellence in resource compilation and for providing access. I am a nuclear physicist active in the safe energy movement in Central Virginia. Our group, Piedmont Alliance for Safe Energy, attempts to "walk on two legs" by taking a militant (not militaristic) anti-nuclear, anti-monopolist anti-war position while at the same time promoting conservation, soft solar technologies and community control of the solutions to the energy problem. We have been able in this way to link up with a broad section of our community.

As part of our wild dreams we envision a resource center that would bring together innovative technologies from around the state, the country and our own backyard. RAIN's regular arrival helps keep that dream alive as both a model and a resource.

Thanks,
Donal Day, Ph.D.
Charlottesville, VA

Dear RAIN,

Your statement (Feb./Mar. issue) that *They Came Before Columbus* elicits a shift in consciousness deserves to be expanded upon. The response of the RAIN staff to Dr. Van Sertima's book is evidence of the fact that most of us have been brainwashed into accepting the Eurocentric view of history. To justify subjugation of blacks, historians and anthropologists systematically denied the contributions of blacks as innovators in the creation of civilization. Regrettably, lies,

LETTERS

Dear RAIN,

I thought I was getting an uncommonly high bunch of book orders from the Pacific Northwest, and the arrival of the April RAIN explained it. Dave Deppen's review of my plans book was having the desired effect. I'll write to Dave and thank him, but I also want you to know that I'm very grateful for giving Sam and me space in such a powerful little magazine.

Sincerely,
Malcolm Wells
Brewster, MA

ciety publications (Jan. '81) as containing "fawning reverence for self-ordained high-tech centrist 'futurists'" smacks of arrogant know-nothingism, and is blatantly untrue. I realize that's the image of WFS, but if one bothers to look at *The Futurist*, one will find in almost every issue an article relevant to decentralists. Marien's monthly *Future Survey* is indispensable to anyone seriously interested in policy issues related to decentralism and also contains many explicit listings on this topic. The last conference of WFS featured many sessions on wholistic health, alternative economics, and A.T. Just watch this dogmatism that blinds you to useful resources.

Dennis Livingston
Boston, MA

Dear RAIN,

The characterization of World Future So-

RAIN

Journal of Appropriate Technology

RAIN is a national information access journal making connections for people seeking more simple and satisfying lifestyles, working to make their communities and regions economically self-reliant, building a society that is durable, just and ecologically sound.

RAIN STAFF: Laura Stuchinsky, Mark Roseland, Carlotta Collette, John Ferrell, Kevin Bell, Steve Johnson, Steve Rudman, Nancy Cosper. Linnea Gilson, Graphics and Layout.

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omissions and distortions about these contributions continue today in academic circles. Besides Dr. Van Sertima, dissenters include such scholars as John G. Jackson, Chancellor Williams, Cheikh Anta Diop, and Joel A. Rogers. Their publications, as listed in *Books in Print*, should be explored if RAIN readers wish to know another viewpoint of history.

Sincerely,
Robert H. Green
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Friends,

We're very grateful for your complimentary review of "Preventing Burnout in the Public Interest Movement" (April RAIN). The response from your readers to that piece has been really quite remarkable—we're flooded with requests.

Thanks much,
Bruce Ballenger
Northern Rockies Action Group
Helena, MT

Dear Rainfolk,

Great to see you again after subscription snafu. You're needed now more than ever. And you won't end up like the last guy who used that phrase.

Best,
Roger Easton
Tucson, AZ

ACCESS

MEDIA

Editing Your Newsletter: A Guide to Writing, Design and Production, by Mark Beach, 1980, 76 pp., \$7.75 ppd. from:

RAIN
2270 NW Irving
Portland, OR 97210

More goes into a magazine than meets the eye. Much more. Those of you who are new to RAIN may be unaware that there's not a

one of us here on the staff who knew beans about magazines before coming to RAIN. We all had lots of experience in appropriate technology and community self-reliance projects, some writing and so on, but none in magazine publishing and production. In the spirit of RAIN, we learned by doing, made our mistakes, got our feet wet while trying to learn on 'em, and—so your letters indicate—we're improving all the time. Even so, we still make a blooper now and then (oops!). If we'd had Mark Beach's book to refer to, however, our learning process might have been more pleasant and efficient.

Beach provides valuable information for all kinds of editors, and tells you *everything*

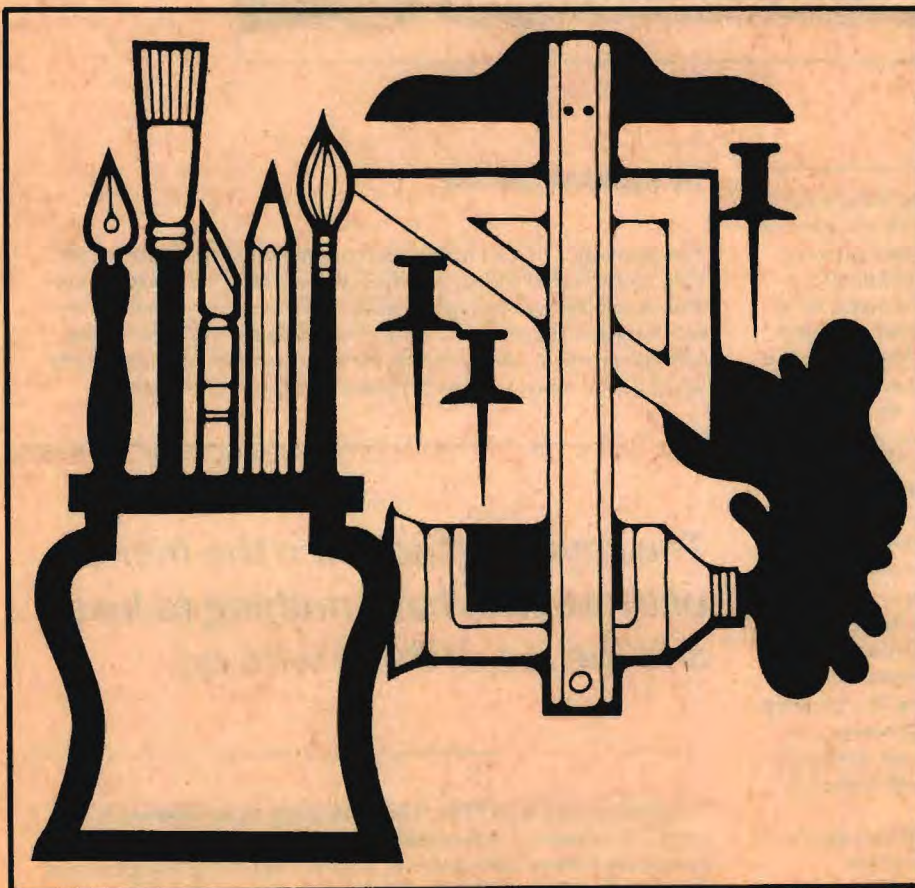
you've always wanted to know about editing your newsletter: sources for free/cheap supplies and services; instructions for building a light table; tips on writing clearly; definitions for dozens of printing terms; words of wisdom from experienced editors; pointers on graphics; and—best of all—lots of excellent examples.

Last but not least, Beach reminds us of "the basic rule of publishing" (and virtually everything else, it seems to me!): "Everything takes longer than you think it will and much longer than you think it should." Ain't that the truth! —MR

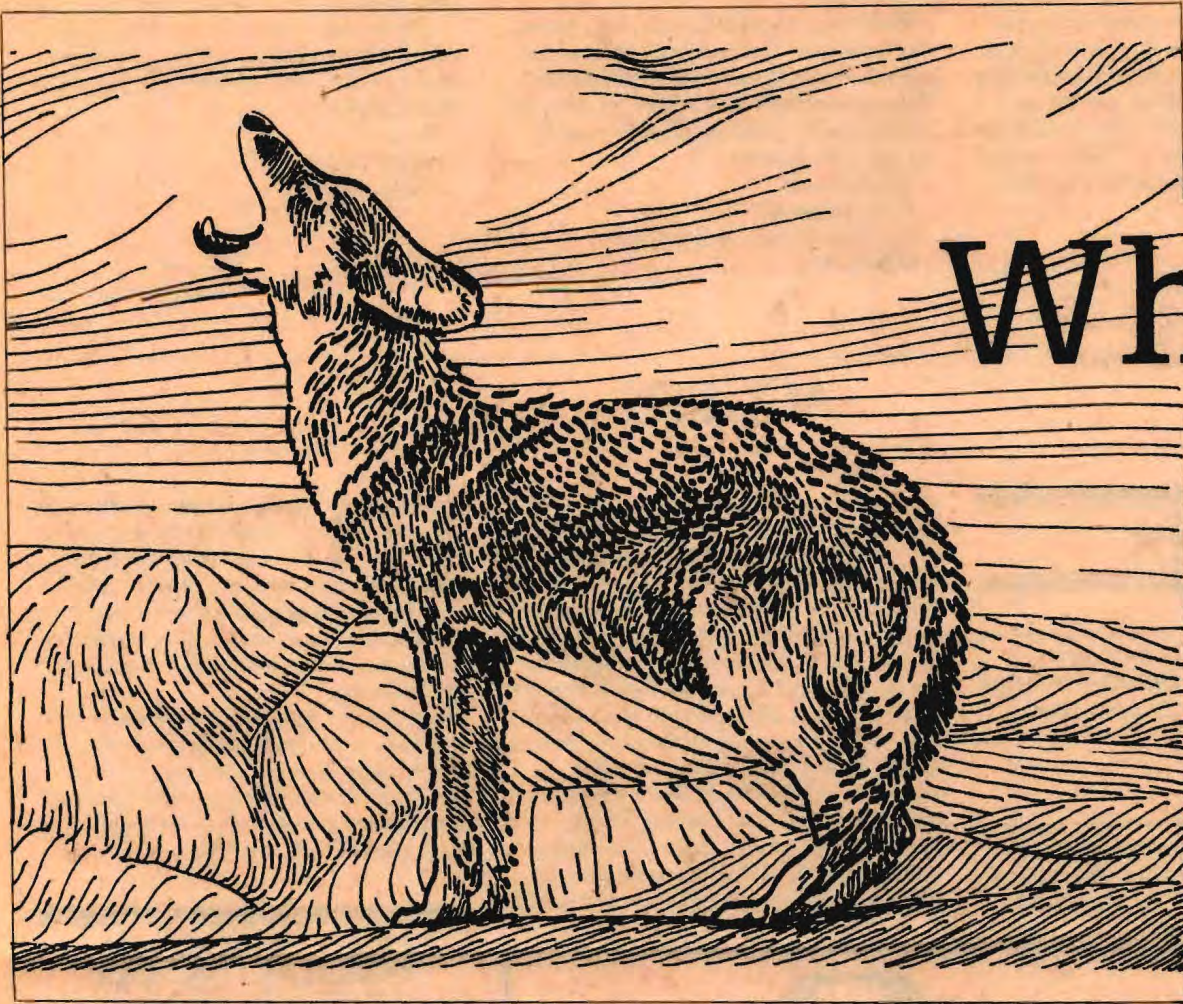
RESOURCES

The Harbinger File, by Harbinger Communications, 1981 edition, \$6.50 from:
Harbinger Communications
Peninsula Conservation Foundation
50 Rustic Lane
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Interested in environmental education, citizen participation, or energy organizing? This 125 page guide to "who's who" among Bay Area organizations is an essential resource tool, whether you live in the area or not. *The Harbinger File* testifies to the value of computers for providing an accessible, easy to up-date system for organizing information. Arranged alphabetically with subject, alphabetical and key area indexes, the directory lists 481 "environmental" organizations doing work in areas such as land use, community affairs, and energy. Each listing is accompanied by a brief description with notations on funding sources and key interest areas. *The Harbinger File* is one example of Harbinger Communications' attempt to "increase communication, cooperation, and sharing of resources" among like-minded organizations. They can also be contacted for mailing lists and other information services. I only wish I'd had a copy of this on my last visit to the Bay Area. —LS



From *Editing Your Newsletter*



Mark Anderson

Whose

by Leonard Charles

A few years ago traditionally democratic Minnesota found itself in the middle of its own North/South conflict. The North represented farming, logging, and other primarily rural land-based interests while the South, seat of the state government and Minnesota's metropolitan areas, represented urban interests. The South relies on the wilderness "up north" for its recreation, retreat, and spiritual recuperation from the stresses of the city. The North relies on that same land for its livelihood. The inevitable debates raged across the state; wolves vs. livestock, lumbering vs. recreational land use, etc. The key to the argument in Minnesota rested on an assumption, made in the cities, that the issues were simple, solutions equally so, and the Democrats would, as always, resolve the situation.

Well, the issues were not simple, nor the resolutions, and the Democrats were swept out in an election that stunned the state. There had been no willingness to seek compromises.

A few environmental problems are clear-cut. But most are anything but clear; and our responses are usually much too simplistic.

In Northern California, Upriver Downriver an almost heroic little magazine, tries to look at the problems inherent in a growing, changing world, by focusing in on the knowable microcosm, the bio-region. By exploring concerns on an intimate basis, person-to-person and farm-to-farm, they build solid connections that span differences and create communities.

This article is excerpted from a more comprehensive study of one such problem. We reprint it with permission from Upriver Downriver, (\$6/yr), Box 390, Cazadero, CA 95421. -CC

Five years ago, I didn't believe that coyotes killed sheep, or rather didn't believe they killed more than the odd stray or weakened animal. A self-avowed ecologist, I endorsed the environmentalist belief that coyotes preferred native prey, while sheep kills were the infrequent acts of "bad" coyotes (usually an old or sick one, or one who had lost a paw in some previous encounter with a trap).

The coyote is too often the friend of those who have nothing to lose and the foe of those who do.

Agreeing with John Muir, I believed sheep to be "hooved locusts," the products of sheep ranchers who themselves were notorious for the wanton destruction of wildlife, and overgrazing much of the American West. On the other hand, coyotes were noble predators, wild-even magical-beasts, and part of the balance of nature. I

Home On The Range?

will always remember sitting on a Sierra peak in the full moonlight listening to coyotes explode a neighboring ridge with their searching screams while the short hairs along my spine bristled. In any debate over the relative merits of coyote and sheep, I knew whose side I was on.

At that time, I lived with a group of people on, of all places, a sheep ranch in the rough coastal hills of northern California. We operated a small homestead amidst thousands of sheep belonging to a neighbor who held the grazing lease on the ranch. Though he was considered one of the foremost sheep ranchers of the region, his approach to land and wildlife management did little to alter my feelings regarding sheep or sheep ranchers. The ranch was overgrazed brush and trees were bulldozed from lush hillside flats and pockets; and "pests" (feral pigs) and predators were routinely killed.

When this neighbor retired, we decided to take over the grazing lease on the ranch in order to control how the land was used. The ranch was under an Agricultural Preserve contract which required the owner or lessee to produce a specified agricultural income off it each year. Sheep were the most feasible means of producing this income, so we became sheep ranchers. While none of us had a strong desire to raise sheep, we decided that if we were going to do it, we would do it right—commercially raise sheep in a manner that enhanced the health of our land.

Our first year was quite successful despite many errors and oversights. We produced a lamb crop of 90% (90 lambs for every 100 breeding ewes) in an area where anything above 70% is considered good. During our second year, coyotes moved into the area. That second year our lamb crop dropped to 50% plus we lost 10-15% more ewes than the previous year. This is our third year, and the lambing season is now in progress. So far, we have lost 10-20% of our ewes plus an as yet undetermined number of lambs. Of the seven carcasses I have found this year where some determination of death could be made, all had been killed by coyotes.

These sheep were our responsibility and we had expended much time, energy, and care on them. Impotently watching them die made me regard coyotes differently.

"What to do about coyotes" became a personal problem rather than an "issue". Sensing that the typical rancher's solution of killing the coyotes at any expense and the environmentalist contention

that coyotes are not a serious problem were equally in error, I was left in limbo. One moment I felt like taking my gun and scouring the hills for a coyote, the next I felt it was the coyote who belonged here and not us and our sheep. The solution, if there was one, seemed to lie in finding out as much as possible about coyotes in general, and specifically in this time and place. It was necessary to move beyond the gut feelings that swung me to and fro like a pendulum and do some thinking, some research; this correspondence relates some of that exercise.

One moment I felt like taking my gun and scouring the hills for a coyote, the next I felt it was the coyote who belonged here and not us and our sheep.

The record on the rancher's side is totally indefensible—two million coyote killed by government agents between 1915 (when the Federal government became actively involved in "predator control") and 1946. After 1946 the slaughter got worse due to the introduction of 1080, the new "superpoison" so potent that one ounce can kill 20,000 coyotes. Theoretically, the poison was strictly controlled regarding who could use it, how it could be used, and how much could be put out in a given area. The controls were meant to insure that the primary target of 1080 would be coyotes and not "innocent" species. However, the abuses were so gross and wide-

cont. —

spread that in 1972 President Nixon, of all people, banned its use by a Presidential Order. Later that year, the EPA withdrew registration for all predacides (poisons to kill predators), effectively ending the "poisoning of the West."

The results of that era of poisoning (an era that extends back to the mid 1800s when strychnine and other poisons were used) can never be calculated, but we do know that coyotes have been extirpated from broad stretches of their ancestral range (the high plains) and that many other species of predators, and even non-predatory mammals, have become extremely rare throughout the high plains and many other parts of the West where poison was used.

The ban on predacides by no means stopped the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (through its subsection called the Animal Damage Control—ADC) from killing coyotes. Using traps, aerial hunting, dogs, calling, and other means, the ADC killed 605,000 coyotes between 1970 and 1977 (this is the number reported by the ADC for its activities and does not include coyotes killed by other agencies, ranchers, varmint hunters, or fur trappers). So in 1976, while the ADC killed 99,000 coyotes, 173,000 were killed for the fur trade (a coyote pelt goes for between \$30-50) and unknown numbers were taken by private hunters, never found, or not reported.

For the ranching industry, which would like to see the coyote on the endangered species list, these deaths are necessary to protect their "marginal" industry. To listen to ranchers, one would come to the conclusion that coyotes were entirely to blame for the many problems of the sheep industry. The coyote is the fall guy, not the economic system that forces ranchers to produce large numbers of animals for a marginal profit. That economic system is never challenged (in fact, ranchers are usually counted among its staunchest proponents) because "there is nothing that can be done about it." You can do something about coyotes: there a person can act, can make a difference.

The ranchers point at the spread of coyotes across the continent as evidence that they are doing no great harm to the coyote population. Coyotes are now found from Costa Rica to Alaska (where they followed the overland-bound gold miners, feeding on their dead mules). They are now found in every state in the country except Delaware. The ranchers contend this expansion of range has too often come at the expense of their sheep, and that coyotes do not "belong" in much of their present range. As our local trapper puts it, "The Sierra Club is a great advocate of the balance of nature, but for the coyotes in this country, I'm the only balancer of nature."

To further bolster their claims, the ranchers point to the drastic decline in the number of sheep in this country—28,849,000 in

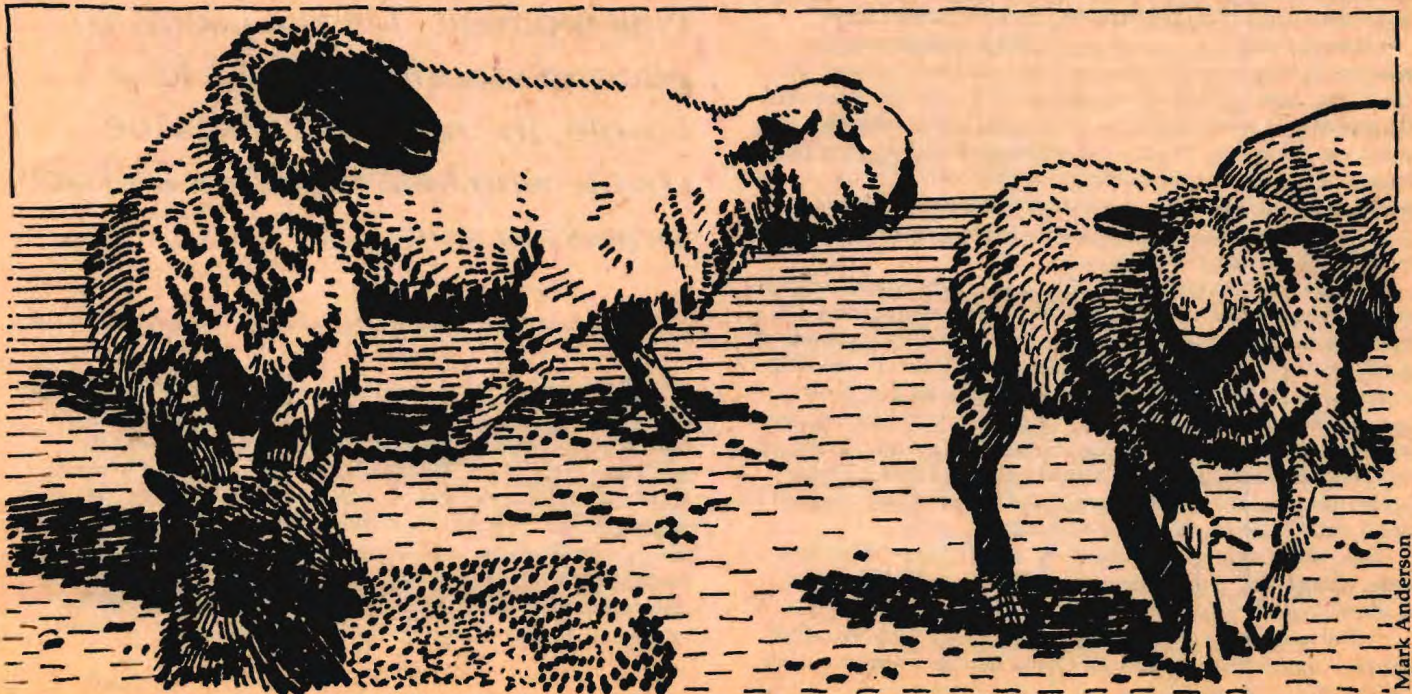
1960 and 10,774,000 in 1978 (for California the figures are 1,712,000 in 1960 and 915,000 in 1978). Again, the blame is placed on the coyote even though these ranchers know that it is socioeconomic factors far more potent and deadly than coyotes that are the real cause of this decline.

While this destruction of coyotes is deplorable, it is true that they are adaptable, have expanded their range, and seem in little danger of extinction. It is the destruction of the other species the "innocent" species, that is especially repugnant. For example, during the years from 1970 to 1977 when 605,000 coyotes were killed, the ADC also killed 36,000 bobcats, 1,450 bears, and 460 mountain lions (and these are the numbers reported by an agency that would just as soon not have it known that they accidentally kill animals other than coyotes). Again, many other deaths were either not lo-

Other places are to be 'used' to produce our goods and if they are screwed up, well, that's too bad.

cated or went unreported. These examples are figures for years after the banning of predacides: figures for earlier years would have been far higher.

This destruction of wildlife was decried for years. The evolving strength of the environmental movement forced the 1972 ban on predacides, though it should be noted that in 1975, the poison sodium cyanide was reregistered for use solely by Federal agents with 26 different restrictions placed on its use. However, the ban on poisons did not stop the environmentalist thrust. They attacked the use of steel leghold traps as inhumane, and destructive to many species of innocent wildlife. Government agents like to praise the steel leghold trap, saying that innocent animals can be released unharmed. Our personal experience with these traps is that an animal would be fortunate to ever regain use of the paw caught in the trap. Finally, environmentalists attacked the sheep industry itself, which



is already receiving substantial public subsidies in the form of wool support and low grazing fees on government lands. They asked why sheep ranchers should receive government assistance for killing the public's wildlife on public lands.

While groups like the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, and the Defenders of Wildlife attacked on the national level, local groups challenged the predator control programs operating within their own counties. The predator control program is a cooperative program jointly financed by the Federal government and cooperating counties. The agreement to authorize the program is renewable annually, and in our county (Sonoma) it is challenged every year. In these annual debates, the environmentalist arguments range from emotional appeals concerning inhumane methods to the recitation of statistics demonstrating that coyotes cause only minimal damage to the state's sheep population. For example, they quote the government's own statistics showing that coyotes kill only 6% of California's lamb crop each year, and they add that most of these deaths could be avoided by more careful management practices.

One of my friend Jim's favorite stories regarding these hearings involves my Uncle George. George is a sheep rancher; he is invariably a member of the inevitable panel that is formed to examine the county's involvement in the predator control problem. One year he was telling the environmentalist members of the panel about his problems with coyotes, and he invited them to take a drive around his ranch with him so they could see for themselves the magnitude of his problem. After they had completed the tour, George asked them if they had any questions, and one young man turned to him and said, "You should grow soybeans." Every year, our county supervisors renew the contract for predation control with the Federal government.

From experience on our ranch, we have found the arguments

The coyote is the fall guy, not the economic system.

presented by both sides to be only partially correct. Our research and observations show the following:

1. As soon as coyotes moved into the area, we began suffering heavy losses (15-40% of our lamb crop and 10-15% of our ewes per year). The statistics cited by the environmentalists are simply that—statistics. They say nothing concerning actual events in particular times and in particular places. Losing 6% of the California lamb crop may not seem significant (though even that many is quite a few) until one remembers that many of California's sheep are raised in the irrigated pastures of the Central Valley where hardly anything real, including predators, exists. The wilder areas suffer correspondingly heavier losses in order to produce the gross statistic of 6%. Look at the statistics for the wilder states—Nevada loses 29% of its lamb crop to coyotes, Colorado 15%, Utah 12%, and New Mexico 11%.

2. Marauding coyotes eat very little, if any, of the sheep they kill. Of the dead ewes I have found, the most that has been eaten is a few pounds of the internal organs. Why do they kill them? It is our opinion (and the opinions of the local ranchers) that coyotes are much like dogs that get loose around sheep—they just like to chase what runs. This would explain why it is often the healthiest ewe or lamb that is killed, for they are the most likely to run.

Animals that do not run and do not otherwise display symptoms of sickness or weakness are not usually attacked. I have noticed much the same thing with dogs and sheep. If the sheep do not run and stand their ground with the dog, the dog often does not know what to do and leaves the sheep alone.

Whatever the reasons that coyotes kill, it is our observation that they eat little of their prey, and they never return to a carcass for another meal. There seems little evidence that they kill out of hunger.

4. Coyotes are not native to our ranch. Prior to logging, the area supported a climax ecosystem defined by mature redwoods and Douglas-fir. It did not support the wildlife nor habitat necessary for the coyote. After consulting the ethnographies of the area and talking with the older ranchers, we concluded that coyotes did not live here until recently.

5. The belief that it is only the old, weak, or injured coyote that kills sheep is wrong. Besides the observation that these are young, healthy animals being killed, this belief presupposes an illogical premise. One can just see a sleek, young coyote sitting on an outcropping overlooking a pasture full of sheep saying to himself, "No, not one of these fat lambs, they are beneath me; I'll go catch something difficult."

After considering all these findings, I asked myself again, "Is it worth it to raise sheep here, or should we let the land go wild, or what else can we do with the land? What happens if the coyotes run us and our neighbors out of the sheep business? Looking at what had happened to other ranches of our area, there appeared a number of options.

1. The rancher can switch to running cattle. However, cattle are even less profitable than sheep. They make less efficient use of the grassland and are unable to get into the pockets on the steep hill-sides. They cannot overwinter on the grass as sheep can and must be fed expensive hay through the winter. In an area where it takes 1000 acres of land that one owns to raise enough sheep to make the median income, cattle are not profitable. Local ranchers who have switched to cattle do not survive off their ranching income and must conduct logging on their land or work on the outside to supplement their income. In addition, cattle require a lot more labor, better fences, and more capital. Cattle are at least as ecologically offensive as sheep. They trample fragile microhabitats, and in the summer they transform the creeks into feedlot runoff channels.

2. The rancher can go out of business and sell his land. A large neighboring ranch was recently sold to Louisiana-Pacific to be used for timber production. Surely no one can think that any good can come out of more resource land falling into the hands of such multinationals whose motives are not in the best interest of anything—trees, coyotes, or people.

Other local ranches have been sold and divided into smaller parcels—generally 40 acre pieces. These are then sold as recreational or second-home lots, another form of land use that is symptomatic of a disease that benefits no one. While this disease has many forms or manifestations, its cause is our acquiescence to socioecological destruction all around us as long as we can afford our own little escape, our own park, our own unsullied and unused place. Or they become the homesteads for "back to the landers." The latter use has its good and bad points. First, it provides a parcel large enough for people to operate some form of self-sufficient homestead. It provides the land base for a movement that is healthy and produces benefits we are just beginning to see and understand. This movement provides the in-place research station that experiments and works with new forms of architecture and design, new energy sources, sustainable agriculture, the recycling of human and other wastes, watershed rehabilitation, holistic health, and decentralized politics, all intertwined with conscious attempts to improve the self and clarify its correct role within the eco-system. Yet, too often the land is not used but becomes the private open space for the owner (as is the case with typical residential subdivision). The land is left to go wild. The number of people making even 25% of their income (including growing their own food) off their land is extremely small.

3. Another option is to find some other crop—as the man said, "Grow soybeans." The soils, terrain, and climate of the region severely limit agricultural potential. Recently, a few ranchers have begun planting vineyards, and there is some hope the area will be-

come another quality wine producing area. Another option is reforestation of the land to produce commercial timber. However, is there any difference between these practices and raising sheep? Vineyards are sterile systems where little life other than grapes is allowed, and the harvesting of trees is at least as ecologically disruptive as raising sheep. Some might argue this final point, contending that there now exist timber harvesting techniques that are selective and do no great harm to their environs. But even if such methods are practiced in the future and if they do prove unharmed, they should be compared with equally enlightened means of sheep ranching.

4. Finally, there is the explicit goal of many environmentalists and back-to-the-landers to allow the land to go wild, to withdraw it from production. This argument, stated or unstated, pervades much of the debate over coyotes and about land use in general. It is a position I once held, but I have changed my mind. I do not think we can stand up on every occasion and yell save it, preserve it, make it a wilderness area. Though there are definitely times and places where this need be our approach, it cannot be applied to every place, every time.

In the coming decades most arable land will be needed for production, and the prime question becomes not whether to use it or not, but how to use it. In the past we have too simply equated use with exploitation and destruction, and countered with the equally simple solution of "Don't use it."

It is time we ceased thinking of land as either used (exploited) or preserved (a park).

Whether this need for more productive land comes about or not, it is time we ceased thinking of land as either used (and thus exploited, screwed up, and lost) or preserved (a park). Land can be used to produce *and* to provide open space, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunity. The English countryside is a proven example. Almost all the land is privately owned and used, yet the public is generally free to use it for hiking or picnicking. When I was there, I often pitched a tent in some field and woke in the morning to the sound of cows grazing outside. The cows did not detract from my "experience," and hopefully my presence did not detract from theirs.

We also need to look at our motives for moving back to the land, for "rehabilitating" it. Rehabilitation does not mean owning a small park while you earn your income and buy your good outside. To let one's land go wild in this way is to ultimately place a heavier burden on other ecosystems. Other places are to be "used" to produce our goods, and if they are screwed up, well, that's too bad, it's the fault of agribusiness, and we will join the Sierra Club and force politicians to pass laws to prevent them from doing it anymore. Bullshit. Rehabilitation means to inhabit, to use, to use like the native inhabitants once did wisely and reverently, but to use. Rehabilitation should presuppose deriving some sort of land-based livelihood, or at least a more basic economic integration with your place. Otherwise the concept will become another intellectual fad or literary movement. It will have lost touch with the people doing the work. We raise sheep, and try to encourage health and diversity on our land. We still make abstract statements about how other people and corporations should or should not use their land (and such statements will continue to be very necessary), but we also do it ourselves, here, on this place.

Fine, you might say, you guys sound o.k., but it's your ranching neighbors we are concerned about. Well, these ranchers are hard-

working, knowledgeable, pragmatic, conscientious, and skilled people who, in their own way, care a great deal about their land, their place. They pride themselves on producing quality livestock. They care. There are not many people in our society of whom one could say the same. They also do some dumb and damnable things, but so do we all.

If we are to actually begin applying ecological principles to our lives, then we must recognize that the prime lesson of ecology is that health is roughly equivalent to diversity. To get rid of sheep-ranchers would be to decrease ecosystem diversity, and by ecosystem I mean the whole system of coyotes, lichen, redwoods, woodpeckers, and people, complete with their potent wishes, dreams, goals, and desires. To deprive this cultural/biological ecosystem of sheep-ranchers may be as disastrous as losing coyotes.

This is not to defend the destructive practices of these ranchers. But rather than trying to rid ourselves of the ranchers maybe we should concentrate on these practices and find ways to raise sheep in a healthy fashion. Maybe we should try to talk with these ranchers and show them how they are destroying the land they love, how it is the economic system and not the coyote that is their main worry, and show them actual means of dealing with coyotes (and other land use problems) that allow them to produce sheep while at the same time promoting health on their land.

Controlling the ranchers' abuses could come from on high via government fiat, but another thrust of centralized power is neither necessary nor desirable. Instead we need to reopen channels of dialogue—not simply a dogmatic, theoretical dialogue, but one based on actual experience laced with practical suggestions and language. The need for example is especially strong; we have found it very difficult to get ranchers to listen to just talk, especially talk having to do with the words "environment" or "ecology."

We are not naive enough to believe our dialogue will cause our neighbor or any rancher to change his mind or practices overnight. The change will be slow, and it will be aided by the continued pressure of nasty environmentalists. If nothing else, we leave the dialogue open and offer practical suggestions. It is our belief that the earth (at least as represented in our local ecosystems) is resilient enough to allow the deaths of a few more predators and some more overgrazing in the hope that in the longer run new practices and options can evolve. It leaves the future open to options for a healthy, used place, a place that provides room for ranchers, conservationists, sheep, and coyotes.

Being forced to deal with coyotes has taught us a great deal, and will no doubt teach us more. It has particularly made us look again at where we live—its biology, physical components, history, culture, place in the larger biological/sociological system, and people. It has made us grapple with the concepts of use, preservation, health, and need. The coyote, the shape changer, is an apt metaphor for these lessons. In the Indian collections of Coyote tales, sometimes the coyote is portrayed as good, sometimes bad, sometimes intelligent, sometimes dumb—just like the rest of us. And bad and good are relative, changing; the only true fear, true danger, is stasis.

Yet the coyote is more than an interesting or pretty metaphor. She is a concrete animal, too often the easy friend of those with nothing to lose and the declared foe of those who do. She is a very real animal with tangible habits and with whom real people must contend. Decisions regarding the coyote involve a blend of conscious and unconscious reactions to the real and supposed manifestations of an animal who does particular things in specific times and places. These decisions involve our thoughts, feelings, and desires as well as more abstract matters of ecology, economics, politics, and ethics. Our minds and ecosystem truly are connected. To see the coyote as an actual animal in a place and deal with her so, not as a generalization or symbol, can lead to a greater understanding of our place and our role in it. The coyote/sheep question is a process. It can be viewed as another skirmish in the ecological debate, or as an invitation to participate. □□

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Making "Good Work" Work

A Celebration of Volunteers: How Citizen Groups in the Northern Rockies Can Work Effectively with Them, by Mary Lee Reese, Vol. 2, No. 4, 1978, \$3.00;

Administration of Public Interest Groups by William L. Bryan, Jr., Vol. 2, No. 2, 1977, \$3.00;

Membership Recruitment Manual, by Bruce P. Ballenger, 1981, \$10.00;

all from:

Northern Action Rockies Group
9 Placer Street
Helena, MT 59601

There is a commonly held belief among the RAIN staff about our luck: that when the going gets tough someone or something comes along that pushes us back from the edge. In accord with that tradition, these three NRAG papers (and a fourth on *Preventing Burnout* reviewed in the April 1981 issue of RAIN) arrived in our mail basket at a critical point. Each has proven useful in our internal restructuring, our board meetings, and the organization of our volunteer program. Although each manual is directed primarily toward citizen-based, public interest organizations, the material contained is generally applicable.

Written by an experienced volunteer, Mary Lee Reese's *A Celebration of Volunteers* tackles the major obstacles organizations face in recruiting and maintaining volunteers. Although most of us, either individually or as organizations, are familiar with volunteer programs and their benefits, careful planning and integration of volunteers are often given low priority. In designing or improving existing volunteer programs Reese lists several key steps to undertake. First, an honest and realistic evaluation of the work that needs to be done should be conducted with an eye toward variety and varying levels of responsibility. Second, a thorough plan including job descriptions, orientation and training, record keeping and evaluation procedures should be established. Third, a volunteer coordinator

should be chosen. While a volunteer coordinator is essential to the smooth operation of a volunteer program, the involvement of all staff members in planning, training, and evaluation is still essential.

Reese suggests that the ideal relationship between the organization and the volunteer is one of partnership in which both are benefited and the organization moves forward. Her paper is full of thoughtful and pointed suggestions for creating that partnership.

In the week before a recent board meeting, I went through William Bryan's *Administration of Public Interest Groups* with a fine tooth comb. While offering no cure-all, Bryan presents a needed context and several models with which to approach questions of organizational structure and accountability. This ambitious paper is divided into four issue areas: decision making, internal communication, "nuts and bolts" (internal office maintenance), and planning. Using a more traditional (hierarchical/participatory) model Bryan explores the role of the executive director or coordinator. His characterization, a useful one for any structure concerned with "leadership" functions, includes: minimizing procrastination on decisions, being clear about expectations of other staff members, delegating responsibility (while refraining from looking over shoulders), being sensitive about receiving criticism and feedback, and being blunt about evaluating oneself as an innovator, project person, and administrator simultaneously.

Alternating between structure and process concerns, Bryan addresses issues such as the role of the Board of Directors, guidelines for creating personnel policies, and methods for establishing integrated and regular planning practices. While Bryan advocates an active role for the Board of Directors (a less than common occurrence), he is less anxious about pursuing alternative organizational forms. "I feel it is inevitable that some form of hierarchical structure will be the basic underlying mode of decision-making within a constituency-based, staffed organization."

A short critique of *Administration of Public Interest Groups*, identifying some of the major issues and biases of Bryan's approach,

is included in a section at the end of this paper. While recognizing the room that exists for debate and refinement, this publication is an outstanding resource both for its information on capacity building within the organization and for offering stimulus to the effort to evolve effective organizational structures consistent with our social values.

In a somewhat different format than the first two NRAG papers, the *Membership Recruiting Manual* maintains the quality of previous publications in expanded size. Building on a philosophical base, the first third of this manual is devoted to the politics of recruitment: why people join citizen movements, the politics of numbers, and organizing strategies. A brief though excellent resource guide to materials and organizing training centers concludes this section. The remainder of the book is concerned with the "how-to's" of recruitment. Techniques for conducting direct mail campaigns (letter writing tips, mailing lists and costs); canvassing (doorstep tips); opportunity recruiting and events (outings, dinners, house meetings); and phonathons, advertising and publicity (telephone raps) lay out the details for organizers. Lastly, a section on "Pulling it All Together" ties the pieces into a composite strategy—an annual recruiting campaign. Bruce Ballenger provides a step-by-step approach to building a recruitment plan from the identification of recruitment goals (what kind of members, from where, how many) through evaluation of the campaign.

This manual is bursting with invaluable information: success stories, common pitfalls and methods for evaluating costs and benefits of various strategies. An appendix, 13 pages long in itself, covers particular questions such as renewals, maintaining membership records and the emotional preparation for selling yourself and your organization. Recognizing the increasing importance of an active and informed citizenship, this manual is a must for any organization considering or currently engaging in membership recruitment. One of the best investments I've heard of for this nominal fee.

—LS

Dispersed, Decentralized, and Renewable Energy Resources: Alternatives to National Vulnerability and War, by the Energy and Defense Project, 1980, 340pp., free from:

Environmental Policy Institute
317 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20003

Increased use of dispersed energy sources, and a transition to renewable energy sources in the industrial, agricultural, commercial, and residential sectors would ultimately result in independence from foreign energy sources. In addition, the vulnerability of the centralized energy system, dependent on a limited number of facilities, would be substantially reduced.

With a nuclear cowboy in the White House and a hint of apocalypse in the air, the security of America's energy supply has become an important consideration. Acting on a request by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Energy and Defense Project has made a strong case for an energy future that is reliant on locally based renewable sources.

Essentially, this very timely report is a series of capsule descriptions of the sometimes bewildering array of issues and technologies that are a part of creating a secure energy supply. The discussion covers a lot of territory, ranging from World War II to Armageddon, and from time-of-day electrical rates to solar satellites. Most of the summaries are excellent, and this study is very useful as a reference text on energy issues in general, as well as energy security in particular. The description of synfuels technology, for example, is an exceptionally clear survey of the subject.

Along with a discussion of conventional and renewable energy options, the report includes a number of historical precedents and future possibilities with some chilling implications. A single ICBM, for example, detonated 248 miles (400 km) above the continental United States could create an electromagnetic pulse that would severely damage power and communications grids and obliterate computer memory banks nationwide.

The last section of the study presents a series of priorities and recommendations for

enhancing energy security. Sketchy at best, it serves more as a basis for further discussion than as a definitive statement. But the issues being discussed here cut across many political boundaries, and the urgency of that discussion increases with each passing month.

The argument that renewable energy is a good idea from a national security standpoint has been kicking around for a few years now, and has been repeated by a number of renewable energy advocates. There are indications that that argument is beginning to be taken seriously by the military establishment. The acceptance of renewable energy for strategic reasons, combined with the increasing commercialization and control of conservation and solar technologies by corporations that are often diametrically opposed to the vision of a society based on self-reliance and cooperation, raises the grim possibility of a future renewable energy society which has lost sight of the fundamental issues raised by the concept of appropriate technology. How much are we willing to give up for a solar future? It should be an interesting debate.

—KB

Strategic Solar: The Renewable War Debate

by Tom Athanasiou

Solar power offers something for everybody, except possibly oil company executives. The last few years have seen the dimming of its radical aura, as classically conservative goals like "rebuilding America" and reducing the balance of payments deficit have been recruited into the promotion of soft energy paths.

Now, thanks to a new report directed by longtime alternative energy activist Wilson Clark, the solar bandwagon is getting even more crowded—and the tolerant ambience on board is getting somewhat strained. *Dispersed, Decentralized and Renewable Energy Sources: Alternatives to National Vulnerability and War* is a pitch for a solar solution delivered in the terms of national security. To the missile gap, the MIRV gap, the SLBM gap and the bomber gap, Clark has added the sunshine gap.

The major findings of *Energy, Vulnerability, War* are simple and compelling: "1) Current US energy systems (fuels and electricity) are highly vulnerable, due to requirements for imported resources and due to the centralized nature of the systems themselves. 2) Dispersed, decentralized and renewable energy sources can reduce national vulnerability and the likelihood of war by substituting for vulnerable centralized resources."

These claims are almost certainly true. The Pentagon seems to think so—it started substituting photovoltaics for diesel generators in remote locations a few years ago, and the MX, if it is installed as a land based system, will be largely powered by the wind and the sun. Clark has merely taken the most common fare of the appropriate technology movement—resilience, local self-reliance, decentralization—and incorporated it into the logic of strategic planning.

But the safe energy movement would do well to evaluate the politics implicit in this argument, its unflinching pragmatism and the

servility with which it addresses only those aspects of the arms race which suit its purposes. Clark wants to recruit military planners into the solar energy coalition, and to do so he is more than willing to situate his technical discussions within the specter of "the Russian threat" and to ignore the dynamics of nuclear escalation.

Clark cannot have missed the substantial body of data and analysis indicating that it is the U.S. which has consistently been responsible for escalating the arms race—that it has a long-term offensive nuclear strategy, and that it is in terms of this strategy that all civil "defense" programs must be seen. Unfortunately, political realities like these are out of the scope of his report. There is nothing whatsoever here that would be even remotely embarrassing to the men Clark hopes to sway, for his strategy is quite simply to gain a hearing by saying only what the language of power allows.

We may be permitted some doubt that this approach will avert catastrophe, or even, as Clark seems to think, undermine some of the deeper forces pushing us towards war. He is correct when he points to the dependency on "strategic" materials that high tech energy production engenders. But the coming war, when it arrives, will have more causes than simply the need of the empire for Persian Gulf oil and South African beryllium.

A conversion to a decentralized economy less dependent on the pillage of the Third World will, in itself, do little to avert the logic of militarism, or to undermine the economic and political dynamics of global domination. As for Clark's program for solar civil defense, it is no different than any other civil defense program: a strategy for increasing "survivability", no matter that its intentions makes the use of our arsenals incrementally more thinkable.

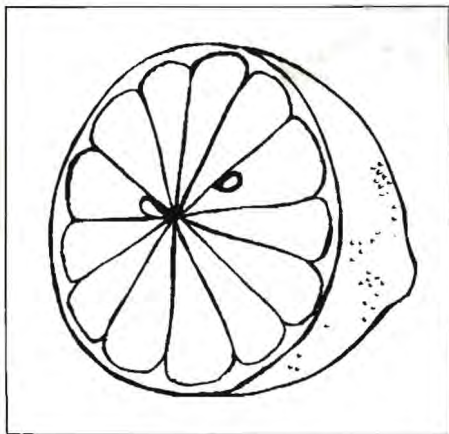
ACCESS

CONSUMERS

Help: The Indispensable Almanac of Consumer Information 1981, edited by Arthur E. Rowse, 620 pp., \$9.95 from:

**Everest House Publishers
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036**

This guide is loaded with facts and figures that most almanacs don't even mention: special corporate lobby links to Congress; nuclear plant safety records; hospital cost comparisons; listings of food additives, etc. The best sections are on individual rights and self-help resources, including an extensive listing of national and local community change/public interest organizations. There's lots of interesting tidbits on both the problems of "our ripoff society" and strategies on how to deal with it. Reasonably priced and easy to read, this almanac may prove to be very useful in these years of massive de-regulation and Reaganomics. We can use all the "help" we can get. —SR



Lemon-Aid, 1981 edition, by Phil Edmonston, 681 pp., \$10.95 from:

**Beaufort Books
9 East 40th Street
New York, NY 10016**

If you're in the market for a car this year, you won't be taken for a ride with this guide. Edmonston, a veteran consumer crusader and author of eleven best-sellers on the car trade, is straightforward with his criticism from the very first sentence: "The automobile industry is founded on fraud, deception, and a wholesale disregard for public safety."

The most interesting parts of the book are the dictionary of dirty tricks on the car repair trade, the chapter on beating the system when buying a used car, and the section

which describes successful examples of consumer pressure tactics on the auto industry. There are also ratings for more used car models than I ever knew existed. Unlike the "independent engineer" testing system used by Consumers Union and others, Edmonston's rating methods rely heavily on consumer complaints.

A must for the auto junkie, *Lemon-Aid* can satisfy anyone who is thirsty for a car. —SR

NUKES

Energy/War: Breaking the Nuclear Link, by Amory and Hunter Lovins, 1980, 168 pp., \$10.00 from:

**Friends of the Earth Books
124 Speak Street
San Francisco, CA 94105**

In many ways, *Energy/War* is both an extension and an update of the debate that began with the publication of *Soft Energy Paths*, offering a summation of the last two years or so of the Lovins' work (portions of which have appeared in the November '79 and January '81 issues of RAIN) that begins where most discussions of the nuclear power and nuclear weapons link leave off. Not only is the nuclear weapons proliferation that results from nuclear power programs an immense threat to world political stability, but the entire economic, environmental, and technical rationale that supported the development of civilian reactor technology in the first place has been called into question over the last couple of years.

It now appears that nuclear power, which today delivers about half as much energy in the United States as does firewood, is unlikely to get out of the firewood league in this century if ever. Nuclear forecasts worldwide are still plummeting—more for economic than for political reasons. The USSR, for example, achieved only a third of its nuclear goal for the 1970s, half for the past five years, despite the unlimited power of the state to crush dissent. The first Soviet pressurized-water reactor is five years behind schedule. It is equally revealing that the pattern of decline in official nuclear forecasts for the United States and for Canada is virtually identical, even though there have been essentially no procedural barriers to building reactors in Canada. Clearly the cause of the collapse is far deeper and more universal than mere U.S. regulatory hassles.

The collapse of nuclear technology as a

viable option has led to the exciting prospect of a society that is reliant on the wise use of renewable energy: *So powerful, indeed, is the convergence between political and economic logic that it is hardly surprising how quickly a soft energy path is starting to implement itself through existing political and market processes. But the question remains whether a sustainable energy future will be achieved relatively smoothly by choice, or disruptively by necessity after the fossil-fuel bridge has been burned in a vain pursuit of other solutions that do not work.*

This book is clearly directed at a wider audience than *Soft Energy Paths*. The writing style is considerably less technical (although it is as fully referenced and footnoted as ever) and the topics discussed here cover a lot of ground pretty quickly.

Although the thesis should be familiar to veteran energy watchers, the insights into the nature of the nuclear link should hold your interest pretty well. If you are trying to explain to someone why a soft energy path is essential, *Energy/War* is a good place to start. —KB

Atom's Eve: Ending the Nuclear Age, an Anthology, compiled and edited by Mark Reader with Ronald A. Harder and Gerald L. Moulton, 1980, 285 pp., \$5.95 from:

**McGraw-Hill
330 West 42nd Street
New York, NY 10036**

If you have relatives or friends who have started to ask the right questions about nuclear safety since Three Mile Island but are still unclear about the broader implications of a nuclear future, here is a book to help get them thinking—and acting. The editors of *Atom's Eve* aim it squarely at this marginally anti-nuclear segment of the population, commenting in their introduction that "the true issue of the nuclear debate is not whether isolated atomic reactors . . . can be made safe, but rather the sort of lives people will be forced to lead while they secure them." The implications of the nuclear fuel cycle for people's health, safety, civil liberties, employment and military security are described in brief, stimulating, non-esoteric articles by such authors as Barry Commoner, Jacques Cousteau, Helen Caldicott and Denis Hayes. Several "action guides" are included to direct the reader to related publications and to anti-nuclear organizations.

Atom's Eve is an excellent primer. It is also an example of something we need to see a lot more of: quality, no-nonsense anti-nuclear reading material, directed toward a broad audience which has for too long received careful attention from industry and utility propagandists. —JF

Pierce and Johns are co-directors of the Ontario Lakers Youth Organization in Washington, D.C. The Lakers were founded by Walter Pierce in 1964 when the Adams-Morgan neighborhood was predominantly a minority and low-income resident area. In 1981 low-income black and hispanic residents are struggling to remain in the area which is now a fashionable section, increasingly inhabited by middle and upper income residents. Real estate values have increased 500% since 1970. Pierce and Johns are leading activists struggling with the issues of displacement facing low-income youth. They were interviewed by Neil Seldman, from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance in Washington D.C. Neil is Director of Waste Utilization at ILSR and is currently focussing on creating businesses which youth own and control.

Unemployed youth do not worry about poisoned rivers, foul air, and carcinogens in food.

N.S. What does recycling mean to you and the Ontario Lakers?

Walter Pierce. Recycling means several things to our members. First it means the collection and sale of newspapers, aluminum and other items to raise money for sports programs, trophies and equipment. The Lakers have done this since 1964. In the early 1970's we learned from a group called Community Technology that tools and skills can also be recycled. The more skills our youth learn the more money will come back to them. There's nothing new about recycling. Poor people always learn to re-use and use up everything in the survival game. But in Adams-Morgan we began fighting for public services, land and buildings because we knew that this was the closest we would come to owning things permanently. We fought for control over our school. When a 62 year old lady, Charlotte Filmore, sat-in on vacant land for a recreation space for her day-care center, it began a 14 year fight for what is now Community Park West, a 4.6 acre park in the heart of Adams-Morgan that the community won from the city, federal government and developers. We not only recycled that land, but we recycled community organizations too.

N.S. How does "recycling community organizations" work?

Wendy Johns. Two community organizations won the fight for Community Park West. The Ontario Lakers who used the land as its home field—Ghetto Stadium which we built with our own hands out of scrap lumber; and the Adams-Morgan Organization, one of the first neighborhood governments created in the U.S. The personnel and energies of these organizations were used to build up our Neighborhood Planning Council (NPC) and Advisory Neighborhood Council (ANC) when they became legal agencies in D.C. The NPC's are unique in the country. Youth meet in community assemblies once a month to allocate \$75,000 a year to local programs they monitor and administer. Our NPC's office is a renovated police station. The ANC's have advisory power over all matters in their area, and they are part of the DC Home Rule Charter.

Walter Pierce. The Ontario Lakers model has been recycled many times. Our neighborhood basketball tournament was so popular, it became citywide within 2 years. Now the Ghetto Invitational Basketball Tournament attracts over 50 teams, coaches and scouts. We've taught players, referees, coaches. And provide training and discipline for thousands of low-income youth who need structure and reinforcement. Now we have the Washington Football Alliance, built up on the neighborhood team networks just like the Basketball Tournament. We brought girls teams into the Bas-

RECYC



Mark Anderson

GHE

ketball Tournament two years ago. At first the boys laughed. Now they can't believe what they see.

Wendy Johns. When the Ontario Lakers got swindled out of the building where its main office, library and youth center was located, we recycled four community groups into a cooperative association, got a loan commitment from the National Consumer Cooperative Bank and got ourselves a new building.

N.S. What does recycling do for youth?

Walter Pierce. Naturally when a young person gets ownership in something, things change. Pride comes. Responsibility too. And hard work. We always tell our kids you can't live in the house on the hill until you work the land, set roots deep. Kids understand this. Lakers youth don't want a free ride. They come to me and say, we want to come back to Lakers. We didn't get paid but we did

Poor people always learn to re-use and use up everything in the survival game.

CLING



TOS

blacks have roots in both places. Look, I was brought up in D.C. but also worked on my family's small farm in Prince George's County, Maryland, I was always busy with crops, animals, fixing up things. It's the same inside the ghetto—building a stadium, clearing the field. The very first thing we did at Community Park West in 1978 when we finally owned the land was build community gardens. We taught kids about nutrition as we started composting and building fences. In 1979 we had 12 plots; in 1980 we had 50. In 1981 we're doing terrace gardening like the Japanese and intensive farming to get every inch of available space under cultivation.

Wendy Johns. But we have to work to form co-op apartments or else the condominiums come in and before you know it, new, rich people will be in those gardens.

Walter Pierce. This year we want to start trees growing in Prince George's County. In future years these would supply our annual Christmas tree sales program. As we take ownership of buildings we want to start rooftop greenhouses, food canning projects, wholesale marketing, and our Latin-American organizations already have a catering service we work with.

N.S. Can low-income, inner-city people relate "ghetto recy-

When a young person gets ownership in something, things change.

cling" to the traditional environmentalists concerns which started the waste recycling movement?

Walter Pierce. It will be hard. Because low-income, unemployed youth are totally powerless and have no security. They do not worry about poisoned rivers, and foul air, and carcinogens in food even though these evil things are hurting them. They have to worry about crime in their schools, and streets, about surviving, and managing to grow up with enough skills. But garbage recycling can be a bridge. A job has direct meaning. A community business means money. Kids need a piece of turf to call their own. If recycling can do this it really is an "appropriate technology" for minority youth.

Wendy Johns. Walter and I saw the Bronx Frontier Development Corporation composting project in New York. We saw Resource Recovery Systems recycling business in Branford, Connecticut. Fifty jobs created. Our people can get into that. I mean, work hard for something. After recycling puts us to work baling paper and smelting aluminum, then natural curiosity will lead us to learn about energy savings, and materials conservation. Then we'll all be environmentalists, too. But will the environmentalists come to appreciate our world and our day-to-day reality? □ □

things. Our CETA jobs are not real jobs. We're getting lazy.

Wendy Johns. Kids respond to constructive ideas that make common sense. They couldn't believe that when Walter and I went to school we demanded that teachers stay after school and work with the slower kids. But it makes sense. You've got to plant seeds early and nurture them.

N.S. The Ontario Laker's vision is an inner-city one, yet it also has a rural tone. How is that?

Walter Pierce. That's because most poor blacks, and not so poor

For more information on "Neighborhood Recycling," see

Citizen Action Manual: A Guide to Recycling Vacant Property in Your Neighborhood, Department of Interior, C Street between 18th and 19th Streets, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.

A Partnership Approach to Neighborhood Commercial Reinvestment, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 490 L'Enfant Plaza E, S.W., Washington, DC 20219.

To Save Our Cities: What Needs to Be Done, Henry Reuss, Public Affairs Press, 419 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, DC 20003.

Neighborhoods: A Self-Help Sampler, Office of Neighborhood Development, HUD, Washington, DC 20410

Citizens' Guide to Maintaining Neighborhood Places, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service Information Exchange, Division of P.A.R.T.S., 440 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20243.

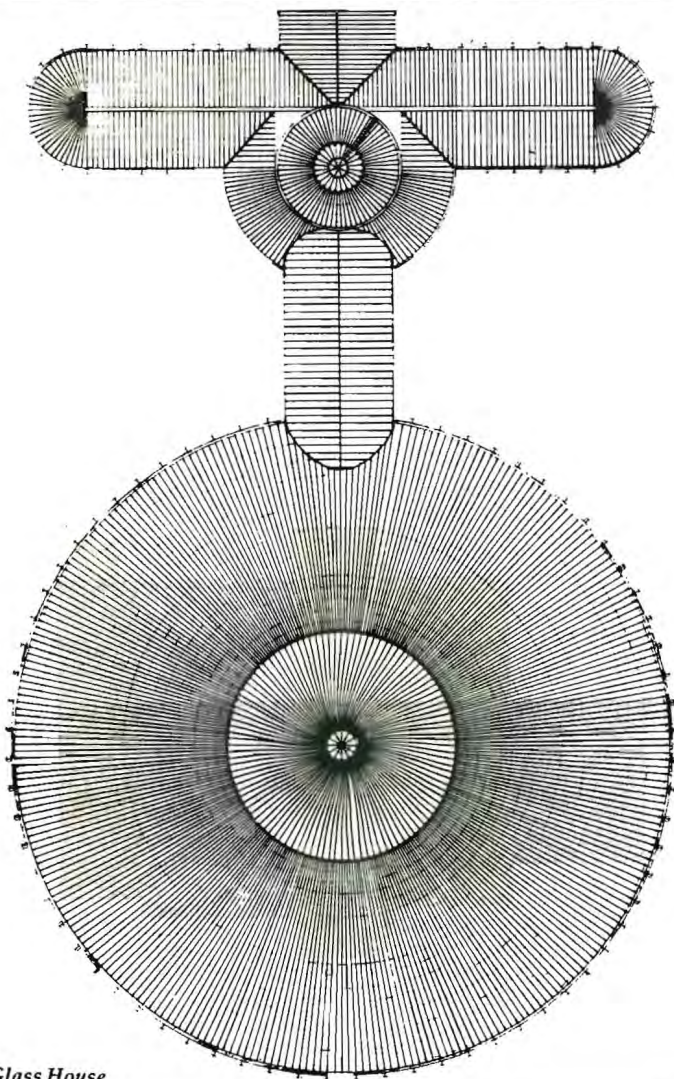
Recycling Obsolete Buildings, Public Technology Inc., 1301 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20004

Neighborhood Conservation and Property Rehabilitation: A Bibliography, Office of Administration, HUD, Washington, DC 20410.

"Loan Package to National Consumer Cooperative Bank," Ontario Laker's Cooperative Association, 2390 Champlain Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20009, 202/332-4417 or 202/232-4108.

ACCESS

BUILDING

From *The Glass House*

The Glass House, by John Hix, 1981 (paperback edition), 208pp. \$9.95 from:
M.I.T. Press
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02142

This beautiful book, first published in 1974 and now out in paperback, serves to remind us that "there's nothing new under the sun." Dutch forcing frames in the 18th Cen-

tury had massive north walls, glazed south ones, insulating curtains or shutters and even reflectors to maximize sunlight in the growing space. By the 19th Century sophisticated automatic vents and solar heat sinks were circulating air to recreate breezes in the otherwise confined atmosphere of the greenhouses.

Two major trends developed, both contrasts in scale to the early experiments. *Big*

was the key word and greenhouses became either massive industrialized plant machines or nearly as massive glass fantasies, first for the private delight of the very rich and later for the embellishment of public gardens. The practical lessons learned were quickly shrugged off, but the move to bigger and more elaborate was not always irresponsible. The great Crystal Palace of 1850's London, for example, went from a simple flat-roofed design to its huge arched roof in response to public outcry that several elms stood in the way of the planned structure. Architect Paxton and the builders, rather than remove the elms, enclosed them, creating the most famous glass house of them all.

Elegantly illustrated, *The Glass House* explores architecture in its most magical flowering. —CC

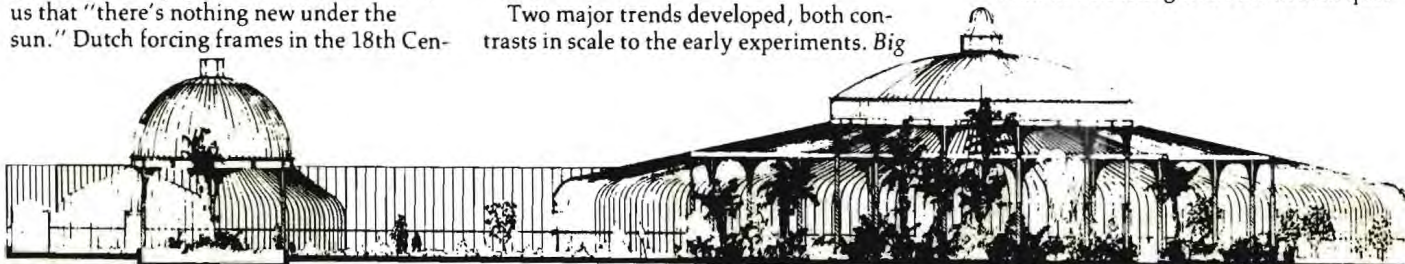
New social welfare organizations, hospitals, inventions or technical innovations and improvements—these will not bring about our new culture . . . but glass architecture will. Glass architecture is going to eliminate all harshness from the Europeans and replace it with tenderness, beauty, and candour. (—Adolf Behne, 1919)

Fine Homebuilding Magazine, bi-monthly, \$14.00/year from:
Taunton Press
52 Church Hill Rd.
Box 355
Newtown, CT 06470

The use of the word "homebuilding" (as opposed to "housebuilding") is deliberate here, and this sister publication to *Fine Woodworking* magazine promises to be a welcome addition to the lives of people interested in quality home construction and renovation. The emphasis is on careful, energy-efficient building design and technique. The quality of this approach is apparent in each article.

Visually, *Fine Homebuilding* is in a class by itself, combining excellent detail drawings with stunning photography in a way that makes you feel like you've just spent a few minutes walking through the house with the author. In most cases, by the way, the author is also the builder.

Without detracting from the overall qual-



Crystal Art Palace plan and elevation.

From *The Glass House*

ity of this magazine, I'd like to air the one major gripe I have about the first issue. Two of the articles covering conservation and solar techniques appear to betray a need for greater expertise in an area that often has implications that extend beyond the realm of applied construction details. One article about indoor air quality in energy-efficient homes was somewhat misleading in its discussion on both the nature of and possible solutions to the problem. Another article describes a site-built active solar space heat system that looks far more complicated and expensive than many other solar options that are readily available for new construction. However, most of the techniques described here are suitable for residential hot water systems as well, and the finishing details are very good.

The wide variety of topics that appear in this magazine reflects the diversity of builders, remodelers, and homes around the continent. If the editors are able to maintain a balance between the needs of both the part-time remodeler and the high-rolling home builder, *Fine Homebuilding* should prove to be a valuable forum during a time of unprecedented transitions in the state of the art, as well as a reference for people seeking the time-tested techniques that are what fine homebuilding is all about. —KB

WIND

***Windpower: A Handbook of Wind Energy Conversion Systems*, by V. Daniel Hunt, 1981, 610 pp., \$39.95 from: Van Nostrand Reinhold 135 West 50th St. New York, NY 10020**

Written for the person planning to install a store-bought system, I found this book to be clear and readable (except for one section on aerodynamics which is packed with calculus). The sections on siting your wind system, basic concepts of lift and drag, environmental and legal aspects of wind are far superior to those in Park's book. Hunt also includes a chapter listing all commercially available wind systems, their power output vs. wind speed curves, performance, maintenance, cost, materials, and other important information. Sections on international development and the future of wind power are included as icing on the cake. —Gail Katz

***The Wind Power Book*, by Jack Park, 1981, 253 pp., \$11.95 from: Cheshire Books 514 Bryant Street Palo Alto, CA 94301**

In writing this book, Jack Park has expanded and improved on his two previous wind-re-

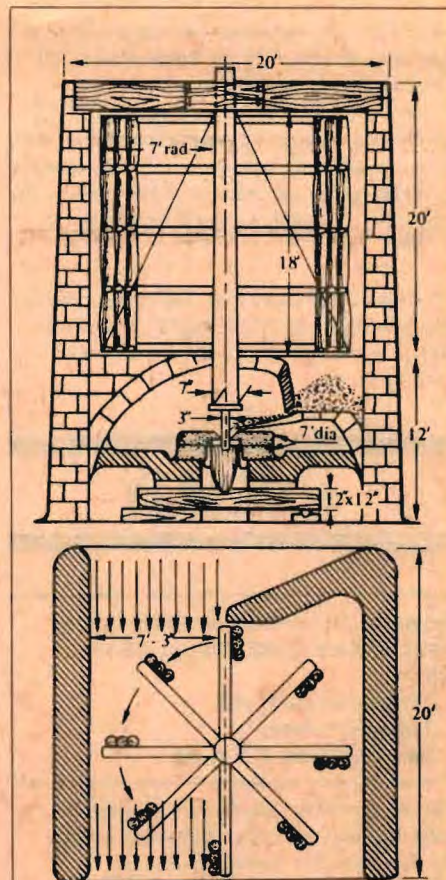


Figure 2-1. Persian vertical-axis windmill circa 640 A.D.

From *Windpower*

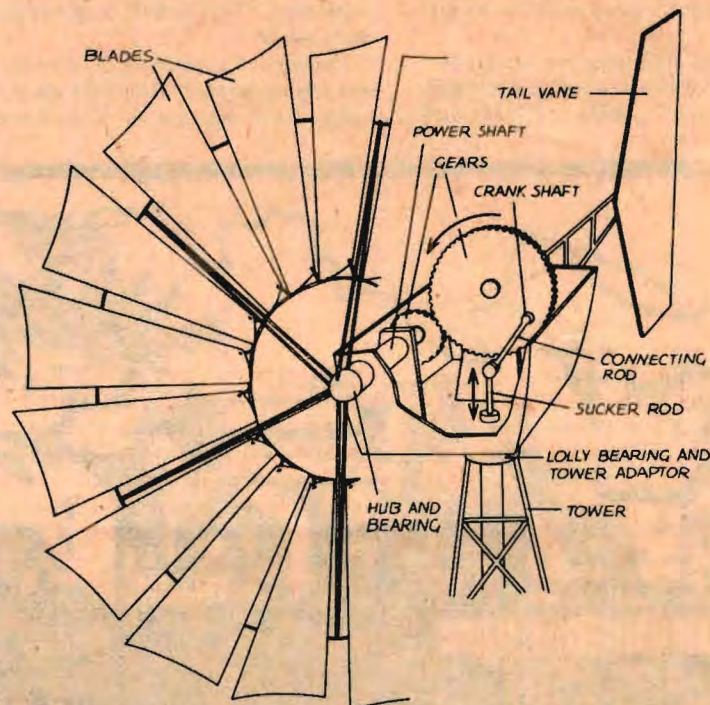
lated books, *Wind Power for Farms, Homes and Small Industry* and *Simplified Wind Power for Experimenters*. Park's books are all aimed at the person who wants to design his or her system, complete from the tower to the shape of the rotor blades.

In simple terms understandable to a layperson, he describes analytical methods for sizing a windmill, matching the windmill to the load, designing the tower, and fabricating the rotor blades. His information on system siting and economics, however, is more sketchy. In general, though, he speaks from experience—and he knows which way the wind blows. —Gail Katz

***Siting Handbook for Small Wind Energy Systems*, by Harry Wegley, et al., \$7.95 from:**

**NTIS
US Dept. of Commerce
5285 Port Royal Road,
Springfield, VA 22161**

Moving even short distances off an optimum wind site can mean a drop of 10-15% in electricity generated at that site, making accurate wind velocity analysis of even small pieces of property crucial. This book, produced by Battelle Northwest, is the best available for instructions on siting a wind energy conversion system. If you're going the wind power route, here is an ideal guide for maximizing your potential. —Gail Katz



Components of an American Farm windmill. Gears and crankshaft convert rotary power into the up-down motion of the sucker rod.

From *The Wind Power Book*

COMMUNITIES

Working Together: Community Self-Reliance in California by the Community Assistance Group, Office of Appropriate Technology, 1981, 110 pp., free to CA residents, \$6.50 for non-residents (checks payable to "State of California") from:

Office of Appropriate Technology
1600 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

"Community self-reliance offers a vision of a democratic, cooperative society in which local producers use local resources to satisfy local needs." Community groups in several cities across the country are working on self-reliance projects, but to my knowledge this is the first *state-wide* guide to community self-reliance.

The main body of the book portrays the efforts of some twenty citizen groups, ranging from the Chinese Community Housing Corporation and the Toiyabe Indian Health Project to the Santa Cruz Community Credit Union and the Humboldt Bay Wastewater Authority. In Fresno, for example, Western Community Industries buys old newspaper and turns it into cellulose insulation, combining resource conservation with community job development. Each group's history is concisely described, including stumbling blocks and lessons learned as well as victories.

In addition to explaining the context of and providing examples of community self-reliance, *Working Together* concludes with a

section on fundamentals for community organizing, followed by an Appendix of California and other resources.

Working Together is an inspiring model and should be read by people across the continent—state officials especially—interested in community self-reliance. Certainly, at the price, no Californian should be without it. —MR

RAIN's Community Self-Reliance Guide for the Portland area is scheduled for publication in early summer. Look for future announcements.

ENERGY

Energy and Environment Checklist, by Betty Warren, 1980, 228 pp., \$5.95 from:

Friends of the Earth
124 Spear Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Maybe someday there will be a complete, continuously updated, and readily available data bank for renewable energy.

Meanwhile, this annotated and newly revised bibliography should do quite nicely. It includes an excellent selection of the best nontechnical information sources around as of early 1980. There is also a fairly current list of good magazines and organizations in the field of appropriate technology.

Energy and Environment offers an interesting perspective on how quickly things are changing in the field of energy.

Nearly all of the books and studies mentioned are less than four years old. None of them were written before 1974. Renewable energy has a long way to go before it gets boring. —KB

America's Energy, by Robert Engler, 1981, 464 pp., \$7.95 from:
Pantheon Books/Random House
201 E. 50th St.
New York, NY 10022

The fight for an energy supply that is publicly controlled (or at least publicly accountable) is at least as old as the industrial revolution and concurrent shift to a centralized fossil fuel economy. The informed cynicism of *Nation* magazine has been around for a lot of that time, and this collection of a hundred-odd articles offers a rare insight into the progress of that struggle since the turn of the century. *America's Energy* is history at its best: contemporary writers talking about the subtleties of personality and politics that shaped our energy future, events that are as important as, and often the cause of, the flashier revolutions, wars, and crises that have upstaged them in the history books. —KB

Preliminary Comments of the Natural Resources Defense Council on a Cost-Effective Energy Conservation Program for the Pacific Northwest, 3/24/81 Revision, 1981, 95 pp., \$6.00 from:
Natural Resources Defense Council
25 Kearny Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

NRDC's latest contribution to the energy debate in the Pacific Northwest is a detailed discussion of what an effective energy conservation program should look like in the residential sector. It includes a methodology for determining the cost-effectiveness of different conservation options, a shopping list of available conservation techniques and how their life cycle costs compare to new coal and nuclear power plants, and a number of ways that utilities and communities can overcome the financial and institutional barriers to a less centralized energy grid.

This report is largely based on information provided by regional utilities, and its conclusions go a long way towards providing the hard numbers that are needed to counter utility and government claims about the need for more large power plants. The basis for those conclusions is thoroughly documented, and the methodologies they describe should prove to be an important tool for renewable energy advocates nationwide. NRDC is developing similar proposals for conservation in the regional commercial and industrial sectors, and will be updating their reports as needed. —KB



From *Working Together*

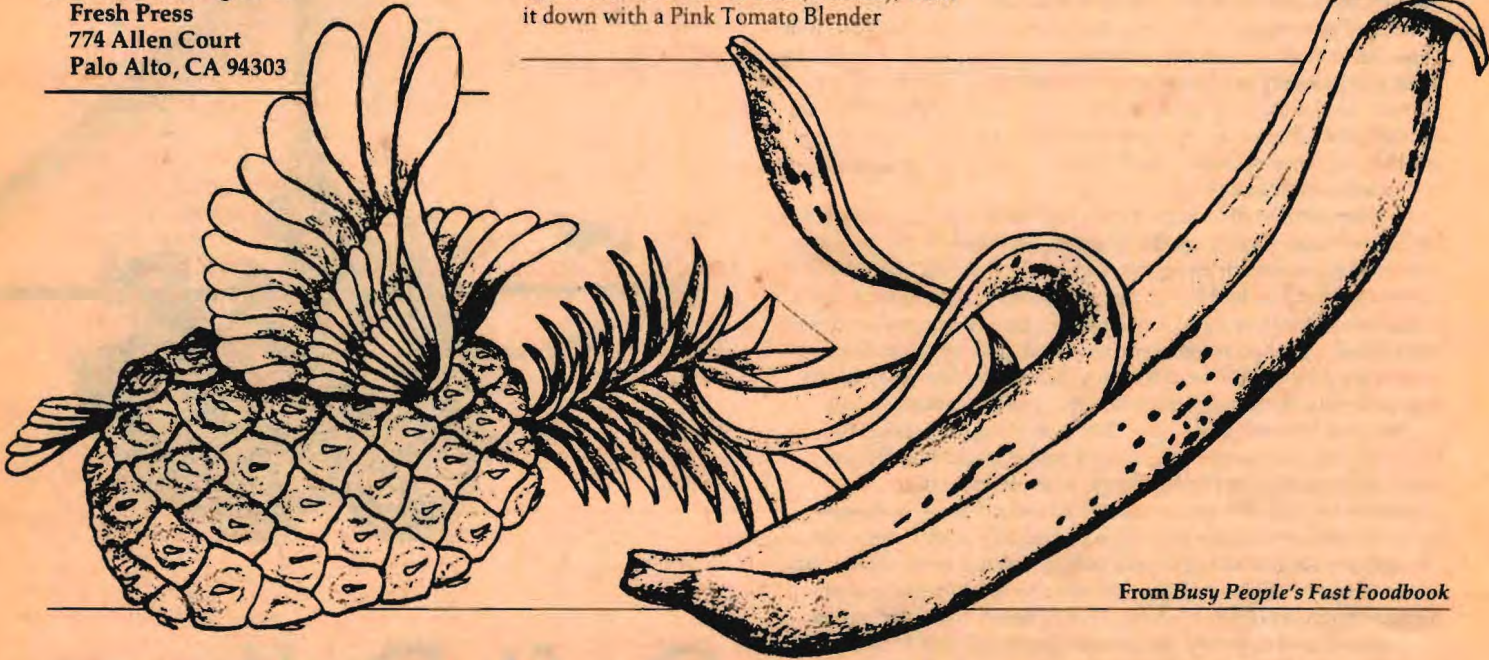
FOOD

The Busy People's Naturally Nutritious Decidedly Delicious Fast Foodbook, by Sharon Elliot, 1977, 117 pp., \$4.95 plus \$.50 for handling from:

Fresh Press
774 Allen Court
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Tired of trying to survive on the carrot sticks and sunflower seeds you manage to grab while careening through the kitchen during the half hour between your yoga class and the community group meeting? You can throw together many of the *Busy People's* recipes in little more time than it will take to read this review. Start with a main course of Pizza Express (tomato sauce, oregano, basil and cheese on a slice of toast, broiled), wash it down with a Pink Tomato Blender

Quencher (yogurt, tomato juice, garlic, worcestershire sauce, salt), and have some Great Balls of Peanut Butter (honey, peanut butter, powdered milk) for dessert. It may not be gourmet, but it's undeniably fast, more inspiring than carrot sticks, and easier on the arteries than Kentucky Fried. Give it a try. —JF



From *Busy People's Fast Foodbook*

TOXICS

Training Materials on Toxic Substances: Tools for Effective Action, two volumes, January 1981, 604 pp., inquire for price, from:

Sierra Club
530 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

Reagan's in the White House and the cows are in the corn. There's chores to be done and times being what they are, Washington may not be the place to do them. *Training Materials* is part of the Sierra Club's effort to mobilize grass roots action against toxics. These two volumes represent an extremely useful strategy. Because careless misuse of chemicals has been so pervasive, it is a rare town or grange hall that couldn't be rallied around a local issue such as a spill or a waste site.

Volume I is designed for the organizer with suggestions that even the seasoned activist might find handy. It prepares a group to take on issues responsibly and to act effectively.

Volume II contains a great collection of articles and documents—an appendix to Volume I—and is an education in itself. *Training Materials* is a comprehensive education, training, and organizing program designed

for anyone serious about toxics control. —James McClements

The recent decades have been marked by two related phenomena: the ecological crusade and the rhetoric of fear. You remember the mercury-in-fish scare? It sounds kind of ancient now, doesn't it? It meant nothing. We are living in a time of hysteria, of cancer mania, and of the idea that, somehow or other, it is incumbent on society to produce a system of life that is totally free of all difficulties, pain, and problems.

We are asking for perfection from an imperfect world inhabited and run by less than perfect people. —Dixie Lee Ray, as quoted in *Training Materials*

Public Policy for Chemicals, by Sam Gusman, Konrad von Moltke, Frances Irwin and Cynthia Whitehead, 1980, 144 pp., \$8.50 plus \$1.50 for handling from: The Conservation Foundation
1717 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

If you thought chemical control was a nightmarish tangle in this country, consider the prospect of expanding across international borders. And consider how wasteful and futile an uncoordinated international chemical control effort would be. *Public Policy* com-

pares almost exclusively the U.S. Toxic Substances Control Act and the European Community's Directive 79/831/EEC, examining issues that policy makers must come to terms with, and dutifully revealing the complexities.

The European Community particularly, as a supranational legislative body, faces extraordinary obstacles. But by focusing so doggedly on these two laws currently undergoing implementation without seriously questioning their efficacy and breadth, *Public Policy* avoids all but the most timid ideological stance, and falls short of its responsibility to come to terms with certain notable issues:

Although the political and economic structure of the West is the playground of the multinationals, and *Public Policy* particularly addresses itself to matters of this scope, there is only a cursory discussion of the role multinationals play. And although this text is subtitled "National and International Issues", the Third World, where corporations will increasingly sell banned pesticides, dump toxic wastes and exploit workers is not even touched upon.

Public Policy is designed "to assist interested members of the public, businessmen (sic), government officials, and legislators." By sticking close to the mechanics of policy decisions, the Conservation Foundation will avoid alienating anyone, but one would have to be a dedicated student of the system in order not to feel that this book comes up short on the issues. —James McClements

By Amory and Hunter Lovins

A few weeks before the election, we asked a Reagan energy staffer how the governor reconciled his free-market ideology with his support of technologies—notably synthetic fuels and giant power stations—that have shown they cannot compete in a free market. His candid, if disquieting, response: "We haven't analyzed that yet."

It is too early to tell whether analysis will prevail in the battle within the Reagan team between the economic conservatives and the corporate socialists. The free marketers favor competition; individual choice, de-subsidization and least-cost solutions. The boardroom boys already are lining up at the federal subsidy trough to resuscitate victims of an incurable attack of market forces. Will the salutary discipline of the marketplace or the whims of bureaucrats and the influence of cronies guide hundreds of billions of dollars of irrevocable investments?

The Department of Energy (DOE) has never followed a least-cost energy strategy: supplying the amount, type and source of energy needed to provide each energy service in the cheapest way. A cost-cutting approach would list on one piece of paper the various ways to provide comfort or light, run trucks or televisions, make steel or bake bread, and then recommend the cheapest ways first. Such a cost ranking by the Harvard Business School energy study found that generally the best buys are efficiency improvements; next, appropriate renewable sources ("soft technologies"); next, synfuels; and last, costliest of all, central power stations. DOE has taken these options in reverse order, worst buys first.

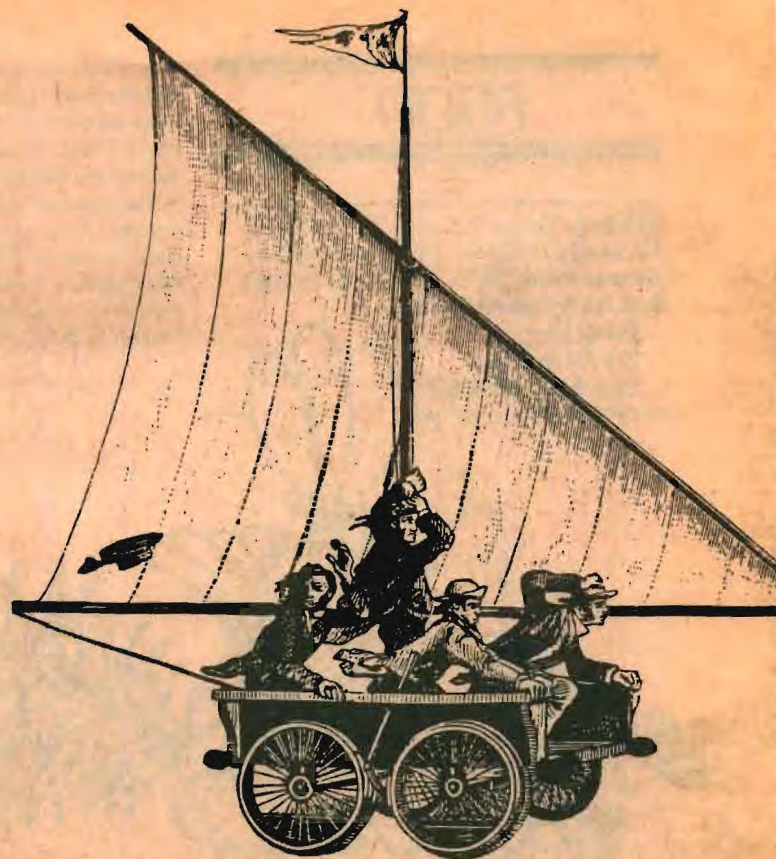
Ninety-two percent of our energy is used as heat or vehicular fuels. The premium uses that can economically justify electricity—the costliest form of energy—are only 8 percent, and are met twice over by today's power stations. Yet electricity irrationally commands 65 percent of DOE's budget for research and development. For synfuels just to get off the ground requires \$20 billion in subsidies and a decade or more. But during 1973-78, the United States already got twice as much energy capacity from raising energy productivity, twice as fast as synfuel advocates claim they can do at 10 times the cost.

In 1979, some 97 percent of U.S. economic growth was fueled by wringing more work from our energy, only 3 percent by increasing energy supply. Millions of individual actions in the marketplace saved money by saving energy, outpacing the centrally planned supply programs by nearly 40 to 1. The second fastest-growing contribution to energy supply has been the vast array of renewable sources. Nuclear power, subsidized by tens of billions of dollars over decades, now delivers about half as much energy as wood.

Roger Sant, federal energy conservation manager in the precious Republican administration, has analyzed in Harvard Business Review a "least-cost energy strategy" of buying the cheapest options. If pursued for the previous decade, it would have cut our 1978 purchases of oil, coal and electricity by about 28 percent, 34 percent, and 43 percent, respectively—while providing the same energy services that we received in 1978 and costing 17 percent *less* than we actually paid for them. A new draft study for John Sawhill (now chairman of the Synthetic Fuels Corporation) finds that a least-cost strategy for 1980-2000, if our GNP increased by two-thirds, could simultaneously reduce total energy use by one-fourth and non-renewable fuel use by nearly half—with no lifestyle changes except a great saving in money and jobs.

Such a conservative policy, removing market imperfections and subsidies so as to "minimize consumer costs through competition" and unleashing the genius of private-enterprise innovation would be the best thing that ever happened to energy policy. It is also consistent with Reagan's opposition to synfuel subsidies and to the Energy Mobilization Board.

Yet among his strongest constituents, lopsidedly represented on his Energy Advisory Board, are the commercial advocates of precisely those energy technologies that cannot withstand competition. We heard such a synfuel promoter proclaim in Wyoming this fall that, although energy efficiency gains and solar energy are laudable, they won't amount to much in this century, so there will be,



Soft Path

he said, a market for his costly synfuel. We responded: "That's fine; that's your business judgement. But you might be wrong. Do you want to put your stockholders' money where your mouth is? Or do you just want to take the profits if you're right and make everyone else pay the costs if you're wrong?" That is, of course, what he wanted; and he was upset to have it described as corporate socialism.

Will Reagan turn out to be a blue conservative or a red socialist? Try these litmus tests:

Will he seek to repeal the synfuels subsidies he opposed?

Will he get DOE's major corporate contractors off welfare and back to work on products they can sell in the marketplace?

Will he allow Westinghouse, et al., who say the Clinch River Breeder Reactor is such a good business deal, to pay for it themselves?

Will he refrain from bailing out the Barnwell reprocessing plant and make the nuclear industry, like the chemical industry, pay for cleaning up its own wastes?

Will he de-subsidize the energy sector? (Solar advocates sought tax credits only because conventional supply enjoys far larger subsidies—tens of billions of dollars per year. It would be better economics not to subsidize either.)

Will he allow a genuinely competitive marketplace to choose between energy conservation and production? Between big and small businesses?

Will he encourage a least-cost, best-buys-first approach to providing energy services (as the California and Idaho Public Utility commissions require of their utilities)?

Will he stop the bailout of Northwest private utilities at public expense, halt TVA's trend toward ruinous overcapacity, and stop

the financing of private utilities' power stations via cheap federal rural-electrification loans?

Will he cancel pork-barrel federal water projects and charge incremental water users truly incremental costs—often tens or hundreds of times what they now pay?



Will he reject lavish, spendthrift measures in favor of lean, cost-effective investments to ensure national security?

These and similar actions could infuriate some powerful constituents. Yet nibbling at the bullet would betray conservative principles and those who voted for them. It would expand unto national insolvency the federal penchant for fiscally irresponsible lemon socialism—throwing taxpayers' money at problems. If the litmus

Nuclear power, subsidized by tens of billions of dollars, now delivers about half as much energy as wood.

paper turns a muddy gray, a major national opportunity for efficient management will have been squandered.

Whether the Reagan administration decisively pursues an energy policy of free-market competition, individual choice and local self-determination or instead caves in expediently to corporate interests, can go far to determine America's energy future—and to reveal whether our President is truly conservative or merely reactionary.

Amory Lovins, a physicist, is the British representative of Friends of the Earth, Inc. L. Hunter Lovins is an attorney.

Hits Hard Times

Sorry, Amory and Hunter, but the DOE is still not listening. In fact they seem less aware these days than usual. Here, for example, are the "New Views of Energy Policy" taken from the DOE staff working paper on the Third National Energy Plan (NEP III). A 1977 law requires the President to submit a biennial National Energy Plan to the Congress. The process involves public hearings around the country to provide input and criticism.

You'll be heartened to learn that all of the "invited state and local government officials" on the regional panel at our San Francisco hearing panned the plan in its "draft for discussion." It will be interesting to see if the final "plan" reflects the input sought, and whether the "Plan" will then be implemented in our Energy Policy, or just sit on a dusty shelf next to NEP I and II. —CC

New approaches will have to be taken to achieve fundamental improvements in the nation's energy picture. The Administration believes that it is important to establish a set of guiding principles:

- The nation's energy problems will be solved primarily by the American people themselves—by consumers, workers, managers, inventors and investors in the private sector—not by the government.

- The government's role is to establish sound public policies, based on economic principles, national security concerns, and a due regard for environmental values, so that individuals and firms in the private sector have the incentives to produce and conserve energy efficiently, consistent with the national interest.

- The government's role is *not* to select and promote favored sources of energy. Doing so risks wasting the nation's resources.

- Formulation of energy policy must be sensitive to the needs of

the poor. But energy policy should not be used as an income transfer program. For example, holding energy prices down for rich and poor alike is an ineffective way to help the poor.

- Federal public spending for energy purposes should be limited to those areas where the private sector is unlikely to invest sufficiently, such as in high cost, long lead time technologies with substantial prospects of high pay-off. Public spending should not be used to subsidize domestic energy production and conservation since this buys us little additional security and diverts capital, workers and initiative from more productive uses elsewhere in the economy.

- The U.S. government should also take steps necessary to deal with potential disruptions in world oil markets. These steps include increasing strategic petroleum stocks and eliminating controls on oil which discourage the private sector from dealing with disruptions effectively.

- The level of oil imports per se is only a rough indicator of the nation's progress in solving its energy problem. The welfare of the American people is inextricably linked to that of people in other countries, so the U.S. cannot insure its own security by a reckless attempt to eliminate imports.

- Energy is an international issue and so the American people have an interest in seeing that other countries establish sound energy policies.

A first, major step has been taken. On January 28, 1981, President Reagan ended the system of controls on the price of oil which for nearly a decade had discouraged both domestic production and conservation. But there remain numerous other barriers to the timely development and efficient utilization of our energy resources. Suggestions are sought from the public on these principles for resolving energy issues. □□

ACCESS

FUTURES

Environmental Education Report, "Futures" (Jan. 1981) and "Renewable Energy" (March 1981), \$2.50 each from:
Center for Environmental Education, Inc.
 Suite 206
 1925 K Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20006

Interested in following up on the *Global 2000 Report*? (See RAIN Nov. '80.) If so, you'll be pleased to know about *EER's* issue on "Futures." It features a variety of articles and reviews on *Global 2000*, including an interview with Dr. Gerald O. Barney, the government's man behind the report. There are also two pages of educational resources that should be helpful to teachers and others trying to convey the impact of *Global 2000* to children and students. *EER's* "Renewable Energy" issue should also be a welcome aid to educators focusing on energy issues. —MR

The Book of Predictions by David Wallachinsky, Amy Wallace and Irving Wallace, 1981, 520 pp., \$12.95 from:
William Morrow and Company
 105 Madison Ave.
 New York, NY 10016

1985: Most family homes have installed flushless toilets that compost wastes. (One brand of toilet uses a sound track that makes a flushing noise whenever the toilet lever is pressed, even though no water is used in the system.)

2000: Computer printout terminals in every neighborhood will publish and bind any book you request right before your eyes.

2010: A robot can now cross a busy highway without being hit.

2030: Spacekind issues a Declaration of Independence from Earthkind.

What do Karl Hess, Timothy Leary, Lane deMoll, Andrei Sakharov, Shere Hite, Robert Rodale, F. Lee Bailey, Isaac Asimov, Amory and Hunter Lovins, Helen Gurley Brown, and Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder, to name a few, have in common? Well, according to *The Book*, they're all "predictors." *The Book* contains their predictions on outer space, wars and disasters, home and family, health, income, science and transportation, leisure, famous people, and just about anything else you can think of. Many of the contributions are truly fascinating.

Taken as a whole, however, *The Book* offers little more than an incoherent mish-

mash of some 4000 predictions. There is no unifying methodology, no cohesion to speak of. While some serious futurists are included in its pages, the end result is a book that sits comfortably on your coffee table, though probably not on your reference shelf.

One section of *The Book* appeals directly to skeptics—those who twenty years ago would have been hard to convince that portable computers, videotape machines, microwave ovens, birth-control pills, heart and kidney transplants, moonwalks, or a U.S. President who would resign from office were plausible developments in the next two decades. Perhaps most amazing in this regard is the story of the French-born prophet Nostradamus who, when he died in 1566, secretly arranged to have a metal plaque buried with him. When his grave was opened in 1700 the plaque was found lying on his skeleton. On it was inscribed the date 1700. —MR

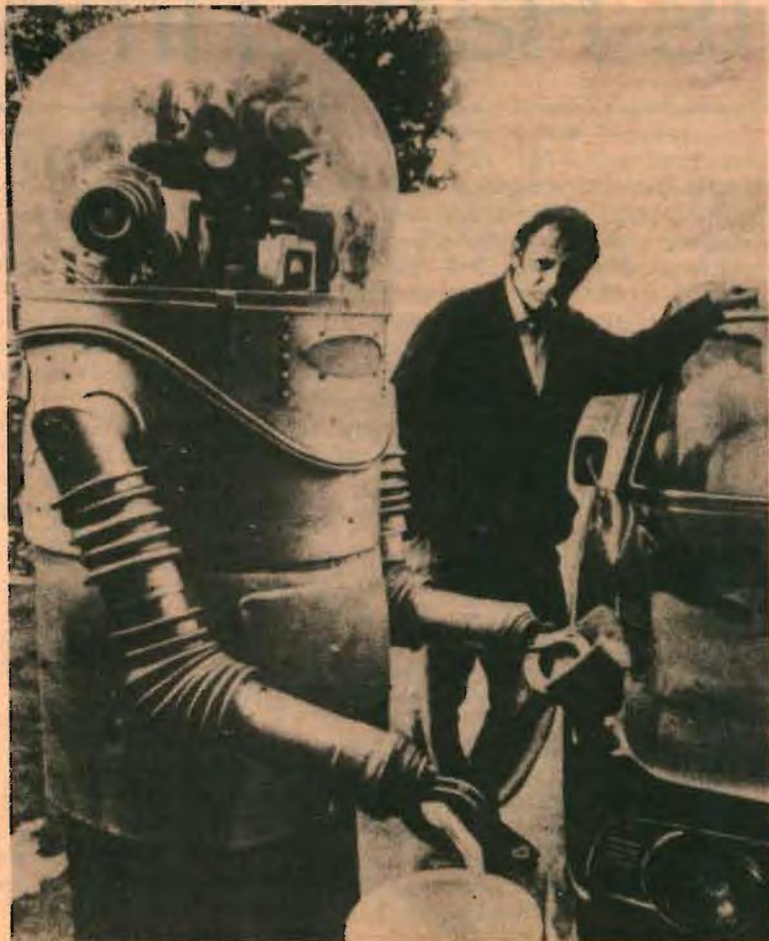
Dreams's Edge: Science Fiction Stories About the Future of Planet Earth, Edited by Terry Carr, 1980, 314pp., \$5.95 from:
Sierra Club Books
 530 Bush St.
 San Francisco, CA 94108

Dream's Edge is a Science Fiction fan's delight and it will be appreciated by everyone with an interest in our future. One might wonder, "Why a Science Fiction book discussed in RAIN?" I found it strange when I first glanced through this collection that it is published by Sierra Club Books. As one begins to read, however, no mystery remains. Terry Carr has assembled twenty well-written Science Fiction stories which all deal with the near future. Sci-Fi has always discussed "what might be" but rarely have I come across any mention, let alone a collection, of avenues for reaching the future.

The first selection, *The Green Marauder* (Larry Niven) sets the stage for the collection by putting our concept of time in perspective. Then Frank M. Robinson's *East Wind, West Wind* demonstrates that not all future scenarios are livable. Terry Carr rounds out the anthology with *Virra*, a haunting story of cognizant love in the final years of Sol's life giving energy.

It gives me pleasure as a reader to find so many new authors mixed in with Poul Anderson, Ursula K. Le Guin and other Sci-Fi masters. This is not a Science Fiction book which seems "unbelievable or implausible." Its issues are our issues, its future is now.

—Dante Gilman



Robot washing car before being allowed to go out and play.

TRAVEL

Easy Going: A Guide to Traveling in Good Health & Good Spirits by Mel London, 1981, 320 pp., \$9.95 from:

Rodale Press, Inc.
Organic Park
Emmaus, PA 18049

Hosteling USA: The Official American Youth Hostels Handbook by Michael Frome, 1981, 250 pp., \$6.95 from:

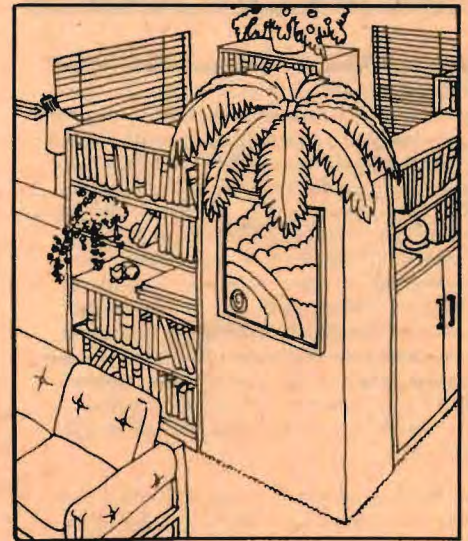
The East Woods Press
820 East Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28203

Virtually any traveler could benefit from one of these books, though few would be apt to use both. *Easy Going* is geared toward the middle-age, middle-class international traveler. In addition to the basics, it covers a wide range of information for travelers with special physical problems—cardiac patients,

diabetics, blind or deaf people, wheelchair travelers. It's also full of great little tidbits that only a very seasoned traveler could offer. For instance, on all U.S. airlines today, if you request a nonsmoking seat they must give you one. If the "no smoking" seats are filled then the next row, on request, must be made a part of that section.

Hosteling USA, on the other hand, is geared toward low-budget, domestic travelers of all ages (not just youth). After years of hosteling in other countries, Americans are now discovering hostels in the U.S. Hosteling provides a way to tour inexpensively, to meet people with similar interests and to gain insight into a culture. Hostels are simple, cooperative facilities that provide clean eating and sleeping accommodations at an average cost of under \$4.00 per night. They are located in national and state parks, cities, small towns and the countryside. As the author of *Hosteling USA* points out, the less money you spend, the more you are apt to learn about the people and places you visit. This new edition provides current listings and descriptions, maps and directions for over 250 American Youth Hostels. —MR

GOOD WORK



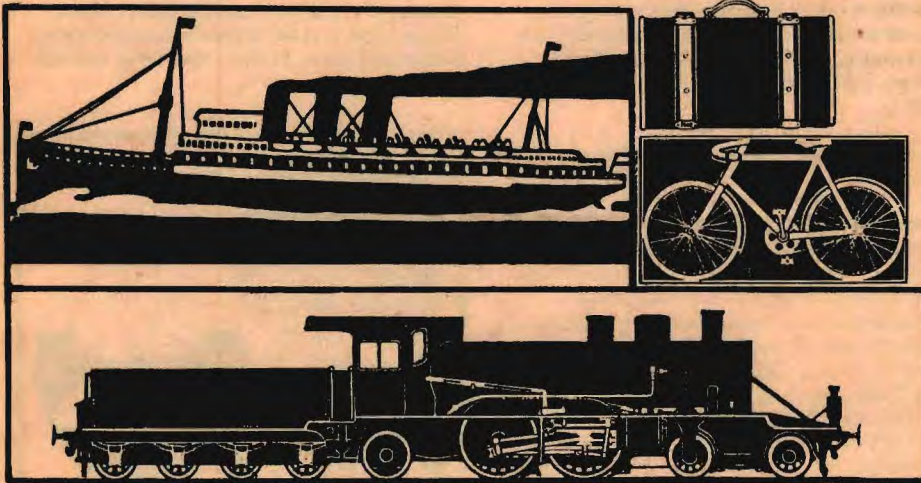
From *Worksteads*

Worksteads: Living and Working in the Same Place, by Jeremy Joan Hewes, 1981, 165 pp., \$9.95 from:

Doubleday/Dolphin Books
245 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

I happen to be one of those people who enjoys living and working in the same place—in my case, Rainhouse. I enjoy it because it is convenient, saves me from commuting, and keeps me close to the typewriters, library and files that are the tools of my trade. I like it because I can take a ten-minute break and cool out in the garden, or take a cup of coffee in my own kitchen between phone calls. I like it for most of the reasons mentioned in this book.

Living and working in the same place also has a generous supply of disadvantages. Drawing lines between work and play (or just *non-work*) is probably the most significant problem. This drawback and others, including systematic constraints, like zoning restrictions and building codes, are also explored by the author. She uses an interesting mixed format, blending concise biographies of seasoned "worksteaders" with resource lists, bibliographies, and specific responses to probable questions. The result is a book that introduces you to the people who are living the lifestyle described (and a likeable lot they seem to be!) while also teaching ways to emulate them. It's a well-balanced survey, a little too "upbeat" maybe (for anyone wanting to know the worst case scenario, ask us), but that positive attitude makes for good reading. Even if you swear by the necessity for "site separation" you'll likely enjoy this book. —CC



PEOPLE

"Refugees: The New International Politics of Displacement," by Kathleen Newland, *Worldwatch Paper #43*, March 1981, \$2.00 from:

Worldwatch Institute
1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Like the international migrant, the refugee of today is an unhappy reminder of the intense pressure being placed on limited world resources by a rapidly growing population. Rivalry over land, food and jobs is combining with the traditional themes of political, ethnic and religious antagonism to produce a fertile breeding ground for violence within and between nations. Violence, in turn, produces displaced populations, and according to

Kathleen Newland the 1980s will almost certainly prove to be a "decade of the refugee" unless great foresight and cooperation between nations is brought to bear.

Beyond immediate humanitarian aid and resettlement assistance, a concerted international effort must be mounted to find more permanent solutions to the refugee dilemma. Individual governments, says Newland, must be held strictly accountable to the community of nations for actions which favor one segment of their population over another and thus provoke mass exodus. An international consensus must be reached on a means to recognize the rights of self-determination of groups within nations (such as the Basques in Spain) without setting off bloody conflicts that produce even more refugees.

No country, Newland contends, is immune to the destabilizing effects of homeless populations and none can justifiably ignore the refugee's plight. Refugees, and the environments which produce them, are everybody's problem. —JF

RUSH

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Peace Corps (has it been *that* long?) and on June 19 and 20 former Peace Corps Volunteers and staff will be participating in the Second National Conference of Returned PCVs and staff at Howard University in Washington, D.C. The agenda includes addresses by prominent Third World and American leaders, individual country-specific seminars, and workshops on community action skills, development issues, and ways to become involved domestically and internationally in community development efforts. For a registration packet or more information, contact Bill Reese, Room M-104, 806 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20525, 202/254-7678.

BIOGAS of Colorado is sponsoring a three-day digestion technician seminar and workshop on June 17-19. Billed as "the best resource available in the methane production field," the seminar will include a broad approach to digesters of many kinds and sizes, combining the practical use of measurement techniques with the theory of digestion. The class is limited to 20 people; only those with an intense interest are encouraged to attend. Write BIOGAS of Colorado, 5611 Kendall Court, Arvada, CO 80002, or call 303/422-4354.

A variety of residential programs along with shorter workshops are being offered this summer by the Farallones Institute Rural Center. Topics of the workshops include solar water heating, edible landscaping, solar space heating, and summer pruning. For detailed brochures send a large self-addressed envelope to Farallones, 15290 Coleman Valley Road, Occidental, CA 95465, or call 707/874-3060.

The tenth annual Rainbow Peace Gathering will take place in Washington State from July 1 to 7. For further information and a map to this free event, contact Box 9712, Seattle, WA 98109, or Box 5577, Eugene, OR 97405.

Wilson Clark will be among the speakers at a one-day conference on global perspectives in renewable energy to be held in Seattle July 2. The event, to be co-sponsored by the UN Development Programme and the Seattle Metro Center YMCA, will be preparatory to the UN international conference on New and Renewable Energy which will take place in Nairobi, Kenya, August 10-21. The Seattle event will consider the effects of both new and traditional energy forms on Third World countries. For further details contact Lisa Hickey, Metro Center YMCA, 909 4th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104, 206/447-3628.

The Farallones Institute, New Alchemy Institute and Chinamerican Corporation announce sponsorship of a series of two- and three-week China study tours between June and December. Participants will be able to select a tour emphasizing either agriculture or renewable energy systems. For details contact China Study Tours, Farallones Institute, 1516 Fifth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, 415/525-8018.

The Farallones Institute Integral Urban House is accepting applications for a house manager. The house manager lives in the Integral Urban House and is responsible for house and site maintenance, as well as participating in other staff responsibilities. For further information, please contact the Integral Urban House, 1516 Fifth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, or call 415/525-1150.

The place-rooted, ecologically adapted educational program of the Wright-Ingraham Institute continues with the eighth summer intensive course in Integrative Studies. Held at the Institute's 640-acre field station on the Colorado High Plains, the nine-week program begins June 15th. Fundamental principles in scientific and cultural disciplines are examined and interrelated with an emphasis on dialogue and field studies. Open to graduate students, upper division undergraduates and other qualified individuals. For further information, contact: Educational Coordinator, Wright-Ingraham Institute, 1228 Terrace Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80904, 303/633-7011.

Buckminster Fuller will be the featured speaker at "World Game '81/Critical Paths to a Sustainable World," held July 17-19 at the International House in Philadelphia. The World Game, developed by Fuller, is an innovative global planning tool to engage in the development of strategies for making the world work for 100 percent of humanity. For registration information write the World Game, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

The Federation of Southern Cooperatives is a service, resource and advocacy association for a constituency of 30,000 low-income families organized into 100 cooperatives in rural communities across the South. Its Rural Training and Research Center is located near Epes, Alabama, where workshops provide training in cooperative organization, management, accounting, marketing, and other skills. Co-ops: A Tool for Rural Economic Development, June 29-July 1; Cooperative Principles and Philosophy, June 15-19 and September 21-25; and Bookkeeping for Cooperatives, July 20-24, are among the programs being offered. For more information contact Alice Paris at the Federation of Southern Cooperatives, Rural Training and Research Center, P.O. Box 95, Epes, AL 35460, 205/652-9676.

The 6th International Festival for Mind-Body-Spirit is being held June 20-28 in Olympia, London. This year Friends of the Earth, in celebration of their 10th anniversary, will present the main feature of the festival, a landscaped garden forest showing how our environment affects us and how we, in turn, affect our environment. Over 70,000 visitors are expected to attend lectures, workshops, demonstrations, and the Health and Healing Center. Write Lisha Simester, 159 George Street, London W1H 5LB, United Kingdom, Tel. 01-723-7256.

WHOOOPS! "Jobs for the '80s," announced here last month, is out of a job. Due to the Labor Department's termination of their CETA Project at the end of May, the Center for Community Change (CCC) has been forced to cancel the conference scheduled for June 16-19. CCC is still hoping for a multi-issue national conference with an emphasis on employment and training in the fall. You can contact them at 1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20007, 202/338-4712.

"Soyfoods in America" is the theme of the fourth annual Soycrafters Association conference on producing and marketing soyfoods. This full-spectrum conference, covering every aspect of soyfoods from commercial to the home level, is being held July 8-12 at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. The conference features classes, demonstrations, seminars, a soyfoods exposition, and a tofu cheesecake bake-off. For a complete conference brochure, contact 100 Heath Road, Colrain, MA 01340, 413/624-5591.

Jordan College, Cedar Springs, Michigan, is offering a solar tour to England and France August 22 to September 6 to coincide with ISECE Congress in Brighton, England. The tour is co-sponsored with Mother Earth News and Solar Age magazines. The college's energy program schedule for the summer includes workshops in Building Your Own Solar System, June 20; Advanced Solar Energy for Homeowners, July 10-11; Wind Energy Conversion Systems, July 25; Alternative Fuels, August 8. For details on either the tour or the summer program, contact Linda Bouwkamp, Energy Programs, Jordan College, 360 West Pine Street, Cedar Springs, MI 49319.

The summer program at the Rural Education Center will include courses in Permaculture Design, Post and Beam Construction, Bio-Dynamic Agriculture, Soil, Plant and Animal Husbandry. For more information contact Susan Stepick at the Rural Education Center, Stonyfield Farm, Wilton, NH 03086, 603/654-9625.



The Human Side of Energy is a forum whose goal is to increase participant awareness and understanding of the potential positive and negative impacts of resource development on communities, with the net effect of higher quality planning, management and decision making on the part of communities, governments, and developers. The Forum will take place August 16-19 at the University of Alberta, Edmonton. Write for a brochure c/o the Faculty of Extension, Corbett Hall, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2G4, Canada.

New Living and Learning weekend workshops on self-sufficient, cooperative life-styles are being offered by a community in Southeastern Ohio. Workshop features include "An Introduction to Building Your Own Low-Cost Passive Solar Heated Home," and "Discussions on Rural Cooperative Living." For more information write Sunflower Farm, c/o Bruce Sabel, Rt. 1, Box 90, Amesville, Ohio 45711.

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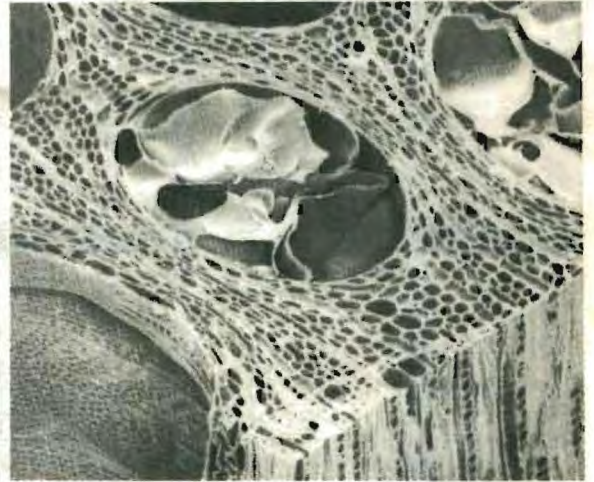
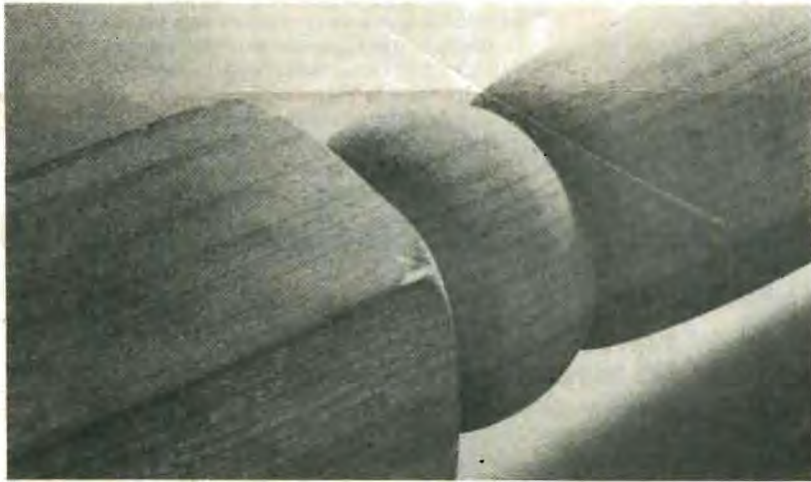
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