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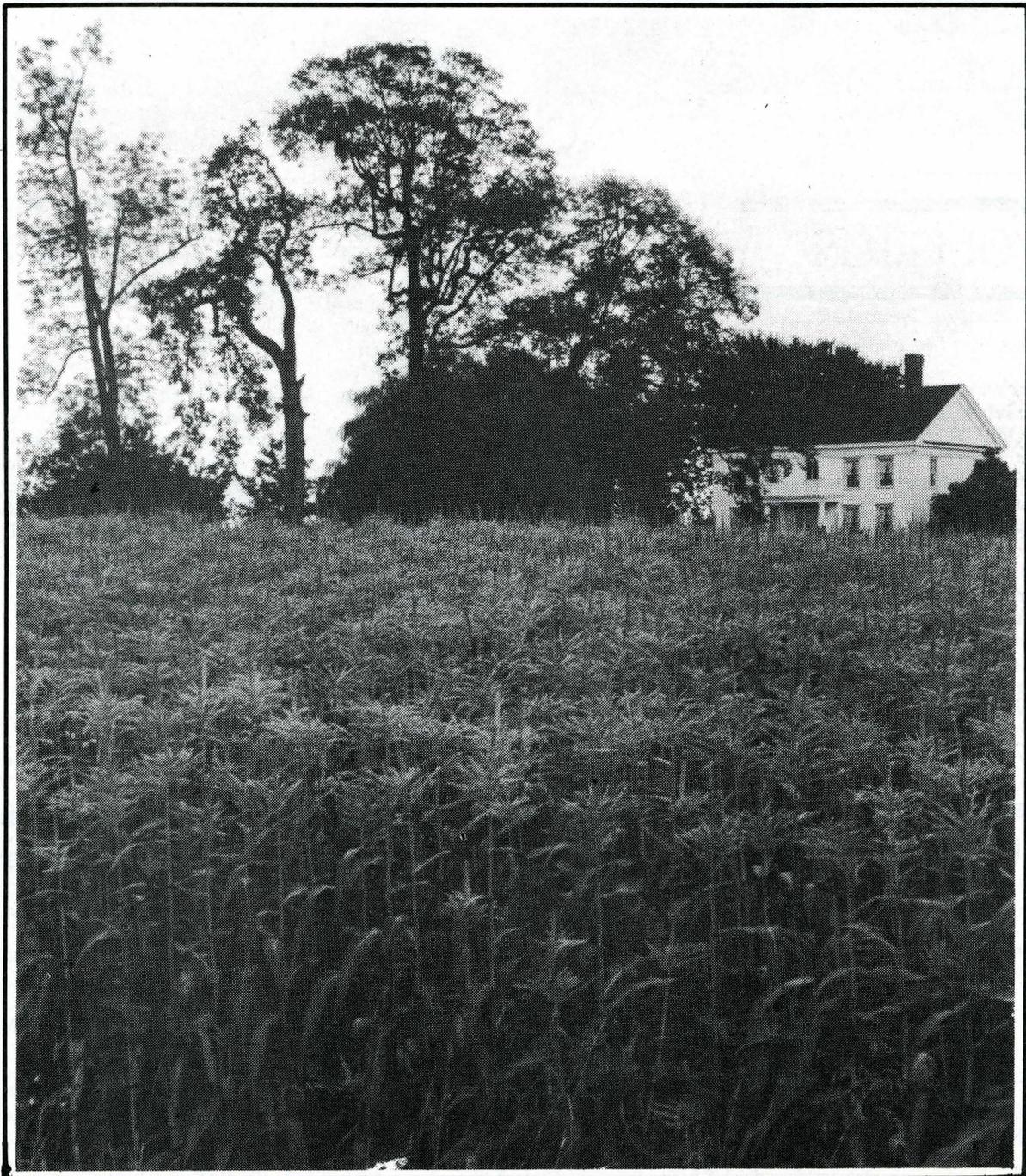
RAIN

Index to the First Seven

Pollyanna Power Policy

Life Before Doomsday

OUR EIGHTH YEAR!



Volume VIII No.1

\$1.50 No Advertising

LETTERS

Dear RAIN,

Your review of my book *Solar Retrofit* in your July 1981 issue shows a lack of understanding regarding the construction of site built solar retrofits. Site built solar retrofits demand good carpentry skills and extreme care in material selection and detailing. It is not a good project for someone unfamiliar with construction. While a good carpenter can construct an effective solar collector, efficient, long lasting collectors demand the use of materials and details rarely encoun-

tered in conventional construction. The information in my book is based on experience gained from over thirty solar retrofits. The engineering, carpentry, and home owner experience gained from these systems has been found to be extremely useful by hundreds of people presently duplicating these systems. I think your readers would agree.

Sincerely,
Daniel Reif
Amherst, MA

The beauty of passive solar is that it is an appropriate technology, i.e., a technology that is buildable and understandable to people who are not professional carpenters or solar designers. My criticism of Mr. Reif's book is based on his exclusion of the average person by the use of carpenter's jargon. We should be bringing people into the solar movement, not alienating them. —Gail Katz

ACCESS

POLITICS

The Congress Watcher, bimonthly, \$5/yr. from:

Congress Watch
215 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20003

Published by Ralph Nader's Public Citizen organization, this newspaper provides the best coverage you're likely to find anywhere of happenings in today's frighteningly rightward-leaning Washington. Included are in-depth analyses of the potential impacts of current bills before Congress, interviews with Congresspeople of all political persuasions, and background information on who's been paying for whose campaign in the hopes of getting what.

Nearly all the good news in *The Congress Watcher* lately has come from outside of

Washington. Reports from grassroots groups around the country, working hard on such projects as halting the Clinch River Breeder Reactor and saving the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, help to temper the tales of Pinheads along the Potomac. The message is a clear one: if the *Congress Watcher* staff is ever to have much upbeat news to report on in the nation's capitol, more of us are going to have to join forces with those fine folks out in the field. —JF

Revolt From the Center, by Neils I. Meyer, K. Helveg Petersen, and Villy Sorensen, 1981, 186pp., \$7.95, from:

Marion Boyars Publishers, Inc.
99 Main Street
Salem, NH 03079

This book by three Danes—a physicist, a politician, and a philosopher—sold 120,000 copies when first published in Denmark in 1978 and was "vigorously discussed and ana-

lyzed in public and by the mass media."

Now why can't we have a country like that? The day this book is read by 5 million Americans (the equivalent proportion of the population) will be the same day *Rain* outsells *Time* and Ronald Reagan is an aging television actor.

The sad truth, though, is that this book *ought* to be read by that many people.

These three remarkable men have done something I thought was impossible—they've drawn together the best ideas of liberalism, humanism, and marxism into one coherent, devastating critique of modern society. What they propose to take its place is a society that emphasizes economic equality, democratic decentralization, human development and ecological balance. (Sounds like something you'd hear about in *Rain*, doesn't it?)

The first half of the book is taken up by their critique of present industrial society and the laying of a philosophical foundation for a better one. The other half is a confessedly "utopian" model of the better society to

Vol. VIII No. 1

RAIN

October 1981

Journal of Appropriate Technology

RAIN Magazine publishes information which can lead people to more simple and satisfying lifestyles, help communities and regions become economically self-reliant, and build 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, Scott Androes, Tanya Kucak. Linnea Gilson, Graphics and Layout

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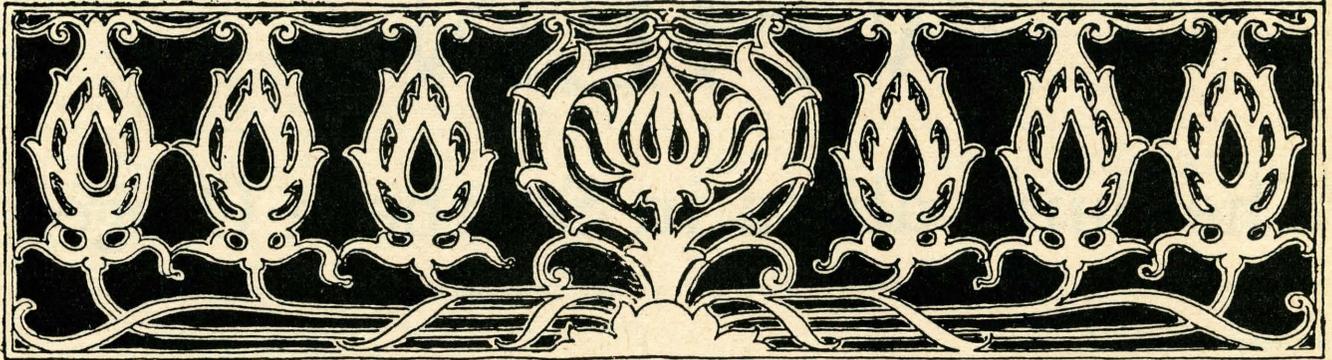
come and thoughts on how to get there. The critique is excellent; the utopia is not.

Their ability to draw together disparate points of view and use the result to punch gaping holes in accepted paradigms is a sight to behold. And such clear, common sense prose, too!

Unfortunately, they fumble the ball when it comes to articulating their vision—it simply doesn't hold together as a social model. Naive, simplistic and unworkable are words that come to mind. But that is only a question of technique and in no way diminishes the overall validity of their criticisms of the status quo—a critique, incidentally, which is

firmly grounded in a clearly articulated set of moral values and assumptions about human nature.

This book only adds to the suspicion I've long had that those Europeans are way ahead of us when it comes to designing societies right. —SMA



GOOD WORDS

Plain Talk, by David Jarmul, 1981, 76pp., \$4.95, from:
Volunteers in Technical Assistance
3706 Rhode Island Ave.
Mt. Rainier, MD 20822

Ever since Reagan "hit the ground running" and Haig was "impacted negative wise" the less-sense, mumbo-jumbo we've all been guilty of has itself been a subject of much study. Whatever happened to "plain talk?"

I remember the first list of "buzz words." They were tools for creating the impression that I was erudite—er—smart. Well, most people don't care how smart we are. If we've got something to say we might just as well spit it out as spend time composing it. The problem is, many of us don't remember how to talk. Nor do we know how to tell whether anyone knows what we're talking about, and so we end up being, at best, boring. Have you ever tried to talk to your next door neighbor about "appropriate technology"? "It is hard enough to understand a new concept. . . . Difficult language makes it harder."

Given that premise and this book you can learn to assess your use of the language, test your writing readability and restructure your vocabulary—painlessly. One section, the "Gunning Fog Index" (aptly named) is a little test to help you grade your writing. It was too complicated for me, but the rest of the book is more straightforward.

So, the next time you feel like impacting and nurturing a critical mass for restructuring the social priorities within a cultural milieu, take a deep breath, count to ten, and reach for this book. It'll help. —CC

A Thousand Thoughts on Technology and Human Values, by Edward J. Gallagher, 1979, 92pp., \$3.00, from:

Humanities Perspectives on
Technology Program
Maginnes Hall NO. 9
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Wise Words on the Good Life, by Helen Nearing, 1980, 173pp., \$9.95, from:

Schocken Books
200 Madison
New York, NY 10016

Good quotes, as author Gallagher says, articulate dimly held feelings, wrestle with strongly held convictions, and unleash new thoughts. They carry us inward to discover new things about our own thoughts, at the same time as they alert us to other points of view.

For people trying to create a new world, though, the old familiar Bartlett's can seem pretty musty and out-of-touch. That's where these two come in; you might call them quotations for a New Age. Great fun to browse through in a quiet moment. —SMA

Some examples:

While civilization has been improving our houses it has not equally improved the men who are to inhabit them.

—Thoreau

*When the sun rises, I go to work
When the sun goes down, I take a rest
I dig the well from which I drink,
I farm the soil that yields my food,
I share creation, Kings can do no more.*

—Ancient Chinese, 2500 B.C.

In the Shining Mountains, by David Thomson, 1981 paperback edition, 268pp., \$3.95, from:

Bantam Books
666 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10103

Haven't got around to that summer vacation yet? Well lace up your boots, load your rifle, grab your pack and head into the northern Rocky Mountains with David Thomson on a thoroughly enjoyable quest for the last piece of wild country in America.

Along the way you'll feel how the early mountain man must have felt to explore a truly wild territory and feel himself a part of nature. Then you'll know how saddened David Thomson was to realize that such wildness no longer exists in the continental U.S.

He went to the wildest regions of the Rocky Mountains—country where you hike in for two weeks to reach a valley no one has seen for forty years—only to find that he was too late. The advance guard of the American monied class is already closing in on the few remaining spots that are untarnished and before long they will ruin them.

Thomson describes the loss so vividly and poignantly that it makes your heart ache just wishing you could have been a mountain man in 1820. But this is the 1980's, not the 1820's, and we have to learn to deal with our affluence rather than escape it, says Thomson. His thoughts on values for our society combine wilderness ethics, spiritual discovery, and 1960's political awareness in a truly inspiring fashion.

Read this book for vicarious vacationing; remember it for the social message. —SMA

APOCALYPSE WHEN?

The Survivalists in Southern Oregon

© By Mark Roseland

In the southwest corner of Utah a 240-unit underground condominium development is nearing completion. It is equipped with all kinds of provisions for surviving nuclear fallout contamination, including a year's supply of food in each unit. The units sell for up to \$80,000.

Outside of Portland, Oregon an architect is designing homes which feature expensive, integrated energy systems, multi-fuel appliances, fallout shelters, food and fuel storage tanks, vandal-resistant roll-down shutters, and doors that lock automatically. The homes sell for about \$250,000—and business is booming.

What's a Survivalist?

I grew up in New England, where winter can sometimes be severe. I can remember blizzards that not only decommissioned roads, but literally snowed in our one-story house, forcing the family to remain inside for days at a time. For years my parents have kept an extra supply of canned and frozen foods, grains, and other essentials in the basement. They think nothing of it—it's just part of living in New England, and thousands of people do it. You're not apt to read about people like my parents as survivalists—there are far more colorful folks to read about. But it's worth noting that while Survivalists with a capital "S" may be relatively few, their small "s" counterparts are many.

Grants Pass, Oregon is apparently a hotbed of Survivalist activity. Several articles and television reports indicate the area is full of crazies hoarding food and guns, hiding up in the hills in armed bunkers ready to shoot at the first question. Grants Pass is only a couple tanks of gas from Portland, so of course I had to go look for myself.

Except for an imaginary broken line, southern Oregon might as well be part of California. The green Cascade foothills are dotted with ponderosa pine, scrub oak and madrone. In Josephine County summer is dry, the roads dusty, and land not irrigated by river water or wellsprings is positively parched.

Interstate 5, running North-South, is the only major road going up and down the numerous mountain passes. Nestled within these peaceful hills is Grants Pass, population 17,000, the major town in the valley. Sixth Street, the one-way main strip, has some fast food joints and used car lots, but for the most part is wall-to-wall real estate companies. The Rogue River cuts through town, providing tremendous beauty and significant revenue. Tourism, especially in the form of white-river rafting, is big money here. So is marijuana.

Arched over Sixth Street in white neon is the proclamation: "It's the Climate!" Indeed, the climate accounts for both the tourism and the pot, and contributes to the creation of a Survivalist mecca. So does the fact (see map) that this area would be one of the safest places in the U.S. in the event of a nuclear attack. It's also more than a tankful of gas from either Portland or San Francisco, the nearest major population centers. For these reasons the late Mel Tappan, author of *Survival Guns* (considered by some to be the Bible of the Survivalist movement), chose to live in this valley.

Without exception the Survivalists I talked to want one thing: to mind their own business and for you to mind yours.

Survivalist paranoia, at least around Grants Pass, is readily understandable. For quite some time the area has been under siege by headline-happy reporters who have sensationalized the county almost beyond recognition. CBS, *The New York Times*, Associated Press and dozens of other national and local media have all been here, ostensibly to give you a survivalist profile. For the most part they have portrayed a "hard-core" Survivalist, a doomsaying war-mongering hoarder who is a fiscal hypochondriac and probably a gun nut, someone who sacrifices vacations to buy antiquated 1962 cans of dehydrated civil defense biscuits, converts paper money into silver, and moves to the country long before it is time to retire.

There *are* Survivalists here who fit this description, but most of them have at least as good a common-sense to lunacy ratio as the rest of the population. The "hard-cores," according to one of the "soft-cores" I interviewed, are "just a handful of guys who like to keep track of everything going on in town, who's moving in and out. They're sort of the Ku Klux Klan of Grants Pass."

Portrait of a Survivalist

Survivalists are a private sort. Most don't like to be identified as Survivalists, as they don't want people to know about their stockpiles of food and supplies. In particular, you don't hear much about the "soft-cores," mostly because they aren't headline material.

And they don't much like reporters, especially after all the recent media attention. After a few days in Grants Pass, though, I did manage to get a fascinating interview with a woman I would consider a fairly typical survivalist—on the condition, of course, that I not print her real name.

Alice Johnston runs her own real estate company out of her home and has "a lot of income property" in Grants Pass. The 66-year-old Minnesota native says she always believed in natural foods because she grew up on a farm. "Once you've been on a farm, you never really get it out of your system."

Alice was married in 1941. She and her husband chose to move to Grants Pass 35 years ago because it was considered one of the safest places to live in regard to atomic fallout. They'd gone through the war, he'd survived the German bombing of England thanks to fallout shelters, and so they "were conscious of that sort of thing."

A few years ago Alice bought, or "fell into," as she puts it, 5 acres of land outside of Grants Pass. Her latest project now is to drill a second well on the property to provide water "in the event that the irrigation water becomes limited, which I think it will." Recently she bought a rototiller and is currently buying two cows and two heifers. The land has hay on it, and when the hay is cut she'll put the cows on. Eventually she plans to get goats—they'll eat the blackberries that abound on the property.

Alice thinks it is a good idea to be prepared for either a national or local disaster, so she has about 1000 lbs. of dried food put away in plastic containers. Taken together, the containers of grains, beans, lentils, and so on occupy a relatively small space, roughly 5' x 2½' x 4', small enough to fit under a table.

White-haired Alice is a "soft-core" Survivalist. Her stockpile includes food, water, and liquid soap ("for cleanliness and to pre-

vent disease") but no guns. When I asked her if she could foresee a need for firearms, she said she thought that was going too far. "If it gets to that point, you've had it—it's too late. Why would you want to last up in the hills? What good would it do? Let's say armed guards took over Grants Pass—how long could you survive?" (Quite a while if you're prepared, according to Bruce Clayton—see access.)

When Alice and her husband first came to Grants Pass they were thinking, like many others at the time, about fallout shelters. But everyone here seems to have forgotten about them. "The Russians haven't forgotten about fallout shelters. They, I understand, have

"Let's say armed guards took over Grants Pass—how long could you survive?"

all kinds of underground shelters prepared for their people." Alice thinks that we in the U.S. should be similarly prepared.

"It's propaganda that has caused us not to do it, I mean the lack of being military-minded. For the last 20 years it seems like our government has gotten away from thinking about military things, and I think we've made a terrible mistake, not to keep that in mind. Those underground facilities could be used for other things during normal times. You could have schools underground . . . you're building plants above ground all the time. Why not build them underground, and use them on an emergency basis? Subways could be built. Eugene could have subways, Portland could have subways, then utilize them for emergencies. I think it'd be an excellent idea! I think the government has been very lax in thinking about the safety of our people."

As far as Pentagon-style militarism goes, says Alice, "The best defense is a strong offense—that pretty well speaks what I feel." She has no political affiliations other than being a Republican, and thinks the Reagan administration is a great and long overdue step in the right direction. "I think he's done a fantastic job in his short term of office."

When asked what kinds of things she reads, Alice replies that she gets much of her information from what she laughingly calls "gloom and doom" newsletters, including Howard Ruff's \$145/yr. *Ruff Times* (see review of Ruff's *How To Prosper During the Coming Bad Years*—access).

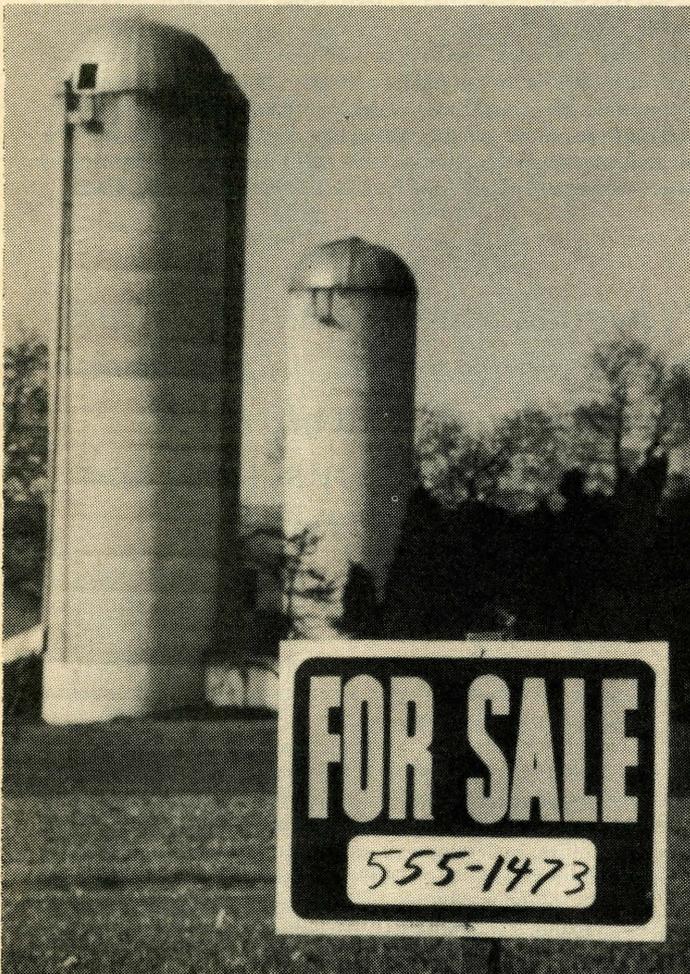
Alice doesn't think the Survivalists have had a big effect on Grants Pass. Many of her real estate customers are simply looking for "privacy." "I think it's a good influence, whatever they might be doing. We need more people to be down-to-earth, working the soil. The more that we can provide for ourselves, whichever way it might be, I think is good."

What lies ahead? Alice thinks her past experience has given her a good eye to see what's around the bend. "I understand what survival really and truly means, because I lived in the '20s and '30s when banks went under and everyone was forced to . . . well, the problems that we encountered were very severe, and they probably will be that way again. Maybe. We hope not, but maybe they will."

New Age Chicken Littles?

Ever since the Great Moral Question of the early '60s became whether you'd shoot your neighbor if he tried to get into your fallout shelter, survivalism and guns have seemed related topics. — David Sarasohn, *Oregon Magazine*, December 1980.

Survival gear has become big business. Standard merchandise



From A Better Place to Live

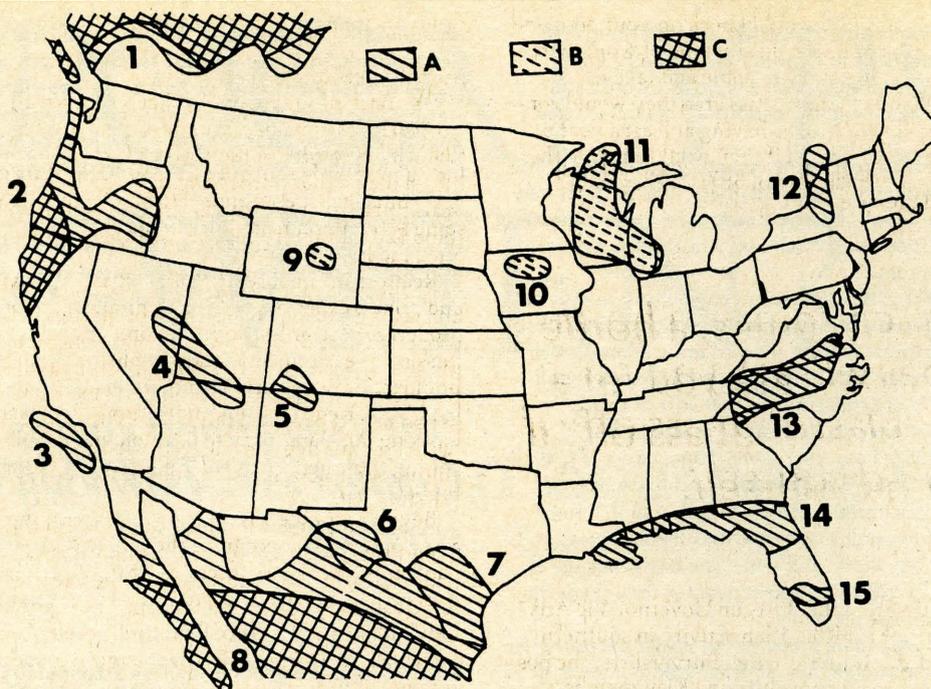


FIGURE 8: Fallout-free Areas of the United States. Type A refugees have less than a 2 percent chance of receiving fallout if all primary targets are hit at ground level. Type B refugees are unlikely to receive

fallout other than that generated in nearby missile fields. Type C refugees are unlikely to receive fallout even if all domestic targets are hit at ground level.

From Life After Doomsday

includes gun vaults, blast-proof boxes for burying valuables, German air rifles, ammunition, radiation suits and 2,000 gallon tanks for water and fuel.

A crossbow costs about \$300. You can buy a gun vault, which holds about a dozen guns, for \$1500, while for another \$90 you can get a radiation suit. A year's supply of pre-packaged food, equal to a diet of about 2400 calories per day for one person for one year, costs from \$1000 to \$1500.

The primary customers for self-sufficiency wares over the years have been Mormons and John Birch Society members. Sales picked up in 1976 after a Mormon conclave reaffirmed the church's long-held recommendation to store a year's supply of food in case of famine or pestilence. Recently, though, media focus on survivalism has brought in a whole new clientele: lawyers, doctors, movie stars, businessmen, law enforcement people, and members of the military (do they know something we don't?).

The Hy-Land Texaco station in Merlin, just north of Grants Pass, doubles as the home of Liberty Arms, a "survival gear" shop that specializes in guns. They are perhaps the core of the "hard-core" in this area, catering to Survivalists, not sportsmen. I was advised there that in procuring weapons for survival it is important to "keep up with the Joneses," only in this case "Jones" is the U.S. military. Otherwise you might have trouble obtaining the right ammunition. "You wouldn't want to be stuck with a 30.06."

Guns are a good investment. The better ones have doubled in price in the last year, and their resale value is high. I was advised to buy the three latest military rifles (of various gauge) and a .45 pistol for my side. Without ammunition they'd run me about \$2000. If I could afford one gun, the choice would be the new Atchisson Assault 12.

The Atchisson Assault 12 is a semi-automatic rifle with a 20-shot drum magazine. It's solid and easily maintained, and can fire 12-gauge shot or slugs as fast as you can pull the trigger. Advertised as "the ultimate home defense weapon," the gun sells for about \$500. The manufacturer quotes the Book of Joel (3:10) in the advance deposit agreement: "Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong."

The two men I talked to at Liberty Arms, the owner and a customer, claimed that candles and kerosene are a better investment than solar. They told me Reagan is an improvement over the softy Presidents but he isn't going far enough. They described how the Communist bloc countries owe the World Bank \$80 billion which will cause economic collapse here when they default. And they explained how when the crunch comes (be it nuclear war, natural disaster, economic collapse, or a trucker's strike), a horde of black,

"I lived in the '20s and '30s when banks went under and everyone was forced to . . . well, the problems were very severe, and they probably will be again."

Chicano, or Mexican fifth generation welfare types will come knocking on your door asking for a handout and will "blast your ass off" if you can't defend yourself.

The owner, who after participating in a Bible study group seven years ago left a high-paying job in Los Angeles to come to Grants Pass, acknowledged that one family seemed a little small for a survivalist network, and said he was working toward a group of 5-10 survivalist families, each with well-stocked retreats within walking distance of the others. "I'd want to have at least 10 adult males in my group." He also noted that "women are going to have to learn how to do laundry and domestic chores the way their grandmothers did, without modern conveniences."

"People today don't have the morals of people 30 years ago," said the customer, himself a franchiser of dehydrated survival foods.

"Why, during the Depression, a guy would knock on your door and ask if he could chop wood, pick oranges, do any kind of work in exchange for a meal. Today they'll just try to come and take it."

I asked how many people in the Grants Pass area they would consider "hard-core" Survivalists, defined as having at least a year's supply of food and weapons. I wondered if they would agree with the fellow who said it was "just a handful of guys." They didn't. The number, they assured me, was "hundreds."

When the crunch comes, a horde of welfare types will ask you for a handout and "blast your ass off" if you can't defend yourself.

Earlier this year it was reported that Oregon Governor Vic Atiyeh was disturbed by reports of Ku Klux Klan activity in southern Oregon. After talking with a few "hard-core" Survivalists, the possibility of some overlap between Survivalists and Klan members seemed quite plausible. According to sources at the American Civil Liberties Union, the Oregon Attorney General's Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, though, there does not seem to be any such overlap. However, as Mike Bahala of the Klanwatch Project in Montgomery, Alabama pointed out to me, there is a philosophical connection in that, like many Survivalists, Klansmen and Nazis actively envision some sort of Armageddon—characteris-

tically including a racial and religious war.

Survivalists and survivalists

OK. Back to square one. What's a Survivalist?

Clearly, Survivalists are consumers in a fast-growing industry that's making a lot of money by playing on people's fears. Survival, Inc., a mail-order outfit in Carson, California grosses \$1 million a year. Survivalist economist Howard Ruff (see access) has made some \$20 million from sales of his books, newsletter and freeze-dried foods.

Realtors in supposedly "safe" areas are having a field day buying and selling expensive "retreat" properties (sometimes the same property three or four times in one year) with a 6-10 percent commission at each turn. Certain publishing houses, such as Paladin in Boulder, Colorado are cashing in on a virtual catalogue of survivalist books. Kephart Communications in Alexandria, Virginia even has long-time appropriate technologist Karl Hess (see RAIN, VII:2) editing their new *Survival Tomorrow*, an 8-page monthly that sells for \$60/year.

Beyond profiteering, Survivalists (with the exception of Hess and a few others who recognize the importance of community) are perhaps the most vivid expression of the vagaries of the profit system: Survivalists epitomize capitalism. The capitalist ethic of rugged individualism, of "every man for himself," is the foundation of Survivalism, casting a pall over a more cooperative, "one for all, all for one" ethic.

There are Survivalists and there are survivalists. Thousands of people everywhere are preparing themselves to survive hard times, whether induced by nature or by economics; working toward individual and community self-reliance. The major difference between "soft-core" and "hard-core" Survivalists may be guns. But between little "s" and big "S" Survivalists there exists a quieter and more profound difference.

Ultimately, what distinguishes you as a Survivalist with a big "S" is not the supplies you have in the basement but how you answer this question: Is nuclear war survivable?

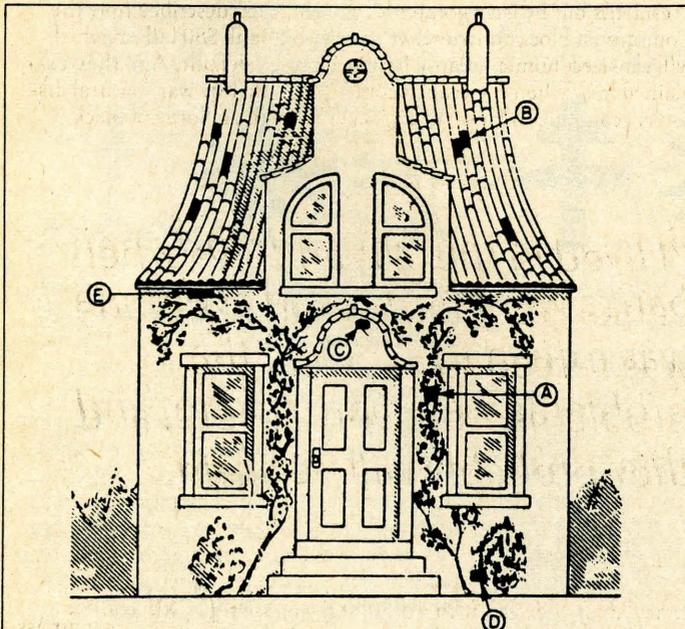
How do you answer that?

You can gather maps, documents, statistics, charts—information 'til it comes out your ears. You'll find "experts" like Survivalist Bruce Clayton saying you're apt to survive a nuclear attack whether you want to or not, and "experts" like economist John Kenneth Galbraith saying that surviving a nuclear attack would be a worse nightmare than not surviving it. Perhaps the difference is in how you define "survival." If your definition is in purely biological terms, your answer is likely to be more optimistic than if your definition is in physical, social, psychological and political terms.

Information cannot, in the end, provide the answer—for it's a question of belief. And for many the question is a religious one. They note that the Scriptures warn of a catastrophic period of tribulation involving famine, earthquakes, economic collapse, and possible nuclear Armageddon—and that the moment of truth is fast approaching. With confidence in the American way of life at an all-time low and powerlessness at an all-time high, you can hardly blame people for looking for direction to cushion themselves from the bumpy ride ahead. Is it any wonder that the sudden growth and interest in the Survivalist "movement" coincides so neatly with the rise of the Moral Majority?

The Survivalists (both big "S" and small) I met in Grants Pass are not out to hurt you. If anything they are trying, through their own peculiar form of self-reliance, to combat helplessness. I am convinced that even those who admitted having a cache of weapons are thinking of defense, not aggression. Eccentric, perhaps—or maybe just wiser than the rest of us. Only time will tell. But without exception, the Survivalists I talked to want one thing: to mind their own business and for you to mind yours.

The only Survivalists who pose a threat to the rest of us are those who have captured both the market and the media. Unwittingly, perhaps, they have helped shift the discussion away from prevention of nuclear war toward preparation for it. □□



- A Loophole behind vine.
- B Tiles lifted on roof. Dark patches are painted on roof as dummy loopholes.
- C Loophole under shadow of porch.
- D Loophole at ground level behind bush.
- E Loophole under the eaves. Dummies should be painted all along under the gutter.

FIGURE 33: Technique of fortifying a house. Diagram shows methods of hiding loopholes to avoid the necessity for firing through windows. (From *Combat in Fortified and Built-up Areas*. United States Army Field Manual Number 31-50, 10 March 1964.)

Survival School?

In several of my conversations in southern Oregon, reference was made to a "survival school" up in the hills near Grants Pass. Everyone had something to say about it, but almost no one had actually been there and seen the place. I decided to check it out.

Just outside of Grants Pass, in Selma, is a beautiful ranch property of about 370 acres, with 5 small lakes and several buildings, including a main farmhouse, shop, barn and dormitories. The people who run Tall Timber Ranch consider it a "training center" for rural skills, although to hear some of the townspeople talk about the place you'd think it housed the last vestiges of Jim Jones. The owner, Roy Masters, bought it just after the Jonestown incident in Guyana in 1978, and somehow the cult stigma has never completely left the place. It's understandable.

Roy Masters lives in Los Angeles and only visits the ranch occasionally. If you don't recognize the name, you're not one of the millions of people nationwide, especially in southern California, who listen to the man's syndicated radio program "A Moment of Truth." His books include *How Your Mind Can Keep You Well*; *How to Control Your Emotions*; *Secret of Life*; *Sex, Sin and Salvation*; *How to Conquer Suffering Without Doctors*; *No One Has To Die*; and most recently, *The Satan Principle* (1979). His Foundation for Human Understanding publishes his books and owns both the ranch and a thrift store in Grants Pass.

At any one time you're apt to find 25-30 "students" or "kids" at Tall Timber, where they stay for 3 month terms. These "kids" range in age from 16 to 35 years old and pay \$2500 apiece for the privilege of being at the ranch. Additional short-term visitors pay \$35 a day.

What happens at Tall Timber to attract these people? Well, nothing much to write home about, according to the ranch foreman. As a matter of fact, many of these "students" are

sent, not necessarily of their own choosing, by their parents. There are lots of projects coordinated by the small staff for the combined purposes of maintaining the ranch and teaching skills for rural living, but no indoctrination, no pressure to obey, conform, work or pray, so far as I could tell. No preaching, no target practice, no preparation for war. Just some nice, remarkably polite city kids learning country skills.

Why do people come to Tall Timber? "Because they hear Roy on the radio." What does he say? "You have to hear him." Well, what does he write about? "I couldn't do him justice. You have to read him yourself." So I did (see access).

"Watch those who try to sell you a religion that says God loves you as you are. That god is always Satan."

Alice Johnston described the ranch in somewhat different terms. While she hasn't actually seen the ranch in operation, she said she is "close to people who do go up there all the time, so I'm kind of close indirectly." She described it this way:

"Tall Timber Ranch is a place where young people can come and be rehabilitated. I mean, they've been on the city streets in Chicago and New York and have gotten into crime, and they're brought out here to Tall Timber Ranch in Selma where they're given a good life; they're being directed by superiors, and being watched, guided, and trained to do certain things, do things other than smoke dope and carry a gun. And I think that's a fantastic program." —Mark Roseland



***The Satan Principle*, by Roy Masters, 1979, 261pp., \$6.50 from: Foundation of Human Understanding 8780 Venice Blvd. P.O. Box 34036 Los Angeles, CA 90034**

In this book, at least, Roy Masters doesn't say much. The book gets its length because he is extremely redundant, saying the same thing over and over again with minor variations. What Masters does say, though, is a contradictory mixture of sense and nonsense. For instance, in discussing the Scriptures he writes "Get that through your thick skull—YOU ARE NOT MEANT TO LEARN VERSE AND CHAPTER. Study kills." Yet he also insists that "Doubting truth is original sin." Read on:

It is no longer you who decides anything. It is Satan who tempts you to decide all things. For through all your struggles and acts of will, the will of hell is actuated. In other

words, everything you do is wrong and harmful.

To think hard about anything provides an almost perfect escape from realizing its deeper meaning. It is easy to fool ourselves into believing that we are seeking truth when we look to knowledge for truth, because just as the appeal of knowledge can lead astray, so can more of it lead you from realizing the sin of it. And that is just as true of knowledge about good things as it is of the knowledge of evil.

Sensible women seek the dominance of a wise husband. The rest appoint a weak male whom they can dominate and manipulate. . . . [This] represents the kind of democracy we have now, where the sinful masses elect idol-politicians who justify them in their sins.

Wading through wearisome religious psychobabble one finds Masters' ideas rooted in a traditional religious framework: Eve gave

Adam the evil apple of knowledge, causing them both to "fall" from Grace, so women and knowledge are (still) both evil. (Some people really hold a grudge, don't they?) "Knowledge," Woman, and You are evil. "Understanding" and Roy Masters are good. Paradoxically, you can't argue with Masters using rational processes (i.e., thinking) since that is based upon knowledge and so is inherently evil, nor can you argue with him by "understanding"—though he neglects to tell you this—because "understanding" is for the most part individualized and not articulated.

Satan takes many forms, warns Masters. "Watch those who try to sell you a religion that says God loves you as you are. The god who loves you as you are is robbing you of repentance and change. That god is always Satan, even when he is dressed up as a Christian minister of the gospel."

I'm sure Christian ministers will be happy to hear that! —MR

SURVIVALIST ACCESS

***Life After Doomsday*, by Bruce D. Clayton, 1980, 185pp., \$8.95 from:**

**Dial Press
1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
245 E. 47th St.
New York, NY 10017**

Bruce Clayton has little patience for disarmament activists and other well-meaning people who try to convince us we're all going to die when the missiles arrive. His own scientific studies (he has a Ph.D in ecology) convince him that "for most Americans, survival of at least the first few weeks following a nuclear attack is not only possible, it is almost unavoidable." It naturally follows (at least for readers who can get past the questionable premise) that preparation for Doomsday is a matter of simple prudence, and Clayton describes an array of options in shelter, food storage, and firearms to help us make it through the post-attack period "with a minimum of unpleasantness." His matter-of-fact tone and meticulous attention to the smallest details of shelter-living frequently lend a bizarre flavor to the book. For example, he suggests that even survival groups composed of atheists and agnostics should not forget to take along a Bible and a prayer book since they might feel an overwhelming need for "proper" services if a wedding or funeral comes up. He warns against piped-in music for the retreat since differences in musical taste could lead to serious tensions among sheltermates. And he notes that onions and watermelons are poor choices for the post-war garden since ultraviolet radiation resulting from nuclear damage to the ozone layer could subject them to sun scald. "Corn should do well, however, especially after the first year or two is past and ultraviolet levels are starting to drop back to normal."

Life After Doomsday is actually a very well written manual with good advice for coping with many kinds of disasters, natural and human-caused. How you react to it will, of course, depend on how you react to the author's underlying assumptions about survivalism and the bomb. One thing to remember: if you should someday find yourself to be a scoffer who has been proven wrong, you should definitely *not* go knocking on Clayton's shelter door! —JF

***How to Prosper During the Coming Bad Years*, by Howard J. Ruff, 1979, 384pp., \$2.75 plus \$.70 p&h, from:**

**Warner Books
P.O. Box 690
New York, NY 10019**

Ruff, who takes pains to disassociate himself

from the head-for-the-hills school of survivalism, is a "hard money"-oriented investment counselor who believes we're on the edge of a worldwide economic collapse. He suggests we arm ourselves with a depression-proof financial plan (supplied by himself), store enough food for a year (he describes how in detail), and buy a home in a small town located a reasonable distance from any "welfare ghetto." Set against his vivid warnings of potential political turmoil, urban rioting and food system disruptions, Ruff's approach to disaster preparation seems curiously blithe: "I will take my chances in a small town," he says, "and assume that America will come staggering back like Rasputin." It's an odd analogy to use, especially since it is preceded by the story of how the resilient Russian monk was finally disposed of quite permanently by his assassins. Perhaps the irony is not lost on less sanguine survivalists who use *How to Prosper* in plotting their food storage and investment strategies. —JF

***Disaster Planning*, by Harold D. Foster, 1980, 275pp., \$29.80 (hardcover), from:
Springer Verlag
175 5th Ave.
New York, NY 10010**

The science of protecting ourselves from the technological nightmare we're generating usually gets too overwhelming and ultimately too depressing. It's been estimated that "between 20 and 30 percent of all male deaths and 10 to 20 percent of all female deaths in the United States stem directly or indirectly from technological hazards." Then there are the lost species of animals, the death of lakes and rivers, the loss of air quality, and the effects on other countries of our spilled "solutions."

What's needed is a comprehensive *system* for evaluating potentially disastrous scenarios (both natural and technological), for calculating risks, costs of risk avoidance, and ways of mitigating and managing crises. It's almost macabre to read about balancing the costs of prevention with "community mortality, morbidity, and economic loss," but it is foolish to attempt to wish away the Industrial Age; as foolish as attempting to hold back an avalanche or plug a volcano.

A cool study of disaster appears to be a conflict in terms, a surrender to the problem rather than a resolution of it, and yet in reading *Disaster Planning* I found the orderly progression of approaches very clarifying. From defining risk, through planning, design and prediction techniques, to construction and reconstruction, Foster provides the most rational information around for planners, students of planning, and con-

cerned people in general. This book is one of a series aimed at broadening our understanding of "man and nature" and nurturing "an environment that is both stable and productive." It's a basic textbook, loaded with models, charts, figures and references, but still manageable for the neophyte. —CC

***"Investing Successfully When You Don't Have Much to Invest," by Christopher Stinson, Co-Evolution Quarterly, #30, Summer, 1981, \$14/yr., from:
Co-Evolution Quarterly
Box 428
Sausalito, CA 94966***

If Howard Ruff is right, most of us will be broke soon (some of us are used to it). If Christopher Stinson is right (we can only hope) some of us can be less broke.

For a change, the good advice that makes a fortune (and costs it, too) is available in simple terms, demystified, and with the risks pretty well marked out.

Stinson suggests splitting up your nest egg (be it ever so humble) to cover three potential economic futures: "a) there will be a currency collapse, b) there will be a credit collapse, and c) although there may be times of economic stress and strain, there will be no economic disasters, and things will stay the same or improve slightly." His proposals are for weathering the times, not soaring into instant wealth, so don't get too excited.

There is still the whole question of who is being supported by your investments, but that Stinson leaves for you to unravel. It's *economic* common sense he's offering and I find it very refreshing. —CC

***The Great Survival Resource Book*, edited by Martha Henderson, 1980, 185pp., \$19.95 (hardcover), from:
Paladin Press
P.O. Box 1307
Boulder, CO 80306**

There's truth in this title. A virtual "*Whole Survivalist Catalogue*," this compendium covers books, newsletters, catalogues and kits on homesteading, urban and wilderness survival, building and alternative energy, survival vehicles and retreats. Also included are short articles and excerpts by well-known Survivalists on survival homes (Joel Skousen), survival guns (Mel Tappan), and the ten safest and most dangerous areas of the US in a nuclear attack (Bruce Clayton). The publishers note that this is the "first annual edition." If so, the next one should be out soon. —MR

ACCESS

COMMUNITY

The City That Works, (periodical) bi-monthly, free, from:

Community Renewal Society
111 N. Wabash Ave.
Chicago, IL 60602

Short and sweet, this newsletter takes important issues of community development and examines them in brief but highly

enlightening articles. It's a wonder how much they're able to fit in 4-6 pages per month.

Each issue focuses on a specific topic. Recent issues have included articles dealing with how schools can help alleviate the youth unemployment problem and the impact of Reaganomics on neighborhoods. The latter piece *could* have been a boring replica of every other article you've read on the subject—but instead was original and fact-filled.

The editorial staff has a neighborhood-based perspective that mistrusts bureaucrats and bankers alike, but attention to the local level doesn't keep them from writing intelli-

gent, professional stuff.

Best of all, though, are the delightful and pithy quotes sprinkled through each issue, like this one from Lester Thurow:

"My ethics tell me there is something wrong with cutting nutrition programs for poor pregnant women. Mr. Stockman's ethics tell him they are precisely the group whose benefits should be cut. Perhaps that is the difference between [my] learning ethics and economics in a department of economics rather than in a divinity school." —SMA

ENVIRONMENT

News of the Universe, edited by Robert Bly, 1980, 305pp., \$7.95, from:

Sierra Club Books
530 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

There is a self-limiting quality to this book that I find disappointing. Sierra Club Books wanted to publish poems that could in some subtle manner encourage an ecological world view—the theory being that if we admit to a consciousness, a being-ness, in the universe *outside* the self, we may be more inclined towards respectfully keeping the whole thing humming along. Bly was a good choice as editor and commentator. His own poetry reflects what he calls "poems of two-fold consciousness" and he has dared to use his poetry to affect politics (most notably in his anti-Vietnam war work).

But *News of the Universe* feels compromised, circumspect. Questions that are critical to his analysis of the spiritual and political implications of a man-centered universe are mentioned and tiptoed around. Unbelievable is his condescending treatment of women. Bly, perhaps more than any living male poet, has explored the bonding of women to nature and the separation of the two from men. He's struggled to describe the imbalance of power following from that separation, and the loss to society in terms of cultural information from silencing women. So what went wrong?

In this book he backslides. "It appears that in the male psyche, women, earth and the unconscious form a sort of constellation, or triangle. Usually the attitude a man has towards one extends without his being aware of it, by secret underground channels, to the

others. . . . If the details of nature were not worth observing closely, we can expect that the psyche of women will not receive much attention either." If the details of nature *are* worth "observing closely," can we speculate that the "psyche of women" merits some attention too? So where are all the women poets? There are only a handful in this collection. After writing a book like *Sleepers Joining Hands* (1973, Harper & Row) where

he explored the separateness of man and the more female myths needed to unify the planet, how could he give such short shrift to women's version of the whole scheme? Is he trying to produce a nice, clean, simple (read unpolitical) book of nature poems? *News of the Universe* is a nice book. It won't ruffle any feathers or stir water into storms. —CC

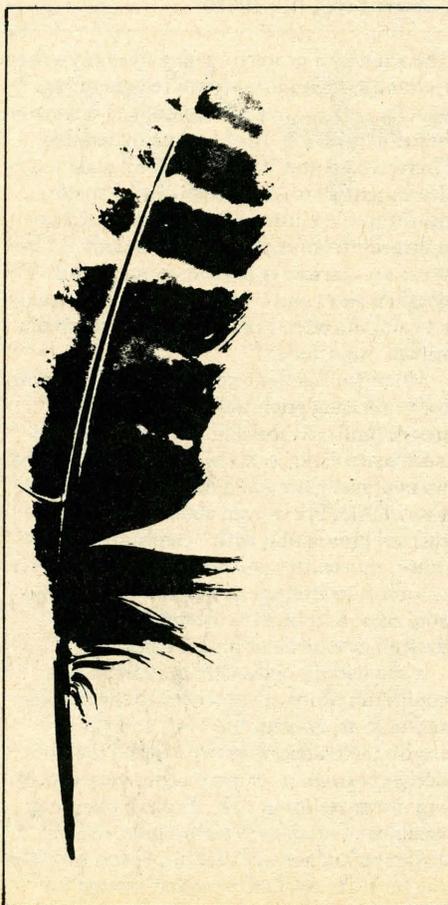
Sensitive Populations and Environmental Standards: An Issue Report, by Robert Friedman, 1981, 54pp., \$5.00 plus \$1.50 p&h, from:

The Conservation Foundation
1717 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

This is worth plowing through—I suspect it may be one of the most important reports published this year. Focusing on the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), ironically at a time when both are under attack, it raises key questions: Can air quality standards really protect the health of all Americans? Who will and will not be protected by environmental health and safety legislation? Can the legal requirements of CAA and OSHA be successfully implemented? Are the very concepts of "thresholds" and "margins of safety" archaic? To what degree is society willing to protect its "most sensitive" groups (the very young, the aged, the infirm, and other susceptible individuals), in light of limited resources and competing pressures?

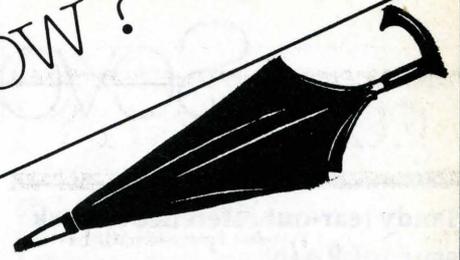
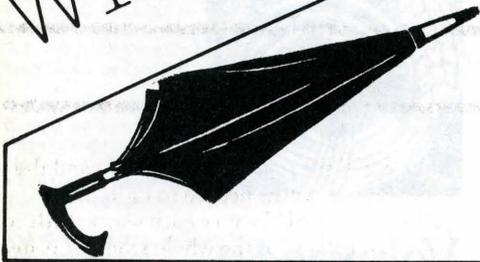
There are no proposals here as to how to decide health standards. Instead, the nature of the problem is defined by analyzing current legal requirements and the policy dilemmas they pose. A valuable contribution to a complex and difficult debate, this report is a must for all those concerned with environmental health regulation and research.

—MR



RAINDROPS

What's Appropriate Now?



Last year about this time we ran a survey to get a sense of who our readers are and what they think Appropriate Technology is. Kiko Denzer, our intern at the time, decided to take the responses and attempt to analyze them. The result is that this month's Raindrops is more about you than about us. . . .

All we can say about this survey with any kind of certainty is that 1.5 percent of our readers are extremely kind, thoughtful, generous and patient. Many replies were extensive; full of thoughtful comments, criticisms and personality. Nonetheless, the statistics produced (ages, employment, mobility, and use of RAIN) are barely interesting and even less conclusive. However, they do, in combination with the more extensive and thoughtful replies, suggest lots of interesting questions about the magazine and about A.T. as a whole.

One friend of RAIN who had known the magazine and A.T. for a long while wrote an interesting (and long, 2 pages single-spaced!) letter. It was not so much a response to the survey as it was a reflection on what A.T. is and what RAIN should be as a consequence. He said, "RAIN has always been sort of a barometer of the A.T. movement, but lately it seems to be having an identity crisis. . . ." At first I was insulted by such a suggestion, but then I reconsidered. I have always thought that the content of the magazine reflected the breadth and depth of the movement. So if there is an identity crisis perhaps it is not only here at RAIN, perhaps it pervades every aspect of A.T. But the paragraph continued: ". . . if you/RAIN/want to run feminism it should have a strong A.T. angle (something like the problems of women in the solar construction business, or a feature on women who are owner builders). WIN is a publication of the left-wing movement which can publish anything remotely related, but RAIN should stick to A.T." So, according to his statement, there is a "left-wing movement" and an A.T. movement that are not even *remotely* related. Such is a precarious situation for two groups who desperately need each other's help and ideas, especially when both are being threatened and further divided by the reactionary political and economic climate. It seems obvious, now even more than last year when we received the letters, that our definitions of A.T. must be as broad *and* as precise as possible.

Some of the definitions that our readers shared with us ran as follows:

They ranged from terse phrases like "Safe, simple, decentralized,

renewable" and "Different ways of doing things, of being and living," to romantic notions of a society based on human labor, free of all technology and "labor saving devices," to refusals of a possibility of even trying to define A.T., to highly personal definitions—"what's appropriate to me," to thoughtful and complex ideas about combining A.T. theory with A.T. practice—critiquing and rebuilding at the same time. These definitions would appear to suggest that the "identity crisis" extends at least as far as our readership, since there were wide differences in outlook and opinion. Even within a single reply we were told on the one hand that A.T. is ". . . the tool . . . that works without upsetting the 'whole system' or invoking too many consequences on a physical, psychological, ecological, spiritual, economic level," and on the other hand that RAIN itself is too "interesting but impractical . . . to get the job done." Unfortunately, this reader forgot to tell us what, exactly, the job is. Another response gives a general idea of what the job may be—to develop a "sustainable lifestyle," in which case, he says, A.T. "becomes a set of criteria by which I determine solutions to life's problems which involve the least short and long term costs to me and others and the environment in general."

As someone who has only recently discovered and come into "the movement" I see within myself and others a strong tendency to talk about A.T. in terms of cause and effect, terms like "set of criteria," "solutions to life's problems," "systems and tools," all of which seems to fall short of the need for interconnectedness, a need that can perhaps be met only if we maintain both a critical and open attitude to the state of problems and criteria, in their various definitions, which surround us. The refusal, for instance, on the part of several respondents, to consider the place of feminism in A.T., is typical of a closed view of A.T. which could shut out a vital source of energy. And feminism in A.T. must certainly not be limited to "women in Solar," though the topic is an important one. It was not always crystal clear by their names, but of the thirty-seven who replied only six were obviously women, nine were unclear as to sex (some seemed to be individuals representing couples) and the twenty-six left were all men. But I am a man and this is an argument not only for feminism. The argument is also for making A.T. responsive to any and all conditions and people. The movement should be available everywhere, like the news only better. □□ Kiko Denzer



All we can say about this survey with any kind of certainty is that 1.5% of our readers are extremely kind, thoughtful, generous and patient.

Seven Years Of RAIN: A

Handy tear-out reference to back issues of RAIN

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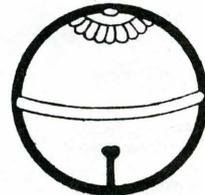
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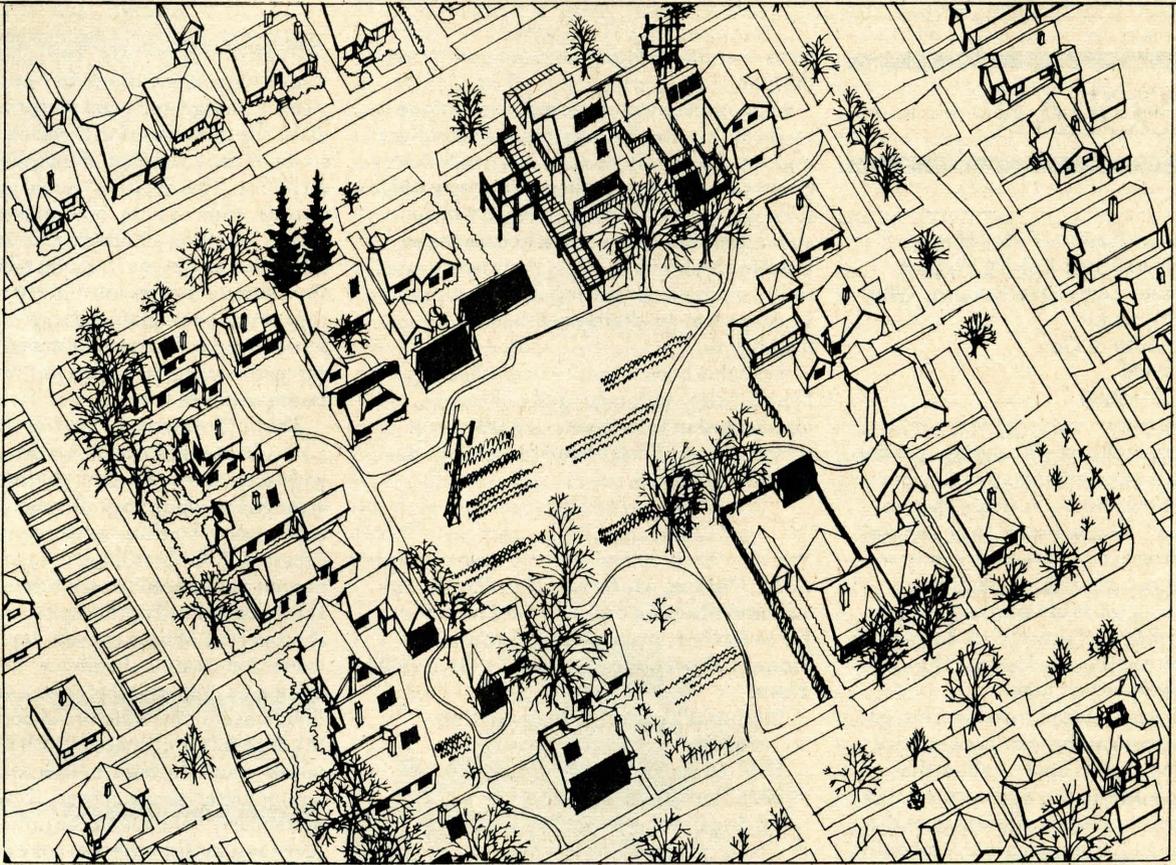
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THESE ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE FROM
 RAIN. SEE INSIDE BACK COVER FOR
 DETAILS.

ACCESS

From *The Edible City*

PLANNING

A Better Place to Live, by Michael Corbett, 1981, 164pp., \$14.95, from:

Rodale Press, Inc.
33 East Minor Street
Emmaus, PA 18049

The Edible City Resource Manual, by Richard Britz, 1981, 335pp., \$12.95, from:

William Kaufmann, Inc.
One First Street
Los Altos, CA 94022

I have one big paranoia to get off my chest before I go on about these books. I am very concerned that these "planned communities," with their food and energy production, their bike paths and their sandal shops, will all look and live alike. They'll all be little Eugene, Oregon and Boulder, Colorado with their shopping malls and oh-so-white homogeneity. The dreams are good, the plans careful and often very creative, but they leave out a large portion of our people and our country.

Both of these books take the concepts of self-sufficient housing to neighborhood and

city levels. Corbett draws on the 19th century work of Ebenezer Howard (*Garden Cities of Tomorrow*, MIT Press, 1965) in designing a set of strategies for creating smaller semi-urban communities which produce most of their own food and energy while encouraging the overall quality of life that we associate with physical, emotional and spiritual comfort. He lays out 12 assumptions about this "quality of life," assumptions about the interrelatedness of life forms, the basic necessities for living, and the social and economic questions which arise from these assumptions. He makes some suggestions for dealing with urban areas but really fails to come up with any new information here. Where he excels is in "new towns." Here he's in his element. Corbett was the developer behind Davis, California's Village Homes Project (See RAIN V:10, 22). Planning new communities from scratch is his forte. Whether we like these new towns or not, they will be built. The least we can require of them is that they not add to the strain on our limited resources. Corbett's model communities go beyond that to being good examples worth studying for their attention not only to their own intrinsic needs, but to the needs of the larger community surrounding them.

The Edible City Resource Manual may have as its major flaw an attempt to do everything in one book. Curiously enough, it does most everything it sets out to do—with

gusto! The book is one of the by-products of the Whiteaker Project (see RAIN V:2,14), a National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) sponsored plan in a low-income community of Eugene, Oregon. The goal of the Project was to attempt to integrate several aspects of life in the city; food production, energy use, health care, housing, etc., into a planning model which would grow out of the community rather than be imposed on it. The Edible City section of the project revolved around food production and distribution. However, this is no simple community gardening text or direct marketing manifesto. It's both of these and more. It's a curriculum for educating children about urban agriculture. It's a set of multi-year plans for "neighborhood transformation." It's a simple nutrition guide. There's everything from raising rabbits to recycling water towers here and it's difficult to tell the dreams from the real thing. That's the second flaw in the book. Which of these ideas are underway and which are still on paper? The third flaw is noted in the publisher's comment at the beginning of the book. This is an "experimental edition." "Never mind its incompleteness, its mixtures of type, script, and art styles, its still imperfect state." Well, the book could use some cleaning up, but it's so darn enthusiastic this way that I almost hope they leave it as it is. Oh yeah, it's also got resource lists all over the place. —CC

ACCESS

SOLAR

The Hawkweed Passive Solar House Book, by Sydney and Robert Wright, Bob Selby, and Larry Dieckmann, 1980, 192pp., \$7.95, from:

Rand McNally & Co.
P.O. Box 7600
Chicago, IL 60680

I suspect every architect who designs passive solar houses, sooner or later, wants to put out his or her own book. You see, passive solar is so neat, you just want to go out and convert the heathen, and there are only so many people you can reach by building houses or giving tours of your houses. The time comes when you must write down your credo, and spread the word among the masses: It works! here! now!

The Hawkweed Group, based in Chicago, has been designing only solar houses since 1973. They wrote this book to show that passive solar works in the Midwest, even in severe Minnesota winters. Coverage of the basics is clear and comprehensive, especially the chapters on climate, although the narrative is somewhat dry compared to most popular solar books. All of the photos are black and white, mostly of Hawkweed-designed buildings. No graphics—besides floor

plans—or highlighting of major points break the text.

Most interesting of the projects designed by the group are the solar municipal buildings for the rebuilt all-solar town of Soldiers Grove (Wisconsin), built at costs comparable to conventional buildings. People worried about the costs of their own houses are advised to think small, assess their needs carefully, and consider cutting firewood for the woodstove as an alternative to joining a health club.

Read this book if you're tired of seeing New Mexico, Colorado, and California highlighted in solar books. It really is refreshing to see a solar book focused on the Midwest. —TK

Solar Heating Materials Handbook: Environmental and Safety Considerations for Selection, prepared by Sandia National Laboratories, January 1981, \$18.00, from:

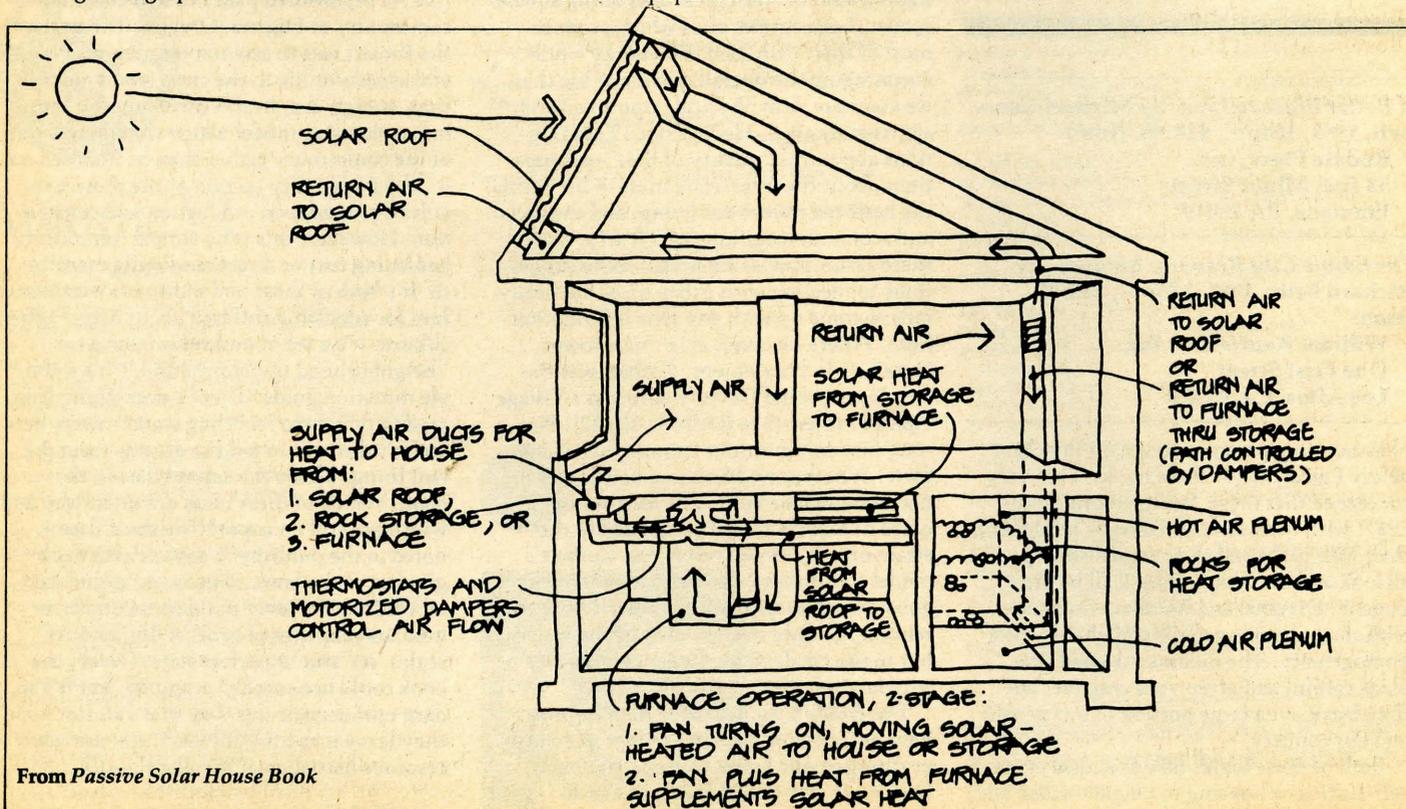
National Technical Information Service
U.S. Department of Commerce
5825 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161

For active solar energy systems to be more economic than conventional systems, it is often necessary to project equipment life over 10 or even 15 years. This can be an idiotic exercise if equipment will rust and fall

apart after only 2 years. The solar buyer should narrow the choice to 2 or 3 units with pleasing design and good performance, then make the final selection based on a careful study of the durability of materials used in each unit. This analysis should go as far as consideration of nuts, bolts and seals—and special attention should be paid to all components that will come in contact with liquids, since these are parts most likely to corrode if they are of poor quality. It often makes more sense to go to this trouble and pay 10 to 20 percent more for a system if it will end up lasting twice as long.

The Solar Heating Materials Handbook is a valuable resource book for people faced with such decisions. Each chapter is very well arranged, making the information easily usable, even by those with no previous experience, while still including all the information you'd need to select the right material for the task. Chapter topics include material properties of heat transfer liquids, glazing, insulation, seals and sealants, thermal storage media, and absorber materials. In addition, a useful introductory chapter outlines the desirable properties of each class of materials—and the failures that can result if the wrong materials are chosen. This chapter is particularly valuable for beginners, but can serve as a useful refresher for even the most seasoned pro.

I strongly recommend this book to anyone who is a serious buyer or designer of solar equipment. —Gail Katz



WIND

Wind Power for the Homeowner, by Donald Marier, 1981, 368pp., \$16.95, from:

Rodale Press
33 East Minor Street
Emmaus, PA 18049

Two things about this book are impressive. First, it provides good information on all aspects of installing a wind system, technical and nontechnical: siting, generators, rotors, towers, batteries, inverters, controls, installation, wiring, legal considerations, and economics. Secondly, it presents all this information in plain language without sacrificing necessary technical detail. Although I would not design a wind system based solely on what can be learned from this book, it is certainly a good, solid, integrated and readable overview. —Gail Katz

CORPORATIONS

Trilateralism: The Trilateral Commission and Elite Planning for World Management, edited by Holly Sklar, 1980, 604pp., \$9.00, from:

South End Press
Box 68, Astor Station
Boston, MA 02123

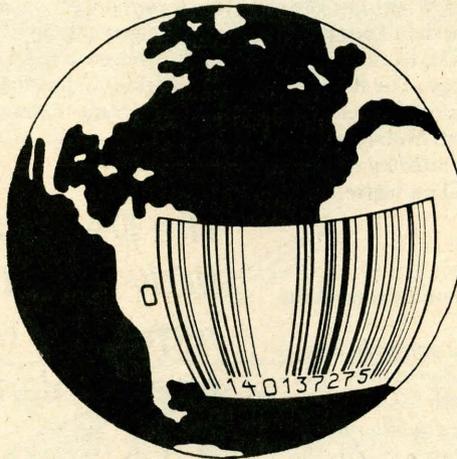
Far from being a coterie of international conspirators with designs on covertly ruling the world, the Trilateral Commission is, in reality, a group of concerned citizens interested in fostering greater understanding and cooperation among international allies. —David Rockefeller, 1980.

It is not surprising that the group of "concerned citizens" referred to by Mr. Rockefeller should provoke a variety of conspiracy theories from both the Right and the Left. They are 300 of the most powerful people on earth. Trilateral Commission members are drawn from the top echelons of international business, government, academia, media, and conservative labor in North America, Western Europe and Japan. Trilateral alumni (members officially resign upon entering public service) include George Bush, Jimmy Carter, Henry Kissinger, Walter Mondale, Caspar Weinberger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, and John Anderson. One can't help but wonder what's being discussed in the Trilateral Clubhouse—and how decisions made there might affect the four billion of us who don't measure up for Commission membership.

Editor Holly Sklar and the two dozen con-

tributors to *Trilateralism* see the Commission as something less than a global conspiracy, but a good deal more than a snobbish international fraternity. Trilateralists are portrayed here as a thoroughly fallible group, plagued by internal contradictions and differences of opinion, but with a clear consensus on the absolute necessity for keeping the trilateral nations at the center of world economic and political power. The Commission seeks to monitor and manage changing world conditions in ways which will ultimately lead (in Sklar's words) to a "pseudo postnational world in which social, economic and political values originating in the trilateral regions are transformed into universal values."

Closely tied to the trilateral program, both as agent and as beneficiary, is the multinational corporation. Corporate planners market not only products in the developing world, but lifestyles imitative of Western models. The hope, says Sklar, is that "enthusiastic consumption—of even the



From *Trilateralism*

cheapest goods at the poorest levels—will be a balm for the exploitation endured in the workplace, serving the dual corporate aim of stability and profitability." To assure corporations of the continued access to cheap labor and stable supplies of raw materials necessary to their market expansion, trilateralists carefully monitor and (wherever possible) give direction to Third World economic development programs and movements for political reform. Under trilateral guidance, development programs are likely to result in continued neocolonial dependency and reform movements are apt to find themselves co-opted or short-circuited.

Methods employed by the trilateralists in carrying out their policies around the world are detailed by Sklar and her associates in a series of case studies. Among the most revealing of these are "Apartheid and Trilateralism: Partners in South Africa" by Carolyn Brown, "The Grim Reaper: The Trilateral Commission Takes on World Hunger" by Dahlia Rudavsky, and "The U.S.

Colonial Empire is as Close as the Nearest Reservation" (a look at government/corporate/trilateral exploitation of energy resources on Indian lands) by Michael Garitty. A 41-page Trilateral Commission Who's Who, detailing the remarkably intertwined political, corporate, academic, and institutional connections of Commission members, makes for even more fascinating reading.

Like *Global Reach* (see *Rainbook*, p.32) and *Food First: Beyond the Myth of Scarcity* (see RAIN IV:5,4), *Trilateralism* is a "must read" book which goes a long way toward helping us understand how power works in the world. —JF

***Multinational Monitor*, monthly, \$15/yr. personal, \$20/yr. nonprofit institutions, \$30/yr. business institutions, from:**

P.O. Box 19312
Washington, DC 20036

Why do so many "independent" pineapple growers in Thailand find themselves perpetually in debt to Castle & Cook? Why has a black South African labor union recently called for a nation-wide boycott of Colgate-Palmolive products? What does Cargill, the international grain company, have to do with the fact that Brazil is now growing soybeans for livestock on land which once provided food for people? The *Multinational Monitor* will give you the answers. Published by the Corporate Accountability Research Group, this consistently absorbing periodical specializes in exposing the latest mercenary maneuvers of global corporations. The *Monitor's* provocative value was well described by one of its readers in a recently published letter to the editor: "I won't say that I enjoy your publication, but I compulsively await and avidly read each issue, thus stoking the fires of my concern for the endangered species *homo sapiens*." —JF

***The United States and the Global Struggle for Minerals*, by Alfred E. Eckes, Jr., 1979, 353pp., \$8.95, from:**

University of Texas Press
Box 7819
Austin, TX 78712

What effects have vanadium, molybdenum, iridium and palladium had on considerations of war and peace? This history, based largely on US government documents not available for study until recent years, traces how access or non-access to minerals has influenced US foreign policy and military planning since World War I. Academic in approach and conservative in tone, it nevertheless provides valuable historical background on present-day issues of global resource control raised in such recent books as *The Lean Years* by Richard Barnett (see RAIN VII:2, 17) and *Trilateralism*, edited by Holly Sklar (see review this issue). —JF

PRESIDENTIAL POLLYANNA POWER POLICY

by Kevin Bell

Now that some of the dust has settled from Reagan's initial skirmishes on the energy frontier, it is worth taking a look at a few of the more interesting aspects of our nation's new push towards the hard path, as embodied in the new National Energy Plan. The Department of Energy has flatly stated that if the law didn't require it, there wouldn't be an energy plan this year, and NEP III reads more like a slim campaign speech than a coherent strategy. The Reagan Administration has chosen to take a Pollyanna approach to energy, with the expectation that market forces, benevolent multinational corporations, and the vast showers of wealth generated by Reagan's Economic Recovery Plan will obliterate any and all problems that might arise. Some of the main features include:

OIL

NEP III's attitude towards oil imports is typical of the tone of the entire report:

"Even at its current high price, imported oil is substantially less expensive in some circumstances than available alternatives. The Nation would be remiss if it did not press the search for less expensive domestic alternatives. Yet its vision would be equally narrow if market forces were distorted through indiscriminate subsidies for alternatives that cost more than imported oil now and offer no short term to midterm likelihood of being economically competitive. Furthermore, there is an international dimension to the problem of oil vulnerability. Damage to other free world economies inevitably affects the United States as well, so we cannot entirely protect ourselves from disruptions in the world energy market by reducing our dependence on imports and trying to isolate ourselves from everyone else."

What other oil dependent nations gain from US competition for world oil supplies is never made clear. But despite cost estimates in the range of \$80 per barrel for synfuels and predictions of a world oil price in the range of \$100 per barrel (1980\$) by 1990, NEP III seeks to reduce foreign oil dependence over the next decade by about a third as much as imports have already dropped in the last two years alone.

"Failure to know our resources potential, to inventory our resources—intentionally forbidding proper access to needed resources—limits this Nation and its ability to produce and use energy resources effectively."

NEP III calls for complete access to Federal lands by energy companies, allows for increased concentration of corporate control of Federally leased lands, and seeks to gut legislation such as the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act by transferring oversight control to the states while *"replacing rigidly prescriptive 'cookbook' design standards (telling industry what it must do) with performance standards that are more responsive to local needs and conditions (telling industry what it is obliged to accomplish through its*

own resourcefulness)."

As to environmental issues, *"Energy-environmental conflicts arise because diverse groups place different values on energy itself and on individual elements of the existing environment which are altered as energy is produced, delivered, or used. Market mechanisms can resolve such conflicts if each of the resources in question (say, a certain number of tons of coal, or so many square feet of undisturbed soil and grass) can be valued in terms of price or opportunity costs. In these cases, the market values (not only to potential buyers and sellers, but occasionally to the public at large) allocate such environmental resources as land use and water rights."*

NUCLEAR POWER

"Nuclear power has proven to be a safe, economical and environmentally acceptable energy source. Furthermore, the United States has substantial domestic resources of uranium ore, capable of lasting well into the 21st century as used in the current generation of reactors. Breeder technology multiplies the effectiveness of these resources sixty-fold, so that they could last easily for several centuries."

Believe it or not, this single paragraph constitutes the sum total of NEP's discussion of the desirability of nuclear power. The belief that nuclear generation is a viable, cost-effective technology is apparently based on the premise that nuclear and coal-fired generation are the only alternatives to oil fired power plants. However, the fact that wasting two-thirds of the energy value of uranium or coal is cheaper than wasting two thirds of the energy value of oil to produce electricity for heating hardly makes nuclear power a least cost option. California, one of the most oil dependent regions in the country, plans to retire essentially all of its baseload oil plants by

The Department of Energy has flatly stated that if the law didn't require it, there wouldn't be an energy plan this year.

1992. Coal generation is dead last on that state's list of priorities, and is not expected to be needed. Nuclear generation isn't even on the list. What's more, the California Energy Commission has informed Washington utilities attempting to sell California power from their financially disastrous and as yet uncompleted WPPSS nuclear projects that California expects to have little trouble finding cheaper sources of electricity. How much money the Reagan Administration is prepared to pour down the nuclear rathole remains to be seen.

CONSERVATION AND RENEWABLE

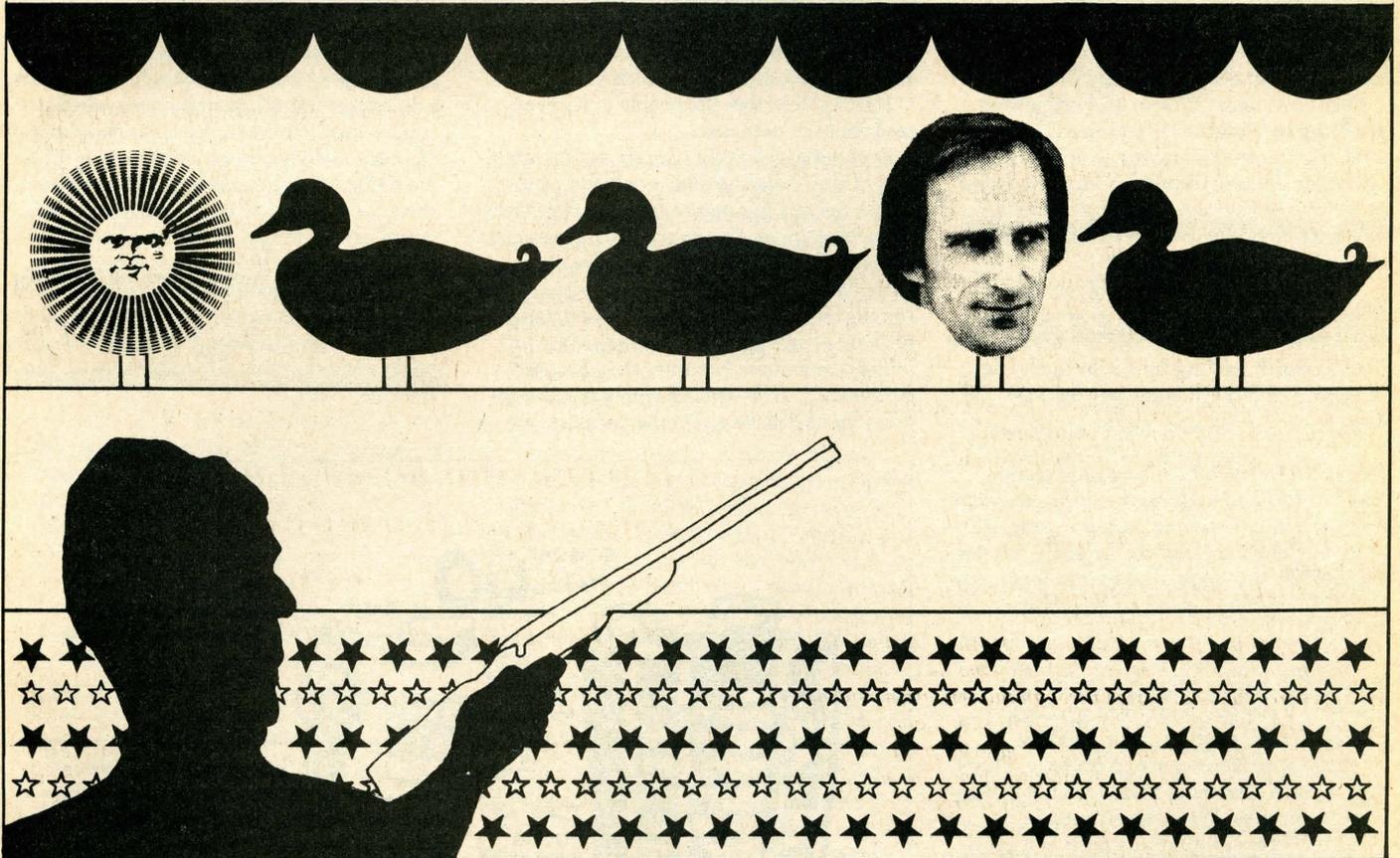
Aside from a temporary commitment to tax rebates, NEP III calls for limiting Federal involvement in conservation and renewables to high risk, long-term research, eliminating support for consumer products, advanced automotive energy design, electric and hybrid vehicle design, and industrial process efficiency. Public information and commercialization is to be left up to the private sector, and the 1982 Federal budget slashes conservation and renewable programs by about two-thirds. Unfortunately, Reagan plans to do little to correct the historic imbalances in the private sector that led to our dependence on fossil fuels in the first place. As TVA Administrator David Freeman has pointed out, *"Market forces are heavily tilted in favor of energy production and against conservation. The production organizations have access to capital on terms that would be the envy of the average energy consumer."*

Reagan has also been considerably more reluctant about cutting

federal support of fossil and nuclear energy sources. The 1982 budget calls for \$17 billion for energy supply activities, and continues some \$6.5 billion in tax subsidies and depreciation allowances for energy companies. The nuclear budget is up 36%, and the government has agreed to subsidize the Clinch River Breeder Reactor. The distinctions between corporate socialism and fiscal conservatism are definitely blurring.

By the way, the energy task force that developed NEP III has been criticized by the General Accounting Office for being unrepresentative of the range of national energy interests. Eleven of the 22 members of the task force were major energy corporation executives, four were college professors, and three were state government officials. Local government and consumer interests were not included. □□

SHOOTOUT AT THE SERI CORRAL



Even more interesting than NEP III's yearning for days gone by is the reaction of the Reagan Administration to dissident elements within DOE. The political fallout from the recent report compiled by the Solar Research Institute (SERI), Lawrence Berkeley Labs, and the Mellon Institute is a prime example. In Congressional hearings last May, two senior staffers testified under oath that a DOE representative had threatened that SERI jobs, funding, and contracts would be eliminated if the report was released. DOE's Assistant Administrator for Conservation and Renewable Energy denied the charge, then proceeded to launch a blistering attack on the integrity of the report. As the authors of the report have pointed out, however, "While DOE takes issue with the techniques used to measure market response, they do not seem to take issue with the fundamental conclusions of the report."

SERI Director Denis Hayes likened the attack to "being called ugly by a frog," describing the report as "the best piece of work done anywhere" in the field. Shortly afterwards, DOE announced plans to eliminate SERI's public information and commercialization programs, reduce SERI to a basic research institution, and replace

Denis Hayes as soon as a replacement with a more technical background could be found. On June 23, Hayes called a press conference to denounce the cuts as a "declaration of open war on solar energy." He was immediately fired.

The Reagan Administration is also sitting on a recent report by Oak Ridge National Laboratory that examines the need for federal energy conservation programs. Oak Ridge sees a role for government in helping to overcome several barriers to effective and widespread implementation of increased energy efficiency, including fuel prices that do not reflect marginal costs, lack of adequate information about energy options and constrained access to capital for individuals and small businesses, as well as some utilities.

"The future course of fuel prices, OPEC actions, discoveries of additional oil and gas and performance and costs of emerging energy technologies are all uncertain. Investing in conservation—through outreach, financial incentives, standards, regulations and research and development—represents an important national insurance policy, one whose premiums are small and whose payoff is likely to be quite large." □□

ACCESS

FOREIGN

The Theft of the Countryside, by Marion Shoard, 1980, 272pp., inquire for price from:

Maurice Temple Smith Ltd.
37 Great Russell St.
London, England WC1

If present trends continue, we may as well imagine Kansas wheatfields as the setting for future English novels. Marion Shoard describes how moors, heaths and hedgerows are being indiscriminately plowed into farm land. Agribusiness is taking over the British landscape because farming is immune from otherwise progressive planning restrictions and economic incentives are available to maximize food production.

Things aren't out of control yet, but Shoard is worried. She tells us about what we have to lose and what the threats are. The book is worth reading for the beautiful descriptions of English landscape features alone:

Hedges in Cornwall . . . consist of stone-faced walls filled with earth, with a drainage ditch on either side, and on top a carpet of thick turf and wild flowers (brightly colored cranesbills, stitchworts, campions and harebells) crowned by gorse and hawthorn bushes.

Juxtaposed against these bucolic images are specters of cleared fields filled with heavy machinery. For agribusiness, wildlife-sheltering hedgerows are an obstacle. Plowing is much simpler in undivided fields. Furthermore, subsidies make farming in marginal areas profitable: grants and subsidies provided three-fourths of farm income in hill and upland farms just a few years ago.

England's planning system, "the envy of much of the world," gives absolute ownership and development rights to the state. The system of public rights-of-way over private land includes those wonderful footpaths all over the countryside, as well as rights to pasture animals, collect wood, and quarry minerals. The land buyer has freeholding rights. Anyone contemplating land-use changes such as buildings, mining or engineering must apply to the local planning authority. Farming and forestry, however, are exempt. The laws were written in the days when farmers were believed to be the best custodians of the land. These days, farmers are capitalizing on the arcadian mystique of farming to do as they please—largely industrializing the countryside. A quote from the 1978 *Farmer's Weekly* exemplifies their arrogance:

Lost Country Life, by Dorothy Hartley, 1979, 374pp., \$14.95, from:
Pantheon Books
201 E. 50th St.
New York, NY 10022

The histories we're used to tell nothing of the day to day life of people like us; only the royalty and warriors are indulged. I'm always curious about the life ordinary people lived, how they produced their clothing, what tools they used, what their homes and families were like. This is the 'domestic history' of a country and *Lost Country Life* explores these aspects of mediaeval England.

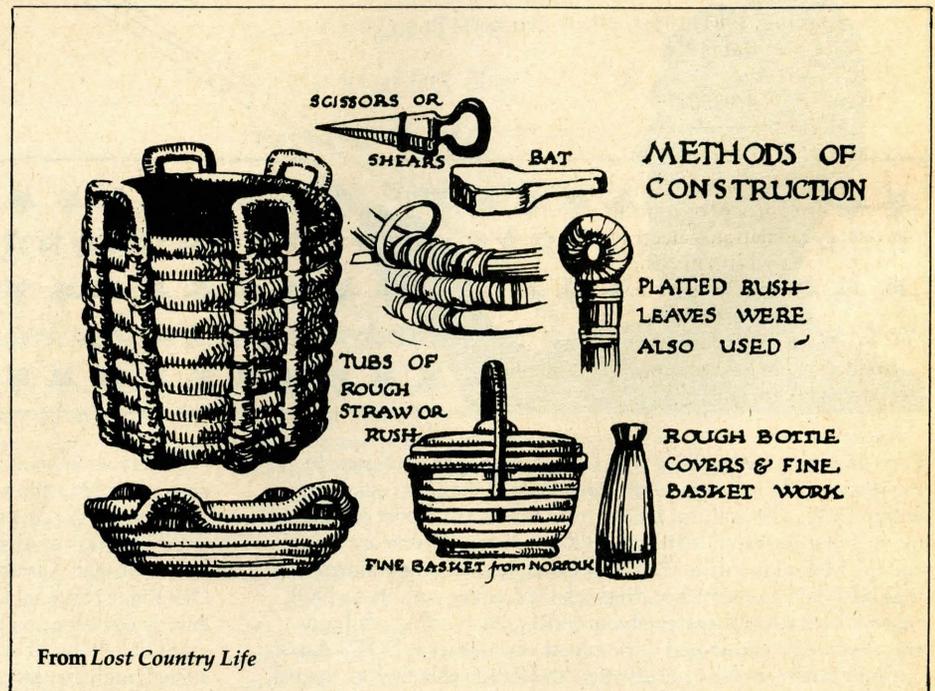
Hartley describes the people you never read about in textbooks.

England was largely feudal, and the members of the feudal systems are fairly well accounted for, but on the fringes existed people whose life and work are still unrecorded. All over the land they came and went, as varied and unpredictable as a crop of colored fungus on a tree stump. . . . There are signs of these people all over the land; some in villages abandoned because they became befouled. . . . Chronicle keepers account for them by abstraction. They are the 'survivors

who fled,' the 'remnant who took to the woods' or were 'driven off after the battle.'

All wars produce a backwash of weary men seeking solitude and peace, and mediaeval wars made many hermits. Not professional hermits, seeking discomfort in deserts, but simple tired men who built themselves serviceable huts by some spring of fresh water, and lived as best they could on small snared game and the plants which necessity had taught them to use.

Her outline is curious, but very enjoyable. She begins with a description of the people and the roles of feudalism and the Church. Then she goes on to a month by month account of the "work of the year," followed by a description of the "commercial world" (trade, travel, markets, etc.). Luckily there's an index included if you need specific information on, say, herself (more than a herd of sheep) or Sops-in-wine ("clove pinks" a favorite garden flower of the time) or snaffles (a substitute for the bit in horse bindings). Besides being a good read, this book is laced with mediaeval poetry, reproductions, and descriptive line drawings. Fans of the *Foxfire* books and other folk-life collections will love this one. —CC



Landscapes will change as they have done to meet the needs of succeeding generations. And conservationists will inherit something new and interesting to protect.

Local planning boards can recommend that farmers not destroy hedgerows, but cannot enforce it. If the freeholder refuses to comply, the board can pay the freeholder an annual fee (much like the sums paid American

farmers to keep their land fallow in years of oversupply), buy the land back (usually at a higher price), or give up.

Shoard recommends revision of the Planning Act to regulate development of farms and forests. People can still act to save pastoral England, and Shoard is confident that people will act once they are aware of what's going on. Her well-balanced account provides the valuable information needed. —TK

World Press Review, monthly, \$16/yr., from:

**Box 915
Farmingdale, NY 11737**

Published as a "nonprofit education service to foster international information exchange," this magazine provides a refreshing alternative to an exclusive diet of American-generated news. Each issue carries reports and feature articles reprinted from sources as diverse as *Il Tempo* (Rome), *Pravda* (Moscow), the *Hindustan Times* (New Delhi), *Tishrin* (Damascus), and *Asahi Shimbun* (Tokyo). The reader is provided with a fascinating mix of perspectives as reporters from many cultures, with a variety of political viewpoints, comment on events and conditions in each other's countries. As an added attraction, each issue carries dozens of cartoons from around the world. One reading of *World Press Review* may prove completely effective in curing a lingering addiction to *Time* or *Newsweek*. —JF

ENERGY

**How to Keep Electric Utilities Solvent, by Amory Lovins, 1981, 10pp., \$1.00, from: Fair Electric Rates Now
1620 E. 4th Ave.
Olympia, WA 98501**

In February 1981 Amory Lovins sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Donald Regan outlining the consequences of continuing efforts on the part of the nation's electrical utilities to salvage their coal and nuclear construction programs. As the Reagan Administration moves towards a last ditch effort to bail out nuclear power, this document is an excellent introduction to the economic issues involved. As Lovins points out:

"Powerful market forces are converging on the utilities: high interest rates, falling ratios (current, coverage, and market/book), increasing dependence on "funny money" (AFUDC) and other creative bookkeeping, stagnant demand, real cost escalation, greater consumer opposition to rate hikes, heavy short term borrowing to pay dividends, shareholder efforts to prevent further dilution of equity (thus forcing even higher debt/equity ratios), and many more. These signals are not fortuitous artifacts. They offer unmistakable evidence that the utilities' financial problems are of a fundamental nature—both fiscal and economic. A utility can go broke without suffering a catastrophic GPU-style loss of cash flow accident, simply because its business takes too much cash, pays it back slowly, is unexpectedly price-elastic, and cannot compete."

The reasons are painfully clear. The marginal cost of thermally generated electricity

is around 8¢/kWh (1980\$), which on a heat basis is equivalent to \$130 a barrel oil. Utilities are investing massive quantities of capital into some of the least viable energy options available. These basic economic facts are not subject to change by the Reagan Administration.

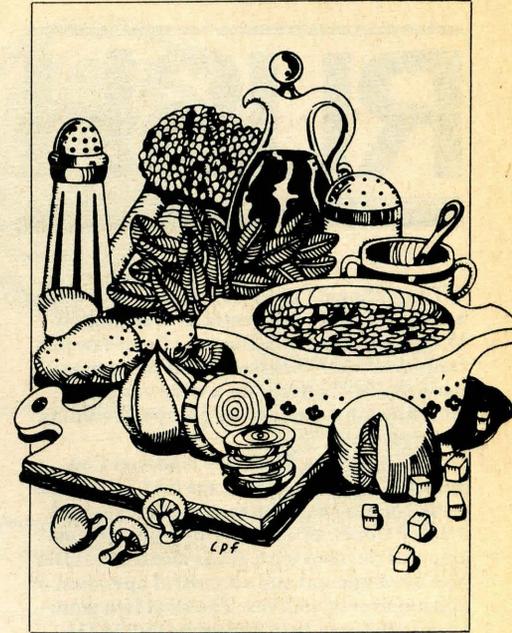
The solution is equally clear. Utilities taking a least-cost approach to providing energy services will find themselves gradually drawn out of the energy generation business and become more involved in providing system stability and transmission as increased energy efficiency and decentralized generation comes to meet a larger portion of utility loads. The result would be an electrical grid that is financially stable, with lower rates for customers and more money available for other things. —KB

Information Resources in the U.S.A. on New and Renewable Energy: A Description and Directory, prepared by the Technical Information Center, U.S. Department of Energy, June 1, 1981, 80pp., free, from:

**Public Information Services
Bureau of Public Affairs
Room 4827 A
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520**

Prepared as a U.S. government contribution to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Energy held in Nairobi, Kenya in August, this directory lists and briefly describes hundreds of research organizations, trade associations, nonprofit groups and specialized libraries which provide information on various forms of alternative energy. Also listed are federal and state energy offices and computerized energy data bases.

The book is a valuable resource. It's too bad more attention was not paid to making its contents readily accessible. As a case in point: how would you go about finding the entry for RAIN? Forget the index; none is provided. We are not among the organizations in the "Energy Information Resources" section, we don't appear as an "Information Center" and we are not referred to as a periodical. The fact is, we are listed (with no cross-referencing) as a "Regional Network of Private Organizations." That's probably the "worst case" example; with some initial awareness of the book's idiosyncracies, anyone with an interest in renewable energy should still be able to use it to uncover a wealth of useful information. We can hope that information will soon be made even more useful in a revised edition, complete with index. —JF



FOOD

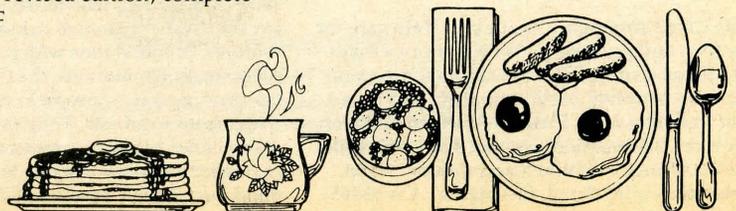
**The Berkeley Co-op Food Book, edited by Helen Black, 1980, 276pp., \$7.95, from: Bull Publishing Company
P.O. Box 208
Palo Alto, CA 94302**

This book is a veritable encyclopedia of valuable consumer information. It is packed with short, entertaining and skillfully written articles, graphics, recipes and more, all revolving around the theme of helping consumers to save money while food shopping and to prepare foods more tastefully and nutritiously. You can use it to learn how coffee beans are processed, the difference between carob and cocoa, how to avoid gas when eating beans, and even how much money you can save by making bread at home.

An appendix includes useful information on nutrition. A chart of "Estimated Safe and Adequate Daily Dietary Intakes of Selected Vitamins and Minerals" gives supplement users clues whether they might be overdoing it or not.

All in all, this book is going to find a good home in my library—if it isn't always off in the kitchen or dining room. —Kalee Powell

Kalee is on the staff of Portland's Nutrition Information Center.



RUSH

The National Public Law Training Center is a non-profit training center in Washington, D.C. which promotes the use of non-lawyers trained in legal knowledge and skills to expand needed services for a wide variety of consumer and community groups, including cooperatives.

Under a contract with the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, the NPLTC is presently conducting a series of eight regional 2 1/2 day workshops to provide legal information and develop legal skills needed for effective development and successful operation of consumer cooperatives. The final two workshops are being held November 5-7 in Detroit, Michigan and December 3-5 in San Francisco, California. Application forms are available from regional NCCB offices or from NPLTC, 2000 P Street, NW Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20036, 202/872-0660.

Additionally, the NPLTC is holding a session on "Law and the Elderly" October 13-16 at the General Scott Inn in Washington, DC. This session will probe the needs and legal concerns of older Americans including age discrimination, health services, benefit programs, and nursing home issues. Questions? Contact Rosalyn Voige at NPLTC, 202/872-0660.

First there was the Sierra Club calendar, then came the Women's calendar. Now you can be the first in your neighborhood to have the ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN CALENDAR 1982. Left Bank Books/Charleton Stew is presently preparing such a calendar as a co-publishing project. It is planned to be 11" x 17" with multi-colored, quality paper and cover. Left Bank/Charleton Stew is NOT government funded, and labor on the project is donated. Proceeds from this publication will go towards the expense of producing other publications. Order from Left Bank Books, Box 6, 92 Pike Street, Seattle, WA 98101

The New Mexico Solar Energy Institute at New Mexico State University is offering a series of workshops and activities in addition to its involvement in the "Showcase for Technology" Conference, which is being held October 28-30 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The series includes (among others), "Solar Domestic Hot Water for Contractors, Builders and Owner/Builders," "Introduction to Residential Uses of Solar," and "Photovoltaics for Residential Use." To learn more about either the series or the conference, contact Susan Mumma, Information Specialist, NMSEI-NMSU, P.O. Box 3 SOL, Las Cruces, NM 88003, 505/646-4112.

Tree Crops Internship available. Help care for the fruit and nut trees of the Farallones Institute Rural Center. This educational program includes pruning, cover cropping, and bare-root tree crop sales. Position starts in October. For more information, contact Robert Kourik, c/o Farallones Institute Rural Center, 15290 Coleman Valley Road, Occidental, CA 95465, 707/874-3060.

An intensive four-day short course in "Developments in Waste Management Technologies for Small Systems" is being offered October 26-29 at the University of California, Davis. The course is designed to provide sanitary engineers with an assessment of the state of the art of four waste management systems suitable for inclusion in small waste treatment systems, based on the most current research findings from the UC Davis campus. Enrollment is limited and the fee is \$200, non-credit only. For further details contact University Extension, UC Davis, CA 95616, 916-752-0880.

A conference on "Energy and the City" will be held Saturday, November 14 in Berkeley, California. Participants and speakers will explore the overlooked relationships between energy conservation and production and urban issues, such as land use, transportation patterns, and employment in low-income areas. Planners, elected officials, energy entrepreneurs, community activists and others interested in or involved with energy use and the city are encouraged to attend. For more information and registration materials, contact "Energy and the City" Urban Ecology, 1939 Cedar Street, Berkeley, CA 94709.

The Geothermal Resource Council's 1981 annual meeting will take place October 25-29 in Houston, Texas at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel. The theme of this year's meeting, "The International Success Story," was chosen to emphasize the value and promise of geothermal energy in the unfolding energy picture of today. The papers being presented will highlight the latest success stories from around the world. For more information contact Geothermal Resources Council, Annual Meeting, P.O. Box 98, Davis, CA 95617, 916-758-2360.

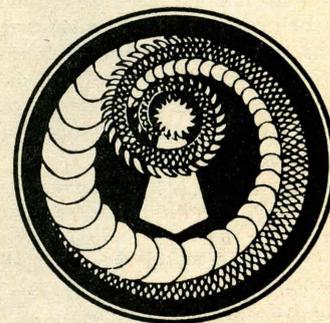
We're seeing it. Federal grants are being cut back. Competition for foundation grants is fiercer than ever at a time when foundations have less to give. Programs and trainings on grant writing are being offered through The Grantsmanship Center and through the National Grant Development Institute, and from the looks of testimonials on the publicity announcements, the trainings are beneficial. Both organizations provide an extensive schedule of seminars in a variety of locations nationwide. For a complete listing of program dates, write Claire Wilson, St. Louis University, National Grant Development Institute, Metropolitan College, 221 North Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63103, 800-325-8160, or Joan Sullivan, The Grantsmanship Center, 1031 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90015, 800-421-9512.

Approximately 35 percent of every federal tax dollar finances current military expenditures; another 17 percent helps pay past war debts and expenses. Besides weighing heavily on the consciences of people who would rather not contribute to this madness, these vast expenditures drain resources that could be available for human needs. The Conscience and Military Tax Campaign is a national organization committed to the passage of a World Peace Tax Fund, legislation which would allow conscientious individuals to redirect tax dollars from war-preparation to more productive ventures. In cooperation with peace, church, and educational organizations, the CMTC provides information to assist people in exploring alternatives to paying for war. They encourage all peaceminded people to consider the implications of paying for war while working for peace. For additional information, send a SASE to CMTC, 44 Bellhave Road, Bellport, NY 11713.

We first heard about Bill Mollison through the Tilth folks who were really excited about his concept of Permaculture; a consciously designed sustainable and productive agricultural life-support system. In Permaculture, shelters, ponds, gardens, grain plots, tree crops, and animals are combined and sited to channel the natural energies of the landscape into forms available for human use. By working with ecological cycles and stressing perennial species, Permaculture creates integrated, low-maintenance systems.

Bill, author of *Permaculture I* and *Permaculture II*, and founder of the Permaculture Institute, Tasmania, Australia, has been teaching around the world. His 12-day course teaches design concepts as well as practical skills. Rural, urban and suburban designs will be practiced in the fieldwork assignments. This course is being offered October 5-17 in a rural setting 35 miles northeast of Toronto, Ontario. The cost is \$550 for tuition, three meals daily, and shared accommodation. Registration is limited to 25 people. Send a \$200 deposit and a one-page letter summarizing your interests and experience and how you intend to apply Permaculture to Permaculture Association of Canada, 129 Pinewood Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6C-2V4, Canada.

The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) is a non-profit educational and research organization serving the Berkshire Community in the fields of renewable sources of energy, home weatherization and conservation, and community energy management. This fall they are holding workshops at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield, MA. The workshops are \$45 each, with some scholarships available. The topics range from "Wind Energy" to "Permaculture" to "Solar Retrofitting Your House" or "Solar Domestic Hot Water." For more information, or the complete series schedule, contact Alan Silberstein, CET, 74 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201, 413/445-4556.



A variety of training programs is being provided to support the growing cooperative movement and to help make co-ops more effective. NASCO Cooperative Education and Training Institute and the National Public Law Training Center's project are two such programs.

NASCO's Institute '81 is a 3-day convergence in Ann Arbor, Michigan, of over 400 co-op members, directors, managers, and leaders who will take part in workshops covering a wide variety of food, housing, energy, work, warehouse, and federation co-ops. The dates are October 30-November 1. For more information contact NASCO, Box 7293, Ann Arbor, MI 88107, 313/663-0889.

**RAINPAPER NO. 1
Consumer Guide to Woodstoves**

Bill Day

16 pp., Revised Jan. 1981, \$3.60

No matter how you split it, wood is re-emerging as an important factor in home heating. To help insure the wood energy transition is one committed to safety and efficiency, wood stove consumer Bill Day has closely monitored the availability and reliability of these products. His newly revised and expanded *Consumer Guide* is a compilation of his articles in *RAIN*, covering the selection, installation and repair of woodstoves, wood cookstoves and wood furnaces. Included are helpful notes on fireplace retrofits and chimney maintenance. Essential reading for those of you interested in this revitalized energy alternative.



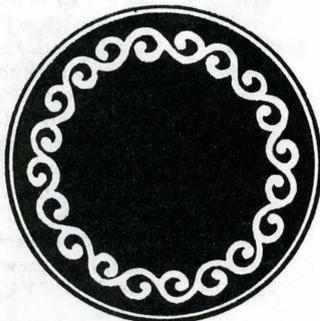
Editing Your Newsletter

A GUIDE TO WRITING, DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Mark Beach

76 pp., 1980, published by Coast to Coast Books, \$7.75

Mark 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.



Helping Ourselves

Local Solutions to Global Problems

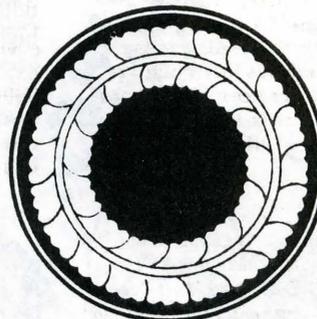
Helping Ourselves

LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL PROBLEMS

Bruce Stokes

160 pp., 1981, published by W.W. Norton & Co., \$6.00

This superb synthesis of self-help concepts and strategies contains inspiring examples of successful local projects in countries all across the political spectrum, indicating that what we are trying to accomplish in our towns and neighborhoods is part of a worldwide movement with a momentum of its own.



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For those requiring an invoice, billing fee is \$5.00



Wild Teas, Coffees & Cordials, by Hilary Stewart, 1981, 128pp., \$7.95, from: University of Washington Press Seattle, WA 98105

If you live in the Pacific Northwest, take this book along on your next hike. Selecting 50 plants found in the region, Stewart provides background into the growing habits of each species, describes how and when to harvest it, and discusses a number of methods for making herbal teas and coffees, cool lemonades, hot spicy drinks, refreshing juices, and even cordials. Her own finely worked line drawings, reproduced full page, accompany each plant, enabling the reader without extensive botanical knowledge to find and identify it. Some of these goodies can even be found in urban backyards.

The book is also filled with interesting tidbits. For instance, Mountain Sorrel is so high in vitamin C that it was once eaten to prevent scurvy, Indians from the Thompson tribe used blackcap juice as a red stain for wood and other materials, and . . . well, maybe you should just read the book yourself! —MR

From *Wild Teas, Coffees & Cordials*

RAIN

2270 NW Irving, Portland, OR 97210
(503) 227-5110

