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RAIN

ECO-NET

RAIN

Community Communications
Good News From Ghana

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RAIN MAGAZINE

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ACCESS

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

All you librarians and mailbox watchers might want to take note: there will be a longer than usual delay between this issue and the next one. This is not a mailing problem. Our combined August/September issue (Vol. VIII, No. 10) will be out in mid-August. Nothing to worry about — we just need to work some extra time into our schedule to catch up on a hundred other things! — The Rainmakers

LETTERS

Friends,

Religion and appropriate technology? [see RAIN VIII:7:12-16] Maybe the two aren't so far apart. How we view ourselves and our planet — and the relationships among species — helps to shape our sense of ethics. James Watt views nature and technology with one set of values. The hunter-gatherer people of the world have something different in mind. Perhaps some of the readers of RAIN are developing a third course that will eventually find a religious expression. Time will tell.

I recommend two new books that often focus on the spiritual roots of the ecology movement. Both books may be of special interest to RAIN readers.

John Muir and His Legacy by Stephen Fox is more than a biography of the Sierra Club's half-legendary founder. Historian Fox concludes his work with an excellent chapter on "the religion of conservation." It's a good historical account of the religious impulse behind the work of several prominent American environmentalists. (*John Muir* was published by Little, Brown, and Co., Boston, in 1981.)

Drawing Down the Moon by Margot Adler is a thorough account, critical but

sympathetic, of the author's meetings with American "neo-pagans." At first, it seems as if Adler is writing another sensationalized account of the suburban witchcraft scene. Books on the occult, the weird, and the bizarre never seem to go out of style with American publishers. Margot Adler, however, has broken away from the pack to present an intelligent introduction to a new generation of American witches and Druids. "Neo-paganism" in the 1980s seems to have attracted a mix of radical feminists and ecologists. Much is being said in the new "covens" — "support groups" may be a better term — about environmental ethics, appropriate technology, and holistic concepts of health. (*Drawing Down the Moon* was published by Beacon Press, Boston, in paperback, 1980.)

Fox and Adler may be picking up the early signals of something new and significant in American culture. In any event, the two authors have both written books that are worth reading. RAIN readers may want to take a look.

Best wishes,
David Murphy
Boston, MA

Dear RAIN People,

Thank you for printing Murray Bookchin's "The Ecology of Freedom" in a recent issue [VIII:6:7]. Dense prose is right, but *well* worth it — the second, third and fourth times through! Keep that heady stuff coming!

Sandy Kalmakoff
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Rainers,

Thank you very much for your nice review of our *Human Economy Bibliography* [RAIN VIII:7:10]. Sorry we forgot to give you the price. It's $7.50 to individuals, and $12.00 to libraries and bookstores.

Also sorry about the weakness of our science section, which we acknowledge. We still have a long way to go to catch up with Stewart Brand and Bucky Fuller, who seem to know everything about everything. Probably by next year. . . .

Thanks for all your good work. I hope to get to Portland one of these days, and look forward to a chance to meet with you.

John Applegath
The Human Economy Center
Amherst, MA

Dear Steve Rudman:

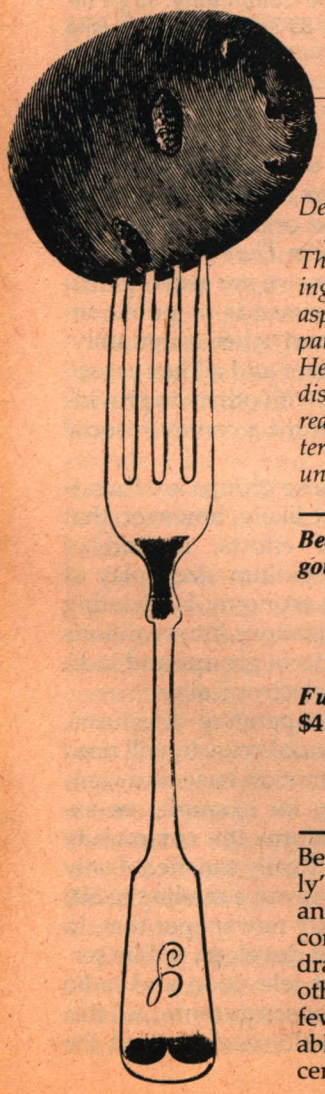
Without a doubt, your review of the *Conserve Neighborhoods* Organizing Kit [RAIN VIII:6:6] is the most flattering notice that we have ever received. We appreciate the coverage and it boosted our spirits tremendously.

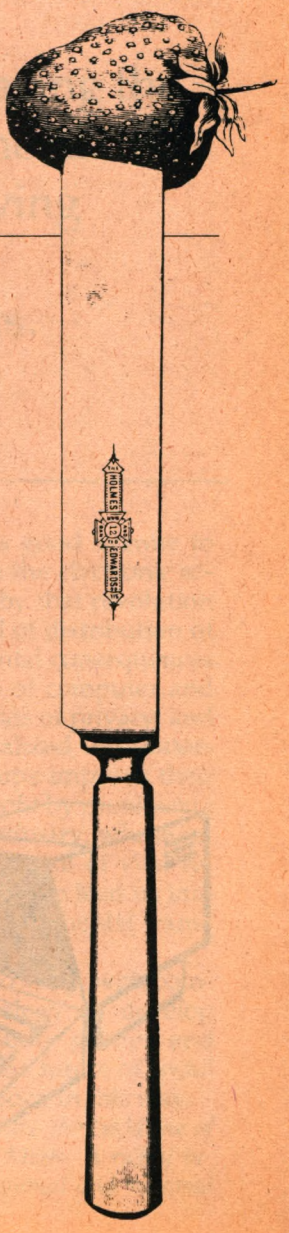
Best Wishes,
Maureen Ferris Pepson
Conserve Neighborhoods
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Washington, DC

Dear Editor:

University of Washington Press recently mailed me several reviews of my books. Among them was your publication's attractive layout of my drawings from *Wild Teas, Coffees and Cordials* encircling a nice review of the book [RAIN VIII:1:24] written by one MR [Mark Roseland]. I was quite delighted to see this artistic arrangement and would like to thank whoever was responsible.

Sincerely,
Hilary Stewart
Vancouver, B.C.





Dear Nancy [Cosper],

Enjoyed your article ["Good Cooks in Their Own Write," RAIN VIII:5:12]. Learning to cook and eat lightly is an important aspect of weaning ourselves away from the patterns of the plastic fantastic energy age. Here are my favorites of the cookbooks I've discovered in recent years. They're the ones I really use (as evidenced by pages amply splattered by beet juice, soy sauce and various unidentifiable substances). — Lane deMoll

***Bean Cuisine: A Culinary Guide for the Eco-gourmet*, Beverly White, 1977, $3.95 from:**
Beacon Press
25 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108

***Full of Beans*, Peta Lyn Farwagi, 1978, $4.95 from:**
Harper Colophon Books
10 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022

Beans are an important part of my family's diet (when in doubt I cook lentils!) and I'm constantly finding tasty new combinations in these two books. Both draw heavily on traditional recipes from other countries, which makes sense since few people besides Americans have been able to afford a diet so heavily meat-centered.

***Wings of Life*, *Vegetarian Cookery*, Julie Jordan, 1976, $5.95 from:**
The Crossing Press
17 W. Main Street
Trumansburg, NY 14886

A joyful original cookbook that includes my favorite, "Dumbfounding Caraway Borscht." The recipes are full of nutritional, personal and general how-to information. I like it when the "I" of the author is an important part of a book — especially a cookbook.

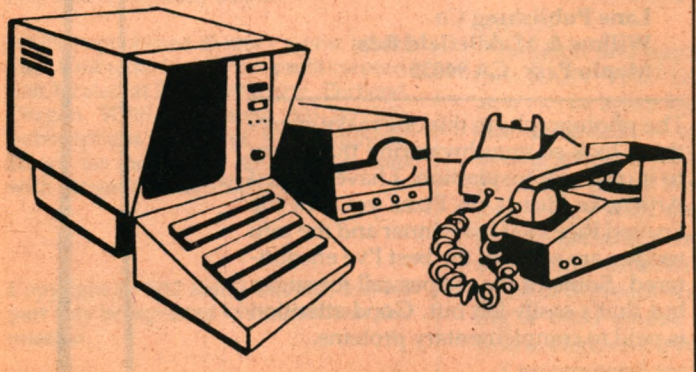
***Vegetarian Cookery*, Sunset Magazine, 1981, $3.95 from:**
Lane Publishing Co.
Willow & Middlefield Rds.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

The photographs in this one make everything look so mouthwatering that I turn to it often for inspiration. I haven't tried Artichoke Hearts on Pizza yet, but the Fruited Rice Pilaf is a winner and the tofu recipes are some of the best I've encountered. Some of the recipes call for sugar, but that's easily left out. Good attention is paid to complementary proteins.

Lane deMoll is a good friend, and former editor, of RAIN.

Reach Out, Reach Out And Byte Some-one

by Steve Johnson



As many of our readers know, the Rain Umbrella shelters both RAIN Magazine and another information-rich entity called the Rain Community Resource Center (RCRC). Drawing upon thousands of books, files and resource lists and utilizing several computer-mediated communicaton systems and databases, RCRC staffers provide a wide variety of information services to community groups, government agencies and individuals.

Steve Johnson, RCRC coordinator, is himself a remarkable information resource. A pioneer in the publication of people's yellow pages, a co-founder of RAIN Magazine in 1974, and an experimenter with several early community-based applications of computer technology, Steve now has more than a decade of experience in bringing the benefits of the "information revolution" to grassroots organizations. Recently, he distilled his considerable knowledge and experience into Information and Communication Technology for the Community, *a book prepared in conjunction with a conference of the same name sponsored by Portland's Center for Urban Education (CUE). It is an excellent guide to the implications of the emerging information-based society and to applications of the new electronic technologies which can help community groups better cope with the current realities of short staffs and non-flowing cash. For people intrigued by (and perhaps a bit wary of) such terms as "computer conferencing," electronic mail," and "database communication," this book provides concise descriptions and scores of examples of ways in which the new information and communication technologies are being (or could be) put to socially beneficial uses.*

The excerpts which appear below summarize possible community-based applications and describe how groups around the country are already putting computers or telecommunications technology to use in a variety of intriguing ways. These excerpts can only provide a taste of the wide-ranging text and exhaustive resource listings in Information and Communication Technology for the Community. *To get the whole story, get the whole book. See page 23 to learn how. — John Ferrell*

One of the characteristics of the 1970s that may be remembered long after others have been forgotten is the emergence of issue-oriented organizations. Contrary to Philip Slater's commentary in *The Pursuit of Loneliness* that Americans seek isolation, we are also organizers and belongers. In the 70s thousands of public interest, grassroots, neighborhood and other community-based groups were formed. Volunteer and ad hoc associations allowed individuals to work with others to provide for themselves and/or to work toward a common social goal.

Now there is some sense that these groups are threatened with extinction. It seems more likely, however, that volunteer and community-based efforts, instead of dying out, will reorganize like a stadium-sized play of musical chairs. A resource-scarce economy is dictating the reconfiguration of many organizations into coalitions and consortiums as well as networks of groups and individuals in touch with one another electronically.

In addition to looking to new cooperative structures, small organizations, facing the financial crunch, will need to examine their underlying information base and communication efforts. A group may, for example, be expending an enormous effort to inform the community about a workshop it is sponsoring. Really satisfied if only 30 people show up, the group sends out a mailing to 500 people, purchases an ad in a weekly newspaper that, in theory, reaches 20,000 people, and develops public service announcements for broadcast television and radio which, again in theory, reaches thousands more. All this to reach the 30 people who will ultimately attend the

workshop.

As new information and communication technologies develop, groups can find more and better ways to reach these people. For example, a computerized mailing list can be sorted by keywords indicating the areas of interest of persons on the list. Thus it becomes possible to focus a mailing on a fairly specific group.

Countless other examples come to mind of ineffective processes which may have underlying solutions in effective use of the new technology. For example, an inordinate amount of staff time and meager resources can be taken up with attending meetings and conferences. Although not satisfactory as a replacement for all meetings and conferences (which have their own *raison d'etre* in human contact) new forms of computer conferencing systems such as EIES — the Electronic Information Exchange System (see box) present us with some alternatives. Groups that need to keep in touch with like-minded groups around the country could develop on-going meetings via computer where no one would arrive late and no one would need to be responsible for keeping the minutes — the computer would do it.

Lawyers and other individuals who provide technical assistance to small organizations could also use computer-mediated communication systems to good advantage. A model can be seen in Manfred Kochen's description in *Information for the Community* of a "referential consulting network" for libraries which would allow geographically dispersed librarians to assist each other with library patron information needs. An electronic commons, or bulletin board space, would be created where libraries could post information requests which could be read by other librarians and responded to at their convenience. A database of answers to inquiries might also be stored on-line, indexed, and made available to the rest of the network. These answers could be used as "canned" responses when similar questions were received in the future. They could be easily written up and incorporated into a response sent on-line or through the mails.

Another underlying information expense of small organizations is in continuing education for staff. Effectiveness, for example, in monitoring a policy issue and researching the possible alternatives and consequences demands a lot of time, especially in today's information-glutted world. The plight of the individual in a small organization is much like the situation of the modern scientist:

In the world as a whole there are now more than 50,000 journals pouring through university and academic presses every year. They are increasing in size at a compound rate of four percent a year. It is common for journals to double their size every five years . . . If a scientist spends a given proportion of his time catching up with his field and continues dedicating the same proportion for twenty years, he will clearly acquire knowledge over a rapidly decreasing proportion of the necessary and relevant material. If he increases the proportion of his time dedicated to scanning the outpouring of the field, he will have no time for anything else. There are clear and painful mathematical constraints that must begin to operate. — Goodbye Gutenberg.

On-line databases, such as offered through the DIALOG system, may abstract only a thin slice of the information a community organization desires. For example, very few databases contain information on what librarians call "fugitive literature": material prepared by non-standard publishers, such as community groups themselves. With good microcomputer technology and relatively inexpensive ways to communicate data, community groups could become providers for a database, working by themselves or in a consortium with others. Again, all through the electronic medium.

An organization involved in publishing could obviously benefit by using a microcomputer or stand-alone word processing equipment. The group might also discover, as newspapers have, that the information it produces (once it has been made machine readable) can be reproduced in a variety of formats, all of which may serve as a commodity in addition to the original publication. It will be easy to update and (through selective keyboard retrieval) endlessly tailormade to the user's particular need.

Clearly, community organizations can profit in many ways from using the new forms of electronic technology.

Small organizations facing the financial crunch will need to examine their underlying information base and communication efforts.

Learning how to use a computer is a good avenue to finding out about and participating in the electronic revolution, but important issues raised by that revolution must also be kept in mind: the control of distribution of knowledge; the social and environmental consequences (both good and bad) of the evolution of computer and telecommunication technology; questions of privacy; and societal vulnerability in an over-centralized, computer-managed society. As community groups improve their own "computer literacy" they will benefit by monitoring the information and communication industry, whose influence is spreading through direct control of vital resources and whose capacity is increasing to lead us into either an electronic nightmare or a fundamental transformation.

Peter and Trudy Johnson-Lenz, who work with computer and telecommunication technology to develop humane social structures for community groups and others have expressed their vision of the future of social networks mediated by the new technology in this way:

Decentralized interdependent networks are the backbone of the social and political movements of the 1980s. A richly interconnected web is emerging of local, regional and national

Clearly, community organizations can profit in many ways from using the new forms of electronic technology.

networks including neighborhoods, communities, organizations and associations. This network is beginning to carry out the "Third Wave" into the communications era and out of the waning industrial era patterns of centralization, control of nature and exploitation of lesser developed cultures. By its very nature, this network of networks offers a locally owned and controlled, democratic alternative to centralized government and allocation of limited resources. Simultaneously, the advent of relatively low-cost micro-computers is making possible communications and information exchange networks which are themselves physically decentralized and locally owned and controlled. Such technology provides the nervous system of the emerging social change networks. □□

EIES New Jersey Institute of Technology
323 High Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

EIES (the Electronic Information Exchange System) is one of the more fascinating electronic communication experiments around. Over the past six years, hundreds of people have come and gone using the system for sociological experiments, as a tool for developing networks of like-minded individuals, as an interactive database, a participatory trip through the future of agriculture, an environment to offer related electronic age services, and an inquiry/exchange network among state legislators.

EIES was developed to be used by computer illiterates and so is very user-friendly with pages and pages of on-line explanations of choices which can be easily retrieved with a simple question mark at any point where the user feels lost.

One of the more dynamic aspects of EIES is the use of INTERACT, a "string-processing-oriented-language" which allows users to do some programming (in what is basically abbreviated English) to perform tasks to meet their specific needs.

On EIES, communication takes place between individuals who type messages at their computer or computer terminal and send them to the EIES computer at the New Jersey Institute of Technology; the messages are delivered to the recipient's "mailbox" where it is available when he/she next logs-on to the system. Communication also takes place in a conference-format where individuals type in messages that are gathered in one place for all members of a particular conference to review at their convenience. Conferences can be used to hold on-line meetings, with all participants on at the same time, or discussions about some topic(s) that may last for weeks or even years. Conferences are also used by some as a means to maintain regular communication with certain other persons, e.g. branch offices. All the messages are kept (with occasional purges) and indexed so that participants may call forth old comments, or print-out the transcript of a "meeting." Text-editing and document formating commands are available so that text from a meeting, or other information stored in one's "notebook" can be nicely printed up.

Extensive study has been done about the impact on communication patterns of people who use EIES. *The Network Nation* by Murray Turoff and Starr Roxanne Hiltz (Addison-Wesley, 1978) is filled with insights about computer-mediated communication environments and speculations about what roles such systems might play in the future.

ACCESS

ORGANIZATIONS USING COMPUTERS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Alternative Media Center
New York University
725 Broadway
New York, NY 10003

The Center has designed and assisted in the development of community services using interactive cable-TV and other information and communication technologies, including a Nursing Home Telemedicine Project, interactive citizen participation system in Burkes County, Pennsylvania, and an education network at University of Wisconsin. More recently they have been involved in a demonstration of a broadcast videotex system through the Public Broadcasting System at its Washington, D.C. affiliate.

Berkeley Solar Group
Computer Services
3140 Grove St.
Berkeley, CA 94703
415-843-7600

Provides computing services for architects. The group offers its services directory to the local community and via telephone and computer or computer terminal from other locations using Telenet and Tymenet. Programs and databases include:
FCHARTS and FCHART4 for analysis of active solar energy housing installations and CALPA3 for passive systems, as well as WEATHER, a database on climate features in 250 locations in the U.S.

Communitree Group
470 Castro St., Suite 207-3002
San Francisco, CA 94114
415-474-0933 (voice)
415-928-0641 (modem/computer)

Communitree is a teleconferencing system for Apple computer users, available in several locations around the country via telephone connections. Conferences are established about different topics, such as health, micro-computers and sharing software, while others are open ended.

COMPUTER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS (COMMUNITY)

Communication Arts Department
6035 Vilas Hall
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706
(contact: Tim Haight).

They are compiling a profile of community groups using computers.

Community Computer/Alternet
9498 Argonne Way
Forestville, CA 95436
707-887-9676

A locally owned and worker/member operated computer access center, they also publish an extensive directory to community computer activities, "The Computerists Directory."

Community Computers
137 S St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

This group is developing computer services for community-based organizations.

Community On-Line Information System
c/o Roy Kaplow
Division for Study and Research in Education
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02139

The Communty On-Line Information System is being developed for the Cambridge Public Library and includes the development of a community database and computer-assisted educational instruction.

Computertown
PO Box E/1236 El Camino Real
Menlo Park, CA 94025
415-323-3111

Over a period of two years Computertown has run many classes, playdays, learning fairs and on-going study groups, as well as making computers available in public places such as libraries, all in an attempt to provide computer literacy for people of all ages. More recently, with a grant from the National Science Foundation, they are offering support for others to establish similar programs in other communities. Each issue of their newsletter lists yet more affiliated (and other) computer literacy projects around the country.

Dallas Public Library
1954 Commerce St.
Dallas, TX 75201
214-748-9071

The Dallas Public Library has used a computer in providing community information to the local community for seven years. They have expanded the database to include information about community resources in a 16-county area, and now provide access to on-line databases (dialog).

Food for Thought
1834 East Speedway
Tucson, AZ 85719

Food for Thought is an example of the growing number of computer access centers in local communities. Membership allows one to use a variety of computers and computer programs. Hands-on classes are offered to get people up and running.

Lower West Side Resource and Development Corporation
266 W. Tupper St.
Buffalo, NY 14210

They collect information about the structural condition of housing, and neighborhood opinion information, using a small computer to analyze the data.

Microcomputer Information Support Tools
Peter and Trudy Johnson-Lenz
695 5th Ave.
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Peter and Trudy Johnson-Lenz have applied computer tools to the needs of neighborhoods, communities, and small organizations for seven years. They begin with a group's needs and then find or develop the computer tools appropriate for the situation. For the past five years, they have worked with the Electronic Information Exchange System (EIES), a computerized conferencing system for networking and group work. They have also developed a microcomputer system for networking and communication. MIST 2.0 (Microcomputer Information Support Tools) is "the networker's electronic toolchest," combining word processing, document formatting, telecommunications, remote use, and database management in one integrated package. MIST can be used to prepare newsletters and directories, to manage mailing lists, to maintain community calendars and talent banks, and through remote access, as a local electronic message center, as a "network commons" of community information resources, and as an intelligent terminal to other computers.

Midwood Kings Highway Development Corporation
1410 Avenue M
Brooklyn, NY 11220

They are conducting a street inventory of the condition of existing trees and evaluating sites suitable for new plantings using a computer to sort and analyze the information.

New York Public Library
8 East 40th St.
New York, NY 10016
212-790-6161

The library uses a computer to compile a directory of over 2000 organizations in the Midtown area of New York.

One
1105 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60640
312-769-3232

ONE is a coalition of 50 community-based organizations in a part of Chicago. In 1981 they received assistance from the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research at Norhwestern University to procure a micro-computer for the neighborhood. The Apple II they acquired with a grant from the Joyce Foundation is being used to develop a graphic mapping system which will track and display the neighborhood's demographic information. They are also considering using the computer for developing a skill bank, and to use it as an electronic bulletin board.

Open Network (Network Resources)
PO Box 18666
Denver, CO 80218

OPEN uses a computer in managing an information and idea exchange that has users in 37 states and nine countries. An account on the system costs $30 a year. Through the network one may locate individuals and sources of information to answer questions and needs. Users have found plumbers, writers, babysitters, mathematicians, anthropologists, consultants, cooks, and husbands. An information packet is available for $4.00; or their book, *Network Game*, explains the philosophy that guides the operation.

Pikes Peak Library District
20 N. Cascade Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

The library's computer "Maggie" has organized the community information files that are made available to the public. The database has over 750 agencies and organizations. The computer is offered to library patrons with information about education opportunities and events. They

also provide access to other on-line databases, such as DIALOG, at cost plus a $2.00 service fee.

Public Interest Computer Services
PO Box 1061
Berkeley, CA 94701
415-654-9880

Provides computer services to progressive groups and small businesses with public interest goals. Services include list maintenance, word processing, and database management.

Sourcenet
PO Box 6767
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
805-685-4444

Sourcenet provides computer services to local residents and has recently begun to compile databases, with the first one being a directory to 1500 alternative and community publications from around the country.

Village Design (Community Memory)
PO Box 996
Berkeley, CA 94701

Publishers of the Journal of Community Communications, one of the best journals dealing with computers, telecommunications, networks, community information and information politics. Also inheritors of the Community Memory legacy that goes back to the installation of computers in public places as electronic bulletin boards. They are developing software and information systems for community-based organizations.

Volunteers in Technical Assistance
3706 Rhode Island Ave.
Mt. Rainer, MD 20712
301-277-7000

VITA provides technical assistance through providing information, consultants and volunteers to projects that assist developing countries with technology development. They presently assist the Control Data Corporation in developing its Technology for Development Data Base, which Control Data offers to subscribers via computers and computer terminals on a subscription basis.

For about a year they have supported a satellite conferencing program linking users of renewable energy information in the South Pacific to VITA staff/volunteers in the United States.

In March 1982 they hosted a meeting to discuss issues concerning the information revolution's impact on developing countries.

Women's Resources/Computers
613 Lombard St.
Philadelphia, PA 19147
215-922-4403

A nonprofit feminist computer project that seeks to use information technology for outreach, networking, resource sharing and communication in the women's movement.

NETWORKING

***Networking: The First Report and Directory*, Jessica Lipnack and Jeffrey Stamps, 1982, 398 pp., $15.95 from:**
Doubleday & Co.
245 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10167

Networking is a much-needed, accurate (and poetic!) account of what is happening in/with/to the social change movement. Now I know what to point to when someone asks "whatever happened to all those radicals of the sixties?"

Networking is without a doubt THE best reporting on today's movement I've read. It is an incredibly mature piece of writing, full of humor, insights, and imagery that makes manageable what might be difficult for some readers unfamiliar with the subject matter. "Outsiders" might find the topic fascinating, but in the long run, *Networking* will be of most benefit to those who are already (or soon to be) part of what Lipnack and Stamps call "Another America," the consciousness and heartbeat of the movement.

Networking is two books in one. The first carefully describes the concepts of networking and divides the networks into sub-categories. These are healing networks — health and life cycle; sharing networks — communities and cooperatives; using networks — ecology and energy; valuing networks — politics and economics; learning networks — education and communications; growing networks — personal and spiritual growth; and evolving networks — global and futures. While examining these parts separately, Lipnack and Stamps manage to give us a coherent picture of the whole.

The "second book" is the dirctory, the shaded-cornered and coded pages which mark the listings of some 1600 groups exemplifying each of the types of networks Lipnack and Stamps describe. In addition, the groups are cross-referenced alphabetically, geographically, by issues and interests, and by a sampling of publications — a remarkable feat and an indispensable reference!

It is evident that Lipnack and Stamps have infused their work with great love and respect. And because of this, *Networking* can and will — for those of us who read and use it — further the cause and vision of our own work. — Nancy Cosper

***Media Access Guide*, 1982, 34 pp. $6.00 ppd. from:**
Metrocenter YMCA
909 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

***The 1982 Oregon Media Guide*, 69 pp., $7.50 from:**
Center for Urban Education
0245 SW Bancroft
Portland, OR 97201

If you are a Northwest resident and want to get your message out but are not sure where to start, two media guides have recently been published that can help. Both list newspapers, radio, and television stations; and both give solid advice and examples of ways to communicate more effectively with and through the media.

The *Media Access Guide* will help reach out in the King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties of western Washington. The strength of this guide lies in the strategies and techniques outlined for making effective use of the media. It details the hows, whys, and wherefores of a simple press release for an event, a public service announcement, or a press conference or story of major dimensions. It separates the media into dailies, weeklies, radio, and TV, followed by the directory listings. The *Guide* even takes you through the process of dealing with a complaint about improper media coverage, and ends with the names and addresses, in mailing list format, of the major media outlets in the Puget Sound area.

The 1982 Oregon Media Guide, in its fifth edition bigger and better than ever, lists all of Oregon's media geographically. Access details the publishers, owner, circulation, format, scope, contacts, and comments. Special interest publications and newsletters from such categories as "The Arts," "Business," "Church," "Government," and "Public Affairs" are included, along with a listing of media groups and associations. The guide is indexed by medium and by city. The 1982 version of the *Oregon Media Guide* has gone up in price but, as one Oregon activist who uses it frequently put it ". . . it is worth it's weight in gold." — Nancy Cosper

FREEDOM

***Naming Names*, by Victor Navasky, 1980 482 pp., $5.95 from:**
Penguin Books
625 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022

***Hollywood Red*, by Lester Cole, 1981, 448 pp., $12.95 hardcover from:**
Ramparts Press
P.O. Box 50128
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Ronald Reagan, so the story goes, was approached one day in the early 1950s by a young actress named Nancy Davis who had a serious problem. Her name had mistakenly shown up on a list of Hollywood "Reds" and she was being denied work in the film industry. As president of SAG (the Screen Actors Guild), could Reagan please help? He could and did. Nancy Davis' name was cleared and she soon became Nancy Reagan. The rest, as they say, is history.

Or perhaps history in the making? Recently, Reagan's current successor as SAG president, Edward Asner, was the target of anonymous hate letters and death threats for his supposed "Communist sympathies" in raising money to buy medical supplies for Salvadoran rebels. And Reagan himself now presides over a national administration which has made noises about "unleashing" the CIA and FBI to resume widespread wiretapping, "black bag" operations, and infiltration of suspect citizen groups. It seems only prudent to review events in the Hollywood of thirty years ago where our Commander-in-Chief received his leadership training and developed his peculiar notions about what constitutes subversion.

Naming Names and *Hollywood Red* give us that opportunity. *Naming Names* focuses on the complexities of the moral dilemma facing actors, directors and screenwriters called to testify before HUAC (the House Unamerican Activities Committee) in the McCarthy/Cold War climate of the late 40s and early 50s. Failure to tell the committee what it wanted to hear could result in loss of work, imprisonment, and branding as a traitor. Talking — especially talking in detail about the suspiciously leftist actions of one's friends and co-workers — could save the job, bring momentary praise for patriotic behavior — and result in a lifetime of guilt. Author Victor Navasky, editor of *The Nation*, does a masterful job of portraying an era of Hollywood history more bizarre, in its way, than any horror film. He makes clear that in the atmosphere of the time there were no easy answers for people targeted by HUAC.

"How Long Would Germany Stand for It?" (*Life*, December 13, 1917)

From: *The First Freedom*

There were families to be considered, promising careers, and (in many cases) genuine confusion or ambivalence about responsibilities to "country" and loyalty to friends. Nonetheless, it is encouraging to note that for every Hollywood witness who informed before HUAC there were two who were willing to jeopardize themselves by refusing to cooperate.

One who refused, and suffered the consequences for decades, was Lester Cole. One of the original "Hollywood Ten" who were sentenced to prison terms in 1947 for contempt of Congress, Cole was, and is, a well known screenwriter with *Born Free* among his many credits. In *Hollywood Red*, he describes his prosperous pre-war career, his political associations, his experiences with HUAC and his life as a blacklisted screenwriter after his release from prison. Cole was able to complete his autobiography with the aid of crucial documents from his FBI file which were finally released to him in 1980. Only after reading these documents did he realize the full absurdity of his situation: the government had carefully monitored his actions for nearly half of his life.

Thirty-two years! Myself and how many others like me, for how long tracked, trailed and tailed. Hundreds of thousands of citizens' tax dollars paid to agents and informers, all to end in nothing. What frustration it must have been for them!

Yet it is a frustration they seem only too willing to experience again — if we let them. — John Ferrell

***The First Freedom: The Tumultuous History of Free Speech in America*, Nat Hentoff, 1980, 340 pp., $9.95 from:**
Delacorte Press
1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Perhaps the most hotly debated, misunderstood, yet cherished principle of our constitution is the First Amendment. For many second- and older-generation North Americans, the right to unlimited freedom of thought and action seems sacrosanct. Yet protection of speech, religious liberty and freedom of the press are all fairly recent concepts, subject to judicial interpretation and repeated public challenge.

Well known and respected as a staff writer for *New Yorker* and *Village Voice*, Hentoff is also a board member of the N.Y. Civil Liberties Union. His writing reflects his partiality; nonetheless, his representation of history is fair and thorough. Hentoff's historical account of the First Amendment opens with a precedent-setting case, in 1735, establishing freedom of the press in the prerevolutionary North

American colonies. Outlining some of the major battles in opposition and defense of free speech, as well as the philosophical questions surrounding the issue, *The First Freedom* traces a wave of sedition laws during the early 1900s used against the Wobblies, anarchists and other radicals; court trials debating the line of separation between church and state in the schools; freedom of the press vs. national security; freedom of assembly in opposing the Vietnam war and in support of the National Socialist Party. Several chapters are devoted specifically to First Amendment cases in the public school system — questions of censorship, obscenity, libel and the right of student journalists to protect the confidentiality of sources.

Judicial commentary and personal stories are quoted extensively throughout the chronicle, transforming the abstract into vivid reality. Considering the rightward swing of the country, the renewed debate over teaching evolution in the schools, and the resurgence of the KKK and Nazi party, this little refresher course might be in order. — Laura Stuchinsky

***J. Robert Oppenheimer, Shatterer of Worlds*, by Peter Goodchild, 1981, 301 pp., $15 hardcover from:**
Houghton Mifflin Company
2 Park Street
Boston, MA 02107

This book tells the story of a complex man, his terrifying invention, his troubled conscience and his tragic downfall. It is the story of the beginnings of the nuclear era and of events and attitudes which continue to shape and threaten our lives.

J. Robert Oppenheimer was a brilliant physicist, the head of the Los Alamos project which produced the world's first atomic bomb. After Hiroshima and Nagasaki he was acclaimed as a national hero, but it was an accolade which clearly troubled him. ("I have blood on my hands," he blurted out during a 1946 White House visit. President Truman was greatly offended). As America moved into a period of Cold War paranoia, Oppenheimer's use of his potent influence in a futile effort to head off a nuclear arms race was viewed with increasing suspicion. Allegations surfaced regarding his left-wing past, and in 1954 he was officially branded a national security risk. Oppenheimer the hero was transformed into Oppenheimer the pariah, but among the men who condemned his policies and questioned his loyalty, the popularity of his awful invention continued unabated.

One could wish his biography were not quite so timely. Prepared in conjunction with a seven-part B.B.C. documentary on Oppenheimer's career, it is being published just as the arms race seems to have taken a new lease on life (or death). There is fascinating material here on the Los Alamos project and on the shaping of Oppenheimer's character, but what may strike the present-day reader most forcefully about this book is the commentary it records from postwar military and political leaders regarding the need for rapid nuclear weapons development and increased attention to "national security." There is a real sense of deja vu here, an uncomfortable confirmation that what we are hearing today are all the same old lines, uttered by a new cast of Grade B actors. — John Ferrell

THE WEATHER

Times Herald

VOL. IX, NO. 162 WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1947 PRICE 5¢

U. S. ATOM SCIENTIST'S BROTHER EXPOSED AS COMMUNIST WHO WORKED ON A-BOMB

U. S. Speeds Arms To Greece on Eve of Paris Parley on Aid

Navy Granted Over 4 Billion By Conferees

—And How's Business?: Goal of 60 Million U. S. Jobs Reached First Time in History

Morse Delays Senate Vote On Tax Cut

Frank Oppenheimer Was at Oak Ridge, Los Alamos Plants

Participation in Red Activities Known To U.S. Security Officials for Months

The front page of the Washington Times Herald *12 July 1947 reporting that Oppenheimer's brother Frank was a one-time member of the Communist party.*

From: *J. Robert Oppenheimer*

LAND

***The Market for Rural Land: Trends, Issues, Policies*, by Robert Healy and James Short, 1981, 310 pp. $12.50 from:**
The Conservation Foundation
1717 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Written for a largely professional audience — regional planners, appraisers and public officials — *The Market for Rural Land* is a fairly technical, extensively referenced analysis of the rural land market: how it works, and what are its observable trends and surfacing issues.

The first half of *The Market for Rural Land* is an overview of the rural land market — the underlying forces that determine supply and demand, resulting in changing ownership, prices and parcel sizes. Inflation, speculation, new agricultural technology and changing social patterns are just a few of the factors involved.

A sizeable portion of the book is devoted to the authors' original research, case studies of six rural communities scattered across the U.S. Land use issues such as increased parcellization, changing ownership patterns (e.g. from small farm operators to absentee "estate" owners) and rising land prices are common concerns of all the counties considered, as are social impacts.

Economists by training, the authors view conservation through the filters of their trade. Rising land prices are blithely passed off as an incentive for more intensive use of the land by farmers and foresters. They reason that increased value will insure greater protection of soil quality, supported by public policy. Unfortunately, there is nothing to suggest that higher prices will ensure greater care. In many instances the opposite has occurred.

The final chapters of the book concentrate on policy alternatives, addressing absentee ownership, land-use issues, and inequalities in the distribution of land. Models of successful mixed-use developments (housing and agriculture/recreation) are suggested as means of meeting both individual and public needs. Tax incentives for rural owners who provide public access onto their land (e.g. for hunting or recreation) and tax reductions for owners who operate their land under a soil-conservation plan approved by their local Soil Conservation District are pieces of a rural tax program that might help ensure responsible rural development. *The Market for Rural Land* conveys the complexity of economic and social forces affecting land use. It also points the way

toward policy innovations that, if not relied upon exclusively, could protect public interests at a time of rapid rural change.
— Laura Stuchinsky

***Protecting Open Space: Land Use Control in the Adirondack Park*, by Richard A. Liroff and G. Gordon Davis, 1981, $32.50 hardcover from:**
Ballinger Publishing Co.
17 Dunster Street, Harvard Square
Cambridge, MA 02138

The Adirondack Park is an undeveloped mountainous scenic area in New York state, about equal in size to the state of Vermont. During the late 1800s many of the successful entrepreneurs of the period built luxurious rustic camps in the Adirondacks. Today it is still a region with many well-off summer visitors and a depressed rural economy in the winter.

In 1894 the voters of New York passed an amendment to the state Constitution saying that the state-owned lands in Adirondack Park would be "forever kept as wild forest land." Only 39% of the land within Park boundaries is state-owned; the rest is privately-owned, and there are numerous villages within the Park. For many years, however, there was no conflict between state and private interests there.

In the early '70s, frightened by a fast-growing market for second homes within the Park, New York created the Adirondack Park Agency to prepare a development plan. *Protecting Open Space* is the story of the Adirondack Park Agency, the plan it drew up, its successes and failures. It is a bit dry and academic for my taste, but anyone interested in land use planning will find it a valuable case study.

And anyone familiar with land use planning in other places will find that both the successes and failures sound familiar. The success is that the Adirondacks are being preserved as a scenic area, and several large developments that were in the works are no longer planned. The failures include a tremendous amount of wasted energy and heartache along the way — people who started projects and found the rules had changed midstream, local citizens who felt their needs and desires were totally ignored. At one point a load of manure was dumped on the agency's front stoop with a sign saying, "We've taken yours for three years, now take ours."

This book is valuable because it takes an openminded position. Some problems with the Adirondack Park Agency could have been avoided; maybe next time they will be. — Elaine Zablocki

Elaine is a freelance writer covering political issues in Oregon. Her primary focus is land use planning.

From: *Life at the Grassroots*

A milk station run by the neighborhood commitee

GOOD THINGS

***Life at the Grassroots*, 1981, 87 pp., $1.30 from:**
Guoji Shudian
P.O. Box 399
Beijing, China

An excellent primer on government policies and local self-help problem solving in China, *Life at the Grassroots* also includes many personal profiles to illustrate the attitudes and daily concerns of Chinese laborers, officials, retired seniors and young people. We meet members of a commune in east central China, workers in a bicycle factory in Shanghai, and herdsmen in a grassland district of Inner Mongolia.

Of special interest is a description of the work of a neighborhood association in Beijing: members, who are elected by the people in their own community and serve without pay, perform the usual functions familiar to their American counterparts — and also act as marriage counselors, mediate legal disputes among neighbors, and inform each household when it is time for everyone to start killing mosquitos! This book provides us an absorbing grassroots view of China at a bargain price. — John Ferrell

***Alternative Americas*, Mildred J. Loomis, 1982, 175 pp., $7.95 from:**
Universe Books
381 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

Now in her eighties, Mildred Loomis was a longtime associate of land trust pioneer Ralph Borsodi (see "This Land Was Made for You and Me" in last month's RAIN) and still serves as director of education at the School of Living. In *Alternative Americas*, a revised version of her 1980 book *Decentralism*, she traces the historical roots of many movements for change: intentional communities, cooperative businesses, organic agriculture, holistic health and appropriate technology. The best parts of the book are Loomis' accounts of her own experiences with some of the more fascinating figures of the last half century: Borsodi, *Organic Gardening* publisher J. I. Rodale (father of Robert), owner-builder proponent Ken Kern, Community Service, Inc. founder Arthur E. Morgan and many others. *Alternative Americas* reminds us that many of today's movements for change are deeply rooted in American tradition. — John Ferrell

TSO KAM ZA BÓRLA AMASÁ

(Everybody Wants Amasáachina)

SELF-HELP LESSONS FROM GHANA AND ELSE

by Bruce and Ann Borquist

Amasaachina is self-help and self-help work is Amasaachina work to the people of the Northern Region of Ghana, a West African nation the size of Oregon. It means unity, self-reliance, cooperation, and preservation of cultural heritage, and is a powerful force for these causes in Northern Ghana. We worked with the Amasaachina Youth Association for one of our three years of service to Ghana as members of the U.S. Peace Corps, and in the process we learned a great deal about self-help development from people who were experts in its practical application. It is amazing what villages accomplish with Amasaachina encouragement and little else. Self-help is quickly becoming a buzz word — everyone from Ronald Reagan to the head of your neighborhood association is using it these days. What is self-help like in practice and where is it actually being done? Here is an example from our experience with it, and examples of the efforts of self-help groups in other developing nations.

The Amasaachina Youth Association was started in the late '60s by university students from Northern Ghana who wanted to use their education to help their home villages help themselves. "Youth," in the Ghanian sense, are people of any age who are not members of the ruling class. "Amasaachina" is a Dagbani word which means "commoners," and emphasizes that this is a mass movement of the common people to help themselves. By 1981 over 300 of the 450 villages in our district of Northern Ghana had joined the association. Villages become members when they contact the national executive of Amasaachina and request a rally. During the all-night celebration, village leaders and Amasaachina guest volunteers make speeches and young people dance to traditional drumming. Speakers stress the need for unity if the village is going to develop. Anyone who has that village's best interests at heart is considered a member of Amasaachina after that and there are no dues or membership cards to make the association exclusive. Volunteer organizers stay in contact with the leaders chosen during the rally in order to provide encouragement and act as intermediaries if and when a self-help project is undertaken.

We were posted to the area in October of 1980 at the request of the Western Dagomba District Council. Broadly called Village Development Facilitators, our project was basically to help the Council achieve its development aims as well as we could with no outside financial or material aid. Considering the depressed economy of Ghana, that was a tall order. A member of the Amasaachina executive committee, Mr. Iddrissu Fuseini, became our co-worker and colleague. For over eight years this man had dedicated countless hours to helping his people organize and do self-help projects, even giving up a high-paying job in another area to do this volunteer work. Together the three of us talked to elders in approximately 120 villages about their development priorities, and soon found ourselves with a surprising problem. So many communities decided to undertake self-help projects that we had to switch our focus from surveying priorities to facilitating projects. Between October 1980 and July 1981 thirty-five villages undertook self-help projects of their own choice and invested over $150,000. The average worker at that time made about $5.60 a day. Villages dug dams for drinking water, started and built elementary schools, conducted literacy classes, constructed public latrines and access roads, and formed co-ops to buy agricultural supplies. *The people themselves raised 100% of the money for these projects.*

Let's look at how one community organized itself to dig a drinking water dam. The 1000 or so people in this agricultural community raise corn, rice, millet, sorghum, tropical yams, and cattle for home consumption and sale. It is reached by a dirt road passable only during the nine-month dry season. The women must walk two miles to the nearest dam with their eight-gallon water cans two to three times each day. When that dries up they walk as far as eight miles for water. Few of the children attend the primary school in the next village two miles away. The farmers are always in need of hoes, machetes, fertilizer, and tractors to hire at reasonable prices when the farming season starts. When we met with the village elders they told us of these problems, and after much discussion they chose construction of a dam as their first development priority. We encouraged them to start work on the dam themselves rather than wait for the government to dig it for them.

ACHINA

WHERE

Borquists

Fusseini and Ann at an Amasaachina meeting

Several weeks later the village Amasaachina leaders invited us back to discuss constructing the dam. At this meeting and many others that followed we emphasized that we could only help them with contacts and that all of the money, materials, and initiative would have to come from them. We asked a hydrological engineer from the Ghana Irrigation Department to help the village select a site and supervise the construction of the dam. Fuseini recommended a contractor that he knew would do a good job. All during the construction we were the intermediaries between the village, the contractor, and the engineer.

By the time the dam was completed the community had developed confidence in itself and in us. That was the right time for us to step into the role of extension agents and suggest a project ourselves: planting trees and grass on the bare walls of the dam to protect it from siltation and erosion. This suggestion may not sound very innovative, but it was loaded with cultural meaning. The people of that area have a traditional belief that anyone who plants a tree will die before he or she can enjoy the fruit; but still the elders saw the wisdom in protecting the dam. Their solution was to ask the young people to plant trees in the name of the traditional ruler, who was an old man! The Ghana Forestry Department provided seedlings and they were planted on the next communal work day. When we left Ghana in October 1981 grass had grown to cover the dam walls, most of the trees had survived, the dam was full of water, and people were coming from neighboring villages to draw from it.

When we told the District Council how the village had raised all of the money to construct the dam themselves (about $16,000), the Council was so impressed that it

Borquists

Women carring water from a village dam

We encouraged communities to identify and use their strengths to take control of their own development.

decided to make a donation to encourage the village to do another self-help project. This village now has about $2,400 in a new special development fund account at a local bank which will go towards the cost of their next project: improving their access road.

We learned a number of things about self-help projects from experiences in this and other communities. Day after day the most important skills we used were those of group facilitation and problem solving. To our surprise, our lack of a strong technical background was an advantage, because it forced us to seek out local experts. This, in turn, increased the visibility of government technicians, broadened support for the project, and also took pressure off of us to have all the answers.

Encouragement is the key to self-help development.

A traditional ruler in northern Ghana **Borquists**

We encouraged communities to identify and use their strengths to take control of their own development. We made it very clear that we were there only to encourage them to do a project, not to give them money or materials, or to do the project for them.

We could have accomplished very little without Fuseini, and he would have accomplished little without us. A kind of synergy happened that made our team of three much more effective as a whole than we could have been individually. As an insider, Fuseini knew the cultural and historical background of the area and so was able to guide us through sometimes intricate and delicate situations. He spoke Dagbani (the language of the people) fluently, knew the all-important nuances to be given to what we said and heard, and was the team's interpreter. For example, Fuseini referred to us as "timabihi" (our mother's children) when introducing us to village elders, knowing that they would then receive us as brothers and sisters rather than strangers. We as outsiders and especially as foreigners were able to reach the ears of government officials and businessmen inaccessible to Fuseini. Traditional rulers granted us automatic respect for the same reason.

Amasaachina's method of self-help development is to encourage a community to unite, prioritize their needs, choose a project, and *then* find the funds, materials and technical experts needed to make it happen. Many projects sponsored by outside development agencies (even "self-help" projects) start from the opposite direction: funds and materials are gathered, a project is chosen, and villagers are encouraged to do it. No wonder so many are dismal failures, ostensibly due to the 'uncooperative, conservative, and backward attitudes" of the people for whom the project was designed.

We made a special effort to include women in the projects. Often only the needs and ideas of men, the overt rulers of the village, are heard, and the resulting project ends up intensifying the hardships of the women. Amasaachina has women leaders in its local executive structure to insure that their voices are heard.

The preservation of culture is an essential part of all self-help efforts, since physical development *per se* is not the only objective. Tradition and traditional skills should always be emphasized, as they often provide the foundation for self-help activities.

What of villages that for reasons of culture or inertia are unwilling to join the Amasaachina movement? Eighty five of the villages we contacted did not take the initiative and start self-help projects. The main constraint, aside from lack of money, was that some remained unconvinced and preferred to hold on to their internal conflicts and/or to wait for someone else to meet their needs for them. Our experience is that self-help development is contagious — a succesful project in one village brought other villages around out of competitiveness and a sincere desire to improve living conditions. The key was in finding the receptive villages and working with them.

Government can and should play a role in self-help development, for several reasons. It insures continuity in development and in longer-range projects because ultimately governments are the powers that will inherit them. That is why Amasaachina workers include local and regional officials in all of their projects so that they feel they have played a part in what the villages have accomplished. It helps local government become more aware of and responsive to the people's needs by putting officials in direct contact with their constituents. Lastly, it is beneficial for governments to be involved in the creation of a more self-reliant population, especially when they are overburdened and unable to provide all of the services the people need.

Self-help in Northern Ghana is part of a much larger national movement. As economic difficulties continue and the government is able to provide less and less, traditional cooperative structures are being adapted to organize self-help projects. The realization that "father

government" will no longer be able to supply all needs is becoming more common and, with this, the idea of self-help is becoming more acceptable and necessary.

What role should development agencies and private voluntary organizations play in the self-help movement? Learning from the experience of Amasaachina, their greatest contribution can be in providing "encouragers" who are culturally sensitive and have a commitment to using facilitation skills in partnership with local people. "Topping up" contributions in money or hard-to-get supplies can be made after a project is selected and started. Finally, when the project is completed, extension services can be provided in locally-identified areas of need. In this way a holistic, locally controlled development cycle takes place where encouragement and facilitation may lead to a self-help project, which may itself lead to extension, which may lead to more encouragement and another project, and so on. This cycle continues as far and as quickly as desired by the communities involved.

The problem with the model described above is in its extreme decentralization. Instead of one or two capital-intensive, flashy showpiece projects, the result is a whole group of small, usually labor-intensive, self-help projects; none of which can be pointed out as "our Project" to donor and host-country officials.

Other examples of communities gaining control of their own development process can be found in many parts of the world. Villages in Tanzania, Malaysia, and Bangladesh illustrate just three examples of what can happen when a community relies on its own ingenuity and resources to initiate and carry out projects rather than acting only as the recipient of development "aid" as defined by outside sources.

- Tanzania requested the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) to study the grain storage problem and suggest ways to deal with the 25 to 40 percent loss of grain due to mildew, vermin, and insect infestation. The consultants hired by SIDA took three years to produce four reports "recommending highly mechanized, extremely expensive silos, and all requiring foreign technicians to run them. An additional $0.75 million was recommended for further designs by consultants!" (from *Aid as Obstacle*, Lappe, et al., 1980 [see RAIN VII:2, 18]).

  A short time later, the Economic Development Bureau (EDB) was invited by the government to examine the problem. The EDB approached the problem with the attitude that their technical know-how could be of use only after the community had become intimately involved in the decision making process. They went straight to the villages involved and facilitated discussions to help the people identify the scope of the problem, not only in terms of physical but also social and economic factors. Unlike most "development" groups, they had no preconceived solution to drop down on the community.

  As a result of the discussions, a system was designed that combined the best aspects of several traditional methods of grain storage and produced a rat-proof, elevated structure. More importantly, the people gained a new sense of power over their own lives which could be used to deal with other problems facing the community.
- A small fishing community in Malaysia found itself downstream from an industrial factory that dumped pollutants into the river in large quantities. At first, they noticed that the fish began to surface frequently, gasping for air. Within a short time, the fish were found floating dead in the water.

  Their livelihood on the verge of destruction, they had tests done to check the level of the pollutants — which were tens of times, in some cases hundreds of times, higher than government standards. Using this information, they submitted a proposal to the government asking for either intervention to end the pollution or a provision of indemnity payments to the villagers.

  Discouraged by the lack of action on the part of the government, they initiated and set up a project to farm cockles (a freshwater shellfish) in order to replace their lost fishing industry. Cockles are less susceptible to pollutants and don't concentrate harmful minerals as most other water life does. Due to media pressure, the industry reduced the amount of pollutants that it dumped into the river. The cockle farming project has been so successful that several social service programs and cooperatives have blossomed out of it; yet another example of the achievements of a self-directed community.
- In the Sylhet District of northeast Bangladesh over half of the population is either landless or owns less than four acres and must work to cultivate the lands of others. Their reimbursement is next to nothing and, consequently, they have had little control over the factors that influence their lives. In response to this situation, several villages have organized themselves into irrigation cooperatives with the assistance of the International Voluntary Service (IVS). The irrigation teams hire themselves out to landowners and cultivators during the normally unproductive dry season and are able to earn enough to pay off loans (for the pumps) and distribute the profits among the members.

  The usual "agreement" in this area is that the farmers bear the cost of all the inputs and receive half of the proceeds. With their strong cooperative base and collective bargaining strength, one of the groups of landless farmers made an agreement with the landowners to divide the cost of the inputs. This was at least a step toward a more equal distribution of economic power and is another example of what can be achieved when people band together and use their own resources to reach a common goal.

We see many similarities between these examples and our own experience in Ghana. Common to all are the importance of group facilitation and problem solving skills, the synergy that is found when outsiders and insiders work together, the training of local leaders, the involvement of women in the decision making process, and the role of development agencies in providing "encouragers."

Self-help as a development strategy can be abused in a number of ways, too. A facilitator may use his/her position of trust in the community for personal gain. Unless

the aim of the process is to empower the community, self-help may end up supporting the power structure that has kept the people from achieving their development goals. Unfortunately, there is also the possibility of using the self-help philosophy to justify a cut-back in foreign aid so that communities are left to "help themselves." Rather than cut back our aid we need to channel funds from flashy development programs into indigenous organizations that emphasize community participation in the development process. Lastly, self-help may become a profit-making tool in the same way that the term "appropriate technology" has been abused. We are coming to the time when "self-help" in a title will sell more books regardless of whether or not the book or the project empowers people to control their own development.

In conclusion, it is our hope that people and organizations involved with those who now appear powerless will direct their efforts and funds toward supporting communities which use their own ingenuity and resources to meet their development needs. The question that remains of course, is whether the examples and lessons above apply only to developing nations, or can we also adapt them to our struggle for decentralization and community empowerment in the so-called "developed" world? □□

The list of journals, books, and organizations below is by no means to be exhaustive. We chose them because they emphasize the need for communities to control their own development. We are always on the lookout for more information on international self-help development so if you have any suggestions, please write.

JOURNALS

***Development Forum*, the single regular publication of the UN system in the field of economic and social development, published by the United Nations University and the Division for Economic and Social Information DPI, 10 times per year, $10/yr. donation requested, from:**
DESI/DPI
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

***Dialogue*, a forum for personnel of the International Voluntary Service (IVS) and their host agencies, published by IVS, Inc.: Distributed free, contribution of $1.55 per copy requested from those able to pay, from:**
International Voluntary Services, Inc.
1717 Mass. Ave. NW, Suite 605
Washington, DC 20036

***Food Monitor*, information, analysis & action on food, land and hunger; a project of World Hunger Year, Inc., contribution of $10 requested for one year (6 issues), from:**
Food Monitor
P.O. Box 1975
Garden City, NY 11530

***Multinational Monitor*, information on how multinational corporations affect the less developed countries, published by the Corporate Accountability Research Group, $15 per year, from:**
CARG
1346 Connecticut Ave., NW, Room 411
Washington, DC 20036

***Turning Point* newsletter, a wonderful collection of events and book reviews on various international concerns, donation of £2 for one year to U.S. requested. For information, write to:**
Alison Pritchard
Spring Cottage
9 New Road
Ironbridge, Shropshire TF8 7AU, England

***Voluntary Action*, a monthly journal of rural development in India published by the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD) which discusses projects and issues relevant to all developing countries. Inquire for price from:**
General Secretary, AVARD
5 Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg
New Delhi — 110002
India

Yumi Kirapim, a locally produced magazine on development projects in Papua New Guinea, published jointly by the Dept. of the Prime Minister, Office of Village Development, and South Pacific Appropriate Technology Foundation: inquire for price:
P.O. Box 6937
Boroko
Papua New Guinea

BOOKS

We found these books especially helpful in describing the theory and practice of self-help development.

***Aid as Obstacle: Twenty Questions about our Foreign Aid and the Hungry*, by Frances Moore Lappe, Joseph Collins, and David Kinley, 1980, Institute for Food and Development Policy, San Francisco.**

***Aid and Self Help: A General Guide to Overseas Aid*, by Elizabeth O'Kelly, 1973, Charles Knight and Co. Ltd., London.**

***Helping Ourselves: Local Solutions to Global Problems*, by Bruce Stokes, 1981, W.W. Norton and Co., New York.**

***Mozambique and Tanzania: Asking the Big Questions*, by Frances Moore Lappe and Adele Beccar-Varela, 1980, Institute for Food and Development Policy, San Francisco.**

***The Politics of Alternative Technology*, by David Dickson, 1974, Universe Books, New York.**

***Self-Help and Popular Participation in Rural Water Systems*, by Duncan Miller, 1979, OECD, 2 rue Andre-Pascal, 75775 PARIS CECLEX 16, France.**

***Self-Reliance: A Strategy for Development*, ed. by Johan Galtung et al., 1980, Bogle-L'Overture Publications Ltd., London.**

ORGANIZATIONS

The groups listed below generally support indigenous development efforts.

American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry St.
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-241-7000

Economic Development Bureau
234 Conlony Road
New Haven, CT 06511
203-776-9084

International Voluntary Services, Inc.
1717 Mass. Ave. NW, Suite 605
Washington, DC 20036
202-387-5533

Mennonite Central Committee
21 S. 12th St.
Akron, PA 17501
717-859-1151

Oxfam America
302 Columbus Ave.
Boston, MA 02116
617-482-1211

Peace Corps
806 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20525
800-424-8580

World Neighbors
5116 N. Portland Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

FOREIGN

***The Rural Access Roads Programme: Appropriate Technology in Kenya*, by J.J. deVeen, 167 pp., $11.40, from:**

International Labor Office Branch Office
1750 New York Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006

Gandhi would be proud of this one: here is a description of a development project using employment-generating labor-based technology that relies on the use of local resources. Applied on a fairly large scale in Kenya, East Africa, to build rural access roads since 1974, the Rural Access Roads Programme (RARP) has proven that labor-intensive development projects can be successful. Over 7,000 kilometers of minor access roads will have been completed by the end of 1982 through the efforts of RARP crews in 23 of Kenya's 39 districts.

While the text is designed to give useful information to planners in both developing countries and donor agencies who are interested in efficiently and effectively applying indigenous, labor-intensive technologies to major construction projects, don't despair if you don't find yourself in either of those categories. Anyone interested in development issues and technologies should find this an easy to read and valuable case study of a relatively successful foreign-aid-sponsored development project. If for no other reason, the program is unique because it emphasizes the use of local resources and personnel, decentralized planning, a very low foreign exchange element (25% vs. 50% or more in most other projects), integration with the host country's ministerial structure, and "people skills" over technical skills and equipment: unusual values in the world of donor-controlled international development projects. The author describes all aspects of the program in a very clear, practical, and well-organized way: in fact, this could be used as an instruction book by anyone involved in planning a labor-based development project.

In spite of some design problems with the actual project, *The Rural Access Roads Programme* is an interesting, informative, and practical analysis of the application of labor-based technologies to rural road construction. I hope it succeeds in its attempt to contribute to a reorientation in the development world to the use of appropriate technology, which is defined by the author as "a fair judgement in each particular case — taking into account all the relevant parameters — of the optimum mix of labor and equipment, a mix that will be different for each country and possibly even for each region in a particular country." — Bruce Borquist

***Project Monitoring and Reappraisal in the International Drinking Water Supply Decade*, by Charles G. Gunnerson and John M. Kalbermatten, eds. Papers presented at Session 40 of the American Society of Civil Engineers International Convention, May 11-15, 1981, inquire for price from:**

American Society of Civil Engineers
345 E. 47th St.
New York, NY 10017

The goal of the United Nations Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, inaugurated on Nov. 10, 1980, is for all people to have access to safe drinking water and hygienic waste disposal by 1990. World Health Organization (WHO) studies which showed that 80% of all disease in developing nations is linked to unclean water and unsafe waste disposal, and that a tenth of each productive person's time is taken up by disease, jolted the UN and donor nations into action. The clear message in most of the papers is that if anything is going to happen to solve these problems world-wide, traditional approaches to "development" that ignore socio-cultural aspects, community participation in design, construction, and maintenance, and alternative technologies will have to change or the projects are doomed to failure. Lessons for the "over-developed" nations are found, too, in an interesting paper on Marin County, California. During the recent drought, annual water usage was reduced from 120 gallons per customer per day (gpcpd) to 33 gpcpd, a figure usually associated only with usage in less developed countries.

If you are willing to put up with a sometimes dry, pedantic style and are able to sift through it, gems like those above can be found in this book. Though not for everyone, it may be valuable for its reappraisal of traditional development beliefs and practices within the engineering community, a theme brought out in an earlier (1979) collection by the same authors entitled *Appropriate Technology in Water Supply and Waste Disposal*. Many interesting publications are being put out by the Environmental Impact Analysis Research Council of the ASCE. Why can't they be produced in a style more accessible to people outside of the engineering community? — Bruce Borquist

***Rural Energy Development in China*, by Robert P. Taylor, 1981, 274 pp., $10.50 from:**

Johns Hopkins University Press
Baltimore, MD 21218

Those of us who visited China on the first Farallones/New Alchemy study tour in 1980 were greatly impressed with the small-scale energy projects we witnessed in the countryside. Clearly, China was providing some models of great potential value for other developing countries. But where could one go to find detailed background — in English — on the Chinese experience with small-scale hydropower, biogas, and reforestation?

Robert Taylor has taken a challenging journey of his own — through hundreds of scattered Chinese and Western information sources — to make rural energy models from the People's Republic more accessible to people involved in development projects elsewhere. *Rural Energy Development in China* is neither a technical "how-to" manual nor a human interest chronicle of the daily experience of peasants with their backyard biogas digestors. The emphasis is on describing and analyzing the variety of policies adopted by China in recent years to meet its wide range of rural energy needs. The author seeks to answer such questions as what successes or failures have attended the Chinese emphasis on using locally-available materials, what balance or imbalance has been achieved between local energy initiatives and central government mandates, and what are the principal lessons which other countries can learn from China's decentralized approach to rural energy development?

For the reader with a general interest in potentials for renewable energy applications in the Third World, *Rural Energy Development in China* is a good, detailed overview of what is happening in the world's largest laboratory for small-scale energy experimentation. For the scholar or development worker intrigued by some particular facet of the Chinese experience, Taylor has eased the path to further research with detailed footnotes, an extensive bibliography, and an excellent guide to source materials. — John Ferrell

WOMEN

***The Personal Fertility Guide: How to Avoid or Achieve Pregnancy Naturally*, Terrie Guay, 1980, 224 pp., $7.95 from:**
G. P. Putnam's Sons
200 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016

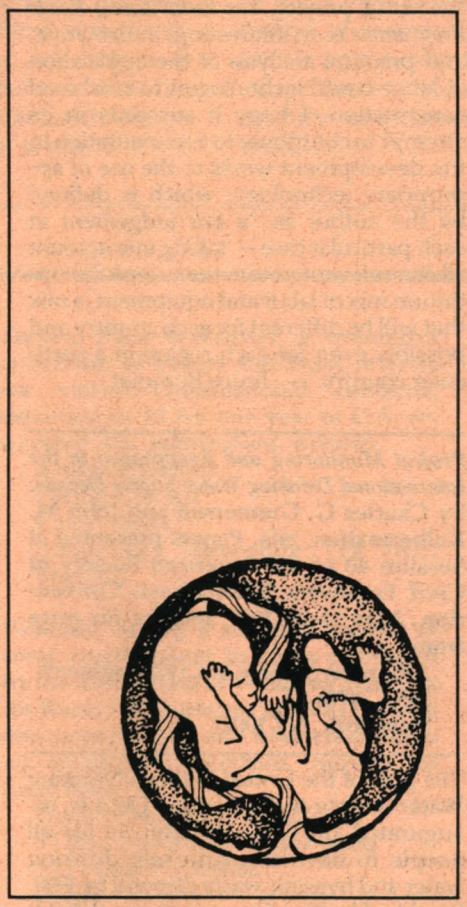
I'd tried a lot of methods of birth control but because of health concerns was never satisfied with any of them until, through a fortunate series of events, I met Terrie Guay. Terrie was giving an impromptu workshop at a large conference on a "natural" birth control method that I had not heard of before — the Billings, known also as the mucus or ovulation method.

The method does not require regular menstrual cycles nor temperature monitoring. It is completely safe, and when followed correctly, reduces the chance of unwanted pregnancy to one percent. The method is based on what most women refer to as *discharge*, or cervical mucus which, when understood and applied, can be recognized as a sign of fertility or infertility. To learn this method, women must recover their lost understanding of cervical mucus; in certain parts of the world, however, this meaning is not lost. Australian aborigines relate that the true meaning is part of their native folklore. Some African tribes also know it, and it has been documented in a diary of a Pacific Northwest Indian grandmother. The method is now taught in 110 countries at the grass roots level, with a recent emphasis on mother-daughter programs.

The Personal Fertility Guide: How to Avoid or Achieve Pregnancy Naturally includes an explanation of the mucus method — general guidelines of how it is used, effectiveness studies, rules and lessons for applying the method, and study charts. But for me (and perhaps because I already knew the mechanics of the method), the best part of the guide is found in the first chapter of the book, where the author and her co-contributor, Dr. Charles Norris, discuss some personal values they find inherent in the method.

Norris contends that the ovulation method is not for everyone, that it requires motivation and a stable, mutually supportive relationship. "Use of the ovulation method, with the deliberate abstinence involved, reinforces the partnership and the combined responsibility . . . It prompts the couple to realistically view their sexuality and all it encompasses." Shared responsibility alleviates the necessity for women to assume the burden of chemical or mechanical products to avoid pregnancy. Partner cooperation when abstinence is required to avoid pregnancy reaffirms care and consideration for the total relationship. Fertility awareness promotes self-knowledge, self-awareness, and self-understanding.

But this self-knowledge and self-understanding is not limited to women in a stable one-to-one relationship. Any woman wanting to understand and apply the method can, and will ultimately benefit from it. — Nancy Cosper



***How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office*, by The Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers, 1981, 136 pp., $6.95, from:**
Peace Press
3828 Willat Ave.
Culver City, CA 90230

You've probably heard of using plain yogurt as a home cure for yeast infections, or perhaps you've tried potassium and calcium to alleviate menstrual cramps, or found relief from nausea during pregnancy by increasing your protein intake. *How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office* covers these and numerous other home remedies for a variety of health problems often encountered by women.

In the tradition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, published in 1973, *How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office* amasses useful research and discoveries gleaned from the experience of numerous women's health clinics and self-help groups across the U.S. Much of this information has been available only through mimeographed handouts, word-of-mouth and brief notations in women's journals. Nutritional information, herbal remedies, exercises, and simple, common-sense suggestions such as the use of condoms or alternative positions during coitus which might help women suffering from vaginal or urinary tract infections are offered as a counterpoint to the medical profession's heavy reliance on drugs and surgery.

How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office frequently challenges conventional medical wisdom about "female troubles" and the female body, whether the topic be the "proper" angle for the uterus, the reasons for menstrual cramps, or the correct treatment for depression in women. Clear medical descriptions, vivid photographs, discussions on the pros and cons of conventional treatments, and pointers in choosing a medical facility help to arm women with information to demand the type and quality of health care they want. A glossary of medical terms, a step-by-step breakdown of a gynecological examination, a resource list of women's health care centers and publications, and a description of a standard self-help group examination complete this densely packed publication.

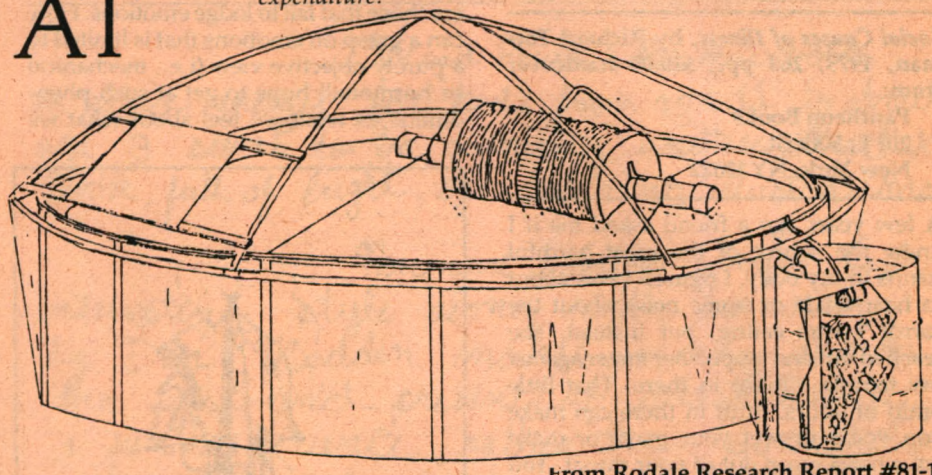
How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office is as much a testament to the achievements and evolution of the women's health movement as it is a valuable guidebook for women struggling to take control of their health and their bodies. An essential addition to your personal or library bookshelf. — Laura Stuchinsky

***Patterns for Change: Rural Women Organizing for Health*, 1981, 63 pp., inquire for price from:**
National Women's Health Network
224 7th Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

I've always maintained that work towards alternatives in health care — particularly women's health — is one of the cutting edges of social change work. I'm more than ever convinced of this now that I'm raising children in a rural community. It is encouraging, therefore, to find a booklet such as this one in which the information provided would be useful for any kind of small group — though particularly empowering for its intended audience. *Patterns for Change* covers a wide variety of topics essential to organizers such as using volunteers and fundraising. Some of it still sounds as if written from an urban orientation (e.g., TV coverage is rarely a possibility for our small community) but its general good sense makes it a good resource for inexperienced groups. Parts of its best section, on "health advocacy and the law," are soon to be expanded and made available through the National Women's Health Network. — Lane deMoll

OUT OF THE PAIL AT RODALE

A basic system approach to small-scale pool culture, including a 55-gallon drum as the settling basin, with plastic mesh for increased surface area. The reduced volume provides for simple and efficient cleaning with a minimum of water removal. Since a pumping device is required with settling systems, a logical energy-saving step is to use this potential for turning the filter. Pictured is a prototype water-wheel-driven biodisc filter, which reduces capital costs and energy expenditure.



From Rodale Research Report #81-10

by Mark Roseland

The time has come to put food fish production capability in the hands of the consumer who wants and needs it . . . Fish can be grown in basements as well as on rooftops . . . Our purpose is to promote the advancement and exchange of knowledge necessary to permit urban dwellers and others with limited resources to produce food fish for themselves and their neighbors at low cost.
— NETWORK (Rodale Aquaculture Publication)

A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to visit the Rodale Research Center in northeastern Pennsylvania, an experience I wholeheartedly recommend to anyone seriously interested in organic food production systems. In particular I investigated their work with aquaculture, a long-time interest of mine, and spoke at length with Steve Van Gorder, Coordinator of Rodale's Aquaculture Research Project.

The Rodale aquaculture researchers are working primarily with tilapia (Nile perch), channel catfish, and rainbow trout. Unlike some other aquaculture projects around the country, the emphasis of the Rodale project is clearly on low-tech, low cost methods to encourage families and small farmers to experiment with fish as a source of healthy, high-protein, home-grown food. They have developed a simple (yet remarkably productive and inexpensive) small-scale fish culture system using little more than a child's 12-ft. diameter backyard swimming pool covered by a PVC frame and a layer or two of clear polyethylene (a simple solar "season extender"). It is augmented by a 55-gallon drum clarifier for a settling basin and an ingenious biodisc filter driven by a water wheel (see illustration). For a one-time cost of probably under $500 (less with recycled materials), one can harvest literally hundreds of pounds of fish with this system.

Simple though this may seem, it really helps (as with most things in life) to know what you're doing. Especially when you have a multitude of variables (water temperature, quality, pH, stocking density, feeds, etc.) and a minimum of experience (modern aquaculture is still in its adolescence, despite a 4000 year history), information exchange with other practitioners is essential. Those researchers who work with nets have been networking each other for years. But for us fingerling fish farmers in the backyard, staying on top of new developments in the water has been like swimming against the current.

Thanks to the people at Rodale, however, the tide is finally turning for ecological aquaculture. Recognizing the growing enthusiasm for aquaculture in North America, the Project has formed an association to gather information on aquaculture research and develop an ongoing dialogue to help everyone working in this exciting field.

Membership entitles you to 1) *NETWORK*, a quarterly newsletter with research descriptions and updates, practical suggestions, and diagnosis of relevant government policy; 2) in-depth annual research reports with results and suggestions for construction and maintenance of experimental small-scale fish culture systems (these reports, incidentally, are refreshingly readable); 3) discounts at Rodale aquacultural seminars and workshops; and 4) opportunities to participate in reader research programs. If you're serious about fish culture, you can't afford not to join. (For a one-year membership, send $15 to Rodale Press, Inc., 33 East Minor Street, Emmaus, PA 18049, Attn: Rodale Aquaculture Membership).

Last but certainly not least, *NETWORK* carries in each issue a fish recipe from the Rodale Test Kitchen. These recipes are important in creating acceptance and markets for promising but relatively unknown or misunderstood fish species (e.g., Chinese carp, American eel). For as we all know, the proof of the fish is on the dish! □□

ACCESS

HEALTH

***Social Causes of Illness*, by Richard Totman, 1979, 263 pp., $10.00 hardcover from:**
Pantheon Books
201 E. 50th St.
New York, NY 10022

A few years ago a friend asked me if I knew the source of the most harmful toxins in my body. I figured I was about to hear snide or ironic news about the carrot I was eating, but instead, she reached out and tapped her finger against my temple. "Right in there. That little brain of yours. Stuff in there can make you vomit or wet your pants or make your heart jump out of your throat. You ever eat a hamburger that made you feel worse than your scariest dream?"

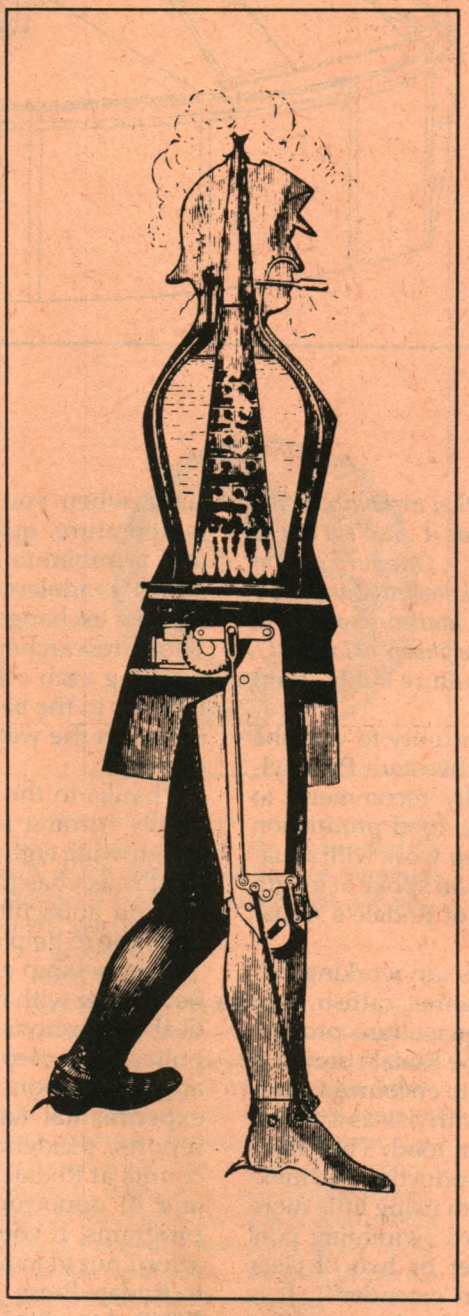
Needless to say, that sticks with me still. Most of us accept it as common sense that illness is not just physiological. Richard Totman, in *Social Causes of Illness*, picks up where my friend left off. He brings the rigors of clinical psychology to bear, reviews current research and theory, and introduces his own approach to the study of illness.

The book reads like a sheaf of *Scientific American* offprints and has more footnotes than a hypochondriac has pills. It's not casual, anecdotal reading. What Totman has done, however, is write a responsible scientific inquiry that ranges from faith healing and hypnosis to social upheaval and cognitive dissonance theory in a cohesive, understandable way.

Totman is one of that not-so-rare breed, the structuralists. His approach melds psychological and sociological study by assuming that a structure underlies all human action and thoughts and so transfers directly to the social world. The structure Totman finds and upon which his model is based is an unconscious organizing scheme made up of shared rules that we hold ourselves to. It is the dynamic of our kinship to these rules that makes or breaks us socially and will also determine, so it seems, our susceptibility to illness.

The most promising side of Totman's theory regards a person's ties with society, especially when a breakdown is occurring. Hmong refugees in Des Moines, African villagers living amidst rapid urbanization, or laid-off mill workers in Oregon all grapple with extra-ordinary pressure to adjust their own outlook (or set of rules) to a social context that is changing, often at the expense of their health. With a handle on how these causes link up with heart disease, hormonal screw-ups, schizophrenia, or cancers, we may be able to avoid a lot of suffering.

The weak timbers in Totman's structure are those that fail to lodge emotions. How can a grasp on emotions that is limited to a purely objective view (i.e., mechanical or hormonal) hope to get at such phenomena as what we feel about what we



think, or what we think about what we feel, or what we think about what we think we feel? These minutiae, after all, bridge our own experience and the "real" world of Totman's structure. Because of this, the structure is psychologically incomplete.

This is a problem with any structural approach, however. If one can accept its shortcomings as fair trade for its workability and range, Totman's model offers great breadth. The book itself, except for a mercifully short and wrongheaded chapter on the social Darwinist evolution of illness, offers its own clarity and breadth and is well worth the time of anyone seriously interested in alternative notions of health. — James McClements

FUTURES

***Building a Sustainable Society*, by Lester R. Brown, 1981, 433 pp., $14.95 from:**
W.W. Norton & Company
500 Fifth Ave.
New York, NY 10110

Lester Brown's latest book is a good summary of the economically and ecologically nonsensical course this globe is upon, and of the ways this course can be altered in the direction of survival and sustainability. His answers will come as no surprise to appropriate technologists, ecologists and others who have paid attention to the direction of the system: population stabilization, restoration of farm and forest lands, resource conservation and recycling, a shift to renewable energy sources, simpler lifestyles among the affluent and greater local self-reliance.

The first section of the book, "Converging Demands," is a well-argued case for the non-sustainability of the present economy. Using statistics which show that per capita production of most commonly used raw materials and foodstuffs began to decline in the 1970s, Brown makes the needed connection between depletion of natural resources, a world population growing at the rate of 70 million a year and the economic problems now facing most nations. The fantasies of Reaganomics notwithstanding, Brown makes clear there will be no economic solutions unless underlying questions of resources and population are answered. In fact, economic problems are likely to become more difficult because of the extent of the resources versus population crunch. The basic productivity of croplands, forests, grasslands and fisheries has already been seriously damaged.

If the first section is somewhat depressing, the second part, "The Path to Sustainability," is quite hopeful. Brown meticulously documents each suggested solution with examples of successful applications taking place throughout the

world. From China's one-child family program to U.S. tax credits for solar installations, Brown cites answers which already exist and are working:

Already, shifts in public policies, investment patterns, and life-styles are signaling that the transition has begun. Governments, businesses and individuals are using resources more efficiently and less wastefully. Around the world at least some elements of simple living are being embraced by the affluent. Each new hydroelectric generator, each new decline in the birth rate, each new community garden brings humanity closer to a sustainable society. Collectively, millions of small initiatives will bring forth a society that can endure. At first the changes are slow, but they are cumulative and they are accelerating. Mutually reinforcing trends may move us toward a sustainable society more quickly than now seems likely.

Those who wish a distilled version of this book can obtain a 63-page summary entitled *Six Steps to a Sustainable Society* for $2 from Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. — Patrick Mazza

KIDS

Wind Power *is available for $6.99 from Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, Inc., 200 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Darcy's mom, RAIN staffer Nancy Cosper, says she's not sure about the book being too hard for kids under 11. "It's pretty clearly written and could reach kids as young as nine years."*

Wind Power
by Norman F. Smith
drawings by Don Madden

"Wind Power", the new book on wind energy for kids from age 11 to about age 13 seems to be a nicely written, attractive book, full of bright, eye catching illustrations.

Norman Smiths simple, but interesting style along with drawings by Don Madden makes reading about the past and present of wind energy a fun experience, rather than something you are made to learn in school.

In My opinion, "Wind Power" is an exellent book, although it may seem confusing to younger kids

Darcy Cosper
age twelve

From: ***Wind Power***

RUSH

Amidst Adirondack fall foliage, the National Association for Environmental Education will discuss "Global 2000 — Which Path to the Future?" during its annual conference, October 15-17, at Silver Bay Center on upstate New York's Lake George. Scheduled presentations in the meeting's three sections — environmental studies, elementary and secondary education, and non-formal education — will include environmental history, U.S.-Canada transboundary problems, future of farmlands, acid rain, state control of private lands, and case studies in effective education techniques. More details may be gotten from Joan C. Heidelberg at the National Association for Environmental Studies, P.O. Box 400, Troy, OH 45373; 513/698-6493.

Don't be fooled, Jordan College's Israel Energy Tour only sounds faintly like "carrying coals to Newcastle." Clearly it's a rewarding trek since this is the fourth *annual tour. It's just one of four planned over the next year. There is the energy tour of France (October 14-24), of the Hawaiian Islands (December 2-10), of Israel (February 17-March 1, 1983), and of Australia (August 11-27, 1983). In addition, the college will be running five workshops or seminars — 14 times in four locations — in the Midwest region over the summer and fall. For tour information, contact Linda Bouwamp; and for workshop details, Danette Bailey — both are at Jordan College, 360 West Pine Street, Cedar Springs, MI 49319; 616/696-1180.*

HELP: non-profit appropriate technology institute seeks an Administrative Director to be responsible for general administration, fiscal management, fundraising, group facilitation, and public outreach. In addition to base salary, room and board at their educational center will be provided. Send your resume and letter of interest to Sharon Booth, Farallones Institute Rural Center, 15290 Coleman Valley Road, Occidental, CA 95465; 707/874-3060.

If you're interested in communal life, here's a chance to "test the water before jumping in." Twin Oaks Community is offering two communal living weeks (July 10-17; August 7-14) on its land in rural Virginia. Participants will explore most aspects of intentional community — forming their own government, work system, and social organization. With help from Twin Oaks members, 10 to 20 persons will function as though they were going to live together on a long-term basis. Setting up the kitchen, preparing budgets, assigning work, and establishing good communication are some of the first essentials. (No pets, please.) But social interactions — swimming and enjoying the countryside — won't be neglected. Total cost will depend on how well each group manages its money. Registration is $40, in advance; another $35 will be deposited by each group member in the group treasury — from that pool, there may be some refund. For arrangements, contact Communal Living Week, Twin Oaks Community, Rural Route 4, Louisa, VA 23093.

From *tofu you do* on July 7 until *soyanarra* on July 11, "Soyfoods Come West," the fifth annual conference on producing and marketing soyfoods, will occupy the University of Washington's Seattle campus. The meeting promises something for almost everyone: five major addresses ("Taking Soy to the Third World," for one); four seminars ("Tofu Preparation and Spoilage Factors," for another); nine cooking classes ("The Middle East Feast," still another); 21 regular classes ("Prospects for Soy Delis," "Models of Successful Small Soyfoods Companies"); a national tofu cheesecake bakeoff; a trade show; four soyfoods dinners (one served banquet style); three sampling sessions; a world soyfoods display; even a pair of tours. Conference fees: $310 each; doubles, $300 each. For a registration application, contact Soyfoods Association of North America, Inc., 100 Heath Road, Colrain, MA 01340; 413/625-5991.

Nestled in the peaceful pine- and fir-covered mountains of south-central Washington State, the Ponderosa School of Self-Reliant Living offers free seminars on growing food organically, rural livelihood, and energy conserving shelter (especially earth-shelter). The school also has low-cost hands-on workshops in such areas as rabbit and poultry husbandry, star-dome building assembly, soap-making and alcohol fuel production. Contact Ponderosa School for Self-Reliant Living, Ponderosa Village, Rt. 1, Lot 17-6, Goldendale, WA 98620, 509/773-3902.

We've mentioned the fine publications of the Northern Rockies Action Group many times in RAIN. NRAG has three upcoming training sessions which are likely to be of interest to many of our readers: "Toward Self-Sufficiency: Training in Fundraising Strategies and Techniques," Sept. 24-25 in Denver; "Getting Organized: Training in Effective Management of Citizen Groups," Oct. 1-3 in Jackson, Wyoming; and "How to Be Heard: Training in Media Skills and Public Relations Strategies," Nov. 12-14 in Seattle. For details contact NRAG, 9 Placer Street, Helena, MT 59601, 406/442-6615.

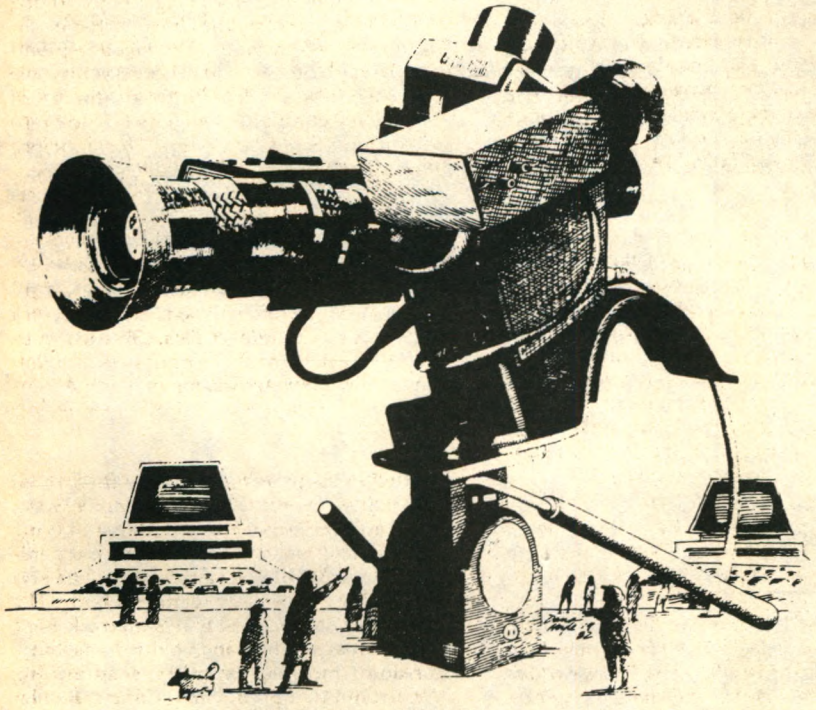
The cooperation option will be described in variety and detail at a series of nine courses (some three days long; others, five) given by The Federation of Southern Cooperatives, at its Rural Training and Research Center near Epes, Alabama. The courses range from "Appropriate Technology for Rural Energy Consumers" to "Board of Directors Development." Since most courses are repeated over the summer and fall, it would be wise to request a schedule from The Federation of Southern Cooperatives, P.O. Box 95, Epes, AL 35460; 205/652-9676.

$6.00
postpaid
from RAIN

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE COMMUNITY

by

Steve Johnson



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Stepping Stones Poster	$ 3.60	_____
Urban Ecotopia Poster	$ 3.60	_____
Suburban Ecotopia Poster	$ 3.60	_____
Community Alert Poster (in color)	$ 6.00	_____
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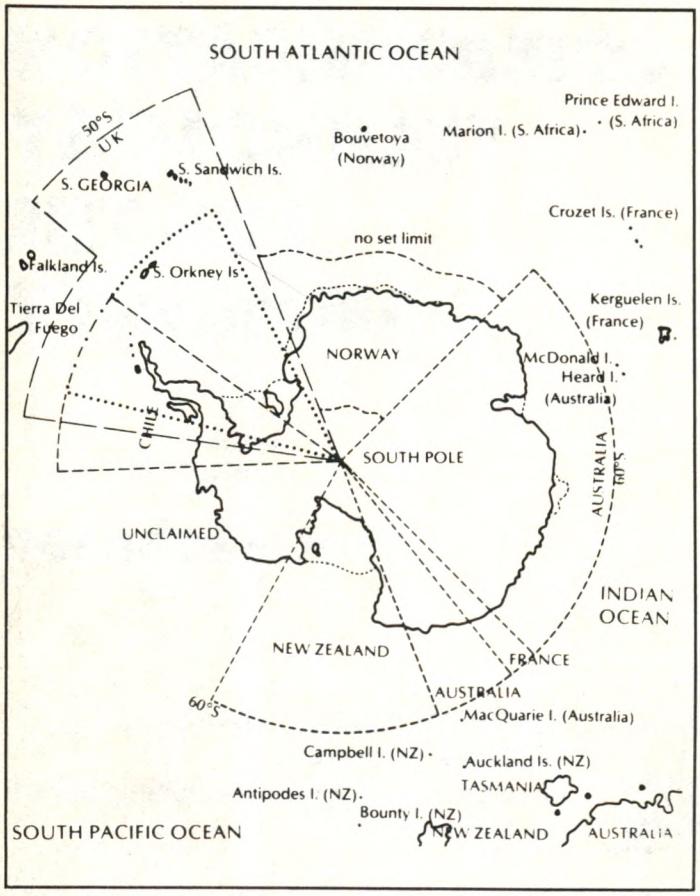

Territorial claims in the Antarctic region. Though shelved by Treaty agreement, the issue of claims has not yet been resolved — and probably never can be given, for example, the conflicting claims in the peninsula area.

The Antarctic Treaty of 1959 established the continent as a zone of peace and co-operative scientific endeavor . . . The success of the Antarctic Treaty System, relative to other international arrangements elsewhere in the world, has rested on its avoidance of confrontation on the complicated sovereignty issue. This has enabled a spirit of co-operation for scientific endeavor which could easily be jeopardized by any further political settlement in aid of exploitation. One claimant state began the negotiations by insisting that its sovereignty be recognized before the Antarctic Treaty could be extended to include mineral resources. Conflicting claims over territory just north of the Treaty area have already led to gunfire. In February 1976 an Argentine destroyer fired warning shots across the bows of the British research vessel *Shackleton*. According to the Argentinians, the British were conducting geological surveys with a view to oil exploitation on the continental shelf off the sorely contested Falkland Islands. It should be remembered that Argentina's vehement claims to the peninsula area are directly related to the dispute over the Falklands.

from: *Antarctica: Wilderness at Risk*, by Barney Brewster, 1982, 125 pp., $14.95 from Friends of the Earth, 1045 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111