RAIN
The Bioregional Movement
Is There a Pothole in Your Future?
Investing in the Community

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RAIN Magazine publishes information which can help people lead more simple and satisfying lives, make their communities and regions more economically self-reliant, and build a society that is durable, just, and ecologically sound.

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RAINDROPS

The dead of winter and we are trying to imagine the hopes of spring that may be evident by the time you read this RAIN. Pulling together the magazine during the dead of winter is always different. The mail is slow. Printers are backed up. People are difficult to contact. This year, RAIN's computer had a nervous breakdown — called an intermittent memory failure — while the humans at RAIN played host to the common cold. But through mail slowdown or whatever kind of weather — the RAIN must go through — and did.

We had considerable more news and information for this issue than we could afford to print. Well, at least one person had a good idea. Betsy Timm, with the Farallones Rural Center, distressed to hear we had no room, offered to buy a classified ad. File this under publishing economics, example number 12.

Another sign of hard economic times is clear to us as we receive more letters from periodical publishers regretting to inform us that they can no longer afford to exchange periodicals. Now we're probably no better or worse off than most, but if anything, in recent months we've INCREASED our number of exchanges, valuing them as an asset to the information flow in hard times. One periodical which could no longer exchange with us had only five readers in Oregon. In order to save a buck a year they cut their readership in Oregon by 20 percent — and maybe more since our copy of their periodical is used in the Resource Center library. We'd sure like to hear from anyone working on reasonable methods of evaluating the value of information.

The next issue of RAIN will have a major focus on feminism, the state of the Women's Movement, and social change. Guest editor is Mimi Maduro, old friend, and RAIN board member, with on-staff assistance from Nancy Cosper. Write if
you have any notions of good topics, literature, and organizations we may want to note.

Pictured on this month’s cover is one of the Southeast Asian community garden sites in Portland which RAIN helped develop. We are now coordinat-
The Bioregional Movement

Planet Drum

Planet Drum started in 1974 to address the fact—made clear through the Arab Oil Embargo—that human beings live in one bio-sphere together.

Planet Drum, under the guise of the Frisco Bay Mussel Group, began to call attention to the importance of acquiring a sense of place, by sponsoring conferences such as Listening to the Earth, and by sending out occasional bundles of information describing the relationship between culture and habitat.

The earliest manifestations of bio-regional thinking were often delegated to the coffee table—pleasant, even fascinating topics of conversation, but hardly the catalyst for a grassroots movement. The ideas seemed like poetic extensions of the environmental movement or philosophical laments of the back-to-the-land movement.

But the ideas have persisted. Thanks to Planet Drum, and other like-minded individuals and groups, bio-regional thinking is taking hold.

In some ways, the bio-regional movement is an extension of the environmental movement, itself an extension of the earlier, more upper-crust, conservation movement. Although the environmental movement has brought about incredible changes in the ways we relate to our earth, setbacks still occur. The victories of the last decade seem tenuous. The movement needs fresh air.

In order to achieve lasting results we need more knowledge about the places in which we live. One of the appeals of bio-regional thinking is that in studying the unique qualities of a place and the interaction of its inhabitants with its resources, we can begin to envision a method for making sensible long range planning decisions that take into account the separate concerns of a variety of factions.

If Planet Drum is a gauge for the bio-regional movement, then indications are that the bio-regional movement has taken hold.

**Raise the Stakes**, Planet Drum's wonderful journal is an indication of the growth of the movement. When the journal was started, it was filled with contributions of individuals who sent in descriptions of their bio-regions. Today, *Raise the Stakes* contains news from organized groups of people working on specific bio-regional platforms of action, conferences, and publications.

For more information: Planet Drum, P.O. Box 31251, San Francisco, CA 94131, 415/285-6556.

RAIN Interviews DRUM

**RAIN**: What do you envision as appropriate forms of governance from a bioregional or biospheric perspective?

**DRUM**: The present government structures are not appropriate to the conditions we are in, that is, inhabitants of the same planet. Not all forms of government are inappropriate. It depends on how long the government has been in place. In New England many of the districts conform more or less to watersheds, valleys, other natural boundaries. When you get west of the Mississippi River they reflect the acquisition of the Louisiana purchase. You find straight lines, square states. States shaped like pan handles, frying pans, trapezoids, every imaginable form and many that have nothing to do with local conditions.

We think national governments should be replaced by continental forms of government, the North American Continent, Europe, Asia, Africa. We see the results of our current order of nations along unreal boundaries. In New England, along the Canadian borders, residents have as much to do with the French Canadians or the culture of Nova Scotia as they do with the rest of the United States.

The second level of government would be bio-regional, large areas with separate identities within the United States, the Great Basin, the Plains, the Rockies, etc.

Below the bioregional level would be watersheds, which might be large or small. Your own Willamette Valley is an example. The watershed is the natural way to deal with many problems. The siting of a nuclear power

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**North American Bioregional Congress**

A Congress to unite individuals and organizations interested in bioregionalism, political ecology, and sustainability, has been in the hopper for some time. It was first proposed by Planet Drum in an article entitled "Amble Toward Continent Congress." Presently, the Congress is planned for fall/winter of 1983, and probably at a location in the Ozarks. Individuals and organizations are urged to correspond with the coordinators of the Congress so that the Congress might truly represent the regions of the North American Continent. For more information, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to North American Bioregional Congress, Box 67-2, Caulfield, MO 65626.
plant is a living problem to those in the watershed area it effects, and they should be able to judge its suitability.

RAIN: At least in Oregon there has been a lot of recent publicity about the importance of international trade for building up our failing economic base. What is Planet Drum’s outlook on stressing international trade development?

DRUM: It’s a question of real costs. Bio-regional costs are not considered in the current economic circus. For example, especially in California, the costs of soil erosion are passed onto taxpayers with a disproportionate amount of the cost carried by city people, instead of to large agricultural businesses who are primarily responsible for the loss of valuable soil. Bioregional real costs should be measured by what it costs to maintain and to restore, the accumulation of soil, the availability of water, and the natural succession of plants. This is the living base for people wherever they are or whatever they think they need at any moment. Enhancing international trade might do something to solve some immediate problems but it won’t do much for sustainability. Sustainability just can’t be measured in the same way as the Gross National Product.

RAIN: With the growth of electronic technology, mass media, and the means to spread ideas and entertainment worldwide, how can local cultures survive? What is Planet Drum’s attitude toward mass media and electronic technology?

DRUM: In terms of human civilization all real culture has been developed in small areas. It may not seem so when we are used to measuring cultural successes in terms of a half-billion dollars gross profit from a movie.

Mass electronic culture is an ersatz or pseudo culture that tends to meet the needs of alienation and loneliness that people have suffered during the industrial era. Just because we all watch the same television performer doesn’t mean we have the same culture.

People have expressed themselves through small groups and communities, through what Gregory Bateson calls resonant or redundant culture. Instead what we have is an appearance of universalism. It’s unreal, as thin as linoleum or better yet as thin as plastic. The true culture doesn’t come out of a wizz bang think tank.

Technology can only provide tools. People who have “thick” relationships create culture.

RAIN: Many local economies are dependent on peaceful invaders — that is, tourism. What is the bioregional perspective about the tourist industry which seems to be growing?

DRUM: Bioregions don’t change. One can jump into a car and go from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific Northwest. The place left, and the place visited are unchanged in bio-regional terms. The question is how much drain is

Just because we all watch the same television performer doesn’t mean we all have the same culture.

Re-inhabitation

Re-inhabitory refers to the tiny number of persons who come out of the industrial societies (having collected or squandered the fruits of 8000 years of civilization) and then start to turn back to the land, to place. This comes for some with the rational and scientific realization of interconnectedness, and planetary limits. But the actual demands of a life committed to a place, and living somewhat by the sunshine green plant energy that is concentrating in that spot, are so physically and intellectually intense, that it is a moral and spiritual choice as well.

There are many people on the planet, now, who are not “inhabitants.” Far from their home villages; removed from ancestral territories; moved into town from the farm; went to pan gold in California — work on the Pipeline — work for Bechtel in Iran. Actual inhabitants — peasants, paisanos, paysan, peoples of the land, have been sniffed at, laughed at, and overtaxed for centuries by the urban-based ruling elites. The intellectuals haven’t the least notion of what kind of sophisticated, attentive, creative intelligence it takes to “grow food.” Virtually all the plants in the gardens, the sheep, cows and goats in the pastures were domesticated in the Neolithic; before “civilization.” The differing regions of the world have long had — each — their own precise subsistence pattern developed over millennia by people who had settled in there and learned what particular kinds of plants the ground would “say” at that spot.

Gary Snyder — Resurgence
Bioregional Activities

Last year, in recognition of the growth of the bioregional movement, Planet Drum brought onto its staff Sheila Rose Purcell, to respond to the increasing correspondence, and to provide some initial support for fledgling bioregional groups. Listening to Sheila describe the number and variety of groups, it is evident that the movement is underway, even if still somewhat scattered. Many of the groups have just started, met once or twice, or might be attempting to draw up some type of bioregional platform or policy.

In some cases, the groups are well-established grassroots organizations which have more recently taken on a bioregional perspective. A food cooperative group, for example, in Tucson, Arizona, which publishes a newsletter, has strayed away from food issues into water, energy, and environmental issues, and now subtitles their newsletter a Journal of the Southeast Desert.

In New Mexico, the Mogollon Highlands Watershed Association sponsors monthly meetings, and recently participated in the development of a barter fair in their area. Reinhabiting New Jersey is a bioregional group whose attention is focused on educating state government decision makers about bioregional perspectives. The Wyoming Citizen’s Alliance was founded over a year ago to bring together energy, environment, and other movement groups to initiate a plan of action for their region. The Pend’Oreille Center for Appropriate Technology in Newport, Washington, is an example of an appropriate technology/alternative energy group which has recently adopted a bioregional stance as a more effective way to resolve local resource management issues.

The groups do not all share a common methodology for working toward a bio-regional-based culture. There is none. The movement is too young. In many cases, however, the formation of groups follows the track set out by one of the most well-established groups, the Ozark Community Congress. In a recent issue of Raise the Stakes, one of the Congress’s founders, David Henki spells out a process for starting a bioregional group. The process is generic to most cases: locate interested people, uncover the basic state of any bioregional planning information, and announce a meeting for people to attend, making that meeting a work party to ratify some basic operating goals for bioregional development in the chosen region.

Created by travel, and is the necessity of sustaining or restoring these places a consideration? Tourism has a long history, started originally as pilgrimages to religious shrines. But today people are encouraged by things like hotel culture, television culture, MacDonald’s culture. To see all places as the same, and therefore as no place at all, requires no sense of responsibility for restoring or sustaining those places. We are in danger of losing the value of local regions because of the practices of late industrial culture — not just capitalist societies, but Socialist as well, as evidenced by the Soviet Union’s invasion of Afghanistan, or suppression of ethnic cultures in the southern region of the Soviet Union. The late industrial drive is for some universal goal. The problem is, diversity gives way to homogeneity, and without individual liberty and creativity, and a relation to nature, then you have losses at such a universal level that you get losses you can’t cope with — poisoning of the biosphere, DDT in the water supply. The problems are universal, but the solutions have to be local.

RAIN: As the breakdown of nations takes place what can we envision as methods of conflict resolution?

DRUM: Suppose it were a right-winger asking that question, they would mean would you have less trouble with left wingers, or if it were a left winger, they would be asking whether or not you’d have more trouble with right-wingers.

What we, at Planet Drum, went through in making a stand over this issue was that we were more inclined to suffer the consequences of local people struggling over differences, instead of having them thrown into the late industrial escalator that roughly goes “if Carter saves Alaska, Reagan gives it away.” And that’s the thrust of late industrial politics, not just the personal politics of a Carter or a Reagan. Neither of them have a bioregional or biospheric perspective, the perspective we need now, and which is going to come from the grassroots, not from late industrial politicians.

We have to recognize our connection to the bio-sphere. There can be no conflict resolution without that, and we need to have a deeper relation to the bioregion we live in, establishing a stronger local cultural identity.

More demands are going to be made on bio-regions. People are going to see that more clearly in the coming years. We, at Planet Drum, relate to the Northern California bioregion and can see the critical issues of that region, especially water and soil. Our connection from here to the rest of the world starts with being a part of the North Pacific Rim, as our part of the continent, and in that way we are uniquely related to Asia.

Our relationships to one another change as we build up our forms of governance and conflict resolution from watersheds and bioregions.
ACCESS: Bioregional Communication Vehicles

Rain also hears a variety of bioregional voices through the development of the movement's periodicals. As with any other categorization, the ones we have selected as bioregional may have as many differences as similarities. But there is something distinct about their development.

One of the threads is the fading of distinctions between previously distinct areas of concern. These vehicles are speaking increasingly to relationships between issues. Out of what seems like a near-panic response to inter-connectedness, one bioregional monthly in California subtiles itself, "the journal of safe energy, peace, appropriate technology, self-sufficiency, and community."

Consistent with the bioregional perspective is the number of periodicals that define their geographic coverage in terms of non-traditional political boundaries: the Journal of Hudson Valley, the Journal of the Southeast desert.

The selection of periodicals we've chosen for review in this issue reflect a range of orientations. We will continue to review other like-minded journals in future issues of RAIN.

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**Agayuli**

Rt. 2, Box 132  
Leicester, NC 28748  
$10/yr. (contribution)

A newsletter that focuses on permaculture activities in the Southeastern part of the United States. It is an interactive/networking oriented newsletter, similar to the old standby, Smallholder, from British Columbia. It contains many letters and brief articles from individual contributors looking for information and/or communication with others, technical as well as policy-oriented news and information.

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**Maine Times**

41 Main St.  
Topsham, ME 04086  
Weekly, $18/yr

The Maine Times has been an exemplary regional voice for quite some time. It continues to prove that a strong regional voice doesn't have to be provincial. Its coverage is regional and national, and its special features often contain information useful to people anywhere. They recently published their blockbuster annual Energy Issue with information for the individual wanting to conserve energy or save money as well as news about public policy issues and new energy resource developments.

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**Mountain Life and Work**

Council of Southern Mountains  
Drawer N  
Clintwood, VA 24228  
Monthly, $8/yr

This journal is concerned with cultural and social issues. It covers news in the South Appalachian area with special focus on work and employment issues.

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**Coyote — Community News and Views of the Southwest Desert**

Food Conspiracy Cooperative  
412 N. Fourth Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85705

Coyote is an example of the enhanced quality and increased coverage of food cooperative newsletters. In a recent issue, Coyote editors expressed their bioregional perspective: "Part of Coyote's purpose is to help spread the word on bioregional thinking. What does it mean to talk about bioregions? It's simply another way of looking at the world in terms of natural coherence of resources."

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**Coyote's**

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terms of natural coherence of  
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**Hudson Valley Green Times**

PO Box 208  
Red Hook, NY 12571

Produced by the Hudson Valley Grass Roots Energy and Environmental Network, this small tabloid provides news to Hudson Valley area about environmental dangers, and alternative plans for future sustainable developments.

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**All Area**

77 Reade St.  
New York, NY 10007  
$5/issue

All Area follows on the work of Talking Wood, a bioregional oriented publication that has been around for several years.

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**All Areas**, unlike several others reviewed, is a general bioregional publication, focusing not on a specific bioregion, but on the concepts of bioregional awareness. The issue on hand at RAIN is 180 pages, graphic-full, slick paper. Articles include "Logos/Mythos" by David Finkelstein; "A Metologue," Gregory Bateson and Paul Ryan, "Alaska in Transition" by Paul Metcalf; and "Maximus, to Gloucester, From Dogtown, after the Flood," by Charles Olson. The next issue of All Areas will be published in Winter 1983.

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**San Antonio Artists Alliance Review**

121 E Ashby  
San Antonio, TX 78212

The Alliance works with the Humanities Program at St. Phillips College in San Antonio on the Regional Awareness Project which includes publication of a series of journals on earth, air, and fire (energy); sponsorship of a conference on the San Antonio bioregion in May 1982; a folk-festival and performing Arts Showcase. The September 1981 issue of the Alliance Review had a special section describing the San Antonio bio-region.

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**UCAT News**

Appropriate Technology Program  
University of California  
2030 Bainer  
Davis, CA 95616

The UCAT News is a well-written quarterly that reports on the program's activities as well as other appropriate technology and small-scale biological agricultural projects in the area. The summer 1982 issue featured an article by Gil Friend on the potential of biological agriculture.

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**Urban Ecology Newsletter**

Urban Ecology, Inc.  
PO Box 2334  
Berkeley, CA 94702

This is the group that has had its truck garden arrested and impounded because the garden is in a car, and cars are not supposed to be on the streets of Berkeley for more than 72 hours. Since being arrested, the car has been invited to become a portable monument for the city, a symbol of our culture's devotion to the automobile.

The newsletter is an important link in bioregional thinking, attempting to reweave urban ecology.
SELF-RELIANT CITIES

If you were vacationing over the last decade and want to understand what has so radically transformed this country, Self-Reliant Cities will catch you up to the present. If you were around, and especially if you were involved in energy politics, Self-Reliant Cities may be like reviewing a family snapshot album: it’s all there—the trials and tribulations of America’s response to the new world of limited energy resources.

The book is jammed-full of examples of community responses to the energy crisis brought to the foreground in 1973 with the Arab oil embargo. There are the well-known responses: the City of Davis, California; landmark decisions such as the Polemina, California limit to growth policy; the countless city energy studies and plans; the alternative energy booms and boondoggles; the wheeling and dealing of corporations, governments and grassroots groups attempting to lay down new ground rules for the post-Arab Oil embargo world.

But Self Reliant Cities is more than snapshots from the last decade’s energy lessons. The book is also a good primer on the changing role of the city in our society. In several concise chapters, the book covers the history of cities in America, from Thomas Jefferson’s attitude that cities should be destroyed as breeders of immorality, through the succession of competitions between cities, states, federal government, and private and municipal corporations, all bidding for shares of financial and natural resources.

Self-Reliant Cities could play an important role by giving all of us a common knowledge base from which to make sensible decisions for development of cities in the future. Morris has much to say about what that shape might or should be. But that hardly seems the point. What he has done has brought us up to the present, shown us the forces that have brought us here, documented the realities of the present (talk about lots of statistics!), and presented the trade-offs now before us. Solar energy isn’t necessarily good by itself, nor is any other specific technology. It just all depends. We might use wood to heat our homes and lose by polluting the air. There are no simple answers in this book, but perhaps a guiding light: in order to exist, our cities must become more efficient in using energy and other natural resources.

In 1977 the Burlington (Vermont) Electric Department converted one coal-fired unit to wood. The 10 megawatt facility generates electricity for two cents a kilowatt hour, much cheaper than nuclear power and one-third less expensive than burning coal. Burlington’s voters overwhelmingly approved an $80 million bond issue to take the next step and build a 50-megawatt wood-fired plant . . . . However the plant will need half a million tons of wood a year, the equivalent of a forest area the size of a Burlington itself, so not all the wood can be acquired in the immediate vicinity. The neighboring town of Winooski worried about the substantial number of vans, each carrying a payload of 22 tons, traveling down its main street. Winooski City attorney William Wargo argued before the Public Service Board against approving Burlington’s application for a permit to truck its wood along Winooski’s streets. “Even an ideal transportation schedule would present an [unbearable] burden,” he noted, “not only on traffic congestion but open road conditions, on safety, on air quality and on the noise level as well.”

In July 1980 Charles Olmstead and Jeanine Lanier, botanists at the University of Northern Colorado, were granted a variance to build a greenhouse onto their house despite the vigorous objections of Shalto and Alma Davis, neighbors to the south. The Davises objected that the greenhouse would create glare and that melting snow would slide from the greenhouse roof and ice up their driveway. The Davises appealed the variance, but the council not only upheld the board’s decision, it removed all the conditions of the variance. The greenhouse was built, and the Davises claimed their original objection had in fact been well founded. They claimed the glare harmed Mrs. Davis’s eyesight, killed or harmed houseplants, and even peeled the paint on the house. Olmstead offered to buy reflective window shading material for the Davises, but they refused. Instead they built a six-foot fence on their lot line. It partially shades their house, and they are seeking a variance to erect a covered carport. This would shade a much larger portion of the greenhouse. It was Olmstead’s turn to object. As this book went to press, he was threatening to sue the Davises for the amount of fossil fuels he would have to purchase as a result of decreased heat from the greenhouse.

One company, Calorific Recovery Anaerobic Process (its acronym, appropriately, is CRAP), is turning manure from a hundred thousand head of cattle of feedlots in Guymon, Oklahoma, population eight thousand, into methane. The methane is sold to People’s Gas Company, a Chicago gas utility. In the ever-changing world of energy, Chicago’s homes are now in part heated from the manure of Oklahoma’s cows.
ACCESS: Good Reading

Prepared by Resource Transitions, Inc.
P.O. Box 3021
Santa Cruz, CA 95063

Unless a community is totally self-reliant, it produces a product or service that brings money in from outside the community then spends that money on goods and services that the community cannot produce. One measure of the economic health of a community is how many times each dollar changes hands within that community before it is used to pay for an outside commodity. As more people handle each dollar, the standard of living increases.

At the present time, the single largest dollar drain in most American communities is the money spent on energy: Energy Future, a grassroots organization in Santa Cruz County, has come up with a comprehensive plan for that county which seeks to reduce the exit of local resources to pay for energy. The plan combines the goals of energy conservation on all levels and increasing local control of energy sources by conversion to local renewable fuels.

Specifically, the plan establishes goals and priorities for energy conservation on a community-wide basis, ranging from curbside recycling and light rail, to residential, commercial and industrial energy conservation. It also addresses such basics as increasing the percentage of locally-grown food and starting energy education programs in the schools.

As we move into the second stage of Reaganaomics, more communities are making or trying to make basic energy/economic decisions for increased self-reliance. Davis, California has done it. Franklin County, Massachusetts, has done it. Get a copy of this plan for Santa Cruz and start a movement in your community.

— Gail Katz

The Human Impact
Man’s Role in Environmental Change
Andrew Goudie
MIT Press
28 Carleton St.
Cambridge, MA 02142

There is the obvious part of the story. We know — with or without statistics — that we have had a tremendous impact on changing the earth, and that we may be endangering the planet’s very ability to sustain the quality and diversity of life. But The Human Impact is subtler than that. As in another earlier and similar work, Man’s Role in Changing the Face of the Earth, Goudie examines the many ways we’ve changed our planet. Examples range from the eighteenth century lord in Britain who simply removed thirty feet of a hill that was blocking his view, to the devastation of war with its extended impact on the land and its ecology. The Indochinese War alone, displaced 2.6 billion cubic meters of earth by bombings, more than was displaced by one of man’s larger engineering feats, the peaceable creation of The Netherlands.

There’s a sense after reading the book that nature is a very good healer. Raw holes in the earth created by mining, war, and other calamities, over the years turn into lakes indistinguishable from “natural” lakes. Elaborate adaptations occur when new plants and animals are introduced into local areas. But The Human Impact doesn’t present a “so everything is all right” perspective. By the book’s conclusion it is evident that, while many of our mistakes can be corrected by nature, there isn’t as much room for error. Types of changes we are able to make now, while perhaps curable, may take centuries of healing, and the demands of population growth just won’t allow.

— SJ

Nothing Can Be Done, Everything is Possible
Byron Kennard
Brickhouse Publishing Co.
34 Essex St.
Andover, MA 01810

Byron Kennard’s account of community organizing is very personal — not a “1-2-3, this is how we organize to gain equality.” No, Kennard’s approach could be best described as networking — if that term weren’t so quickly outweighing its usefulness. It’s the story of one of those relatively invisible social change fanatics, uninterested in serving specific political roles, and yet capable of influencing the direction of public policy by being out there on the edge, translating the fringe ideas back into the mainstream.

It isn’t just a biography. Scattered throughout is helpful advice about organizing, and most important, it can serve as a kind of cheerful outlook on how change takes place. “Have faith,”

From: The Energy Saver’s Handbook

Kennard says, “you probably have more of an effect than you realize” — and he adds as a word of caution, “don’t expect to necessarily see the change or get credit for it.”

The radical program of young William Jennings Bryan was finally implemented by “progressive” Woodrow Wilson. It took twenty years for the ideas to gain legitimacy. Norman Thomas ran for president half dozen times and his candidacy was derided, but liberal Democrats under Franklin D. Roosevelt ultimately appropriated much of Thomas’s program without so much as a thank-you note.

— SJ

The Energy Saver’s Handbook for Town and City People
The Scientific Staff of the Massachusetts Audubon Society
Rodale Press
Emmaus, PA 18049

Most books on energy conservation are written for homeowners who want to reduce their personal energy bills or for engineers and architects who do studies and design work in commercial buildings.
Inflation and Debt

The two economic indicators of unemployment and inflation must go together since they are so closely related. There seem to be as many explanations for both as there are schools of economic thought. This explanation focuses on energy as the critical variable.

Economists generally agree that high energy prices are a major source of inflation, but they are unwilling to go on to the obvious conclusion — increased energy prices should mean falling incomes rather than cost of living increases. Energy is a fundamentally different kind of a cost item than the other sources of inflation.

High energy prices are a reflection of scarcity; the only reason OPEC could keep on jacking their prices up over the last decade is because we did not have cheaper alternatives. Our import bill is now around sixty-five billion dollars a year — down from ninety billion — but this is still three hundred dollars for every American being sent out of the country to pay for oil, money that used to stay in the American economy. Avoiding this bill by developing our own domestic resources would be more expensive. The Alaskan pipeline was the last good barometer of resource depletion and environmental degradation as an introduction to the analysis of the available alternatives. It is not the technology itself that is new or alternative, but its application. The guidelines for this application emerge from a reading of the various projects — among them self-reliant cities, ecological villages, contemplative communities, community development corporations, and urban agriculture, all featured in the book’s major section, “Expressions.”

The contributors represent a diversity of backgrounds and interests, but converge on some basic principles. The principles of biological diversity, nutrient cycling, and “no free lunch” are here applied, with people coexisting with rather than dominating other life forms and processes.

Resettling America provides one of the most thorough and accessible introductions to the work in progress around the country, and, more importantly, to some of the conceptual framework that will ultimately unify this work in a science of ecological design and “right livelihood.”

— John Peterson

Thinking the Unthinkable: A Declining Economy

By Warren Johnson

This book fills the void between those well documented subjects by addressing energy conservation for urban areas.

The first section deals with mechanical systems for weatherization in existing buildings ranging in size from a single family dwelling to large apartment complexes. The information, though not new, is well organized and very readable.

The book also includes such issues as community energy systems, landlord-tenant relations, financing for groups, and alternative energy sources.

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John Rothchild
Random House
201 East 50th St.
New York, NY 10022

Have a few spare thou’ that you’re considering investing in “T bills or Swiss bank accounts or works of art”? Well, forget it. . . those items are passe in the world of investment finances. John Rothchild’s Stop Burning Your Money is bullish on conservation.

Even if you are not heading off to Wall Street, don’t let the initial high-brow approach to home weatherization deter you from finishing the book. Your time will be well spent. Rothchild has compiled the most inclusive, comprehensive analysis of precisely what measures will save you money and how long the payback will be. Included are charts comparing furnace, air conditioner, and appliance efficiencies for would-be purchasers, a wealth of up-to-date information on conservation methods and materials, and what to look for in terms of energy efficiency when buying a house.

Low-cost items such as caulking and weatherstripping are big favorites on the market with storm windows falling off rapidly. Wood stoves are down, insulation is holding steady. Water heater wraps and flow restrictors are rallying, while active solar systems are showing mixed returns. Genera, eat your heart out.

Even though I haven’t had treasury bills in mind, this is the best book I have read for a hard-nosed look at the smartest way to spend your conservation dollars. And it’s no secret, saving energy is one of the soundest investments a homeowner can make today.

For inspiration on self-reliant living, read RAIN Magazine; for the dollars and cents brass tacks, Stop Burning Your Money is better than a broker.

— Meg Roland

Resettling America: Energy, Ecology, and Community

Gary Coates, Editor
Brick House Publishing Co.
34 Essex St.
Andover, MA 01810
$14.95, 1981

The expression of vision is often not found in the mainstream, but rather in the productive or reflective eddies of the culture. Gary Coates has put together a decade’s worth of disparate, often little-known research and community ventures to complement his thesis in Resettling America. It is a prodigious introduction to what is becoming a global change in consciousness — that materialistic, central-ized, and hierarchical ways of thinking and organizing of our economies are not only exploitative but ultimately self-consuming. Linking appropriate technology, ecological farming, community and regional planning, sweat equity, and the contemplative communities of the Zen Center and the Abode of the Message, Coates illustrates an approach to regional planning that has its origins in the science of ecology, in a renewed sense of the sacred, and in the value of living in community.

Coates provides an excellent synopsis of resource depletion and environmental degradation as an introduction to the analysis of the available alternatives. It is not the technology itself that is new or alternative, but its application. The guidelines for this application emerge from a reading of the various projects — among them self-reliant cities, ecological villages, contemplative communities, community development corporations, and urban agriculture, all featured in the book’s major section, “Expressions.”

The contributors represent a diversity of backgrounds and interests, but converge on some basic principles. The principles of biological diversity, nutrient cycling, and “no free lunch” are here applied, with people coexisting with rather than dominating other life forms and processes.

Resettling America provides one of the most thorough and accessible introductions to the work in progress around the country, and, more importantly, to some of the conceptual framework that will ultimately unify this work in a science of ecological design and “right livelihood.”

— John Peterson
Unemployment is likely to be a debilitating social problem in the future, yet from another perspective there is a huge amount of work that needs to be done — building a way of life not so dependent on energy.

Alaska so far, some twenty trillion cubic feet, is only one year's worth of consumption, and so it is not surprising that the job of financing such a huge project has not been successful. Offshore drilling is much more expensive than onshore, as is the drilling of many holes to find the last small oil and gas deposits on land. Synthetic fuels from coal and oil shales will be the most expensive of all, which is why Exxon and Occidental have stopped projects on which they had spent many hundreds of millions of dollars.

All of these huge new costs for energy, whether imported or domestic, are costs that wouldn't have had to have been paid if the old oil fields were still meeting our needs. And even if all the OPEC revenues were spent back in this country, American workers would still be working for foreign consumers rather than for American consumers. These are the costs of scarcity. The only place to get the money to pay these bills is out of American paychecks. As we pay these higher energy bills, the real incomes of Americans should come down, to account for the drain of money from the consumer economy. But instead, we asked for — and usually received — cost of living increases to cover the higher cost of gasoline, heating fuel, and all the things made with energy. We assumed higher energy costs were part of the usual cost of living calculus. This was the way we had always interpreted higher prices before, and this was the way we wanted to see it now.

Cost of living increases to cover higher energy costs are, in effect, an attempt to deny the reality of scarcity. Higher incomes simply gave people the money to go on consuming oil as if scarcity didn't exist, as if cheap oil was still coming out of the old fields in Texas and Louisiana. The usual function of higher prices, to discourage consumption, was weakened by the fact that the consumer had the money to pay the higher prices. The overall result was that higher incomes sustained consumption rather than discouraging it. There were more dollars chasing fewer goods, the age old source of inflation.

Still, economists were perplexed. Not only was inflation a problem but so was unemployment. Classical economic theory said both should not occur at the same time, and the term stagflation had to be coined to describe this new phenomenon. But high wages can be seen as frustrating another fundamental change that energy scarcity leads to — the increased use of labor. Our minds, shaped by growth in the past, think in terms of using more machines, but the increasing cost of energy points in just the opposite direction — to the use of more labor and fewer machines. Cost of living increases, however, simply push up the cost of labor along with the cost of energy, and this substitution does not occur. Labor is too expensive, and therefore is not used.

Increasing energy prices should mean falling incomes rather than cost of living increases. of displaced workers trapped without work, with houses that can't be sold, and in cities and states that are going broke? Cutting wages would help, but not very much because they will not bring down the cost of the energy and materials that go into the building of a car. Nor will lower sales prices bring down the cost of operating a car as long as gasoline prices are high. Worse yet, falling wages would reduce demand for other products, causing further unemployment. The moderating force in all this would be OPEC; they would have to lower oil prices in order to sell it, permitting a much needed infusion of energy. This will help, but at some point OPEC resources too will decline, since they are serving the entire industrial world; current estimates are that they will last twenty years longer than ours, but such estimates assume steady economic growth, which is growing more unlikely.

Unemployment is likely to be a debilitating social problem in the future, yet from another perspective there is a huge amount of work that needs to be done — building a way of life not so dependent on energy.

Warren Johnson is author of Muddling Toward Frugality, and is presently in the Geography Department at San Diego State University. This article is part of a longer article. Mr. Johnson is looking for a general audience publication for the longer piece. Any takers?
ACCESS: Community Economic Development

**Starting and Running a Nonprofit Organization**
*Joan Hummel*
University of Minnesota Press
Minneapolis, MN 55414

This is an excellent guide on the nuts and bolts of running a small nonprofit organization. All of the basic topics include the board of directors, legal aspects, program planning and fund-raising, finances, personnel, and community relations, are covered thoroughly in a straightforward manner. There is a resource list at the end of each chapter for further information.

For those starting a nonprofit corporation this book is a valuable resource; there is even a checklist of "things to be done." The book would also be useful for staff members of established groups who are newcomers to nonprofits or are taking on more administrative responsibility.

**Setting Up Shop**
*The Do's and Don'ts of Starting A Small Business*
*Randy Baca Smith*
McGraw-Hill Book Company
1221 6th Ave. New York, NY 10020
$19.95 hard cover 1982

This is one of the best books of its type. Many business books are too technical, over fondling the author's pet bookkeeping system or describing things like where to hide the petty cash. Ms. Smith tells us where to find out what we need to know and points out what kinds of things we might want to know. She devotes a full chapter to the mechanics and financial ins and outs of advertising, which many books ignore completely. She tells how to do a market survey, suggests setting up a chair and watching traffic at a proposed location, and gives concrete information as to how to approach a bank or other granting agency for a loan.

She lists the kind of businesses most likely to fail: dry cleaning, used car lots, and gas stations; and those most likely to succeed: building materials, auto tires and accessories, and liquor.

One tip alone — that any business dependent for part of its trade on the telephone coincide its opening with the issuance of the new phone book — is worth the price of the book. The book is indexed and has a good bibliography.

Chapter and section headings are over cute and the writing owes more than it should to Helen Gurley Brown, "guys" "gals," but these are minor reservations concerning what is otherwise a very good job.

— Dick Showalter

**The Entrepreneurial Economy**
*Corporation for Enterprise Development*
2420 K St., NW
Washington, DC 20037
Monthly, $78/yr, $39/6 issues

*The Entrepreneurial Economy* is an effective resource for neighborhood development organizations, nonprofit groups seeking sustainable financing, and small businesses. Past issues have included articles on public/private partnerships, plant shutdowns, diverting pension funds to community enterprise, youth unemployment, and community revitalization programs. The "Shorts and Resources" section puts the reader in touch with new developments, from pertinent legislation and community development projects to special issues of periodicals and new books and reports.

This is a useful tool for building a community-based economy.

**Co-op Development Report**
*Conference on Alternative State & Local Policies*
2000 Florida Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20009
Qrtly, free (Exchanges encouraged)

As a broader newsletter of the Co-op Development and Assistance Project (CDAP), the Report includes both information to improve functions of co-ops as well as news and analysis of the National Consumer Coop Bank, which was the focus of the previous CDAP newsletter, *The Co-op Bank Monitor.* All co-ops will benefit from the Report's effort to bring tips on creative financing, case studies, and innovative approaches to co-op
Facing Plant Closings
Shutdown: A Guide for Communities
1982 and is available for $4.95 from Conference Publications at the above address.

Shutdown: A Guide for Communities
Facing Plant Closings
Jacqueline Mazza, Project Director
Northeast-Midwest Institute
Publications Office
PO Box 37209
Washington, DC 20013

While plant closures nationwide have become as frequent as rain showers in the Pacific Northwest, employees themselves have bought companies in 60 instances since 1971; all but two of these enterprises have succeeded. As the Chinese word for crisis indicates (wei-ji meaning both danger and opportunity), a plant closure can be transformed into a new avenue to community autonomy and sustainability.

This guide will assist most any group or coalition to do just that. Its usefulness lies in the clearly described tier of steps frequently taken by communities struck with factory closings. Laden with both successful and unsuccessful examples, a bibliography of self-help guides, a list of contacts for additional information, and alternative uses for plant and base facilities, Shutdown also discusses "early-warning" indicators to plant closure.

This map of possibility belongs in the hands of community organizers and leaders anywhere. For further information, see "Small Towns and Factory Closings: Impacts and Alternatives," by Greg Hooks, et al, Small Town, Jan/Feb. 1982, $4.00 ppd., from Small Town, PO Box 517, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

Developing Neighborhood Association of Kansas City
560 Westport Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64111
816/753-4949

The Association was started by Joe Falk, author of Cooperating Community Development. It is a neighborhood owned and controlled regional cooperative whose purpose is to make people in the area aware of what they can do for themselves by investing in their neighborhoods. The Association has an ongoing series of workshops aimed at providing information on how to develop neighborhoods cooperatively, how to obtain financial assistance, how to increase jobs and services in the neighborhood, and how to develop neighborhood tax shelters.

Services: The New Economy
Thomas M. Stanback, Jr., et al
Allanheld, Osmun and Co.
81 Adams Drive
Totowa, NJ 07512
$27.00 paper, 1982, 156pp.

This book, one in a series from the Conservation of Human Resources Group, helps to straighten out the picture of our changing economy which is often summarized as moving from industrial to post-industrial, or from manufacturing-based to service-based. The authors contend that this is true in some ways, but the analysis of available data on the economy would suggest a different picture than that painted by some post industrial futurists.

What the statistics seem to show is that the greatest growth in our economy and employment base is in "producer services," not "consumer services." The growth of producer services is the result of many factors: automation, increased product differentiation, and increased wealth of many consumers. The producer service segment of the economy is growing at a rate of 4.5% per annum, three to four times the rate of other segments, including consumer services. The fact is, there are more services for planning, product development, and market strategy — to name a few. Instead of offering one service, a modern corporation may offer many, and may be in the midst of developing many more. All this creates employment. The products themselves are aimed at the increasing number of people who, because of increased wealth, are now desiring what the authors call "convenience needs" and "lifestyle/identity needs," leaving a smaller and smaller part of the economy behind to deal with those whose needs are at the basic survival level.

In fact, one of the more devastating conclusions of the book is that the service economy might increase the difference between rich and poor, as the more successful part of the economy is directed toward selling convenience and lifestyle/identity goods to the upper class.

Good Money
The Newsletter of Social Investing and Inventing
Box 363, Clais Stage Rd.
Worcester, VT 05682
Bi-monthly, $108/institutions and corporations; $36/individuals and nonprofits; $12/students and individuals with less than $13,000 annual income

Good Money is a new periodical dealing with issues of socially responsible investment. In its opening editorial, Good Money describes itself as being "based on the belief that the poor performance of many world economies is the result of unrealistic and oppressive policies, name-calling in social discourse, and the failure to consider human values in economic decision-making." The magazine reports on the increasing number of corporate officers, union members, investors, consumers, community residents, and members of special interest groups who are searching for new ways of raising capital and putting that capital to work to revitalize the social economy.

The first issue reports on several socially responsible corporations and unique non-profit organizations seeking to create stronger local economic conditions.
From: We Own It.

We Own It: Starting and Managing Coops, Collectives, and Employee Owned Ventures
Jim Beatty, Peter Jan Honigsberg, and Bernard Kamoroff
Bell Spring Publishing
P.O. Box 640
Laytonville, CA 95454

Just as I began planning for a project with a group of Southeast Asian refugees to start a small truck farming business, this book arrived in our office. Excellent timing. The book surveys the issues of concern in starting and managing a cooperative venture.

The book begins with the history and principles of cooperatives and then distinguishes among “Old Wave” (large 1930s), “New Wave” (“small is beautiful” 1960-70s), and “Third Wave” (a blend of old and new) types of cooperatives. Various organizational structures are discussed with goals that ensure the cooperative principle of one person, one vote. The largest section of the book covers management issues: financing, insurance, licenses, bookkeeping, and personnel. Of particular interest is detailed information on the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, a discussion of the meaning of “profit” for coops, and a description of the recent attempts by the IRS to consider coop volunteers as employees and then tax discounts given for hours worked.

The booklet would serve as a particular useful tool for a Board or staff planning and fundraising committee.

Making the Community Your Career
Randy Ring
Community Careers Resource Center
1560 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Before you set out with your latest issue of Community Jobs (see RAIN IX:2), pages earmarked and job notices circled, read this introduction to community careers. From the publishers of Community Jobs, this booklet offers practical information about community organizations and resources, as well as personal encouragement for seeking the job which meets your needs and expectations. Skills, internships, and short and long-term commitments are discussed. Included are profiles of people dedicated to community and public interest causes. One of the joys of her work, says an attorney for the Consumers Union in Washington, D.C., is that she can “wake up every morning knowing the work (she does) makes a difference.”

Goodworks: A Guide to Social Change Careers
Kathleen Hughes, Editor
Center for Study of Responsible Law
Box 19367
Washington, DC 20036
$25.00, 1982, 300pp.

The second edition of Good Works looks a lot like the first with one exception — the new edition has expanded to include 176 additional social change groups. This directory is an essential tool for those interested in social repair and construction work.

Fundraising Strategies For Grassroots Organizations
Tim Sweeney and Michael Seltzer
Community Careers Resource Center
1520 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036
$4.00, 1982, 17pp.

Over $45 billion is projected to be lost from the nonprofit sector over the next four years as a result of federal budget reductions and new tax legislation, contends Sweeney and Seltzer. Despite this sobering beginning, the authors are optimistic that small and grassroots nonprofit organizations can survive in the 1980s.

The central theme is the need for a diverse funding base. An “Organizational Self Diagnostic” chart is designed to help a group analyze where their present support is coming from. The accompanying narrative helps groups consider the prospects for new sources.

The book is written in an open and readable style with actual examples given throughout. It may not have all the answers, but can help any coop with the business of knowing what the important questions are.

Co-operative Development Agency
20 Albert Embankment
London, England SE1 7TJ

The Agency was set up by Parliament with all-party support to promote the cooperative sector by providing assistance on how to establish cooperatives and appraise specific projects, including assessment of products, market studies, available skills, finances, and prospects of success. Recently, the agency has begun to move away from a general advisory capacity to provide more specific technical assistance.

They recently helped with the development of a large cooperative plan for the County Council of Cleveland, England, a town already involved in the development of Europe’s first Cooperative Enterprise Centre.

They have several publications on the state of cooperatives in Great Britain.

Fear at Work; Job Blackmail, Labor and the Environment
Richard Kazis and Richard Grossman
The Pilgrim Press
132 West 31st Street
New York, NY 10010

My parents told me many stories about Anaconda, Montana’s copper mining and smelting corporation, one of the largest in the world. I remember backpacking into the surrounding mountains only to learn that “the company” owned every tree, lake, stream, and rock that we could see. It still does, but the Anaconda Company’s smelter is awaiting demolition.

But why would the Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO), which bought Anaconda in 1979, uproot its multimillion dollar smelter? “The company has determined by in-depth studies,” stated the announcement, “that the existing plant cannot be retrofitted to satisfy environmental standards and become cost-competitive with modern, large-scale smelters.”

Not all too rare. Numerous shutdowns are accused of being the result of “environmental idealists”; we can’t have both a clean environment and employment. This is job blackmail — a threat of unemployment versus corporate earnings or prerogatives. Fear at Work documents how the threat of job loss due to environmental controls often warns of an upcoming shutdown. As in Anaconda’s case, wrote columnist Tom Kotynski, “someone long ago in the Anaconda hierarchy made the decision not to upgrade this antiquated smelter and it was allowed to deteriorate.”
Imagine you are the first person to discover a pothole. No big deal, just your regular pothole. You can nimbly avoid it, steering your automobile away from it. You can expect someone else to take care of it — right? Wrong. Not if you want lower taxes too. As it is now, the pothole will end up on some civil servant’s work log, and depending on the size of the budget for potholes, along with a frightfully complex decision-making process, it might get fixed.

But if THEY don’t fix the pothole, who will? Well, if there were no government, you, or a neighbor, or fellow-traveler of the road might take it upon yourselves. There could be a legal compact that the first person to discover the pothole had to fix it. Increase the police force to watch for violators, and . . . .

What we do now is, by voting, sign a compact with elected officials, who turn around and make compacts with others to carry out work that will fulfill the articles of the compact.

The pothole is someone’s problem. Unless we decide to live with potholes, repairing them is going to cost someone something, somehow. Apparently, from the kind of support shown for lower taxes and less government, many people don’t think the present compact for fixing potholes — and many other services — is working too well. Perhaps in between the US and THEM, there are intermediate solutions. Sometimes having a large centralized pothole department might be the most effective way to take care of that problem; but then again maybe there are other solutions.

In Philadelphia, the city council has initiated a process of establishing a formal partnership with neighborhood groups for delivery of some city services. One contract area would involve neighborhoods in the repair of potholes with “cold patches,” as a way of preventing further damage, as well as in the inspection and reporting of extensive damage to the proper municipal government office.

This kind of “pothole watch” in Philadelphia, is only one example among many, where new compacts are being forged between citizens, private corporations, neighborhood and community based organizations, and government agencies, to carry out mainline municipal services.

What other kinds of services are we talking about? In a special report on the role of neighborhood associations in carrying out municipal services, the National Association of Neighborhoods provides this list: residential solid waste collection, street and parking lot repair and cleaning, snow plowing/sanding, tree planting/tree trimming, operation of parking lots and garages, operation and maintenance of para-transit systems, crime prevention patrols, fire protection, child welfare programs, operation of cultural and arts programs, building maintenance and building security — to name a few.

Recently, municipal governments have opened up the
bidding process for dealing with such mainline public services in an attempt to answer the widespread cry for less government or at least a more responsive and efficient one. Some of this new attitude is being formed from Reagan's new urban policy which focuses attention on new community partnerships. These are arrangements between local government, private corporations and the nonprofit sector for carrying out services which, in recent years, have been carried out by local government with tremendous support from federal taxes.

The new partnerships stand to make some players in the community more wealthy, including private corporations who would like to prove they can be more efficient in carrying out government services than the government. Neighborhood and community based organizations may also profit from this new arrangement.

The Bronx-Frontier Association in New York is contracted with the city of New York to clear up vacant lots. They clear up the debris, add four inches of topsoil, and strew a mix of wild flower seeds on the lot.

The delivery of public services by neighborhood and community based organizations isn't new. Over the last twenty years, some of the organizations have evolved from simple voluntary organizations that provided platforms for citizens to voice their opinions to more complex organizations capable of administrating programs and services. Especially through federal housing, economic opportunity, block grant and CETA programs, the groups have played an important role in administrating federal money in communities. The difference is that up until now, most of the money has been earmarked for special development programs, and not for mainline public services.

The Bronx Frontier Association in New York has had years of experience in advising community groups about the creation of gardens and small parks. In the spring of 1982 they entered into an agreement with the Planning and General Services Department of the City of New York for the treatment of vacant lots. Bronx-Frontier is clearing the lots of debris, adding four inches of topsoil, and strewing a mix of wild flower seeds on the lots. The group is doing the work at 32 cents per square foot which represents a sizable savings for the city government.

The new community partnerships are not without problems. There have already been anti-trust actions, based on restraint of trade that can arise when particular groups are matter-of-factly given contracts. Government employee unions are, of course, not always pleased. The new partnerships can mean loss of public employees, and/or new work conditions that do not include all the previous benefits. Then there are a variety of legal problems. Who is liable, for example, when sidewalk repair carried out by a neighborhood association under contract from the city results in an accident? The groups themselves pose another question. While many neighborhood and community based organizations have become sophisticated, many are still primarily small-staffed and/or voluntary associations. In order to carry out on-going public services they need to have increased management ability.

However, with all the difficulties that may arise, the new partnerships have many positive aspects. They can reduce city costs in many ways, cutting the number of salaried, pension-entitled, civil service workers. They can spread out a community's employment potential to include people who might not otherwise be employed under the normal civil service rules. The new relationship between the city and neighborhood or community based organizations can reduce the "Them" and "Us" feeling, and citizens themselves can have a more direct say-so over how their money is spent. □□
ACCESS: Alternative Service Delivery

PUBLICATIONS

Community Service Partnerships
Milton Kotler
Center for Responsive Governance
P.O. Box 42120
Washington, DC 20015
$6.00, 1982, 60 pp.

This is the single best overview about new community service partnerships, focusing on neighborhood organization roles. It includes many examples of service being carried out by neighborhood and community based organizations around the country.

A Positive Alternative: Redesigning Public Service Delivery
Citizens League
84 S Sixth St.
Minneapolis, MN 55402

This is a report prepared by the Citizens League to increase the dialogue about alternatives to cutting services or raising taxes by redesigning service delivery at the neighborhood level.

Rediscovering Governance Series
SRI International
333 Ravenswood Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

There are about 50 publications in this series by SRI, several of which are relevant to the search for new partnerships in delivering community services. You can start with An Overview of SRI’s Research into Nonservice Approaches to Public Problems ($3.00). Others include Using Nonservice Approaches to Neighborhood Problems — A Guide for Local Officials ($10.00); Nonservice Approaches to Refugee Resettlement — A Guide for Local Communities ($10.00); and Nonservice Approaches to Problems of the Aged ($5.00).

Citizen Coproduction of Public Services: An Annotated Bibliography
Stephen L. Percy, Paula C. Baker
Council of Planning Librarians
1313 East 60th St.
Chicago, IL 60637
$4.00, 1981, 12 pp.

This is an annotated bibliography that focuses on public services carried out under a variety of formal and informal compacts between citizens, community based organizations, and government agencies.

Community Partnerships Resource Center
Division of Government Capacity Sharing
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20410
202/755-4370

The Center is a clearinghouse for information about new community partnerships. It seems to be the new administration’s equivalent of the old Neighborhood Information Sharing Exchange (NISE). The Center is establishing a database on alternative community partnerships. Entries include information on government contracts in the private sector; sharing between government agencies; grants or vouchers as subsidies; franchises, voluntary organizations, donated labor (volunteers, loaned executives, self-help); and limitation of service demand through fees and user charges, promotion and regulation. An introductory package, the Alternative Services Kit, points the way through various community partnerships.

Economic Development and Law Center Report
National Economic Development and Law Center
2150 Shattuck Ave., #300
Berkeley, CA 94704
Quarterly, $16/yr (free, if eligible)

The Center’s Report is an excellent journal with in-depth description and analyses of innovative economic development projects around the country. Recent articles of note include “Community Based Organizations as Long-Term Care Providers,” and “Neighborhood Assistance Programs: A Link Between Business and Community.”

Information City Management Association
1120 G St., NW
Washington, DC 20005

The Association has prepared several useful publications, including Issues in Contracting for Public Services from the Private Sector ($8.00); and Contracting with the Private Sector for Municipal Services: A Dialogue Between Practitioners ($8.00). They are presently preparing a catalog on alternatives to public delivery of services, to be finished in summer 1983.

National Association of Neighborhoods (NAN)
1651 Fuller St., NW
Washington, DC 20009
202/332-7766

NAN has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide technical assistance to CDBG (Block Grants) entitlement communities for development of neighborhood based service delivery.

Urban Institute
2100 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20037

The Urban Institute, with funding from HUD and the National Science Foundation, is identifying ways to evaluate alternatives to local government decision-making about maintenance, replacement, construction, and abandonment of streets, bridges, and sewer and water systems.
Investing in the Community

By Kris Nelson

The well-seasoned appropriate technologist knows that great project ideas don’t just wither away; they frequently don’t get financed. Not only does the master ATer suffer, but the community also loses a potentially valuable investment in its own self-reliance. Savings banks and conventional finance sources are not entirely to blame. Inflation, high interest rates, and a shortage of funds necessitate lending to more competitive borrowers outside the community.

Financing A.T. projects often comes against a structural barrier. Namely, that banks making decisions about the use of local depositors’ money are forced to do so on the basis of economic feasibility, rather than community sustainability. Sadly enough, these two interests actually complement one another, since A.T. projects are increasingly cost-effective. The appropriate role of lending institutions, however, is to administer loans and not necessarily to judge their use on the community’s behalf.

Yet by pooling deposits locally that are normally sent off to capital-intensive investments (often supporting ventures in racist South Africa or nuclear boondoggles, for instance), capital can be obtained and insured. In order to involve the community interest in accessing such self-secured capital, an association of community members could be formed. This association could provide marketing and technical assistance to projects, making capital loans less risky. Unlike traditional lending institutions, the association would be in a position to designate funds for the development of local energy, food, and human service needs. These principles are, in fact, being applied by SHARE, Self Help Association for a Regional Economy (Box 125A, RD 3, Great Barrington, MA 01230 413/528-1737), the innovative work of Robert Swann and Susan Witt of the E. F. Schumacher Society.

The strength of SHARE resides in its associations. These are six “loan groups” (Producer Co-ops/Small Businesses, Consumer Co-ops, Individual Loans, Agriculture Loans, Mortgages on Land and Buildings, and Non-profits) that evaluate loan requests in their categories. Each association — composed of SHARE members, loan requesters, and recipients — elects a Board member, and the associations evaluate loan requests according to SHARE’s criteria: 1) whether the loan will create greater regional self-reliance in either basic necessities (food, shelter, energy) or basic community services (transportation, health care, job training, and cultural activities); 2) whether the project would increase local employment and/or use local resources, conserve energy and be non-polluting to the environment; and 3) whether the loan creates savings of greater productivity which can repay the loan.

The associations in turn advise the Board as to the loan’s viability and consistency with SHARE’s criteria. Before the request is confirmed, a borrower in the association, a solar manufacturer, for example, could draw up a contract with another member, say an energy co-op. The pre-arranged market for the manufacturer reduces the risk and, therefore, the interest on an otherwise costly loan. Moreover, managerial, technical, and marketing assistance can all be obtained within the association. A further risk/cost reducer.

When the first loan request came before the SHARE-croppers, the agricultural association of SHARE, producer-consumer cooperation went to work. Goat raiser Susan Sellew needed money to construct a building for her goat cheese dairy. Through other SHARE-croppers, she established local markets for her cheese and borrowed $3,000 through SHARE. Meanwhile, SHAREcroppers here “found the meetings about marketing and cooperative possibilities stimulating,” explained the South Berkshire Farm Bulletin, reporting on the process. The Bulletin continued, “As a result of connections between SHAREcroppers and local food buying clubs, contracts for locally grown root crops are being drawn up for Pumpkin Hollow Coop, which has access to a large root cellar.”

SHARE provides three funds administered for its members by the Great Barrington Savings Bank: the SHARE Credit Fund, for collateral support on short term loans to businesses or individuals; the SHARE Direct...
Loan Fund, for larger investors that will lend at their own risk, to members; and the SHARE Trust Fund, a way for donors to give to community-supported cultural programs.

The purpose of the Credit Fund is to furnish collateral on loans that develop the region's self-reliance in food, shelter, energy, or community services. Upon becoming a SHARE member ($10 initial fee), the depositor opens a joint passbook account between the Credit Fund and the individual. As part of the joint account, the depositor must sign an agreement that permits up to 75 percent of the account to be used as collateral on loans the SHARE Board decides to facilitate. And with the support of the SHARE Associations, risk on the loan is nearly removed from the bank and spread around the community. Interest rates, then, are 10 to 13 percent. An unusual bargain. If a borrower takes a loss, the cost to the Board decides to facilitate. And with the support of the organizations that apply with letters of community list describing educational and cultural programs, establisshed a gift fund. The SHARE Trust Fund, as a health of Great Barington, the Schumacher Society and, with SHARE'S backing, are likely to invest.

Interest demonstrates support for the loan through SHARE the loan's duration and interest rate. Once the community project and its opportunities, their risk is low interest. Since larger investors can actually see the community demonstrates support for the loan through SHARE co-signers or advance contracts, the Bank administers the loan for a small fee, about two percent on the loan's interest. Since larger investors can actually see the community project and its opportunities, their risk is low and, with SHARE's backing, are likely to invest.

In an effort to invigorate the cultural and educational health of Great Barington, the Schumacher Society establisshed a gift fund. The SHARE Trust Fund, as a non-profit organization itself, disseminates a monthly list describing educational and cultural programs of local groups. Because these programs meet SHARE criteria, gifts can be made to local organizations via the Trust Fund. Grants from the fund are given to non-profit organizations that apply with letters of community support.

In addition, the Direct Loan Fund works like a cultural fertilizer through the Trust Fund: businesses receiving a Direct Loan must return a percentage of their profits to the Trust Fund or donate to a community organization. SHARE coordinators point out that "the Trust Fund is not attempting to achieve the highest financial return for its depositors, rather a fair return with the highest social and ecological return."

Just as SHARE and its productive relationship with the local bank demonstrate close cooperation, banks elsewhere have much to gain from the SHARE concept as well. New depositors, for example, would be attracted, effectively expanding the bank's collateral base. The positive local image earned by a bank helping to improve the community's self-reliance produces another advantage: in the future, businesses seeking capital are likely to patronize that bank first over others. And the bank would not be forced to refuse as many loans, since questionable risk to the bank is absorbed by the community organization similar to SHARE.

The potential for such community-based investing is also being discovered by the Solar Center in San Francisco (1115 Indiana, San Francisco, CA 94107). Depositors at Continental Savings and Loan may specify that their funds be made available for loans to buy solar heating equipment. This allows depositors to put their money to use for social and ecological purposes, besides earning fair interest rates. This solar fund now exceeds two million dollars in less than two years. Continental is pleased, too. These are funds that probably wouldn’t have otherwise been brought to the bank.

One word of precaution. SHARE'S initial success has not come between new moons; the E. F. Schumacher Society devoted much time, self-instruction, and planning to the program. Since its foundation rests on associations that represent small scale interests in the community, building these new organizations would best precede a serious effort to create such self-financing programs. Strengthening the community support first also shows credibility in the banker's eyes; this creates confidence and trust that is so valuable later on.

Susan Witt and Robert Swann of the E. F. Schumacher Society and the Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG) plan to discuss SHARE in their third seminar, Tools for Community Economic Transformation, scheduled for June 12-18 in the Chicago area. Other topics will include Community Land Trusts, community land banks, self-financing systems, and community self-management. For more information, contact the E. F. Schumacher Society, Box 76, RD 3, Great Barrington, MA 01230, 413/528-1737 or ITDG, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, 212/972-9877.
Mary Lee Coe writes with the candor of a wise veteran. In *Growing With Community Gardening*, she describes her experience with gardening as it has evolved from a naive first attempt at communal gardening to a harmonious community effort. The interaction among the gardeners and their personal and spiritual growth are the most important harvest.

*Growing with Community Gardening* discusses the therapeutic and educational value of gardening and offers a step-by-step guide for organizing and maintaining a community garden. In profiles of existing garden projects, Ms. Coe closely critiques their salient points and pitfalls with the belief that the success of community gardens depends on careful planning, realistic goals, and a contractual agreement among members to insure a mutual commitment. This valuable resource offers project improvement ideas for community gardeners and inspiration for newcomers.

**City Farmer**
Suite 801, 318 Homer Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 2V3

City Farmer is a lively center for information and inspiration on urban agriculture in British Columbia. Projects have included developing a demonstration food garden, producing curriculum materials, and putting on a series of urban agriculture courses.

**Community Schools, Inc.**
37 Mountain Dr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Since 1972, Community Schools, Inc. has been providing new forms of community education at their 3-acre farm field-station called Rancho Vejar. Programs focus on gardening and agriculture for school-age children. The innovative programs of the group are described in detail in *Bringing Home the Bacon: School Gardens and Home Careers in Urban Farming* (1980, $3.00).

About fifty to eighty students per week arrive at the farm to work in small groups. The school also provides one-day events by "bringing the farm" to schools in the area. The book could easily be used by others wanting to create such a program in their area.

Community Schools, Inc. has also been working on the Santa Barbara Hunger Coalition, the Food Bank of Santa Barbara County, and a new Museum of California Art.

**American Community Gardening Association**
P.O. Box 8645
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8645

The ACGA is a non-profit association comprised of community gardening leaders and sponsors from all regions of the U.S. They also publish a super little quarterly (individuals $15/yr.; organizations $30/yr.) which deals with such important topics as funding, site acquisition, and special population garden programs.

**Fruition**
The Plan
P.O. Box 872
Santa Cruz, CA 95061

Fruition encourages the planting of fruit and nut trees in public parks, schools, neighborhoods, hiking and biking trails and generally anywhere that people can enjoy and use them.

**Seattle Tilth Urban Agriculture Center**
4649 Sunnyside North
Seattle, WA 98103

An innovative center featuring demonstration gardens, a solar greenhouse, compost bins, trellised fruit trees, and a resource library for urban gardeners. Workshops are offered frequently on topics such as winter gardening, herb growing, and backyard livestock.
Urban Agriculture

*Survival Gardening*, by John A. Freeman. Nestled between the covers of this book is the basic information you'll need to grow vegetables which are high in vitamins, minerals, protein, and calories. Included is a list of "Very Special Survival Vegetables (V.S.S.V.)" and their nutritive yield on a per-week basis. On the top of the V.S.S.V. list are turnips with greens, collard, kale, and mustard.

One chapter is devoted to several charts and tables including an interesting chart of the nutritive yields per week you can expect when doing intensive gardening, as well as a list of the kind and quantity of seeds you should have on hand.—just in case. My only concern is that if it happens, who will be around to harvest the turnips?

A superb guide for creating an ecologically sound small-scale orchard. Says one self-taught orchardist, "it has many helpful ideas on just about any aspect of orcharding for the personal orchard grown for home use." Logsdon emphasizes the importance of choosing local, climate-specific varieties of trees which are more disease resistant. Of special interest is the section on insect and animal friends of the grove and what pests they like to gobble.

This book is yet another milestone on the way back to an agricultural system in balance with Nature.

*Gardens For All*, a non-profit foundation established in 1972 to promote community gardening, GFA has since become a national clearinghouse for the movement. They publish a monthly newsletter ($12/yr., $21/2 yrs.) with an impressive circulation of 135,000. The organization focuses on several aspects of community gardening including youth gardening for schools and recreation clubs. Their publication, *Youth Gardening Book: A Complete Guide for Parents, Teachers, and Youth Leaders* by Lynne Ocone, $6.95, $1 for postage, 132 pp. will be available in March.

Burlington has a model senior citizen community gardening project, where members have planted Christmas trees, fruit trees, and shrubs, and where container gardening is available for handicapped gardeners. GFA is sponsoring a garden grants program for senior citizens which will award 32 grants from $125 and $450 each for container gardening supplies, seeds, and hand tools. Applications, available from GFA, are due by April 1.

The community gardening movement has blossomed and interest has taken root nationwide. Last summer GFA's Gallup survey showed that 76% of those interviewed wanted permanent gardening sites in their communities.

The community gardening movement has blossomed and interest has taken root nationwide. Last summer GFA's Gallup survey showed that 76% of those interviewed wanted permanent gardening sites in their communities.

*Massachusetts Fruition Program*, c/o Division of Land Use, 100 Cambridge St. Boston, MA 02202

This group sponsors a community tree planting program to promote "the productive use of open space." Local groups tend fruit and nut trees and berry vines which have been planted on public access lands.

Illustrations from, *Bringing Home the Bacon* and *Organic Orcharding*.
In response to the energy crisis of the early 1970s, Congress established the U.S. Department of Energy Appropriate Technology Small Grants Program in 1978. Its purpose was to encourage the promotion, development, and demonstration of small scale, energy-related systems which match local needs, skills, and available resources. It lasted three years before Congress decided not to appropriate any further grant funds.

For the first two years, the grant program for Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington was managed through the Region X office in Seattle, with assistance from the states. In 1981, to allow the program to become more responsive to local needs, the USDOE contracted with each state to manage its own program. Since 1981, Rain and Oregon Appropriate Technology (OAT) have managed the Oregon grants program for the Oregon Department of Energy.

From 1979 through 1981, over 1400 proposals were submitted for projects in Oregon. Of those, 48 received funding. Today, most of the projects are now completed. They demonstrate a wide variety of energy-conserving and renewable energy techniques, such as micro-hydro and wind systems for generating electricity, solar heating and hot water, alcohol and methane production, wood gasification, residential and commercial energy conservation, recycling, community education, and research.

This is the first in a series of five articles which describe some of Oregon’s successful projects. In this issue we look at eight solar energy projects funded by the USDOE Appropriate Technology Small Grants Program.

Wallace Johnson, chairman of Treasure Valley Community College’s Science Department and the Trombe Wall project director, has spoken to many civic organizations about the project. By taking the initiative to use solar heating for saving energy and tax dollars, and by making results widely available, the College has stimulated several owners of commercial buildings in eastern Oregon to follow its example.

Richard and Marie Kuehl at their active solar house.

The “Trombe” wall is a passive solar energy design which uses concrete or masonry to store the sun’s energy and radiate it directly into a room. At Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Oregon, a Trombe wall has been shown to be practical in meeting building heating needs in eastern Oregon, where winter temperatures are often as low as 10° F. The wall, constructed on the south side of the College Art Shed, provides an estimated 30 to 50 percent of the space heating needs.

Construction of the Trombe wall was completed in mid-August of 1979. Since then, interest in solar energy sparked by the project led to the redesigning of an administration building to incorporate passive solar energy techniques.

Four years ago Richard and Marie Kuehl moved to Southern Oregon, seven miles outside of Grants Pass. Richard Kuehl, an engineer, decided to design and build a home incorporating an active solar space and water heating system. Kuehl’s 1980 grant allowed him to install and operate an efficient system using home tools and commonly available materials.

The Kuehls’ all-electric 1500 square foot home would use about 14,000 kWh per year. They have installed 480 square feet of solar panels with a 2500 gallon tank to store water heated by the collectors. The rest of the system also includes a water-to-air heat exchanger, a fan and duct system to deliver warm air to the house, a controller to turn on pumps which circulate water through the solar panels, and a water-to-water heat exchanger to preheat domestic water. The tank also has magnesium anodes.
hanging in it to prevent corrosion. The anodes are more easily corroded than the tank metal; therefore, they are sacrificed.

A unique feature of the system is the vertical two-story storage tank installed in a well-insulated 10' x 10' x 20' high room. All of the controls and connections are easily accessible. The tank room is used for drying fruits and vegetables.

"Some people laugh about solar around here," says Marie Kuehl, "but even when the sun isn't fully out, the system runs. We've been running on solar until just this week (mid-December) when it decided to rain a whole winter's worth in a few days." After the first full year of solar system operation, the total electricity use is under 8000 kWh, 57 percent of what was required without solar.

Robert Brevik's home sits on a south-facing hillside, overlooking Klamath Falls, a town of 17,000 in southern central Oregon. The climate is cold in the winter, hot in the summer, and dry year round. Brevik received a grant to demonstrate the effectiveness of an energy-efficient modification of his house.

The house had been exposed to winter wind, and unprotected south windows had caused summer overheating and excessive winter heat loss. Brevik added a partially underground room which deflects winter winds and reduces heat loss on the west and north sides. He added a greenhouse to the existing deck in front of the windows on the south side. The greenhouse, using thermal storage mass to collect the heat, moderates the temperature of the rest of the house. Excessive summer heat can be released through the greenhouse vents, while in winter the thermal storage units radiate heat slowly.

Flat plate solar collectors traditionally circulate liquid either with pumps or by thermosiphoning. A thermosiphon system requires no outside power source. It uses the density difference between the hot liquid in the collector and the cooler denser liquid in the storage tank to induce a convection current in a closed loop. A thermosiphon design requires that the storage tank be located above the collector. A mechanically pumped system uses electricity to circulate the liquid from the collectors to a storage tank.

Eldon Haines of Bohemia Solar and Scientific in Eugene has developed a third type of flat plate collector system. His geyser-pump collector uses a small fraction of the absorbed heat to drive an internal integral pump with no moving parts to circulate the hot liquid. Designed to be self-regulating, the geyser-pump system uses no electrical energy and requires no sensors, motors, controllers, or valves. Unlike thermosiphon systems, the storage tank can be placed below the collector.

Haines sees significant advantages in the geyser-pump system. He believes the new design will be easier to install than complex pumped systems. It will be simple to operate and maintain and will be energy self-sufficient, functioning even during an electrical power outage.

Haines has used his grant to solve design problems and to determine operating parameters and efficiencies. He is now testing and further improving his working prototype. His goal is to manufacture and distribute the geyser-pump collector.

"There were some pleasant surprises in the analysis of the project," Haines said. "In doing the cost analysis, in life costing, the drain down cycle systems were projected to be 30 percent above the geyser-pump system, and the drainback systems were 100 percent higher. Another surprise was that it doesn't seem to matter how high the collector is above the storage tank."

In Eugene, Mark Palmer received a grant to study the retrofit options available to existing housing in the Northwest, particularly weatherization, attached solar greenhouses, and window insulating systems.

The Westside Retrofit Project began with a standard heat loss analysis and visual infra-red analysis of an uninsulated two and one-half story house built during the late 1920s. The walls, floors, and attic were then insulated, weatherstripping added, and plastic storm windows installed. An attached solar greenhouse with 155 square feet of glazing was added to the south wall. At the same time, the building was remodeled into a duplex.

The grant project evaluated the dynamics of thermal storage mass-to-glazing ratios in the greenhouse. Since the glazing area was fixed, the thermal storage mass was varied. With no mass the interior temperature of the greenhouse often exceeded 100° F on sunny winter days. The thermal mass was added in 25 percent increments of its final volume. Each of the first three additions decreased the temperature extremes by 6° F, and the final 25 percent increment decreased the extremes by 4° F.

A significant effect of increasing the mass storage was
the decrease of immediately available heat transferred by convection to the adjacent living rooms, as more heat was stored in the mass and transferred at a later time. Another effect of the increased mass was that it compromised the greenhouse growing conditions by not allowing temperatures to drop below 50°F, which is necessary for hardening-off of spring seedlings.

Realizing the limits to increasing the mass, the project then installed a site-built mylar insulating curtain at a cost of under $5 per square foot. Where all other retrofit measures of this project proved to be cost-effective, the insulating curtain did not, primarily because the greenhouse was being used for multiple purposes. Fuel savings, however, proved to be the bonus in the project. Originally consuming over 1000 gallons of heating oil per year, the building now uses only 84 gallons, supplemented by a woodstove in each unit of the duplex.

Tom Marvin of Ashland supplied his home electricity from batteries charged by a gasoline generator for about four years. More recently he has installed a four panel array (approximately sixteen square feet) of Arco solar photovoltaic (PV) cells. Each panel contains 35 cells which convert sunlight directly into low voltage d.c. electricity used to charge batteries.

In 1980 Marvin received a grant to improve his photovoltaic system with a tracking device. The device increased the power output of the photovoltaic array by orienting it toward the sun, adjusting the array to follow the sun’s daily path and to account for seasonal changes in the sun’s position.

“Monitoring the system becomes an exercise in watching the seasons and the sky. Learning to live with what it produces and learning how to utilize every bit of its capacity are meaningful pastimes in themselves,” says Marvin.

Marvin’s solar powered electrical system powers his lights, stereo, blender, soldering iron, television, and even a micro-computer — all of which are designed to run on 12V d.c. The system does not generate a.c., the power commonly required for household appliances. Marvin meets these needs through other means. A small gas generator is used for power tools; his refrigerator and range are propane operated; water and space heating are provided by a combination of solar and wood energy.

Appliances are now being engineered for low power requirements, and architectural developments are reducing power needs. “Rather than trying to match ‘standard’ power needs with PVs,” says Marvin, “we should study how we can adapt our needs to this incredibly beautiful new source of electricity. Conservation takes on a new meaning: it is no longer simply a goodwill chore or an economic necessity, but an integral part of living.”

Many Portland residents are using solar energy systems, disputing the claim that solar cannot work under Portland’s grey skies. Yet low income inner city residents — people who could strongly benefit from solar technology — are the least likely to be aware of it.

A minority member of the construction trades for over eleven years and an inner city resident himself, James Cason is particularly aware of this dichotomy. To increase awareness of solar energy within his community, Cason applied for a grant to install solar water heaters in the homes of five low income families.

After publicity in city and neighborhood papers and on the radio, over seventy families asked to be considered and over forty site visits were conducted. However, many were reluctant to participate in a federal program, especially since the issue of the final ownership of the collectors was unresolved. No one expects the USDOE to take the collectors, but turning over ownership of property from the Federal government to individuals has been a problem since the beginning of the grants program.

Selection criteria were developed to narrow the field of participants. The criteria included that the household be low income; that space be available for a water tank; that the roof be in good condition; and that the family be willing to participate in an open house and monitor the system. The families selected represent a variety of ethnic groups, family sizes, and levels of knowledge about solar energy.

Cason’s project uses a commercially tested drain down system, sized to meet Oregon Department of Energy tax credit specifications — supplying a minimum of 50 percent of the family’s hot water needs.

Four solar water heater installations have been completed. The first and fourth installations were conducted as workshops. The first open house drew 43 people and was publicized with neighborhood signs, public service announcements, and word-of-mouth. Neighbors viewed the completed installation, asked questions, and spoke with the hosts about their experience. Information on solar feasibility in Portland, the cost of installation, expected energy savings, and estimated payback periods were provided at each site by energy information specialists from Portland Sun who worked with Cason.
Cason’s strategy for improving acceptance and awareness of solar energy has a strong likelihood for success. The two key components are providing high quality, attractive installations and working hard to involve the community. It may also prove to be a model for other cities where low income families are being acutely affected by high energy costs and have little opportunity to see solar systems operating in their neighborhood.

The kiln building, before the addition of the sloped roof for the solar collectors, is a conventional energy-efficient design. It is identical in its basic design to the present dehumidification kiln with which it shares its north wall. While the kiln is straightforward, the exact configuration of the collector array, dehumidification system, venting systems, and backup systems have presented major design challenges.

Originally, a low-cost air collector system was to be built into the roof. However, protecting the system from corrosion by the highly acidic air in the kiln proved to be prohibitively expensive. A liquid-collector system using water in a drain-back configuration was substituted; it contains approximately 440 square feet of collectors. A water-to-air heat exchanger transfers heat into the kiln, where the hot air is channeled to the lumber.

The kiln was originally designed with a low-cost, experimental dehumidification system. Engineering analysis showed that the experimental system would have heavy heat losses, so M & M decided to build a conventional dehumidification system using off-the-shelf components. The locally-built dehumidification system will still be significantly cheaper than purchasing a complete dehumidification system. The kiln is controlled by a sophisticated system which monitors temperature and humidity.

Following construction of the kiln, a 14 month period of testing and data collection will be initiated. Data collection will include energy consumption patterns, drying schedules, and sample weights. Insolation, temperature, and wind data will also be recorded on a continuous basis. The final report will describe the construction process and the interpretation of the data.

The solar kiln has attracted considerable attention from diverse interests: an Oregon fruit drying association, architects, solar energy groups, the lumber industry, and research organizations. Designed to be adaptable to other localities, this project has the potential for broad application.

At a time when the lumber industry is in dire straits, diversification into hardwoods could have a significant impact on employment. The M & M experience indicates that the solar kiln option may be within the reach of many companies.

M & M Hardwoods of Myrtle Creek has been a pioneer in the drying of Oregon hardwoods through use of a dehumidifier kiln. Results have been favorable, but high energy costs have restricted its success. In 1981, M & M received a grant to design, construct, and test the feasibility of a combination solar/dehumidifier kiln.

M & M’s solar/dehumidifier kiln is the largest (20,000 board feet capacity) known operation of its type in the country. It will be on-line this spring. Jim Richmond and Steven Baker are assisting Kip Morgan of M & M in the design and installation of solar and dehumidification systems.
The Task Force, supported by private foundations and corporations, is a nonprofit organization which lends money to public school districts to implement energy conservation projects in their school buildings. The loans are interest-free and are to be paid back with an added 10 percent administrative fee within two years. School districts have received assistance for insulation and weatherization, energy management systems, and lighting reduction programs.

The Box Project
PO Box 435
Plainville, CT 06062

The Box Project was established in 1962 as a way to provide assistance to the needy in this country. Similar to overseas projects, The Box Project staff provides the name, address, and pertinent information about a family that needs help. The sponsor of that family sends them packages containing food, clothing and other goods. In 1981 the program had 1807 helper families (sponsors) who assisted 1905 families. Sponsoring families—which may be individuals or groups—are asked to donate $10/month to help pay The Box Project's expenses, including site visits to the assisted families. The Project is self-supporting.

The Support Center
1309 L St., NW
Washington, DC 20005
202/638-3500

The Support Center has been around since 1972, when it was created to assist the nonprofit sector in developing better management capacity. The Center, with branch offices in Chicago, Houston, Newark, Oklahoma City, and San Francisco, provides assistance to nonprofits through one-to-one counseling, a simple management review process, clinics which bring together several agencies with common needs to share ideas and solve problems, and through a wide range of workshops on management topics.

National Center for Employee Ownership
1611 S. Walter Reed Dr., #109
Arlington, VA 22204
703/979-2375

The Center is a private nonprofit, membership organization dedicated to increasing the awareness and understanding of employee ownership. The Center provides information, advice, referrals, and consulting for its members; it also sponsors workshops and research projects. The Center has published basic source material on employee ownership, including an Introductory Package ($30.00); Employee Ownership: A Handbook ($8.50 nonmembers); Comprehensive Bibliography ($13.00); Employee Participation Programs ($6.50). A special clipping service on employee ownership developments is also available for $100.00.

Nuclear-Free Pacific Network
942 Market St., Rm. 712
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 434-2988

Nuclear-Free Pacific has recently established a national headquarters in San Francisco. This resource and information center works closely with the Pacific Concerns Resource Center in Honolulu to provide information and support for disarmament and anti-nuclear issues. Of primary concern are first-strike missile testing at Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, militarization in Micronesia, and nuclear waste dumping in the Pacific. Last fall, the network coordinated a national speaking tour of two political activists from Belau; this January they participated in a protest at Vandenburg AFB where first-strike missiles are being tested.

ACCESS: Organization Review

Non-Profit Energy Conservation Project
Technical Development Corporation
11 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108
617/523-7557

A group of Boston area corporations and foundations have initiated the Energy Conservation Project to promote conservation investments among nonprofit agencies owning their own buildings or having long-term lease agreements. The project was established because members of the donor community with an interest in energy began to appreciate the impact fuel costs have had on the cash flow of many agencies. Nonprofit buildings within the city of Boston alone consume the energy equivalent of 1.8 million barrels of oil every year. The energy bill for the groups topped $80 million in 1981. Conservative estimates indicate that 20-25% of present consumption and $10-$15 million could be saved and allocated to service programs in the first year if the city's 1200 nonprofit buildings undertook energy-efficient investments. The project performs energy audits, then provides technical assistance to carry out recommendations from the audit, and financial assistance through various loan packages.

Foundation for The Arts of Peace
1615 Broadway, Rm. 670
Oakland, CA 94612
415/548-7904

Gil Friend, who was most recently with the California Office of Appropriate Technology and before that with the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, has taken on a new kind of institution building. The Foundation's first action will be to produce a television fundraising special on the nuclear arms race and efforts to reverse it. The show, using a toll free number, will be used to raise funds for other programs on peace and disarmament.
The Swiss Cheese Universe
Recent astronomical findings seem to indicate that the material in the universe may be clumped in "super-clusters" of galaxies, linked together perhaps by narrow bands of galaxies, with vast empty regions in between. In an article in Scientific American, Dr. Stephen A. Gregory, and Laird A. Thompson, note that "The tendency of galaxies to clump is seen to be pervasive... the existence of voids, which we initially hesitated to credit can no longer be doubted." This is of interest to cosmologists who hold to the pancake theory of creation (that matter was first condensed into thin sheets or pancakes that then broke up into galaxies and galaxy clusters).

The emerging picture of galaxies grouped into a network of fairly flat superclusters connected by narrow bands favors the pancake theory. (Christian Science Monitor, Dec. 3, 82)

The Good Old Days
Just in case your plans have fallen through for getting back-to-the-land or back-to-basics, you can now get from Avon Country Baker Apple Pie Room Scent. It "brings back the atmosphere of a country kitchen," with the first home-baked aroma of fresh apple pie in a can.

Settling Down in the Amazon
An estimated two-thirds of the planet's 4.5 million animal and plant species live in the Amazon rain forests. The forests are presently being cleared at the rate of a California every two years. This is potentially extremely serious for several reasons. According to M. E. D. Poore, the forests are "a sourcebook of potential foods, drinks, medicines, contraceptives, abortifacients, gums, resins, scents, colourants, specific pesticides, and so on, of which we have scarcely turned the pages."

Optimistic Product of the Year
TMI Associates recently introduced a ten-megawatt, self-contained uninterruptible power supply that can run any microcomputer and all peripherals at full power for 750,000 years. Optionally the generation can run a medium-size town of 30,000 for 50 years. The introductory price tag is just $4 billion, and does not include shipping or handling. (InfoWorld, Dec. 6, 82)

The Pizza That Ate Ohio
There was joy in Wellston, Ohio when Jeno's Inc. opened a frozen pizza plant that would employ about 1,000 people. But the joy has been tempered by a threat of 400,000 gallons of sludge made up of flour, tomato paste, cheese, vegetables and pepperoni that is clogging the industrial sewage system. The slush, high in acid content, cannot be safely buried, and has drawn the attention of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, which has threatened to close the plant. (New York Times News Service)

Pacman's Answer to Rising Taxes
Several local governments, and even the U.S. Navy, are trying out video games as a way to raise money. In Fairfax County, Virginia, the county has used video games for several years. In 1983 they expect to make about $110,000. The Navy has put about 400 video games on about 180 of its ships and reports revenues of at least $600,000 from the games over a six month period.

Here Come the Bees Again
A species of bee has not only learned to live with DDT used to control malaria in Brazil, but is now attracted to and collects the insecticide. Scientists have demonstrated that wooden boards sprayed with DDT attracted male bees and that large numbers of the bees visited the interior walls of the local resident's houses to collect the DDT that accumulated there from anti-malaria spraying operations. (Ecologist, May, 82)

Gardening on the Increase
For the second consecutive year, a record number of Americans grew at least some of their own food. Over one-half of American households raised food in backyard, community, and rooftop gardens in 1982, according to a survey by the National Association for Gardening. The majority of the households surveyed gave "saving money" as their number one reason for gardening.

Storing It Up for Winter Nights
Joseph Mealy, head of Federal Emergency Management Office, has it all together for us. He helps maintain the shelters, emergency alert systems, and coordinates the 5600 county level crisis management departments. He has $700,000,000 in cash in Virginia and 70,000 pounds of opium stored to ease suffering. That's about 300 mg. per expected casualty. (Physicians for Social Responsibility Newsletter, Nov. 82)

Mr. Moule's Earth Closet
The earth closet, invented by Reverend Henry Moule of England in 1860 never caught on, although many devotees at the time thought it was the thing of the future. The earth closet was described by George R. Steward in his book Not So Rich as You Think, "From a hopper filled with earth, the pulling of a lever or even the rising of the person from the seat, sifted some dry earth into the bowl. All odor was thus contained and the excreta rapidly decomposed and mingled with the earth. They mingled indeed so well that the result could eventually be used again, though this petty economy need not be obligatory."

Nuke the Glaciers
Joe Vogler, the Alaskan Independence Party's unsuccessful candidate for governor, urged the use of nuclear bombs to blast a path through glaciers for construction of a coastal highway from Seattle to Alaska. (Progressive, Jan. 83)
The nuclear weapons build-up has dramatically underlined our need to explore alternative dispute resolution methods. Although the reasons for the build-up, and the possible solutions, are complex, we are not helpless. We can learn more about conflicts and disputes—from two children fighting over their share of things, neighbors struggling over solar access, or in the drama of small claims court, to the global struggles between corporations, governments, and other invested individuals and organizations over natural resources. We can seek to find ways for resolving conflicts before they get out of hand with methods that can best create win-win situations. Fortunately, there are models for alternative dispute resolution, and a knowledge base that has been expanding over the last decade.

Mediation is used most frequently in the United States to settle disputes between labor and management. Starting with the Roosevelt Administration in the 1930s, labor-management mediation has been institutionalized by the U.S. Labor Office as a specific process that labor and management are to follow to resolve conflict.

In its simplest form, mediation is a voluntary process by which those involved in a dispute jointly explore and reconcile their differences. The mediator assigned to the conflict has no authority to impose a settlement. The mediated dispute is settled when the parties themselves reach what they consider to be a workable solution. In the real world of disputes between individuals and other parties, mediation is most likely an alternative to lengthy/costly court litigation, and in fact as some professional mediators note, it might not be used at all if the threat of litigation didn’t force people to use mediation techniques.

The Institute for Environmental Mediation has provided mediation services to parties in dispute over facility-siting, resource management, and environmental regulation since 1975. The Institute has five mediators in its headquarters in Seattle, two in a regional office in Madison, Wisconsin; and one in a field office in southern California. Funded primarily by the Ford and Richard K. Mellon Foundations, the Institute provides mediators, usually at no cost to participants, to help disputing parties negotiate their differences. Their record over the years is quite impressive.

In 1981 they helped resolve differences in several places. Some of the conflicts mediated were the Briones Park Dispute, a long standing dispute in northern California over access to and development of a major regional park; the Queets Sewer Lagoon Dispute, a dispute in Washington state between a tribe, the local government, private interests, and federal agencies, over arrangements for the protection of a sewage treatment facility; and the Homestake Pitch Mine Dispute in Colorado, where the Homestake Corporation and seven environmental organizations reached an agreement settling their differences over the operation and reclamation of an open-pit uranium mine in the Gunnison National Forest.

Verne Huser, a mediator with the Institute, summarized the current state of environmental conflict resolutions and the alternative being developed through negotiation techniques:

"Environmental mediation is a relatively new concept—even though this office and its predecessor have been successfully practicing the concept for eight years—and people don’t know enough about it to trust it as much as they seem to trust the courts. Yet almost invariably the courts fail to address the real issues of environmental disputes. One party grabs another by the Environmental Impact Statement, a largely technical document, because it’s the only handle available, but the real issues may not be technical at all (more often they are social or environmental). And the case will frequently be decided on a
technicality or procedural matter that never addresses the real concerns of any of the parties.

"Mediation is no panacea, but it can be a valuable decision-making tool when the appropriate conditions exist: a willingness by all parties to seek a negotiated settlement, enough flexibility to permit negotiations, a clearly independent mediator, and a deadline that provides an urgency for the parties to settle."

It is unclear whether one can think of mediation—and the many variations of dispute resolutions—as an alternative with long-lasting results. Some critics of mediation techniques have said that the settlements in a mediated case may not really be much different than a litigated case. It may not be as costly or time-consuming, but the result still may be an unresolved issue that will merely surface again.

Gerald Cormick, founder of the Institute for Environmental Mediation, and a leader in the field, cautions against undue flattery of mediation, "Those who would espouse mediation as a means by which society can forge a new consensus, making future conflicts unnecessary, are doomed to failure and frustration. Mediation can best be seen as a process for settling disputes, not for resolving basic differences."

Dispute resolution has also been growing as an alternative to litigation among individuals. Countless communities now have a process for settling disputes outside of the courts whenever possible. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, in a speech to the American Bar Association, called upon lawyers to further develop negotiation and mediation techniques. Burger stated that the traditional obligation of the legal profession has been "to serve as healers of human conflicts." To fulfill that obligation, mechanisms in the law should provide acceptable results to the problems in the "shortest possible time, with the least expense and with a minimum of stress for those concerned." Burger stressed that in order to fulfill this promise, lawyers should develop alternatives which stress arbitration or mediation instead of litigation.

The American Bar Association has supported work on alternatives to litigation through its Special Committee on Alternative Means of Dispute Resolution, providing technical assistance, designing new education programs, and conducting research and experimentation. Recognizing the growing number of alternatives, the committee describes, in recent publications, its interest in arbitration and mediation of both civil and criminal disputes, settlement incentives, neighborhood justice centers, citizen's advisory councils, ombudspersons, and other new and creative devices.

In recognition of the growing number of community-level dispute resolution programs, the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution, a professional association predominantly for labor/management negotiators, recently elected Richard Salem, a non-labor dispute negotiator to its Board of Directors.

There are all manner of dispute resolution programs around the country. The Anchorage Citizens Arbitration and Mediation Program is reintroducing traditional law mechanism for dealing with social tensions in rural settings. The Cambridge Settlement Center is a part of the Cambridgeport Problem Center which uses professional volunteers who are residents of the community to provide legal services and psychological counseling for low-income people. The Mediation Center in Minneapolis provides mediation as an alternative for people who can't afford a lawyer, and as an alternative to the juvenile court system. The states of Vermont, Wyoming, and California have kicked-off Automotive Consumer Action Programs (Autocaps), which establish procedures by which consumers may seek resolution of automotive complaints.
ACCESS: Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution

Institute for Environmental Mediation
3318 Queen Anne Ave. N
Seattle, WA 98109
206/285-4641

The Institute has provided mediation services to parties in dispute over facility-siting, resource management and environmental regulation since 1975. There is a regional office at 1605 Monroe St., Madison, WI 53711, 206/285-1060; and a California office at 5301 Old Farm Rd., Hidden Hills, CA 91302, 213/999-1813.

School of Natural Resources
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
313/763-9022

The School of Natural Resources has received funding for the study of Natural Resource and Environmental Conflict. A computer file of current literature is being developed. Future plans include training programs, analysis of case studies, and other research projects.

National Academy of Peace and Conflict Resolution Report
National Academy of Peace and Conflict Resolution Committee
Government Printing Office
Washington, DC 20420
$6.50, 1981

The report on the establishment of the Center proposed in Congress is available from the Government Printing Office. Additional information about the National Academy is available from: Milton C. Mapes Jr., Executive Director, National Peace Academy Campaign, 110 Maryland Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002, 202/546-9500.

Uncommon Courtesy
School of Compassionate Skills
PO Box 428
Sausalito, CA 94966
415/332-6106

Leave it to Steward Brand to sneak in behind the lines with this simple and sound approach to a fundamental problem in living in urban America: you want to be a good citizen, but what do you do out there in the world, when someone is being mugged, or there's a fire, or other emergency? A one-day intensive workshop that has been offered is called Street Saint Skills, and includes training on what to do in emergency situations that arise on the streets as well as dispute resolution tactics.

Dispute Resolution Program Directory
($9.00, 1981, 155 pp.)

Alternative Methods of Dispute Settlement
— A Selective Bibliography ($4.00, 1982)
Special Committee on Alternative Means of Dispute Resolution
American Bar Association
1800 M St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20036-5886

This free quarterly information update is about alternative dispute resolution in small claims courts, arbitration and mediation of both civil and criminal disputes, settlement incentives, neighborhood justice centers, citizen advisory councils, ombudspersons, and other new processes.

Negotiations: An Effective Tool for Citizen Organizations?
James E. Crowfoot
Northern Rockies Action Group
9 Placer St.
Helena, MT 59601
$5.00, 1980, 46pp.

An introduction to negotiation techniques for nonprofit organizations.

A Summons to Life: Mediating Structures and the Prevention of Crime
Robert L. Woodson

Housing and Public Policy: A Role for Mediating Structures
John J. Egan, John Carr, Andrew Mott, John Ross

The Hidden Health Care System: Mediating Structures and Medicine
Lowell S. Levin, Ellen L. Idler

From:
Ballinger Publishing Company
17 Dunster St.
Cambridge, MA 02138

These three books were supported by the conservative American Enterprise Institute, which is advocating for support of mediating structures: family, church, ethnic ties, voluntary groups and neighborhood associations, to solve housing, crime, and other urban problems.

The Myth, the Reality, and the Future of Environmental Mediation
Gerald W. Cormick
Environment Magazine, September 1982

This has a good overview to the field, with an accompanying article on The Crest Dispute: A Mediation Success, by Verne C. Huser.

Resolve
Conservation Foundation
1717 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

Resolve is a quarterly periodical that provides information about environmental dispute resolution approaches. It is free of charge.

Peacemaking in Your Neighborhood
Jennifer Beer, Editor
Friends Suburban Project
Box 462
Concordville, PA 19331

This is a para-peacemaking manual to be used to help straighten out neighborhood, and people-within-the-neighborhood disputes and conflicts.
Migration Out of Oregon
For the first time in its 125-150 year history, there are more people leaving Oregon than entering it. Revised figures from the Center for Population Research and Census indicate that rather than the projected annual in-migration gain of 30,000-40,000, Oregon will have instead 10,000 more people leaving the state than entering it. Projections are that net migration is entering a period of zero-gain. Most of the people leaving are headed for California (36.3%), while only 3.3% are moving to Texas (the New California of the eighties). The statistics also indicate the out-migration is creating more of a drain on professional classes: forty seven percent of those leaving are in professional, technical, managerial, service, sales, and clerical occupations.

Energy Loan Program — Oregon
The Small Scale Energy Loan Program (SELP) now has $2 million available to finance residential and commercial solar heating and the solar heating components of new home or business construction. Loans can provide 20 year financing at low rates of interest. Given normal security conditions, 80 percent of construction funds may be available in advance to pay construction costs as they are incurred. The other 20 percent of the loan costs is held until completion notice filing. Financing can cover closing costs as well as construction costs.

Most loans under $25,000 are approved in three weeks or less. Funds can be available within one month after a complete loan application is filed. Eligible applicants include homeowners and businesses of Oregon. For further information contact the SELP office at 102 Labor and Industries Building, Salem, OR 97310 or call 373-1033 or toll free at 1-800-452-7813 X 3-1033.

The Aprovecho Institute
The Aprovecho Institute, an appropriate technology research center, in Eugene, has secured land for operating its Rural Center. With two small grants, they have completed two experimental houses, one using bamboo and concrete domes, poles cut from the land and woven bamboo walls; and the other, a house designed to maximize a small (even tiny, 300 sq. feet) space.

They have established two propagation beds for bamboo, which will be offered for sale, and used in experimental plantings mixed with native forest plants and trees, and will be offered for sale.

In September they sponsored a workshop, attended by people from as far as Ecuador and France, on the development and use of a wide range of metal, lorena, concrete and ceramic stoves.

Working now with some foundation money, including a $50,000 grant from the Tides Foundation, the Institute is still seeking to become financially self-sufficient by 1985 by increasing the revenues from educational programs, sales of nursery items and other products.

The Institute continues to publish Cookstove News, the world’s only, or at least most comprehensive periodical on cookstoves in Third World countries.

For more information, write to: The Aprovecho Institute, 442 Monroe, Eugene, OR 97402.
The Future of Spokane

The Northwest Regional Foundation in Spokane has been in the forefront of long-range planning since its inception in 1974, at the time of Spokane’s World Expo. For several years, the Foundation published Futures Conditional, a journal devoted to futures planning and anticipatory democracy started by Robert Theobald.

They have more recently launched Future Spokane, an ambitious plan to provide the community with a framework for planning the direction of their community.

The project calls for the development of an Action Plan that will result from a process involving input from citizens, community organizations, and government agencies.

Between February 1982 and October 1982, the Foundation conducted five day-long community forums, attended by more than 1000 people. The forums were designed to encourage people to think about the future of education, government, economic development, and health. From the forums, twelve community task forces were established to produce working papers in areas ranging from food and agriculture to culture and recreation.

In early November the working papers were forwarded to the Committee of 100, a group formed by the Foundation to take the primary lead in drafting the final Action Plan. The Committee of 100, made up of leaders in government, business, neighborhoods, churches, civic organizations, agriculture, unions, education, media and minorities, met in November at a two day retreat, developed a draft of the Action Plan and presented it to the community on behalf of Future-Spokane.

Throughout 1983, Future-Spokane will be taking the Action Plan to the community, by means of slide/tape presentations, public meetings and workshops, in an attempt to find methods and support for carrying out the Action Plan.

For more information on Future-Spokane, including a summary of the Action Plan, write to the Northwest Regional Foundation, N 910 Washington, Spokane, WA 99201, 509/327-5596.

Buy Oregon First: Mix and Match

In five months, an innovative networking tool is expected to begin creating new jobs in Lane County, Oregon. Instead of outside capital, this tool works indigenously among Eugene-Springfield businesses: producer-retailer matching.

The concept spearheads the “Buy Oregon First” project, one of several under U.S. Bank’s “Are You With Us?” plan to enliven Oregon’s soggy economy. The bank recently awarded a project grant to Eugene’s Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation (NEDCO) — a branch of the Whiteaker Community Council.

“Buy Oregon First” operates by recycling money flow within the county and prevents unnecessary “leakage” of capital out of the state.

NEDCO is concocting this economic wax in four parts. Part One entails connecting Lane County businesses now purchasing their products outside Oregon to manufacturers within Oregon. After all, why buy storm windows from Pittsburgh when they’re available “home grown?”

The project coordinator, Alana Probst, who pioneered a similar program in Chicago, points out that “this method shows local jobs can be locally created — immediately.” Part Two calls for promoting the new producer-retailer matches among businesses within Lane County. The examples will be used to emphasize the cyclical effect of spending money locally.

In Part Three, NEDCO determines who is producing what in the county and what products are being bought elsewhere.

Part Four, called import substitution, identifies products being produced in Oregon that are similar to those being bought through non-Oregon producers and could be replaced by native models. A further objective involves computer-tallying the number of buyers and sellers matched, how many businesses grow or originate with NEDCO’s assistance, the cost of catalyzing such new markets compared to conventional approaches, and the number of jobs created by the project.

Eventually NEDCO hopes to make its research available to small businesses in other Oregon counties. As the program’s long-term financing method, small businesses would pay a reasonable fee for a local-regional market assessment, a service most struggling, small-time entrepreneurs cannot otherwise afford.

It is hoped that this service encourages enterprises that contribute to the counties’, state’s, or region’s agricultural, energy, and human services self-reliance. One such incentive would be to offer reduced market assessment fees, perhaps jointly offset by the Chamber of Commerce and the City, to these “sustaining” businesses and those that will use locally recycled materials. For information contact Alana Probst, NEDCO, 341 Van Buren, Eugene, OR 97402, 503/343-7712.

Seattle Potlatch Network

Like the Briarpatch Network in San Francisco, the smaller and younger Potlatch Business Network has established itself in Seattle. Committed to a common vision of work as a satisfying way to realize such values as cooperation, honesty, respect for others, and the health of the planet, the year-old group hopes to help finance new businesses that are socially and environmentally responsible. A directory of its 130 person mailing list is in progress. To receive their newsletter, Potlatch, or find out more, contact Larry Katzman, Potlatch Business Network, P.O. Box 4296, Seattle, WA 98104, 206/633-4121.
Churches "Reach Out"

Churches in Southeast Portland have responded to the increased human needs of the economic depression with an innovative project that relies on volunteers helping their neighbors.

The Reach Out project began by using volunteers from six churches in the Buckman and Sunnyside neighborhoods to provide services such as food preparation, transportation, electrical or roof repairs, or yard clean up to people who did not have the resources to meet these needs. Multnomah County Commissioner Gordon Shadbume and two ministers, Frank Shields of Sunnyside United Methodist Church and Don Baker of Hinson Memorial Baptist, initiated the project. Both conservative and liberal churches are working together and base the program on Matthew XXV—Christ’s directive to feed and clothe the hungry, welcome the stranger, and visit the sick.

Rebecca Bencze, who coordinates the project out of her home, says the number of people helped since they started in May has steadily increased each month to 100 per month. It is not uncommon for volunteers to find that in helping with one problem they find other ones. Recently, requests have been more complex, requiring more volunteer time or very specialized skills. For example, a dentist has made house calls to a woman four times at no charge. Bencze describes her work as, “gratifying, because we are helping people who fall between the cracks of social service programs.”

Reach Out has recently expanded to include six more neighborhoods and the 20 participating churches now have over 1,000 volunteers. Last April, the Reach Out organizers held a meeting for Portland area pastors and similar projects have formed in other parts of Portland. In October, a coalition of churches in Southwest Portland started People Bank (226-3282). Volunteers are being recruited from 19 churches as well as the general community. The North Portland Fellowship of Ministers is considering setting up this kind of project in North Portland. Also, Snow-CAP (252-0278), a church sponsored emergency helping agency is now starting up a similar program called Branches in East Multnomah County. Doug Rogers, Snow-CAP director, sees the project as a way to help meet human needs through the old tradition of “neighbor helping neighbor.”

In addition to expansion in Portland, church groups in cities throughout the Northwest and even as far away as Texas and Iowa have expressed interest in, or actually started, similar projects. If you would like more information, contact Reach Out at 503/234-6333.

Olympia Co-op to Serve Farmers and Consumers

Lacking an effective means for local farmers to serve consumers, a group of Olympia-area farmers and residents have formed the Farmers Wholesale Co-op (FWC).

The Washington Small Farmers Network (19 East Poplar, Walla Walla, WA 99362) and Steve Buxbaum, former coordinator of the Seattle Bulk Commodity Exchange, assisted the group in designing this local marketing mechanism for Southwest Washington produce.

In May 1982, the FWC incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and secured bulk refrigeration at the Port of Olympia. The Co-op expects to open in April. It’s an unusual “hybrid” in that profits are passed on to both farmers and consumers (grocery stores, restaurants, consumer groups, families, individuals).

During October 1982, FWC’s Farm and Community Project was awarded two grants — one from the City of Olympia ($8,000) and the other from Thurston County ($6,000) — with the support of the Food Resource Consortium, a local coalition of twelve food organizations.

The Project’s three interns from The Evergreen State College in Olympia are conducting a study on the feasibility of a community cannery, producing an area food resource guide, and designing a plan to help small-scale farms step up production and improve marketing. All of this is being reported in eight project newsletters. Contact FWC, at 625 N Capitol Way, Olympia, WA 98501, 206/754-8989.

Self-Help Grants in Portland

To encourage self-help activities in Portland neighborhoods, the Bureau of Housing and Community Development, using a specified amount of the general block grant money allocated to the city, is offering grants of up to $5,000. The grants, which were first offered in 1982, have been used for community gardens, youth employment programs, and a shared housing program. Bureau staff is also offering some assistance to organizations in preparing the grant application. The current grant deadline is February
Sweet Reason

In its offering of various perspectives—many regional and not normally expressed to the public—on our economic predicament, this premier issue of Sweet Reason conveys a collage of valuable messages. Up to ten essays from Oregon humanist scholars will continue to discuss contemporary themes in subsequent annual volumes.

This edition's topic has permitted a survey of values appropriate to a young era of material limits. "Living at the End of an Era" by Richard Clinton, political scientist at Oregon State University (OSU), compares elements of an unsustainable society to those of a sustainable one. An equally provocative essay, Miles Shisido's "Two Ethical Styles in Contrast: American and Japanese," explores how beauty and simplicity, when sought and combined, contribute to a rewarding lifestyle that is materially thrifty. In "The Politics of Abundance Versus the Politics of Scarcity," University of Portland political scientist Gordon Schloming concludes that a "new ethic steadfastly refuses the tendency to separate personal and public ethics, insisting that a common standard of behavior rule family, market place, and public office."

Perhaps the most relevant essay to the Pacific Northwest's economic condition comes from OSU historian William Robbins. He shows how absentee investors have lavishly exported trees, salmon, wheat, and produce out of the region to points east. "This colonial relationship," asserts Robbins, "which has victimized people as well as the environment, is one of the less heralded aspects of Northwest history." His concluding message stings a little, but reflects a century of environmental and political passivity: "Northwesterners, despite some acclaim to the contrary, have paid too little attention to the ecological requirements for husbanding the region's bounty. Citizens of the Northwest need to begin making their own history, to become more caring stewards of their environment and to think differently about the economic ethic which has altered and depreciated the region's abundance and contributed to the present state of affairs." Sweet Reason: The Ethic of Abundance in an Age of Austerity, Oregon Essays, Issue 1

Carolyn Baun, Editor
The Oregon Committee for the Humanities
418 SW Washington, Rm. 410
Portland, OR 97204
$7.95, 1982, 75 pp.

Shoalwater J.O.B.S.
Reinvigorates Raymond

What would happen if a small town that depended on twelve logging operations and lumber mills, some multinational, were abandoned by all but one of them over a decade? First it would vent some anger and frustration; Raymond, Washington's igniting strike against Weyerhaeuser through the fall of '81 vented plenty. Then it might collectively dream and scheme and eventually create Shoalwater J.O.B.S., Job Opportunities and Bartering Skills, Raymond's sprouting organization for employment and community renewal.

J.O.B.S. designates the activities of the group's three project committees. Two of the committees are developing a firewood cutting and marketing cooperative and a worker-owned furniture factory. The third is preparing to open a community skills exchange. Shoalwater J.O.B.S. enjoys support from the Washington State Conversion Project, the Willapa Harbor Ministerial Association, Raymond's Catholic Church, the International Woodworkers of America Local 3-130, the Retail Clerks Union (United Food and Commercial), the local International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, a student-faculty team at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, and the city hall copy machine. A nice family.

The family helped secure a $500 grant from the Catholic Community Services of the Seattle Archdiocese and a $500 grant from the Washington State Labor Council to conduct feasibility studies for the projects. A benefit concert at The Evergreen State College brought $270 for the skills exchange. By March 1, members will be able to call the exchange for services for which they are charged hourly debits, while the worker earns hourly credits.

To offer tips or find out more, contact Don or Cheryl Konstock at Shoalwater J.O.B.S., PO Box 466, Raymond, WA 98577, 206/942-2577.
Conversion Takes Routes

The Washington State Conversion Project is taking on a noble challenge — peace/economic conversion. The Project, among other goals, seeks to educate its members and Washington communities about using democratic control of military tax dollars and investment capital for community services and creating locally sustainable economies. Its bimonthly tabloid, Conversion Perspective, and its methodical speaker training serve this aim.

The Project’s Rebuilding Washington campaign is taking its platform to the Washington legislature now in session. Campaign coordinator Don Hopps, Director of the Center for Peace and Social Justice, says the objective is to gain exposure, friends, and experience in Olympia, but they will advocate support for community finance institutions, corporate responsibility, plant closure measures, and state banks. These efforts complement ongoing coalition building among labor, church, peace, and related groups.

The Conversion Project is sponsoring a conference with the Seattle Ecumenical Religious Peace Action Coalition (SERPAC) on The Economy and the Arms Race, March 25 and 26, at Seattle University. Speakers include William Winpisinger, President of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers; Bishop Leroy Mathiesen from Amarillo, Texas; and Nancy Amidei, National Chair of the Fair Budget Action Campaign. At the conference, the Project expects to take initial steps to establish a Regional Conversion Center and a Peace Trust Fund. For information on the conference, the Project’s part in Shoalwater J.O.B.S. (See “Shoalwater”), and other activities, contact Matthew Jordan, WSCP, 6532 Phinney Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103, 206/784-8436.

ADVERTISING

RAIN Advertising Policy and Rates

RAIN now accepts both classifieds and display ads. All ads are accepted at RAIN’s discretion. The advertising of services and products in RAIN should not be considered an endorsement. RAIN is not responsible for product claims and representations. Deadline for receipt of ad copy for the Apr./May issue is March 16; for the June/July issue, May 11. Prepayment is required.

Display Ads: Rates for display ads are: full page (7-1/4 x 9-7/8), $200; half-page (4-5/8 x 7-1/4), $125; one-fourth page (3-1/2 x 4-5/8), $65; one-eighth page (2-1/4 x 3-3/4), $35. Ads must be submitted to us in camera ready form.

Classified Ads: Rates for classified ads are 30¢ per word. Letter groups (as in acronyms) and number groups (as in addresses or price information) count as one word; hyphenated words count as two words. Ads must be submitted to us in typewritten or very clearly hand printed form.

For more information contact: Advertising Dept., RAIN, 2270 NW Irving, Portland, OR 97210, 503/227-51110.

WORTHY WORK: RAIN is offering special rates for job and internship classified ads. The cost of worthy work ads will regularly be 15¢ per word for profit making organizations and 10¢ per word for non-profits. In our next issue, we have a special institution rate of 10¢ per word for profit and 5¢ for nonprofit groups. Each worthy work ad should not exceed 100 words to receive this special rate.

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FARALLONES INSTITUTE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS focus on integration of appropriate technology and community development in the study of international issues, horticulture, energy, construction, community facilitation, and health/nutrition. Three ten week sessions start March 20, June 12, and Sept. 11. March 10 session includes: Appropriate Technology and Community Development — An Internal Perspective, Construction Skills and Intensive Gardening Systems. Tuition $1,000. For further information contact: Farallones Institute, 15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental, CA 95465 (707) 874-3060.


MAGAZINE FOR HOMESTEADERS! Covering small stock, gardening and much, much more. Send stamp for free information or $8 (1 year). Our 7th year! Money back guarantee! Farming Uncle (t), Box 91-E46, Liberty, NY 12754.

CLASSIFIEDS


RESOURCE RECYCLING MAGAZINE: For a sample copy of the only journal describing low-technology recycling systems, write Resource Recycling Magazine, 928 Second Street, Room 3A, Sacramento, CA 95814.

LESBIANS IN AGRICULTURE, a Seattle based networking/information sharing group announces Winter/Spring issue of quarterly newsletter. Write POB 20212, Seattle, WA 98102, $5.00/yr. SASE for information on events.

WORTHY WORK

RAIN INTERN PROGRAM: Rain has an on-going intern program which enables staff interns to gain a thorough knowledge of magazine publication and resource center operation. The work is a mix of activities including promotion, research, editorial work, production, library and office maintenance, information requests, publicity, and local educational or organizing efforts. Applicants must be self-motivated and able to work with minimum supervision; technical skills are appreciated though not necessary. A three-month commitment is required. Benefits include a stipend of $35 per week and the excitement of being in touch with the latest information from around the country. Send resume to Nancy Cosper at RAIN.

FARALLONES INSTITUTE RURAL CENTER HORTICULTURE RESIDENCIES. The Farallones Institute is a nonprofit center for participatory education, community development and appropriate technology. We seek three people experienced in organic gardening, horticulture and/or ecological agriculture to assist staff in management/development of gardens, edible landscapes, market garden, home orchard, poultry system, small pond, edible plants and applied research. Responsibilities include working with 10 week Intensive Gardening Systems educational programs. Positions include room, board and stipend. Send brief resume and interest ASAP to Bart Johnson, 15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental, CA 95465 707-874-3060.

APPRENTICESHIP available with Northwoods Nursery. Learning includes basic nursery and farming skills. Housing and living allowance provided. For more information, write Northwoods Nursery, 28696 S. Cramer Rd., Molalla, OR 97038.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR ALASKA is a cooperative effort of a wide variety of Alaskan advocacy and public interest organizations. The program provides internship opportunities for students to develop important job skills with close professional supervision. All internships are in Anchorage. For more information write: Internship Program for Alaska, 1069 W. 6th, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.
The 1983 International Daylighting Conference will be held Feb. 16-18 in Phoenix, Arizona, and is intended to provide a multidisciplinary forum for examining the potentials of daylight use in buildings. The conference will address the effects of daylighting on occupant comfort and well-being, health, aesthetics, lighting, quality, energy savings, and more. Write to the American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

Creating More Jobs from New Enterprises is the theme of a conference being held February 10-11, 1983 at the International Hotel in Washington, D.C., managed by the Entrepreneurship, and sponsored by several national organizations. For more information write to Mark Hix, c/o The Entrepreneurship Institute, 3892 Corporate Drive, Ste. 100, Columbus, OH 43229.

Future Week has been proclaimed in Los Angeles for May 1st thru May 8th, with the focus being Futureworld Expo '83, a grand exposition of new possibilities. The Time Machine from the movie of that name will be on display behind bullet-proof glass; the Office of Appropriate Technology is putting on a "New Possibilities Show"; and exhibition space for hundreds of exhibitors who today have some of the wares of one form of tomorrow or another is available. Write to Future World Expo '83, 5455 Castel Knoll, La Canada, CA 91011. 213/957-3328.

The Second Annual Regional Conference on New Perspectives on Planning in the West will occur in May, 1983. The conference will cover the broad categories of resource development in the west, social justice in the west/people and politics, political economy of population migration to the west, economic development in the west, and New Federalism. A Call for Papers has been issued. For more information write to Joohud Kim, Dept. of Planning, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. 602/965-7026.

The Energy Bureau, Inc. has announced several conferences for the early spring: A two-day conference entitled Onshore Drilling to be held March 21st and 22nd in Arlington, Virginia; a day conference on Onshore Drilling to be held in Houston, March 14th and 15th; and the sixth annual Outlook for Crude Oil conference to be held February 28th and March 1st, in Houston. For more information contact: The Energy Bureau, Inc., 41 E 42nd St., New York, NY 10017.

Environmental Design Research is the name of a conference being sponsored by the Division of Continuing Education at the University of Nebraska, April 23-27. For more information write to Dept. of Conferences and Institutes, 205 Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583.

The Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association will present Strategies for a Sustainable Agriculture at its Fourth Annual Conference and Meeting to be held March 4th and 5th at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. For more information contact Philip Hale, 559 W. Main St., Wilmingom, Ohio 43177. 513/584-4269.

The Tennessee Alternative Growers Association has announced its Second Annual Tennessee Conference on Organic Agriculture, to be held May 3-5, 1983 in Crossville, Tennessee. Cost will be $15/person. For more information contact Dennis Gregg, TAGA, Rt. 6, Box 526, Crossville, TN 38555.

CALENDAR

PACIFIC NORTHWEST EVENTS

Landscapes of Myth and Imagination will be explored in a special series of visual and musical concerts presented in March in Portland, by the Traveling Image Company. March 2nd will feature visual and musical explorations of Hawaii; March 9th will be celebrations of the Earth and Her Preservation, called Earthscapes; and March 16th, Musical Landscapes of Ireland will be presented. For more information contact Travelling Image Company, PO Box 14261, Portland, OR 97214.

The Resource Recreation Management Department of the Oregon State University School of Forestry will be conducting two workshops in the spring, Microcomputer Applications for Resource Managers and Applying the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum. For more information contact Perry Brown, Resource Recreation Management Department, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-5704. 503/754-2004.

The Chinook Learning Community has announced several workshops, retreats and symposiums. Unity in Diversity is a 5-day retreat, February 24-28 exploring religious tradition and unity of spiritual experience; March 5th, David Spangler will present a workshop and February 7th and 9th poet Robert Bly will give readings. The Center is also planning for its Global Village conference to be held later this spring. For more information contact Chinook Learning Community, PO Box 57, Clinton, WA 98236.

Fishing Conference in Seattle: The Washington Environmental Foundation and Council, in conjunction with concerned fisheries groups, will sponsor a conference in Seattle this March on Wild Salmon and Trout. Conference sessions will include genetics, habitat, public acceptance and policy implementation, and will be of particular interest to commercial and sports fishermen although the general public is encouraged to attend. Organizations interested in cosponsoring this event or individuals who want more information, please contact Toni Ameslav, WEF Director, at 623-1483.

Columbia River Meeting: On February 18-20, the Columbia River Citizens' compact and several Northwest environmental and conservation groups will meet at the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett, Oregon. Two topics slated for discussion are the Power Planning Council's fish and wildlife program, and combining the efforts of both Washington and Oregon interest groups. To contribute ideas for agenda items or for more information, contact John Sayre, 500 NE Multnomah St. Suite 1662, Portland, OR 97232; 903/231-6121.

Land and Food in China is the name of a study tour sponsored by the China Education Tours. Michelle Marder Kamhi, a journalist active in nutrition and health, will lead the tour. The tour will be June 1 to June 21st. For more information contact China Educational Tours, 272 Centre St., Newton, MA 02158. 800/225-4246.

Selling the Federal Forests is the theme of a national symposium sponsored by the College of Forest Resources at the University of Washington, and the American Forestry Association, in Seattle, April 19-21, 1983. For more information contact the Division of Continuing Education, College of Forest Resources, AR-10, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. 206/545-1873.

The Thirteenth Annual Composting and Waste Recycling conference sponsored by BioCycle Magazine, will be held May 4-6, 1983 in Columbus, Ohio. Exhibits of latest systems and technology will be featured. Sessions will explore marketing methods, successful land application projects, new financing projects for municipal plants, agronomic aspects of sludge and compost application to land, management of heavy metals, kinetics of composting in the enclosed vessel. For more information write to Mildred Lalik, BioCycle, Box 351, Emmaus, PA 18049. 215/967-4535.

Applications for Resource Managers will be held May 4-6, 1983 at the International Hotel in Washington, D.C., managed by the Entrepreneurship, and sponsored by several national organizations. For more information please contact the Division of Continuing Education, College of Forest Resources, AR-10, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. 206/545-1873.

California tours will occur in May, 1983. The conference will cover the broad categories of resource development in the west, social justice in the west/people and politics, political economy of population migration to the west, economic development in the west, and New Federalism. A Call for Papers has been issued. For more information write to Joohud Kim, Dept. of Planning, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. 602/965-7026.

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Unemployment Caused by Nuclear Arms Build Up — The Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy has produced a handy guide to employment/unemployment created by the increase in military budget in the United States. Employment losses/gains are given for different congressional districts in each state. The booklet is 10 cents, with bulk copy prices also available from the Coalition at 120 Maryland Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

Barter Your Way Through College — Several colleges have begun to offer barter arrangements as an alternative for students and parents faced with rising tuition fees. At University of Detroit, administrators estimate that as many as 100 students have bartered for tuition. Other colleges looking into bartering schools can use barter.

**Bike Library** — The Bike library was founded in 1978 and contains 500 books, vertical files, and subscriptions to over 100 periodicals. A computerized database, DATAbike, is now underway. For information write to Bike-library, PO Box 276, Emporia, KS 66801, 316/321-0480 or 316/343-1961.

**Shared Housing** — The Shared Housing Resource Center is a good resource for people interested in developing new ways for individuals, especially the elderly, to share housing. The Center publishes *Shared Housing Quarterly*. A conference report on the subject is also available for $6.50. For details, write to Shared Housing Resource Center, 6344 Green St., Philadelphia, PA 19144.

**Nuclear and Four Corners Films** — The Friends of the Earth have announced two new films, "Four Corners: A National Sacrifice Area?" is a film dealing with the cultural groups that inhabit that highly exploited area in the southwest, known as Four Corners, under assault by developments in coal, uranium, and oil shale. The other film, "Growing up in the Nuclear Shadow: What Can the Children Tell Us," is a film that focuses on the hopes and fears of children whose lives are profoundly shaped by the threat of nuclear war. For more information contact Friends of the Earth, 1045 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111.

**Appropriate Technology Education Programs** — AT International has put together a list of university level training programs in the field of Appropriate Technology. For more information write to William McDowell, AT International, 1724 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

**Appropriate Technology Program Publications** — The University of California's Appropriate Technology Program has issued several publications in its Research Leaflet Series. *Clothing and Energy Conservation* by Barbara and Robert Sommer summarizes some findings about clothing fashions and personal comfort. *Move-On Housing in California* is about the reasons and methods of moving houses for renovation. For more information, write to UC Appropriate Technology Program, 2043 Bainer Hall, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

**Mailing List Exchanges and Nonprofits** — There have been a number of assaults on the nonprofit sector recently, and now the IRS is looking at certain "business-related" activities of nonprofits, which up until now have not been taxed. In a memo to the Disabled American War Veterans, the IRS noted that mailing list exchanges are now taxable business income. A bill was sent to Congress to stem the tide of such regulations. For more information write to Rep. Daniel Rostenkowski, House Ways and Means Committee, Washington, D.C. 20215.

**Appropriate Technology Resources Directory** — The Community Self-Reliance Center in upstate New York has announced publication of a directory ($1.50) to appropriate technology/renewable energy activities in their neck of the woods. The group, which also publishes the Sprouts Newsletter, can be reached at 140 SW State St., Ithaca, NY 14850.

**Growing Food in the City** — "Cracks in the Concrete" is a new slideshow that demonstrates how to make greater use of available land in towns and urban areas for growing food. For more information write to: Urban Resources Systems, 783 Buena Vista West, San Francisco, CA 94117.

**Military Contracts in Your Backyard** — Now you can readily determine which companies in your area hold opportunities for conversion to civilian-centered enterprise. The National Action Research on the Military Industrial Complex, a project of the American Friends Service Committee, makes a quarterly list available of military contractors, broken down by state and county. Send requests to NARMIC, 112 S. 16th, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

**Solar Radiation and Meteorological Data** — The Solar Energy Research Institute has announced publication of several reference works of importance to solar energy developers, builders, etc. The three volumes are entitled *Solar Radiation Energy Resource Atlas of the United States* ($18.00); *Insolation Data Manual* ($7.50); and *Direct Normal Solar Radiation Data Manual* ($4.75).

**Mad River — Hard Times in Humboldt County** — is the portrait of a rural community in California, facing environmental and economic disaster. It traces the struggle to save redwood forests, and the timber industry workers' struggle for economic stability. The film (or video tape) can be rented for $95, from Fine Line Productions, PO Box 315, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417.

**Energy Management Master of Science Program** — New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury, NY 11568, 516/686-7578, is offering an interdisciplinary Master of Science program in Energy Management. The program consists of training in the operations of cogeneration, resource recovery, biomass conversion, wind energy, geothermal power and small scale hydroelectric power; it also includes training in how to develop and implement energy efficiency into industrial processes, building operation, new design, and construction.

**Farming and Gardening Song Book** — The Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, Rt. 1, Box 397, Franklinville, NC 27748, has announced publication of a 64 page songbook of songs of working on the land, songs of agricultural movements. Single copies, $4.50 plus .75 postage.
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In between, the book is filled with advice on how to find durable cars, clothes, tools, houses, appliances, typewriters, watches, and much more. This is not just general analysis of how and what to do, but it also mentions specific products and makes product comparisons.

There are many anecdotes worthwhile by themselves: the man who repairs fountain pens; old pickups that on icy mornings are "the only ones that start"; the Hamilton Beach mixer that has made 5,000 loaves of bread; a mysterious light bulb, mentioned in Ripley's *Believe It or Not*, that has been burning since 1901.

It is a practical guide for consumers, a refreshing perspective on ecologically-based consumption, and an interesting popular culture history. Only thing I wondered about by the end was how the poor person feels that just does not have the capital — even though in the long run they could "save money" by investing in durable items. Until we figure that out, many are doomed to a life of boxes filled with broken bargains.