

World
Futures
Studies
Federation



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Editorial

EDITORIAL

There are several enclosures with this Newsletter which are of special importance. Please read them all carefully.

1. There will be a General Assembly of the WFSE in Beijing, probably on the evening of September 5, 1988. Please attend if you can. If you cannot, please send your proxy to someone who will be attending.
2. Please read the letter from the Presidential Nominating Committee. As stated in a previous Newsletter, Eleonora Masini has decided not to continue as our president any longer, and we need to find a replacement for her. While we all (especially me!) regret this very much, we must accept her decision. Please help the Nominating Committee in the way they ask.
3. Enclosed is an invoice for your 1988 WFSE membership dues. If you have not already sent in payment for your 1988 dues--and most of you have not--please do so now (and if you would like to pay any past dues owed also, we'd be overjoyed).

In a recent edition of the Newsletter, I said that it appeared that more official interest in futures was being demonstrated in Australia than anywhere else.

I recently had a chance to find out directly more about what was going on in Australia. A former student of mine and a professor in Communication at Queensland Institute of Technology (QIT), in Brisbane, Australia, Tony Stevenson, made it possible for me to spend a futures-filled week in Australia this past November.

I was kept busy, indeed--lectures at the Universities of Melbourne, Sydney and QIT; a seminar on Australia's tourism future with industry and government representatives; invitational lectures to government, business, and educational leaders in Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane; two meetings with officials of the Powerhouse Museum, under construction in Sydney, on getting a futures perspective more fully conveyed; several radio and newspaper interviews; and, especially relevant to our discussion here, a day-long seminar with the officers and staff of the official Australian Commission on the Future in Melbourne.

I came away very impressed with everything I witnessed. There is true interest in and awareness of the theories, methods, strengths, and limitations of futures studies, especially noticeable in the Commission. They know what is

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happening/has happened elsewhere, and are consciously building on it and contributing to the further development of futures studies itself. They are doing so not only by applying established theories and methods to Australian situations, but also are searching for new theories, methods, and applications themselves.

I was given detailed briefings by responsible staff members on several of the Commissions projects--in education, business, communications, climate change. The latter, a project on the consequences of the so-called "Greenhouse effect," was especially noteworthy.

Aside from good social and natural scientific work, they are seeking popular involvement in the discussion of the issues as well. For example, they have a large blue poster which depicts the famous "sails" of the Sydney Opera House--the only things visible above the risen water. At the top of the poster, there is this statement:

"If you act as though it matters, and it doesn't matter, then it doesn't matter. But if you act as though it doesn't matter and it matters, then it matters."

A good futures slogan for us all!

I was especially impressed with how advanced communication theory and practice was, not only within the Commission, but especially by Tony Stevenson himself, who is organizing a conference on Australia's Communication Futures for this coming May. See the notice about this elsewhere in this Newsletter, and about a recent Australian publication on communications which was discussed at the Commission seminar.

Jim Dator

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Editor: Jim Dator

Managing Editor: Maria Guido Roulstone

MORE ON CHINA

As certainly all readers know, the Xth World Conference of the WFSF will be held in Beijing, China, September 3-8, 1988. However, if you have not indicated your interest so far, and if you wish to have more specific information about the conference, please contact the Secretariat in Honolulu immediately. The time before the Conference is short; accommodations at the Yuanwang Lou Guesthouse in Beijing (where the Conference will be held) are limited and must be reserved soon; and a very great many WFSF members have indicated they expect to come. If you want to attend, you had better say so now.

WFSF President Eleonora Masini was in China for several very labor-intensive weeks in February helping move preparations for the Conference forward. We all owe her an enormous debt of gratitude for her personal attention to so many of the details which are required in order to have the Conference at all.

The September Conference is being viewed in China as an extraordinarily important event. For example:

- It is being co-sponsored by the China State Commission on Science and Technology (a national-ministry level organization) and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.
- Major Chinese scholars and intellectuals are helping organize the Conference and will participate in it.
- President Masini participated in a press conference in Beijing on February 21, 1988 at which the Conference was announced. Many Chinese daily and weekly newspapers were present, as was Chinese television and radio. It was subsequently widely reported by these agencies.
- President Masini was received in the Great Hall of the People (on Red Square) by Mr. Huang Hua, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, and now Vice President of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress. Hua said that the WFSF Conference is very important for China. The fact that a person of his position met with President Masini in the Great Hall and that so many other outstanding people and institutions are supporting it is a certain indication that the Conference is being viewed as of great importance by Chinese officials.

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I hope that you will help make it so.

§MICHAEL MARIEN has suggested two books as background preparation for persons going to China. One is *China Briefing, 1987*, edited by John S. Major and Anthony J. Kane and published in cooperation with the China Council of the Asia Society by Westview Press (5500 Central Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80301 USA. Phone: 303/444-3541). It is \$29.85 in hardcover and \$13.85 in softcover.

There are chapters on domestic politics, economy, foreign investment and technology transfer, foreign relations, military affairs, and culture.

The second book Marien recommended was *The China Challenge: Adjustment and Reform*. This is Chatham House Paper #32, written by David S. G. Goodman, et al., and published by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, United Kingdom, and by Routledge & Kegan Paul (11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE, UK, or 29 W. 35th Street, New York, NY 10001 USA) for \$10.95 in the US.

The chapters are "China in the 1980s," "power and policy," "economic growth and development," and "modernizing foreign policy."

[We thank Michael Marien for these and hope that comments on these books, and suggestions for others, will be sent by other WFSF members as well].

LETTERS FROM THE MEMBERS

§AXEL HORHAGER, our only member in Luxembourg, writes:

"The October 77 issue of the Newsletter was again very stimulating. As usual, I 'agree' with about 30% of what is said, but that does not necessarily detract from the remaining 70%. Can I share with you and other members some recent thoughts about the state of Futures Studies?"

"My imagination was struck the other day by a small report in the Los Angeles Times to the effect that the University of Southern California's Center for Futures Research had been forced to close for financial reasons. As the former associate director put it sarcastically, it had become the 'Center for Past Research.' Beyond the immediate reasons, I see in this a symptom afflicting

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contemporary futures research. The time horizon of more and more people is shortening instead of lengthening; social utopia exploration is definitely becoming less exciting, when there are immediate, concrete problems to be addressed. And we, as futurists, have to ask ourselves the searching question of whether we are not in part to blame. Have we too often been guilty of the sin of irrelevancy? Have we been too ideological? Have we too often talked about things without stating our terms clearly, without definitions, with too much wishful, provocative or wooly thinking? Maybe--but futurists, as others, have to be taken as they come, and they come in all shapes and sizes, like it or not.

"Aside from the quality of futures research, it may also be that contemporary man aspires to a little more 'teleology' than futurism is able or willing to deliver. To put it bluntly: a high degree of commitment to a traditional religion usually excludes notions of an entirely open future. A religion usually posits that there is something definite at the end of it all, and this notion is comforting to people. Too much openness can make one's head spin. People ultimately want answers, not questions; truths, not possibilities. And speaking of comforting--perhaps we futurists have been too abstract about concerns such as the well-being of the ordinary man, our neighbour. Or about the exhilarating experience of being alive in such exciting times.

"Of course, the above should not make us fall into the trap of ideology. As precisely many futurists seem to have done. All this talk about 'peace' and 'disarmament,' is this not merely playing to Soviet strategies about changing the world to their designs? Of course there is the quandary of money spent on weapons in an irrational way, considered on a global level. But the historical evidence indicates that this preaching for peace is being done at the wrong end; that the result will be a defenseless West (particularly Europe) talking itself into a situation of total ideological subservience under the banner of 'peace.'"

§MICHAEL MARIEN offers several comments on the October issue:

"In reference to comment by Tom Mandel of SRI: it may or may not be true that 'there is a great deal of first rate work being funded by companies.' We won't know until we first know that this proprietary futures research is being done. And then a number of us should be thinking about whether this work is first-rate, second-rate, or whatever. Treating all work as equal, or equally wonderful, is the quickest way to encourage disrespect for futures research. I do not anticipate broad agreement in most instances, but I do think it important for each of us to sort out what is important and well done, versus work that is trivial and sloppy.

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I am ceaselessly amazed at the 'futures research' based on stale scenarios, unexamined ideology of both establishment and anti-establishment persuasions, and superficial environmental scanning! On the other hand, the work may be top-rate by various definitions, but simply of little or no interest to anyone other than the funder and his immediate competitors. The definitive future of plumbing supplies into the 21st century will surely be of interest to manufacturers and homebuilders, but is hardly a candidate for the Top 100 Pressing Problems. Let's get serious: we have a global commons that needs extensive shoring up rather soon, or none of us will have much of a future in which to do our business, public or private.

"I am sure that there is at least some privately-funded work that would be of interest to professional futures researchers. This problem, incidentally, was discussed at the World Future Society Professional Forum following the 1986 WFS meeting in New York City. The solution is not a black-white yes or no, but one in shades of gray. Some proprietary work may have to stay that way for some time. But much work can be 'declassified' after a brief period of time, perhaps a year or so. And parts of some work can be made public at the outset. This can and ought to be negotiated with the sponsor. It's good business to go public with as much of your work as you can, as soon as you can do it. It helps the researcher professionally to be known among his colleagues for his work--and to get the feedback that it is indeed of high quality. And it is good publicity for the sponsor to be associated with excellent work and to make it available to the public.

"Insofar as available, I welcome review copies of any recent report completed in the past year for FUTURE SURVEY. Send them to Michael Marien, Webster Road, LaFayette, New York 13084 USA. If the report is really hot stuff, I'll see that it is distributed as a 'FS' Special Selection through the WFS Book Service. And I am sure the editors of FUTURE RESEARCH QUARTERLY in the US, FUTURES in the UK, and FUTURIBLES in France would welcome excerpts and selected adaptation of your report for publication in their journals."

MARIEN also responds to J. C. Kapur's letter:

"I sympathize with your concerns. I wonder, though, whether your high-octane passion against the 'straight jacket of politico-socio-techno-economic excesses' does not create its own emotional straight jacket that keeps you from any effective action. Will preaching that the future-thinkers of America should step out of their cages help us muddled Yanks (and others, too) to do so? We Americans are used to fire-and-brimstone preaching on Sundays, as relief from our six weekdays of sinning. Major cognitive and behavioral changes, I fear,

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require far more than preaching from afar. You might start, however, with one case study of how a misguided futurist was set on the right track. I don't know of any such instance, but I would surely like to learn about any futurist who has experienced a major paradigm change, or had his or her consciousness substantially raised. The problem in the West, at least in part, is to somehow overcome the growing overload of information (or 'infoglut'). This is especially a problem for 240 million Americans awash in our glorious information society, which makes it difficult to see beyond our borders in any meaningful way. But the media, in America at least, does not generally have an 'overwhelming concern with the peripheral, the frivolous, and the sensational.' that is a sensational overstatement.

"I hope you are correct in asserting that future thinkers in many countries outside the US 'are becoming increasingly aware' of the world problematique, and are 'putting their heads together to reflect on these issues in their totality.' Or is this another gross overstatement? Can you offer some suggestive evidence for this assertion? If it is not true to any substantial degree, the passivity induced by your statements may inhibit any action to make it true. I think we would both agree that the goal is to get good ideas in high places--the seats of government. But I fear that your passion may inadvertently inhibit progress, and keep good thinking on the periphery of human affairs. I hope I'm wrong, but I've heard too many lofty statements of specious humane progress over the past decades. As you put it, 'The time for platitudes is gone.' Or is it?"

Our comments last issue (and this?) concerning Australia also come under MARIEN's scrutiny:

"The October 87 Newsletter also states, 'We get the feeling that the hottest futures work at the national level is now taking place in Australia, through their Commission for the Future.' I will grant that their bi-monthly magazine, IN FUTURE, is an exemplary attempt to popularize various broad futures themes. But I fail to be moved by anything I've seen so far at the professional level (See FUTURE SURVEY, 9:5, May 1987). What, specifically, is hot, new, really important? Where's the Aussie beef? Seems to me that, to date, they are simply rediscovering various wheels, with little or no attention paid to past and present futures thinking outside of Australia. Will anyone take issue with me about what's hot and what's not?" [Yes, we will. See the Editorial in this issue. Will others reply?]

While MICHAEL MARIEN has the floor, let us also mention a project with which he is involved, along with Gary Gappert, of the Institute for Futures Studies and Research, The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio 44325 USA.

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Professor Gappert has initiated an international survey of leading academics around the world to determine the present status of futures education. It is a comprehensive effort to assemble futures studies data which will be useful to determine what directions the various existing campus programs are taking. Some of the information sought includes courses and program descriptions, reading lists, the popularity of futures research in general, text lists, and the climate for establishing an international association to promote futures studies education at the post-secondary level.

[It is highly likely that most members of WFSF have already been contacted about the post-secondary level futures education in which they are engaged. If you have not, and would like to contribute, or if you have any questions about the project, please contact Prof. Gappert.]

§BENJAMIN HOURANI replies to our treatment of his article in a recent Newsletter:

"Thank you for taking note of my article, 'Toward the 21st Century: The Organization of Power in Post-Industrial Society (SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY, Vol. 14, August 1987). I appreciate the attention and space you gave it in the Newsletter. However, the impression is that I am pessimistic about the future.

"As I indicated in the 'abstract', I am interested in sharing with futurists the long-standing concerns of political thinkers over such issues as the distribution of power, bureaucratization, so-called 'democratic despotism' and therewith the social class cleavages in society including those between the 'computerizers and computerized'. Also I indicated that this article addresses 'the less benign aspects of the new, post-industrial-information society.'

"The comment in the Newsletter stated that Daniel Bell and Radovan Richta were used as examples of optimists in both the West and the East. This is a misleading simplification. More than many of our fellow futurists these authors are cautious and more complex than a first glance at their work suggests. Daniel Bell in particular is not impressed by a future culture that is both 'engineering and psychedelic.' As for the late Radovan Richta of Czechoslovakia, his optimism is predicated on a thorough democratization of society.

"It may be said that Richta was among the first to advance the concepts now at the heart of Gorbachev's Perestroika. It should be noted that the apparent

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optimism of thinkers in socialist countries is usually preconditioned on the resolutions of recognized political problems. Their regular futurists, however, like ours in the West, often recoil from addressing the tough political dimensions.

"My article goes beyond optimism or pessimism. It is concerned with the state and future of political institutions. Futurists, I believe, are in a position to address these questions and contribute to the shaping and development of political futures worthy of our aspirations."

§JANICE TAIT announces her desire to "reconnect" with the global futures community:

"I am writing this letter, after an absence of many years, to reconnect with the World Futures Studies Federation. During the years where I failed to connect, I was engaged in specialized work related to transportation for disabled people. This was extremely specialized, but nevertheless demanding work, which made it difficult to maintain my other connections.

"Recently, however, I changed position, as well as moving to Toronto, and am now writing to let you, and other colleagues in the network, know that I am alive and well and wanting to reconnect with the Federation. My present employment is as Policy Analyst with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a professional association which struggles with all the problems besetting cities and towns in these 1980s.

"I would be interested to hear from any members of the Federation who are working on innovative solutions to some pressing problems, i.e.: aging of the population, waste management, social service delivery systems, etc." [Her address at AMO is Suite 805, 100 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5J 1V6, Canada]

§Staffan Laestadius writes:

"I have the pleasure to inform you that there is now a new Institute for Futures Studies in Sweden. The institute is an independent foundation although it presently gets most of its money from government funds. It is the ambition both from the government and the institute to create a really independent

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institution with an intellectual and economic capacity to decide its own projects.

"From December 31, 1987, the former Secretariat for Futures Studies at the Council for Coordination Research (Forskningsradnamnden, FRN) is closed."

[For more information, write Staffan Laestadius, Institute for Futures Studies, Hagagatan 23, S-113 47 Stockholm, Sweden]

§JORDI SERRA, from the Centre Català de Prospectiva, Barcelona, Spain, sent notice of the fact that the newly-elected officers of the Centre are the following:

President	Josep Pereña i Moros
Vice-President 1er	Juli Ràfels i Persiva
Vice-President 2on	Albert Oliva i Menasanch
Vice-President 3er	Antoni Ferrero i Balaguer
Secretari General	Jordi Serra i del Pino
Vice-Secretari 1er	Miguel Angel Aguaresles Anoro
Vice-Secretari 2on	Miquel Tallada i Banal
Vice-Secretari 3er	Lluís Claudi i Bosch
Tresorera	Rosa Palet i Martí
Vice-Tresorera	Antònia Guix i Capdevila
Bibliotecària	Pepita Jané i Majoral
Vocal 1er	Pepita Majoral i Capdevila
Vocal 2on	Miquel Martínez i Martín
Vocal 3er	Jesús Prujà i Puig
Vocal 4art	Concepció Martínez de Mirosa
Vice-Presidenta D'Honor:	Sra. Rosa Pilar Lizarriturri i Larreategui
Vocal D'Honor	Sr. Amadeu Serch i Gelambí

§HELMUT VON LOEBELL wrote about a visit by IGOR BESTUZHEV-LADA to Austria in late January 1988:

"In Salzburg we had an interesting discussion on the theme, 'Another Future?' on the Austrian Radio and TV with a panel of officials, Bob Jungk, and Igor. We also had meetings with interested youth ('black,' 'red,' and 'green'), and with business and official leaders from the Land and cities. Everyone was delighted because of Igor's way of explaining things in the Soviet Union, and, as his German is astonishing (he uses, according to himself, 300 words only!), because

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he explains everything very 'pointedly.'

"In Vienna, we had a meeting with people of the Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome, a TV program, and a press conference. We also had an excellent meeting with Prof. GERHARD BRUCKMANN, who is very well known for his prognosis and statistics.

"Many hours were spent talking about the 1990 World Conference of the WFSF, and about the WFS and Futuribles. The idea of activities around such themes as 'Beyond 2000' or 'A New Civilization,' or 'Last Decade and First Decade,' and even 'Ways into the 22nd Century' were discussed."

§JOHAN GALTUNG gives clear notice that his sojourn in Paradise has not resulted in any let-down in his productivity through the following extract of his "Progress Report, February 1988:"

"The following are the major activities in connection with my stay in Hawaii as Visiting Professor of Peace Studies so far:

- "(1) Peace Theory Course, Department of Political Science, Fall 1987. The course was partly based on a book manuscript prepared during my stay at Princeton University 1985-87, WORLD POLITICS OF PEACE AND WAR. That 297 page manuscript is now being revised and will be sent to the publishers (probably Westview) late spring 1988. Two other aspects of the course were 'General Peace Theory' and 'General Conflict Theory.'
- "(2) Civilization Course, Departments of Political Science and Communications, 1987/88: This was based on a book in preparation for about 15 years. I expect a manuscript to be ready for publication this year.
- "(3) Discourse Course, Department of Communications, Spring 1988: This is being turned into a book, "Missing Themes in US Political Discourse." The manuscript is half ready, and will be used as a course text.
- "(4) Symposium, Peace and Development, Institute for Peace, Fall 1987: These lectures are now almost ready for publication as a short book.
- "(5) Symposium, Solving Conflicts, Institute for Peace, Spring 1988. These lectures will be taped and immediately revised for publication.
- "(6) Buddhism: A Quest for Unity and Peace, a book manuscript is now ready for publication by the Dae Won Sa Pagoda in connection with its celebrations during April 1988.
- "(7) Europe the Contradictory, a book manuscript coming out of the Princeton period is now ready for publication in England, and is being translated into

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German for publication this spring.

- "(8) Japan in the World Community, a book manuscript growing out of the Princeton period and a visiting professorship at Chuo University, Tokyo, December 1986, is ready for publication, and is being translated into Japanese for publication in Japan. Most of the manuscript revisions on a key chapter of the book--'Japan-US Economic Relations: Japan to US like US to the Third World?'--is being done this month.
- "(9) Hitlerism, Stalinism, Reaganism: Three Variations on a Theme by Orwell, published in Norwegian (1984), Spanish (1985), and German (1987) is now being made ready for publication in English. Most of the manuscript revision work, including bringing the chapters on Stalinism and Reaganism up to date, was done fall 1987.
- "(10) Gandhi Today, published in Italian (1987) and in German (1987) will be made ready for publication in English this spring.

"There are three additional activities to the work above on publications:

- "(11) Proposal, 'Master of Peace Studies (MPS) at the University of Hawaii.' This was put forward fall 1987, and the Council of the UH Institute for Peace decided to appoint a committee with me as a convener to do Research Project: Peace and Development in the Pacific Hemisphere, With Special Focus on Japan-US Relations. It will be based on some of the conflict mapping for the Pacific Hemisphere that came out of (4) above, a general theory for the prediction of how conflicts develop... Policies to improve the situation will then be discussed, ending up with a number of alternative scenarios.
- "(13) Conference: The Development of the Future and the Future of Development, University of Hawaii, May 21-26, 1988. The conference brings together about ten major researchers in the field to discuss the conclusion of work in development theory and related fields carried out by this group for the last ten years, including work on 'health and development,' 'environment and development,' 'peace and development' and cosmology and development."

§And WENDELL BELL of Yale University announces that in October 1987 he was appointed by Governor William O'Neill to the Commission on Connecticut's Future. "It's a good experience for me," Bell notes, "since the issues are very down-to-earth (one of the big accomplishments to date is to rescue part of the agricultural sector in Connecticut by switching to broccoli. It may be hard to get excited about broccoli, but apparently it is indeed reviving the

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agricultural sector in Connecticut)." [We are also eagerly awaiting Prof. Bell's book on futures studies, on which he has been working for several years. However I suppose somebody has to look after the broccoli, as well as the plumbing supplies--not to mention disarmament and peace. Any comments from readers to the excellent letters above? Let us hear from you!]

MEETINGS: PAST AND FUTURE

§REPORT ON "FUTURES STUDIES REVISITED," the WFSF course in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, March 23-April 3, 1987.

The Course was in two parts. The first was strictly connected with the main topic: Futures Studies Revisited. Its aim was to re-assess critically what has been done over the last twenty years since futures studies was conceived in its present shape (presentations by Magda Cordell McHale and Michael Marien), to reflect upon theoretical and methodological controversies (Eleonora Masini and Andrzej Sicinski), and to discuss its own future prospects (Eleonora Masini and Ibrahim Abdel-Rahman). In addition, there were presentations concerning the development of futures studies in different countries (Finland, Sweden, Spain, and Hungary), and in different areas (education and planning).

Nine students, who also participated in making presentations, and eleven resource persons took part in the first week. The most controversial problems discussed dealt with the "scientific" status of futures studies; its various paradigms, and its relevance to human praxis.

Radmila Nakarada and Andrzej Sicinski were Course Directors of the first week while Rolf Homann and Andrzej Sicinski were responsible for the second.

One of the main topics of the second half of the Course was the problem of the arts and futures studies. Robert Jungk began his presentation by noting that there were no writers or visual artists present. How can arts be reintegrated into futures studies; by re-animating the proper creative and artistic possibilities of each futurist, or by trying to secure the cooperation of artists? In either case, it is important to concede more space to art and culture in futures studies, especially if we are really moving toward a culture or communication society. In this context, questions of "post-modernity" were as much discussed as was the relationship between high culture and popular culture.

Another important approach was the question about the connection between general evolutionary theory and futures studies. If this theory is able to link the evolution of natural, cultural, and social systems, this would be an important

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enrichment to futures studies indeed.

A third discussion focus was on the relations between planning and futures studies, a topic that has emerged frequently in former Courses. The second week also carried further the question of scientific methods in futures studies, and the responsibility of the practicing futurist. Case studies were presented from several Eastern European countries.

Fourteen resource persons and eight students attend the second week of the Course. Over both weeks, people from fifteen countries participated. There was general regret that more students did not attend. Considerable efforts have to be made to solve this problem because, as was frequently noted, the future belongs to them. Also the fact that each week saw different resource persons and students was criticised.

Another critique was that the relation between the main topic and certain specific presentations was not always obvious. Furthermore, it was urged that contributions (or at least abstracts of them) be available beforehand. Once again, it was impossible to come to an agreement concerning how much structure and how much freedom (or chaos) the Course can bear.

Submitted by Rolf Homann and Andrzej Sicinski.

§RUDOLF SIEBERT (Western Michigan University) also sends notice of his annual course, this year titled "The Future of Religion: New Movements-Old Institutions", held at the Dubrovnik Inter-University Centre, April 18-30, 1988. Co-directing the course with him is Srdan Vrcan (University of Split). Edmund Arens (University of Frankfurt) and Vesna Terzic (University of Zagreb) are course coordinators.

The Course Description concludes: "In our discourse, we shall differentiate sharply between emancipatory, resistance, and retreat potentials and movements. Our discourse shall be future-oriented remembrance of human suffering, stemming from the massive deprivations of a culturally impoverished and onesidedly rationalized everyday praxis, with the practical intent to diminish it. We shall be particularly interested in the question, to what extent religious communication communities can help the search for personal and social identity in highly differentiated and complex systems of human condition and action systems."

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§[We appreciate Dr. ERZÉBET GIDAI, Vice President of the Future Research Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, for submitting the following lengthy report of the European Regional WFSF Meeting, held in Budapest, Hungary, September 1987. It complements the notice which appeared in the last Newsletter]

Future Technology and Its Social Implications--Lessons of a Conference

To decide makes to form the futures, and for the formation of the future it is the man of our days to be responsible, who doesn't only prepare for, but also works out this future.

The societies of different socio-economic systems, in addition to cherishing the national culture and to keeping the national character of own, must prepare themselves for acceptance and formation for the future, as well as for providing against the dangers. These thoughts can summarize the essence of European regional experts' meeting held in Budapest, in mid-September, 1987.

On the conference "Future Technology and Its Social Implications" organized jointly by the Future Research Committee for the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Future Science World Federation, nearly 80 experts, coming from 18 countries participated, representing not only the European countries and the WFSF, but the main fields of the future research as well.

This meeting also stressed the fact, that the future research is not only a professional demand, but also an essential political interest. It is also necessary for the very reason, because--as István Kameniczky said--today the troubles much quicker appear, than the decisions could solve or respond to them, consequently the problems must be revealed well in time, their reception and prevention must be prepared for. However, one has to reckon with that revealing the future challenges more opposition than analyzing the present days, although the decisions of our days are more risky as compared to decisions concerning the future, since the latter can still be modified, while only the adverse affections of the former can be defended against, or the insufficiently established decisions can cause more loss than benefit. Moreover, if the decisions of our days are not supported by analyses, revealing the past and forecasting the futures, then these decisions will never be reliable.

In the case of such a multilateral conference, the essence of it must be summed up and the lessons must be drawn from it.

In the meeting, three main topics were discussed in plenary sessions:

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1. The future possibilities of technological change in differently developed countries; the alternative ways of development; the elaboration of a consistent system of short- and long-term strategies, developmental conceptions.
2. Factors supporting and impeding the technological development in production, administration and infra-structure, with especial regard to social conditions, impacts and tensions and their solution.
3. The problems of technical breakthrough and generational change of population; the possibilities and conflicts of adaptation of various generations; the structural transformation of labour and adjustment of education and vocational training to the technological change.

The frames of the above topics were given by the opening speeches. The major thoughts of them are worth-mentioning here again.

József Bognár, academician, while analyzing the interactions the technical and social development, pointed to the importance of global issues determining the future of all mankind, to their possible solutions through concentration of international forces. Great emphasis has been laid on the revealing and forecasting of dangers and conflicts following the technical change that the future research doesn't only have to undertake, but is also responsible for doing so. The decisions can only be made, these dangers can only be ceased considering all these. Such dangerous fields are the armament, several harmful consequences of upsetting of ecological balance. With full knowledge of these facts, the polluting, dangerous technologies must be banned from Europe, as well as from other continents.

In the opening session, Eleonora Masini, President of WFSF, besides the importance of foreseeing, also referred to importance of danger-prognose to which an increased attention must be directed by the decision-makers. She accurately demonstrated, that the exact "prediction" is by no means the task of the future research, but it should rather reveal the alternative possibilities, and analyze the risks concomitant of these possibilities and their consequences.

These ideas were supported by László Kapolyi, Minister of Industry, who emphasized the crucial role of the human factors and the expected considerable upgrading of intellectual capital in the Hungarian development. There is a serious lag in this field, and as long as we don't succeed in eliminating the resulting contradictions, a significant scientific-technical advance is unthinkable.

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The upgrading of knowledge was stressed again by Arpád Csurgay, Deputy Secretary-General of HAS. He called the attention to the incalculable danger that may be caused by neglecting the human factor and its environmental system.

Ferenc Trenthon, President of Association of Organization and Management Sciences, actually continued the same sequence of thoughts, when talking about the fact, that spectacular growth has been realized there where everything possible has been done to increase and appreciate the knowledge. In the meantime, it can also be stated, that the human factor is missing in almost every planning model. Although it can by no means be overemphasized, that in addition to income, consumption or the level of prices, the human infrastructure including the level of education and culture also belong to the questions concerning the human factor. The lessons, that can be drawn from the conference, can be strung on the common thought concentrated on the increased importance of human role and aim at the future of mankind, including that alteration of individuals' conditions of life.

It's remarkable, that although most scholars represented identical continents, Europe, where the cultural, historical roots of the countries have been quite interwoven with one another, yet the levels of development, as well as the strategies worked out by the states are very different.

Staffan Laestadius from Sweden, for example, mentioned such a manner of life, in which the work doesn't only ensure the conditions of subsistence, is not only an economically necessitated activity, but also an innovative, creative self-realization, life style. In that socio-economic formation, where this is implemented, the main value is actually the man and the human knowledge. In Sweden, the human capital's upgrading of new type brought about new values, new ways of life, that has been followed by creative spending of leisure time and has produced its conditions.

A similar manner of life can be seen in the Netherlands and this is also going to spread in Finland, where recently a spectacular fundamental technical-technological revival takes place through clever making use of her most valuable national wealth, the intellectual capital (Mika Mannerman, Steenbergen).

However, most socialist countries, including Hungary, sharply contrast with this historical trend. The thrift-less use of human capital, the ruthless exploitation of the almost inexhaustible resources can entail an uncalculable loss; all these can result in drift to the periphery, in definitive lag in the middle of Europe. The prevention of this dangerous situation, the protection and development of human relations concerns the totality of the given system.

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Another conclusion of the meeting also refers to it, according to which the human relations cannot be changed without the transformation of the political institutional system, that itself also hides human relations, interweavings, relations of particular interests (Dator, Markovic).

Several participants stressed, that the socio-economic development cannot be accelerated, as long as it is not connected with political innovation, renewal of political institutional system, democratic transformation of the whole system. If these are put off or neglected, then grave catastrophes would result.

As the third lesson, it is to be noted, that an essential need of every national economy is to keep up with the international tendency of development, even if the connections are different, according to the characteristic individual national frames. It was strongly stressed by the Hungarian speakers, that our lag behind the international trend may be followed by unpredictable consequences; and if the socialist countries fail to adjust to this international trend of development, then the lag would become irreversible (Ferenc Kozma, András Inotai).

Such lectures were also delivered which stated that our lag has been increasing recently and our position has been deteriorating in the international competition. It is well justified by Éva Ehrlich's comparative calculations of high level and Béla Sipos's analysis of Kondratieff long-wave cycles. Actually we conclude that, although the new technology spontaneously forces its way, the introduction of new scientific-technological results requires particular socio-political conditions. Nevertheless, there are less contradictions, less conflicts, if the above conditions are established for the new technology. In our days, the transformation of the social, human conditions, the long-range guaranteeing of the individual's existential security come into prominence. A basic element of it is the secured employment, the diminishing of the danger of the structural unemployment. This problem concerns almost all countries, although the solutions are different. In Hungary, for example, the elaboration of a unified employment policy, the transformation of vocational training, and further education are considered the fundamental way out (Márton Buza, László Thoma). A main aspect of this process is, that certain more advanced systems must be harmonized (Ildikó Spirulisz, Ota Sulc), the conditions of change of way of life concomitant with the technological change, including the transformation of the role of the family (Eleonora Masini, Rudolf Andorka), must be called into being, and finally, the differences coming from the cultural backwardness must be eliminated (Rolf Homann, I. Uskalov). The latter is of special importance, since on one nation is capable of scientific-technical revival without cultural changes.

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Summing up, the future research must reveal the social consequences of technological changes, and such a scale of goals is necessary to work out, which ensures the formation of these changes. I. Bestushev-Lada, President of Soviet Future Research Association, pointed to the fact, that the technical development unavoidably changes some confirmed notions concerning, for example, the manner of life, the work, the family, the education, the further education, the culture, because the intrinsic structure of the society itself is going to undergo a considerable change. These issues have been coming into the limelight in the Soviet Union recently. While investigating the future, it is of great importance to foresee that whether the technological development can be directed, the technology can be humanized, or not. In order to answer these questions, alternative future-conceptions must primarily be worked out to make the reliable formation of the future possible. However, how is it possible to find the adequate aspects of the creation of alternatives? That's the point of the alternative prognoses. According to the till now practice of the future research, two approaches are needed: One of them is the extrapolation of the past and the present, that provides us with the answer to the question of how our future-concept will have been formed, if the tendencies remain unchanged. The other is the elaboration of danger-prognoses calling the attention to conflict-situations. In between, a variety of alternatives can be worked out. In Hungary, for example, the complex further development and various possibilities of transformation of socio-economic management offer themselves as subjects of elaboration of most important alternatives (Erzsébet Gidai). Among the danger-prognoses can be ranged those so-called partial prognoses, which concern crimes (István Diczig), or a combination of national defence and protection of environment (Erzébet Nováky and Attila Kovács).

A fundamental question of the alternative forecasts is the selection of adequate time-horizons. One can agree with Prof. Dobrov who considers a multi-horizon approach useful first in a 10-15 year-lasting, then a 40-50 year-lasting, finally a 100 year or longer cycle. However, our prognoses can only be reliable for the shortest period; in case of the next one only the trend of qualitative changes can be outlined, while the third is dependent on the logic created, supported by the phantasy.

The change of future considerable technological tendencies was summed up by Zsuzsa Szentgyögyi and Prof. H. D. Houstain on a high level. According to them, in the next two decades the technological development will be determined by the science and technology of substances, the electronics and the biological industry. In this development process, the prognoses must include and forecast variables adequate to the changing conditions and the technological advance. The analyses of the Kondratieff long-wave cycles display that those countries

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succeeded recently in moving out from the downward line of the long-wave cycles, where the knowledge has been upgraded, where the material sources of informatics, education, research have been ensurged (Japan, USA, FRG, etc.), and here the innovative forms of behaviour came into prominence (György Marosán Jr.). However, these tendencies must be considered in every country and the experiences must be utilized after having drawn the resulted lessons.

Hearing the hot debates, the conference of good feeling out, perhaps the lesson of greatest importance is, that the representatives of various countries ought to come together, ought to discuss the important developmental questions, ought to exchange the thoughts and ought to help one another more frequently. This would be the essential value to support the present, hereby, to protect the future. We do hope, that this meeting was actually the opening of the discussion.

§The Secretariat of the WFSF was honored to be able to host a lecture by MIHAI BOTEZ from Romania at the University of Hawaii, December 22, 1987. Most of the local members of the Federation were present, including JOHAN GALTUNG who is currently Professor of Peace Studies at the University of Hawaii, GLENN PAIGE, MANFRED HENNINGSEN, CHRIS JONES, MARIA ROULSTONE, and Jim Dator, along with other professors and graduate students.

§A day-long presentation of the GLOBUS model was made to the World Trade Association of Italy, January 28, 1988. The program was as follows:

- Introductions by Dr. Eleonora Masini, President WFSF; Dr. Alfredo Solustri, President of the AICM and Prof. Carlo Maria Santoro, Member of the ISPI Committee of Directors.
- Presentation of the model by Stuart A. Bremer.
 - A. The Globus model as an all-computer simulation of macroeconomic and macropolitical interrelations: long range economic and political problems taken into consideration in the Globus Model.
 - B. Features of the model.
 - C. General description of the model and its parts.
 - D. Application of the model. Brief version of disarmament and development.
 - E. Demonstration and elaboration of the model in detail both as regards to

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§TONY STEVENSON sends notice of a conference on Australia's Communication Futures which will be held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, May 26-29, 1988. Why not go? The site will be across the river from the Brisbane Expo, and Australia is generally an interesting place to be this year while it celebrates its Bicentennial.

Write: Tony Stevenson Principal Lecturer School of Communication Faculty of Business Queensland Institute of Technology GPO Box 2434 Brisbane, Queensland 4001 Australia. Phone: (07) 223 2111.

§The First Conference of the European Chapter of the International Association for Impact Assessment will meet in Leiden and Delft, the Netherlands, June 16-17, 1988. The theme is "Impact Forecasting: Methods, results, experiences."

[Contact: c/o Leiden Congress Bureau, PO Box 16065, 2301 GB Leiden, the Netherlands. Tel (0)71-275299. Telex 39427]

§MICHAEL MARIEN tells us that all are invited to attend a joint meeting of the World Future Society Professional Members Forum and the International Futures Library, to be held in Salzburg, Austria, June 28-30, 1988. Discussion will be focused on new developments in futures research, education for uncertainty, alternative economic solutions, putting futurism into politics, and promoting futures studies in higher education. For further information, write to Ken Hunter at the World Future Society, or to ROBERT JUNGK or HELMUT VON LOEBELL at the Futures Library (Imbergstrasse 2, A5020 Salzburg, Austria).

§The Fourth International Conference on The Future of Higher Education will take place August 15 through 19, 1988 in Turku, Finland. The Advisory Committee is composed of the Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute (Switzerland); the Foundation for Research in Higher Education and Science Policy (Finland); the University of Turku; Finnair; Stockton State College (USA); Dalian Railroad Institute (China); the European Association for Research and Development in Higher Education (Holland); and the World Futures Studies Federation.

Topics this year include Social Responsibility; Freedom of Research vs.

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Cultural and Social Restrictions; 2 and Conflicting Value Systems in Research, Economy, Culture and Society.

Contact: Rolf Homann Head, Unit for Culture and Society Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute CH-8803, Rüschnikon, Switzerland or Erkan Alpan Department of Economics Stockton State College Pomona, New Jersey 08240 USA or Yu Weiren Vice President Department of Mechanical Engineering Dalian Railroad Institute Dalian, Liaoning China.

§For several years, the World Future Society has had a special set of activities for Professional Members. The June 27-30, 1988 Salzburg Forum, mentioned above, is one. But several others of considerable interest have been announced recently:

On December 2, 1988, there will be a meeting in Washington, DC, "at which we will focus on one or two current forecasts and examine the underlying driving forces." "We want to have the people who worked on the research discuss their approach and results and participate in a critique of the forecast with their professional colleagues."

The WFSF will also hold its Sixth General Assembly in Washington, DC, on July 16-20, 1989, and there will be a Professional Forum following on July 21. They are also planning a return to Salzburg in June 1990.

For more details about any of the above, write: World Future Society, 4916 St. Elmo Avenue Bethesda, Maryland 20814 USA Phone: (301) 656-8274 .

FROM OR ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

§Issue 340, December 1987, of SEMINAR, is devoted entirely to remembrances of ROMESH THAPAR. The opening editorial says, "In remembering Romesh Thapar we are remembering an age, a time in India, the events of which were epoch-making, the transition from colonial status to independence. Romesh was a man of that epoch and his life was in many ways a manifestation of the change. But he was also that kind of rare person who sometimes is able to step outside history and time and demand that we reach out to nothing less than utopia."

Upon reading the dozen or so remembrances in this issue of SEMINAR, it becomes clear that one of the places where his utopian vision was most clearly

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stated was in a work he prepared for Unesco in the mid 1960s--"A Design for Living, a Design for Development." A. G. Noorani says that "In it, he proposed a new value system capable of nourishing the disciplines which India would need to fight 'two revolutions in one': the revolution of science and technology and the industrial revolution, both of which developing societies had to tackle simultaneously.

"Calling for an alternative value system justifiable in humanistic terms and capable of providing the answers to the challenges posed by India's massive entry into the era of science and technology, Romesh warned, 'We have failed to create this value system in our era....I am asking for a revolution in social thinking to match the revolution in science and technology....We are thrusting into the future without any clear idea of the quality of life we want to give ourselves,' and in the process wasteful standards of affluence are imitated when developed societies had themselves begun to realise the futility of their aspirations."

Alexander King comments that "Design for Living" "...might almost be a Club of Rome document, except that it is written with a greater force and elegance than we often command."

King also notes that the last time he saw Thapar was in Paris in June 1987 at a Unesco meeting organized by Futuribles on the world problematique in the year 2000. King says "The meeting was sympathetic and the subject congenial to him, with its stress on the need for the holistic approach, but he indulged in a final and bitter invective on the societies of overconsumption and waste." Anthony Michaelis, editor of "Interdisciplinary Science Reviews," says that in a guest editorial which Thapar wrote for Michaelis' journal, Thapar lamented the fact that the goals of a "Design for Living" were still far from being realized.

What is still crucially needed, Thapar said, is a "mix of utopias:"

"What are these utopias? Participatory societies, highly decentralized but capable of equally intense centralization, regionally or continentally. Societies which have been motivated to cut, trim, and redefine standards of living and consumption, to reduce inequalities within nations and between nations. Meaning? A full commitment to egalitarianism and the planning of international development to achieve egalitarianism, an assault on waste in all its forms....And peace, total peace, together with the near elimination of arms and armaments."

"Somehow," Thapar continued, "we have to use the revolution of informatics to carry this message to a point in the human mind, a mind that has been

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profoundly moulded by centuries of unconcerned development, a mind that must now correct itself. It must now see the futility of words, like plenty, affluence, luxury, surplus, five-starism, and to inject new meaning into the concepts of simplicity, dignity, relaxation, meditation, non-complexity. Unless the human mind undergoes this transformation, restructures itself with new parameters and perspectives, our efforts here and there to meet the challenges inherent in the future will fail."

[When we asked Thapar, in early 1987, to offer some guidance in the preparation of the Beijing Conference on the Futures of Development, he sent a copy of "Design for Living" as his reply, noting that it was, unfortunately, as relevant now as it had been twenty years ago.]

§ASHIS NANDY is chair, and RAJNI KOTHARI among the members of The Committee for Cultural Choices and Global Futures, according to a pamphlet on the Committee sent by Nandy. The Committee was "established in 1983 by a group of scholars in quest of a more holistic, politically sensitive, social knowledge. The group is guided by the belief that all knowledge is political intervention and that the responsibility for such intervention must be shared by the co-creators and transmitters of knowledge, that is, the intellectuals.

"The activities of the Committee are informed by three basic concerns: an intellectual concern for the ecology of plural knowledge, a normative concern with cultural survival, and a political concern with the search for humane futures for the 'victims of history.' Underlying these ideas is the belief that every representation of truth constitutes a vital but partial embodiment of truth, that truth as such is always a mystery which may never be fully unravelled, and that every representation of truth is a time-and-space-bound social construction open to critical scrutiny."

"The Committee is oriented to the future; it believes it can contribute to the welfare of the future generations by opening up the world of politics as well as of knowledge. To do so it proposes (1) to use the base built by the post-modern and nonmodern alternatives generated during the last few decades in the East as well as in the West and (2) to articulate the as-yet-inarticulate theories of resistance ventured by those who have been victims of the close links between modern knowledge and the global structures of power."

[For more information contact the Committee at: Exchange Building, First Floor, 13 Alipur Road, Delhi 110054 India. Phone: 2523930]

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§ICDM Newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 3, September 1987 (A Quarterly from the Information Centre for Development Policy Modelling) primarily contains information about various methods of modelling forests, including a good selected and annotated bibliography on the subject.

Of more general interest might be the review of "21st Century Studies," some of which are being done in collaboration with the Global Studies Center of Arlington, Virginia, USA. Projects from China, Japan, Korea, Mauritius, México, Perú, Philippines, Taiwan, and Tanzania are briefly mentioned.

[Contact J. G. KRISHNAYYA, Systems Research Institute, 17A Gultekdi, Poona 411 037 India. Phone (0212) 470323]

§ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE FUTURIBLES held a round-table on November, 1987, on "La Malaise Américain". It was conducted by Jesse Pitts, Professor of Sociology at the University of Virginia and Nicole Bernheim, a journalist and correspondent of MONDE in New York. It also held a round-table on December, 1987, on "L'Avenir du Monde Arabe" directed by Ismaïl Sabri Abdalla, President of the Third World Forum and Director of the Programme on Arab Alternative Futures. On March 1, 1988, Futuribles will hold a round-table on "L'Entreprise: Vers un Management du Désordre" organized by Hubert Landier, Director of the Center for Social Studies and author of *L'Entreprise Polycellulaire*.

Issue N° 114 of Futuribles featured an article "Quatre Scénarios à l'Horizon 2000 de la Structure des Emplois et des Qualifications."

"Ces projections révèlent que les services occuperaient à la fin du siècle plus de 70% des actifs mais que le chômage resterait important..."

"Les perspectives sont plus heureuses dans le bassin Pacifique qui, au dire de nombreux experts, se substituerait à l'axe Atlantique comme principal centre de l'économie mondiale. Futuribles qui nous a plusieurs fois mis en garde contre vision par trop idyllique du Japon et des pays d'Extrême Orient, publie cette fois une analyse des perspectives de croissance en Chine, en Corée, à Taiwan et à Hong Kong.

"Comme à l'accoutumée, ce numéro de la revue fourmille, dans la rubrique Actualités prospectives, d'informations sur les tendances à long terme: voir par exemple les perspectives sur l'emploi en RFA et aux USA à l'horizon 2000,

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celles du SIDA en Grande Bretagne, celles de l'harmonisation des taux de TVA en Europe."

The November Issue published an exceptional dossier about the state of the planet and the major risks threatening the ecosystem. "Dressant un panorama très complet des tensions auxquelles est soumise la biosphère, Jacques Theys dévoile dans ce dossier quels sont les grands défis auxquels l'humanité devra faire face au cours du prochain siècle si elle ne veut pas être privée des ressources indispensables à sa survie, être asphyxiée par la pollution et vivre dans la crainte permanente de catastrophes technologies majeures..."

The January Issue featured an important article by the celebrated American, Peter Drucker-- "...une enquête inédite auprès des Européens sur leurs opinions vis-à-vis de la construction européenne, une mise au point saisissante sur l'évolution des structures familiales et, comme d'habitude, une série de "brèves" sur les tendances et les innovations majeures repérées dans l'actualité des dernières semaines.

"Ceux qui s'intéressent à l'économie mondiale et à la crise financière liront avec intérêt l'article de P. Drucker qui, sans détour, démontre que les théories économiques classiques sont totalement dépassées, en raison notamment de trois mutations majeures tenant au "découplage":

- de l'économie des matières premières et de l'économie industrielle;
- de la production industrielle et de l'emploi;
- de la sphère fiduciaire et de l'économie réelle..."

FROM FUTURES JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS

§Issues 3 and 4, 1987, of FUTURE AND DEVELOPMENT, the Chinese-language publication of the Chinese Society for Futures Studies, has many articles that appear to be interesting from their English-language titles. Among them are "Problems and the Outlet of Hong Kong's Economic Development," by Jin Ping; "Prospects for China's Industries in the 21st Century," by Huang Yiyi; "Some Issues of Development Strategies for Reconstructure of our Army During Peaceful Periods," by Zhang Chenguang, et al; "A Forecast for the Future Population of China," by Li Yingming; and "The New Age of the Electron Computer: the Bioelectron Computer," by Deng Yanxiao. The above are in No. 3, 1987.

Titles in No. 4, 1987, include Li Qingzeng, "Prospects for World Food in the 21st Century;" Zhang Xueli, "China's Culture in the 21st Century," Xu Tiebing, et al, "New Trends of Futures Studies;" and of special note, "Geo-

"Strategic Thinking and its Courageous Application to Planning" by FRANK FEATHER.

§The lead editorial in IFDA Dossier 62, November/December 1987 encourages us to continue the focus on arts and the future. It says, "The origins of South-South cooperation give it a predominantly economic dimension, but it certainly does not start nor stop there. As the South Commission begins its work, it appears relevant to draw attention to an often forgotten dimension of South-South cooperation: that part of the cultural sphere which relates to the arts. Usually seen in the industrialized societies as a spectacle, or worse, as an industry, it is in fact a fundamental means of expression of different peoples in their unity and diversity."

The editorial then goes on to describe events in Asilah, "a small town on the northwestern shore of Morocco," as "both a happening and a symbol" in this regard. "For it is where, in a few weeks in August, you can listen to, or see, not only dozens of Moroccan folk dances and music, but also, for instance, a Venezuelan singer with a Brazilian group, a Turkish orchestra, a group of singers from Pakistan, a Bharata Natyan dancer, jazz from Afro-America, or a rare recital of andalous music which reminds you of the time before the Fall of Grenada (1492) when Muslims, Jews and Christians were all partners in an incredibly rich culture."

No. 62 also has a lengthy article by RICHARD FALK, "Openings for Peace and Justice in a World of Danger and Struggle," written on behalf of the Committee for a Just World Peace. The Committee also published *Towards a Just World Peace: Perspectives from Social Movements*. (London: Butterworths, 1987) 403pp.

Other members of the Committee include ELISE BOULDING, RAJNI KOTHARI, SAUL MENDLOVITZ, MARC NERFIN, RADMILA NAKARADA, and JUAN SOMAVIA as well as others. [Contact, c/o World Order Models Project, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017 USA].

There also is a good notice of the WFSF Beijing Conference, and information about the Federation itself in this issue.

IFDA Dossier 63, January/February 1988 includes a long article by André Gunder Frank and Marta Fuentes, "Nine Theses on Social Movements," that

should be noted in conjunction with the book on that theme cited just above. Their Thesis Number 6 states, "Although most social movements are more defensive than offensive, and tend to be temporary, they are important (today and tomorrow perhaps the most important) agents of social transformation."

§The English-language summary of the Twenty-Ninth Report (1987) to the Government by the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy is titled, "Scope for Growth--Threats to and Opportunities for the Dutch Economy over the next ten years." The report is based on an input-output model developed especially for the project.

The model sought to avoid three limitations said to be characteristic of econometric models:

"1. The general validity of the behavioural relationships selected in a specific instance is too low to arrive at reliable conclusions with respect to the effectiveness of the instruments. 2. There are no ways of allowing for the fact that although a model uses point estimates for the endogenous variables, the econometric analysis on which the numerical specification of the equations is based only permits statements with any degree of reliability concerning the interval within which the values of those endogenous values will lie. 3. No allowance can be made for unquantifiable instruments in such models." (11)

Using data from several sectoral surveys of the future, the model simulated the behavior of the following sectors: input (domestic supplies, labor, and imports); gross output; and output (consumption by households and government, investment, exports, and emission of polluting substances). The model then generated several internally-detailed scenarios based upon different assumptions within and between these sectors.

The report also tried to compensate for the third weakness, noted above, by analyzing several "growth-impeding factors" which were not strictly part of the model itself: the environment, exports, labor-intensive services, labor supply, the public account, infrastructure, and investment.

While it is acknowledged that the Dutch version is much more complete than that made available in English (which is, nonetheless, sixty pages long), and while the input-output model itself does appear to be a sophisticated advance over other such models, one is left with the impression that the project itself is extremely conservative for what would appear to be an volatile global political-

economic environment. For example, it appears that the impact of a substantial global recession, much less depression, which would influence export-related demand, was not considered. Nor does it appear that major advances in robotization and automation were examined (which might influence employment and thus also effective domestic demand).

The Scientific Council's Report number Thirty-one is something else. In fact, it calls our attention once again to the various roles of culture and the arts. Titled, "Culture and Diplomacy" (1987), it recommends a new policy and structure for Dutch culture as an instrument of Dutch international diplomacy after comparing present policy and institutions with those in Great Britain, Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany.

"As a general rule," the report observes at the outset, "policy on cultural relations with other countries has two types of objectives. Firstly, international cultural contact is expected to stimulate cultural expression in the home country (culture being defined, at the minimum, as education, art, and science). Secondly, such contact can have a beneficial influence on international political and economic relations."

Along those lines, the summary of the three-country survey concludes:

"In each of the three countries studied, international cultural policy originally arose with an objective which fell within the sphere of foreign policy: a desire to compensate for the country's waning political influence (Great Britain), a desire to improve the country's image in the West and to combat the danger of isolation (Sweden), and a desire to restore national prestige after it had been damaged in the war (FRG). In all three countries, the emphasis has changed over the years, with greater importance being attached to cultural aspects than previously" (p. 20).

The Report basically concludes that a more focussed policy is needed for the Netherlands, and that a way to achieve this would be "that, wherever possible, those sections of international cultural policy whose prime purpose is to promote cultural activity should no longer be implemented by the ministries but by independent bodies" with interministerial coordination (p. 36f).

As a final note, the report urges that "the international dimension of higher education and research in the Netherlands" be strengthened." While Holland "has traditionally been a country with an international orientation," the report

observed that "Dutch researchers are less inclined to look beyond their national borders and to engage in international cooperation than their counterparts elsewhere in Europe," and that "perhaps they do not receive enough encouragement to do this during their education: the statistics on the international mobility of students...indicate that the Netherlands has not so far been a particularly active partner in this respect." (p. 42f) Given the rapid emergence of a global culture, this is a cause for considerable concern, the report concludes.

[Both reports can be obtained by contacting the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy, 2, Plein 1813, P O Box 20004, 2500 EA, The Hague, Netherlands. Telephone (070) 61 40 31]

§It may be getting pretty incestuous, but may we note that "our favorite newsletter," ZUKUNFTSFORSCHUNG, on page 2 of its November 1987 edition, quoted us (from our October 1987 Newsletter), quoting from their June 1987 Newsletter, and noted that we called them, "our favorite newsletter?" We are pleased to note that we are also the source of some other tidbits in the newsletter.

The Schweiz. Vereinigung für Zukunftsforschung must be one of the fastest growing futures organizations in the world, judging not only from past issues, but from the long list of new members given in the November 1987 issue.

As always, we find reading Zukunftsforschung like eating popcorn: eat one kernel and you end up eating them all. And it is equally difficult to say which kernel tasted the best. However, we did find especially intriguing (out of a uniformly intriguing set of bits of information) the notice of a book by Ueli Mader titled, "Vom Kolonialismus zum Tourismus--von der Freizeit zur Freiheit." Could be, but if tourism arrives can neo-colonialism be far behind?

§Given the frequent complaint that the futures "movement" is stuck in ideas more than 20 years old (and with the people for whom they were once novel), it is interesting to note that much of SOCIAL INVENTIONS, No 10, 1987 is on Ageing, including a lead article, "Is Ageing Necessary?" But there is also a section (much, much shorter) on "Youth."

From Futures Journals and Newsletters

§IN FUTURE, the official magazine of the Australian Commission for the Future, December 1987, covers many topics. It looks as though it is well on its way to becoming a popular futures magazine, competitive in content and scope with others published commercially elsewhere. It features "The Information Society: Challenge and Change," edited by Trevor Barr and published jointly by the Commission and Oxford University Press.

§From New Zealand comes notice of the establishment of The Future Research Group in the Department of Marketing and International Business, University of Auckland. Dr. Brian Murphy is the contact (Phone 737999, extension 7312). Recent Working Papers of the Group are "Strategic Societal Marketing: A Macromarketing Philosophy of Management;" "Stakeholder Impact Analysis--An Aid for Developing Societally Responsible Marketing Strategies;" "Research Note on Public Perception of New Zealand Economic and Social Conditions, 1960-2007;" "The Attitudinal Management Planning Model--A Tool for Actionable Futures Research;" "Research Note on Optimising Advertising Effectiveness;" "Research Note on the Relationship Between Macro Consumer Attitudes and Macro Consumer Demand;" "Research Note on the Use of Macro Consumer Attitudes to Predict Election Voting Behaviour;" "Research Note on Predicting the 1987 New Zealand General Election by Opinion Poll Trend Analysis;" and "Research Note on the Discrimination Efficiency of the Likert Attitudinal Scale." Dr. Murphy wrote all of the papers, with Bruce Hardie co-authoring two.

From Canada, John Kettle's FUTURELETTER (issues August 31, 1987-January 31, 1988) continues to document the rapid rise of post-industrial societies. Considering energy use in Canada, Kettle notes, "the recent decline in energy intensity started in 1970, well before the Arabs destroyed the myth, or imminent expectation, of 'free' energy. High prices and the emerging conservation ethic, though they have had an effect, are not the main explanation of the economy's declining reliance on energy." Rather, he points out, it is due to the movement from a goods manufacturing to an information society.

Kettle also observes that the strong inclination of members of the Big Generation to continue their education after college (as well as the large proportion of them seeking a college education to begin with) has prevented college enrollments from declining as rapidly as demographic projections alone would predict.

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Elsewhere, Kettle states that the "half-life of knowledge"--the time between its acquisition and its obsolescence--is shrinking. Whereas scientific knowledge once had a half life of about fifteen years, now it is about five years. "But it is difficult to see how regenerative study and retraining on the job could ever fully compensate for the really rapid loss of academic knowledge that occurs in disciplines where the half-life of knowledge is just a few years. Almost by definition an active worker in a field who is applying knowledge can't pick up as much new knowledge as a teacher or student."

What can be done? "The alternative is to keep firing the current professionals and hiring afresh from the universities. What that would do to present employees' morale doesn't make it much of an option," Kettle concludes.

As noted before, Kettle is compiling a "Futurist's Dictionary of Quotations." Among the recent entries are (dealing with "history"):

"History doesn't repeat itself, but it rhymes." (James Eayrs) "History does not unfold; it piles up." (Robert M. Adams)

[Which reminds us of the statement that "Time is what keeps everything from happening all at once." Kettle seeks entries in the "Dictionary." Write 135 Maclean Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4E 3A5 Canada].

§Let me drop this editorial "we" bit for a while.

I wish all of you would subscribe to, read, and give me your reactions to FRANK FEATHER's CANADA TOMORROW (22 College Street, Suite 107, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1K2 Canada. Phone: 416/964-1626). As you know from my references to his newsletter in the past, I find him a very provocative consulting economist/futurist.

Consider this:

In the September 30, 1987 issue of CANADA TOMORROW, Feather has a section titled, "Typical Forecasts are Wrong!" in which he critiques then-current economic forecasts of the American economy. Among other things, he says the following: "Wall Street is the most vulnerable and clearly reached its peak in the mid-summer euphoria. [He then highlights the following statement] It will be down to 2000 next month!" And he quotes Bertrand Russell that "people would rather commit suicide than learn arithmetic."

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The next issue of "Canada Tomorrow," dated Midnight, October 21, 1987, and titled the "Special 'Crash' Issue," starts out, "We are not going to gloat excessively. I just hope that you have heeded my warnings and that you are now ready to weather the biggest and most Earth-wrenching 'MINI-DEPRESSION' in history."

Feather predicts that the "debt-deflationary 'mini-depression'" will run from 1988 until 1992, and a "global economic 'super-boom'" will begin in 1993 and run until 2020.

The economy--Canada's, America's, the world's--is not strong: "In the US, 36 states...are, according to their Governors, in recession. Reagan has bankrupted America. Consumer debt is at its highest ever vis-à-vis incomes. The farm economy is a disaster zone. The banking system is fragile. The trade balance will not go down because America is non-competitive. The federal deficit is astronomical beyond belief. A full 34% of blacks, hispanics and minorities live in poverty. Some economy, some dream, some strength."

"As discussed three years ago in 'Canada Tomorrow,' we are experiencing a 'Depression on the Installment Plan'. The first installment was the Great Recession of 1981-83. The second installment is now happening."

In the November 23, 1987 issue of CANADA TOMORROW, Feather argues that there will be no recovery from the present recession until the 1990s, and says (repeatedly) "Sell All Stocks! Sell All of them!!" "Stay liquid. Pay off debts. Buy gold and Japanese Yen [he elsewhere says, "do not buy Japanese stocks"]. That's all."

To be successful, Feather says, we must understand the "New Global Economy," which includes "Power shift to Japan/Hong Kong," "Money shift to Tokyo/Hong Kong," "Market growth in the Third World," "Manufacturing shift to the Third World," and the "Global electronic revolution."

Before all of the above, in the August 31, 1987 issue of "Canada Tomorrow," Feather had a section titled, "Global Economy Dwarfing American Politics" which included the following:

"Nation-state politics always fails to dominate global economics." "Instead, political states progressively become more enmeshed in an interdependent world economy." "For a while, hegemonic states (e.g. Britain, then America) can stabilize the system, keep markets open, recycle capital, and serve as the innovative spark plug of world industrial progress. This self-defeats, however,

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because the trade balance of the hegemonic state eventually erodes. At that point, the hegemonic power becomes a burden on the global system."

"That is what is happening to America today." "Who now will take over the lead? Japan is the obvious candidate, but its chauvinistic and confucian culture prevents it from assuming the role--at least for the present. In the end, Japan will have no choice but to assume global leadership if it is to preserve its own self interest."

"For Canada, the obvious implication is a need to abandon any free trade 'give-away' with the Americans." "If not, we are destined to become a scrawny tail on a scrawny American dog."

§CLEM BEZOLD and JONATHAN PECK give notice that The Institute for Alternative Futures has had a banner consulting year. So much so that they are moving to larger quarters soon, and wish to hire Research Assistants in the following four categories:

- Futures Research and Policy
- Business Forecasting
- Biological Science and Policy and
- Library and Information Sciences.

Their announcement says:

"IAF is a small dynamic non profit organization seeking employees who can be largely self-managed. IAF also owns a for-profit consulting firm, Alternative Futures Associates, and the people in these positions would also work on some AFA projects.

"IAF was founded in 1977 by Alvin Toffler, Clement Bezold and James Dator to work with communities and organizations. It is a leader in developing foresight techniques and in the future of health care and information/communications."

[Write Jean Gilbert, IAF, 1405 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 USA]

§"Green Revolution" (from the School of Living, R. D. 1, Spring Grove, Pennsylvania 17362, USA), Autumn 1987, features HAZEL HENDERSON in

its lead article, on "The Growing Counter Economy." Henderson says that the huge "Underground Economy" (which is "a shady \$380 billion annual operation of tax-dodging, moonlighting, and cash-based translations, much of which is illegal") should not be confused with the "Counter Economy" which "is society's productive system that is not monetarized, paid, or accounted for in cash, but rather subsidizes and buttresses the cash-based GNP-measured half. To confuse the 'Underground Economy' of greed and illegality with the 'Counter Economy' of altruism would be tragic." The Counter Economy is based on "altruism, volunteering, community and family cohesiveness, cooperation, sharing, respect for the environment and the rights of future generations, and conservation of all resources--human and natural. It fosters individual responsibility, mutual aid, local self-reliance, small-scale enterprises, renewable-resource technologies and the decentralization of economic and political power. Not surprisingly, it is most often studied by non-economists using sociological surveys. It focuses on total productive hours worked, whether paid or not, and quantifies, where possible, social impacts of market activities." She equates this to the "Informal Economy" of JAMES ROBERTSON (UK), the "Shadow Economy of Ivan Illich (Mexico), the "Household Economy" of Scott Burns (USA), the "Dual Economy" of Joseph Huber (Germany), and studies of the local cooperative economy done by LARS INGELSTAM and Nordal Ackerman (Sweden).

§BREAKTHROUGH, Spring/Summer 1987 (a publication of Global Education Associates) has nearly two dozen brief but excellent articles on "The State of Education." It emphasizes peace education, but also has articles on spirituality, women, and students themselves.

Given the growing interest within WFSF in children's visions of the future, special attention should be given to an article by Melissa Merklung on "Images of the Future" from children of many countries.

Wrote Bernadette, age 15, in the Philippines, "Stomachs will no longer have to crave for food, eyes will no longer have to cry, for all will be at an equilibrium and the terms 'developed' or 'developing' country will only remain deep within the scars of the past."

§NEW OPTIONS Newsletter for September 30, 1987 announced the winner of the 7th annual Political Book Award. This year it was long-time futurist Robert

Theobald for his book, *The Rapids of Change*. In second place, by a very close margin, *The State of the World* 1986, by the Worldwatch Institute. The rest included Murray Bookchin's *The Modern Crisis*, Annie Cheatham and Mary Clare Powell's *This Way Daybreak Comes*, Donald Carlson and Craig Comstock's *Securing Our Planet*, and Paul Ekins's *The Living Economy*.

NEW OPTIONS noted that "There were some big age and sex differences in the voting. Among women, Cheatham and Powell...was the first place winner by a wide margin. By contrast Bookchin...finished ninth--dead last." "Among people 60 and over, Theobald...did a full 50% better than it did overall. By contrast, Elkin...actually received a negative score among older subscribers."

Under the title, "The Stock Market Crash was a Good Thing," NEW OPTIONS, October 30, 1987, constructed an imaginary panel discussion from interviews with Lester Brown, Severyn Bruyn, Joan Gussow, Paul Hawken, HAZEL HENDERSON, Mark Lutz, D. Wayne Silby, and Robert Theobald.

Among the comments were these:

Gussow: "For me, the stock market crash is very much like the energy crisis of 1974. Both crises represented deep, real problems that no one wants to confront."

Brown: "I think what we're seeing is investors around the world...expressing a lack of confidence in US leadership."

Henderson: "The basic reason for the crash is that the entire global financial system has been diverging more and more from what has been going on in the real world." "It was absolutely inevitable that this counterfeit symbol system, which had been just pyramiding numbers on computer screens, would have to have a come-uppance to get more in line with the real world that it's supposed to track."

Silby: "Many commentators are blaming the October plunge on the trade deficit, program trading, tax law changes, etc. Forgive me for lack of humility here, but the root cause seems quite clear: our failure to reduce military spending."

Henderson: "I've been saying for the last few months that a New World Game has already begun. And that the Old World Game since World War II--Mutually Assured Destruction of the superpowers--has now collapsed...mostly because it turned into Mutually Assured Destruction of each other's economies." "I call the New World Game 'Mutually Assured Development.'"

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NEW OPTIONS, December 28, 1987, has a superb review of Willis Harman's new book, *Global Mind Change*, and a nice notice of *What I have Learned*, edited by MICHAEL MARIEN and Lane Jennings.

The Institute for Alternative Futures was among five organizations featured in an article titled "Visioning our way out of here" in the November 30, 1987 issue of NEW OPTIONS. The article dealt with groups helping people create (and act on) new and better visions of America's future than those found (or rather, not found) in the present political (non-) debate.

§What kind of people work for major American futures consulting organizations, and what do they do? TFG REPORTS, November 1987, a newsletter of The Futures Group (76 Eastern Boulevard, Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033) announces two new appointments:

"Jan Herring has joined our staff as Vice President, Business Planning and Strategy. The new program being developed by Mr. Herring will focus on assisting US corporations in the development of modern business intelligence systems and their use by senior management. This program will be supplemented by a consulting service that provides support to corporate R&D managers in the planning and justification of their resources, particularly as they would be impacted by competition. Prior to joining TFG, Mr. Herring was Director of Analytical Research at Motorola. Before that, he was the CIA's National Intelligence Officer for Science and Technology.

"Charles Perrottet joins the staff as Vice President of the Market Analysis and Forecasting Division with responsibility for market analysis and forecasting, focusing in the areas of corporate strategic planning and development, market analysis, and new venture opportunities. Mr. Perrottet has spent the past two years as an independent consultant working with a variety of corporate clients on strategic positioning, planning and restructuring projects. Before that, he was Vice President of Corporate Development for Hasbro, Inc., the world's largest toy/game company."

Successfully distinguishing between a fad and a trend may be the difference between prosperity and bankruptcy for a manufacturer. It may also mark one of the differences between helpful and harmful future-oriented political policies.

Ted Gordon, President of The Futures Group, recently addressed the American Marketing Association on the topic of "Fads or Trends." According to the

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December 1987 issue of TFG REPORTS, Gordon said that a fad begins as:

"Authoritarian challenge; rejection of status quo (eg., green hair)
New means of self-expression (eg., language, fashion)
Value challenge (eg., bugging leads to rise in privacy value)
Fun and experiment (eg., drugs)"

Factors helping a fad spread are:

"Meets some newly perceived need (eg., CB radio)
Early adaptors are rapidly and widely seen (eg., Annie Hall fashions)
Media attention (eg., Trivial Pursuit)
Brownian contact (eg., language)
Fun and new experience promised (eg., hula hoop)
The need to belong (eg., we're really 'with it' too)
Cross-segment jumps (eg., 4-wheel drive & mini vans)"

They then fade and die because:

"The perceived need is not sufficient for the price
Early adaptors are onto something else
The users are marked as old-fashioned
Media cool Boredom sets in."

"Mr. Gordon developed a sales model that was tested against CB radios (a fad) and VCRs, microwave ovens, and color television (all lasting products). The model should be useful in performing 'what if' analyses during early product introduction."

The January 1988 TFG REPORTS lists its speculations on "important events that might occur during the next year." Among them are:

"Great political tensions arising as a result of the need to raise taxes and the fear of the political fallout of doing so before the 1988 elections." "Focusing by the US and the Soviet Union on reducing conventional arms in Europe." "First commercial application of superconductors." "A boom in toys that will permit kids to interact with TV-presented stories." "Artificial intelligence increasingly recognized as having significant applications in industry, but because companies consider them proprietary, the total impact of AI is unmeasurable." "AIDS will increasingly be recognized as a health problem requiring major mobilization to stop its spread, and as one of a family of immune system diseases." "With stock prices low and the continuing favorable political environment, many more mergers and acquisitions will occur before November."

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The February 1988 issue notes that "the new generation of fast, powerful desktop PCs; the expanding computer experience of corporate managers and researchers; and the recent availability of simple to use, effective simulation models" means that computer modeling will be used much more extensively and effectively.

"Recent applications [developed by The Futures Group] include: a demographic and income projection model that enables the user to examine cross-tabulations of the forecasts and to link population characteristics with customer profile data; an inventory control model that optimizes the purchasing schedule for products based on user inputs for production, shipping and inventory costs; and a margin protection model that uses a Monte Carlo simulation to evaluate the likely sales of 200-300 products and produce an aggregate estimate of the total profit margin."

§As we have noted before, it is clear that Jeff Fobes intends to make THE USACoR NEWSLETTER into an important journal for the coming (present?) social transformation. Not only does the October 1987 issue document the activities of the US Association for the Club of Rome as well as the International Club of Rome, but it is also full of good articles and précis of interest as well.

Especially noteworthy are excellent reviews of Riane Eisler's *Chalice and the Blade*, Ervin Laszlo's *Evolution the Grand Synthesis*, and several of the recent books of Jeremy Rifkin which contend, as the reviewer says, "slow is beautiful."

§The October 1987 issue of FUTURE TRENDS, the newsletter of the Minnesota Futurists Chapter of the World Future Society, has a piece by the Chapter President, Brian Toren on "The Future of Democracy." He concludes:

"There will be setbacks and changes in direction, but the overriding pressure will be towards that of a democratic world. This will happen in spite of the governments in power because in a democracy it is the will of the people that prevails. The peoples of the world are slowly discovering that this is, in fact, true in the long run. Civilization will not survive without freedom and cooperation worldwide. It may be a case of survival--freedom, or perish as a species."

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"So the trend seems to be one towards democracy and freedom. This has been true since the beginning of recorded history and will continue in the foreseeable future, and beyond."

§The Minnesota Futurists also publish a quarterly journal of futures research, FUTURICS. RUTHANNE KURTH-SCHAI has an article on "The Future According to Children" in Vol. 11, No. 4, 1987. One of the more intriguing sections deals with children's views on the future of childhood itself. Kurth-Schai says, "Those panelists who perceived the future of childhood positively expressed images of children growing up in a world of greater opportunity." "In contrast, those panelists who perceived the future of childhood negatively expressed images of children growing up in a world of greater peril. They predicted that their successors are more likely to experience the aftermath of environmental collapse, economic collapse, and nuclear war." "Others projected that due to the increasingly rapid accumulation of knowledge these children will exist in a world of intense pressure and confusion."

§Probably the only journal correctly deserving the title, "Future" is the publication of UNICEF with that name, and subtitled, "Development Perspectives on Children." Issue No. 20, 1987, has, among other articles, one on "Making Childhood Learning Happier," by Chitra Naik, of Pune, India. Another, "Taking Education to the Rural Working Child," is also about the situation in Pune.

§Notice has been received from the Institut für Ökologische Zukunftsperspektiven (Wennigser Str. 1, 3013 Barsinghausen. Tel. 05105/8 37 61):

"Die Mitglieder des Freundeskreises unterstützen das Konzept und die Arbeitsweise des ZUKUNFTS-INSTITUTS. Sie tragen durch Spended zur Sicherung der festen Grundkosten des Instituts bei.

"Der Freundeskreis ist kein Verein. Er ist eine lose Assoziation von Personen. Der Beitritt zum Freundeskreis bedarf nur der Rücksendung des ausgefüllten unteren Abschnitts an das ZUKUNFTS-INSTITUT. Er besitzt keine Rechtsfolgen und kann jederzeit zurückgenommen werden."

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"Das ZUKUNFTS-INSTITUT informiert die Mitglieder des Freundeskreises unentgeltlich durch Schriften und Vortragsveranstaltungen über seine Arbeit. Es führt gegenüber dem Freundeskreis eine gläserne Kasse.

Das ZUKUNFTS-INSTITUT freut sich über Spenden in jeder Höhe. Im Hinblick auf den Freundeskreis hofft es, dass seine Mitglieder monatlich 30,- bis 50,- DM erübrigen können."

Detailed information was sent about current projects which include the following:

"Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung" "Revitalisierung von Waldbäumen"
"Ökologischer Landbau"

Information about projects from the "sister" institute, Synok--Institut für Synergetik und Ökologie, included:

"Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung bei Vorhaben der Entwicklungshilfe"
"Praxistest Bärlocher/Lingen: Inhaltliche und Methodische Anforderungen an eine Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung auf der Grundlage der EG-Richtlinie"
"Erarbeitung und Umplis-Gerechte Aufbereitung. Einer Literaturdokumentation zum Thema Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung"

§The WFSF Newsletter has a free reciprocal exchange policy with many of the journals it comments on and/or extracts from. Rene V. L. Wadlow, editor of one such journal, TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES, sent a note of thanks along with Vol. 13, No., 1987 of TP. The issue itself is unusually interesting, being devoted to "Bridging the European Divide"--essays on the possibility of ending the Cold War in Europe.

§FUTURES, the "Journal of Forecasting and Planning" published by Butterworths in the UK, almost always contains articles or reviews by WFSF members. In August 1987, for example, SAM COLE ("Global Models"), ELEONORA BARBIERI MASINI ("Women as Builders of the Future") and MAGOROH MARUYAMA ("New Economic Thinking") all have articles. IAN MILES and (as noted previously) RIK SCARCE have book reviews.

In the October 1987 issue, SATISH SETH ("A spatial view of the future from

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an Indian Perspective") and ELEONORA BARBIERI MASINI ("Tribute to Bertrand de Jouvenel") are contributors.

§John Richardson, Jr.'s "Global Modeling: A Retrospective," and WENDELL BELL's "Is the Futures Field an Art Form or can it become a Science?" are among main features in the Spring 1987 issue of FUTURES RESEARCH QUARTERLY, the excellent journal for professional futurists published by the World Future Society and co-edited by Timothy Mack and Kenneth Hunter.

One is both startled and discouraged by a statement in the same issue by H. G. Wells which was broadcast over the BBC on November 19, 1932 and titled, "Wanted--Professors of Foresight!" More than fifty-five years ago Wells said:

"It seems an odd thing to me that though we have thousands and thousands of professors and hundreds of thousands of students of history working upon the records of the past, there is not a single person anywhere who makes a whole-time job of estimating the future consequences of new inventions and new devices. There is not a single Professor of Foresight in the world. But why shouldn't there be? All these new things, these new inventions and new powers, come crowding along; every one is fraught with consequences, and yet it is only after something has hit us hard that we set about dealing with it."

Wells shows how the "motor-car" has abolished distance without anyone having anticipated the consequences of that, and how modern communications technology "rushes upon us today--it rushes upon us like Jehu the son of Nimshi. It driveth furiously. And it evokes the same question: Is it peace?"

"Because if it is not to be peace foreseen and planned and established, then it will be disaster and death. Will there be no Foresight until those bombs begin to rain upon us?"

[None. Not a bit before, and precious little thereafter]

ARTICLES & BOOK REVIEWS

§FUTURE SURVEY, edited by MICHAEL MARIEN reviews....

1) Future Survey Synopsis

Michael Marien's Future Survey reviews a wide variety of books, reports, and

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articles by futurists and crypto-futurists. Fundamentally, it is about alternatives: different ways of thinking about problems, and different courses of action. Consider the "idea clusters" from recent issues:

September 1987 issue (Vol. 9, Nº 9):

- A Learning Society: 7 ways to reform schools and colleges, making them more relevant for our 21st century global society.
- Broadening Concepts: various calls for widening our notions of higher education; the firm, economics, and measures of accounting.
- Inventing the Future: 12 books and articles on strategic planning, anticipating change, understanding complexity, visions, and leadership. All of these pieces fit together.

October 1987 issue (Vol. 9, Nº 10):

- Progressives and Conservatives beyond 1988: various forecasts about which ideas will be favored in the White House (and thus strongly shaping the future); also a couple of utopian notions going nowhere at present.
- Welfare and Social Security: reform ahead--here are 7 options.
- Economic Crash: 8 books and articles providing anticipatory background, published two weeks before the big October 19 shock on Wall Street.
- Improving Democracy: 9 basic models, with 5 enhancing add-ons such as teledemocracy, and new forms of citizen participation and cost-benefit analysis.

November 1987 issue (Vol. 9, Nº 11):

- The AIDS Epidemic: various estimates of AIDS virus infections, actual AIDS cases, and costs of AIDS, in the US and the world through 1991. (Don't let this possible bleak future out of sight; it could be the biggest problem of the 1990s.)
- Global Environmental Problems: despite the threat of AIDS, environmental deterioration (species extinction, deforestation, climate change, toxic chemicals, soil erosion) is a still greater problem that must be faced.
- Sustainable Agriculture: 7 books and articles supporting this eminently reasonable prospect.

December 1987 issue (Vol. 9, Nº 12):

- More and More Communications: 9 ways in which communication options
-

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are proliferating (cellular phones, desktop publishing, VCRs, parallel processing, deregulation, cable TV, satellite monitoring, MIT's Media Lab, smart cards). Holy infoglut!

- Oil Crisis Ahead: 8 strategies for action now, including oil import fees, conservation, international price stabilization agreements, removing energy subsidies, and more end-use analysis. Remember, you were warned.
- Seeking Peace: 9 ways to promote "peace" as a serious goal, including a simple change in US nuclear posture, dismantling technostrategic language, and developing compelling images of peace and mutual security.

January 1988 issue (Vol. 10, Nº 1):

- World Transitions: recent literature on ten important transitions, including a doubling in population in 40 years (at current growth rates), a new international division of labor, the growing intensity of human activity that will require planet management, and the shift from military to economic competition between the superpowers.
- The "Thawing Cold War Scenario": hardly conceivable only a few years ago, this key scenario is now at least possible if not likely. FS reviews two recent books by Gorbachev and reactions by several expert US observers. Recent shifts in China's foreign policy, as reported by Samuel Kim, also point to a growing prospect for world peace.
- Education Reform in US. Paralleling perestroika in the Soviet Union, a major restructuring is called for in US education because a globalizing society requires global perspectives. Several books and articles are abstracted, where education is now seen as an economic fundamental.

February 1988 issue (Vol. 10, Nº 2):

- Which Direction for America? The US could be headed in five directions at once: forward to a service society, turning around from a conservative era, a political/economic decline, upward to an aquarian age, and certainly outward toward a global society.
 - Recession Ahead? 8 views are recorded, warning of a likely deterioration in the US economic position and a devastating world recession; also 12 suggestions on how to head off hard times: a substantial reduction of US military expenditures (including "burden-sharing" with allies), a consumption tax, an international central bank, economic cooperation, and redistribution of demand in the global economy.
 - Varieties of Planning: latest thinking on radical planning, fuzzy gambling (Yehezkel Dror), pseudo-planning (Sohail Inayatullah), strategic planning,
-

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crafting strategy, and needs assessment as citizen participation in planning; also the role of transforming and catalytic leadership.

Individual back issues of *Future Survey* are available for \$5.50 each from World Future Society, 4916 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda MD 20814.

Subscriptions (\$59 per year for individuals; \$89 for institutions) include 12 monthly issues and *Future Survey Annual*. Special bulk rates are available.

Future Survey is now experimenting with a new service, enabling easy access to many important books and reports. Beginning in December 1987, some 8 to 12 items covered in each issue will be designated as "FS Special Selections," and made available through the World Future Society Book Service (where possible, at 10% WFS Member discount).

A special note to authors of futures-relevant books and reports: as always, please send review copies to Michael Marien, Webster Road, LaFayette NY 13084 USA. Be sure to include month and year of publication, price information, and where the publications can be obtained. Please do not send draft versions or non-English language materials that lack an English summary. I'll try to do justice to any publication that deserves it.

§Reviewed by SOHAIL INAYATULLAH

Ikram Izam. *Pakistan Futuristics* (Islamabad: Pakistan Futuristics Foundation and Institute, 1987)

Ikram Azam's *Pakistan Futuristics* is the first publication by the newly formed Pakistan Futuristics Foundation and Institute. This new institute intends through publications, conferences (the first national seminar on Pakistan 2000 was in April 1987), and research to begin the futures discourse in Pakistani public and private sectors. According to Izam, this discourse is especially necessary in Pakistan in that it is a place where "instead of serious planning for the next century...we bury ourselves in the sands of time gone by." Or more poetically, "Pidram Sultan bood--our forebearers were sultans."

This initial futures effort is a collection of personal essays written in a journalistic fashion which intend to serve as points of departure for more detailed efforts to examine the range of alternative futures for Pakistan.

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Izam develops a list of issues which must be understood before the future can be forecasted. Among these are:

1. Pakistan's regional geo-political situation (its relationships with India, the Soviet Union, Afghanistan, Iran, and China);
2. The perpetual problem of national integration (ethnicity, languages, the role of Islam, and in general the nation-building process);
3. The role of Islam in legitimating the State apparatus;
4. The problems of life in a military-bureaucracy; and
5. The crises of democratic leadership.

Of particular interest in this book is a selection of quotes by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan, on his vision of Pakistans' future, especially as an intended or designed planned State.

This book provides a useful departure point for futures efforts in placing Pakistan in a world systems context; in attempting to understand the future of Pakistan along the lines of Ziauddin Sardar's attempt to reconstruct Islam in light of the post-industrial 21st century (*The Future of Muslim Civilization*); in developing alternative images of Pakistan's future (for example, self-reliance, Islamic right-wing, Soviet client); and in research on elite and poverty/urban and rural images of the future.

This book is a welcome addition to the futures dialog as the more efforts by researchers from all over the world in envisioning the future of their nation, their region, their village, the richer personally and collectively we will all be.

§Reviewed by WENDY SCHULTZ

Bezold, Clement, and Olson, Robert L. *The Information Millenium: Alternative Futures*. Information Industry Association: Washington, DC (1986).

Commissioned by the Information Industry Association and supported by a grant from Dun and Bradstreet, *The Information Millenium* is a textbook exercise in generating alternative futures for an industry that are meaningful down through

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corporate, product, and individual levels of action. In this case, "textbook exercise" is an encomium. This report introduces futures studies; delivers ample data on state-of-the-art advances in this particular field; and demonstrates the strategic economic uses of generating alternative scenarios with that data.

After skimming through the preface, acknowledgements, and executive summary, readers can settle down to six dense chapters. The introduction describes the information industry currently, briefly touching upon those developments that could potentially give us "universal information access," and then lightly sketches the social context, offering a concise perspective on futures studies and its usefulness. Chapter Two whirls us through state-of-the-art technical capabilities in eight areas of informatics/telematics, and offers both likely future breakthroughs, and potential "wild card" breakthroughs. Specific business interests are addressed in Chapter Three, which considers the applications and market potentials of the technologies described in Two.

Chapters Four and Five pull back for a wide-angle look at social and political developments. Comparing the theories and insights of six major futurists, chapter four considers informatics in the light of its role as societal transformer. Where technology and society interact, government often interposes policies—or should, where it does not. These are discussed in chapter five. Of critical importance to the information industry will be issues of privacy, the role of government, intellectual property rights, and information literacy.

Chapter Six codifies the data and insights from the preceding chapters into four future scenarios: the High-Tech Information Society; the Creative Society; Things Bog Down; and 1984 and Beyond. The first is highly optimistic and technologically driven; the second, while optimistic, posits a value shift encouraging the application of informatics to enhance creativity and flexibility in human activities. The latter two scenarios are pessimistic. "Things Bog Down" paints a tired picture of repeated recessions, heightened trade protectionism, worsening privacy and copyright problems, and increased disjuncture between rich and poor. In "1984 and Beyond," a triple whammy of economic depression, AIDS epidemic, and global terrorism conspire to heighten government encroachment on privacy to absolutism. The report, however, ends on a cheerful note, with Appendix I offering an exercise in the use of the "ME Tree," which aids people in personalizing the scenarios offered into strategic corporate plans as well as individual action.

For anyone interested in informatics/telematics developments (and is there anyone who reads the WFSF Newsletter who isn't?), this report is a fun read, synthesized as it is from interviews with some of the top corporate execs and

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research people in the industry. It is also an excellent introduction to the why of the alternative futures approach to futures studies, as well as a well-crafted example of the how of building alternative scenarios related to a specific sector of the economy and society. Chapter Four would be an excellent offering to any introductory class in social change, synthesizing as it does six insightful authors on that topic. Finally, the thought exercise included as Appendix I gives explicit instructions for personalizing scenarios. Not many forecasting reports include guidelines for this activity; familiarity must result in most forecasters internalizing the process, and so neglecting it in communicating with clients.

The Information Millenium has only two immediate flaws. The first is simply a matter of articulated scope. Both the title and initial references to "universal information access" could lead readers to believe that the study means to discuss the next thousand years in terms of the entire planet, that is, the global information industry. If that was the intent, the report sadly lacks an international perspective. The government referred to is almost without exception the US government, and where international political and economic interactions are treated, they are relegated to supporting roles. The differing effective temporal milieus in which technology is diffused worldwide are not addressed, nor is the rate of that diffusion.

Secondly, in terms of forces driving change, the report is self-referential; the "wild cards" mentioned, the breakthrough developments which will spark radical transformations, are mostly information industry innovations. Surely industry decision-makers would find it useful to be forewarned of some "wild cards" external to their business that might change it. Advances in ceramics chemistry and physics have already outdated the assessment of the economics of Josephson junctions, based on superconductors. But these are minor reservations, which a brief statement of qualifications in the introduction would dispel; on the whole, *The Information Millenium* is a valuable addition to futures literature in both method and substance.

§ Reviewed by WENDY SCHULTZ

The Future of Higher Education. Rolf Homann, Hans Peter Kuhn, John Sinton, eds. (Frankfurt: Campus Forschung/Research, 1987).

During the summer of 1985, Stockton State College in New Jersey hosted as international conference entitled, "Visions of Higher Education: Transnational

Dialogues." *The Future of Higher Education* presents the research papers prepared for that conference. Five basic themes emerge in these papers: 1) the need for academia to break down disciplinary walls in order to meet the complex global challenges of the future; 2) the need for cross-cultural education and trans-national dialogue so people may effectively combine efforts to meet those challenges; 3) the need for critical thinking to unleash creative approaches to problems, and reveal constraints embedded in social and economic systems; 4) the means to restructure and reorganize academic institutions and the process of professionalization to answer these needs; and 5) changes computer technologies will force on given curricula (in this conference, the latter was only a minor theme).

As a prefatory essay, "Chamamiento," offered by Gene Williams, is a stirring 'variations on a theme by Freire.' Freire adjures people to rediscover the ability to 'call' or 'name' their own futures. Williams reminds us that powerful social forces around us are creating images and myths which we internalize, thus limiting our choices for action. The only defense is problem-posing, through critical thinking and dialogue. These thoughts very much set the tone for the volume.

Section II, "Future Oriented Visions of Higher Education," contains four essays which all touch on the necessity of human action in the face of complex global problems such as famine, overpopulation, deteriorating arable land, and environmental degradation. Although each essay calls for heightened flexibility in academic institutions, emphasizing cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural restructuring, Hruska makes a particular case for this. Kuhn specifically suggests new science areas, tantamount to engineering task forces, to address critical global problems; Balk suggests empowering professionals to reshape policy in their roles as quasi-political elites. Perhaps the most refreshing essay, however, is Saftien's; in discussing the need to formulate a new cultural ideal ("high humanity," perhaps, in answer to "high tech"), he offers Renaissance and Baroque court dances as an exemplar of a curriculum towards a new *telos*.

Section III, "Trans-National Dialogue," presents three essays. In a piece which reviews much of the related literature, Imbert insists that higher education should serve to teach people about cross-cultural differences while aiding them in identifying trans-national values. Jahn then argues that the best way to accomplish this is by embedding students in different cultures, both within a given nation (reflecting 'internal diversity'), and internationally (reflecting 'external diversity'). He then outlines a global education curriculum which would support such multicultural experiences. Lindenau rounds out this section by pointing out that active use of telecommunications media in well-appointed,

well-supported university 'telecommunications centers' would provide the university community with continuous multinational dialogues.

Hans Peter Kuhn begins Section IV, "Critical Thinking and the Curriculum," with an essay that distinguishes differences among positivism, critical theory, and critical rationalism. He further points out, to the reader's enlightenment, that where Europeans associate 'critical thinking' narrowly with critical theory, that in the United States -- and in the three essays following his -- it refers more widely to reflections about methodology in general. Brenes Castro's essay describes Costa Rican efforts to teach students critical thinking as part of a more general drive to enhance cognitive skills. Although no statistically significant changes occurred in their cognitive development, students found the curriculum useful and stimulating. The next essay, by Lyons, looks at a similar course of study at Stockton State College, and weighs the realism of expecting colleges to teach critical thinking when so many of them are courting high technology consortia. Finally, Kolluru outlines Venezuela's experiences using creativity research in a curriculum designed to develop creative thinking.

Sections V and VI present case studies: the former focussing on computer use, the latter on issues of economic and cultural imperialism in higher education. The two essays in Section V are connected by nothing so much as the disparity in their cases. The first speculates on the future of computer use in college management programs in the U.S., while the second reports on the feasibility of using computers within the Chinese educational system. After this brief glance at education's technical infrastructure, Section VI moves on to discuss questions of superstructure. Schaffer tracks the emergence of, and changes in, 'academic capitalism.' From religious training institutions, U.S. universities became bastions of secular humanism and scientific positivism, but he fears that they now do little more than credential students for varying levels of employment, and he is not hopeful for the future. In a counterpoint describing attempts to have students consider the U.S. and international relations within a 'core-periphery' context, Jordan and King offer their experimental course at Dennison University as one means to widen student perspectives. Libotton counters with an account of an experimental module used in Belgium to enhance teacher effectiveness and creativity as a response to critical issues. Rounding out this last section is the essay by Hurwitz, Menacker, and Weldon exploring 'superimposition' in systems of higher education: the system of one country being exported to, or forced upon, another. Focussing on the effect the U.S. had on Germany after World War II, and on the Virgin Islands after their purchase in 1917, they point out that such combinations could conceivably combine the best of both systems, but have not to date, and will not unless conscious efforts are made towards that end.

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Rolf Homann's summary reiterates the themes which run strongly through this book, the common concerns with supporting cross-cultural dialogues, encouraging creative thinking about the future, and breaking an entrenched academia out of its hierarchical, inflexible institutional patterns. The key, he suggests, is to have intellectuals turn their critical thinking towards academics and themselves as professionals. While this book contains much that is valuable, it is rather disjointed, a common fault of conference proceedings. It is most interesting, from a futures point of view, in reinforcing the old adage that the need for action on critical issues filters through society and reaches the educational system last: the global problems underlying these people's concerns are not emerging issues -- but neither are they solved, and the points made here are well taken. As an extension of Homann's concluding essay, I would encourage all educators to read Richard Mitchell's *A Gift of Fire*, a small volume of philosophical essays recently published which argue for individual cultivation of thoughtfulness and self-governance. It is witty, written in a deceptively simple conversational style, and could serve equally as text for teacher or student; it also champions the necessity for flexibility -- apparently a watchword for the coming century.

§Reviewed by Gregg Aanestad [Gregg Aanestad was recently awarded a Master of Science degree in "Studies of the Future" from the University of Houston at Clear Lake. He is presently working on a futures-oriented PhD at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.]:

The Great Depression of 1990. Ravi Batra. (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1987).

On December 5, 1978, Dr. Ravi Batra, a professor of economics at Southern Methodist University, made the following statements to an audience of three hundred students and instructors at the University of Oklahoma at Norman:

1. The Shah of Iran will be overthrown in a revolution in 1979 and the clergy will take over the reins of government.
2. In 1980-81 Iran and Iraq will start a bloody war, which will continue for at least seven years.
3. Europe will experience a serious recession in 1986-87.
4. In 1989-90 America will suffer a depression, which will turn into an all-time economic disaster plaguing the whole world.
5. Capitalism will be overhauled in the 1990s and so will communism at the turn of the century, culminating in a global golden age.

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It is the fourth of these stunning prognostications that constitutes the focus of this newly revised text, *The Great Depression of 1990*. Batra's grim forecast is grounded upon a cyclical interpretation of certain U.S. economic phenomena. Among these phenomena are shifts pertaining to the money supply, inflation rates, and governmental regulation. The author charts the historical movement of each and claims that they have reached a series of coinciding peaks at nearly precise 30-year intervals. It is upon the downhill side of these peaks that economic contractions take shape. Moreover, the principal economic contraction of each 30-year interval is seen to alternate in its severity. As such, the recession of one 30-year interval is followed by a more grave depression in the 30-year interval which succeeds it.

Batra's consideration of both this recession/depression alternation and economic contractions in general are among the particularly compelling aspects of his text. The underlying dynamic in each instance is claimed to be the income and wealth disparity separating America's rich and poor. The greater the disparity, the greater the economic contraction which lies ahead. Batra argues, for example, that when wealth is concentrated in the hands of just a few, banking institutions extend loans to customers of shakier means than might otherwise be the case. Equally critical is a tendency for the society's very wealthy to invest in irrational 'manias' or 'bubbles' which typically serve no productive purpose yet temporarily yield large and quick profits. When these 'bubbles' combine with the aforementioned shaky loans, any sort of a run upon the banking institutions can serve to precipitate either a depression or a recession depending upon the extent to which a wealth disparity is prevalent. Recessions and depressions are seen to alternate with one another inasmuch as it takes at least one generation for wealth to accumulate to truly dangerous levels through such mechanics as inheritance privileges.

Having provided his readers with this historical and theoretical background, Batra adds in a variety of contemporary data to support his claim that our next serious depression will follow the crash of 1929 by almost 60 years exactly. As might be imagined, America's speculative excesses, third world loans, and growing billionaire class are all considered. The author concludes his work with a thoughtful and detailed investment strategy by which his readers might protect themselves in the years ahead.

The Great Depression of 1990 is quite clearly a provocative and erudite treatise. It is also so that much of Batra's work will hold a wide appeal for those who are unfamiliar with the lexicon of economics. Supply-Siders, Keynesians, and Monetarists, for example, are all distinguished and contrasted. Nonetheless, Batra's unequivocally cyclical theories will likely rankle any readers who perceive

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both unique events and unique individuals to be the true forces which determine economic and social phenomena. Likewise, Batra's work may hold only scant appeal for those who consider economics within the context of shifting international power centers. Succinctly, Batra contends that when depression afflicts America, so too will it afflict the rest of the world by virtue of interdependence.

§Fred Riggs, of the Department of Political Science of the University of Hawaii, recently showed us an English-French-Russian Dictionary of 3000 terms dealing with futures studies compiled by Yvan Venev. It is dedicated "aux Professeurs Bertrand de Jouvenel et Francois Hetman, pionniers de la terminologie française de la prevision."

[Yvan Venev, Dictionnaire ANGLAIS-FRANÇAIS-RUSSE, A-Z, FUTUROLOGIE ET SCIENCES SOCIALES (Institut International de Philosophie et Terminologie "Peter Deunov", 57, Rue de la Federation, 75015 Paris, France, 1987)]

§OTA SULC of the Department of Prognostics in the Institute for Philosophy & Sociology of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences submitted for our consideration two of his recent papers. "A System of Continuous Forecasting Activities for Strengthening the Government Science and Technology Policy Formulation" was written as a suggestion for a research project to be carried out by members of the Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Cientifico e Tecnologico in Brazilia. The second, "Continuous Forecasting Activity as a Part of Governmental Science and Technology Policy Making" contained summaries of a teaching module for a UNESCO/UNDP project.

In both instances, the papers reflect the experiences and aspirations of Sulc in helping decision-makers carry out, and then use, relevant forecasts, especially to make science and technology policy.

As he writes, "In setting up the S and T forecasting system, Brazilia has an opportunity not to repeat errors and various misunderstandings between forecasters and decision makers--as was the case in the historical process of futures research development in the USA and European countries. The major root of the forecasting setbacks was the practice of choosing forecasting methods according to traditional objects of technological, social and economic planning."

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Sulc points out that "the structure of complex problems of development...need not coincide with traditional objects contained in development plans. This new approach to forecasting is called 'a problem approach to the identification of forecasting tasks' and is considered as the hypothesis of the suggested project."

The chapter headings of the proposed teaching module indicate the process Sulc recommends:

1. The role of forecasting in S & T policy making
2. Perspectives of science and its function in the development of society.
3. The concept of continuous forecasting activity as a part of governmental S & T policy making.
4. The need for--and limitations of--continuous forecasting for S & T policy making.
5. Principles and methods of technological and social forecasting.
6. Problem approach to the transformation of development policies into forecasting tasks.
7. Forecasting methodologies for strengthening management functions of S & T policy making bodies.
8. The structuring of development problems of the society into forecasting fields.
9. Forecasting for science policy making.
10. Forecasting for S & T policy making.
11. Modelling of social-economic goals for S & T development.
12. A proposal for building up a system of national continuous forecasting activities.

§While many WFSF members are policy advisors of one sort or another, one of the most experienced, prolific, and respected--if nonetheless controversial--is YEHEZKEL DROR. All of these qualities are well reflected in three articles Dror sent recently.

"Planning as Fuzzy Gambling: A Radical Perspective on Coping with Uncertainty" (in David Morley and Arie Shachar, eds., *Planning in Turbulence*, 1986) elaborates on certain aspects of Dror's thought which we have highlighted in previous Newsletters. Dror opens this article by saying:

"This paper presents a conception of planning in the face uncertainty as, in essence, a 'gambling' activity. Policy making in the face of hard uncertainties constitutes inherently 'fuzzy gambling.' Depending on the form taken by 'planning' as either a mode of policy making or an aid to policy making, planning in the face of uncertainty, therefore, is a gambling activity or serves as an aid to policy gambling...."

Dror also wrote the final concluding chapter to a book edited by William Plowden, *Advising Rulers*, 1987. He notes at the outset that "the term 'ruler' is

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anathema to contemporary linguistic preferences, as shaped by humanistic values and liberal hopes. Still, I prefer to call those who rule 'rulers,' so as to emphasize a main institution of human governance...."

A little later, Dror writes, "Rulers and advisers belong to the Ur-core components of human governance, as developed some 5,000 years ago, or perhaps earlier. The very fact that key features of relations between rulers and advisers have not changed very much during that period despite their many inadequacies, indicates that this is a rigid relationship with limited plasticity, unless some breakthrough occurs in the materials and ideas out of which this relationship is formed."

After summarizing the problems of rulers (and their advisors), Dror concludes with five "principles for redesign of advice systems." They are: "Advisory systems for rulers are necessarily complex. No unitary structure can meet all needs. There are critical size and composition requirements. Advanced work methods and self-monitoring are essential. The broader context of improving rulers" must be considered.

§GUNNAR ADLER-KARLSSON sent two articles he published recently which deal with one of the most pressing problems immediately facing society: technologically-induced permanent (and rising) unemployment. One article, "The Choices to be Made," (in SOC. SC. MED. Vol. 25, No. 2, 1987) shows that of the two major solutions normally offered (increased consumption of increasingly abundant goods vs. decrease of everyone's total working time), the latter is the more popularly preferred.

In a second article, "An Alternative Model," in the same issue of the same journal, Adler-Karlsson states his own preferred solution. He suggests dividing society into four separate sectors into which people could choose to live all or a part of their lives (or of some portion of it in any sector). He describes it this way:

"Thus, we should try to construct a basic economic sector, catering to basic material needs. In this everybody should have the right, and obligation, to work for some ten to fifteen years of their lives. If it got to be more, the proposed system is no good. The wage for this work would be life-long guaranteed real material income and security, a sure flow of some milk and honey for the rest of your days, without your having to lift a finger. By necessity this must be a socialist, protectionist, and planned sector on a Western European or global

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scale.

"When that basic material security for life has been fixed, some people, during some parts of their lives, will wish to attain more, materially. Let them play around in a totally free, capitalist 'abundance sector', where the Babylonian Bias ["he who does not work, neither shall he eat"] and unrestrained competition will rule. No harm in that, if every citizen has a secure minimum level of living and the active ones do not harm their fellow men.

"Those who are not interested in dancing around the Golden Calf, or are tired of pursuing its vain glory, should then have a third sector, 'cultural life'. In this they would live modestly but securely on their state pension. They would have the freedom to devote themselves to television and sports, if they so want, or to realizing the deepest Western values, stated by all wise men from Aristotle to Tage Erlander, the today much neglected cultural and spiritual freedom of man.

"A fourth, political sector would function largely as it does today in the West, and additionally it would draw up the firm borderlines between the three other sectors in a good, democratic way. One of these borderlines, possibly the most important one, would limit the responsibility of the state for its citizens, thereby also limiting the rights of the state to issue freedom-restraining regulations over our individual lives."

§YONA FRIEDMAN, whose Communication Centre of Scientific Knowledge for Self-Reliance we have mentioned before, sent additional information about the Centre. One item was a "stick-drawing and text" statement for which he is justifiably famous. In its conclusion, the text states, "This short explanation of the Centre's Programme...is at the same time, a sample showing its technique:...How to explain an idea with about 60 drawings...with a text equivalent to barely one typewritten page...."

Friedman also sent a more conventional paper which presents the case for "The New Physiocratia--A Knowledge-based Economy." In its description of the present situation, it has something in common with the points Adler-Karlsson discussed, above, with substantially more attention to the differences between advanced industrial societies and the rest of the world.

Friedman's preferred future, the New Physiocratia based on knowledge instead of land, depends upon a clear distinction between data, information, and knowledge [and presumably, though he does not mention it, wisdom, if there actually is

such a thing. He does discuss "insight," however].

He says, for example, "Knowledge, indeed, can be obtained, acquired, even swapped, but not bought or sold. It is only information which can be bought or sold. Knowledge is not information. It is made out of information. Knowledge is even not made by training from information. It is only insight that can transform information into knowledge. It is evident that insight cannot be a merchandise. How could one sell something that is hidden inside the one who tries to sell it?"

Elsewhere he notes, "The new physiocrata is thus a rather strange economic system. A large part of the prime material it is based upon exists in quasi limitless quantities, and the principal tool transforming this prime material into utility is one which grows in volume with demographic growth. It is but the second part of the source of wealth in that system, i.e., the earth's surface, that is limited in quantity. But the increase of the carrying capacity of Earth is exactly one of the main roles of the use of knowledge."

He concludes, "The utopia exposed in this paper might be that of 'discommercialization.' The social model we outlined, and the thoughts about 'knowledge' (particularly the 'dis-mechanization' of cosmological models for the benefit of a generalization of consciousness inherent in anthropomorphizing physical reality) represents one step more towards a world wherein things and thoughts don't bear a price-tag."

§HENRYK SKOLIMOWSKI has recently published "Is Ecology Transcending both Marxism and Christianity?" in DIALECTICS AND HUMANISM, 1987. Christianity and Marxism were once great responses to tremendous human problems of their times, but:

"It should be clear that our unique problems require a unique way of dealing with them. The end of the 20th century is different from 4th century AD (when Christianity was adopted as the official religion of the Roman Empire); and also different from the middle of the 19th century (When Marx was devising his reconstruction of society). To cope with the magnitude of our problems we have to realize that what is at stake is not some malfunctioning of technology--the whole techno-economic system is malfunctioning because it grew from inadequate foundations. The universe is not just a huge deterministic machine. Nature is not just a cluster of bio-chemical sub-systems which we can adequately understand by studying specialized hard sciences. This whole mechanistic vision

of the cosmos has been collapsing on us, both in the West and in the Communist countries.

"The new ecological Weltanschauung has been emerging: a conception of the universe that is open and in part mysterious. New wholistic forms of understanding have been slowly spreading. A new conception of the Earth as alive (Gaia) has met with much sympathy. The rethinking of our entire Western heritage along ecological lines has been going on."

Skolimowski then says that "a more far reaching scheme still is to consider the fusion of the three: Christianity, Marxism and Ecology." He does not undertake that fusion in this paper, but he does conclude by distinguishing the components of "objective thinking" from those of "ecological thinking," and "ecological man" from "Faustian man." Both Christianity and Marxism are based on "objective thinking" and cultivate their own versions of the "Faustian man." A fusion may thus not be possible or desirable. The ecological perspective may transcend them both.

§BURNS WESTON sent two recent publications. One is a straight-forward and scholarly review of "Regional Human Rights Regimes: A Comparison and Appraisal" (VANDERBILT JOURNAL OF TRANSNATIONAL LAW, October 1987), co-authored with Robin Ann Lukes and Kelly Hnatt. It shows why and how regional human rights regimes arose, even though the United Nations is concerned with the issue at the global level. The authors compare and contrast the European, Inter-American, and African human rights regimes.

Weston also reviewed (in JURIMETRICS JOURNAL, Fall 1987) Joseph Nye, Jr.'s book, NUCLEAR ETHICS. Adopting a more or less classical "just war" position, Nye proposes five maxims of nuclear ethics: 1. Self-defense is a just but limited cause. 2. Never treat nuclear weapons as normal weapons. 3. Minimize harm to innocent people. 4. Reduce risks of nuclear war in the near term. 5. Reduce reliance on nuclear weapons over time.

Well and good, concludes Weston. But Nye clearly takes a more hawkish than a doveish (or even owlsh) perspective than he admits, Weston believes. The list of sources of alternative security thinking (or what Nye calls "process utopianism") which Nye ignored while attacking only Schell's "The Fate of the Earth" and his "The Abolition" is very long indeed. In fact, Weston's footnote 25, which is such a list, is 1/5 the length of his entire review. And other examples of alternative security thinking which Nye also omitted are found in

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several other footnotes.

It certainly seems easier to make a plausible ethical case for having and using nukes, even if bounded by the Five Maxims, if you ridicule, ignore, and/or are ignorant of, the outstanding ethical arguments to the contrary.

§And more new material is on the way! Teachers College Press (1234 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, New York 10027 USA) announces the publication of several new books on peace education which are authored by WFSF members. BETTY REARDON is responsible for three: *Educating for Global Responsibility*, *Teacher-Designed Curricula for Peace Education, K-12*; *Comprehensive Peace Education*, *Educating for Global Responsibility*; and *Sexism the War System*. ELISE BOULDING is the author of *Building of a Global Civil Culture*, *Education for an Interdependent World*.

§CHANGE, THE MAGAZINE OF HIGHER LEARNING is an important quasi-popular journal for post-secondary educators. What it writes about, and the way it writes about it, can be influential.

Thus it was with some concern that we read a review in the January-February 1988 issue by one Marshall W. Gregory, who is said to teach English at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, of the seventh volume of Michael Marien's FUTURE SURVEY ANNUAL (1986).

It is unfortunately typical of the way futures studies is treated by the American press, scholarly as well as popular, when people wholly ignorant of futures studies choose to write about it. The opening paragraph sets the stage for what is subsequently an equally uninformed and irresponsible piece of yellow journalism:

"For the past fifteen or twenty years--going back at least to the writings of Marshall McLuhan and Alvin Toffler--a great many academics have been involved in that special brand of crystal-ball predicting called 'futures studies.'"

It does not get any better--more accurate or more helpful--than that. The man obviously knows almost nothing about futures studies, and did not bother to inform himself before writing the review. Do you think I exaggerate? Read it for yourself and see. Then let me know. And why not write CHANGE, and let

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them know [Heldref Publications, 4000 Albemarle St., NW, Washington, DC 20016 USA. Phone 202/362-6445].

We thought our readers might be interested in Michael Marien's own reply, which he sent to CHANGE in the hopes that it (or at least the essential parts of it) will be published subsequently to help set the record a little straighter than Gregory did.

Here is what Marien wrote:

§"Do Futures Studies Really Help?" This title to a putative review of my Future Survey Annual 1986 by Marshall W. Gregory (Change, Jan-Feb 1988) is an important question that should be seriously addressed. Unfortunately, Gregory doesn't deal with this question at all. Instead, he vents his spleen in a remarkable parade of ignorant mistruths and distortions, not only as concerns my Future Survey Annual, but also directed against the World Future Society (my publisher), academics involved in futures studies, and the study of alternative futures itself. In all, I counted more than a score of notable errors.

The Real Future Survey Annual

One of the few things that Gregory did get right was that FS Annual 1986, the seventh volume in a series, adds 771 abstracts to a total of 8,070 worthy "futures-relevant" books, reports, and articles that I have personally prepared since 1979. (FS Annual 1987 will be out in a few months, and several hundred additional items have since been published in the monthly FUTURE SURVEY, for a total of more than 9,000 abstracts as of early 1988).

Of the 771 abstracts in the 1986 Annual, Gregory mentioned only two. Much attention is given to The Third Millennium. A History of the World: AD 2000-3000. Indeed, more than one-ninth of Gregory's review is devoted to making sport of the fact that I liked this book, written by what he describes as 'two British science fiction writers.' This is only partly true; the authors also have good non-fiction credentials: Stableford teaches at the University of Reading, and Langford has been a physicist at the UK Ministry of Defence. Gregory fails to note this, and that The Third Millennium was written not as science fiction, but as a scenario of how things might turn out in the very long-range future. It is very well done for what it purports to be. It is also the most atypical item in FS Annual 1986.

Gregory does not mention that I highlighted 58 other books and articles in my Annual as deserving special attention. They include Howard Wachtel on the new

supranational economic order, a group of world business leaders speaking out on the future of free enterprise, a world of women, Lawrence Freedman's outstanding Atlas of Global Strategy, essays from The Christian Science Monitor on how peace might come to the world, the World Resources Institute summary of the Global Possible Conference, the Worldwatch Institute's State of the World 1986, a report from The Hunger Project on ending hunger worldwide, Robert Bellah et al.'s highly-regarded Habits of the Heart (with prescriptions on how to reconstitute our incoherent social world), Stark and Bainbridge on The Future of Religion, Gov. Richard Lamm's Megatraumas: America at the Year 2000, a Brookings Institution report on constitutional reform, Lester Thurow's The Zero-Sum Solution, William Hatal's The New Capitalism, Colin Gill's excellent overview on work and the new technology, an anthology from the Pacific Institute for Public Policy Research on view of America's Health Care Revolution, Orrin Klapp on information overload and the quality of life in an information society, Jeremy Tunstall on the many impacts of communications deregulation, Joseph Corn's valuable anthology on America's technological expectations over the past 100 years, Kenneth Laudon's warning about an emerging dossier society, Neil Postman's lament that we are Amusing Ourselves to Death, the Warnock report on human fertilization, the report of the US National Commission on Space, Joseph Deken's provocative exploration on the future of robots, Harlan Cleveland on the knowledge executive and leadership in an information society, Meadows and Robinson on the potential of computer modelling in improving social decisions, and Yehezkel Dror's intelligence comments on Policymaking Under Adversity.

All this and much more is what Future Survey Annual 1986 is really about. Whether or not these authors call themselves "futurists" (a few do, most do not), all of these books are "futures-relevant" and "policy-relevant," in that they describe recent changes and seek to explore what is probable, possible, and/or preferable. Gregory gives only the minutist hint that such books are the main focus of FS Annual.

The only other book that Gregory alludes to is the volume of 29 essays prepared for the 1986 World Future Society conference in New York City. But he botches this matter by stating that the Annual "cites twenty-nine papers from the 1985 and 1986 conferences of the World Future Society." The 1985 conference volume of some 20 or so papers is cited elsewhere in the Annual. (This is nit-picking, of course, but it is typical of the sloppy scholarship throughout Gregory's non-review.)

Gregory pays no attention to the appendices in the Annual, ignoring the categorized and chronological listing of 355 futures-relevant journals, which to

my knowledge is by far the most extensive listing to be found anywhere. (Many scholars still think that futures-relevant or policy-relevant journals number only in the dozens.) Nor does Gregory acknowledge the chart on "1235 Impacts of New Information Technologies," which should be illuminating for those who are interested in the myriad impacts of the unfolding information revolution.

Instead, Gregory pounces on two charts at the front of the Annual, which he claims are "not only unscientific, they are laughable in their pretensions."

As a social scientist, I have been preparing charts for some 20 years as a way of concisely arraying information so that broad patterns can be quickly understood. I do not engage in posturing about being "unscientific;" I am merely putting information together in the best way that I know of. Can Gregory tell us of a better way to convey information for educational purposes? Does he think that the information is unimportant or obvious to everyone?

My "Hopes and Fears" chart has an important sub-title that was ignored by Gregory: "A Longer and Broader Alternative to Economic Indicators." It is, potentially, a rudimentary supplement to the superficiality of Gross National Product and other short-term economic indices of societal well-being. The chart is directly derived from the abstracts in FS Annual, which in turn are a result of a year's full-time scanning of books from more than 150 publishers and research institutes, and some 250 magazines, newspapers, and scholarly journals. After adding up all the hopes and fears that I found in the literature, I conclude that the "Unfavorable Trends and Plausible Fears: (economic collapse, nuclear war, environmental concerns, AIDS, etc.) outweigh the "Favorable Trends and Plausible Hopes: (better US-USSR relations, information technology, economic growth, biotechnology, etc.) There is of course some degree of subjectivity in selection and ranking of hopes and fears. Still, I think that any scholar who tries the same exercise in good faith would come up with roughly the same ratio. What's "laughable" about this?

The Real World Future Society

Gregory does not content himself to trashing FS Annual, but also attacks my publisher, the World Future Society. He asserts that WFS has "missionary aims," which suggests a sort of religious fervor, and that it attempts 'to give a scientific patina to this undertakings." Perhaps this is true to some degree, but any pretensions of the Society are far less than those found in most universities, and the WFS goal statements are no more inflated than those in any college catalog.

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Gregory thinks "there is something goofy in the idea that selling games and videocassettes to finance futures research will lead humankind to embrace better alternative futures!" But what basis does he have for this wild statement? No "futures research" is financed by the WFS Book Service, which just about breaks even. And what's wrong with selling games and videocassettes to promote the study of alternative futures among various age groups? Many educational organizations satisfy a variety of clients. For example, Butler University, Gregory's employer, gives degree credit for "Theory and Practice of Baseball" and "Design and Construction of Dance Costumes."

Gregory snickers that "selling books and publishing the Annual is the Society's justification for calling itself an educational organization." But the Society does much more than this: it publishes three periodicals (the bi-monthly FUTURIST, FUTURES RESEARCH QUARTERLY, and the monthly FUTURE SURVEY), it publishes various books (including a directory of those most involved in futures studies), and perhaps most important it sponsors major conferences. Indeed, the Sixth General Assembly of WFS will be held in Washington in July 1989, and Gregory and other readers of *Change* are invited to attend and discover for themselves that "futurists" and others who participate are not flakes and wild-eyed utopians, but business planners, serious scholars, university presidents, government analysts, well-informed activists, etc. WFS does a remarkable job of educating with very modest resources. Why shouldn't it be called an "educational organization"? What does Butler University do to advance understanding of today's problems and tomorrow's possibilities? And does it do it nearly as well? Baseball theory and dance costumes, indeed!

Finally, Gregory states that futurism is "a phony program paradigm as research," with some allusion to the activities of the World Future Society. He also asserts that futurists (or is it WFS?) have a "habitual way of looking into the future [that] makes the present look small and insignificant." These charges are vague and reckless. What "habitual way?" What "program?" What is "phony" about it? WFS in general and Future Survey in particular are about the real world. Be serious, Gregory.

The Real Futures Studies/Futures Research

At the root of Gregory's reality problem is a widespread misconception of who the futurists are and what "futures studies" (sometimes called futures research) is in fact about. Gregory makes no attempt to investigate what this realm is, as a cub reporter from any newspaper would do. Rather, from his academic aerie high above the real world, Gregory pronounces at the outset of his essay that "a great many academics have been involved in that special brand of crystal ball

Articles and Book Reviews

predicting called 'futures studies,'" and that "many academics have been deeply involved in futures studies for a good number of years." Gregory charges that professional futurists tend to lump together various modes of forecasting ("incompatible epistemologies") and call them knowledge. Gregory's evidence, such as it is, comes from punching up old titles from an ERIC database. He cites two, published in 1970 and 1976, as "a brick or two on the growing pile of futures studies publications." Then Gregory cites five futures studies organizations listed in the Encyclopedia of Associations.

What's wrong with this picture? Here are only the major errors:

- 1) Gregory did not consult the index in the Encyclopedia of Associations, which lists not five but some 20-30 futures organizations, depending on one's definition of what should be counted. And if one looks at the World Future Society's 1979 guide to information sources, now being updated, some 270 organizations are listed.
- 2) I have been monitoring futures-relevant literature for nearly 20 years, and I know of no evidence to suggest that there is a "growing pile of futures studies publications." There is a growing pile of academic publications in general, and of futures-relevant publications in particular. But not of "futures studies" per se.
- 3) So what then is future studies and/or futures research? There is no precise definition because there are no qualifications to be a futurist. A futurist or professional futurist is someone who defines himself or herself as such, either as a primary or (more frequently) a secondary identity. There is a small and ill-defined group of multi-disciplinary professionals who do publish in futures journals and attend futures meetings. They do not use "crystal balls" or any thing remotely resembling such tomfoolery. While many are involved in forecasting (not predicting, they are also just as likely to be questioning present concepts that shape the future, and/or planning desirable futures. None of these futurists make grand pretensions to "Knowledge." Given the great number of uncertainties, thinking about the future is quite humbling. If one is interested in what some of the better American futurists are presently thinking, look at the recent anthology that I edited, *What I Have Learned: Thinking About the Future Then and Now* (Greenwood Press, 1987).
- 4) How many academics, how involved? Gregory proclaims a "great many" (thousands and thousands?) who are "deeply involved." Ideally there should

be futurists at every college and university, to live things up, pull things together, and promote critical thinking. In fact, the number of American academics in the late 1980s who are even modestly involved in futures studies amounts to no more than a few hundred at best. Either Gregory can't (or won't) count, or he is counting the wrong people. To talk or write about the future, as many people necessarily and occasionally do (sometimes wisely, sometimes not), does not make one a "futurist." Nor does being a futurist necessarily make one wise or prescient. If one spends some time thinking about the future, though, it is likely that one will see through the fog a little better.

- 5) Gregory doesn't seem to know who or what he is talking about, or he has a problem about being explicit. His assertions about ways of reading the future and his firm beliefs about "incompatible epistemologies" are also dubious. There are many ways of making persuasive arguments for what may happen and what ought to happen, and the differences are not neatly black and white. And there are many good books on futures methodologies. Two of the best are old but good: Bertrand de Jouvenel's *The Art of Conjecture* (Basic Books, 1967) and Edward Cornish's *The Study of the Future* (World Future Society, planning, the visioning process, scenario writing, etc), is of course reported in *Future Survey*.

The Real World

Perhaps the most preposterous Gregoryism is that "Everybody already knows--without having to read a single one of the 771 articles and books in the 1986 Annual--that the future is in peril." This is the anti-intellectual equivalent of saying that everybody already knows about medicine, architecture, biology, economics, art, literature, etc., so we might as well close down the universities. Sure, everyone knows a little bit about healthy living, the law, nature, politics, and so on. But we go to universities to learn more about the complexities of these subjects, either as part of a general education or to become a professional.

The same is true for futures studies. Everyone may dimly "know" that there are bright and ominous promises of technology, and dire threats of nuclear winter, economic collapse, and Big Brother. The purpose of *Future Survey*, the World Future Society, and futures studies in general is to develop sophistication in understanding the vast range of promises and threats, and what we can do to realize the former and avoid the latter. That's what the 771 abstracts in *FS Annual* are all about: "How can I make things better now?" Gregory asserts that this is the one question that "really can make a difference in the world." And some of the best available answers are right under his nose in *FS Annual*, if

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only he would look. Indeed, I challenge any reader of *Change* to look at a sample copy of the monthly *Future Survey* free on request from WFS, (4916 St. Elmo Avenue, Bethesda MD 20814) and then tell me if there is any preferable approach to the literature of how to make things better in our nation and our world.

Several years ago, Ernest Boyer and Fred Hechinger, in their report on *Higher Learning in the Nation's Service* (Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 1981), warned that we are becoming a nation of "civic illiterates." *Futures Studies* is no panacea, but, if well done in academia, such activities can help to alleviate this illiteracy. *Futures Studies* can also be of help in steering business, government, and communities. The case that *Futures Studies* does not really help has yet to be made.

NEW MEMBERS

§FRITHJOF BERGMAN has a PhD in Philosophy from Princeton University. His thesis is entitled "Reason and Harmony: An Introduction to Hegel." He is currently a professor of Philosophy at the University of Michigan. His future-related work spans at least the last decade. In this time, he has concentrated especially on the presently occurring deep re-structuring of work. He has been mainly concerned with the development of detailed "strategies for the future" that could re-organize the sphere of work and bring about a more humane, equitable, and exuberant societies than those we have now. Among his publications is *The Future of Work* (Praxis International, 1983), and he has also produced and directed two Television Series: One entitled "Culture After the Elimination of Labor," the other "The Future of Work." In addition he is the founding director of the Center for New Work in Flint, Michigan.

§KIBLE BONGA is the Economic and Fiscal Advisor for the Central Provincial Government of the Central Province in Papua New Guinea. He has a undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Papua New Guinea and a Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

§JULIANNE CLARK teaches and tutors (Spanish/ESL), conducts research (foreign language, area studies, social sciences), and translates (English/Spanish, Serbo-Croatian/English, Portuguese/English) for the Seattle Public Schools. She has worked for Americki Centar-Belgrade editing and proofreading (Latin America and Yugoslavia). She has a PhD from the University of Washington in Comparative Area Studies: Yugoslavia/Latin America. She has also done course work in the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia. She

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speaks English, Spanish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Romanian, Portuguese and can read Italian and French. She has travel extensively to Central and South America, the Middle East, West and East Europe, and the USSR.

§ANTHONY JUDGE, of Australian nationality, is Assistant Secretary-General of the Union of International Associations (based in Brussels, Belgium). His current responsibilities include coordination and development of in-house computer-based information services, mainly used for the production of a 3-volume *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The techniques developed received the 1986 Printing World Award for the most advanced application of computers to typesetting. He is also responsible for a research programme into the information and communication opportunities of international non-profit organizations which he has written over 150 articles and reports touching on themes such as: computer conferencing, use of Bucky Fuller's tensegrity principle to counteract "flabbiness" in organization networks, cross-cultural comprehension of appropriateness, governance through metaphor, integrative patterns of concepts, as well as the practical implications of these themes of the design of conferences, organizations and information systems. Much of his research work in recent years has been done in association with projects of the United Nations University in Tokyo. These concerns have been brought to a focus in an ambitious programme which he coordinated, resulting in the publication in 1986 of a 1450-page *Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential*. Judge has worked also as a consultant for a variety of international bodies, including UNESCO, the UN University, and the Commonwealth Science Council. He was born in Egypt, educated in England, Australia, and Zimbabwe, and has a university background in chemical engineering and business administration.

§GEORGE KENT is a professor of Political Science at the University of Hawaii, Manoa Campus. He has a bachelor of Electrical Engineering from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a Master of Science in Communications from Boston University, and a PhD in Communications from the University of Illinois. He has published a number of monographs and articles and *The Politics of Pacific Islands Fisheries*, *The Political Economy of Hunger: The Silent Holocaust*, *Marine Policy in Southeast Asia (ed.)*, *Fish, Food, and Hunger: the Potential of Fisheries for Alleviating Malnutrition* and is currently writing *The Politics of Children's Survival*.

§WALTER KRONER is Professor of Architecture and Director at the Center for Architectural Research at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Colorado, and a Master of Architecture degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is a licensed

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architect in New York State and is proprietor of a consulting and architectural firm in Troy, New York. The Center for Architectural Research, under his directorship, has undertaken numerous interdisciplinary research projects involving as many as 20 different individuals from universities, industry, and professional offices. His work in energy conscious design, energy flow controls, passive solar systems, and building system innovation has received international recognition. He is a corporate member of the AIA, active on numerous national committees, and is recipient of several architectural design awards. He teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses in the School of Architecture, and is chairman of the School's graduate program. He has authored and co-authored over 20 books and professional reports and is the author of numerous papers published in professional journals.

§RUTHANNE KURTH-SCHAI holds an MS in Alternative Education (Indiana University) and a PhD in Social and Philosophic Foundations of Education with a concentration in Future Cultural and Educational Systems (University of Minnesota). She is currently an assistant professor of education at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1984, Kurth-Schai completed a doctoral study during which 154 American children shared their personal, global, and spiritual future imagery through their participation in a modified Delphi exercise. Her current research interests include the design and development of educational innovations and youth-oriented social service programs, and the roles and responsibilities of youth in shaping the future. She has published articles in *Futuristics*, *Cultural Futures Research*, the *Journal of Research and Development in Education*, and the *Educational Forum* and is now working toward completion of research for a book tentatively entitled *Children and Humanity's Hope for the Future*. She was recently elected to serve as chair of the Committee for the Study of Cultural and Educational Futures of the American Anthropological Association.

§JUSTUS LEWIS is an officer of the Education Unit at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT). Her professional interests include drawing on the futures field for organizational development and professional enrichment. She is currently organizing an end-of-year HERDSA (Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia) function on "Futures in Education" and contributing to a "hypothetical" on "Education for the Year 2000," (to be held at the annual HERDSA conference in May). For her PhD, she conducted a COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE CONCEPTION OF THE PERSONAL IN HINDU AND IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT at the University of Edinburgh. She is also a lecturer in Instructional Design and Distance Education in the Education Unit of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

Missing Members

STONY STEVENSON has a Master of Arts from the Department of Communication, University of Hawaii at Manoa. His thesis title is "Toward a Methodology for Creating and Evaluating Mutually Purposeful Relationships in Managing an Organization's Evolution." He has been a fellow at the Public Relations Institute of Australia since 1984 and has 30 years' practice in journalism and business communication, and public relations/public affairs consulting in Australia and North America, followed by a five years' specialising in issues management and corporate strategic research.

MISSING MEMBERS

OWEN ANDERSON, 55 St. Clair Ave. East, 5th Flr., Toronto Ontario, CANADA.

ULRICH WIDMAIER, Steinplatz 2, D-1000 Berlin 12, FRG.

ERNEST WINTER, P.O. Box 53, A-9900 Lienz, AUSTRIA.

Commencement Address

§Commencement Address by JOHAN GALTUNG
Winter Commencement,
University of Hawaii,
20 December 1987

Several issues ago, we made you suffer through a high school graduation address by Jim Dator. Here, on a higher plane, is what JOHAN GALTUNG said to University of Hawaii graduates recently:

Graduates, Masters, Doctors; Relatives and friends; State, Town and Gown authorities: Ladies and Gentlemen-

Let me start by promising you that I shall not be one more middle-aged person sending the younger ones into something called Life--that I think you are perfectly capable of doing yourself. Moreover, you have lived a substantial amount of that life already most of you between one third and one half of our allotment of that precious commodity. Rather I shall share with you some reflections on the role of the academic exercise in general, not only the commencement exercise, in our life, even Life with capital L if you will.

Last week brought us a summit meeting with a potential disarmament agreement. It also brought us rather ferocious weather, one might even say Un-Hawaiian weather which is now clearing up. Brother Sun has been gracing our day with minutes of presence. Some bright light may also make us see more clearly what happened:

- The agreement concerns only land-based missiles, not the sea-launched and the air-launched;
- the agreement concerns only the land-based missiles owned by the US, the Soviet Union and Germany; not those owned by France, for instance;
- the agreement concerns only intermediate range missiles with a range from 300 miles to 3000 miles, no doubt already stimulating considerable research into missiles in the 290-299 miles range although such ranges and the strategic range may be dealt with later;
- the agreement concerns only the missiles--they are to be scrapped in a quite imaginative way--not the war-heads which are to be saved, for instance to be put into sea-launched and air-launched missile already planned by Washington and London and presumably also by Moscow;
- the agreement concerns only nuclear capabilities, not, for instance, chemical arms that are now being produced again by the US after a moratorium of 18 years;
- the agreement does not broach the key issue, the possible offensive use of Star Wars technologies, particularly ground-based laser reflected from outer space mirrors that will be the focus of the experiments to be launched at Maui in this state next year;
- the agreement offers nothing new in the basic, underlying issue almost never touched, the script driving it all: military doctrine; no reflection of the basic shift in thinking now taking place in all European countries including the Soviet Union, away from offensive doctrines based on retaliation, towards defensive, non-provocative doctrines based on defensive deterrence;

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and last but certainly not least: the agreement does not reflect any constructive thinking in the field of positive peace, of building new ties between the parties, of healing the wounds in the old continent, Europe. If this is peace, then it is still peace with warlike means; not peace with peaceful means as the peace movement is longing for and the peace research movement explores.

In fact, much of this reminds me of a story about a man on a safari in Africa who left his little encampment early a morning to enjoy nature only to find himself face to face with a lion very much looking, at least to his eyes, like war with warlike means. The lion jumps, he fires in self-defense, misses the lion--but the lion also misses him, the jump was too long! He turns around and once more the lion jumps and passes in an impressive curve over his head, and once again he fires and misses--whereupon he runs back to the camp. In the camp are more experienced people also of the war with warlike means school advising him to practise short shots. And so he does. Next morning, inside the fence, he is practising on a target very near by until he hears some noises in the bush right outside. He tiptoes to the fence and watches, and there is the lion again--practising short jumps!

Before I start elaborating an optimistic angle not incorporated in the joke when I first heard it from my beloved old guru, a dean of social psychology not only in the US but in the world, Professor Otto Klineberg, himself a former Visiting Professor of this University should be mentioned. Neither Man, nor Lion practised intermediate jumps/intermediate shots--presumably because they already had an agreement ruling out that range. And, and!--in spite of all these serious flaws, we are entitled to some optimism. Not because of the arms aspect: I actually expect new and worse arms to follow, no longer using the "modernization" excuse only, but adding to it the new formula that of "compensation." No, we have little to expect in that filed for a simple reason: I am coming to immediately. But the very fact that they arrived at an agreement, regardless of what happens in the ratification process signals one rather important thing: THE COLD WAR IS OVER. And the arms language is the only idiom they have to express this. They cannot say that they were wrong all these years, that the whole cold war show was a giant misunderstanding essentially serving important domestic functions in both camps. The other language, the arms language, is less self-accusing, and undoubtedly popular in a world longing for peace with peaceful rather than with warlike means.

And the people behind those warlike means are still with us. There are, reportedly, 400,000 war researchers in the world today, working full time for the military, as against a maximum of 400 peace researchers. The ratio is 1 to 1,000, and even that is far too optimistic. The war researchers are very well trained, well protected, well salaried--the peace researchers are often amateurish because real training is available practically speaking nowhere, their security is low, their salaries often those of volunteers in general and peace volunteers in particular, as low as their security. A sad reflection on the moral and intellectual situation in our societies, West and East. Moreover, the war researchers are protected by security clauses defying the basic characteristic of science, that science is public and the results are publicly available. What the peace researchers do is and should be available to everybody for public scrutiny and critique.

Exactly for these reasons the initiative taken by the administration of the University of Hawaii, by the President and the Vice-president for Academic Affairs to make peace a major focus for the University is so significant. The idea of a peace focus for the University is so significant. The idea of a peace certificate in principle available to all who graduate if they take a basic course in peace studies and 15 credits in peace-related subjects from at least three different departments--or some similar plan--is very innovative, very positive. This is the way of creating a positive awareness, a critical mass of people who can enter the debate in a democratic society not only with knowledge and the passion of criticism, but with compassion and concrete, constructive ideas. Thousands of those

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But we can go further, and the world demands of us that we go further in the quest for peace. We could build on this at this university, blessed with its status as a cross-road of civilizations. We could make an MPS, a masters of peace studies, a highly professional, difficult, tough two-years course with a written thesis, including internship in key peace-keeping, peace-making and peace-building institutions, international and national, governmental and nongovernmental including the municipal level which is now emerging all over the world as a key agent of peace-building. Precisely because peace is so much more difficult than war we should demand much of the graduates admitted to such courses. They should acquire the best knowledge in the fields of the geography and history, the psychology and sociology, the anthropology and politology and economics of peace. They should know where the peace resources are located, the people and the networks, the ideas, the problems and the possible solutions. Their task would go beyond the critique of the arms race and nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction; they would know the arguments but focus on the next generation in the whole problematique of peace, on non-provocative, defensive, defense, on international peacekeeping, on how to fight injustice also with gandhian type nonviolence and how to defend a country not only with non-provocative military means like Swiss defense but also with nonmilitary methods. They would have to be eclectic, there is something fundamentally eclectic about peace as there is about health. They would also study military doctrine, but opt for the non-provocative branches; of specialists in offensive capabilities we have enough. Some would say, and I am among them: more than enough. They will certainly invited to join as students, but not as resource persons if they have nothing to contribute about the balances of threats, power and terror.

Over all of this could be written PEACE WITH PEACEFUL MEANS. The world is not yet ready for that? Readier than we often believe. But these people, the peace studies masters, should be ahead of their time because their task is to contribute to something new and almost unheard of: to take peace so seriously that we start preparing ourselves for it! The University of Hawaii would be a perfect place to implement such an idea, although not the first in the world it could rapidly become the major focus of these efforts, today scattered all over, slowly changing those figures, 400,000 and 400 around.

But I would go still one step further. Should there not be a moral commitment that goes with the highest education a nation can offer? Are we really only committing knowledge to the brain, not also committing our hearts to action, for the benefit of not only the individual degree-holder, not only his and her company, state or country or region, not only humankind, but all life, to all of nature, a real global commitment? Are we not rather happy that there was that strange man Hippocrates living from -460 to -370 on the island, to whom the Hippocratic oath is attributed--doesn't that give us some feeling of security when we commit ourselves to a medical doctor? Could we not one day take that giant step and demand this of all our graduates, masters and doctors? There are many proposals in this field. One of them is made by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in Santa Barbara. It is short. It is not uncontroversial, nor should it be--we are on touchy ground here. Let me read it to you as an example of what a commencement ceremony might look like in the holy Year 2000:

TEXT FOLLOWS

HYPPOCRATIC OATH FOR SCIENTISTS

As scientists, we are seekers of truth and explorers of our universe from its smallest particles to its largest spaces;

We pledge to use our intellectual gifts, and employ our skills for the benefit of humanity, placing

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the common good of our species above that of the nation;

We promise never to knowingly contribute our talents to the creation of weapons or other tools of destruction, not to military systems which support such weapons;

We shall seek to employ the benefits of scientific discovery to support life, and will speak out against scientific research and projects used for or threatened for destructive purposes;

Having had special access to higher education and training, we affirm our responsibility to educate our fellow citizens, clearly distinguishing between fact and conjecture;

We accept the obligations of this oath as a foundation for focusing the benefits for the good of humanity;

NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

1187 Coast Village Road, Suite 123* Santa Barbara, CA 93108* (805) 969-9137

And with these words permit me to join to many who congratulate you on this important day. Permit me to wish you well. Permit me to wish you not an easy and unproblematic continuation of your life--who ever promises you that is lying. Permit me to wish you that you will remain faithful to the basic criterion of a true intellectual: the ability always to ask WHY, to continue asking why, and not to take any answer for granted--even including those you learnt at the University of Hawaii!