



World
Futures
Studies
Federation

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NEWSLETTER

October/November 1984

Perceptions of the U.S.S.R., Poland and
China

Bucharest NGO meeting: International
Year of Peace

A Corporate View of the Future - EPCOT

EDITORIAL

This Newsletter is dedicated to Aurelio Peccei, who with his inexhaustive enthusiasm and curiosity about the future, contributed to all people's thinking about tomorrow. He encouraged the WFSF also in various ways and never refused to participate in its meetings and activities, large or small. He had faith in the WFSF as an NGO which was, he claimed, "vox clamans in deserto" for many years. He recently said that the WFSF was very brave because many people still do not take futures studies seriously. But the WFSF kept on strongly working in that field: WFSF, through courses on methodologies of forecasting, with critical appraisals of futures studies, and meetings and forums of discussions in many parts of the world went on for years despite criticism. This is what Aurelio Peccei said in February 1984 one month before his death.

The WFSF has lost a great friend. You can recognize a true friend when he remains one even if he does not agree with all your deeds and activities. Many of us remember Aurelio Peccei when, in the General Assembly of the WFSF in Stockholm in 1982, he came in and in his calm way of speaking showed the members what would be best at that moment beyond personal and collective misunderstandings. Aurelio Peccei was always ready to reinforce the WFSF and did so on many occasions around the world and in specific countries. I think that all the WFSF can do is to remember him at the next Conference in Costa Rica and dedicate our proceedings on peace to him. He in fact operated for peace in all ways. Through his stimulation of works for peace and for development, he strove for the preservation of the environment and for the education of the younger generations for peace and development.

It is with this proposal that I end my remembrance of one of the great men of our times who was our friend.

Eleonora Masini

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REPORTS

From: ELEONORA MASINI
To: the members of the WFSF

This is a report of a trip to the USSR and Poland which lasted from 5th March to 17th March. In both countries I had been invited as President of the WFSF. I started my visit at the Institute of Sociological Research in Moscow. IGOR BESTUZHEV-LADA is the director of the Department of Social Forecasting and Planning, which has various sections: social forecasting, social planning, time budget, life-styles. The Institute itself is part of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and has about 300 people. I held a conference on the WFSF and my own activities and I also was requested to discuss The Club of Rome and the work of futurists in the West on "The Information Society". I also had meetings with the head of the Institute, Professor V. Ivanov; the head of International Affairs, Prof. Ivan Filipov; as well as with the department working in field research on the changing family in the USSR.

All meetings showed a great interest for futures studies and for the WFSF. I believe a delegation from the Institute will participate in the Costa Rica meeting.

In Moscow I also visited the USSR Sociological Association which is in the same building as the Institute of Sociological Research and has about 8,000 members, and the Central Economic Mathematical Institute which is involved mainly in quantitative studies on the quality of life. My whole trip in the USSR was organized by the Institute of Sociological Research on the basis of our work in forecasting. After Moscow I visited Leningrad which, apart from being a fantastically beautiful city, provided me with a very stimulating discussion after my conference at the Institute of Socio-Economic Problems also part of the Academy of Sciences of USSR. The head of the Institute, Dr. Nikolai Lavanov, Dr. Nikolai Tolokontsev and Dr. Valeri Golofast seemed all very up-to-date on forecasting activities (mainly in the social science field) in the West.

I then moved to Kiev where I held a conference at the Institute of Philosophy and I also met Prof. GENADI DOBROV who now directs, at the Institute of Cybernetics of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, "the Center for the Study of Scientific and Technological Development". He also hopes very much to participate in the Costa Rica meeting. I then came back to Moscow and travelled to Poland where unfortunately I could only spend two days but was able to hold meetings at the Academy of Sciences with the "Committee Poland 2000" where I met all our old

friends: A. SICINSKI, who had organized my visit; Prof. SUCHODOLSKI, who will also participate in the Zürich meeting; J. STREZELECKI and J. DANECKI. The meeting was on "The Role of Visions in Futures Studies". I also held a meeting at the Institute of A. Sicinski within the University of Warsaw Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology on "Visions of the Future by Children" based on my field research. Both discussions were extremely interesting.

I believe the trip was useful to strengthen the participation of Eastern European countries within the WFSF. I hope it will lead to further co-operation among our members. I wish to remind you that the WFSF is one of the few NGO's which has excellent participation between Eastern and Western countries and the only one working in Futures Studies which has such a systematic relationship. Futures Studies obviously is gaining respect in the USSR and of course is very important in Poland.

While in Poland I received the news of AURELIO PECCEI's death which saddened me deeply. I think the WFSF will have to think of a way of honoring him. He had often supported the WFSF in many ways. I also heard of the recent death of RADOVAN RICHTA of Czechoslovakia who many of you know.

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From: ELEONORA MASINI
To: the members of the WFSF

As a consequence of an official invitation from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, I visited the People's Republic of China from the 3rd of May to the 16th of May. Jim Dator also was invited and reached China on the 7th of May.

The visit was of great importance for WFSF, as well as for me personally as I also had the chance to meet my son who is studying linguistics at the University of Beijing (Beitâ).

The visit had been very carefully planned by the Academy and by the Chinese Society of Futures Studies. It started in Beijing where I had the opportunity to meet the President of the Academy, Prof. Ma-Hong, an economist of wide views and author of "New Strategy for China's Economy". He expressed his great interest in Futures Studies. I also met the deputy Secretary-

General of the Academy Prof. Zhao Fusan, philosopher and an extremely cultured man.

I also met scholars from the Technical Economic Research Center under the State Council of China with whom I had a very interesting discussion. In Beijing I met Mr. Zhang-Ben and Mr. Wu-Xing who had visited me in Rome. I also visited the great historical treasures of China in Beijing which gave me the first information on the connection between the past and the future which is, I believe the greatest impression I received from China: The impression of continuous change which co-exists with the continuity of history.

I then travelled to Changzhou, a living example of the great changes and the great development in the rural areas (towards mixed agriculture rather than only cereals) and in the industrial areas specifically those linked to rural development and to light industries. This medium sized city (400,000 inhabitants) is pulsing with life. I was hosted there by the Chinese Society for Futures Studies, meeting with several hundred participants. I had a very exciting experience of meeting with about 900 people interested in futures questions. The meeting was chaired by the President of the society, Mr. Du Dagong, with the presence of the Secretary-General, Mr. QIN LIN-ZHANG, and was based on futures studies and on new technologies and societies. The discussion was extremely interesting and the questions very stimulating.

In Changzhou I also had a smaller meeting with members of the Society from various parts of China and had the chance of visiting a village and various factories of tractors, textiles and local crafts. Changzhou is a very interesting observatory of change today in China.

I then visited Shanghai, the largest city in China on the river of the Yantze. In Shanghai I also had meetings at the Shanghai Society of Futures Studies as well as smaller meetings with the Vice-President of the Shanghai Academy and again I was able to meet the President of the Chinese Society of Futures Studies. I was also in Suzhou, the enchanted town of ancient Chinese gardens which is unforgettable.

I finally went to Xian where I was joined by J. DATOR. We met with some members of the Xian Academy and visited the beauties of this ancient capital. We finally came back to Beijing where I was able to say good-bye to the Secretary-General of the Chinese Society, while J. Dator stayed another two days.

I wish to say how important this trip was for futures studies in general and WFSF in particular in a moment of great change in China where future decisions are going to effect the whole world. Futures studies and WFSF are well known thanks to the activities of the Chinese Society and great possibilities of cooperation are present, for meetings, courses, and joint research. We strongly hope that such ties will develop with the Chinese Society becoming members of WFSF and with the presence of a Chinese delegation in Costa Rica. I have come away with a real feeling of anticipation and of richness at the professional and personal level. A special thanks goes out to Mr. Cao Da-gong who accompanied me from the Academy through all the trip and who with his culture and tact made my trip very pleasant.

* * *

From: JIM DATOR
To: Members of the WFSF

I wish to confirm and extend President Masini's remarks about our extraordinary trip to China. I was invited under the same auspices, and wish to thank many of the same people, especially QIN LIN ZHENG, The Secretary-General of the Chinese Society for Futures Studies, and a member of our Executive Council, and Du Dagong, the President of the Chinese Society.

For the most part, my contacts were through the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing and Xian. In Beijing, I spoke with groups (ranging in size from half a dozen to several hundred people) from the Institute of Political Studies, the Institute of American Studies, the Institute of Japan Studies, and the Chinese Society for Futures Studies. I also spoke with composite groups of scholars affiliated with such organizations as the All Chinese Academy of Science and Technology, as well as professors from several Chinese Universities.

Those of you who have had an opportunity to lecture in China will understand that when I say I "spoke with" the above groups, that does not mean that I had a brief and casual chat for a few minutes. In most instances, it means that I lectured for one to two hours, and then had a large or small group discussion for two to four hours more. That is to say, these discussions went on all day, and were invariably intense, informed, and interesting.

My own lecture topic varied with the group but included a discussion of what futures studies is, and what it is not; of the history and current activities of the Federation; of theories and methods used by various futures researchers; of the future of the United States, and the future of Japan-American relations; and my own current research interest, "Quantum Politics."

Needless to say, the questions and reactions to my talks varied with the topic and the group to which I was speaking. But there were some themes which I would like to indicate.

First of all, there was widespread knowledge about and interest in futures studies with every group I encountered. I came away with a tremendous sense of excitement towards the future and towards continued social change. There was some uncertainty, however, as to what basic direction that change should take. Everywhere I went I got one question without exception: What did I think of Toffler's The Third Wave and Naisbitt's Mega-trends? Were these accurate views of the world's and China's future? Underlying (and often explicit) in that question was the further question, "Should China not try to catch-up to the presently industrialized nations by following their path to development (via heavy industry and the like), or should China try to leapfrog over the industrialized nations into a post-industrial society?"

My answer was that I did not know enough about China to answer that question, but that I agreed it was a very important question to ask and answer. Is there a different way, a Chinese way, to the future which is not basically an imitation of some other country? I think that is a fundamental question all societies should seek to answer.

A second question I was always asked dealt with methods: what is the method for predicting the future? That question would come, even after I had spent some time trying to show that futures studies does not have the method for predicting the future, but has a number of methods (and theories) for forecasting alternative futures.

In spite of that, they still wanted to know what the method was, as though I was purposely holding back on revealing this secret. "If," I told them, "any person comes to you and says he has the method for predicting the future, run away from him as fast as you can. He will only mislead you. Methods are a very necessary part of futures studies, but they are mainly helpful

in clarifying one's own thought about the future, not in predicting the future itself." This comment of mine was not always met with great acclaim. They, like everyone else, would be happier if futurists had some secret formula for reducing anxiety by telling them where the road to the future lies, and what the future looks like. But, to my understanding, there are no such futurists in the Federation, and there should not be.

Finally, I was usually asked about the relation between futures studies and Marxism. In reply, I told them what I know about futures studies in the other socialist states associated with the Federation. But another discussion unfolded towards the end of the two weeks I was there, which may shed some interesting light on this question. I would appreciate your reaction to it:

Over the years, I have frequently asked large audiences to choose between one of four views of the future which I presented to them (The four are adapted from Draper Kaufmann's book Teaching the Future):

1) The Future is like a roller coaster (or, like a runaway train with no one at the controls). The rails have been fixed and the switches all set ahead of time. You are locked into your seat. You have no control over where you are going, how fast or slow, how dangerously or tediously. The future is pre-determined, and partly knowable to you.

2) The Future is like a river, and you are in a canoe. You have a paddle, and can maneuver your canoe down the river. But the river has a flow, it is moving, and you are pulled along, whether you like it or not. Sometimes the river is wide and slow, sometimes fast and full of rocks and rapids. Sometimes there are dangerous waterfalls, other times still lakes. Thus, you have some control over your life, but basically you must go with the flow.

3) The Future is like a vast ocean, and you are in a canoe like the outriggers that the Polynesians used when they set sail in search of a dream called "Hawaii". No one knew where "Hawaii" was. No one had ever been there. But it impelled countless sailors to leave their tiny islands, and venture forth on the trackless ocean in search of it. The Polynesian sailors had complete--or virtually complete--freedom. They could sail in any direction, as long as they wanted. They could declare any island they encountered to be "Hawaii". They could stop sail-

ing and settle down. Their voyage was full of danger, as well as boredom, but it was undertaken as a consequence of their dream of a better society lying somewhere over the horizon, and obtainable by their seeking it.

4) The Future is like a game of chance--like a dice game, played on a large board. The past has no influence on the future. Each day, each decision, is made on a random basis. You can only muddle through, step by step, day by day. Your future is entirely unknowable, and not by anything you can hope to discover.

These are the four futures I ask audiences to choose between. When I asked the large audience in the Chinese Hall of Science to choose, virtually no one chose the first, and few the fourth. Roughly two-thirds of those present chose the River, and one third the Ocean.

In discussing these responses later with a smaller group convened by the Chinese Society for Futures Studies, I was told by Mr. Qin that many of the people wrote on their replies that while they were choosing "river" presently, they were tending towards "ocean" and expect to have an "ocean" attitude eventually. They saw the three (and maybe the four) as lying on a continuum from total determinism to total freedom, with they, themselves, and Chinese society, becoming more open than it had been.

It was in this guise that I responded to President Du Dagong when he asked me about Marxism and futures studies. "Marxism," I said, "seems to me to be like 'Hawaii'--it is a compelling vision of the future. It is a guide, a dream, a critique of the present which sets individuals and societies off on a dangerous journey in search of a better world. Sometimes, groups will settle down in a place and say, 'This is a complete Marxist society; we need look no further.' Others say, 'No this is not a true Marxist society yet. We must continue to search and improve--just as the Polynesians felt about 'Hawaii'. But when they found the true--the present--Hawaii, the Polynesians stopped travelling. They knew they had found it (and it is good they did stop, because there are no inhabitable islands north of Hawaii!)."

President Masini mentioned that after her stay in China she had an overwhelming feeling of the massive influence and flow of history. I would certainly concur. In the splendid museums we saw, and in the everyday life of China all around us, there was a tremendous sense of both continuity and change, of identity and dynamics.

I believe the Federation will be enriched by the continued contribution of Chinese futurists in it, and I again thank all concerned for my opportunity to discuss the Federation and the future at such length with so many interested persons.

* * *

At the request of President ELEONORA MASINI, Executive Council member IONITZA OLTEANU represented the Federation at an NGO meeting held in Bucharest preparatory to the United Nations International Year of Peace. Below is the text of Dr. Olteanu's remarks to that assembly.

In a letter accompanying this text, Dr. Olteanu wrote, "On this occasion, I had very good contacts, especially with Mr. V. Ustinov, Under Secretary General, Department of Security Council Affairs; Mr. K. Ostrowski, Executive Secretary, International Year of Peace; Mr. Marek Hagmajer, Secretary General of the World Federation of UN Associations; and Ryszard Tyrluk, representative of the World Peace Council. I discussed with all these people more about the activity of the Federation, the International Center in Bucharest, and particularly about the preparations of the VIIIth World Conference of the WFSF on The Futures of Peace--Cultural Perspectives, and promised to keep in touch by mail."

Dr. Olteanu also announced that a preparatory meeting for the WFSF Costa Rica Conference will be held in Bucharest on October 12-13, 1984.

The following is Dr. Olteanu's speech before the NGO meeting on the International Year of Peace:

Allow me, please, in the name of the World Futures Studies Federation, to address a cordial greeting to this assembly. We wish to express our satisfaction for your initiative in mobilizing non-governmental organizations in order to increase their contribution to the creation of a better and safer world, so that all the people of this planet may live in peace.

The World Futures Studies Federation is a non-governmental body affiliated with Unesco. It includes institutions and individuals from over 70 countries from all continents, and has good relations with U.N. organizations such as the UNU, UNITAR, UNDP, UNEP, ILO, FAO, WHO and others.

Our main object is to serve as a forum of debate and stimulation of international cooperation in all domains of future

studies at local, national, regional and global levels. At the same time, the Federation aims at promoting a high level of consciousness of the future, as well as the democratization of future oriented thought. Within this context, besides our concern for the study of issues regarding the building of a better and more just world, development based on equity and meeting basic human needs, social indicators and global models, and education for the future, an ever greater attention is being paid to the peace issue.

Understanding that peace represents the most important issue of mankind - that there is no future without peace - the World Futures Studies Federation decided, following Romania's proposal made last year, to focus for a while on peace. Therefore, the VIIIth World Conference of the Federation, organized together with U.N. University for Peace, and the University of Costa Rica, will be held 9-14 December 1984 in Costa Rica, on the subject "The Future of Peace--Cultural Perspectives".

The conference aims at dealing - from a futures perspective, and in plenary sessions, symposia, panels and round tables - with the many problems concerning peace: Cultural Perspectives of Peace and Conflicts; the World Economy - Towards Peace or War?; The Future of International Organizations; Education for Peace and the Future; The Origins and the Logic of Conflicts; International Structures of Power; Management and Participation for Peace; Communication in the Service of Peace; Strategies for Peace; Women and Peace; Different Paradigms and ideologies in the Future; The State and Political Developments; The Future and The Studies of the Global Future of Latin America; Human Rights and Peace; Religion and Peace; Social Movements; Cultural Varieties; The International Financial System and Peace; The Oceans, Space and Peace; Economic Refugees and Peace.

Also during this year, the World Futures Studies Federation has organized regional preparatory conferences. Until now the discussions concerning the cultural roots of war and peace and the fact that the last 40 years have been dominated by a warmonger culture (the origins of which are found in the economy, the political education, etc.) have shown the need to consolidate a culture for peace by changing value priorities. Major goals are the investigation of the roots of peace and of the means of education for peace. Thus, in April, within the international courses of the Interuniversity Centre of Dubrovnic (Yugoslavia) a lecture was held on "The Future of War and Peace in the International System" and in June a debate was organized

in Zurich, by the Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute, on "The Cultural Origins of Peace". Issues discussed referred to peace and war in different cultures; in education; their relationship with anthropology, as well as to the cultural origins of peace in the future.

In Bucharest there is an International Centre of Methodology for Future and Development Studies which I am coordinating and which has as a research subject the study of global issues. It has recently aimed at studying the various interdependences existing between global issues and peace. That itself is a typical global issue. There is no global issue, be it development, the arms race, energy or the food problem, poverty or the reorganization of international relations that is not directly connected with peace. That is why the International Centre of Bucharest wants to develop cooperative relations with all research institutes on peace issues.

Aware of the importance of this problem, the WFSF suggests that in the programme for the World Peace Year include actions and initiatives leading to an increase of the peace problematique in literature and the mass media. In this respect it is ready to study together with the UN Secretariat for the World Peace Year, with other UN bodies, or with any concerned institutions, the development of a cooperation which is to complete various projects, actions or initiatives in any of these areas with the dimensions of the problematique of the future and peace. The studies and actions carried out this year by the Federation will create a large pool of ideas, suggestions and initiatives that should be turned to good account within the framework of the preparatory actions for the World Peace Year.

Peace, this crucial issue of mankind, is a goal for which we must mobilize all our forces and capacities. Maybe humans really have to come to the edge of a suicidal abyss in order to find the resources to change the peace - war dynamics, that have marked its whole history into a new peace-development-progress dynamics.

In his book, The Babel Library, Borges said: "Maybe I let myself be cheated by old age and fear, but I feel that the human species - the unique - is going to die out and the Library will last enlightened, solitary, infinite, perfectly immobile, endowed with precious volumes, useless, incorruptible, secret." How much hope lie in his words.

Mankind must not die out, as libraries will have no one to "en-

lighten". Without people's minds and hearts, which have conceived them, they will remain really "secret and useless", like ghosts, mere witnesses of a lamentable failure. Mankind must not have only a past. It must preserve, at any price, its future.

Libraries are not incorruptible, as Borges put it. They may be corrupted by all the books that do not serve humans or life. Our duty is to "arm" them with volumes about peace. Let us attach to the thousands of volumes describing "brilliant" wars, waged by brilliant strategists, books meant to create a new culture of peace.

* * *

Report on World Future Society meeting June 1984

The Fifth General Assembly of the World Future Society was held in Washington, D.C. from June 10-14, 1984 on the theme, "World-View '84: A Global Assessment of Problems and Opportunities." Several members of the Federation were present and active: DAVID BERRY, CLEM BEZOLD, JAMES BOTKIN, ELISE BOULDING, HUGUES DE JOUVENEL, CHRIS DEDE, LEONARD DUHL, RICHARD FALK, FRANK FEATHER, JOHN FOBES, YONA FRIEDMAN, WILLIS HARMAN, HAZEL HENDERSON, FRANK HOPKINS, ROBERT JUNGK, ERIKA LANDAU, STANLEY LESSE, LUIS ALBERTO MACHADO, MIRCEA MALITZA, MICHAEL MARIEN, SAUL MENDLOVITZ, KATHLEEN REDD, SATISH SETH, CLIVE SIMMONS, ALLEN TOUGH, ROBERTO VACCA, KIMON VALASKAKIS, ANDRE VAN DAM, and myself (subsequent new members WENDELL BELL and TREVOR HANCOCK were also present). It is possible that some of the members listed above didn't attend and that other members did attend, as I did not see them all. I invite all, named and unnamed, who attended to send in their comments about the WFS Assembly for the next Newsletter.

As a person who has participated in different aspects of the World Future Society almost from the beginning, and who appreciates its strengths as well as its weaknesses, I must say I found this to be a very interesting and well run--and intellectually challenging--meeting. I would encourage more members of the Federation to participate in Society activities if possible.

Needless to say, there were thousands of people there, and hundreds of things going on. Probably not everything was of high quality, but more than enough was to make it worthwhile, for the Oldtimer, I believe, as well as for the Newcomer. One

thing was especially gratifying: there were about as many women as men present and active.

A session for and about the WFSF was held on the first day of the Assembly. Most members of the Federation at the Assembly could not participate in this session because of conflicting panels, communications failures, or other reasons. But BOB JUNGK, DAVID BERRY, KATHLEEN REDD, and MICHAEL MARIEN, along with myself, did make statements about the Federation, and we had a very lively discussion with a good-sized audience. Several people said from the floor that they wish more people at the Assembly knew about the Federation--they appreciated its transnational orientation, and were drawn to the Futures of Peace focus of this year's World Conference.

Having a panel at which the Federation is able to explain itself--warts and all--seems to be good way to participate, as a Federation, at the WFS meetings. It is unfortunate that I did not do a better job of finding out who was actually going to attend (I put a notice in the previous Newsletter about that, but not many people responded to it), and so this particular panel was certainly "organized" only at the last moment. That made it a looser presentation than it should have been, and thus perhaps not as impressive to the audience as we might have wished. I apologize--and request suggestions for improvements. Tentatively I suggest this: if members of the Federation who are attending futures conferences (or meetings where other members of the Federation are likely to attend), I would you letting me know as early as possible so that I can let each of you know personally of other members who will be there. Then you can work up some joint presentation, if you desire. I do request that this happen for the next WFS meeting.

FRANK SNOWDEN HOPKINS organized a panel on The Future of International Relations that had presentations by MIRCEA MALITZA and JOHN FOBES. Ambassador Malitza delivered a superb paper indicating that, however flawed from certain perspectives, the United Nations plays an important role in balancing small nation's interests against the weight of the super powers. Fobes reinforced that perspective from the vantage point which he has had for many years inside international organizations within the United Nations family.

BOB JUNGK and DAVID BERRY were also on a panel concerning "New Directions in Futures Research and Methodology" which did not deal with new quantitative methods, as the title might imply, but with "right-brain forecasting" techniques pioneered by Da-

vid Loye; Bob's well-known, but too often ignored methods of democratic future workshops; and David's concerns about social science which derive from more critical work within the sociology of science. Other members participated on other panels but I could not attend them.

In addition to the WFSF panel, I participated in four other panels. One, "What I Have Learned"--about futures studies and the future over the last decade or so--was organized by MICHAEL MARIEN, and involved some "oldtime" futurists: Joe Coates, Bertram Gross, Vary Coates, W. Warren Wagar, Willis W. Harman, Harold Linstone, Victor Ferkiss, Robert T. Francoeur, and myself. The comments of the people on that panel (and of others who could not be there) will be reported in the WFS Bulletin (See and article by Kenneth Boulding in the July/August Bulletin, for a starter.) and in a book to be edited by Marien and Lane Jennings.

A third panel I joined in was that which was convened by CLEM BEZOLD. It dealt with current, past, and proposed exercises in "Anticipatory Democracy"--varieties of grassroots, or community oriented futures activities. BOB JUNGK also participated in this, and made a very helpful contribution to what was otherwise a wholly American presentation (SATISH SETH, from India, made perceptive comments from the floor).

Because an invited physicist could not attend at the last minute, I was sort of a "one man show" on another panel. There was to have been a discussion about my ideas on Quantum Politics, hinted at in this Newsletter, last issue, and also as contained in the recent Gottlieb Duttweiler proceedings of the conference on "Changing Lifestyles as Indicators of New and Cultural Values." I must admit that I was very pleased with the extremely large and very enthusiastic audience that attended that talk, and stayed through a lively discussion to the very end. We may be on to something here, after all!

Finally, two former students from the University of Hawaii, Jonathan Peck and Rik Scarce (now working for the Institute for Alternative Futures), presented a rather lengthy overview, past, present and future, of Teledemocracy and Electronic Town-meetings (ETM) on behalf of Professor Ted Becker (also of the University of Hawaii) and myself. It was very much an update of what has been transpiring since I reported on this briefly at the WFSF Stockholm meeting. A third student, Mike Babich, who is also a producer for Channel 4 television in Hawaii, prepared a very professional video document of ETM experiences in

Hawaii and elsewhere over the last several years. I was quite impressed by what I saw and heard on the tape. (Perhaps ROBERTO VACCA, also present, would give us his impressions of the panel.) It may be that having a good videotape is better than several good "live" presenters: the medium is the message, perhaps.

All in all, on the basis of my experience, I felt the WFS meeting was extremely worthwhile. I would welcome similar, or contrasting, views from other members of the Federation for inclusion in subsequent Newsletters. (Jim Dator)

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The Secretary-General Visits THE FUTURE ...EPCOT
(Report of Jim Dator's trip to Florida, U.S.A.)

Each of us no doubt has a set of Holy Obligations--a list of things we feel we should do as a consequence of our larger belief systems. One of the things that has been high on my list but only recently fulfilled has been a visit to EPCOT--Disney's manifestation of the Future and of The Rest of the Known World. There is Disneyland (and Disneyworld) for the Here and Now in America. There is EPCOT for the There and Then.

Long have I resisted making my trek to that which is most Holy for all Futurists. There are two reasons for my resistance: one is that I generally despise Disney's current worlds, and doubted that I would be enthralled by his edifices to the future. The second is that I spent several years of my youth growing up and playing in and around the fields of Central Florida out of which The Future currently sprouts. I resented this intrusion. (On the other hand, if those fields could have nurtured my views towards the future, why not Disney's, I suppose.)

Anyway, I took advantage of being on the East Coast of the U.S. and my visit to the World Future Society Assembly (which some believe to be a living functional equivalent to Disney's EPCOT in the first place) to make my trip of Holy Obligation.

I felt very much like Dorothy approaching the Emerald City in search of the Wizard of Oz, with the feelings of the Scarecrow, the Tinwoodsman, the Lion, and her dog Toto combined. (I hope this profound literary allusion crosses all cultures within the Federation.) And, to be truthful, I left feeling very much like all of those entities felt when they left the Emerald Cit-

y: the Wizard was a fraud; everything they were searching for was within them to begin with; they just needed a dummy to help them realize it; chastened, but genuinely wiser and stronger.

Try as I might, EPCOT turned out to be too good to hate. The place is certainly a fraud. The future displayed (and in spite of many different exhibits, there is only one future common to all of them) is so remorselessly "happy American" family-oriented Buck Rogers High Tech, whether brought to you by Kraft Processed Foods, Kodak, General Motors, General Electric, or the rest, that you certainly have to wonder what futurist, if any, could have advised them during their planning. And yet, as might have been expected from Disney, it is all so skillfully done that it is irresistible. One seldom has a chance to walk at one's own pace through the exhibits. Rather, you sit in a little moving cubicle which carries you, just a little too fast to catch everything--and there is much--going on, but not so fast as to confuse you. The message is always clear: The future--it is in good hands: ours, not yours; let it be; let it be. The exhibits are incredible robotic manifestations of past, present and future--no live people intrude anywhere. The narration and the soundtrack are superb, lifting your spirits, soothing you onward. And there are scent and temperature differences: you smell and feel the future as well as see and hear it. And it is all so grand and positive and bright and happy and ...Well, what does it make people feel? I left with truly mixed emotions: I could not resist the euphoria the place induced. But neither could I forget what else I know about the future.

Chastened, but, I hope, wiser and stronger.

I will not even comment on the other half of EPCOT--the exhibits of other parts of the world: Canada, England, Germany, France, Japan, China, Mexico, Morocco, (there must have been others too). I will not comment on the politics of who has been included, and who has been excluded from Disney's Known World. And I leave it up to those of you from Other Parts, as well as from elsewhere in the Future, to send in your evaluation of EPCOT for inclusion in another Newsletter. The Secretary General has made his report.

* * *

"HELP WANTED"

"HELP WANTED"

We received the following letter:

Dr. Jim Dator,

Thank you very much for your giving a report to the members of the Chinese Society for Futures Studies in Beijing. I am sending you the latest issue of our Newsletter.

Some universities in China want to offer the course of future studies. I would like to help them to collect some materials about future studies. Could you please send me some materials about them. I would appreciate it very much if you could send your textbooks of Future Science concepts. It would be very helpful to us.

Sincerely yours, Editors of Future and Development, Xue Huanyu, the Office of Higher Education Research, the Central Institute of Educational Science, 10 Beihuanxlu, Beijing, China

I hope members of the Federation will send materials or bibliographies to the address indicated.

* * *

J.G. KRISHNAYYA (Executive Director of the Systems Research Institute, 17-A Gultekdi, Pune 411 037, India) is responsible for a new Regional Information Centre for Development-Policy Modelling, including documentation, modelling and analysis and software. The Centre has been set up to raise the level of awareness in South and East Asia about the existence, availability, utility and benefits of large scale socio-economic models and, through provision of literature as well as hands-on modelling experience, to make it easier for government agencies, corporate bodies and academic and other research institutions to start using and building models.

Dr. Krishnaya writes that "we desperately need good coverage of source material in the field of models, modelling, methodology, and experience with models, and do warmly welcome any and all contributions." I know that several members of the Federation have expertise in large scale modelling, and they and others would doubtlessly like to learn from the Centre's experiences. I hope members of the Federation will respond to Dr. Krishnaya's request.

"HELP WANTED"

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A new member of the Federation, ANDREW FREEMAN, has sent information about a five year program of research and policy studies being carried out on "Recurrent Education for Australia." The term "recurrent education" is defined as "an inter-related set of policies and strategies aimed at promoting reallocation of educational opportunities. The opportunities are to be available to people throughout life, on a recurring basis, tailored to the various needs of individuals and groups."

The Centre would like help from Federation members in four aspects:

- the establishment of a network of people interested in furthering research and policy studies on Recurrent Education;
- the collection of data on education models/activities already in existence;
- the review of relevant publications; and
- the identification of persons willing to contribute to the Recurrent Education Program by proposing studies likely to complement or supplement the activities of the Program's core staff.

Persons interested should contact: Recurrent Education Program, Centre for Continuing Education, the Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra, Australia 2601

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An Information and Documentation Center on the Development of Intelligence has been set up within the Autonomous Institute National Library in Venezuela in connection with the work being done by LUIS ALBERTO MACHADO, Minister of State for the Development of Human Intelligence. It will be the repository of all technical documentation related to the projects carried out by the Ministry during its five years of operation. It is interested in making this information available to researchers and others interested in this innovative project. For more information contact: Instituto Autonomo Biblioteca Nacional, Centro de Documentacion e Informacion sobre el Desarrollo de la Inteligencia, Bolsa a San Francisco, Apartado 6526, Caracas 101, Venezuela.

* * *

From: J. Dator
To: the members of the WFSF

Report of the Dubrovnik Course, and
Announcement of the 1985 Course

I had hoped to be able to give a complete report of the 1984 futures studies course, sponsored at the Inter-University Centre of Postgraduate Studies in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, but I can only report on the portion in which I directly participated.

The theme of the two-week course was "Beyond 1984" with the first week focussing on "The Myths and Realities of Political Change." The course directors for the first week were RADMILA NAKARADA and ELEONORA MASINI. Additional instructors were MIHAILO MARKOVIC, ROLF HOMANN, SIMON NICHOLSON, JOHN SINTON, Joseph Rubenstein, Grega Tome, Mojca Pesec, Sveta Stojanovic, Ferenc Feher, Veljko Rus, and myself.

I found the week to be of extremely high intellectual and political interest, so much so that I would strongly urge as many members of the Federation as possible to consider attending next year's course, announced below. This is just the sort of future-oriented, focused, critical discussion that our Federation so sorely needs, and which the format of its world, and even regional, conferences seems not to facilitate. I believe there is something about a course which makes serious give-and-take easier than a conference and workshop does. At least that was our experience in Dubrovnik during this week.

THE NEXT DUBROVNIK COURSE will be from March 25 through April 5, 1985, on the theme, "Social Processes and New Technologies-- Progress or Danger?" I know this is a theme many members of our Federation are concerned about and would like to explore in more detail. Eleonora Masini, Radmila Nakarada, Rolf Homann and myself have agreed to serve as directors for the course. If you have inquiries about it, please contact any one of us. I hope we get good participation from all sectors of the Federation. [Jim Dator]

* * *

MAN - ENVIRONMENT - HEALTH: (Polish problems as seen from a future-oriented perspective); November 1984.

A group of sociologists and physicians connected with the Committee "Poland 2000" Polish Academy of Sciences initiated a

conference which is expected to discuss present and future problems of health in the context of environmental problems and in connection with some aspects of social life. Health is seen as one of the most important problems the Polish society faces today and will confront in the future. So, it can not be left to medical people only but should be seen and discussed in a much broader context, which is not only decisive from the point of view of existing and future threats and opportunities but is also decisive of the very essence of the idea of health.

The conference will be organized by the committee "Poland 2000" -in collaboration with two other committees of the Academy ("Man and Environment" and Committee for Human Ecology) and the Scientific Council to the Minister of Health, in November 1984.

Programme of the conference:

I. session: Human health in environmental context as seen from the point of different disciplines

1. Human being - in some selected perspectives: philosophical, anthropological, physiological, psychological, and sociological
2. Environment - in: geographical, ecological, sociological, medical, and psychiatric perspectives
3. Health - in: genetical, clinical medicine, environmental, cultural, and institutional perspectives
4. Proposals of a general definition of health and a definition of a healthy human being.

II. session: Health and social life (diagnoses and prognoses)

1. Demographic factors and health
2. Social inequalities and health
3. Social pathology and health
4. Individual and social well-being and health

III. session: Health and environmental threats

1. Phases of life and health:
 - developmental phase
 - productive phase
 - post-productive phase

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2. Most dangerous diseases
3. Main ecological threats
4. Threats in work environment (in industry and in agriculture)
5. Threats to mental health

IV. session: Social policy and health (perspectives and postulates)

1. System of law and problems of health and of environment
2. Environment protection
3. Standard of living
4. Nutrition
5. Sports and recreation
6. Work environment and work conditions

V. session: Medicine, health care, health service (perspectives and postulates)

1. Health and health care system in a world perspective
2. Medicine, medical and health education
3. Health service systems
4. Problems of prophylactic
5. Consideration on an ideal model of physician, and of models of other health service workers

VI. Session: General conclusions

The conference is expected to bring a report for social and health policies as well as a two volume publication of a more theoretical character.

Organizers of the conference want to get acquainted with similar "enterprises" and publication in other countries.

For further information contact:

Andrzej Sicinski, Committee "Poland 2000", Polish Academy of Sciences; PKiN, 00-901 Warszawa, Poland.

* * *

Prospective & Sante Publique is sponsoring a two-day international colloquim on "L'Hopital Hors Les Murs", October 11 and 12, 1984. Comparative experiences from France, Belgium, Sweden, and the United States on "le system de sante des soins gradues a domicile (SGD)" will be discussed.

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COURSES AND CONFERENCES

A conference on "Support Networks in a Caring Community" is organized by the Programming Board for Research into the Social Services, PCMD, in cooperation with the Ministry of Welfare, Health and Cultural Affairs and the National Council on Social Welfare, January 6-12, 1985 at The Hague, the Netherlands. Topics to be considered include: from welfare state to caring society; consequences of policy changes for primary support networks; consequences of recent economic policy; the significance of the built environment; and towards a policy that creates the conditions for a caring society. Contact PCMD, Noordeinde 39, 2514 GC The Hague, The Netherlands.

* * *

A new Federation member, TREVOR HANCOCK, announces a Working Conference on healthy public policy called "Beyond Health Care" to be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, October 9-12, 1984. Among the confirmed speakers are James Robertson whose book, The Sane Alternative, is very well known; Rick Carlson who is the author of "The End of Medicine" and "Future Directions in Health Care"; Fred Emery, author of "Towards a Social Ecology"; Hakan Hellberg, Health for All Strategy Coordinator for the World Health Organization, and others. For more information, contact Trevor Hancock at 64 Merton Street, Toronto, Ontario M4S 1A1, Canada.

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World Food Assembly meets in Rome on November 12 through 20 to examine food projects, programs and policies and to make recommendations to the United Nations and other governmental agencies. (Write WFA84 15 Devonshire Terrace, London Wa, UK)

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An international symposium on "Metropolis 84" will be held in Paris October 10-12, 1984 to consider the question "what kind of development for the major metropolitan regions at the dawn of the 3rd millenium?" Among the many persons listed as participating are IGNACY SACHS and MAHDI ELMANDJRA. For more information contact Metropolis 84 at 21-23, rue Mollis 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France. Tel 306.10.05.

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A conference on "The Asia-Pacific Culture--Its History and Prospects" will be held in Tenri, Japan December 15 and 16,

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1984. Participants are expected from most countries on or in the Pacific Basin. For more information contact Tenri Yamato Culture Bureau, 271 Mishima-cho, Tenri-shi, Nara-ken, Japan.

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The Second Session of the Provisional World Parliament will be held in New Delhi October 2-16, 1984. More information can apparently be gotten by writing Mr. K. Lakkappa, No. 1 B.D. Marg, New Delhi 110001, India.

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A recent Turning Point Newsletter says that a meeting of Turning Point is provisionally planned for Saturday November 17, 1984 on "The Future of Money" at Friends House, London. Contact Alison Pritchard, Spring Cottage, 9 New Road, Ironbridge, Shropshire TF8 7AU, U.K.

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What appears to be one of the most extensive meetings in the United States of persons working in mediation and other conflict resolution situations will be held at the University of Missouri, at St. Louis, September 20-23, 1984 on "Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution: Issues of an Emerging Field." ELISE BOULDING is listed as the main speaker at a plenary session on "Peacemaking and Citizens". For information about the conference contact the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602 USA.

* * *

A Call for papers has been issued by the Fifth International Symposium on Forecasting, which will be held in Montreal, Canada June 9 through 12, 1985. Abstracts, not to exceed 100 words, should be submitted before February 1, 1985 to the International Institute of Forecasters, C/O Dr. Estella Bee Dagum, Faculty of Management, McGill University, Montreal, Canada H3A 1G5

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PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

We believe all members of the Federation will be interested in purchasing copies of two recent publications by the Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute of WFSF-sponsored meetings. These are The Future of Political Institutions as Seen by Different Regional Cultures (1982) and Changing Lifestyles as Indicators of New and Cultural Values (1983). Write the Institute at Ruschlikon/Zurich, Switzerland.

* * *

We have received from the Committee for Future Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences a magnificent volume edited by Ervin Bona, EVA GABOR, Pal Sarkany and David Biro entitled Future Research in Hungary (Budapest: Akademiai Kiado, 1983). We expected to receive a book review from Europe on this, but it has not arrived by press time, so I am simply inserting this notice for the present, and will print the review when it arrives.

I read the volume with great interest over the summer and was extremely impressed with the depth and breadth of understanding of all aspects of futures studies which the volume illustrates. Twenty-eight different authors contributed essays which ranged from the history of Hungarian Future Research from 1965 to 1980; "Future Research and Future Building;" "The Future as History in a Marxist Perspective;" "World Economic Forecasts, World Models and their Hungarian Aspects;" "Methodological Experiences of Future Research in Hungary;" "The Relationship between Future Research and Socio-Economic Planning in Hungary;" and fourteen different sector analyses, including a very interesting analysis on "Prognostic Problems of the Socialist Way of Life." I urge our members to read this volume carefully, and would be pleased to report any comments I receive in subsequent Newsletters.

* * *

A very interesting survey of children's views of peace and the future was brought to our attention by GORAN BACKSTRAND, former Secretary General of the Federation. It is If Peace Comes... The Future Expectations of Jewish and Arab Israeli Children and Youth by Miriam Spielman of the Sociology Department of Lund University in Sweden. What follows is the abstract of this book:

This is a study of attitudes to the Jewish-Arab conflict and to peace among children and youth in Israel, and also asks whether these are likely to motivate them to act towards the creation of peace there.

Part I summarizes Jewish and Arab interpretations of recent history, discusses peace theories, and reviews previous studies of how young people in various populations perceive peace and international relations.

Part II presents the empirical research done. Free essays, "thoughts on peace", were written in school by 1,223 Jewish and Arab children in Israel before, as well as shortly after President Sadat's peace offer in Jerusalem in 1977. Ninety-five of these essays are reproduced and commented upon. The total set of essays were subjected to content analysis and to a more impressionistic study. Many similarities between Jews and Arabs are found. Before Sadat, younger children saw peace, as natural, whereas the older (17-18 years) would argue that peace is a well-defined but unrealistic ideal, of doubtful desirability, especially for Jews. Neither ethnic group was aware of its own part in the conflict, seeing themselves as helpless victims of each other.

After Sadat, the younger turned more sceptical, seeing that peace has a "price"; but the older strongly increased their hope for peace, became more imaginative, and reduced mutual blame. Still, almost everybody sees peace as beyond control of their own people. This will hardly motivate them to promote it. It is therefore important to encourage them to influence their societies, which may lead to their seeing peace as a process involving, in addition to past experiences, utopian visions, newness and otherness.

This book can be ordered by writing Alqvist and Wiksell International, P.O. Box 62, S-101 20 Stockholm, Sweden.

A.J.N. (Tony) JUDGE has recently published a collection of his writing from the journal, Transnational Associations, that I wish all members of the association would read: Transformative Conferencing: Problems and Possibilities on the new frontier of high-risk gatherings concerning social development (Published by the Union of International Associations, 40 rue Washington, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium). The problem of conferences is real, and one that has frequently bothered members of the Fed-

eration. Tony has tried, without a great deal of success, to get us to restructure our meetings so that they might be more effective and enjoyable. For those who may not have understood exactly what he had in mind, this book is the answer. Is there some way these suggestions could be incorporated into our next meeting? I would be interested in readers' comments.

The Union of International Associations in Brussels also announces the publication of 1984 Census of "World Problems" which will be an updated version, four years in the making, of the Yearbook of World Problems and Human Potential published in 1976.

A "world problem" is a phenomenon recognized in a number of countries. It is one whose dimensions are usually not fully defined by any one discipline and whose deprivations are not yet contained by any one group of organizations acting together. The aim is to confront divergent perceptions of world problems and of understanding of the different kinds of resources that could be brought to bear on them.

Professor SIRO PAOLO PADOLECCHIA offers an evaluation of the social consequences of the new technologies in his forthcoming book (1985), tentatively titled, Le défi du futur: la technologie au service de l'humanité. His contention is that while there are substantial problems for all nations, developed and developing, which are for the most part not being adequately addressed presently, these new technologies should enable us to be more hopeful about the future. The technologies which he sees as being particularly important are information and communications technologies and biotechnologies.

Several key paragraphs from his manuscript dealing with information technologies follow:

Les nouvelles technologies de l'information remettent, en effet, en cause la cohérence même de notre société humaine. La réalité future ne se situera évidemment plus de façon aussi tranchée à l'un ou à l'autre des pôles d'intérêt économique ou stratégique, mais le champ de possibilités sera ouvert et influencé par les besoins effectifs de la société et de l'individu, grâce aux nouveaux horizons ouverts par le développement technologique.

Le communauté et l'individu sont en train d'apprendre à vivre avec les technologies nouvelles, qui visent toujours plus aux activités quotidiennes (achats, transports, communications, loisirs, travail, éducation, transfert de fonds, santé et hygiène, culture et formation). L'interaction entre l'innovation sociale et l'innovation technologique débouche sur des créations d'emploi résultant de besoins nouveaux et des opportunités nouvelles dans les différents domaines économiques et sociaux, permettant aux individus de développer des nouvelles expériences nécessaires pour participer pleinement à la "société technologique ou post-industrielle" qui sera notre société de demain.

De façon plus générale, la solution de la crise économique et de l'emploi passe par d'intenses efforts d'innovation, aussi bien dans certains secteurs traditionnels (automobile, chimie, bâtiment, sidérurgie, etc.) que dans des activités plus modernes (énergie, environnement, communications, etc.). Le rôle clé est celui des petites et moyennes entreprises, ainsi que du secteur tertiaire, où se développera une nouvelle génération de services résultant d'innovations technologiques.

On abandonne, ainsi, graduellement, les vieux principes tayloristes qui sont à la base du modèle bloqué de la civilisation industrielle (un seul emploi, huit heures par jour, sur un lieu fixe), pour déboucher sur un modèle plus flexible qui transformera, à son tour, la notion globale du plein emploi en l'adaptant aux nouvelles conditions technologiques, sociales et économiques des années à venir. Ce processus est déjà en cours.

Au delà d'une description des grands enjeux stratégiques, les innovations technologiques permettront d'identifier une nouvelle série d'objectifs et de priorités à long terme, visant à une meilleure coopération au niveau local et international, centrée sur le progrès et la stabilité sociale et économique, dans le cadre de "la technologie au service de l'humanité", et correspondant aux grandes orientations récemment dégagées:

- les relations entre les nouvelles technologies et le travail
- le développement des systèmes de gestion et conservation des ressources naturelles
- l'émergence de nouveaux systèmes industriels dans les secteurs de la communication, de l'agriculture, de la santé et des services.

* * *

Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy, A Policy-Oriented Survey of The Future: Towards a Broader Perspective, 1983.

BART VAN STEENBERGEN, a member of the WFSF Executive Council and professor at the University of Utrecht, brought this publication to our attention. It is an English-language summary of the 25th Report of the Scientific Council to the Dutch government. In the letter accompanying the report, John Schoonenboom wrote, "In the report the Council elaborated a number of alternative futures based upon different ideologies, thus illustrating that the future doesn't just happen but is created by the action--or inaction--of men. The aim of this study is not, therefore, to predict the future but to help recognize important problems and provide a picture of where society will be faced with choices."

Specifically, the report considers several aspects of alternative futures according to the three dominant political ideologies in Holland today, namely liberalism, socialism, and Christian Democracy. In addition, each of the ideologies is considered from a technocratic and sociocratic orientation towards political activity: "Under a technocratic orientation high priority is attached to solving problems by means of state institutions and state-governed processes; the sociocratic orientation, by contrast, stresses problem solution by means of social institutions and processes."(p. 8)

The three futures were defined as follows (p. 18):

Towards a strengthening of the welfare state. The generic and sector-specific policies required for working towards export-led growth and employment forms a logical extension of the technocratic socialist view. By means of a general reduction in working hours such growth would create room for distributing both the right to work and income and the obligation to work and earn a livelihood among all employable individuals. The growth of non-commercial services and the necessity for an employment policy would require close attention to be paid to the socialization of demand.

Towards a guarantor state. The policies required to achieve consumption-oriented growth are primarily of a generic nature and consist particularly of creating the right con-

ditions for active domestic sales and exports. In terms of the sociocratic-liberal view, the unrestricted operation of the market for goods, services, capital and labour market, in particular, needs to be freed of its internal obstacles. To this end the welfare state would be reconstructed into a guarantor state in which citizens would be responsible for their own welfare, although with the ultimate protection of the safety-net provided by the state.

Towards a sustainable society. This perspective is directed towards voluntary austerity and stewardship, a development consistent with the sociocratic Christian Democratic view. An economy is envisaged in which the level and pattern of consumption could be used as a means of achieving sustainability and meaningful employment. An important policy instrument of a generic kind consists of increasing indirect taxes on energy and other resources and reducing taxes and other payments on the labour factor. The selective allocation of basic incomes would strengthen the productive forces in the autonomous or informal sphere and bring about a role differentiation that strengthened the sense of solidarity within the family and other small social units.

Each of these three futures were then considered internally according to policy differences in seven areas: distribution of primary income, unemployment, transfer incomes, in-kind transfers, government activities, taxes, savings and disposable income, and the structure of control. Policy consequences were then considered for distribution issues, production of goods and services, socio-economic policy, the environment, cultural policy, foreign policy, and public administration.

This is an exemplary study, in its English-language abridgement, and must be even more impressive in the fuller original. The breadth of factors considered is considerable, even though it may leave out futures you or I might prefer. If it has any fault it is that which is always attendant upon the alternative futures approach--that the systematic consideration of identical factors through several different futures gets tedious eventually. Those of you who have struggled through the recent book, Seven Tomorrows, will appreciate what I mean.

Nonetheless, for a responsible political research organization to consider three such different futures (rather than several variations of one--most likely that of "strengthening of the welfare state") is absolutely refreshing. I would think this

study should be read closely and adapted appropriately by anyone in or advising government elsewhere in the world.

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HUGUES DE JOUVENEL announces the publication of the 12th edition of Bibliographie Prospective by Futuribles International. This bulletin abstracts new books and articles which deal with new ideas and contemporary world trends. A detailed subject index in English and French and an author index are printed in a format that facilitates filing the information directly as the researcher wishes. Cost is 500 FF. in EEC countries and 700 FF. elsewhere. Write 55, rue de Varenne F 75007, Paris, France for more information.

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I have long maintained that the most useful single publication for futurists to be published in the USA is Future Survey, edited by MICHAEL MARIEN. Do you know also that these monthly publications are re-formatted into Future Survey Annual? They are, and Future Survey Annual 1983 is available. Abstracts of English-language publications (periodical articles as well as books) are arranged in the Annual under seventeen headings: World Futures; International Economics; World Regions and Nations; Defense and Disarmament; Energy; Environment and Resources; Food and Agriculture; General US Directions; The Economy; Work; Spatial Affairs (Cities, Regions, Housing, Transportation); Justice; Health; Families and Education; Communications; Science and Technology; and Shaping the Future.

There are also articles indexed by "Major Hopes and Fears, 1983"; Worldview: The Intertwining of Global and US Concerns"; "Fifty Paths to US and Global Security"; "Sixty Paths to Economic Health"; "Highlights of Future Survey Annual 1983"--the "best" of the Annual; and "Some Highlights of Next Year's Future Survey Annual: A Forecast".

It is an excellent publication, and well-indexed, too.

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Harvester Press is distributing a new book edited by SAM COLE and IAN MILES, Worlds Apart--The Future of Global Inequality. They emphasize the need to take inequalities of income, wealth and power as central to the issues of world development. Global inequalities and the question of distribution within coun-

tries are both considered. [Available for £22.50 (British pounds sterling) at 16 Ship Street, Brighton, Sussex, U.K.]

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GERALD O. BARNEY, who was author of the US government's study, The Global 2000 Report to the President, issues now a Global Perspective Quarterly (write: P.O. Box 33247 Decatur, Georgia 30033 USA). The winter 1984 issue contained brief mentions of "Year 2000" projects in five nations: Poland, China, Mexico, Iceland, and Korea.

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One of the things this office receives regularly and reads with interest is Zukunftsforschung, the official organ of the Swiss Society for Futures Research. It is an excellent compilation, in brief snippets, of key parts from futures research journals and other sources of information about the future. They solicit items to be included in German, French, Italian or English. Contact Dr. Gerhard Kocher, Brunnenwiesli 7, 8810 Horgen, Switzerland.

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When I was at the June Assembly of the World Future Society, in Washington, discussing the possibility of emergence, in the late 1980s, of an "underground polity" in the USA (people who presently have chosen to drop out of political participation because of the obsolescence of political structures as well as the focus of political debate,) I was challenged to give quantitative evidence of that possibility. I said I could not. The questioner said he could. He was Lester Milbrath, director of the Environmental Studies Center at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He said he had just completed a three nation survey which demonstrates that such an "underground" does exist, and might emerge "above ground" shortly. His conclusions have been published in Environmentalists: Vanguard for a New Society which is available from the State University of New York Press, 300 Raritan Centern Parkway, Edison, New Jersey 08818 USA for \$10.00 (USA).

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The Newsletter of the Center for Futures Research (Graduate School of Business Administration, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089 USA) lists four new

publications which may be of interest to members of the Federation. Two are free for the asking: the Twelfth Annual Report, 1984 and US/World Business Conditions, 1984-2004: The Prospectus for the 10th Twenty-Year Forecast. Two others cost \$3.00 (USA) each: Future Influences on Management Education and Political Risk Analysis for Canada and Mexico.

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A Special Supplement on "The State of Health of the Welfare State" was published by the Health Herald of Geneva as a special English-language edition of Prospective & Santé edited by MICHEL SALOMON. The condition is addressed from the point of view of experiences in more than ten Western nations. For more information write: 9, rue Alfred de Vigny 75008 Paris, France.

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The World Watch Institute's report on "Progress Toward a Sustainable Society", The State of the World 1984, by Lester Brown and others is available from the World Watch Institute at 1776 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20036 USA.

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New publications by several members of the Federation were found in the 1984 listings of the World Policy Institute (777 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017 USA). These include BURNS WESTON (ed.) Toward Nuclear Disarmament and Global Security and RICHARD FALK, The End of World Order. Both RICHARD FALK and SAUL MENDLOVITZ are co-editors of International Law and Just World Order and The United Nations and a Just World Order.

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Among the periodical publications coming to the Secretariat dealing with peace are Evolution: The Press as an Instrument for Peace and World Unity (via Marco d'Agrate, 19/A, 20139 Milano, Italy); the premiere edition of Green Light News (119 Canal Street, Liberty Square, P.O. Box 12 Ellenville, New York 12428); "One Family--the Newsletter of Planetary Citizens", (P.O. Box 1715 New Rochelle, New York 10802 USA) which is celebrating its tenth anniversary; and Breakthrough: Global Education Associates Newsletter published by GERALD MISCHÉ (College of Saint Teresa, Winona, Minnesota 55987 USA). Global

Education Associates is also in its 10th year and issued an impressive set of new directions for itself involving the strengthening of GEA's global network while giving greater flexibility for grassroots movement-building as well as the creation of a Center for Human Development and World Order. They invite communication with people interested in cooperating with them over the next ten years.

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A person who has been a major figure in futures studies for many years--the theoretical chapters in the book which he co-authored with James Mau, Images of the Futures, being one of the best elaborations of the utility of futures studies--has recently joined the Federation, and sent in an extraordinarily interesting recent article. He is WENDELL BELL, Professor of Sociology at Yale University. The article is "The Use of False Prophecy to Justify Present Action: The Case of the American Invasion of Grenada." The paper is a revision of one read at a symposium on "Grenada--a Postmortem," sponsored by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Connecticut in April 1984.

Weaving various aspects of George Orwell's 1984 together with the concept of "images of the future", he demonstrates the ways various "false prophecies" were projected by the American Administration to justify subsequent military actions--changing as each new "success" was achieved in order to justify still further actions. As Bell says, "This record of hostility need not have been the case. Tensions between the United States and Grenada could have been eased, talks regularly held, ambassadors exchanged, American aid given to Grenada in return for open monitoring of activities there, and continued friendly pressure applied on Bishop to hold elections and maintain public liberties." (p. 22) "Or, we can send the truth down the memory hold and join Orwell's totally defeated character, Winston Smith drinking Victory Gin at his cafe, the Chestnut Tree, writing with his finger in the dust on the table, '2 + 2 = 5.'" (p. 30)

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JOHN FORJE (P.O. Box 3011, S-220 03, Lund Sweden) sends notice of a book which he has edited entitled, Third World Development and the Myth of International Cooperation. Twenty authors, some of them members of WFSF, contributed to the volume which is in five sections: The conceptual and ideological setting;

alternative perspectives in political economy; the nature and consequences of the international environment; the essential dimensions of development; and the dynamics of the neglected group (namely, women). The book may be ordered by writing the author directly.

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One of our long-time members from Canada, T. RAN IDE (307 Chartland Blvd. S., Scarborough, Ontario M1S 3P4, Canada) sent in a paper which he gave to the Second Annual Conference on Canada, The World and the Future, at the University of Alberta in February 1984. The paper is an excellent summary and evaluation of the subject matter indicated by the title, "The Effects of Technological Changes on Man and Society", and includes two, among many other, interesting points. One is a quotation from the MIT professor, Dr. Weizenbaum, who has done so much work on artificial intelligence already: "There are those who believe that computers can, should and will do everything. On the other hand, there are those like myself who believe that there are limits to what computers ought to be put to do." (p. 29) This statement is interesting because it implies that computers can (or will be able to) do anything, and that determining their limits, if any, is likely to be a major political question in the immediate future.

The second was a discussion of the educational systems of the present which Ide characterizes as "geared to the needs of the past." He specifically emphasizes literacy, which he admits is a serious, and global question. But he wisely extends the meaning of the term: "Literacy is no longer limited to reading and writing. Today it includes many other elements. The ability to distinguish fact from propaganda on TV; an understanding of computers and their languages; to know where knowledge is stored and how to access it. If we don't provide these, then our societies will become the victims rather than the beneficiaries of the information age." (p. 30)

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ON NEW FEATURES IN THE NEWSLETTER

MICHAEL MARIEN (5413 Webster Road, LaFayette, New York 13084 USA) offered the following comments about the four new features

we suggested last newsletter:

Portents. I don't think that this is a good idea because there are far too many. Future Survey Annual brings together several hundred in a systematic way and summarizes major hopes and fears in an overview chart. Random reporting in your newsletter, especially if you don't exercise any editorial judgment, is simply random chit-chat that adds to info-glut and distracts from understanding.

Reflections. Yes, this does belong in a newsletter, which stresses the more personal, informal side of the "profession". The example that you give on p. 22 of a 12-year old speech by John Naisbitt is excellent, although you did not give the published source, which I would very much like to have.* [Note: I do not know if it was published.] You ask whether he was accurate, and in my judgment he was flat wrong on seven items and half-right on three items (#3, 6, and 7) which adds up to pretty poor in any league. More important than his accuracy, you might ask what is the basic pattern that leads to error (Naisbitt is not forecasting, but making hortatory statements about sexy ideas so as to create self-fulfilling prophecies--the same technique that he uses in Megatrends.) and why "professional" futurists take Naisbitt seriously.

Half-Baked Ideas. (Or, "Ideas in Process" as a less offensive alternative, which was used already as the title of an ill-fated series of monographs published by Marion Boyars c1976-1981.) Anyway, the mainstream academic journals may still be pretty stuffy, but the futures journals have plenty of half-baked ideas, and I don't think that you should make a point of soliciting more, although an occasional humorous item might be OK. On the other hand, a public disclosure of one's research/writing agenda is a good idea.

Materials and Methods. Yes, quite appropriate for the newsletter, especially odd-ball books that one might not otherwise ever come across, e.g. Margaret Matlin and David Stang, The Pollyanna Principle: Selectivity in Language, Memory, and Thought (Cambridge, Mass.: Schenkman, 1978/226 p.) which draws together an immense amount of psychological research to show our (American?--never specified) disposition toward optimism. Also (my wife brought this one to my attention), Rupert Crawshaw-Williams, The Comforts of Unreason: A Study of the Motives behind Irrational Thought (London: Kegan Paul, 1947/206 p.), in which philosophical insights are offered which would probably run roughshod over 90% of what is today considered to be "futurist" thinking.

Question: while you try to initiate four new features, whatever happened to letters, comments, and exchanges? This is often the liveliest part of a newsletter, and I hope that you will encourage it. [Consider it encouraged.]

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FROM THE MEMBERS

A very good letter was received from Dr. SATISH C. SETH (A 3E, Pandara Road, New Delhi 110003, India) which told of his recent activities including workshops on Anticipatory Management; an AIR National Programme Lecture Series on India 2001 AD, which he devised, initiated and inaugurated in a broadcast on January 28, 1983; and a book of short stories and plays for children to help them grasp the concept of the future and likely developments in the field of science and technology.

He also included several interesting suggestions for consideration by the membership of the Federation which are reproduced below:

1) WFSF should pay more attention to take steps to introduce futures studies (by directly contacting various countries and through Unesco) as integral to the school and college curriculum. It is only through this step that we will be able to achieve a certain legitimacy to this important inter-disciplinary subject. I am afraid that even in advanced countries, we have a microscopic minority who, professionally, would like to look at the future: the rest of the people have a very casual attitude towards it. In fact, in some third world countries, it could be a subject of ridicule.

2) Secondly, WFSF should develop regional and countrybased chapters on the lines similar to World Futures Society's chapters in different states of the USA. These chapters would be distinct entities and not like institutional members of WFSF. Also, to overcome the foreign exchange remittance problems let the fees be collected in local currency and deposited in a bank on behalf of WFSF. I am confident that a world federal apex organisation should not imitate either the elitist format of the Club of Rome or the entrepreneurial extravaganza of the World Future Society.

3) At the Berlin Conference, I had drawn the attention of the then President and Secretary-General in an informal meeting which was attended by more than fifty (50) people from the various countries, that the Executive Committee of WFSF should not make major decisions which amount to altering its constitution without making a due reference to its constituent members.

Finally, we cannot serve the cause of futures studies but through encouraging, sponsoring and getting sponsored serious scientific research in futurology. In many countries including India, even well intentioned people, professors, scientists and science administrators inevitably pose the question as to where is the research in this subject that it should be recognized on a formal basis?

It may be that a very practical way for the Federation to do what Dr. Seth recommends is found in the proposal for a series of publications on dialogues made by the members of Committee Poland 2000.

* * *

The following proposal was submitted by Jan Danecki and Danuta Markowska, Committee "Poland 2000"

Proposal concerning WFSF studies of dialogue and a book series Dialogue for the Future.

From the beginning of its existence the WFSF has been an advocate of a dialogue conceived much more deeply than merely a means of negotiations or an immediate remedy to various threats. Its studies support the idea of dialogue as the basic way of problem-solving in interhuman relations of various kinds and levels, including global ones. We would say that to create a pattern of dialogue is to create a culture of coexistence among cultural, ideological, social and other diversities through the discovery of their symbiotic properties. So understood a dialogue offers ways of conduct in a variety of situations - from open problems evoking most varied ideas to dramatic controversies. It can be successfully applied to all spheres of life - from privacy and the family to the quest for global solutions.

Conferences organized by the Federation, such as the one held in Cairo in 1978, and other working meetings dealt with dialogue so understood, even if the very term "dialogue" was not

particularly emphasized. What is important, in a Federation which groups representatives of various cultures and world views, is that such dialogue is constantly being improved. A continuity of dialogue is of utmost importance as it gives it a cumulative quality: it is being perfected through practice.

Our proposal is to continue this promising tendency in a more developed and systematic way. We believe that the Federation could sponsor a long-range programme of studies on the various dimensions of dialogue and initiate a unique series of publications called "Dialogue for the Future".

Books appearing in this series would contain results of studies and discussions within the Federation and inspire new studies. Each volume would have a monographic character and be devoted to selected problems, such as, education as instruction and dialogue; opposition: masculinism-feminism; generation gaps; work as a dialogue; axiology vs. technology assessment; socio-political conditions of dialogue; intercultural communication as a way to discover the symbiotic properties of cultural diversity, etc.

This enumeration is, obviously, only an example. The objective is, indeed, to develop this series so that it stimulates initiatives on the part of the WFSF members.

Included here is an outline of a book that seems to be relevant to such a series. Its title could be "Epistemological and ethical problems of dialogue". The authors of this note could assume responsibilities of editors, together with Eleonora Masini who has already agreed to cooperate in this. Also results of the proposed study "Perspectives on Good- and Mal-Development. An exercise in intercultural and interparadigmatic dialogue", the outline of which we also attach, could be published in this series.

An outline of the book Epistemological and ethncial problems of dialogue.

In suggesting publication of this collective volume, we make the following assumptions:

It is a common illusion to think that homogenization leads to agreement and increases effectiveness of cooperation. The way to mutual understanding goes through the dialogue that discovers symbiotic properties in diversity.

The present and especially the future interdependence means coincidence in time and space of various arguments, criteria and principles of action. Permanent disagreement will be thus an obvious state of things. What is sought, however, is that solutions not only leave both sides undestroyed but also let problem solving operate according to the principle of synergy, so as to assure that both sides gain more than would be the amount of gains from solutions worked out separately.

Dialogue is a way to overcome the particularism of our knowledge of ourselves and others - a way to a "polyocular approach" (to use M. Maruyama's term) or at least a way to create readiness for polyocularity.

An important problem dwells here: creating the capability to analyse phenomena and processes simultaneously from various cultural perspectives of epistemology. An ethical problem can also be found here - the moral readiness to recognize otherness, to accept somebody else's arguments.

There is a strong relation between these two dimensions: culturally conditioned epistemology and culturally conditioned moral evaluation.

Engagement in dialogue involves both cognitive and emotional spheres of its participants and sharpens arguments of all sides. At the same time, as a result of being open to the arguments of others, dialogue is a dramatic experience of the relativity of one's own views. If this is not to bring about confusion or loss of one's identity, a deep epistemological and ethical self-cognition of all participants is necessary.

It seems it is worthwhile to invite, among others, the following authors: K. Mushakoji - tasks of the scientific revolution set to dialogue; A. Judge - how to cope with permanent disagreement; M. Maruyama - the role of polyocular epistemology in dialogue; R. Ruffino - intercultural education; B. Suchodolski - the problems of a peace-creating culture; J. Durham - the dialogue of man and nature; R. Jungk - the significance of dialogue in the situation he defines as a "human quake".

Jan Danecki declares his readiness to prepare a paper on the tasks which the order of misunderstandings and a need for the creation of an order of understanding set to the dialogue. Danuta Markowska declares her readiness to present positive and negative experiences of reaching an agreement.

This is not a complete list of items, and we believe many new ideas will emerge from the discussion with the third co-editor, E. Masini.

A Note from J. Dator: Several members of the Federation have already seen and discussed this proposal and would like to get the evaluation of the membership more generally. Would you then please let me (or any of the three co-editors) know your reaction. We are especially interested in knowing:

- 1) If you would be interested in participating in this series by providing a manuscript;
- 2) If you would be interested in purchasing the publications in this series;
- 3) If you think this series would attract a sufficiently large audience to be financially viable; and
- 4) Specifically what you think of the idea of placing advertisements in selected futures magazines asking people to send in pledges to buy one or more publications of the series. It has been suggested that this might be the best way to determine if there is a market for this series.

[Please give us your reactions to these four points.]

* * *

MICHAEL MARIEN sent a copy of a letter to us which he also submitted to the New York Times. He asked us to print it if the Times did not. Since it didn't, we will, because it suggests a role which the WFSF itself might play--for example at its World Assemblies, or in regional meetings, or as a special feature. While Marien's concerns derive from rather specifically American aspects of the debate, the solution he suggests might be more appropriate if there were a "neutral" global forum available. Comments from readers would be appreciated.

To the Editor: Sustained Debate on Basic Assumptions Needed

In questioning a children's television spot on nuclear war, Ernest W. Lefever argues that the 30-second advertisement "distorts reality, sponsors unreasoning fear and encourages utopian illusions" (Letters, New York Times, May 10).

Mr. Lefever goes on to advocate sound education about nuclear arms and the need "to expose dangerous myths that have poisoned

public discourse." He notes three, which I paraphrase: First, Mr. Lefever insists that the bomb is not the enemy, but that "the Soviet Union is the greatest danger to peace and freedom in the world." Second, he does not see a freeze on nuclear arms making war less likely, but imagines great difficulty in verifying a freeze and assumes USSR nuclear superiority. Third, he suggests that the policy of deterrence is not dangerous because it has been 100% successful for the last 35 years and is thus likely to continue to be successful.

But one wonders if Mr. Lefever himself "distorts reality" of who or what is to blame for world tensions, "sponsors unreasoning fear" of Soviet strength, and "encourages utopian illusions" of continued deterrence.

Many informed commentators have argued that, rather than being inherently aggressive, the Soviets are paranoid--and made more so by American actions and rhetoric. Numerous observers have stated that a freeze can be verified, and that Soviet/Warsaw Pact forces, despite a recent build-up, are still not superior to US/NATO forces. And, although deterrence--or just plain luck--has kept nuclear weapons leashed for the past 35 years, it is far less likely that we will be so fortunate in the next 35 years because of destabilizing technological advances, recent major revisions in U.S. military doctrine, growing animosities between the superpowers, and the likely spread of nuclear weapons to other countries and even to terrorist groups.

Mr. Lefever's questionable assumptions about Soviet intentions, Soviet strength, and the future of deterrence are, of course, the foundation of the Reagan Administration's militarization. This greatly expanded military build-up, perhaps more than any other factor, has created huge deficits in the Federal budget and threatens the U.S. and the world economy. It would thus seem reasonable to thoroughly consider the truthfulness of these basic beliefs before betting the company--in this instance, the fate of our nation and perhaps the world--on what may be a simplistic ideological indulgence.

Sparring with Lefever or anyone else on the Letters page of the Times cannot clearly reaffirm these key assumptions, or discredit them to the point of abandonment. A commission of inquiry too often lacks neutrality and sufficient breadth, as well as the continuity to continuously examine the ever-changing factual underpinnings to these grave matters. Rather, we need a new approach: sustained and serious debate where a number of national security experts and informed critics can pub-

lically examine each other's assumptions and putative facts. Because Mr. Lefever seems assured of his facts, he will doubtlessly be willing to engage in a thorough examination of the full panoply of real threats to our nation. But we do not, at present, have a forum for such an examination.* We have a flood of books, journals, and articles on nuclear weapons, arms control, military strategy, policies for peace, and world order schemes--but, remarkably, we do not have a mechanism other than the political process to discuss, debate, refine, and combine this thinking.

I agree with Mr. Lefever that we should "exorcise" myths in our public discourse. Indeed, the first myth to dispel is that our public discourse is adequate to the problems that we face. Once we recognize the genuine debate that is required, we must secure adequate funding. We need some consortium of concerned individuals, corporations, universities, and/or foundations (not unlike the Bipartisan Budget Appeal) to underwrite a major, ongoing, open forum on this most serious of public issues. There is not a more important set of questions that underlies the future of American defense--and economic well-being.

Michael Marien

*This might be an updated, specialized version of Bertrand de Jouvenel's "surmising forum".

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ACTIVITIES

The Federation's upcoming Conference on The Future of Peace has already had a positive impact. The acting President of the University of Hawaii, Dr. Albert Simone, was so impressed by the curriculum and idea of the University for Peace in Costa Rica, that he immediately convened a group of faculty and administrators together at the University of Hawaii to consider what they should do to emphasize peace studies at the University.

The President's immediate impulse was to send a letter to Hawaii's U.S. Senator, Sparky Matsunaga, whose legislation for a Peace Academy, to balance the U.S. Government's present military academies, is likely to be passed by the U.S. Congress. President Simone wanted Sen. Matsunaga to be a keynote speaker

at an international meeting of peace-research scholars who could advise the University on its own curriculum.

This meeting--now likely to be a series of meetings--will still take place, but a group of people at the University already very active in peace studies recommended that the international meetings be conducted in concert with actions which will strengthen existing peace research activities on campus. Thus, it is not likely that we will hold the first of these symposia before the Costa Rica Conference itself is held in December. It had been my hope that we might use such a meeting as a small regional preparatory gathering for the Costa Rica conference. That now does not seem likely.

But, it is not likely that the impetus for reconsidering the curriculum of the University of Hawaii in the light of the need for creating cultures of peace instead of war will be thwarted.

The foresight and courage of Costa Rica is one of the reasons why we should be able to act as forthrightly as I anticipate.

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All three channels of National Television in Germany were tuned to the future on July 24 when the four hour program, "Roads into the Future" was broadcast. Featured during this extraordinary event were ELEONORA MASINI, MAHDI ELMANDJRA, WILLIS HARMAN, GERHART BRUCKMANN, and Christian Lutz of the Duttweiler Institute. The discussion ranged from current hopes and fears for the future, the impact of technology on society, lifestyles and the future, to suggestions for decision-makers.

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LOUIS ANTOINE DERNOI (9903-104 Street, Suite 1205, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0E4 Canada) participated in a series of seminars on Settlement Futures which involved participation from twenty-one countries (thirteen from Western Europe, six from Eastern Europe, and two from North America) and seven international organizations. Teams from each country developed scenarios of their settlement futures which were then critiqued in the seminars. Common themes found in all or most national scenarios were then extracted and analyzed. The following conclusions come from the shorter version of their 150 page final report:

Conclusions

Two very broad closing remarks have been made. One is that housing and planning policies are likely to take on prominence in the political sphere, especially on the local level. (Building, in the form of new construction will, in some countries, play a lesser role than in the past). The other note, partly beyond the scope of settlement policies in the established sense, is the importance of cultural problems and changing values. Since culture and values interact with material circumstances, understanding them is essential for policy-making in the long term perspective.

Following the above, conclusions will be drawn by two groups of themes: the less tangible, societal ones and those of physical/spatial nature.

Conclusions in socio-economic domains

The most critical factor is a change in work and the ensuing change in time use. The production of a given quantity of industrial goods requires less and less manpower. This trend is expected to continue, probably at an accelerated pace because of increased use of new technologies. Total employment, till the recent past, nevertheless, was stable or has even increased because of (the mostly public) service sector expansion, and gradual reductions in the average working time.

The perspectives for the future, however, are less clear. One may envisage a continued decline in aggregate working time but how this will be distributed among the population remains an open question. As a result of a decrease in working hours, free time shall increase. In some countries, the importance of an informal economy will no doubt grow simultaneously. This is also spurred by the fact that goods have been becoming cheaper while wages and services grow more costly.

On the other hand, in some countries, a stagnation or contraction of the service sector will leave a host of important tasks unfilled, particularly in the field of personal care. These jobs shall be partly but by no means automatically, replaced by other forms of work. It is foreseen that nearly all work outside the formal economy, will be done at or close to home.

Even today many people spend much time at activities in or around their homes. However, the home and its surroundings could take on even greater importance if larger groups of

people find themselves outside the formal labour market. This could result in more work done in the community where local organization and social networks exist or could be created. Local exchange of services, as well as goods, can help build new social networks and in this way revitalize a neighbourhood.

By and large, in certain countries, "privatization" has, until now, been the dominating trend. A more local, "communal" type of development, desired by many, and feasible, according to some scenarios, would require a new partnership between local government, groups of people and citizens generally. In market-economy countries future developments might exclude from the formal economy a sizeable number of young people as well as other groups not perfectly matching labour market requirements. Immigrants, the young and the unemployed tend to congregate in dense urban areas or in areas abandoned by industry. This might lead to severe social conflicts which could be solved only through new approaches to such problems, in an over-all economic and social sense.

Similarly to the above, the ageing of the population and a likely lowering of the retirement age might put a large group of elderly activities and service facilities for reasons of dignity, self esteem and, not unfrequently, for economic reasons. If the labour market shrinks, and no redistribution of work takes place, young people without special qualifications may not be able to enter the market. A lower retirement age will exclude a large number of older people. The market for unskilled labour will have few opportunities. So two main sets of people will characterize the labour market; on the one hand, the young, the elderly and the unskilled, with only casual connections to the scene of paid work, and, on the other hand, the well qualified, aged between 30 and 60, with well paid jobs, good economic resources and little leisure (due to constant upgrading and other obligations).

In examining the way these trends might affect various groups of people, one might be led to the conclusion that social division will sharpen: certain sets of people may have plenty of (unwanted) leisure, others may have very little. Income and work being interdependent, economic resources will be unequally distributed while living conditions, determined by economic resources, will be sharply differentiated and segregated.

In the face of this possible future of a "dual" society, some scenarios had discussed countermeasures and alternatives to the

dichotomy. They contained elements of an equitable "sharing" of paid work and the vitalization of a neighbourhood-based informal economy, whole "alternative" set of development features.

Conclusion of physical/spatial implications

The low growth of the global economy, the glaring disparities between the richest and poorest parts of the world and the alarming threats of the global environment do, in some countries, pose additional uncertainties to the long-range policy options available.

The deterioration of the natural environment is, among other elements, a major negative consequence of industrial growth. In the long run the ecological dimensions may eventually appear as dominant. The trend of environmental degradation has to be reversed, through international arrangements and national policies, which must directly concern households, settlement development, agriculture, manufacturing, and energy production. Otherwise, the carrying capacity of the natural environment will become so low that whole ecosystems may die. In the short and medium run restoring the balance may increase the financial burden on public and private agencies, taxes may have to be raised and other activities given lower priority. In the long term, governments will have to integrate more fully the ecological element into their development strategies.

Densely populated "old industrialized" regions affected by the new international division of labour have been facing serious problems. Pollution, unattractiveness for new industries, financial problems seemingly preclude betterment. Especially centres of large agglomerations were thus losing importance.

In market-economy countries, construction will probably stagnate, or even decrease but more resources could accordingly be devoted to improvements, renewal and rehabilitation. Decline of some older centres could create difficulties but, with carefully chosen policies, a lesser stress may be turned into a social and cultural advantage in the long run.

Small and medium-sized towns have better opportunities for development, particularly if they were well situated in relation to natural amenities. The cost of living might also be lower in such areas and chances for local co-operative production greater. The problems of agglomerations can sometimes

be solved exactly by creating opportunities in rural areas or medium-sized towns.

As a result of continued urbanization and increasing leisure time, the demand for recreational areas rich in natural endowments has also increased. Massive building of recreational or second homes had set off a process very similar to the agglomeration trend threatening those very same natural riches that have attracted recreational activities, there, in the first place. Ways to avoid these problems would be through encouraging dispersion of tourism either in the established network or by opening up new week-end areas.

Generally, the strategy of so-called decentralized concentration can ease pressure on large agglomerations and help to protect green open spaces. This strategy covers the expansion of a number of medium-sized cities, the distribution of traffic flow and use of recreational facilities near the cities; it also strengthens possibilities of providing technical and social infrastructure and permanent services in rural areas.

Decentralized concentration may help to reduce interregional migration from mainly rural areas to agglomeration, thus give educated and dynamic young people in non-central locations better opportunities to stay in their native region.

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What follows are notes on a presentation by Dr. Jim Dator to members of the Oregon Commission on Futures Research, June 29, 1984, prepared by Steven Ames, Long Range Planning Consultant, of the Columbia Willamette Futures Forum:

Dr. James Dator, noted futurist, was the guest speaker at a breakfast for members of the Futures Research Commission, Friday, June 29. The purpose was to share some of his insights on State involvement in futures research and planning with Commission members. The following notes are a brief gleaning of some of Dr. Dator's major points.

From his overall involvement in the area of state futures research and planning, there are five general observations Dr. Dator would share with Oregon Futures Commission members. These could be stated as qualities the Commission needs to cultivate in order to adequately fill its mandate:

1) A Sense of Optimism and/or a Sense of Crisis. The most highly active and successful futures programs happen either because they are based on a profound sense of excitement concerning possibilities for the future and/or a perceived sense of crisis that startles them into action. Both are possible. Crisis-motivation, however, does not mean that you should be attempting to resolve current crises. Rather, you should focus on identifying and planning for the future and potential future crises. You must maintain a long range perspective.

2) A Sense of Leadership and Participation. Your commission must openly take an active leadership role in identifying both challenges and opportunities facing the future of the state. It needs to be "proactive" in its approach and a strong advocate of the long range perspective.

At the same time, you must also involve as many people as possible in this dialogue, and begin to develop a "futures" constituency that is involved in articulating future directions for the state. Participation in the form of public understanding and acceptance of the Commission's mission is critical to its success.

3) A Sense of Alternatives. Very important. You must seriously consider a number of alternative directions for the state and its future economy, or run the risk of not breaking the narrow thinking that characterizes most short range planning. This may mean entertaining unconventional ideas and information. You can effectively employ scenarios and other long range planning techniques in developing distinct options for the state's future.

4) A Sense of Continuity. You must move beyond producing reports that wind up on the shelf. It is vitally important that there are follow-up activities and recommendations built into the work of the Commission that lead directly into other activities, be it legislation, economic development, planning, public involvement, etc.

5) A Sense of Humor. Seriously. Too much heaviness can be self-defeating. You can accomplish your mission while having some fun in the process, particularly in promoting public dialogue--futures fairs, television programming, etc. A little creativity invested in the Commission's work will enliven your work and balance your more serious message to the public.

Overall, Dr. Dator would describe the work of a futures commission as primarily educational in content: Self-Education, in that the commission and its staff are involved in generation and reviewing information central to the discussion of the state's future directions; and Public Education, in that the commission uses that information to involve a wider public audience in its dialogue.

What exactly constitutes a long range/futures timeframe? Generally, a 1 to 2 year planning timeframe can be considered current, and issues or crises that fall within that timeframe the realm of elected officials, legislators and the vast majority of both public and private sector decision-makers. Three to five years, on the other hand, can involve a greater degree of "trend research" and other forms of prediction. Most policy planning and strategic planning realistically dwells within this timeframe.

Beyond five years is the timeframe that is the true realm of most futures research, involving greater emphasis on less predictable trends and events, or what is sometimes called "emerging issues." This should be the timeframe of your commission's work.

Within that timeframe, there might be two overall areas of substantive investigation:

1) Issues/Information/Data--both the anticipated impacts of future issues on current decision-making and planning and the probable impacts of current decision-making and planning on the future. You really are looking at a two-way street.

2) Values/Vision--what are the underlying values of the various state scenarios being considered? Which values are most consistent with the desired end scenario for the state, and vice versa? This more subjective, qualitative dialogue is nonetheless critical to the Commission's mandate.

Dr. Dator added that if there is as much unanimity over the "Oregon values" already articulated by the commission as among the wider public, then the participation component of the Commission's work may not need to be as elaborate. The relevant question is: is there already a preferred scenario for the state's future in force?

Relevant to the discussion of values, it may be useful to somehow involve the state judiciary in the commission's dialogue.

The judiciary is an institution with inherently more continuity than most political institutions, and one daily involved in helping to create the value-basis for the future.

The state's educational system, as well, is certainly involved in the future values question.

Finally, Dr. Dator advised that the commission be as finely tuned to process as it is to product. It must be willing to create an educational process and to sell that process. This will have more impact than any specific, time-dated product it generates.

(Federation members may want to add comments, or personal reactions based upon their own experiences to this summary.)

* * *

NEW MEMBERS

WENDELL BELL is a UCLA Ph.D. in Sociology. He is Professor of Sociology at Yale University, where he has taught for over 20 years. In addition to his early work in social area analysis, he has studied political and social change in the Caribbean, perceptions of and attitudes toward inequality in England and the United States as well as the Caribbean, especially Jamaica, the social consequences of colonialism and nationalism, and elites and decision-making. He is the author or co-author of Social Area Analysis, Public Leadership, Jamaican Leaders, Decisions of Nationhood, The Democratic Revolution in the West Indies, The Sociology of the Future, and Ethnicity and Nation-Building. He's currently working on a book tentatively entitled Understanding Futuristics: An Introduction to Futures Research.

PETER C. BISHOP received his B.A. degree from St. Louis University in philosophy (1968) and his M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from Michigan State University (1974). He first taught sociology and social problems at Georgia Southern College and moved to the University of Houston-Clear Lake in 1976 to teach methodology and statistics in the behavioral sciences. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Bishop began teaching the introductory forecasting course and other futures courses. He is now serving as chair of the program in Studies of the Future at the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Dr. Bishop specializes in forecasting, statistical modeling, social change, and introductory computer science. He has also worked extensively with the American Sociological Association's Project on Teaching Faculty Governance Organizations. His futures interests currently are in the areas of the future of the Southwest U.S., energy consumption, new markets for chemicals and long-range transportation scenarios.

DONALD J. CLARK is founder and currently the president of the International Research Institute in Tokyo, Japan. IRI conducts research on the nature and development of a sustainable, humanity-centered future, provides consulting services for futures-oriented strategy development, and facilitates international communication through translating and publishing projects.

He is a graduate of Williams College, Williamstown, Mass. and Union Theological Seminary, New York City. For 10 years he was associated with the United Methodist Church in New England and from 1967 to 1983 with the Institute of Cultural Affairs in Chicago serving as an ICA director in Australia, Singapore and Japan as well as the U.S. In this connection he has worked on futures research and has directed programs designed to generate grassroots movement towards a desirable future.

JOHN W. SINTON obtained his Ph.D. in the humanities in 1968 and began Postdoctoral work principally in ecology and the applied social sciences preparatory for work as a land-use planner. John Sinton's been a professor of Environmental Studies at Stockton State College, Pomona, New Jersey, since 1972. His training and planning experience gives him an interdisciplinary and somewhat unconventional view of planning and environmental problems. "In writing my recent book - Water, Earth, and Fire," he wrote, "I came to the conclusion that we need a much more comprehensive and deeper understanding of 'environment,' a concept that encompasses human and non-human resources and that synthesizes different levels of activity and influence from the purely personal to the international. A more realistic, even if more complex, description of 'environment' is necessary to help create more effective and responsive land-use planning. In other words we must be able to base new public policy on a better philosophical approach to environmental problems."

John Sinton's recent work has led him to futures research. As he explains, "If any fields of study should be futures-orient-

ed, they are the ones connected with environmental studies and planning. Environmental 'realities' are not solely products of the present or past, but of our visions of the world in the future and of inexorable changes that will occur despite our best attempts to maintain status quo."

In 1981, Dr. TREVOR HANCOCK was a founding member of Paradigm Health, a health futures group based in Toronto, with which he has been working to develop strategies for attaining a positive vision of health. He has been an integral part of the workshops Paradigm Health has given, helping people to develop a positive vision of health, most recently at the General Assembly of the World Futures Society held in Washington, D.C. in June 1984.

Trevor Hancock has already made some important contributions as a specialized futurist in the area of health, articulating the "Soft Health Path" (Feather, ed., Through the '80s, WFS, 1980); sketching the outlines of "A Healthy Future" (Futurist, Aug 1982), and joining with other Canadians in promulgating a "Positive Vision for Health in Ontario" (Future Survey Annual 1983, #5206).

ANDREW R. FREEMAN is a principal research officer working in the area of public administrative program evaluation in Belconnen Australia. His educational focus was in the area of human resources development and technological change. He maintains an active interest in futures research, technological change, human resources development, and public policy. His most recent work is in "Recurrent Educational, Technological Change and Policy Studies."

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