

1975

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PUBLICATIONS

Heredity and You: How You Can Protect Your Family's Future, by Augusta Greenblatt (Coward, McCann and Geoghegan, 1974, \$7.95). The author emphasizes the positive approaches of medical genetics aimed at the prevention of disease and the detection and treatment of patients with inherited disorders. She discusses in detail many of the diseases known to be caused by defective genes and some of the new methods of treating them—gene therapy, cell hybridization, and cellular engineering. This is a very readable book supplying some of the history of genetic research and information about the social and ethical problems raised by scientific advances in this area.

To Understand Is to Invent (The Future of Education), by Jean Piaget (Viking Press, 1974, \$2.25). Piaget puts it all together for math and science teachers.

How to Make Your Science Project Scientific, by Thomas Moorman, (Atheneum, 1974, \$5.50). Most books for young people interested in science projects detail specific examples, but this book concerns the basics. It describes, in prose most junior high students can understand, such research methods as controlled and blind experiments. The author also outlines clearly the open-minded objectivity and rigorous methodology that are the essence of the scientific attitude.

Exploring Energy Choices, preliminary report of the Ford Foundation's Energy Policy Project, 1974 (available from the Energy Policy Project, P.O. Box 23212, Washington, D.C. 20024, for 75¢). The gap between domestic energy production and domestic consumption has grown in just the last 22 years, when imported oil has provided virtually all of the expansion in energy use. Short-term government actions must be taken to manage the shortage so that no individual or group bears an undue burden and to retain or develop options for the future.

In the medium or longer term, the prospects seem brighter. To show the range of feasible energy consumption patterns from which the nation can choose, the authors have outlined three descriptions which are not predictions but are devices for exploring alternatives, "a tool for rigorous thinking." The report does not advocate one option in

preference to another, but does state that economic growth is not necessarily tied to high energy consumption. The descriptions are:

Historical Growth: The condition of very aggressive development of all possible energy sources is necessary to permit the average energy consumption increase of 3.4 percent per year experienced over the last two decades;

Technical Fix: Energy use increasing at half of the present rate would permit a choice of development of numerous "supply mixes" and permit more federal research and development to be directed to long-term energy sources such as solar energy, wind energy, and controlled thermonuclear fusion;

Zero Energy Growth: Energy growth could level off in the next 10 years and then reach zero if energy could be used more efficiently, thus providing an effective increase per person while not expanding total consumption.

Dissenting views on the energy report were filed by four members of the project's advisory board, and their objections are also included. Government regulations and data banks increasing federal power and control seem to be implied in the report, and these prospects drew criticism from two corporation presidents. Two others objected particularly to a proposal to defer nuclear development in this country.

Energy Perspectives. This monthly publication from the Batelle Institute is free for the asking from Mr. Richard J. Anderson, Editor, Energy Perspectives, Batelle Memorial Institute, 505 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201. Topics featured in recent issues have been "Gas from Coal," "Surface Mining of Coal," "The Electric Automobile," and "Synthetic Liquid Fuel." A list of recent publications on energy prospects and a calendar of scientific, technological, and ecological conferences are included in every issue.

Indoor-Outdoor Natural Learning Experiences: A Teacher's Guide. A practical collection of individual and classroom activities, this 90-page booklet is designed to develop understanding and appreciation of our natural environment. Both indoor and outdoor projects are suggested, useful in all seasons for elementary grade children. Available post-paid for \$1.75 from: Library, Sacramento County Office of Education, 6011 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, California 95819.