Book Review:

Ecotopia Reveals 'Sun Day's' Fascist Program

Ecotopia, by Ernest Callenbach, published by Bantam Books, New York, 1975.

Ecotopia is a blueprint for an environmentalist coup d'état in the American Northwest. Since the book was originally published in 1975, Ecotopian groups have been formed and have actively developed strategies for "liberating" the region. These groups see the May 7 "Sun Day" orgy of environmentalism, which has won energy czar Schlesinger's official stamp of approval, as a step in that direction.

In his novel, Callenbach portrays the barbaric consequences of environmentalism with far less hypocrisy than his tree-worshipping disciples, who advocate the economics of fascism, but deny its necessary genocidal implications. For all its would-be "libertarian" aura, Callenbach's tract makes it clear that a less-is-more Schachtian world will lawfully demand the political methods of Hitlerism.

When Washington, Oregon, and Northern California secede from the union in 1980, individual income is virtually halved. Callenbach admits that many citizens are thus deprived of hard-earned "comforts," but offers the consolation that the Ecotopian experience is relatively painless compared to that of living on rats and moldy potatoes in Warsaw, Poland during World War II.

This blissful state of affairs is achieved through a policy of forced deindustrialization. The energy-intensive aluminum industry is largely abandoned, aerospace is diversified into mass transit, hydroelectric dams are dynamited to allow recreational boating, lumber exports are prevented by draconian tariffs, agricultural output is drastically reduced through the strict enforcement of irrigation acreage regulations, medical centers are disolved, cars are abolished, schools are broken up, and the population is dispersed into the countryside, Cambodiastyle, as the existing cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Seattle, and Portland are gradually razed and the land returned to grassland, forests, orchards, and gardens. In the process, the population is reduced by a million and those that survive are employed in labor-intensive work

This, however, is only the beginning. Ecotopians estimate that the proper population size is the number of Indians who inhabited the territory before the Spaniards and Americans came — something less than a million for the whole region, living entirely in thinly scattered bands.

As the fruits of modern technology are thus abandoned, the region is deliberately reduced to a state of jungle tribalism. In a horrifying example of British anthropological behavioral modification, the men in Ecotopia

are, by law, forced to participate in Dionysian rites of bloody warfare. Bands of young men dressed in leather jackets and shorts, decorated in designs, some astrological, some totem-animal, armed with primitive spears, battle one another before a cheering crowd until one side wins by maining or murdering one of the other side. The victors then engage in an orgy, carrying their women off into the bushes, while the losing side participates in a satanic parody of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Given this bestial conception of man, it should come as no surprise that the racial policy in Ecotopia is apartheid. The environmentalists' fetishistic belief in decentralization leads ineluctably to the establishment of semi-autonomous city-states or bantustans in the ghettoes of Oakland, San Francisco, etc. Order is maintained by literally drugging the population. Marijuana and other drugs are legalized and heroin is taken over as a government monopoly. Those residents of "Soul City" who resist are interned in slave-labor prison camps.

A Scenario For Real

How then does this paradise on earth come into existence? Through deliberately engineered financial collapse culminating in terrorist nuclear blackmail against the federal government of the U.S. After having provoked a flight of capital from the region through passage of stringent conservation laws, the secessionists supplant the existing local constitutional governments. When the federal government attempts to restore order and put down the fascist coup, the environmentalists threaten to detonate nuclear bombs in New York City, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.

Precisely this scenario is now the gameplan in the northwest, where in reality environmental terrorists are conspiring openly to establish an ecotopian "bio-region." In the greater Seattle area, for example, the Ecotopian group was founded in the winter of 1977 as the byproduct of a class on Ecotopia offered at the University of Washington Experimental College. The class was led by Bryant Milliman, publisher of the pro-terrorist Seattle Sun, and Jon Alexander, a member of Washpirg (Public Information Research Group), Ralph Nader's local unit of the Red Guard. As in the novel, where the hero, after being kidnapped, is finally brainwashed into staying in Ecotopia, members of the Seattle Ecotopian group were reported by an eyewitness to have been recruited from those who attended the class through ego-stripping group therapy methods.

In May 1977, Callenbach made an organizing appearance at the University of Washington to bolster the troops. Since then the group has issued a series of white papers including one edited by Washpirg's co-director Nicholas Licata and written by Tim Williams. The latter worked closely with Alexander in preparing Washpirg's October 1977 northwest energy report which, true to Callenbach's own scenario, proposed that the region rely on conservation as an alternative to energy-dense nuclear power. After 20 years, the report suggests, solar power will be cost-competitive. In the meantime, the region's aluminum industry will be dismantled and the population will be able to enjoy the full benefits of Ecotopian labor

policy - perhaps even to the point of human recycling.

Not surprisingly, the Ecotopians and their mind-controllers see "Sun Day" as an ideal organizing opportunity. Throughout the Northeast, Ecotopian groups are now organizing for a week-long sun-worshipping celebration from April 29 through May 7. Anyone who doubts the grisly seriousness of their intentions would be well advised to examine Callenbach's book.

—William F. Wertz Washington State Chairman, U.S. Labor Party

Book Review:

The Antiscience Movement, the Last Time Around

The Physicists: The History of a Scientific Community in Modern America,

Daniel J. Kevles, published by Alfred Knopf, January 1978

Science always comes under severe attack during periods of economic crisis. That is, however, not a "natural" sociological phenomena — depressions are simply the times when nests of antiscientific cockroaches in the universities, foundations, and media feel safe to come out into the light and do their job.

The February 1978 issue of the official magazine of the American Physical Society, Physics Today, contains an important study of what the last major antiscience rampage looked like at the outset of the Great Depression of the 1930s. Its author, science historian Daniel J. Kevles of Cal. Tech, provides material sufficient to demonstrate that there is a direct line connecting that period back to the first Fabian Society antiindustrial movements on American campuses at the turn of the century, and forward to the postwar "Ban the Bomb" movement and the "environmentalist" campaigns of the 1960s and 1970s. Right in the middle of all these subversion operations against the American Republic is a man long overdue to be hauled down from his liberal pedestal and named for the pure fascist he was, Robert M. Hutchins.

The End of Science Ideology

Kelves' article, an excerpt from his just published book, The Physicists: The History of a Scientific Community in Modern America, documents (though that is not his political aim) that the Fabian rampage against science in the early 1930s was based on a highly coordinated and fine-tuned ideological campaign whose immediate objectives were to shatter the morale of U.S. physical scientists and technologists and shut down their research and training facilities. The campaign came very close to fully succeeding.

Just as today's antiscience mobsters hope to dupe labor and industry into swallowing the lie that advanced technologies reduce the total number of productive jobs and result in "overproduction," the "humanist" movement of the 1930s aimed to sucker the credulous into blaming science for the economic havoc actually due to the British-designed Anglo-American monetarist madness of Versailles and the 1920s. Moreover, with science out of the way, there is no form of social practice or epistemological standard to compete with untrammeled fascist madness.

In an opening shot of the attack, in 1927 the English bishop of Ripon proposed a moratorium on scientific reseach. He was supported by British author G.K. Chesterton, who argued, "There is nothing wrong with electricity; nothing is wrong except that modern man is not a god who holds the thunderbolts but a savage who is struck by lightning." On the U.S. side, the upfront man for savagery was the Fabian wunderkind who was selected as president of the University of Chicago at age 30, Robert M. Hutchins. The subsequent founder of the postwar "collective nuclear guilt" movement and the corporatist Center for the Study of Democratic Instructions, Hutchins told the University convocation of 1933 that "science and the free intelligence of Man.... have failed us." With Hutchins providing overall academic legitimacy for a "revolt against science" (including elimination of traditional courses and grades), the other pieces fell into place for an assault against the scientific and technological base of industry.

The major Fabian mouthpieces, the New Republic and the Nation. along with the Second International (and hence, British) controlled League for Industrial Democracy (which in the 1960s gave you SDS and the Weathermen) all went after the so-called exploitation of science by big business. The Ralph Nader of the day was one Frederick J. Schlink, a former engineer at the National Bureau of Standards who founded Consumers Research Inc. to expose all federal scientific agencies as "little more than handy consulting or guidance services to business enterprises." The telephone giant AT&T was particularly singled out for Congressional investigation for allegedly controlling technology for "excess" profits and monopolizing patents.

The "reformers" had no interest, however, in actual progress through accelerating technological innovation in industry and agriculture. Their real concern was to replace "value-free" science with what the anti-Federalist revisionist historian Charles Beard called