

'Our Destiny is Our Own'

by Eddie Catoe

Everybody these days is saying "we got to get together," but I think that before we can get together we have to first figure out where we are, and how our present position relates with relevance to the "fate of our world." The following words will attempt to show this in some integrated fashion.

For a decade we have presented to diverse groups a sense of common cause. We saw lots of things wrong and we spoke out about them. We saw nothing right and could not even offer a viable alternative. Our protesting was a source of energy for social mobilization. What was missing, however, were the "skills," or a plan to make a transformation. Without these "skills" or without the means to deal with problems we soon found ourselves even lacking the will to mobilize. Of course we managed a bit of mobilization, but it was all very insolent because all we could do was protest. In short, we caused a lot of chaos. So nobody listened, because everybody shouted. A workable alternative was needed.

Unfortunately "middle America" was and is our only support for success and we can't establish credibility with them by protest alone. I am not condemning the demonstrations and riots of the past decade, they certainly had their perceptive impact on society. Protest created a most needed awareness of our societal problems. And so there was a destined time for that, which leads us to what is happening now.

The biggest thing happening is the movement to the land. Lots of freaks are searching for the simple life by getting close to Nature. Of course, sometimes it's not such a simple life, because surviving on the land can get tough. Many times food, water, and shelter are scarce. A person has to find a whole new adaptive scheme if he is to survive on the land.

Lots of people, including critics, say that the land freaks are "marginal drop-outs." They

not feel that the journey to the land and the journey to apathy is a cop-out. Youth are rediscovering those very basics that our industrial society has come to take for granted.

The land freaks have resorted to an old order so that they might redefine contemporary life and from that establish a new order. The seeds from this new order are being planted by the search for an integrated whole, a wisdom that is one with itself and one with what it

all perceptive. And then the sun goes to sleep and so do you.

This search for a new order is reactionary to what industrial man has done and what technological man can do. We have concerned ourselves long enough with dehumanization. We shouted enough about industrial man and his little machine called beauracracy. All that is coming down anyway, just look about. Our concern now is the potential of technological man. At this point Nature is on the spot, we are on the spot, with dangerous odds. We can make it or break it. The forthcoming new order will say "we can make it." It will offer a plan of survival.

Our reaction to technology has been quite excessive. It is excessive in the sense that we fail to see a very real bond that exists between technology and Nature. Technology is very important and not second to Nature, rather both are equally important. Most of us are where we are because of the affluence

that has been provided by technology's play on Nature. There is an aspect which counter balances this excess. It is the aspect of seeing things whole, and with a bit of time it will enable us to see the bond that does exist between technology and Nature.

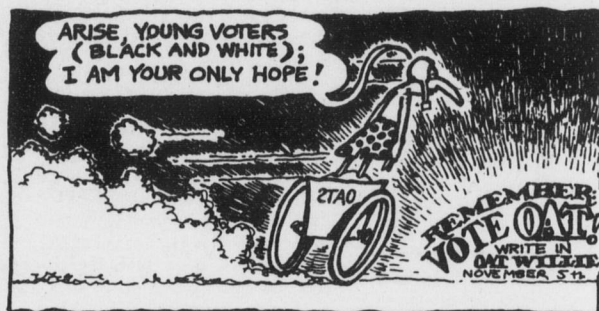
We are running a race with technology, and there isn't much time left for man to win. It is so important that we find a flexible perception which will allow us to see the whole. Specifics will come, however, the general direction

is necessary before specifics can ever be discussed. Knowing where we are is necessary before we can ever discuss "getting together." We need a sense of destiny or purpose, then we can "get together." Let us join together and say, "we have inherited this sick world; therefore, it is ours to rebuild." How can I further stress this point? I'll say it again, OUR DESTINY IS OURS.

The old order no longer applies and it is mandatory that we discover a new order by whatever means necessary. Whether we have to go to the land, whether we have to give ourselves to God through Jesus, or whether yoga is our bag, we have to put together a new ethical system that will enable us to deal with an unprecedented new world.

And so, our first response was a crusade to reform the world, but we had no plan. And we wanted people to find a place where they could feel real good, but there was no plan for providing such a place. And so we took a trip to the land, and to various alley ways of the city. And so we stopped our yelling and shut our mouths and became quiet. And so we contemplate on a new order.

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simply say that they've copped out of our society, but there is more to it than that. The people on the land have escaped from society to find a more meaningful life for themselves. The escape is a reaction to the meaningless city and to the meaningless protest, and to the political problems of a decade of spastic striving. I am convinced that the land freaks and those many youth who are sitting quietly in some forgotten hole of society are laying the foundation for a new system of ethics that will apply to our technological society. That is why I do

shows. It is not a search for analysis, rather it is a search for a whole pattern to the scheme of things. It is a slowed down trip of gazing and wondering about the mandalas of human existence. It's a tune-in on Nature and on the environment, it's a tune-in which allows for the human understanding of the "biological rhythms" and "rhythmic patterns of Nature."

The sun gets up—you get up. The sun shines hard all day—you work hard all day. The day is a bit slow and all encompassing—you are a bit slow and



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