

## Oecologica humana

The battle of the eco-crisis seems to us only possible when man sees himself in the future as a part of the biosphere in which he lives. To achieve this, however, a change in mentality must be made in our whole learning process, away from the present predominantly exploiting-manipulating-consuming attitude to one of respecting-caring-preserving. We believe that the environment catastrophe can be averted, but that the achievement of environment protection must be made at the international level. Beyond the tolerance of damage inflicted, there is the threat of political decisions which can have the character of deeply injurious conflicts.

The awakening of scientists to their socio-ecological responsibilities in many countries strengthens the hope of a new symbiosis between science and society.

The main task of science will be to make from the chaos of scientific discoveries a meaningful choice for

the purpose of the whole of society. This will require a scientific ecumenical effort and a solidarity amongst scientists on the international and supra-national level. A wise and scientifically grounded guidance of world activities, which will preserve the life of human society, is identical with behaviour which is dedicated to the environment.

Certainly a multidisciplinary journal such as *Experientia* should be the place where research workers in isolated fields can take a responsible part in this whole process of guidance. It is a question now of scientists putting themselves, in full solidarity, at the head of the world-wide movement for environment protection. What we expect here are expressions of concrete ideas for the science of survival which has to be created. Above all, such contributions should in each case be based upon concrete situations.

H. M.

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