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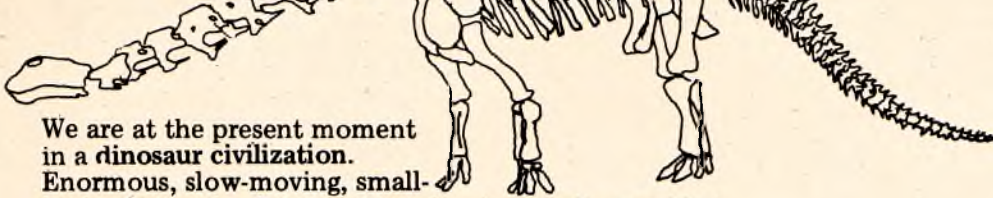
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THE DINOSAUR CIVILIZATION



We are at the present moment
in a dinosaur civilization.

Enormous, slow-moving, small-
brained organisations are now dominating the world.

The dinosaurs gradually lost as the climate became too inhospitable for them. They became more and more helpless and a new form of life emerged: that is, the warm-blooded mammals. This is extraordinarily like the present situation in the world. We are, at the present moment, dominated by large organisations, governments, churches, industrial giants, financial groups, international organisations. All these are large and they grow larger as the dinosaurs did. It is visible to everyone that their level of intelligence and their ability to look into the future are exceedingly small. They are quite unable to adapt to the New World but they will not give up easily. They are unable to adapt to the new climate; the climate for these big organisations was that of expansion. As long as there was room and means to expand they could thrive. This climate is changing and we are entering a period when it no longer will be possible to expand. Growth will be impossible. Then it will be not merely a duty but a necessity to control, to restrain and concentrate. Under such circumstances, big organisations collapse. They can only exist in a state of expansion. This we can see.

The New World will be dominated by active, mobile and much more intelligent forms of social life. This is why we have to look to small groups and communities; and above all to the emergence of group-consciousness which corresponds to the state of the warm-blooded animals. We need a warm-blooded society, not the present cold-blooded society. Because of the great advantage warm blood has over cold in times of stress, I believe that the New World will survive. There will be a time of great difficulties, and it is not desirable that the collapse of the old world should come suddenly. It would probably not be possible to survive a sudden collapse of order throughout the world. Little by little the old world will die out. New social forms, new modes of existence will take its place. For this, we must prepare ourselves today.Ω

from *Gurdjieff Today* by J.G. Bennett

FEED BACK

Big is not Bad

Dear Sirs, The reason I am interested in seeing your magazine (it isn't a 'journal' i.e. a 'record of daily proceedings') is as an awful example of what I must avoid printing. I am not, I like to think, a capitalist pig addicted to overproduction and stimulated over-consumption. The addled woolly-minded nonsense you print I think could be really dangerous if anyone took it seriously. Bigness is *not* bad – what's wrong with a big hospital (complex and expensive medical equipment cannot be justified in a small hospital)? Is India and China bad and Portugal good? Is a big overseas aid programme bad? Practically every word of the 'Radial House' [Vol.4, No.5] article is rubbish – that sort of geometry has no value *per se*. Solar radiation conversion, waste digester systems, wind/

power generators are *not* cheap to build. They could only be so if the capitalist system set about producing them in vast numbers.

'Has the present socio-economic system actually created satisfactory living conditions for the mass of the people or not?' (page 13). *Yes of course it has* in the 'advanced' countries whose systems your magazine attacks. It is obvious to anyone with a smattering of historical knowledge, that more people live longer, healthier, more rewarding lives than ever before. I know they are over materialistic and over regimented – but that is better than being dead as most of them would have been in a former age – or in your ideal – India. And what is so marvellous about India with the continuing caste system and their atomic bomb?

I could go on . . . e.g. Maplin would have been *good* for all of the people near Heathrow and Gatwick who will have sleepless nights because of the runway extensions consequent upon its scrapping – *and* good for other reasons e.g. much needed employment opportunities east of London. To say that Heath had some personal reason for going on with Maplin is asinine.

I hope you will realise that I wrote all

Continued page 4.