
letters

Oh what thanks I owe *Park Science*! It just gets better and better and it was very good to begin with. I love it.

As I looked at the cover photograph and thought about the editorial (Spring 1989) I was reminded of a couple of lines from *Nature's Economy: A History of Ecological Ideas* by historian Donald Worster. "The idea that nature is orderly, that its order is rational and effective, that it is for the most part a stable, self-equilibrating order, is the most precious idea modern science has given us. I would much rather live in a society where that idea is taken seriously than where it is not." I wish we took it more seriously than we do; wonder whether we will.

While I can't find the source of the quote, Charles Lindbergh said, "The future of the human race will depend on combining the cleverness of science with the wisdom of nature." There is much we have to discover about nature.

In a wonderful and wise collection of essays, *Altars of Unhewn Stone*, sustainable agriculturist Wes Jackson explores the tension between human cleverness and nature's wisdom. About the essays, Jackson writes that they "are an attempt to understand the requirements of a science to be pursued as though its original material is more important than the work of the scientists who are shaping that material."

Your Spring editorial asks us to "marvel at the intelligence expressed in this tiny world..." As I marvel, I think about a science based on stewardship.

Ed Hessler, Director

Minnesota Environmental Sciences Fdn., Inc.

2397 University Ave.

St. Paul, Minnesota 55114