

about whether you are interested in ecology or town-and-country planning or both. Furthermore, he deals well in a short space with the historical, sociological and religious backgrounds to man's attitude to nature.

Cities need not die at their centre nor spread, uncontrolled, like a cancer over the countryside; nor need man's most obvious and largest works be ugly or never preferable to the natural scene; but unless some wide-reaching change in attitude develops soon, enlightenment will come too slowly and an over-populated world may well find itself faced with problems that can no longer be solved.

Design With nature should not only be in every ecological library (and personal library, too, if you can afford it), but it should also be in the libraries of all major planning organisations and part of the required reading for every politician.

The book is fully illustrated — unfortunately, not in full colour, but this is a minor point — and is certainly

one of the most important, if not the most important, of its kind to come our way for a very long time.

I should like to end this review with McHarg's final paragraph:

"In the quest for survival, success and fulfillment, the ecological view offers an invaluable insight. It shows the way for the man who would be the enzyme of the biosphere — its steward, enhancing the creative fit of man-environment, realising man's design with nature."

G. R. Williams

Also received:—

Ekologia polska, Series A, Volume 16 (1968). Published by Panstwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Warsaw. All but three of the 44 papers are in English (the three exceptions are in French).

REPORT OF CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

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Manapouri

The main conservation issue for the Society during the past year has been Lake Manapouri. The Society has confined its attention to ecological considerations and, within this context, has issued a press statement to the effect that, because of the ecological risks inherent in raising the lake, it would be deplorable if this were to be done without proper investigation beforehand. Unfortunately, the Press Association released the statement with a misleading heading. In May, the Society prepared a submission to the Select Committee on Lake Manapouri, listing the ecological questions which should be put and answered before this — or comparable — projects are proceeded with.

Physical Environment Conference

This has been an important event this year, and the Society has been active in presenting ecological viewpoints to the Conference. Dr. G. T. Daly was a member of the working party considering pollution of the environment, and seven members of the Society's Council attended the conference, and (with Professor G. A. Knox and Dr. J. F. McCahon) put forward and had adopted, four recommendations to the proposed Physical Environment Council. These stressed long-term ecological considerations, especially the need to determine the optimal size of population for New Zealand.

Preservation of native communities and natural features

With the appointment of Dr B. P. J. Molloy to the Botany Division, D.S.I.R., the Society's responsibility for the preservation of remnants of native vegetation of the Canterbury Plains ends on the happy note of two reserves having been created and two others well under way towards being so. Other moves drawing to a successful conclusion, and in which the Society has taken part, concern Cape Turakirae (where 175 acres will be reserved to protect coastal features) and low altitude snow tussock grassland north of Lake Mahinerangi (where however, the reserve will be considerably smaller than requested.) The Society is still negotiating about the protection of native vegetation and natural scenery in the Taupo district and on the Lindis Pass.

Miscellaneous

The Society supported a proposal to preserve natural features in and around Porirua Harbour and a recommendation by the Ornithological Society for extermination of noxious mammals on the Kermadec Islands. It has continued to express concern at the state of conservation in the Chatham Islands, and has written to the Department of Lands and Survey about a proposal to fish commercially for giant crabs at the Auckland Islands. Other correspondence has related to a stand of kauri in the Mangapapa catchment, Bay of Plenty, and pines in the Dun Mountain mineral belt, Nelson.

P. Wardle, Convenor