

Management

The Managerial Ethos and the Future of Planet Earth

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THE managerial role is presently undergoing a profound transformation. Its own expansive ventures have led management so deeply into earth processes and into the destinies of every living and non-living being upon the earth that a new range of responsibility is now associated with the managerial role. Planetary management may be the ultimate issue. The planet earth is now to an extensive degree being managed by the executives of a vast complex of gigantic enterprises; some governmental, some non-governmental in their ownership and direction. Until recently, however, neither has shown any adequate sense of responsibility to the natural world.

Large non-governmental corporations in the American world have shown some concern for the consequences of their activities by setting up foundations through which they support research and activities that would assist the human community to enter more effectively into the future; but until recently they have shown little capacity for inner self-transformation in terms of their larger responsibilities to the integral functioning of the planet upon which every living being on the planet ultimately depends. At the present time, however, an impressive number of persons in high management positions begin to see the need, not simply for a more reasonable regard for earth resources, but even for a complete transformation of the managerial role itself—transformation from an exploitive relationship with the natural world to an integrative relationship with the natural world and with its sequence of ever-renewing energies.

The future rests on such management, one capable of entering into the planetary phase of its activities, capable of situating itself within the context of its historical role, and capable of functioning creatively in the living world of interior forces as well as in the world of mechanical processes.

For the first time we are being forced to such depth consideration of human management of the earth as this has taken place since the time of Francis Bacon (1561-162). His writings can be considered the sacred