

Nuclear power. . .

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However, according to several scientific experts, nuclear energy is also beneficial.

For example, it has definite economic advantages, said a commissioner of the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington D.C.

James T. Ramey in *Nuclear Power and the Public* said he believed that nuclear power provides competition to other energy sources which benefits the consumer by keeping costs and rates down.

The use of nuclear power will decrease the burden on the nation's transportation systems, and nuclear power costs do not vary with location, according to Ramey.

However, Ramey contends that "the potential benefits of nuclear power are great, but their achievement involves accepting certain risks."

He said that it is difficult to define specifically the risks nuclear energy impose because it is hard to assign relative values to many of nuclear power's benefits.

One example, he said, is the excellent safety record of nuclear plants.

"NO DEATHS or accidents affecting the general public have occurred in any civilian nuclear power plants in the United States," he said.

"How does this compare with more than fifty thousand deaths a year in automobile accidents, and about two thousand deaths a year in aircraft accidents?" he asked.

A statement by the Research and Policy Committee of the Committee for Economic Development, entitled *Nuclear Energy and National Security* agreed with the benefits of nuclear power pointed out by Ramey.

However, the statement argues that benefits and risks shouldn't be the first priority in dealing with nuclear power.

"The United States no longer has anything approaching a monopoly on nuclear technology. It can no longer stop the growth of nuclear power, if indeed it ever could."

"The United States really has no choice," the Committee contends.

"ITS ONLY OPTION is to continue to participate in the nuclear world, to exercise as much influence and leadership as it can to see that the worst catastrophes of such a world do not come to pass."

The committee also argues that because nuclear energy is a reality in the rest of the world, there is no way for the United States to isolate itself from the magnitude of the global developments.

Cooperation is the key to survival, according to the commission, and without vigorous U.S. participation in nuclear development there may be no solutions to the threats of nuclear energy.

However, the Institute for Ecological Policies in January 1979 reported that they oppose nuclear power de-

spite the technical expertise of the nation's nuclear engineers.

In the article "People and Energy," the Institute said trust cannot be placed in nuclear regulatory officials to put public health and safety above the welfare of the industry.

ALSO, A REPORT released by the Union of Concerned Scientists accuses the nation's 70 nuclear power plants of lapsing in safety requirements.

The report, which names Brownsville, Neb., as being one of the plants in violation, said that safety requirements are being "flagrantly violated by the electric utility companies."

Robert Pollard, editor of the UCS report, quoted a government assessment of some of the accidents detailed in a file which disclosed the alleged violations.

"The absence of more serious effects is largely the result of good luck."

Controversies concerning nuclear power will surround the issues for some time. However, the committee for Economic Development claims that the United States must deal with the issue now and not become submerged within the question nuclear power asks.

"Like the rest of the world, the United States will have to get used to living with new and inescapable dangers."

Poetry

Children Inherit the Spirit

Children inherit the spirit
of music in all they do
and sing it in play
in laughter and
in games
They play in hope with
faith and always
join together
to form
joyous music
with each participating
as notes
in a master work
of song and
life

Ed Green

Solar Eclipse at Black Bend, North Dakota

the sun throbs beneath the cowl of moon
and dogs begin to howl.
birches white as cemeteries
lean into the darkness.
bare blackness surrounds us.
shadows loose their bounds.
a grain elevator stands lonely,
distant. birds stop singing.
the silent noise rarified,
stinging at last the mind.
the man with the camera tenses.
the present, flickering on the frame.
a glimmer of the surface only
like pain captured in a poem,
the boulevards of lives happening without
us,
grief snapped too late to touch.
depth has vanished from stagnant pools.
men and women lose their shape.
the moon pulls its weight.
the light was afternoon.

Bob Thomas

Music of ages

Music of ages
the knowledge to know,
things to discover
in ways we can grow

Fly through the darkness
and don't be afraid,
life is worth living
so don't let it fade

Keep your light shining
and it will not fail
to carry you onward
like wind in a sail

Music of ages
the knowledge of light,
used to discover
intelligent flight

Listen to voices
from ages now past,
there's something to learn
from genius so vast

Those that were living
contributed such,
they helped make life better
and gave so much

Music of ages
the knowledge of past,
used to discover
the things that will last

Take a step forward
into the unknown,
live for adventure
and not in a zone

Live to move onward
and don't ever stop,
though times may look cloudy
still climb toward the top

Music of ages
the knowledge ahead,
learn from the sources
of which knowledge is fed

Ed Green

The Final Doom

Desperate faces I seem to see
Looks of pain contorting me
The only sound I seem to hear
Are desperate screams composed of fear

One book down
Twelve more I find
It appears I've fallen a bit behind
The question most discouraging to me
Is how to regain my sanity

Hours fly like birds in flight
Trying to fight with all my might
To stay awake and concentrate
Before it's time to greet my fate

Dooms day approaches me at last
How'd that night fly by so fast
I've got to try and do my best
My goal. . . .to ace this final test.

Mary Heyden

I hear

I hear a bird far away,
the sound, soft on my ear,
gives life to my senses
enabling them
to grasp the sensations
that are felt, heard, smelled,
seen and tasted

I hear a flute
softly awakening my ears
to my being and proclaiming
life with all its glory,
with color and theme
to all things earth
happily shares with us

The air vibrates
the electricity of beauty
constantly flowing
through our souls,
cleansing by encouraging
vitality of awareness

Ed Green

Contest offers \$200 in prizes

A contest with \$200 in prizes for short story writers, poets and photographers is being sponsored by Fathom.

The contest is open to all UNL students who are not on the *Daily Nebraskan* staff. All entries should be brought to Room 34, Nebraska Union, by Wed., April 11. They should be submitted with name, address and phone number. Winning entries will be published in Fathom Fri., May 4.

Photographs must be previously unpublished, black and white only, of people, places or things. They should be submitted in 8 x 10-inch or 11 x 14-inch

sizes.

The top three photos, as judged by three professionals, will win \$50, \$30 and \$20. All photos will be returned.

Fiction and poetry submitted for the contest also should be previously unpublished. Poetry should be no longer than 50 lines, and short stories no longer than 2,500 words.

The top three winners for fiction and poetry, as judged by professionals, will win \$25, \$15 and \$10.

Fiction and poetry already submitted to Fathom automatically is entered.

Light may fly

Light may fly
over waters
dark with fear
and brighten
hopes of life
where the lake
of death dwells
silently.

Ed Green