

A New Flat Earth

The machine has never enjoyed such an advantage as now that it can run on solar energy. After successfully procuring huge subsidies, it proclaims its new diet so loudly the public mistakenly thinks solar energy is advancing while really it is the owners of the solar scented machine going forward and our uses of solar energy going backwards. The proclamations of those enchanted by solar machines appear in newspaper and on TV. Their synthetic lullaby is no better a serenade than a radio drowning out Nature's sounds. Those in power have put on notice the many traditional ways which are entirely solar by leaving them out of all the many energy censuses. Where are the clotheslines, for instance? These censuses have become a specialty of foundations, governments and universities. Their large budgets must lead to a special dollar blindness. The charts of solar energy usage are baffling to anyone who can see. There are the wind generators and solar power plants, but where is the food we eat? Where are the miles we walk, the stairs we climb, the sun through the windows, the regeneration of the oxygen we breathe, the distillation of the water we drink?

Of course, no one needs such energy censuses. We are being distracted. Nature weighs, matches, measures, fills and drains, but never bothers to count. The numbers of barrels of oil and tons of coal in their census may be accurate, but the accounts of the sun are anything but. The energy census mistakes are as profound as the mistakes of ancient map makers who showed a flat earth. None of these old map makers ever fell off the earth, despite the maps they made, and none of the professors who make up the equivalent of flat earth energy charts starve to death, die of thirst, asphyxiation or other problems their charts would make you think are

imminent dangers. The edges of the flat earth and the borders of their solar accounting are equally absurd. Our planet is round; our economy part of Nature.

The energy charts which omit all traditional uses of the sun are a symptom of our enchantment by the machine. The flat earth maps were misdrawn from ignorance; our energy charts are made up amid muscle bound, machine won knowledge. Look at our telescopes, microscopes, power plants, trillion dollar budgets and ever larger computers. We can only make these mistakes because we live under a spell.

Steve Baer 2006