

Wanted: Editors of all kinds!

Editor in Chief

- Overall responsibility of all aspects of the paper.
- Supervision of section editors and volunteer staff
- Budget preparation and control

Salary: \$970/month

Term of Office: August 15, 1989 to April 30, 1990.

Deadline for Applications: 12 noon, March 16, 1989

Editors

We need:

- entertainment editor
- managing editor
- two news editors
- photo editor
- production editor
- sports editor

Salary: \$790/month

also: — circulation manager Salary: \$250/month

Term of Office: September 1, 1989 to April 30, 1990

Job description: As outlined in the Gateway constitution

Deadline for applications: 12 noon, March 23, 1989

Address all enquiries and applications to:

Dragos Ruiu, Editor in Chief, Room 282 SUB. Phone 492-5168

CHOOSY?

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Global trend co

It is the year 2030. The North Saskatchewan river valley and its many ravines are brown and dusty, the spruce and birch trees they once held now grow only above Peace River, 200 km to the north. In southern Alberta the foothills lie parched and barren, and here and there abandoned communities like Fort Macleod and Taber recall the ghost towns of the Old West. Elsewhere in the world, droughts have pushed the price of a bushel of wheat above that of a barrel of oil. The White House issues an ultimatum to the House of Commons calling for the immediate surrender of all our water resources...

Disturbing? Mildly unpleasant? This is one possible "worst-case" scenario in a future that may see the earth's climate drastically altered by a global warming trend, the so-called greenhouse effect.

Like the glass roof of a greenhouse, the earth's atmosphere lets sunlight pass through it but acts as a kind of blanket to keep heat from passing out.

Some of the sunlight reaching the ground is absorbed, causing it to warm up. As the surface temperature rises, some heat is lost to the air and some is radiated upwards as infrared (a form of electromagnetic radiation, like light, but with less energy).

Certain gas molecules in the atmosphere, like carbon dioxide (CO₂) and water vapor, absorb the infrared rays and re-radiate some of them up and out into space, and down, back to the surface.

"There is a definite warming trend in Edmonton and Calgary"

Thus, the atmosphere acts as an important insulation for the planet, which helps keep the temperature from falling very much at night

Water vapor, which comprises only about 1% of the gases in the atmosphere, nevertheless provides roughly 90% of this insulating effect; carbon dioxide, making up a mere 0.03%, provides much of the rest.

But the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has been steadily increasing since records began in 1860 - a consequence of the industrial revolution.

The burning of coal, natural gas, oil and most significantly gasoline, releases carbon dioxide which diffuses into the atmosphere.

As the amount of carbon dioxide grows, so does the thickness of the insulating "blanket" — and the result is

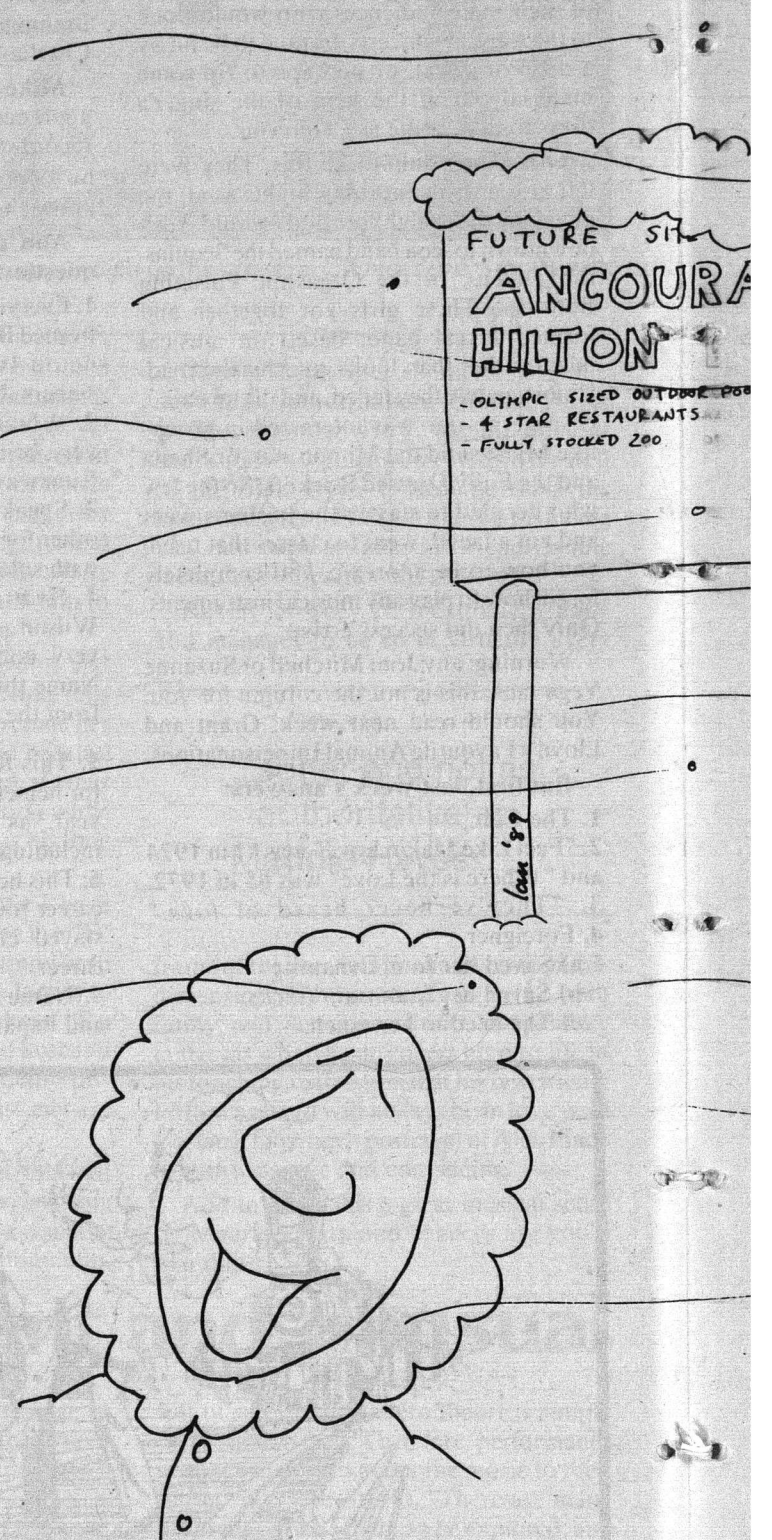
an increase in the average temperature of the earth.

This rise in temperature would trigger a multitude of feedback effects, many of which would likely cause a further increase in temperature. An example is the melting of the polar ice caps, which would reveal darker, heat absorbing ground beneath them, and raise sea levels, an event which would further raise carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere. (Carbon dioxide is 60 times more plentiful in seawater than in the air, and the normal evaporation cycle would carry more of it into the sky.)

But is the earth warming up?

"There is a definite warming trend in

"...it is premature to state categorically that a greenhouse effect is already being observed"



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