Another area for public policymaker consideration is research and development. Chapter Ten makes a strong case for greater expenditure of national funds for research. Some of the funds might be used to discover why people have their current attitudes toward energy usage and how these attitudes might be changed. Another area for research might be the deficiency pointed out by several of the authors in this book regarding the lack of adequate data for analyzing energy efficiency. Chapter Nine, for example, points to some specific examples where materials, capital, technology, and labor can be economically substituted for energy as prices rise. Yet the knowledge of how substitution works and what is possible is only in its infancy.

Sawhill states that the central conclusion which emerges from his book is that energy conservation is still an extremely fragmented and disparate activity. Although there appears to be unanimity on the importance of improving energy efficiency, there are still important differences among the experts concerning how to accomplish the task. Change will have to take place, particularly changes in organizational infrastructure. New contractors, suppliers, manufacturers, and services must come into existence, and financial institutions, regulations, and standards must adapt to the new demands. Better data is needed on energy use, new technologies must be commercially developed, and above all, the public must accept the reality of higher energy costs. Sawhill concludes that we can expect to see considerable change and that we can confidently look forward to some significant improvements in the way in which we think about and utilize energy.

A major strength of the book is the highlighting of conservation. Any amount of conservation, even five or ten percent, can have a significant impact. It can reduce our dependence on imported crude, help keep down lines at the service station, create less upward pressure on world markets, and allow more time to discover more domestic sources, including alternative sources. In other words it buys us some time to find other more long-term solutions.

The book is highly readable and informative. It certainly could be used to make the public more conservation conscious. It also could be used as a text for energy courses, perhaps as a primary text at the undergraduate level or as a secondary text in graduate courses.

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Joan Robinson's latest book of essays addresses the questions for which she is justly famous, poses others in challenge to all orthodoxies, and more fully elaborates her own already well-crafted scheme of thought. The twin challenges of relevance and logical consistency are hurled with their usual
vigor at neoclassical economics and fundamentalist Marxism. The analytical and historical insights of Marx, Sraffa, Keynes, and Kalecki are applied to the problems of today. Complacency and dogmatism are eschewed with wit and seriousness. The reader is swept away, across a rich realm of theorizing, doctrinal history, philosophizing, and intellectual autobiography.

What is production for? This is the ultimate question posed in the essay opening this collection, whose title the book bears. Its artful neglect, according to Mrs. Robinson, is the outstanding defect of the orthodoxy that dominates today's academic teaching; its successful cultivation is the hope that economics can offer mankind. The question, Mrs. Robinson insists to us, is the natural outcome of the Keynesian revolution which obliterated, or ought to have obliterated, the fantasies of laissez faire. She reminds us that if the invisible hand will not guide production in the interest of all, then we must ask what does and what should? But fantasies of a natural order and miracles of markets are irrationally resilient. They serve at the core of the reigning ideology, to justify established institutions. Elsewhere, Mrs. Robinson claims Keynes has sought to save capitalism from the stupidity of its defenders. But Keynes' pragmatism and bittersweet view of capitalism as a workable evil, which outraged capitalism's conservative defenders, has not survived, for it provides no ideological sustenance. Capitalism is maintained by more than just high levels of employment and stable prices, and in more crises than the present crisis, when neither has seemed obtainable, rhymes on free enterprise have defended the system from attack, and have kept the masses of people, economists included, from asking 'what for' and other fundamental questions. Mrs. Robinson's socialism, refreshingly and characteristically free of shibboleths, is never far from the surface in all of the essays in this book.

There has been a coalescence in Mrs. Robinson's thought through the years into a reasonably compact set of principles. She applies them in several of the essays included here with the ease of a master craftsman at work with her favorite tools. The most theoretically ambitious essay in the collection, "Accumulation and Exploitation: An Analysis in the Tradition of Marx, Sraffa and Kalecki," written with Amit Bhaduri, is an attempt to depict, on the basis of these principles, the movement of capitalism in a process of accumulation. It should silence those critics who have accused her of ad hocery. A Sraffian-esque treatment of distribution and normal prices, a Marxist perspective on exploitation, and a Kaleckian view of effective demand and mark-up pricing are neatly bound within a single package in the high tradition of grand theory. The essay should confirm in the minds of Mrs. Robinson's many admirers that there is a single coherent line of thought that leads from Ricardo and Marx to Keynes and Kalecki in relation to which the marginalist revolution was an unproductive detour.

The middle of the book is taken up with essays surveying and evaluating controversies in economic theory in which she participated in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. Most prominently discussed are the celebrated "Cambridge
Controversies," which began with her seemingly innocent question, 'what is capital?' The tenacity with which the Cambridge U.S. participants held to the view that there is some intelligible concept of 'capital' relevant to a complex world whose 'marginal product' determines the economy-wide return to capital is made much fun of.

The final group of essays in the book assault the complacency of fundamentalist Marxism. Whereas most critics of Marxism do battle to slay an intellectual monstrosity, Mrs. Robinson seeks to revive the rational kernel in Marx which she sees as having been smothered by dogmatism and religiosity. When some final evaluation of the last twenty years' revival of Marxism in British and American academia has been completed, Mrs. Robinson's influence must surely loom large.

There is something unsettling about all of Mrs. Robinson's work, unsettling to orthodoxy and unsettling to complacency. She continues to teach us that 'economics is a serious subject,' and a difficult one as well. The difficulties lie, on the theoretical side, in framing assumptions relevant to reality, and, on the historical side, in applying the lessons of history to an ever changing present. The economics profession of today gives comfort to those who have given up in the face of these difficulties. It does so by providing professional status and acclaim to intellectual gymnastics performed in the playground of equilibrium. Joan Robinson urges on those who would strike out on their own and "join in the project of getting economic theory out of the desert of equilibrium into fruitful fields." This little book should provide encouragement and show that the quest, while unsettling, is both possible and worthwhile.

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