

# 1 Management and the World's Work

2 Multiple broad thoughtscapeS → [awareness](#) and  
horizons to work toward ↓

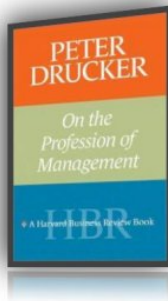
3 ... in an unpredictable world (tomorrow ain't going to be like today)  
with the unimagined futureS that follow

4 It is impossible to work on things that aren't your mental radar ↑ at a  
point in time

5 In each thought area ↓ Ask → what does this mean for me?

6 [by Peter Drucker](#) a [political/social ecologist](#)

7 The basic material below is contained in [Peter Drucker on the  
Profession of Management](#) published by *Harvard Business  
School Press*. I've tried to make it easier to perceive and connect to  
other areas of thought – thoughtscapeS or mental landscapeS.



8  
9 [Peter Drucker on the Profession of Management ::: Amazon.com](#)

10 **When Marx** was beginning work on *Das Kapital* in the early  
1850s, the phenomenon of management was unknown.

11 So were the enterprises that managers run. ↓

12 See the new pluralism below

13 The largest manufacturing company around was a Manchester, England cotton mill employing fewer than 300 people, owned by Marx's friend and collaborator Friedrich Engels.

14 And in Engels's mill—one of the most profitable businesses of its day there were no "managers," only first-line supervisors, or charge hands, who were workers themselves, each enforcing discipline over a handful of fellow "proletarians."

15 

16 Rarely in human history has any institution emerged as fast as management or had as **great an impact** as quickly.

17 **In less than 150 years**, management has **transformed the social and economic fabric of the world's developed countries.**

18 It has **created** a global economy and **set new rules** for **countries** that would **participate** in that economy as **equals**.

19 **The new pluralism**

20 And it has **itself (management) been transformed.**

21 To be sure, the **fundamental task** of management remains the same: to **make people capable of joint performance** by giving them

- 22 • common goals,
- 23 • common values,
- 24 • the right structure, and

- 25
- the ongoing training and development they

**need** to **perform** and to **respond to change**.

26 But the very **meaning of this task has changed**, if only because the **performance of management** has **converted** the **work force** from one **composed** largely of unskilled laborers to one of **highly educated knowledge workers**.

27

☞☞☞

28 Few executives are aware of the **tremendous impact management** has had.

29 Indeed, a good many are like M. Jourdain, the character in Molière's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, who did not know that he spoke prose.

30 They barely realize that they practice—or mispractice—management.

31 As a result, they are **ill prepared** for **the tremendous challenges** that come upon them.

32 For the truly important problems managers face do not come from technology or politics.

33 They do not originate outside of management and enterprise.

34 They are problems caused by **the very success of management itself**.

35

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36 Eighty years ago, on the threshold of World War I, when a few people were just becoming aware of management's existence, most people in

developed countries (perhaps four out of every five) earned their living in **three occupations**.

37 There were **domestic servants**—in Great Britain, the largest single occupation (a full third of all workers), but a very large group everywhere, even in the United States.

38 There were **farmers**—usually family farmers, who accounted for more than half the working population in every country except England and Belgium.

39 And finally, there were **blue-collar workers in manufacturing industries**—the fastest growing occupation and the one that by 1925 would embrace almost 40 percent of the U.S. labor force.

40 Today **domestic servants** have all but **disappeared**.

41 **Full-time farmers** account for only 3 percent to 5 percent of the working population in the non-Communist, developed countries, even though farm production is four to five times what it was 80 years ago.

42 **Blue-collar manufacturing employment** is **rapidly moving down the same path as farming**.

43 Manual workers employed in manufacturing in the United States now make up only 18 percent of the total work force; by the end of the century, they are likely to account for 10 percent or so in the United States and elsewhere—with manufacturing production steadily rising and expected to be at least 50 percent higher.

44 The largest single group, more than one-third of the total, consists of workers whom the U.S. Bureau of the Census calls **“managerial and professional.”**

45 And a larger proportion of the total adult population than ever before—almost two-thirds in the United States, for instance—is now **gainfully employed** in every developed, non-Communist country.

46



47 **Management** has been **the main agent** of this  
unprecedented **transformation**.

48 For it is management that explains why, **for the first time in**  
**human history**, we can employ large numbers of knowledgeable,  
skilled people in productive work.

49 No earlier society could do this.

50 Indeed, no earlier society could support more than a handful of such  
people because, until quite recently, no one knew how to put people  
with different skills and knowledge together to achieve common  
goals.

51 Eighteenth century China was the envy of contemporary Western  
intellectuals because it supplied more jobs for educated people than  
all of Europe did—some 20,000 per year.

52 Yet today, the United States with a roughly comparable population  
produces nearly one million college graduates a year, most of whom  
have little difficulty finding well-paid employment.

53 **What enables us to employ them is management.**

54



55 **Knowledge**, especially advanced knowledge, is always  
**highly specialized**.

56 By itself it **produces nothing**.

57 Yet a modern large business can usefully employ up to 10,000 highly  
knowledgeable people who possess up to 60 different fields of  
knowledge.

58 Engineers of all sorts, designers, marketing experts, economists,  
statisticians, psychologists, planners, accountants, human resources  
people—all work together in **a joint venture**, and none would be  
effective without **the managed enterprise** that is business.

59



60 The question of which came first—the educational explosion of the last  
100 years or the management that could put this knowledge to  
productive use—is moot.

61 Modern management and modern enterprise clearly could not exist  
without the knowledge base that developed societies have built.

62 But equally, it is **management and management alone**  
**that makes all this knowledge and these**  
**knowledgeable people effective.**

63 The emergence of management has **converted** knowledge from **a**  
**social ornament and luxury** into what we now know to be **the**  
**true capital** of any economy.

64 

65 And knowledge, in turn—instead of bricks and mortar—has become the  
**center of capital investment.**

66 Japan invests a record 8 percent of its annual GNP in plant and  
equipment.

67 But Japan invests at least twice as much in education, two-thirds in  
schools for the young, the rest in the training and teaching of adults  
(largely in the organizations that employ them).

68 And the United States puts an even larger share roughly 20 percent—of  
its much larger GNP into education and training.

69 In the modern society of enterprise and management, knowledge is  
**the primary resource and society's true wealth.**

70 **"Because the knowledge society**  
**perforce *has to be* a society of organizations,**  
**its central and distinctive organ is management."**

71 

---

72 Not many business leaders could have predicted this development  
back in 1870, when large enterprises like those we know today were

beginning to take shape.

73 The reason was not so much lack of foresight as lack of precedent.

74 At that time, the only large permanent organization around was the army.

75 Not surprisingly, therefore, its command-and-control structure became the model for the men who were putting together transcontinental railroads, steel mills, modern banks, and department stores.

76 ¶¶¶

77 The command model, with a very few at the top giving orders and a great many at the bottom obeying them, remained the norm for nearly 100 years.

78 But it was never as static as its longevity might suggest.

79 On the contrary, it began to change almost at once, as specialized knowledge of all sorts poured into enterprise.

80 The first university-trained engineer in manufacturing industry was hired in Germany in 1867, and within five years he had built a research department.

81 Other specialties followed suit, and by **World War I** the familiar typical functions of a manufacturer had been developed:

82 research and engineering,

83 manufacturing,

84 sales,

85 finance and accounting,

86 and a little later, human resources.

87 **Even more important** for its **impact on enterprise**—and on the **world economy in general**—was another management-directed development that took place at this time.

88 That was the **application of management to manual work**

in the form of **training**.

89 The **child of wartime necessity**, training has **propelled** the **transformation** of the **world economy** in the last 30 years because it allows low-wage countries to do something that traditional economic theory had said could never be done: to become **efficient—and yet still low-wage competitors almost overnight**.

90 

91 Until World War I, it was axiomatic that it took a long time (Adam Smith said several hundred years) for a country or region to develop a tradition of labor and the expertise in manual and organizational skills needed to produce and market a given product, whether cotton textiles or violins.

92 But during World War I, **large numbers of totally unskilled, preindustrial people had to be made productive workers in practically no time**.

93 To meet this need, businesses in the United States and the United Kingdom began to apply **Frederick Taylor's principles of "scientific management,"** developed between 1885 and 1910, to the systematic training of blue-collar workers on a large scale.

94 They analyzed tasks and broke them down into individual, unskilled operations that could then be learned quite quickly.

95 Further developed in World War II, training was then picked up by the Japanese and, 20 years later, by the South Koreans, who made it the **basis** for their countries' **phenomenal development**.

96 

97 During the 1920s and 1930s, management was **applied to many more areas and aspects of manufacturing business**.

98 **Decentralization**, for instance, arose to combine the advantages of bigness and the advantages of smallness within one enterprise.





110 To the very end, the Germans were by far the better strategists.

111 And because they had the benefit of much shorter interior lines, they  
needed far fewer support troops and could match their opponents in  
combat strength.

112 Yet the Allies won—**their victory achieved by management.**

113 ¶¶¶

114 The United States, with **one-fifth the population**, had **almost  
as many men in uniform** as all the other belligerents together.

115 Yet it still produced **more war material** than all the others taken  
together.

116 And it managed to **get that material to fighting fronts** as far  
apart as China, Russia, India, Africa, and Western Europe.

117 **No wonder**, then, that by the war's end almost all the world had  
become **management conscious.**

118 Or that management emerged as a recognizably **distinct kind of  
work**, one that could be studied and developed into a discipline—as  
happened in each of the countries that has exercised **economic  
leadership** during the postwar period.

119 ¶¶¶

120 But also, after World War II we began slowly to see that  
**management is not business management.**

121 It **pertains to every human effort that brings together  
in one organization people of diverse knowledge and  
skills.**

122 And it can be powerfully applied in hospitals, universities, churches,  
arts organizations, and social service agencies of all kinds.

123 These "**third sector**" institutions have **grown faster** than either  
business or government in the developed countries since World War  
II.

124

[The social sector](#)

125 And their leaders are **becoming more and more management conscious**.

126 For even though the need to manage volunteers or raise funds may differentiate nonprofit managers from their for-profit peers, many more of their **responsibilities** are the same—among them, defining the right strategy and goals, developing people, measuring performance, and marketing the organization's services.

127

***THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT OUR KNOWLEDGE OF MANAGEMENT IS COMPLETE.***

128

Management education today is on the receiving end of a great deal of **criticism**, much of it justified.

129

What we knew about management 40 years ago—and have **codified in our systems** of **organized management education**—

does not necessarily help managers meet **the challenges they face today**.

130

Nevertheless, that knowledge was the **foundation** for the **spectacular expansion** the world economy has undergone since 1950, in developed and developing countries alike.

131

And **what has made that knowledge obsolete is, in large measure, its own success in hastening the shift from manual work to knowledge work in business organizations**.

132



133

To take just one **example**, we now have a great need for **new accounting concepts and methods**.

134 Experts like Robert Kaplan have pointed out that many of the  
assumptions on which our system is based are no longer valid.

135 For example, accounting conventions assume that  
manufacturing industry is central; in fact, service and  
information industries are now more important in all  
developed countries.

136 They also assume that a business produces just one product,  
whereas practically all modern businesses produce a great  
many different products.

137 But above all, cost accounting, that proud invention of the  
mid-1920s, assumes that 80 percent of all costs are  
attributable to direct manual labor.

138 In reality, manual labor in advanced manufacturing industries  
today accounts for no more than 8 percent to 12 percent of all  
costs.

139 And the processes used in industries like automobiles and  
steel, in which labor costs are higher, are **distinctly**  
**antiquated**.

140 

141 Efforts to devise accounting systems that will reflect changes like  
these—and provide accurate managerial information—are under way.

142 But they are still in the early stages.

143 So are our efforts to find solutions to other **important**  
**management challenges**:

- 144 • structures that work for information-based organizations;
- 145 • ways to raise the productivity of knowledge workers;
- 146 • techniques for managing existing businesses and  
developing new and very different ones at the same time;
- 147 • ways to build and manage truly global businesses;
- 148 • and many more.

149

150 Management arose in developed countries.

151 How does its rise **affect the developing world?**

152 Perhaps the best way to answer this question is to start with the obvious: **management and large enterprise**, together with our **new communications capacity**, have created **a truly global economy**.

153 In the process, they have changed **what countries must do** to **participate effectively** in that economy and to **achieve economic success**.

154



155 In the past, starring roles in the world's economy were always based on leadership in technological innovation.

156

**Great Britain** became an economic power in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries through innovation in the steam engine, machine tools, textiles, railroads, iron making, insurance, and international banking.

157

**Germany's** economic star rose in the second half of the nineteenth century on innovation in chemistry, electricity, electronics, optics, steel, and the invention of the modern bank.

158

The **United States** emerged as an economic power at the same time through innovative leadership in steel, electricity, telecommunications, electronics, automobiles, agronomy, office equipment, agricultural implements, and aviation.

159



160 But the one great economic power to emerge in this century **Japan**—has not been a technological pioneer in any area. (See [management as a liberal art](#) and [on Japan](#))

161 Its ascendancy rests squarely on **leadership in management**.

162 The Japanese understood **the lessons of America's**  
163 **managerial achievement during World War II** more  
clearly than we did ourselves especially with respect to **managing**  
**people as a resource rather than as a cost.**

163 As a result, they adapted the West's new "social technology"  
management—to make it fit their own values and traditions.

164 They adopted (and adapted) **organization theory** to become the  
**most thorough practitioners of decentralization** in the  
world.

165 (Pre-World War II Japan had been completely centralized.)

166 And they began to **practice marketing** when most American  
companies were still only preaching it. (about [marketing](#))

167 

168 Japan also understood sooner than other countries that management  
and technology together had **changed the economic**  
**landscape.**

169 The **mechanical model of organization and technology**,  
which came into being at the end of the seventeenth century when an  
obscure French physicist, Denis Papin, designed a prototypical steam  
engine, **came to an end in 1945**, when the first atomic bomb  
exploded and the first computer went on line.

170 Since then, the model for both technology and organizations has been  
a **biological one—interdependent, knowledge**  
**intensive, and organized by the flow of information.**  
([From Analysis to Perception – The New Worldview](#))

171 

172 One consequence of this change is that the industries that have been  
the carriers of enterprise for the last 100 years—industries like  
automobiles, steel, consumer electronics, and appliances—are **in**  
**crisis.**

173 And this is true even where demographics seem to be in their favor.

174 For example, countries like Mexico and Brazil have an abundant supply of young people who can be trained easily for semiskilled manual work.

175 The mechanical industries would seem to be a perfect match.

176 But as competitors in every industrial nation have found, **mechanical production is antiquated unless it becomes automated**—that is, unless it is **restructured around information**.

177 For that reason alone, **education** is perhaps the **greatest “management” challenge developing countries face**.

178 ¶¶¶

179 Another way to arrive at the same conclusion is to look at a second fact with which developing countries must reckon: the developed countries **no longer need them** as they did during the nineteenth century.

180 It may be hyperbole to say, as Japan’s leading management consultant, Kenichi Ohmae, has said, that Japan, North America, and Western Europe **can exist by themselves** without **the two-thirds of humanity** who live in developing countries.

181 But it is a fact that during the last 40 years the countries of this so called **triad** have become essentially self-sufficient except for petroleum.

182 They produce more food than they can consume—in glaring contrast to the nineteenth century.

183 They produce something like three-fourths of all the world’s manufactured goods and services.

184 And they provide the market for an equal proportion.

185 ¶¶¶

186 This poses an acute problem for developing countries, even very big

ones like China and India.

187 They cannot hope to become important economic powers by tracking  
the evolution of enterprise and management—that is, by starting with  
nineteenth and early twentieth century industries and productive  
processes based mainly on a manual work force.

188 Demographically they may have no choice, of course.

189 And maybe they can even begin to catch up.

190 But **can they ever get ahead? I doubt it.**

191 ¶¶¶

192 During the last 200 years, **no country has become a major  
economic power by following in the footsteps of  
earlier leaders.**

193 Each started out with what were, at the time, advanced industries and  
advanced production and distribution processes.

194 And each, very fast, became a leader in management.

195 Today, however, in part because of automation information and  
advanced technology, but in much larger part because of the demand  
for trained people in all areas of management, development requires  
a knowledge base that few developing countries possess or can  
afford.

196 **How to create an adequate managerial knowledge  
base fast is the critical question in economic  
development today.**

197 It is also one for which we have **no answer so far.**

198 §§§


199 The problems and challenges discussed so far are largely internal to  
management and enterprise.

200 But the **most important challenge**



**ahead** for management in developed countries is the result of an external change that I first called “**pension fund socialism**” in my 1976 book, *The Unseen Revolution: How Pension Fund Socialism Came to America*.

201 I am referring, of course, to the shift of the titles of ownership of public companies to the institutional trustees of the country’s employees, chiefly through their pension funds.

202 

203 **Socially this is the most positive development** of the twentieth century because it resolves the “social question” that vexed the nineteenth century—the conflict between “capital” and “labor”—by merging the two.

204 But it has also created the most violent turbulence for management and managers since they arose a century ago.

205 For pension funds are the ultimate cause of the explosion of hostile takeovers in the last few years; and nothing has so disturbed and demoralized managers as the hostile takeover.

206 In this sense, takeovers are only a symptom of the fundamental questions pension fund socialism raises about **the legitimacy of management:**

207 To whom are managers accountable?

208 For what?

209 **What is the purpose and rationale of large, publicly owned enterprises?**

210 

211 In 1986, the last year for which we have figures, the pension funds of America’s employees owned more than 40 percent of U.S. companies’ equity capital and more than two-thirds of the equity capital of the 1,000 largest companies.

212 The funds of large institutions (businesses, states, cities, public service and nonprofit institutions like universities, school districts, and

hospitals) accounted for three-quarters of these holdings.

213 The funds of individuals (employees of small businesses and the self-employed) accounted for the other fourth.

214 (Mutual funds, which also represent the savings of wage earners rather than of "capitalists," hold another 5 percent to 10 percent of the country's equity capital.)

215 ¶¶¶

216 These figures mean that pension funds are already the primary suppliers of capital in the United States.

217 Indeed, it is almost impossible to build a new business or expand an existing one unless pension-fund money is available.

218 In the next few years, the funds' holdings will become even larger, if only because federal government employees now have a pension fund that invests in equity shares.

219 Thus, by the year 2000, pension funds will hold at least two thirds of the share capital of all U.S. businesses except the smallest.

220 Through their pension funds, U.S. employees will be the true owners of the country's means of production.

221 ¶¶¶

222 The same development, with a lag of about ten years, is taking place in Great Britain, Japan, West Germany, and Sweden.

223 It is also starting to appear in France, Italy, and the Netherlands.

224 ¶¶¶

225 This startling development was not foreseen, but it was inevitable the result of several interdependent factors.

226 First is the **shift in income distribution** that directs 90 percent or so of the GNP in non-Communist, developed countries into the wage fund.

227 (The figure varies from 85 percent in the United States to 95 percent or more in the Netherlands and Denmark.)

228 Indeed, **economically** the “rich” have become  
**irrelevant** in developed countries, however much  
they dominate the society pages and titillate TV viewers.

229 **Even the very rich** have actually become much poorer in  
this century if their incomes are adjusted for inflation and taxation.

230 To be in the same league as the “tycoon” of 1900, today’s “super-rich”  
person would need a net worth of at least \$50 billion—perhaps even  
\$100 billion and income to match.

231 A few Arab sheiks may qualify, but surely no one in a developed  
country.

232 ¶¶¶

233 At the same time, wage earners’ real incomes have risen dramatically.

234 Few employees in turn-of-the century America could lay aside  
anything beyond their mortgage payments or the premiums on  
funeral insurance.

235 But since then, the American industrial worker’s real income and  
purchasing power have grown more than 20 times larger, even though  
the number of hours worked has dropped by 50 percent.

236 The same has occurred in all the other industrially developed  
countries.

237 And it has happened fastest in Japan, where the real income of  
industrial workers may now be as much as 30 times what it was 80  
years ago.

238 ¶¶¶

239 Demand for this income is essentially limitless because  
we are again in the midst of **an intensively creative period**.

240 In the 60 years between 1856 and World War I, a technical or social  
innovation that led almost immediately to **a new industry  
appeared, on average, once every 14 months**.

241 And this **entrepreneurial explosion** underlay the rise of the tycoons.

242 We **needed** people like J.P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, Sr., Andrew Carnegie, Friedrich Krupp, and the Mitsui family who could finance whole industries out of their private pockets.

243 **Technical and social innovations are coming just as fast today.**

244 And the **effect of all this energy** is that companies and countries **require** enormous amounts of capital **just to keep up**, let alone move ahead **amounts that are several orders of magnitude larger** than those the tycoons had to supply 80 years ago.

245 

246 Indeed, the total pretax incomes of America's 1,000 highest income earners would be barely adequate to cover **the capital needs** of the country's private industry for more than three or four days.

247 This holds true for all developed countries.

248 In Japan, for instance, the pretax incomes of the country's 2,000 highest income earners just about equals what the country's private industry invests every two or three days.

249 

250 These economic developments would have forced us in any event to make workers into "capitalists" and **owners of productive resources.**

251 That pension funds became the vehicle—rather than mutual funds or direct individual investments in equity as everyone expected 30 years ago—is the result of the **demographic shift that has raised life expectancies** in developed countries from age 40 to the mid and late-70s.

252 The number of older people is much too large, and the years during

which they need an income too many, for them to depend on support from their children.

253 They must rely on monies they themselves have put aside during their earning years—and these funds have to be invested for long stretches of time.

254 

255 That modern society requires an **identity of interest between enterprise and employee** was seen very early, not only by pre-Marxist socialists like Saint-Simon and Fourier in France and Robert Owen in Scotland but also by classical economists like Adam Smith and David Ricardo.

256 Attempts to satisfy this need through worker ownership of business thus go back more than 150 years.

257 Without exception, **they have failed.**

258 

259 In the first place, worker ownership does not satisfy the workers' basic financial and economic needs.

260 It puts all the workers' financial resources into the business that employs them.

261 But the workers' needs are primarily long-term, particularly the need for retirement income many years hence.

262 So to be a sound investment for its worker-owners, a business has to prosper for a very long time—and only one business out of every 40 or 50 ever does.

263 Indeed, few even survive long enough.

264 But worker ownership also **destroys** companies in the end because it always leads to inadequate capital formation, inadequate investment in research and development, and stubborn resistance to abandonment of outmoded, unproductive, and obsolete products, processes, plants, jobs, and work rules.

265 

266 Zeiss Optical Works, the oldest worker-owned business around, lost its leadership position in consumer optics to the Americans and the Japanese for just this reason.

267 Time and again, Zeiss's worker owners preferred immediate satisfaction—higher wages, bonuses, benefits—to investing in research, new products, and new markets.

268 Worker ownership underlies the near collapse of industry in contemporary Yugoslavia.

269 And its shortcomings are so greatly hampering industry in China that the country's leaders are trying to shift to "contract management," which will expand managerial autonomy and check the power of "work councils" and worker-owners.

270 ¶¶¶

271 And yet, worker ownership of the means of production is not only a sound concept, it is also inevitable.

272 **Power follows property**, says the old axiom.

273 Both James Madison, in the *Federalist Papers*, and Karl Marx took it from the seventeenth century English philosopher, James Harrington, who in turn took it from Aristotle.

274 It can be found in early Confucian writings as well.

275 And since property has shifted to the wage earners in all developed countries, power has to follow.

276 Yet unlike any other worker ownership of the means of production, pension fund socialism maintains the autonomy and accountability of enterprise and management, market freedom, competition, and the ability to change and to innovate.

277 ¶¶¶

278 But **pension fund socialism does not function fully as yet.**

279 We can solve the financial and economic problems it presents.

280 We know, for instance, that a pension fund must invest no more than a small fraction of its assets, 5 percent perhaps, in the shares of its own

company or of any one company altogether.

281 We know quite a bit, though not nearly enough, about how to invest  
pension fund money.

282 But we still have to solve the **basic sociopolitical problem:**

283 **how to build the accomplished fact of employee  
ownership into the governance of both pension  
funds and businesses.**

284 **—————**

285 Pension funds are the legal owners of the companies in which they  
invest.

286 But they not only have no "ownership interest"; as trustees for the  
ultimate beneficiaries, the employees, they also are legally obligated  
to be nothing but "investors," and short-term investors at that.

287 That is why it is worker ownership that has made the hostile takeover  
possible.

288 For as trustees, the pension funds must sell if someone bids more than  
the market price.

289 

290 Whether hostile takeovers benefit shareholders is a hotly debated  
issue.

291 That they have serious economic side effects is beyond question.

292 The fear of a hostile takeover may not be the only reason American  
managements tend to **subordinate everything**—market  
standing, research, product development, service, quality, innovation—  
to the short term.

293 But it is surely a major reason.

294 Moreover, the hostile takeover is a frontal attack on management and  
managers.

295 Indeed, what makes the mere threat of a takeover so demoralizing to  
managers (especially the middle managers and professionals on

whom a business depends for its performance) is the raiders' barely concealed contempt, which management sees as contempt for wealth-producing work, and their work's subordination to financial manipulation.

296



297 For their part, the raiders and their financial backers maintain that management is solely accountable to the shareholders whatever their wishes, even if those represent nothing more than short-term speculative gains and asset stripping.

298 This is indeed what the law says.

299 But the law was written for early nineteenth century business conditions, well before large enterprise and management came into being.

300 And while every free-market country has similar laws, not all countries hold to them.

301 In Japan, for instance, custom dictates that larger companies exist mainly for the sake of their employees except in the event of bankruptcy; and Japanese economic performance and even Japanese shareholders have surely not suffered as a result.

302 In West Germany too, large enterprises are seen as "going concerns," whose preservation is in the national interest and comes before shareholders' gains.

303



304 Both Japan and Germany have organized an extra-legal but highly effective way to hold business managements accountable, however, in the form of the voting control exercised by the big commercial banks of both countries.

305 No such system exists in the United States (or the United Kingdom), nor could it possibly be constructed.

306 And even in Japan and Germany, the hold of the banks is weakening fast.

307



308 So we must think through **what management should be**



**accountable for;** and

309 how and through whom its accountability can be discharged.

310 The stockholders' interest, both short and long-term, is one of the areas, to be sure.

311 But it is only one.

312 

313 One thing is clear to anyone with the **slightest knowledge of political or economic history**: the present day assertion of "absolute shareholder sovereignty" (of which the boom in takeovers is the most spectacular manifestation) is **the last hurrah of nineteenth century, basically preindustrial capitalism.**

314 It violates many people's **sense of justice**—as the upsurge of "populism" and anti-Wall Street rhetoric in the 1988 presidential campaign attest.

315 

316 But even more important, no economy can perform if it puts what Thorstein Veblen, some 70 years ago, called "the acquisitive instinct" ahead of the "instinct of workmanship."

317 Modern enterprise, especially large enterprise, can do its economic job—including making profits for the shareholders—only if it is being **managed for the long run.**

318 **Investments, whether in people, in products, in plants, in processing, in technology, or in markets, require several years of gestation before there is even a "baby," let alone full-grown results.**

319 **Altogether far too much in society—jobs, careers, communities depends on the economic fortunes of large enterprises to subordinate them completely to the interests of any one group, including shareholders.**

320



321

How to make the interests of shareholders—and this means pension funds—compatible with the **needs** of the economy and society is thus the big issue **pension fund socialism** has to resolve.

322

And it has to be done in a way that makes managements accountable, especially for **economic and financial performance**, and yet allows them to **manage for the long term**.

323

**How we answer this challenge** will decide both the shape and place of management and the structure, if not the **survival**, of the free-market economy.

324

It will also determine America's ability to compete in a world economy in which competitive long-range strategies are more and more the norm.

325



326

## Finally, **what is management?**

327

What does this ↓ mean for you? and what will you calendarize

328

Is it a bag of techniques and tricks?

329

A bundle of analytical tools like those taught in **business schools**?

330

These are important, to be sure, just as the thermometer and a knowledge of anatomy are important to the physician.

331

But what the evolution and history of management—its successes as well as its problems—teach is that management is, above all else, a very few, essential principles.

332

Management as a liberal art, Management, Revised Edition and Cases

333

To be specific:

334

1. Management is about **human beings**.

335 Its **task** is to make people **capable of joint performance**,  
to make their **strengths effective** and their **weaknesses**  
336 **irrelevant**.

This is **what organization is all about**, and it is the reason  
that MANAGEMENT IS THE CRITICAL,  
337 **DETERMINING FACTOR**.

338 These days, practically all of us are employed by managed  
institutions, large and small, business and nonbusiness—and that is  
especially true for educated people.

We depend on management for our **livelihoods** and our  
339 **ability to contribute and achieve**.

Indeed, our **ability to contribute to society at all** usually  
340 **depends** as much on the management of the enterprises in which  
we work as it does on our own skills, dedication, and effort.

2. Because management deals with the **integration of**  
341 **people** in a common venture, it is **deeply embedded in**  
**culture**.

**What managers do** in West Germany, in Britain, in the United  
342 States, in Japan, or in Brazil is exactly the same.

**How they do it** may be quite different.

343 Thus one of the basic challenges managers in a **developing**  
**country** face is to find and identify those parts of their own  
tradition, history, and culture that can be used as **building**  
344 **blocks**.

The difference between Japan's economic success and India's  
345 relative backwardness, for instance, is largely explained by the fact  
that Japanese managers were able to plant imported  
management concepts in their own cultural soil and make them  
grow.

345 Whether China's leaders can do the same—or whether their great  
tradition will become an impediment to the country's  
development remains to be seen.

346 3. Every enterprise requires **simple, clear, and unifying  
objectives**.

347 Its **mission** has to be clear enough and big enough to provide a  
common vision.

348 The **goals** that embody it have to be clear, public, and often  
reaffirmed.

349 We hear a great deal of talk these days about the "culture" of an  
organization.

350 But what we really mean by this is the **commitment** throughout  
an enterprise to some **common** objectives and common values.

351 Without such commitment there is no enterprise—there is **only a  
mob**.

352 Management's job is to **think** THROUGH, set,  
and **exemplify** those **objectives, values, and goals**.

353 [The manager and the moron](#)

354 4. It is also management's job to **enable** the enterprise and each  
of its members to **grow** and **develop** as **needs** and  
**opportunities** change.

355 This means that every enterprise is a **learning and  
teaching** institution.

356 Training and development must be built into it on **all levels**—  
training and development that **never stop**.

357 5. Every enterprise is composed of people with **different skills**  
and **knowledge** doing many **different kinds of work**.

358 For that reason, it must be built on **communication** and on  
**individual responsibility**.

- 359 • Each member has to **think through** what he or she  
aims to accomplish—and **make sure** that associates  
**know and understand** that aim.
- 360 • Each has to think through what he or she **owes to**  
**others**—and make sure that others **understand and**  
**approve**.
- 361 • Each has to think through **what is needed from**  
**others**—and make sure that others know **what is**  
**expected of them**.

362 6. Neither the **quantity of output** nor **the bottom line** is  
by itself an adequate **measure of the performance of**  
**management and enterprise**.

363 Market standing, innovation, productivity, development of  
people, quality, financial results—all are **crucial** to a  
company's performance and indeed to its survival.

364 In this respect, an enterprise is **like a human being**.

365 Just as we need a diversity of measures to **assess the**  
**health and performance** of a person, we need a  
**diversity of measures** for an enterprise.

366 Performance has to be **built into the enterprise and its**  
**management**; it has to be measured—or at least judged—and it  
has to be **continuously improved**.

367 7. Finally, the **SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING** to  
remember about any enterprise is that **there are no results**  
368 **inside its walls.**

- 368 1. The result of a business is a satisfied customer.
- 369 2. The result of a hospital is a healed patient.
- 370 3. The result of a school is a student who has learned  
something and **puts it to work** ten years later.

371 Inside an enterprise, **there are only** cost centers.

372 **Results exist only on**  
**the outside.**

### 373 Conditions for survival

374 About management, as about any other area of human work, much  
more could be said.

- 375 • Tools must be acquired and used.
- 376 • Techniques and any number of processes and procedures  
must be learned.

377 But managers who **truly understand** the **principles** outlined  
above and **truly manage themselves in their light**  
will be **achieving, accomplished managers**—the kind of  
managers who **build** successful, productive, and achieving  
**enterprises** all over the world and who **establish standards,**  
**set examples,** and **leave as a legacy** both **greater**  
**capacity to produce wealth** and **greater human vision.**

378

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379 It is **impossible** to work on things  
that aren't your mental radar ↓ **at**  
**the right and necessary points in**  
**time:**

380 [Intelligence and behavior](#) by Niccolò Machiavelli and Edward  
de Bono

381 [Calendarization](#) → What do these issues ↑ ↓ , these [challenges](#)  
↑ ↓ mean for me & ... – an [alternative](#)

382 What actions are suggested by the [concepts](#) and [information](#)  
in these thoughtscapes ↑ ↓ ? [continue](#)

383 [Dense reading](#) accompanied by thinking broad and detailed is  
needed in creating an effective action approach

## 384 [The management revolution](#) – making knowledge productive

385 “That knowledge has become **THE** resource, rather than **a**  
resource, is what makes our society “[post-capitalist](#).”

386 This change means that we now **see** knowledge as **the**  
**essential resource**.

387 Land, labor, and capital are important chiefly as restraints.

388 Without them, even knowledge cannot produce; with out  
them, even management cannot perform.

389 But where there is **effective management**, that is,  
**application of knowledge to knowledge**, we can  
always obtain the other resources.”

390 [The application of knowledge](#) – a  
change in the human condition

391 [The social sector](#) – Who takes care of  
the social challenges of the  
knowledge society?

392 [Management Challenges for the 21st  
Century](#)

393 [Managing in the Next Society](#)

394 ["To improve the productivity of knowledge workers will in fact require  
drastic changes in the structure of the organizations of post-capitalist  
society, and in the structure of society itself"](#)

395 

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396 rlaexp.com [start](#) → The [memo](#) **THEY** don't want you to SEE  
because **they** want you beholden to them – their prisoner of  
yesterday.

397 **THEY** ↑ are the organization and political power structures trying to  
extrapolate yesterday – the antithesis of the manager who **truly  
understand** (mentioned in paragraph 377 above)

398 [Intelligence and behavior](#) by Niccolò Machiavelli and Edward de Bono

399 [Books by Peter Drucker](#)