feels hemmed in by tradition, but can explore beyond. There is also the fact of coming face to face with others: an artist has the innate desire to create but it is above all contact with the public, with people with whom one has an exchange, that enables us to see with another's eye. Kanak artists are beginning to discover the importance of the public who sometimes reveal to them their own value. It is important to take account of the other in art.

The book *Ko i Névā* further expresses this phenomenon.

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Most of the twenty chapters in this collection were first presented as papers at a conference held at the Australian National University in November 1990. The editors explain at the outset that the purpose of this conference was “to discuss the political implications of resource exploitation and resource projects in the island Pacific, and to consider the implications of resource exploitation for the indigenous peoples of Australia and New Zealand” (ix). With such a broad canvas, and only twenty brush strokes, one would expect the editors to have some difficulty in deciding how to arrange the picture. No single criterion could be used to divide the collection into parts, because some chapters dealt with particular economic sectors, others with cross-sectoral issues, some with particular countries, others with international issues. The editors untangled this mixture by dividing it into six parts: the first four deal with sectoral issues in Pacific Island nations (including Papua New Guinea), the fifth is about “Indigenous People and Resources” in Australia and New Zealand, and the last sails back to the Pacific to search for some general, cross-sectoral “Perspectives” on the chosen theme.

The first part of the book contains five chapters on the mining and petroleum sector, four of which are concerned with Papua New Guinea and one with New Caledonia. The last, by Stephen Henningham, has the greatest novelty value, mainly because so little has been written in English about the history of relations between the Kanaks and the nickel-mining industry. The others, by Hank Nelson, John Connell, Stewart MacPherson, and Richard Jackson, are more like extended footnotes or appendixes to previous writings.

Papua New Guinea also gets the lion’s share of the attention in the second and third parts of the book, which contain five chapters on forestry and two on fishing. But in this case the Papua New Guinea material has rather more novelty value, partly because it includes the reflections of development practitioners rather than academic commentators. I was especially interested in the afterthoughts of Tos Bar­nett, whose commission of inquiry into the forest industry had a marked effect on the political landscape of Papua New Guinea, and the reflections of
another lawyer, Rod Taylor, who has more recently been involved in the implementation of Papua New Guinea’s National Forestry and Conservation Action Plan.

Neva Wendt’s paper on the role of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme in the evolution of regional environmental policy is locked away by itself in a section on “the environment,” and reads as if it ought to have been the introduction to another book, though one may wonder why it was not assigned to the later section on regional “perspectives.”

The three chapters on Aboriginal and Maori land rights also seem to be misfits, partly because they do not have the sectoral focus evident in most of the other chapters, and partly because the collection as a whole contains no serious attempt to relate the regional varieties of colonial experience to present-day policy and practice in the mining, forestry, and fisheries sectors. The two chapters on Aboriginal land rights have the added disadvantage of having been written before, but printed after, the Australian Supreme Court’s judgment in the Mabo case.

The first chapter in the final, perspectival section of the book was apparently written by Brij Lal in his capacity as rapporteur for the conference as a whole, and reads like a second version of the initial introduction by the volume’s editors. Lal does make the point that the political problems of resource exploitation in the region have not really changed a great deal over the last twenty years, but the prospect of a political solution to these problems has perhaps receded. In their separate contributions to this final section, Ted Wolfers and Ciaran O’Faircheallaigh both reinforce this point by showing how far one must go before gaining an accurate and productive understanding of the balance of political forces, or the direction of the social and economic impacts that are associated with the exploitation of particular natural resources. Both of these contributions contain a number of valuable critical comments on the existing literature on this subject, including some of the earlier contributions to this volume, but both raise more questions than they answer, and might again be read as introductions to books that have not yet been written.

Taken as a whole, this book leaves the reader with the impression that its editors may have bitten off more than they could chew by organizing a conference on such a wide range of regional and sectoral issues without providing a more specific political or theoretical focus to the debate. In his foreword to the collection, Australian federal Member of Parliament John Langmore suggests that the Bougainville rebellion provides this focus, but that rebellion has already been the subject of three other conferences held at the Australian National University, and some of the contributions to this volume have much more in common with post-UNCED debates about regional versions of Agenda 21 or pre-Mabo debates about Aboriginal land rights.

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