

Contents

Preface	vii
Acknowledgements	x
1 What is the Global Information Society?	1
The Idea of an Information Society	3
Four Central Claims about the Information Society	12
2 Locating the 'Information Age' in History	19
The New Age	21
Technological Determinism and the Information Age	24
Lewis Mumford and Technological History	28
Marx, Capitalism and the Information Society	35
The Informationalization of Society	44
3 Information Capital, Property and Labour	49
The Transformation of Work	50
Statistics and the Information Society	57
What is Service Work?	61
The End of Work as We Know it?	65
The Continuity of Property Relations	72
(Information) Labour in the Global Economy	77

vi	Contents	
4	Communities, Individuals and Politics in the Information Society	81
	Politics in the Information Age	82
	(New) Political Communities	85
	Images, Gifts and Information Politics	94
	Individualism in the Information Society	99
	Communicating Politics	111
5	W(h)ither the State?	114
	Early Views of the State in the Information Age	115
	Sidelineing the State	118
	'And Still It Moves'	126
	Globalization, the Information Society and the State	135
	A Death Frequently Foretold	145
6	Back to the Future	149
	Shortcomings of Technological Forecasting	150
	The Dual Dynamic of Information Society	155
	Sceptical yet Hopeful	158
	Appendix: Intellectual Property	162
	References	168
	Index	185