ASTRONAULTS' VIEW OF EARTH

Streaking to the moon, U.S. astronauts will glimpse this view of earth hours after lift-off
What our READERS SAY

Vietnam

"Your Plain Truth is about the only real joy I have in Vietnam. I wish it could be a weekly publication! And may I also say that it's a real relief to find a magazine of such quality with absolutely no commercial advertisements to wade through! Talk about a blessing!"

Andy T. S.,
Now stationed in Vietnam

• And blessings must be few and far between in Vietnam. Thanks to one more of the brave young men who must face a sickening task not of his creation.

Richard M. K.,
Columbia, Missouri

"I am a Ugandan student in Leningrad. It was only recently that I came across a copy of The Plain Truth for July 1967. I was so impressed by the article on 'Why Hundreds Transfer' and so sorry to have missed all the knowledge in the rest of the copies since your magazine came out. Could you please include me on your mailing list?"

Enid N.,
Leningrad, U.S.S.R.

• With great pleasure.

The Law of Liberty

"In viewing, listening to and reading about campus riots, sit-ins, civil disobedience, burning of the American flag and draft cards, disrespect for elders, etc., I am constantly reminded of what is written on a bronze plaque set in the left-hand brick gatepost marking the South Gate entrance to my alma mater, Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont, the nation's oldest and highest-ranking private military collegiate institution. It reads, 'Obedience of the Law is Liberty.' If only one would respect the laws of Christ and the land, there would be far more peace in this troubled world of ours."

Henry H.,
Arnold, California

• Yes—if only one would respect the laws of Christ. . .

Law Enforcement

"I served for nearly thirty-two years as a police officer. I have served in every position from the bottom to the top, and the last eighteen years as Chief of Police. I hope there will be a much needed change in law enforcement in the near future, because law enforcement officers have been fighting a losing battle for many years. If there were more people in the world fighting on the side of law enforcement as you have been, a change could be expected some time in the near future."

W. T., Petersburg,
Virginia

It's the Print!

"I have not very good eyesight and if the print were not so beautifully clear I would not be able to read it. I am 88 years old, and it means so much for me to receive your Plain Truth."

Alice le S., Torino, Italy

(Continued on page 38)
MY EYE CAUGHT a feature story, on an inner page, in the morning newspaper. It was about one of these “odd” religious sects. Just about everything in religion is a bit “queer,” strange, off-beat, fanatical, if it is different from that to which we are accustomed.

Of course we never stop to think that, to people who had never heard of “our” particular religious beliefs and customs, ours — regardless of what it is — would seem strange, odd, perhaps ridiculous.

I am reminded of the old-fashioned Quaker who said to his wife, “Martha, does thee know it seems to me that just about everybody in the world — except me and thee — is a little queer. And, does thee know, Martha, sometimes it seems to me that even THEE is just a bit queer!”

In Montana, and even spreading into parts of South Dakota, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, is a little-known sect which is causing other people in those parts “great concern,” and even alarm. They are a German-speaking, medieval-type communal group known as the Hutterites. What seems to cause the great alarm is the fact that these “queer” people are reported to be the most prolific people on earth.

A colony of 400 of them migrated from the Russian Ukraine in 1874, and in 94 years have contributed to the population explosion by increasing their number to 17,000 Hutterites today.

And what’s wrong about them?

What if they do multiply by increasing their population at the rate of 4% a year, while the rest of the country increases at only 1%? What if they do average 12 children to a family? What’s wrong about that?

Well, sociologists researching into the situation report, PLENTY seems to be wrong — in the eyes of the other people of these areas.

One man summed it up, saying they’d just like to “get rid of these Hoots.”

Yes, but why? What’s bad about them?

“We just don’t approve of their odd beliefs,” seemed to be the common sentiment. Besides, they’re buying up all the good land around. And what’s wrong about that? They pay for it, don’t they? Yes, but “we just don’t like their odd beliefs.”

Now to me, that seemed to be a strange belief — to have such dislike for another’s belief that one would deny him his right to it!

What’s injuring the “worldly” neighbors about these beliefs? Are they working hardship on the rest of the community? Are they criminal; do they molest the others?

Well, came one answer, “they don’t pay taxes.” Oh, so they just violate the law of the land by refusing to pay taxes? Well, no. When I read further to see what was criminal about this, I found that the law does not require them to pay taxes, because they are a COMMUNAL organization. No one of them owns private property.

So they do conform to the laws? Yes, it seems they do. Then would you not think the neighbors would blame the laws instead of the people who obey them? And I think they would — “but why do they have to believe that crazy religion?” The further I read, the more evident it became that all that was hurting the other people in these parts was RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE AND BIGOTRY.

Here were more charges against these religious people: They bury their dead in pine boxes. I wondered how that stepped on the rights of their persecutors. They bury them on their own land. I couldn’t see why that should do harm to the other people. Their babies are delivered by their own midwives. Now that must have done great harm to the NON-Hutterite community!

(Continued on page 47)
Did She MARRY TOO YOUNG?

WHY so many unhappy marriages? WHY is the divorce rate increasing? What are the chances of a teen-age marriage? Is there a BEST AGE for Marriage? Here are the answers, from a wealth of counselling experience.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

"I thought I couldn't live without Archi," said Gloria. "So I got my mother to sign for the license. I am 16, and Archi is 19. Of course my folks didn't want me to get married. But I threatened Mom that if she didn't sign, I'd run away or get pregnant. Now we've been married two months, and nothing is like I thought it would be.

"I thought Archi was a big strong man. But as soon as we were married, it seems like he changed. And he was so good looking and so nice. But now he's so afraid, such a coward. He's lost his job and doesn't know how to get another one. He says I've got to get a job and help. All of a sudden, instead of being so big and strong and handsome, he's just chicken. He's like a scared baby — a child. And he says I'm immature!

"Marriage isn't a bit like I supposed. I don't know just what I supposed it was — but more fun — more romance — different. The day after the wedding I knew it was all a big mistake. And it's only been getting worse. Archi's mad at me, and swears at me because I don't know how to cook — I never made a bed in my life till we were..."
married, and then I found I didn't know how. You know how it is — my Mom did everything for me — washed my clothes, ironed them — even bought them. I never had any responsibility at home. And now all Archi and I do is fight. He scolds me because I don't know how to do anything, and he's all frustrated and says there's nothing in life to live for because he wants sex all the time, and I don't. I get mad at him, because he isn't a self — self-centeredness. Human nature is a pull in the direction of vanity. It tends to consider self first, and therefore elevate the self above all else. This, in turn, exerts the pulls of lust, greed, envy, jealousy and hatred.

Many times I have explained that self is, in a larger sense, what I call empirical — that is, like an empire. It includes what belongs to self, and that to which self feels compatibly allied.

A young man and young woman “fall in love” — or at least think they do — and marry. In his mind, she belongs to him — is allied to him — and as long as things go well, like part of him. He is the same to her.

But just as soon as things go wrong — perhaps she denies him his desires — perhaps he doesn’t give her any money, or fails to be considerate — just as soon as one steps on the other’s toes — then the sense of alliance is broken. Then self wells up against the other. Then the other is no longer part of self.

Then what?

Then she says, in bitter resentment, “All men are BRUTES!”

Then he says, in equally bitter and frustrated resentment, “She’s a frigid woman.”

In other words, just what is this thing they usually mistake for love?

It is NOT, really, love. It is, rather, a sort of sense of being enamored — captivated (taken captive by), inflamed with passionate desire, blinded by unreasoning ardor. It is a being impassioned with anticipated rapturous delight. In plainer language, it is an aroused anticipation of what one expects to get, receive, to have from the other.

Real and true love is basically an OUTGOING CONCERN. It is out-going, not in-coming. When it is in-coming — as “love” falsely so called is in almost every romance, it is in actual fact, LUST, not truly LOVE!

Regardless of the age at marriage, surely more than 99 percent of all marriages are based on this FALSE “love.”

Just as long as she pleases him — as long as she gives him that delightful sense of enamorment, of luscious enjoyment — he thinks he loves her deeply. In reality, he loves what he receives from her. This, in turn, gives him the feeling that she is a PART of his empirical self. He loves self — and as long as she is able to remain, in his sight, that allied part of self, he will feel that he is in love with her. This works both ways. As long as she is pleased with him — receiving FROM him what she desires — retaining the sense of alliance — she will feel she is in love with him.

This self is simply carnality. It is human nature.

What chance, then, does the average marriage have? There are more factors than this one involved. But, so long as each receives from the other what satisfies his or her self, the marriage will last.

Another basic factor has been religion. Up until World War I the religious teachings of the Western world injected a sort of in-bred conviction that marriage MUST be maintained “until death do us part.” A large portion of marriages endured, due to this conviction, which today would end in divorce.

Another factor, very prominent as a cause today, is the economic one. Formerly women were mainly dependent on their husbands for economic security. The very factor of self-preservation held them to their husbands — drove them to try to “satisfy him” under circumstances in which the modern wife would rebel. Today, with so many wives being employed, being independent, they are far less impelled to satisfy their husbands against their own desires, and far more ready and willing to leave him and break up their home. It probably wasn’t a real HOME, anyway, with the wife employed outside the home.

Another prominent factor is this modern “50-50” idea about “who wears the trousers.” When the husband abdicates his responsibility, the wife takes it over. Men were intended, by
The PLaIN TRUTH

OF ALL
TEEN-AGE MARRIAGES

40% INVOLVE
PRE-MARITAL
PREGNANCY

and...

50% END IN
DIVORCE
WITHIN A 5-YEAR PERIOD

nature, to take the lead and the re­
sponsibility. Today, the poor hen­
pecked, woman-ruled, "chicken" of a
man — more mouse than man — is a
ridiculous creature. Today boys grow
up more like girls than he-men!

All these — and more — are CAUSES
of broken families today. And they are
the BAROMETER of the CRASH of civili­
zation — the HANDWRITING ON THE
WALL forecasting a death-sentence on
modern Society!

Of course another MAJOR cause is

"the new morality" which is simply
mis-naming cess-pool IMMORALITY!

When society begins to accept pre­
marital sex relationships, as promiscu­
ous as participants desire, and adultery
is pronounced "good" by psychologists,
and when millions "enjoy" the sport
of husband-and-wife-swapping parties,
marrages are bound to be breaking
down — and Society is sounding its
own death-knell!

But put all these factors together
with the immaturity, the unprepared­
ness, the inexperience of teen marriages,
and one should have little difficulty un­
derstanding that a teen marriage has
less than a 50-50 chance of surviving!

A BEST AGE For Marriage?

Is there, then, a BEST AGE for
Marriage?

There is!

Therefore I repeat what I wrote in
an article that appeared some years
ago in The PLaIN TRUTH, and which
forms a chapter in the book, God
Speaks Out on "The New Morality," by
the same author.

Some time ago I officiated at a wed­
ding in stately Memorial Hall at Ambas­
sador College in England. My next­
to-youngest grandson, Richard David
Armstrong II, then age two-and-a-half,
thought the ceremony so very nice, he
said,

"Mommie, I want to get married!"

"Well," answered his mother, a little
shocked — a little amused, "and whom
do you want to marry?

"Karen," replied little Dicky prompt­
ly.

"But Karen has just been married.
She can't marry anybody else, now."

"Well then," decided Dicky, "I'll
marry Sheila." Sheila is a very nice
Irish colleen, and was then a student
in the college.

"But Sheila is grown up now, and
in college," protested "Mommie.

"What if she won't have you?"

"Then I'll marry you, Mommie,"
came the quick decision.

Marriage Is Not for Children

We may smile at the idea of two- or
three-year-olds getting married. It
would be a bit irregular! Marriage is
not for children! Marriage is for
ADULTS. Marriage is pretty serious busi­
ness!

Marriage entails the assuming of very
serious responsibilities. Children do not
realize this, of course. Marriage is a lot
more than romance. It is more than
daydreams about a "Prince Charming,"
or floating around on cloud nineteen,
or being in a lover's arms.

But when do we become adults?

Are not boys and girls adults at
around age 14? No. Far from it! Let's
understand WHY!
Age for Acquiring Knowledge

Human beings know nothing at birth. We have to learn, or be taught — everything! Without any knowledge, or with erroneous knowledge, we are helpless — as new-born babes. But there are some things many fail to learn. One of these is the right age for marriage.

Whatever an adult knows, true or false, has come into his mind since birth.

It may sound surprising or incredible, but a person actually learns more during his first year of life than in any succeeding year. If a one-year-old baby could talk plainly with complete and adequate vocabulary, you’d be completely amazed at how much he has learned that first year!

The second year he learns a trifle less than the first, and the third year a little less than the second. Gradually, his capacity for learning decreases year by year, if only slightly. This is hard to believe for the simple reason that a two-year-old adds his second-year acquisition to what he learned the first year, the third to that, and so through the years his total store of knowledge increases continually.

But a person past 60 cannot learn something new in a field new and strange to him as readily as a young person of 22 or 23. Does this mean that a well-educated man of 60 knows less than a young man of 22? Of course not. Other things being equal, he knows infinitely more — because he has the accumulated knowledge of all those years since age 22 added to what he knew then — and he has learned much by experience. That is one reason wisdom comes with age!

But a two-and-a-half-year-old cannot delve very deeply into the study of advanced mathematics, philosophy, nuclear fission, business administration, economics, or child rearing. He would have very different ideas on the latter than he probably will have when he becomes a parent!

The first five or six years of life are, so we believe from experience, most profitably spent in learning the basic things of infant and child learning — how to walk, talk, eat, run, and play — knowledge about lots and lots of things.

The little child learns what an automobile is — an airplane — he learns about animals — many things.

He may even be taught to count, and part or all of the alphabet. However, the kind of knowledge taught in school (kindergarten excepted) seems most effectively taught beginning age 6. At this age the child can learn to write, to read, and to spell simple words. In some countries he begins to learn a second language at that age. For the next ten years he acquires gradually all the foundational elementary knowledge, and during the last two of the ten perhaps a bit of preparatory knowledge for higher education.

All these years the normal individual has been learning rapidly. There is a great deal to know before maturity, and he is not mature yet! Of course, by age 16, the juvenile may think he knows it all. Many, in their own minds, know more than Dad or Mom. You see, what they do not yet know, they don’t know that they don’t know! But there is still much to learn.

But by age 16 the average normal young person of good mind is ready to begin a little more advanced study into more solid fields.

When Bodies Mature

But along in these early and mid-teen-age years, usually 12 to 14, the physical body suddenly speeds up its growth and development. The teen-ager at this point sprouts up much taller within a single year, with bodily changes from child to man or woman.

Suddenly the young person feels “grown up” — adult. He usually does not realize that at this stage the body makes a rather sudden leap toward maturity, while the mind makes no corresponding advance! The mind continues on at only the same year-to-year gradual development. The mind is still more child than adult. Its interests are still mostly “having fun,” games, entertainments. Sexual maturity is suddenly reached, long in advance of mental, emotional, and spiritual maturity.

A human being is not a mere body. The married state needs maturity of mind, emotions, and spiritual qualities as much as physical adulthood.

A boy or girl is physically able to become a father or mother years before he or she is qualified to assume the responsibilities of parenthood.

But, suddenly becoming taller and physically developed, the boy or girl feels mature. A new awareness of the opposite sex is present. What the child of this age does not yet know, I repeat, he usually fails utterly to realize.

The attraction of the other sex acts as a magnet. The girl dreams of her Prince Charming, desire is awakened in the boy to hold an attractive girl in his arms.

The girl often falls in love with love, a certain boy being the focal point of her fantasy. Of course she only sees this particular boy as she imagines him to be, not as he really is. She is dead sure she is in love. And no one can awaken her from this entrancing dream. There are many facts of reality about this puppy-love affair of which she is totally unaware.

But, again, what she doesn’t know that her parents see so plainly, she simply doesn’t know that she doesn’t know! She simply has to outgrow it! The very fact that she is not mature enough to recognize her immaturity is proof that she is still too immature for marriage.

At this stage, the parents have a problem on their hands, and need great wisdom to deal properly with it.

I repeat, marriage is not for children.

The Preparatory Years

But when does a child become an adult? When is one ready for marriage?

Marriage is in itself a career. One is not ready to enter upon any profession or career until after full preparation. This preparation may be divided, roughly, into three stages. First, that of infancy, preparing the child for school. Second, elementary and preparatory schooling prior to, thirdly, more advanced education and specialized training for the adult life’s work.

There are really three stages, roughly, of mental development that parallel these stages of preparation. First, the change from babyhood to boy- or girlhood around age six. Then the mind as a rule has absorbed enough elementary and semi-mature knowledge by age 16 (Continued on page 46)
Organized crime's growing threat to American business

U.K. students most promiscuous: Survey

Thieves in white collars steal

Special to The Star
CHICAGO. — They steal more than $5,000,000 in cash and merchandise each working day, causing an estimated 

of dollars in white collar

thefts.

These thieves, he said, are infecting the business

community.

Uncovered were embezzlements, organized pilferage, sale of commodities —

Blames Teaching of Violence on Mass Media, Especially Educational and Noneducational

New York, Sept. 16—Means of communication contribute to school violence. A strong voice in child guidance said today more specifically —

educational and noneducational

television, but another kind—antieducational," he said, "for entertainment by violence is education for violence.

Antieducational.

How many keys do you carry? Is your automobile locked? Is your home safe? Are your children home from school?

What about shopping? Do you readily cash your personal checks where you are not known? What kind of identification must you carry?

Ever notice how the clerk eyes you when you find you must pay for a cup of coffee with a large denomination bill?

It's a suspicious world.

And it's surprising how much of our time and concern is taken up over dishonest, cheating, lying, conniving hypocrizes whose consciences seem seared, and whose principles have long since disappeared.

The Defensive Citizen

From the time when you first had your lunch stolen in elementary school, to the time your home was burglarized, you have had to learn the bitter lesson that this world is filled with crooks.

Probably, you, too, indulged in it a little.

Most people admit to having committed at least one act during their lives for which they could have been jailed. Did you merely steal your neighbor's fruit? Merely snitch a few marbles at the five and dime? Merely pilfer a couple of hubcaps, or "borrow" some tools from the boss, or use the stamps and stationery from the office?

Probably you did so defensively.

You found almost everyone seems out

BUT IS

THIS WORLD SICK!

Ever attend a Political Convention? Ever listen in on a used-car salesman's pitch? Ever listen to builders, owners and architects haggle? Ever heard the method used in Real Estate sales? How much TRUTH did you hear? How much HONESTY? How much TRUST, FAITH, INTEGRITY? If this article sickens you — you may be better off than you think.

by Garner Ted Armstrong
to cheat you, so you felt justified in a little cheating in return.

You face income taxes, state taxes; duty on imported goods and local taxes; gasoline tax and tax on your cigarettes and beer (which are taxing your health).

And, you're constantly bombarded by dozens of money-soliciting groups for everything from local, communal welfare projects to food for Vietnamese orphans.

And you resent it.

So what do you do about it? If you're like most people, you take the defensive posture of the double standard. You not only try to watch the other guy — but you even try to better him, if you can.

How many truly honest people do you know? Your local butcher? Insurance salesman? Auto dealer? Tax consultant? Your neighbor?

And what about your politicians and business leaders?

Shockingly, studies coming to light in recent years prove that honesty is rapidly becoming a shopworn, tired slogan — seldom practiced — even though still talked about.

So today you expect to be cheated. That's why you try to be careful of peddlers, con men, "bargains," and "sales prices" in your shopping choices. That's why you try to protect yourself wherever possible by checking labels, sizes, and manufacturers' guarantees.

But in spite of all your precautions — you're still being cheated, stolen from, and possibly robbed and assaulted from time to time.

After a while, it's only natural that social callouses are built to keep us comparatively unruffled in our societies of the double standard — imperturbable as we paw through our collection of licenses, identification, keys and insurance cards we must carry.

You probably should expect to be cheated — in our world. Look at what happened in New York recently.

A young man whose father owned and operated a fish market and who, therefore, knew a great deal about fish, found a typical example of this in New York fish markets.

He, together with inspectors of the city's Department of Markets, found tilefish being sold as more expensive red snapper; found fillets advertised as flounder were really cod; found examples of mislabeling almost everywhere.

And not, mind you, in the small neighborhood stores, but in the largest and most highly respected chains of supermarkets in the city!

Who were the culprits?

They were the "respectable" businessmen who cheat, mislabel, steal, misrepresent and lie almost as if by habit. It's as if businesses use cheating as a POLICY — on the premise that anything you can get away with is fair!

And why do they cheat?

Businesses Expect to Be Cheated!

They cheat because they fully expect to be cheated! Every manager of every supermarket knows he can discount a fair percentage of his year's profits as shoplifting, pilferage, accidental or wanton destruction of perishables, damaged cans and bottles, stolen or "borrowed" shopping carts, or a chance of a once-in-a-while robbery!

While the checker smiles as he rings up the totals, he's also wondering if you have any goods concealed in your clothing. When he asks for your credit number for that particular store before accepting your personal check, or demands a driver's license for identification — he's doing so because he has ended up holding a considerable number of bad checks — written by those who also live on the philosophy it's fair to cheat.

Result? They feel the only possible way to "come out even" is to cheat a little.

The Government Expects to Be Cheated

What about the man who looks over your income tax return?

First, he's suspicious. That's his job. He knows the reasoning of the average citizen concerning his income tax return. It runs something like this: "It's my money, isn't it? I worked hard for it — so what's the matter with trying to hang on to a little more of it? I can (Continued on page 24)
Special Report — INDIAN TODAY
It's time the facts about India were known to the West. To give our readers an insight into the complex problems of India—and how they affect the world—we sent two of our regional editors on an extensive trip through that country. Here is their eye-opening report.

by Raymond F. McNair and C. Wayne Cole

New Delhi, India

India has the world's second largest population—nearly 500,000,000 people. Her teeming millions are often thought of in the West as being the poorest, hungriest, most illiterate and ill-clad major people on earth.

But is this the real picture of India?

India's World Image

Is India really a land of poverty, of squalor, of human wretchedness? Is there a genuine shortage of food in India?

India is potentially one of the world's wealthiest nations. Few realize that she is one of the richest countries in the world: in arable farmlands, in cattle, in natural resources such as water and minerals, and in the most valuable commodity of all—if rightly used—her tremendous human resources.

Yet to feed her hungry, millions of tons of surplus U. S. wheat were shipped in 1967 to her ports. Why?

To bring our readers the plain truth about India's present state and her
tremendous potential, we had to "experience" India — to get a firsthand, on-the-spot analysis of India's problems and her yet unrealized potential.

The tourist who has merely visited Delhi or Bombay and confined his interests to city life cannot comprehend India's capacities and her complexities. India must be studied in depth.

On our nearly completed tour of India, we are travelling approximately 5,000 miles by rail, air and car, with some 2,000 miles of it being by car. We have already visited most of the major cities and travelled extensively in the most important ten of the twenty-five states and territories of India.

A Land of Contrasts

India is a land of tremendous contrasts. Filled with concepts we had formed from the many reports emanating from and about India, we were expecting the worst. To our pleasant surprise we found all was not gloomy — could be a tremendous asset, of all of the vast over-population with rampant poverty and hunger.

The popular ideas in the Western world are that much of India is a dry, barren land largely devoid of natural resources. That other regions are tragically rain soaked. When India comes to mind, most Westerners think only of the vast over-population with rampant poverty and hunger.

Little is heard of the huge acreage of arable farmland which should and usually does produce immense quantities of foodstuffs. Few realize the large variety of excellent fruits that are indigenous and are seen in abundance. Or realize that minerals are found in generous quantities.

India, for example, is one of the world's richest nations in iron-ore deposits. And, of course, one of India's present problems — her idle manpower — could be a tremendous asset, of almost immeasurable value, if properly utilized in developing these and other mineral deposits.

Into the Country

Most of India receives abundant rain or has a good supply of irrigation water available.

Travelling extensively into some of the most productive and fertile agricultural regions of India, as well as the marginal lands, the grazing and forested areas and the arid parts of the country, we found conditions we didn't expect to see.

We expected mile after mile of hardened, baked and cracked farmland, but instead we went through hundreds of miles of farm communities where the soil is rich. The lush grasses and native bushes and trees along the roadsides and around buildings revealed the fertility and productive capacity of the soil.

We travelled through the states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, which had been in the grip of one of the most severe droughts ever to strike. But the monsoons of last season largely broke the three-year-long drought, and we saw beautiful expansive fields of waving grain.

India has about 428 million acres under cultivation. Looking across the landscape in many of the farming communities, we spotted scores of irrigation wells — often as far as the eye could see — nearly all of them filled with an abundance water supply.

The water resources of Indian rivers, measured in terms of annual flow, are estimated to be over 1.3 billion acre feet. (An acre foot is the volume of water needed to cover an acre to the depth of one foot.) This is enough runoff, alone, to irrigate 325,000,000 acres with 48 inches of water per year, which could produce enough fruit and vegetables to completely eliminate hunger in India.

Yet only a very small fraction of India's water resources is being properly utilized.

In the drier regions, we saw small plots of ground, ranging from a fraction of an acre to four or five acres, covered with lush, beautiful crops, while vast areas of adjoining lands of equal fertility, capable of producing the same high-yielding crops, were dry and brown — 100% unproductive.

Why? Is it the result of a hopelessly inadequate system of irrigation, all done either by hand or with water drawn from the wells in skin buckets by bullocks.

When will India realize the importance of the proper conservation and utilization of her water resources? We never saw one single mechanically operated irrigation pump installed at any well, let alone in operation.

India's water resources are large but require vastly improved, economical management — especially because the monsoon rainfall comes in one season rather than more equally distributed throughout the year.

Potentially, India is a wealthy and productive land. We were pleasantly impressed with what can and will be done in India when her problems are properly attacked and solved.

Talent in Arts and Crafts

Many Indians have a natural talent for arts and crafts. Scattered across the countryside are numerous examples of their manual dexterity and skill.

Especially skilled are craftsmen in wood carving and metal working. Some of the world's most beautiful and ornate brassware is produced in India. Gold and silversmiths are talented in design and production of exquisite jewelry, set with extremely valuable stones such as Indian emeralds and rubies.

Many hundreds of ancient forts, palaces, monuments, tombs and shrines — built during the numerous civilizations which have risen and fallen — still reveal the meticulous, painstaking effort of the builders.

The classically majestic Taj Mahal, acclaimed by many as the most beautiful structure in the world, is indeed magnificent! This imposing structure — built entirely of gleaming white marble, with decorations of semi-precious stones inlaid in the marble — was constructed during the Moghul Dynasty of Emperor Shah Jahan. It was built between 1632-1654 — as a mausoleum in loving memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died giving birth to their fourteenth child. This beautiful structure took 20,000 men 22 years to complete and is a masterpiece of architectural precision and flawless construction.

Natural Resources

India has many natural resources. She is among the world's leading nations in iron-ore deposits. We saw a "fleet" of Japanese ships in the harbor near
Panjim, Goa, taking on iron ore to feed Japan's giant, hungry industrial furnaces.

India also mines coal, manganese, gold, silver, mica and copper.

The Indian Atomic Energy Department has discovered in the northeastern region of the country what are believed to be the world's largest deposits of radioactive minerals. These deposits are rich in thorium, uranium, and ilmenite — important minerals in this "nuclear age."

Ilmenite — a main source of titanium, which is an essential metal in construction of jet aircraft and space vehicles — is also found in large quantities in the beach sands of Kerala State. India, in fact, is a leading source of titanium metals which she exports to nations around the world, including the U.S.A.

Petroleum is produced in quantity, with exploration still in process, though her supply at this time is not adequate to meet her domestic needs.

What is being done in the problem areas to utilize India's tremendous natural resources? Far too few really effective steps are being taken. In India, progress proceeds at ox pace.

Calcutta — "First Impressions"

Our point of entry into India — Calcutta — is one of the world's largest cities. Its population is some six to six-and-one-half million inhabitants. The concepts we had held of its human misery and wretchedness proved to be quite correct — in Calcutta.

Indeed this is a depressing city — a city of jostling crowds, a place where cakes of cow dung might be found on almost any walkway or wall, drying, to be sold later for fuel. Calcutta, despite impressive suburbs, is a city of hopelessly inadequate housing, of insufficient sanitation, where numerous zebu cattle (called Brahmans in the U.S.) wander aimlessly everywhere enjoying "pride of place."

Walking and riding through the streets, we were immediately confronted by what Indians themselves recognize as Calcutta's big problem — her homeless multitudes.

How many homeless Indians do you think live on the streets of Calcutta alone? Indian authorities estimate there are 1.5 million!

These tragic people sleep on the footpaths, in parks, in the railway stations, under shop awnings and trees, in the entrances of public buildings, seeking any shelter from the weather. For them, the footpath serves as kitchen and bedroom, bathroom and toilet, living room and recreation center.

On many occasions we saw the wretched plight of Calcutta's homeless families. One commonly sees a man, his wife and three or four children, perhaps one of them a tiny infant, sitting in a small huddle along the streets or in the park. They have no home and no possessions except the dirty, tattered rags they are wearing and a battered old pot or pan. Pathetic sights — multiplied thousands of times. In Calcutta poverty blankets everything like a heavy dampening fog.

Can you now see why many experienced world travellers — and even many Indians — call Calcutta "the world's worst city"?

India Battles Problem of Begging

Another of India's unsolved problems is that of the professional beggar. Concerned Indians warn visitors at the outset of the pathetic, ever-present, persistent beggar.

Many little children quickly descend upon the unwary and unsuspecting — especially "Westerners," who are looked upon as "rich" — to beg for alms.

Many of these children are actually trained professional beggars! They know how to put on an affected expression — how to display pathos, sorrow, unhappiness and suffering. Often small children will be seen dirty, in tattered old rags — with an equally pathetic-looking baby in arms, to add to the emotional appeal in the "act of begging."

On many occasions throughout India we saw rather healthy-looking children happily playing — that is before they spotted us. Instantly they changed the expression and attitude to one of pathetic moroseness and misery as they approached us with hand outstretched — only to turn away again happy as a lark once they were convinced that their begging was going to net absolutely nothing.

One of the most revolting sights we saw was that of beggars, ranging from children to aged adults, who had been deliberately and intentionally maimed, blinded or otherwise deformed. On seeing what appeared to us to be an unusually large number of cripples, deformed and blind, we commented about it and were given a gruesome explanation by educated and well-informed Indians.

Indian officials told us that, in many cases, these were orphaned children — heartlessly maimed by cruel foster parents or guardians motivated by an insane pursuit of subsistence by any possible means. By being deformed, these children could appeal to sympathy and thereby be more effective in "earning a living" for the "master's" household by begging.

How can people be so heartless?

Poverty, human suffering and wretchedness is, of course, by no means to be found only in Calcutta.

Wherever we went — in the sprawling metropolises as well as the smaller cities, towns and villages — we found that, for many, poverty, filthy and insanitary living conditions are a shocking way of life.

On the other hand we were quite impressed by the beauty in some of the cities. Much of New Delhi — the capital city, built by the British early in this century, with its wide, tree-lined streets, beautiful government buildings, office buildings and apartments — is very attractive.

Bombay, India's leading industrial and commercial center, has very highly developed "westernized" business and manufacturing sections, though it has its share of hapless, despairing inhabitants. Bangalore — in the south of India, a city built largely by the British as a resort and vacation center — has beautiful, striking public buildings and wide, flower-lined streets. India, as we said earlier, is a land of contrasts!

Why India Is Problem-Ridden

In spite of potential, India today is a land of "sweat, toil and sorrow." This nation of vast population suffers
horribly from needless hunger, malnutrition and actual starvation. Because of hunger and physical weakness, the efficiency of her manpower is greatly reduced. And, because of her inefficiency and low production, malnutrition and actual starvation grow worse. It is a vicious circle.

With 428,000,000 acres under cultivation and water available to irrigate all of India's desert land, India need have no hunger — no shortage of food. Why, then, must the nightmarish spectre of wide-scale famine remain a constant, menacing threat to countless millions of Indians?

India today, as ancienly, is a rich land. About 2,000 years ago, Diodorus of Sicily spoke of India in glowing terms. He found India a large, well-watered, fertile land where two crops were harvested each year!

In his day, India produced an abundance of food: grains, fruits and livestock. It was also known for its very rich mineral resources, silver, gold, iron and copper.

In the 1st century B.C., India was so prosperous that Diodorus could write: "This is the reason, they say, why a FAMINE HAS NEVER VISITED INDIA." And he spoke of "there never being any lack of food among them."

What has happened to India to make it so famine-prone?

Today the word "India" to many automatically conjures up such thoughts as overpopulation, poverty, drought, famine. But why?

Why should a land of such vast natural resources have poverty, ignorance, squalor, disease and continual fear of devastating famine?

Yes, why?

In a future issue we shall see why India is embedded in seemingly insoluble problems. There are traceable reasons for India's widespread poverty and hunger. For every effect there is a cause — and there is a solution!
MAJOR STATIONS

East
WOR — New York — 710 kc., 11:30 p.m. Sun.
WHN — New York — 1050 kc., 11:30 p.m. Sun.
WHAM — Rochester — 1180 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
WWVA — Wheeling, W. Va. — 1170 kc., 98.7 FM, 5 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m., 8:30 p.m. Sun.
WRKO — Boston — 680 kc., 98.5 FM, 6:30 a.m. Sun.
WBAL — Baltimore — 1090 kc., 8:30 Sun.
WRVA — Richmond — 1140 kc., 10 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 p.m. Sun.
WHAM — Rochester — 1180 kc., 9:30 a.m. Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.
KXEN — St. Louis — 1010 kc., 7:15 a.m., 7:30 p.m. daily.
KXEL — Waterloo — 1540 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8 p.m. Sun.
WXEN — St. Louis — 1010 kc., 7:15 a.m. & 12 noon Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. & 4 p.m. Sun.

South
KRLD — Dallas — 1080 kc., 8:10 p.m. daily.
WFNA — Dallas — 820 kc., 10:45 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
KTRH — Houston — 740 kc., 12:30 p.m. Sun.-Fri.
WOAI — San Antonio, Tex. — 1200 kc., 5 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m. Sun.

*KWSS — Shreveport — 1130 kc., 1 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. (or before or after ball game) Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m. & 11:30 p.m. Sat., 10:30 a.m. & 9:30 p.m. Sun.
WNOE — New Orleans — 1060 kc., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
KAAY — Little Rock — 1090 kc., 5:15 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m. Sun.
WGIN — Atlanta — 1010 kc., 11 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 4 p.m. Sun.
WAPI — Birmingham — 1070 kc., 10 a.m. Sun.
WMOR — Mobile — 1550 kc., 7 a.m.
WINQ — Tampa — 1010 kc., 12 noon Mon.-Sat., 12:10 p.m. Sun.
KRMG — Tulsa — 740 kc., 10 a.m. Sun.

Asterisk indicates new station or time change.

*Major Stations

West
WWOL — Dallas — 1150 kc., 12:30 p.m. Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.
WHLD — Niagara Falls, N.Y. — 1270 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 1:30 p.m. Sun.
WDEV — Waterbury, Vt. — 550 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8 p.m. Sun.
WPOR — Portland, Me. — 1490 kc., 9 a.m. Sun.
WCOU — Lewiston, Me. — 1240 kc., 9:30 p.m. Sun.
WRIT — Boston — 950 kc., 6 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon Sun.
WBET — Brockton, Mass. — 1460 kc., 7:05 p.m. daily.
WMAS — Springfield, Mass. — 1450 kc., 94.7 FM, 6:30 p.m. Sun.
*WACE — Chicopee, Mass. — 730 kc., 7:15 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 12:30 p.m. Sun.
WEIM — Pittsfield, Mass. — 1280 kc., 8:30 p.m. Sun.
WIMP — Northampton, Mass. — 1400 kc., 8:30 p.m. Sun.
WARE — Ware, Mass. — 1250 kc., 8:30 p.m. Sun.
WJAR — Providence, R. I. — 920 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun.
WNLC — New London, Conn. — 1510 kc., 8:30 p.m. Sun.

Central
WSPD — Toledo, Ohio — 1370 kc., 9 p.m. daily.
WSLR — Akron, Ohio — 1350 kc., 8 p.m. daily.
WFMJ — Youngstown, Ohio — 1390 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
WBNS — Columbus, Ohio — 1460 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
WBRI — Marietta, Ohio — 910 kc., 12:30 p.m. daily.
WCLU — Cincinnati — 1320 kc., 12 noon daily.
WJIB — Detroit — 1500 kc., 5:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat.
WBCK — Battle Creek, Mich. — 930 kc., 7 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 12:30 p.m. Sat. Sun.
WKM9 — Flint, Mich. — 1470 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
WGRA — St. Ignace, Mich. — 940 kc., 12:10 p.m. daily.
*WDW — Escanaba, Mich. — 680 kc., 6 a.m. Mon.-Sat.
WJBD — Ishpeming, Mich. — 1240 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
KWRY — Des Moines, Iowa — 1150 kc., 12:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. daily.
WTMT — Cedar Rapids — 600 kc., 11:30 a.m. Sun.
KMA — Shenandoah, Ia. — 960 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
WOCA — Davenport, Ia. — 1420 kc., 10 p.m. daily.
KGLO — Mason City, Ia. — 1390 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 7:30 p.m. Sun.
KHIN — Lexington, Nebr. — 1010 kc., 3 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
KMMJ — Grand Island, Nebr. — 750 kc., 4 p.m. daily.

Leading Local-Area Stations

East
WXEN — St. Louis — 1010 kc., 7:15 a.m. & 12 noon Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. & 4 p.m. Sun.

West
KXEN — St. Louis — 1010 kc., 7:15 a.m. & 12 noon Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. & 4 p.m. Sun.

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The PLAIN TRUTH

December, 1968

RADIO LOG

"The World Tomorrow"

WNAX - Yankton, S. Dak. - 570 kc., 7:30 p.m. daily.
KYFR - Bismarck, N. Dak. - 550 kc., 7:30 p.m. daily.
KFGO - Fargo, N. Dak. - 790 kc., 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7:10 p.m. Sat. & Sun.
WEAL - Chicago - 1350 kc., 8 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. Mon., Fri., 7:15 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. Sat., 9:30 a.m. Sun. (105.1 FM, 7 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 8 p.m. Sun.)
WJOL - Joliet, Ill. - 1340 kc., 9:30 p.m. daily.
WXCL - Peoria - 1350 kc., 7:05 p.m. daily.
WTII - Danville, Ill. - 980 kc., 7 p.m. daily.
WWCA - Gary, Ind. - 1270 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 4 p.m. Sun.
WSBT - South Bend - 960 kc., 9:05 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9 p.m. Sun.
WJOB - Hammond, Ind. - 1230 kc., 7 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 6:30 p.m. Sun.
WIBC - Indianapolis - 1070 kc., 9:30 p.m. daily.
KLKL - Jefferson City, Mo. - 950 kc., 11 p.m. daily.
KFVS - Cape Girardeau, Mo. - 960 kc., 7 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:15 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sun.
WJTO - Springfield, Mo. - 560 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
KFEQ - St. Joseph, Mo. - 680 kc., 7 p.m. daily.
KULI - Kansas City, Mo. - 1380 kc., 5:40 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 8:30 a.m. & 11 p.m. Sun.
KFSB - Joplin, Mo. - 1310 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 6:30 p.m. Sun.
WIBW - Topeka, Kans. - 580 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m. Sun.
KFID - Wichita, Kans. - 1070 kc., 10 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.
KFHE - Wichita, Kans. - 1330 kc., 100.3 FM, 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
KBEA - Mission, Kans. - 1480 kc., 7 p.m. daily.
KGCI - Coffeyville, Kans. - 690 kc., 6 p.m. daily.
KUPK - Garden City, Kans. - 1050 kc., 97.3 FM, 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 1 p.m. Sun.
KXXX - Colby, Kans. - 790 kc., 8:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 11:30 a.m. Sun.
KQRS - Minneapolis - 1440 kc., 92.5 FM, 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.
WEBB - Duluth, Minn. - 560 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
WYLO - Milwaukee, Wis. - 540 kc, 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.
WNFL - Green Bay - 1440 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 5 p.m. Sun.
WSAU - Wausau, Wis. - 550 kc., 7:05 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 7 p.m. Sun.
WCOW - Sparta, Wis. - 1290 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.

South

KESL - Gladewater, Tex. - 1430 kc., 12 noon daily.
KTBE - Tyler, Tex. - 600 kc., 12 noon daily.
KLVI - Beaumont, Tex. - 560 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.

KTBC - Austin - 950 kc., 5:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
KMAC - San Antonio - 630 kc., 7:15 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m. Sun.
KCTA - Corpus Christi, Tex. - 1030 kc., 7:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 4:30 p.m. Sat., 2 p.m. Sun.
KTLU - Temple, Tex. - 1580 kc., 1 p.m. daily.
KNIT - Abilene, Tex. - 1280 kc., 7:15 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m. Sun.
KFYO - Lubbock, Tex. - 790 kc., 11:30 a.m. Mon-Sat.
KGNM - Amarillo - 710 kc., 9 p.m. daily.
KCTX - Childress, Tex. - 1500 kc., 11:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 12:15 p.m. Sat., 2 p.m. Sun.

East Coast

KWFT - White Plains, N.Y. - 620 kc., 8:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 4:30 p.m. Sun.
KFMI - Tulsa - 1050 kc., 12:30 p.m. daily.
KBy - Oklahoma City - 890 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
KSIW - Woodward, Okla. - 1450 kc., 1 p.m. daily.
KXXL - Little Rock - 1150 kc., 12:30 p.m. daily.
KBHS - Hot Springs, Ark. - 990 kc., 12:30 p.m. daily.

Mountain States

KMAC - San Antonio - 630 kc., 7:15 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m. Sun.

West Coast

KMAC - San Antonio - 630 kc., 7:15 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m. Sun.

(Continued on next page)
RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

KVEC — San Luis Obispo, Calif. — 920 kc., 7 a.m. daily.
KDB — Santa Barbara — 1490 kc., 93.7 FM, 7 p.m. daily.
KFXD — Los Angeles — 1150 kc., 96.3 FM, 7 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Sun.
KTYM — Inglewood — 1460 kc., 12 noon Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. Sat.
KFOX — Long Beach — 1280 kc., 100.3 FM, 9 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 p.m. Sun.
KBIG — Los Angeles — 740 kc., 10:30 a.m. daily.
KACE — San Bernardino-Riverside — 1570 kc., 7:05 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
KCKC — San Bernardino — 1350 kc., 9 p.m. daily.
KMEN — San Bernardino — 1290 kc., 6 a.m. Sun.
KCHV — Palm Springs — 970 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 12:30 p.m. Sun.
KCOO — San Diego — 600 kc., 8:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat. 4:30 a.m. Sun.
XEMO — Tijuana — 860 kc., 6 p.m. daily.

Alaska & Hawaii
KFOQ — Anchorage, Alaska — 750 kc., 7:30 p.m. daily.
KFRR — Fairbanks — 900 kc., 6 p.m. daily.
KNDI — Honolulu, Hawaii — 1270 kc., 6 a.m., 6 p.m. daily.
KTRG — Honolulu, Hawaii — 990 kc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon Sun.
KPOI — Honolulu, Hawaii — 97.5 FM, 8 a.m. Sun.

Canada
VOCM — St. John's, Nfld. — 990 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
CJCH — Halifax, N. S. — 920 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 p.m. Sun.
CJFC — St. John, N.B. — 930 kc., 7 p.m. daily.
CKW — Moncton, N. B. — 1220 kc., 6 a.m. Mon-Sat.
CJEM — Edmundston, N. B. — 570 kc., 7:30 a.m. daily.
CJMB — Montreal, Que. — 1410 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 1:30 p.m. Sun.
CKSY — Ottawa, Ont. — 1310 kc., 5:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat.
CJET — Smith Falls, Ont. — 630 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
CKWS — Kingston, Ont. — 900 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. Sat.
CHEX — Peterborough, Ont. — 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. Sat.
CJLB — Oshawa, Ont. — 1350 kc., 9:05 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 p.m. Sun.
CKFH — Toronto, Ont. — 1430 kc., 6 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. Sun.
CHUM — Montreal, Que. — 1540 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon Sun.
CKPC — Brantford, Ont. — 1380 kc., 7 p.m. daily.
CKLS — St. Thomas, Ont. — 680 kc., 6 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 2:30 p.m. Sun.
CHYR — Leamington, Ont. — 5:30 a.m. daily at 730 kc, 6:30 p.m. daily at 710 kc.
CFCF — North Bay, Ont. — 600 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. Sun.

CCKS — Sudbury, Ont. — 790 kc., 6 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 5:30 p.m. Sun.
CCKB — Timmins, Ont. — 680 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. Sun.
CJL — Kirkland Lake, Ont. — 560 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 p.m. Sat., 7 a.m. Sun.
CCKY — Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. — 920 kc., 6:30 a.m. daily.
CJNR — Elliot Lake, Ont. — 730 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
CJNX — Fort William, Ont. — 800 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 6:25 p.m. Sun.
CKY — Winnipeg, Man. — 580 kc., 7:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 7 a.m. Sun.
CKDM — Dauphin, Man. — 750 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
CKRM — Regina, Sask. — 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
CJXJ — Yorkton, Sask. — 940 kc., 6:30 a.m. daily.
CFQC — Saskatchewan, Sask. — 600 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
CJNB — North Battleford, Sask. — 1050 kc., 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily.
CJBI — Prince Albert, Sask. — 900 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. Sat., 2 p.m. Sun.
CJSA — Lloydminster, Sask.-Alta. — 1080 kc., 7 p.m. daily.
CHED — Edmonton, Alta. — 630 kc., 5:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
CFCW — Camrose, Alta. — 790 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 2:30 p.m. daily.
CJDV — Drumheller, Alta. — 910 kc., 6 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
CHRC — Lethbridge, Alta. — 1000 kc., AM, 10:09 FM, 9 p.m. daily.
CJYR — Edmonton — 970 kc., 6:30 a.m. daily.
CKYL — Peace River, Alta. — 610 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 7 a.m. Sun.

CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA
WORLD TOMORROW

Europe
EUROPE No. ONE — Felsberg en Sarre, Germany — 182 kc. (1647 m.), 5:37 a.m. Wed., Sat., 1 a.m., 5:52 a.m. Sun.

In German:
RADIO LUXEMBOURG — 49 m. (6090 kc) shortwave, 208 m. (1439 kc) medium wave, 5:00 a.m. Mon., Tues., Fri., 6:05 a.m. Sun.

In English:
HASHEMITE Broadcasting Service, Amman, Jordan — 42 m. (7160 kc) shortwave, 2 p.m., 31.48 m. (9530 kc.), 351 m. (855 kc.) medium wave, 8 p.m. daily.

Asia
Guam
RADIO GUAM — KUAM — 610 kc., 6 p.m. Sun.

RADIO OKINAWA — KSBK — 880 kc., 12:06 p.m. Sun.

India and Ceylon
MALDIVE ISLANDS — 90 m. (3329 kc.), also 61 m. band; 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat, 10 p.m. Sun.

Caribbean and Latin America
In English:
ZBB 1 — Hamilton, Bermuda — 1235 kc., 8 p.m. Sun.
ZBB 2 — Hamilton, Bermuda — 1340 kc., 2:30 p.m. Mon-Sat.
ZBP 1 — RADIO BERMUDA — 960 kc., 1:30 p.m. daily.
JAMAICA BROADCASTING — Kingston — 560 kc., 4:45 a.m. daily. Mandeville—620 kc, 4:45 a.m. daily. Montego Bay — 700 kc, 4:45 a.m. daily. Port Maria (Port Galina) — 750 kc., 4:45 a.m. daily.

In French:
RADIO ANTILLES Montserrat, W. I. — 930 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
RADIO BARBADOS — Pine Hill, Barbados — 780 kc, 9:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m. Sat., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
RADIO REDIFFUSION — Bridgetown, Barbados — 10:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m. Sat. & Sun.
RADIO GUARDIAN, Trinidad — 10 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 6:15 p.m. Sun.
RADIO SURINAM — Paramaribo — 620 kc., between 7 and 8:30 p.m. or Noon and 1:00 p.m. daily.

In German:
RADIO BELIZE (British Honduras) — 854 kc., 3:30 p.m. Mon-Fri.

In French:
RADIO ANTILLES — Montserrat, W. I. — 930 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.

For Radio Log of Australia, Philippines, Taiwan, Africa, and Latin America in Spanish, write the Editor.
Inside Report on Growing

CZECH CRISIS

by Richard H. Sedliacik

Editor’s Note: While touring Europe, one of our PLAIN TRUTH editorial staff members — himself an American-born Slovak — had the unique opportunity of meeting leading government and education officials in Czechoslovakia. Here, in this firsthand report, is what he DISCOVERED inside Czechoslovakia since the Soviet invasion.

As our Czechoslovak Airline’s twin-jet landed at Prague airport, we were greeted by a panorama of Soviet army tents, trucks, helicopters and jet troop carriers!

It was a late afternoon — less than one month after Warsaw Pact troops raced across the borders to “rescue” Czechoslovakia from so-called “Western encroachment.”

Our first acquaintance at the airport impressed us with how Czechs and Slovaks from all walks of life really feel about the occupation. “We are so unhappy these Russian soldiers are here,” she sadly lamented. “Everything would be just fine if only they would leave!”

Grim Reminders

After we took several photographs of Russian soldiers and equipment, our guide drove us directly to Wenceslas Square in the heart of Prague.

Floral wreaths, bouquets of flowers and small votive candles surrounded the equestrian statue of King Wenceslas. They were in memory of nearly 80
Czechs and Slovaks killed during the Russian invasion.

The Czech National Museum, located directly across the street from the Square, bears mute testimony of the Soviet incursion. Hundreds of bulletmarks from Russian bullets mar the entire face of the building. The “liberators” mistakenly thought that it housed the offices of Radio Prague! All of the broken windows have now been replaced, but the scars will always remain indelibly etched in stone.

Staring Down Russian Gun Muzzles!

Our guide, whom I will call Jan, showed us several other bullet-scarred and burned-out buildings, including Radio Prague. Then he asked if I would like to see the only remaining tanks within the city, since the rest were hidden in the woods surrounding Prague. I replied in the affirmative.

Jan took us to an intersection about 15 minutes from Wenceslas Square. There stood three Russian tanks. About a dozen soldiers were putting around the tanks and watching the traffic pass by.

I spotted a Russian officer on the second floor balcony of an apartment building overlooking the tanks. He just stood there—watching.

Jan was very anxious for us to photograph the entire scene. The Czechs want the “free world” to see what it is like to live under Russian-style communist oppression. But he warned me that my camera would be smashed if the Russians spotted me!

I decided it wasn’t worth the risk! I did not relish the thought of possibly being shot, jailed—or at the very least having my camera broken and film confiscated.

Needless to say, our guide was very disappointed. As we drove away, he urged me to photograph the tanks through the car windows. I declined again, lest we be spotted and stopped.

Disheartened,
But Friendly Czechs

After checking into our hotel, my wife and I began walking the streets of Prague. It was the evening rush hour.

Thousands of Czechs thronged the streets. But the people were unusually quiet. Their grim faces revealed heavy hearts and anxious concern over the occupation of their country, and its uncertain future.

We noticed a small crowd gathered around two young college students, and drew near to investigate. They were passing around black and white photographs of the destruction wrought by the “trigger-happy” invaders. I purchased a set but, unfortunately, they are not of suitable quality for magazine reproduction.

We found the Czechoslovaks to be extremely friendly and hospitable—and quite anxious to talk about their plight. Our guide even invited us to stay overnight with him in his apartment. But I declined since we already had reservations in a nearby hotel. So he invited us to dinner at a quaint Czech restaurant. It really was a unique experience. I had to translate for my wife and Jan, since neither one could understand the other.

Most of the customers around us spoke in low tones. You could just feel the tension in the air! Even the two musicians playing the violin and piano appeared very subdued.

Jan told us he happened to be driving through the streets of Prague while it was yet dark on that infamous morning when Russian troops and armaments began pouring into the city. He couldn’t believe his eyes! His first impulse was to fight the invaders! He told of his unsuccessful attempt to obtain guns at a local armory.

It would have been suicide had the people tried to fight the Russians.

Utter Contempt!

Prior to the Russian incursion, the Czechoslovaks had long felt an affection for the Russians. Czechoslovakia had never been invaded by the Russians, as were Poland and Hungary. Now the Czechoslovaks bitterly hate the Russians and make no attempt to conceal their feelings.

The attitude of the ordinary Czech and Slovak toward the Russians is one of cool and dignified contempt! The rule is to ignore the presence of any Russian in military uniform. Often shop assistants will refuse to serve Russian customers.

When two Russian officers attempted to engage in conversation a girl working in the kitchen of a well-known Prague restaurant, the entire female staff raised such pandemonium of howls and shrieks that the Russians promptly made off.

Although censorship had been imposed in theory throughout the country while we were there, it had not been put into effect in practice! It was left to the good sense of the Czechoslovak editors to avoid direct provocation of the occupying powers. Yet newspapers continued to refer to the invasion and occupation as “tragic events” and even as a “big mistake.”

Bright Future Shattered?

Jan continued to express his feelings about conditions in Czechoslovakia. As with many other local citizens and high-ranking officials we talked to, he wondered what the future held for his people.

Previous to the invasion, the future looked very bright for the Czechs and Slovaks. Their liberal reform leaders were trying to “humanize” Communism. For six months Alexander Dubcek, First Secretary of Czechoslovakia’s ruling Communist Party, and President Ludvik Svoboda were beginning to grant the Czechoslovaks the freedoms they had longed for under 20 years of stiff Stalinist-style Communist oppression.

But that bright future was quickly shattered!

After their meetings with Czech officials in Cierna and Bratislava, the Soviets appeared as though they had accepted the fact that the Czechoslovaks were not an antagonistic force in the socialist camp, and that they had indeed entered a new phase of their revolution. The Communists in Czechoslovakia weren’t out to oppress anyone. They only wanted to be allowed to realize what they deemed fit for their own country. The Czechs felt that if they succeeded in their program of reforms, they would have given socialism its greatest chance since 1917.

But in reality, the Soviets felt the Czechoslovak leaders were leaning too
They were fearful that other Communist bloc nations would begin following Czechoslovakia’s example. And so the Russians, with the token support of four satellites, quickly squelched this trend with one ruthless stroke of force!

Alexander Dubček’s attempt to “humanize” Communism had been smashed in one fell swoop! The new-found freedoms the Czechs and Slovaks were beginning to experience and enjoy under Dubček’s reform movement were swept away overnight! Thus the Soviet Union showed the depth of its fear of the freedom that had swept Czechoslovakia in the preceding months.

The Czechs and Slovaks were utterly astounded and overwhelmed by the stark treachery and tragedy of it all. But they were helpless to really do anything about it, though many began expressing their revulsion and outrage at the betrayal of their country by participating in various forms of passive resistance.

Then began the great propaganda campaign. The Russians accused the Czech leaders of being “reactionaries” and claimed they were “rescuing” the Czechs and Slovaks from their “reactionary leaders.” The Russians even tried to force the Czech leaders to declare that there was a “counter-revolution” in their country, and called for the “liquidation” of 40,000 “counter-revolutionaries.” But the Czechs flatly refused to make that false declaration and the Russians backed down and didn’t press it further. This was merely one of many Russian attempts to justify their invasion of Czechoslovakia.

We couldn’t help but feel very deeply for these brave and courageous people. It brings tears to recall some of their accounts of the chilling horror and disappointment they felt as the Russians came rolling into their cities. Most of us in the free world can’t begin to imagine what it would be like to have the freedoms we enjoy and take for granted suddenly stripped away overnight!

Intimate Details

While in Czechoslovakia, we had the unique opportunity of talking with several who are now active in, or retired from, high positions in the Czechoslovak government and educational system — some very close to ruling circles. Even though they are Communists, they felt they were “stabbed in the back” by their Russian “friends”!

We learned that Dubček was seized and led away to Moscow handcuffed and weeping! — not in fear, but the stark reality had overwhelmed him. He couldn’t believe that his Russian “comrades” had betrayed him and his country! Dubček and Breshnev were known to have been close friends prior to the invasion.

For a while after Russian occupation, rumors about Dubček’s death were being spread within the country by clandestine radio stations. Apparently Dubček’s life was in serious danger of being snuffed out. But his great popularity with the people, and President Ludvík Svoboda’s daring courage saved him! We learned that after the Russians had flown Svoboda to Moscow to work out a compromise Czech government with Kremlin leaders, he was ready to give up his own life — to have Dubček freed and allowed to join their talks! Svoboda is held in high esteem by the Russians for his heroic fight against the Germans during World War II. So Breshnev and company conceded!

Unified Support

The Czechs and Slovaks hold their leaders in great esteem, and many even idolize them! We saw photographs of Dubček and Svoboda in store windows all over the cities of Prague, Brno, and Bratislava. And the crudely scribbled names of Dubček and Svoboda, along with “Rusi Domov” — Russians go home! — were still seen occasionally on fences and sides of buildings, though most had been removed by order of the occupying powers. These inscriptions were most prevalent in Bratislava, Dubček’s home town.

So far the Czechoslovaks have been solidly united behind their leaders. After the invasion, the Russians could not find enough people in the entire nation willing to collaborate with them in setting up a puppet government!

Many Czechs and Slovaks believe their main hope now rests in their unity behind the present leadership. As long as this solid unity remains firm, the Czechoslovak feel they can try to sit
it out in the hope that the attention of the Kremlin leaders will eventually be drawn elsewhere and Czechoslovakia left alone.

Finally, Jan, our guide and confidant, began asking us about our own country. He wondered if the stories he had heard about American prosperity were all really true. He wanted to know if all Americans owned television sets. He asked about wages in the United States, and wondered about the riots he had read about.

Jan's dream, and that of many others we talked to, is to visit the United States someday. But that is an impossibility for Czechs at this time. The new rules have prohibited all travel to the West.

**Brno Trade Fair**

In planning our trip to Europe, my wife and I had not intended to visit Czechoslovakia, since tourists were not being allowed in the country. However, while in Germany, we had learned that those wishing to see the International Trade Fair that week in Brno were being granted visas. So we decided we'd like to see the fair too!

Thursday morning we boarded a train in Prague bound for the city of Brno and the International Trade Fair — the official purpose for our trip to Czechoslovakia. The picturesque and lush countryside reminded me of parts of the U.S. Middle West and northern California.

I was surprised to see a number of modern tractors and other up-to-date farm machinery. Yet many farm laborers were still using old-fashioned hand scythes and other antiquated farming equipment. We even saw some women in the fields harvesting crops.

We finally reached Brno in the early afternoon. One person described the city to me as the "Manchester of Czechoslovakia." This became quite evident as our train passed through the industrial section.

We found all available hotel space completely booked up in Brno. Thousands of businessmen and factory representatives from all over Europe and the Soviet Union had converged upon the city to attend the Fair. However, Cedok Travel Agency managed to secure us a room in a government-built high-rise apartment complex on the outskirts of town. A Czech couple had offered one of their rooms to the agency in case of just such an emergency, and at a very nominal price. Our hosts were very solicitous of our comfort and well-being.

Finally we arrived at the fairgrounds. It is a very large and modern complex of exhibition buildings. Many interesting exhibits from Eastern and Western European nations, and the United States, were on display.

The U.S. exhibit turned out to be the main attraction — if the constant crowd of people gathered around it was any indication. A continuous 10-minute motion picture film showing consumer goods and services in the United States held the audience spellbound. They were fascinated by the seemingly limitless industrial capacity and wealth of the United States.

After visiting the exposition, we tried in vain to locate an English-speaking taxi driver who could show us around town. When one local employee who spoke some English learned of our predicament, he immediately took off from his job and acted as our guide.

We were cordially invited to spend the night in his home, but here, as in Prague, we could not accept because of previous commitments. He desperately wanted to have his wife meet us. So he took us to his home where we chatted for about an hour. He told me, "If President Johnson would just say the word, every last Russian soldier would leave!"

**Beautiful Bratislava**

It was now early Friday morning. Our flight from Brno to Bratislava was delayed for over an hour due to heavy fog. As the fog lifted, we discovered the Brno airport was bristling with armaments!

Thirteen Russian-built MIG-21 jet fighters were parked neatly in a row beside a runway. There was also communications equipment, as well as army trucks, helicopters and jet troop carriers parked all over the field. The tent city looked as if it held at least several hundred soldiers!

Much more of the same greeted us as we landed at the airport just outside the capital city of Slovakia. We were told the tanks are hidden in the woods surrounding the airfields and major cities.

Later, we viewed Bratislava from a Russian war memorial atop a hill overlooking the city. I was impressed! It reminded me of a typical modern American city. We noticed beautiful parks and many large new apartment complexes. In spite of two decades of Communist suppression, the Czechs and Slovaks have done a commendable job of improving their country as a whole.

Again we were treated very cordially by those we met. One couple even took us out to lunch in a typical Slovak restaurant located in the heart of town.

Crossing the Austrian Border

By now our visas were nearing expiration so I hired a taxi to take us over the border into Austria — a distance of only a few miles. As we approached the border checkpoint, we noticed a huge Russian tank standing about 100 yards inside the border and just off the road — with cannon pointing directly toward the crossing!

Three Russian soldiers were standing close to the tank — watching!

The Czech border guards briefly looked at our U.S. passports and waved us on through with big smiles. Apparently the Russians were not interfering with Czech customs — at least not when we crossed the border.

It seemed as though a heavy weight were suddenly lifted off us as we left Czechoslovakia and entered free Austria. You can’t imagine the tension that builds up while traveling just a few days in a Soviet-occupied country!

Czechoslovakia’s Future

Now that the iron curtain has been slammed down on Czechoslovakia once again, and the iron grip of Stalinist-style Communism continues to grow tighter day by day, exactly what does the future hold for Czechoslovakia’s 14 million inhabitants?

Will the Czechs and Slovaks ever experience the freedom, peace and prosperity they all desire so desperately? Everyone we talked to was convinced that their country would always be occupied.

What really lies ahead for Czechoslovakia? Will the Russians ever go home?

There is good news! Within possibly less than a decade, the Czechoslovaks will smile once again. No longer will the boot of Russian Communism hold them down! The Russians will all leave and learn to be happy in their own land. Everyone in Czechoslovakia — and the whole world — will finally learn the way to peace, happiness and prosperity!

If you want to know more about that soon-coming peaceful world tomorrow, then write for our free 96-page booklet: The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like.

You’ve never read anything like it before!

This attractive, easy-to-read full-color booklet reveals the astonishing, yet little-known facts about what the immediate future holds for mankind. And Ambassador College is offering this educational booklet absolutely free of charge as a public service. Just write to the editor and ask for your copy. (See inside front cover for the address.)

Send for it now, lest you forget!
What happened to

"THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS"?

Mexico rose above predictions of failure, hurdling obstacles of race, riot and altitude to host the XIX Olympiad in record form. But experts say something is missing from these noble games, and the next Olympics are seriously threatened! What really happened in Olympic City — what does it mean to you? Read here the surprising answer as reported by our own correspondents on the scene.

by C. V. Dorothy and P. H. Alexander
Mexico, D.F.

The Spirit of the Olympics is dead.

Such was the gloomy pronouncement of Bill Stern, famous sportscaster, one week before the XIX Olympiad in Mexico.

Dead?

Greatest ever, BUT...

You might ask: But how can the Olympic spirit be dead, when the games, as shown on television, seemed so successful? After all, 7,500 athletes from 119 different nations gathered here to participate in more events than in any previous Olympiad. No less than 27 Olympic marks and 15 world records were shattered!

This was truly an Olympiad of successful firsts —...first ever held in Latin America, first ever contested 1½ miles above sea level, first in the number of world records in track and swimming, first in size and the first since 1952 in which the United States gained world sports dominance over Russia. (The Dallas Morning News, Monday, October 28, 1968).

Mexico’s Masterful Management

Another Olympic success came in the form of an upset. Critics had talked of the “Mañana Olympics,” claiming Mexico could never put together such a vast production...but the games ran like clockwork. Dotted here and there across the city, impressive stadiums and structures (some built specially for the Games) hosted various events — track and field, equestrianism, swimming, basketball, gymnastics, boat and crew races — all at the same time. A giant project well done athletically!

Another success. Mexico innovated a praiseworthy idea: join a “cultural olympics” to the physical contests. Paintings from children around the world lining the famous Paseo de la Reforma, and the Olympic Camp for World Youth hosting 900 delegates from 16 countries were only two examples of numerous artistic enterprises held jointly with the standard Games. Another first, a Mexican masterpiece: lovely señorita Enriqueta Basilio sprinted gracefully around the track, sprang up 90 steps, and lit the “sacred” flame.

Surely the Olympics were a success athletically. But what did Bill Stern mean?

In spite of many successes, the 1968 Games were, some believe, more of a tragedy than a triumph!

The XIX Olympiad was athletically and culturally spectacular.

But there is more to the Olympics than athletics and culture. Or at least, there is supposed to be. Something was seriously wrong this time with the Olympic spirit.

Bill Stern was convinced that spirit is dead.

Olympic Origins

To understand what he meant, we need to see how the Olympics began and what they really stand for. Born in the city of Olympia, Greece, the Games boasted a genealogy of nearly 3,000 long years! Though the Games’ official beginning is 776 B.C., there are historical indications of even earlier contests — one going back to 1253 B.C. under Hercules!

But most important is that the Games have always been surrounded by a spirit of “peace among nations,” “peace among races.” Then as now, the winning contestants received no salary for their efforts, but kings and slaves competed side by side for the sheer glory of the sport. Only Greeks could compete in the original Games, “but competitors came from all the Greek colonies around the Mediterranean. A sacred truce was declared [during times of war] and enforced to permit participants to travel unmolested to the games...”

Commercialism and politics had no place in the event. Rather, sportsmanship reigned supreme.

“...the gracefulness and sportsmanship of the contest and the method of winning were esteemed equally with the victory itself” (Encyclopaedia Britannica Vol. 16, “Olympic Games”).

From that beginning the Games grew, expanded and even became the standard of world chronology. Then, sadly, corruption and strife put an end to world athletic cooperation. “The original Olympics were dispensed with in 393 A.D. because they had, under Roman influence, attained a peak of paganism and crookedness (Nero fell out of a chariot race once and declared himself the winner; Olympic champions were set up for life, the losers were left to be scorned like dogs)” (Sports Illustrated, Sept. 30, 1968).

But a herculean part of the story is the revival of the games in the last century through the efforts of Baron Pierre de Coubertin (1863-1937). It is to the glory of France and to the credit of Coubertin that our century has enjoyed a rebirth of international cooperation — at least in athletics — an “Olympic Spirit.”

The True “Olympic Spirit”

Coubertin believed that “nothing but could result if the athletes of all countries of the world were brought together once every four years on the friendly fields of amateur sports, unmindful of national rivalries, jealousies and differences of all kinds and with all considerations of politics, race, religion, wealth and social status eliminated” (Encyclopaedia Britannica).

A noble concept indeed! Coubertin’s commendable concept was cast in the most stirring and impressive ceremonies possible.

A very essential part of these ceremonies is that the assembled athletes abide by the following oath:

We swear that we will take part in the Olympic Games in fair competition, respecting the regulations which govern them and with the desire to participate in the true spirit of sportsmanship for the honour of our country and for the glory of the sport. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, Vol. XVI, p. 782).

And with this the games are officially opened.

Coubertin assured us: “Olympia and...” (Continued on page 45)
SICK WORLD
(Continued from page 7)
see the need for taxes—but not for that much taxation!"

So the average citizen stretches his report to the limit—hoping he’s not among the many thousands whose returns are selected at random for routine “audits” each year.

Yes, even the government expects to be cheated. Cheated out of five billion dollars each year by false tax returns alone.

But the government of the United States would be tremendously relieved if this were the only area in which it is cheated.

During my naval service, I was in the Security Department on a naval air base. Our job was manifold. We had to watch the naval personnel and the civil-service employees, who would steal tools, parts, copper tubing, electrical wiring, and almost anything of value. Workers within a motor pool compound would drive their trucks near the fence, toss over certain pilfered objects, and then, under cover of darkness, attempt to retrieve the stolen objects.

Tools came out the gates under hub-caps, under seats, in trunks, inside worker’s tool boxes made to appear as their own, or taped under the hood. Every gate guard knew he could detect only a small portion of the goods actually stolen each year. The loss in dollars was monumental—typical of every military base on earth, whether employing civilian laborers or not!

What kind of people were these? “Honest” laborers. Plumbers, carpenters, electricians, mechanics. They were clerks, secretaries, supervisory personnel.

Example: The fire chief, a civilian employee, had held the office for many years. During my tour of duty, our civilian investigator (who used Navy time and equipment to figure the odds on the dog races) conducted an investigation.

It was found the fire chief had padded his time cards for years—had been on vacation, but turned in cards for sick pay; left early; but turned in a card for overtime, ad infinitum. He maintained two separate bank accounts, and apparently, two separate women.

Hearing of the impending action against him, he reacted immediately. He arrived, with others of the department, only minutes after his automobile had been found parked outside the base, with a hose from the exhaust taped to the window. He was dead—a suicide.

Why did he misrepresent, cheat, steal? He had a good job. Security. A lot of friends—an environment that was of his own particular choosing. But he felt cheated. He felt he was underpaid, overtaxed, unappreciated. So he felt justified in retaliating.

Attitude Toward Crime
Most people remain absolutely opposed to crime, as such. But the private definitions of what constitutes a crime; whether or not the crime was justified because of the circumstances is becoming increasingly cloudy in the public mind.

Law enforcement officials decry the near-obsession of the modern courts with insuring the protection of the criminal and his “rights,” instead of strengthening the laws prohibiting and punishing criminal acts.

Recently, a man brutally murdered his wife. After the crime, he became remorseful—went to the police and confessed. After signing at least two separate written confessions, including his leading police to the garbage dump where he had deposited the body of his wife, the man was held for trial.

Today, he’s walking the streets as a free man. The courts held his rights were violated when no legal counsel was provided to inform him, at the moment of his confession (which, by the way was voluntary, and not coercive) that such a confession was not necessary.

The judge threw out the confession as evidence. Without it, there was no case. Merely a woman’s body in a dump, with no physical evidence or clues as to her murderer.

Is this true justice?
And so it goes. The public obsession with protecting the rights of criminals has made it increasingly unclear who is handcuffing whom.

However, it is not only the public attitude toward organized crime, toward the more flagrant or violent crimes that is alarming today—but the attitude toward what people consider allowable under certain conditions.

The average citizen wouldn’t invite to dinner, for instance, a burglar. But he would invite to dinner a man he knows has cheated on his income tax—perhaps even hoping to pick up a few tips on how to cheat on his own. So long as criminal acts wear respectable clothing, it seems, the public finds them acceptable.

But the public is sick!

Non-involvement!
This hazy notion of the difference between what is right and what is wrong has resulted in almost complete public indifference to crime.

Bystanders ignore shootings; turn away from women giving birth on a cold sidewalk; refuse aid to victims of automobile accidents; refuse to help officers in making an arrest; watch casually as a woman is raped.

Look magazine’s senior editor, Leonard Gross, wrote an article entitled, “WHO CARES?” in Look magazine. He told of 60 persons in Chicago who ignored a uniformed policeman’s cries for help as he battled two youths. He called this growing obsession with “non-involvement” a “new national horror”!

Remember the pitiless case of Catherine Genovese? Her attacker returned to stab her three times as at least 38 neighbors heard, or looked on.

None of them would help her, or even summon police. She died.

The story gained nationwide prominence, and local newspapers began printing dozens of similar incidents. In Santa Clara, California, several motorists watched the robbery of a cabbie—one summoned police. In San Pedro, California, many motorists drove by two policemen struggling to prevent a man from jumping off a 185-foot bridge—trying to prevent him from committing suicide.

In New York, a crowd of passersby on Broadway watched eight men stomp two—and did nothing. In the Bronx, a crowd would not rescue a naked girl from a rapist’s attack as she repeatedly begged “Help me!” No one even offered a coat for her nakedness—they just looked.

In New York, a gang member stabbed a college student. The student said, “I
put my hand down and saw blood. I went over to a car that had stopped to watch. ‘Please help me to a hospital,’ I said. They rolled up their windows and drove away. I went to another car and asked for help, but they did the same thing, drove away. Then I went to a truck and asked the driver for help. He pulled around me and drove away and left me there. Nobody on the street helped me.”

In Las Vegas, Nevada, a Federal narcotics undercover agent was shot while sitting in his car in a residential neighborhood. Many people ran to their doors and peered into the darkness, but none investigated further. When questioned later, they told police they had been watching The Untouchables on television, and had wanted to see the end of the program without interruption. (The program features gangland killings, and federal undercover agents at work—but it’s pure fiction.)


“Go ahead!” someone screamed at him. “I hope he jumps on this side,” commented a well-dressed man, “we couldn’t see him if he jumped over there.” As relatives rushed to the scene, after firemen had unsuccessfully tried to coax the boy to safety, a man was heard to remark, “That kid isn’t faking. I’ll bet ten bucks he jumps.” Another bystander immediately took the bet.

By the time the boy’s relatives had arrived, the crowd numbered over 3,000. A woman said, “I can’t wait around all night, I just missed my favorite television show!”

Finally, a relative dissuaded the boy, and he was pulled to safety. Cursing, the betting man said, “He cost me ten bucks!”

“These people wanted him to jump,” said a fireman, shaking his head in disbelief. “They really wanted to see him die.”

But these cases are only the merest beginning. Space would permit the printing of but a very few. Our News Bureau files are filled with reports of similar incidents, and, paradoxically enough, many of them on various of the national holidays.

But why? What’s wrong? Our people are sick!

It Was All Prophesied!

Our peoples have become a curse to themselves! We are literally committing world suicide—slowly, and by many and different means!

Read II Timothy 3:1-5 again. God said, “...in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves...” What could be more shamefully and despicably illustrative of extreme and per-
PROTECTING YOURSELF AGAINST CUSTOMERS

Stores spend millions to protect themselves from shoplifters — but still lose BILLIONS of dollars in stolen goods.

Gentry, Kilburn — Ambassador College, Center and right, courtesy of El Rancho Markets, Inc.

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The PLAIN TRUTH

December, 1968

28

are overweight or underweight, and host within their flaccid bodies a whole host of strange little creatures which bring upon us our sicknesses and diseases. We’re sick physically.

And, just as surely as your body is composed of what you feed it; so is your mind, your attitude, your character composed of what you think; how you play; what you read; what you hear; what you like to do; your pastimes, hobbies, pursuits, pleasures; your personal preferences.

For most people, a continuing nightmare of pleasure seeking, weird movies, perverted sex, and heinous crime.

We’re feeding our minds on a rotten diet of mental poison!

And we’re sick mentally! And we’re sick spiritually!

God charges, “Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters; they have forsaken the Eternal, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? Ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart [of our peoples, our nations!] faint. From the sole of the foot [lowest income groups, levels of society] even unto the head of it [to topmost government officials] there is no soundness in it, but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores…” (Isa. 1: 4-6).

Yes, our rotten national sores were predicted! God said our natural and automatic punishment for choosing our own way, which seems so right and good to us, but ends in death (Prov. 14:12) would be the exact present day conditions within our lands!

Even Our Children’s Toys Are Sick

The Hutchinson, Kansas News published a picture showing a young girl — let’s call her Penny — of that city, with, as the caption said, “a fiendish glint in her eye,” operating an “educational toy for the future executioner.” It was a scaffolding, with blade, basket, and trip rope. You guessed it — a toy guillotine.

The toy comes disassembled in a kit. All the child needs is a little patience and a little glue. Soon, like a model airplane project, the miniature guillotine takes shape. The kit comes complete with a tiny plastic doll, built like a man. The doll victim may then be tied hand and foot with yarn provided, which simulates rope, and placed on the platform. The blade is then raised by one string, and, when the basket has been placed beneath the victim’s head, released. The head falls neatly into the basket. But it can be replaced, so the child can enjoy the spectacle again and again.

Little Penny seemed to be really enjoying herself, in the picture.

Open letter to Penny:

“Dear Penny:

“Was that your daddy you were pretending to decapitate on your new toy you got for Christmas? Or was it your teacher, your local policeman, or just a local neighborhood boy you don’t like?

“Or was it that you were just ‘playing’ and really hadn’t thought of the doll as being any one person in particular? (Perhaps you’re pretending that just anyone will do for your guillotine — and you can keep yourself impersonal and uninvolved that way?)

“Penny, should you ever read this article and letter — we hope you become so sickened with the bestial atrocities you’ve been vicariously practicing that you will smash the toy, rescue the doll, and cry out for God’s forgiveness for yourself and the calloused manufacturer who produced the toy, your thoughtless parents who purchased it for you, and the brutish society that tolerated the whole process.”

What About YOU — Are YOU “Sick”?

How do you feel, after reading just a few of the more recent developments in our modern age? Are you passively interested? Incensed? Enraged? Filled with disgust, pity, and a longing for God’s Kingdom to RULE this earth?

Your reaction to what you have read in this article, and, for that matter, your day-by-day reaction to the conditions around you is DETERMINING your spiritual condition! It’s the way to determine your spiritual temperature.

This world is NOT God’s world. He
isn't in it. He is soon going to smash this present society, with all our cherished practices, our hates, cheating, lying, stealing, adultery—yes, and even our falsely labeled religions!

God says modern people are filled with blood-lust; they delight in iniquity, in sin, in blood, in torment, in violence.

He's going to give them the greatest show of violence ever displayed since the remotest beginnings of time!

But with one great difference.

Everyone will be completely involved!

"Thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy," cry the angels, in exultation at the righteousness of the great God in plaguing this earth to bring it to its knees! (Rev. 16:6.)

God said Lot, who "sighed and cried" because of the abominations accomplished around him, was worthy of escape from impending doom.

And he left, as a perpetual warning, the terrible sign of Lot's wife, who, even though she knew the deep and perverted rottenness of her society, still lusted after it.

Most people are spiritually calloused! They see the double standards, the atrocious misrepresentations and lies, the political chicanery, the brutal crimes all around them. But they seem resigned to conditions. They see one horrible condition after another—and feel powerless to do anything about them.

So most just give up. They seem to say, "If you can't lick 'em, then join 'em," and begin compromising their own principles. Millions of people today are resigned to this world's frightening conditions. They seem unable to be really stirred up about the big issues! They are far more excited in a football game than they ever are about some of the sickening wages, the continuing starvation and brutalization of hapless humans!

It's a mark of our deep sickness that referee's whistles can inspire more indignation, more rage, more anger in us than the screams of war's victims.

It's a diagnosis of our deep spiritual and moral sickness that most of us get far more excited about little day-to-day personal, social issues; indulging in petty gossip and backbiting, than we do about the crying needs of wretched humans the world over.

Where are our true humanitarian instincts?

Buried under a sneer for our fellow man. They're submerged in our jealousies, our suspicions, our mistrust, and our resentment at our neighbor's actions.

Still, many people try to convince themselves our societies are not sick!

But it's time to quit kidding yourself!

What about you? Do you lie—just a little? Cheat, just a little? Steal, just a little? Commit adultery—just a little?

If you do—if you are one who lives by the unclear and hazy notion of the double standard, then you can choose between two alternatives!

You can repent and come out of this evil world (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; Rev. 18:4), or you can continue in your own way of life, with your own opinions, and perish with this world.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (I John 2:15).

Admit to yourself the true conditions of our age! Quit deceiving yourself into believing "things aren't really that bad!"

Look into the spiritual mirror of God's Word—and let it reflect every rotten attitude, every evil deed, every deception, every resentment, rebellion and hostility in your mind and heart.

Then repent! It's the only way of survival for you.

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**THE ANSWERS TO Short Questions**

**FROM OUR READERS**

**HERE are the Bible answers to questions which can be answered briefly in a short space. Send in your questions.** While we cannot promise that all questions will find space for answer in this department, we shall try to answer all that are vital and in the general interest of our readers.

**• Every year newspapers and magazines comment that Christmas is not Christian in origin. Is this true?**

G. O., England

The common assumption is that Christmas commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ.

But consider, for a moment, what Catholic, Protestant and secular historians say:

States the Catholic Encyclopedia: "Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the church. Irenaeus and Tertullian [writers who lived around 200 A.D.] omit it from their lists of feasts..." (Vol. 3, p. 724).

A reputable Protestant encyclopedia adds: "The observance of Christmas is not of Divine appointment, nor is it of New Testament origin... The fathers of the first three centuries do not speak of any special observance of the nativity" (Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological and Ecclesiastical Literature, M'Clintock and Strong, v. 3, p. 276).

But, adds the Catholic Encyclopedia, "by the time of Jerome and Augustine [mid-fourth century], the December..."
feast is established” (vol. 3, p. 725). The exact year the Church instituted Christmas to be kept for the first time was 354 A.D. Before this time, the Church at large did not keep any commemorative celebration on December 25 in honor of Christ.

The New Testament record indicates Jesus could not have been born in late December. The exact day of His birth is not known, since the apostles never celebrated His birthday. All the historical evidence points to autumn as the time Jesus Christ was born. (For the full proof, write for the free article entitled: “When Was Christ Born?”)

Further, the first celebrations of December 25 were observed by non-Christians long before Christ was ever born.

In Great Britain, for example, “the 25th of December was a festival long before the conversion to Christianity,” states the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

**Pagans Observe December 25th**

In ancient Syria and Babylon — among other Eastern countries — the December 25 celebration was well-known and commonly observed by the heathen populace. It did not, of course, bear the name “Christmas” at that time. That was added later.

In the Christianized Roman Empire, Christmas was first proclaimed and kept as a Christian church festival by Pope Liberius in 354 A.D. — 357 years after the birth of Christ. Before this time, only the heathen segment of the Roman population celebrated December 25.

But how did the ancient Romans come to celebrate this day?

For more than 250 years after the birth of Christ, pagan Rome indulged in the worship of many gods. The primary Roman deity during this period was Jupiter. His festival fell in September of each year.

But in 273 A.D. Jupiter was dethroned and another chief deity became the supreme god of pagan Rome. It was the sun-god Bel or Baal.

The emperor responsible for introducing this new form of pagan worship into the Roman Empire was Aurelian.

Here is what history tells us about him.

“Emperor Aurelian made the Babylonian Baal chief god of the empire, under the name of ‘Sol Invictus’ [the unconquerable sun], in 273 A.D. His festival was on December 25)” (Grosse Brockhaus, vol. 2, p. 1).

Aurelian “created a new worship, that of the ‘Invincible Sun,’” writes Franz Cumont (see Oriental Religions in Roman Paganism, p. 114).

Notice in particular that this heathen sun-festival was celebrated on December 25, the very same day on which a Christian world celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.

With the introduction of the December feast began a new era in the religion of pagan Rome. Instead of keeping a September festival to honor the outdated Jupiter, the Roman masses now kept a December 25 festival to honor the new sun-god, Baal.

By introducing such a jovial festival in Rome, Emperor Aurelian gave the pleasure-mad Romans something to look forward to each season. Once introduced, this pagan sun-worship festival caught on like wildfire.

But what circumstances led the Roman head of state to depose Jupiter and replace him with the sun-god Baal? Here is what happened!

During his life, Aurelian had become interested in the religions of the East — of Persia and Babylon. At the same time many Romans considered Jupiter as old-fashioned and consequently were not fervently behind that religion. This influenced the emperor to look for another religion — a religion which would be more attractive and more appealing to the Roman populace.

Aurelian then made a journey to the East — to the areas of Babylon and Syria. He chose these areas because a vast number of the Romans had come from these areas and were actually Eastern in race and temperament. During the centuries preceding his reign, a massive East-to-West movement of peoples had taken place. Babylonians, Syrians, Samaritans and Persians flocked into Rome as slaves or immigrants. So great was the influx of these Eastern peoples that by the time of Tacitus, famous first-century Roman historian, many of Rome’s military men and senators were actually of foreign, Oriental blood.

“By far the larger part — perhaps ninety percent — had Oriental blood in their veins,” says Professor Frank (see “American Historical Review,” July 1916). Of this Eastern racial element another historian says, “The native Roman and Italian population steadily dwindled and the gaps were filled by new races” (read Foreign Groups in Rome During the First Centuries of the Empire, vol. 20, pp. 188-89).

**Pagans Bring Own Religion**

The people comprising these new races — who had left their Eastern lands and made Rome and Italy their new homeland — were Babylonian sun-worshippers. And they brought their brand of religion with them. These people had a great influence on Rome changing her religion. Notice what Hastings says, “Some of the most powerful divine invaders who came from the East to conquer the West were solar divinities. Also . . . philosophers and mystics had preached the divine nature of the sun and other celestial bodies. Immigrants from the East, and Romans, especially soldiers who had resided there, brought the religion of the sun with them” (Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics, vol. 8, p. 59).

Consequently, when the Roman Emperor Aurelian ousted Jupiter and replaced his worship with that of the sun-god, the masses in Rome and Italy welcomed this new and yet familiar form of worship. Since a vast number of Romans were at this time Eastern in origin anyway, it was so much an easier task to install this new Babylonian sun-worship within the Roman Empire.

And that, as history records, is exactly what transpired.

But why did the pagan Romans worship the sun on this one particular day — December 25? Here is why!

“In the Julian calendar the twenty-fifth of December was reckoned the winter solstice, and it was regarded as the nativity of the sun, because the sun begins to lengthen and the power of the sun to increase from that turning
point of the year" (Golden Bough, Frazer, p. 358, abridged ed.).

That turning point of the year was a time of great jubilation, a time of idolatrous, heathen merrymaking. The masses enjoyed it. Often, however, it would degenerate into a drunken debauchery and unrestrained sensual pleasures.

During this same period in Roman history, the Persian form of sun-worship was also introduced to Rome by her soldiers who had spent time in the eastern provinces. This Persian festival was celebrated in honor of Mithra, the sun god.

Concerning this Eastern festival, Franz Cumont states that "the sectaries — priests — of the Persian god ... celebrated the birth of the sun on the 25th of December" (Mysteries of Mithra, pp. 190-192). Cumont also describes how it was celebrated, especially in Syria and Egypt. "The celebrants retired into certain inner shrines, from which at midnight they issued with a loud cry, 'The Virgin has brought forth! The light is waxing!'

"The Egyptians even represented the new-born sun by the image of an infant which on his birthday, the winter solstice, they brought forth and exhibited to his worshippers. No doubt the Virgin who thus conceived and bore a son on the twenty-fifth of December was the great Oriental goddess, whom the Semites called the Heavenly Virgin or simply the Heavenly Goddess" (The Golden Bough, p. 358, abridged ed.).

It may sound shocking, but the heathen observed a festival on December 25 — long before Christ was born. They also worshipped a "mother-and-child." Only with them the mother was the queen of heaven and the child the sun-god reincarnated.

Although the East — from which this new worship came — had been observing this December festival for hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, it was not until the year 273 A.D. that this festival was widely celebrated in Rome and the West.

Why, then, did the Christian world choose the date of December 25 to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ? About half a century after the worship of the sun-god Baal was established in Rome, Emperor Constantine was converted to Christianity.

He was encouraged by the Church to uproot what the Church considered to be pagan, idolatrous festivals. The December 25 festival was one of them. It had to go.

However, this prompting met with failure. There was little the emperor or the Church leaders could do about it.

Consulting with the emperor, the Church influenced him to pass a law by which all Roman slaves would be given their freedom if they would embrace Christianity. This fantastic offer induced vast numbers of pagans to be baptized. It was hoped that such a move would prevent these baptized heathen from observing any pagan festivals, particularly the December 25 one.

Pagans Still Worship Sun-God

But the program backfired! The heathen element within the Church still adhered to their own sun-worship religion. They would still — each December 25th — join the masses of Rome in celebrating the festival of the sun-god.

The Church faced a seemingly unsolvable dilemma.Repeatedly she requested the "Christian" emperor Constantine to pass strict decrees in the hope that these edicts would deter and prevent the pagan population of Rome from observing this sun-god festival.

But Constantine refused, and for a good reason. He was afraid of Rome's pagan population turning against him if he became too strict in forcing the populace to practice only the Christian customs. He did not want, under any circumstance, for both factions to fight each other, thus jeopardizing the stability and unity of the empire. Constantine's method of solving this problem was to bring both factions together — to appease both sides.

Constantine's advice for the Church was to "meet the heathen half way." To allow them to retain the feasts they were accustomed to. "Don't make it harder, but easier for the heathen to be converted to Christianity!" was the sage advice of the emperor.

And the Church did so — it followed Constantine's advice and compromised with the heathen population of Rome.

The Catholic writer Aringhus acknowledges the conformity between the pagan and Christian form of worship. He further states that the leaders of the Church "found it necessary, in the conversion of the Gentiles, to dissemble, and wink at many things, and yield to the time!" (see Taylor's Diegesis, p. 257)

How the problem was resolved is stated very aptly by Dr. Hooykaas: "The Church was always anxious to meet the heathen half way, by allowing them to retain the feasts they were accustomed to, and giving them a Christian dress, or attaching a new Christian significance to them" (The Bible for Learners, vol. 3, p. 67).

Not being able to abolish the customs of the heathen, the Church tried to "purify" those customs and festivals the pagans enjoyed so much. But how were they going to "purify" the December 25 celebration?

The Church decided to counteract the pagan's celebration of the sun-god on December 25 by adopting it as its own! History records for us that "there can be little doubt that the Church was anxious to distract the attention of Christians from the old heathen feast days by celebrating Christian festivals on the same day" (Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics, James Hastings, vol. 3, p. 60).

This is exactly what happened in 354 A.D. when — for the very first time — the Church celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25, the exact date the pagans were still using in keeping their idolatrous festival to their sun-god. The Church felt that in this way she would be able to persuade the pagans to worship "the true Sun," Jesus Christ, instead of the literal sun.

Thus we see that the Church — to get the heathen to forsake their idolatrous ways — felt compelled to employ their customs and manners in worshipping Christ. No longer were the pagans to observe a December 25 celebration to honor the sun-god Baal. Now they were to honor and worship God's Son on that day, using their own heathen customs and methods.

And that is the origin of Christmas.
A WONDERFUL AMERICA TOMORROW?

by C. V. Dorothy and L. R. Salyer

All the world would like a better world tomorrow.

When will we find the fulfillment of our dreams? When will we reach our goal? Will government leaders be able to achieve that goal?

Problems Ahead

Bewildering masses of problems lie between us and our goals. President Johnson’s speech brought the United States’ most urgent problem into sharp focus: UNITE OR PERISH. He said: “There is divisiveness in America’s house today — a bitter narrowness of mind that threatens to set American against American, and undo the bonds of union between our people ... If they [the forces of disunity] succeed, the great struggle of the past hundred years — toward one country — will have been in vain.” (Emphasis ours throughout.) Silent cordons of police in blue (ringing the Astrodome in seemingly endless number) give mute testimony to the truth of the President’s words.

So we see difficulties at home and abroad. We find distrust and demonstrations among friends and enemies alike — even on the White House lawn. We face the threat of total human extinction by three separate ways — all horrible beyond comprehension.

Meanwhile, underneath the ominous cloud of human annihilation: rising taxes, rising unemployment, rising imports from foreign countries (slashing deep into domestic markets) rising inflation and spiraling prices, rising population but faster-rising crime, dope addiction and skyrocketing venereal disease, rising costs of living, rising expenditures for defense, rising death tolls in Vietnam, rising urban problems, all these mounting troubles contrast with declining respect for law and order, dwindling export sales, deteriorating manners and morals.

Problems confront us on every side: increasing numbers of poverty-stricken, starving illiterates in depressed areas, mounting lust for leisure and lasciviousness, breakdown of marriages and family relationships. More crime, more senseless assassinations, more race riots, more campus and student rebellion, increasing violence and vice, more sickness and disease, more mental breakdowns. Also more unrest, distrust and tension between nuclear nations until we appear to be reaching the breaking point.

Vice-President Humphrey warned that these factors “would bring this country to violence — would challenge the very idea that we are able to govern ourselves.”

What is the solution?

Listen again to Vice-President Humphrey: “I offer you no easy solutions. There are none. I tell you that the next four years will be years of trial for the American people.”

Mr. Humphrey warned that America faces the crisis of its national life! America needs solutions, and soon!

Soon-Coming Solutions

Without partisan politics, The Plain Truth magazine does bring advance news — good news — of what lies ahead for America, how these frightful crises will be solved — how it will all turn out! If you want to read tomorrow’s headlines before they happen, if you want to know how the dream of a better America, a better world, will come about — and soon, in your lifetime — send immediately for your prepaid copy of the best news ever: The WONDERFUL WORLD TOMORROW — What It Will be Like!

This power-packed, hard-hitting booklet contains the very facts, the heart-warming news America is waiting for . . . the story of a better world — the wonderful world tomorrow!
The STORY of MAN

for children five to one hundred five

Everyone should know the true story of mankind. In the guise of scholarship, fables have been substituted for fact. The evolutionary approach has been disproved, and the Biblical record proved true. Basil Wolverton has made a significant contribution to the literature of our time by faithfully sifting out the story of mankind in continuity, putting the thrilling story in simple and beautiful style for people all ages. The Story appeared under title "The Bible Story" in earlier editions.

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

Ahab, king of Israel, greatly desired a vineyard adjoining his palace garden. Naboth, the owner, refused to sell it to him. (I Kings 21:1-4.) Jezebel, Ahab's wife, decided that she would obtain the property for her husband simply by doing away with the owner. (I Kings 21:5-7.)

A Rigged Trial

Leading men of the city gathered at a public meeting in Samaria because they thought that they had been summoned by the king. Jezebel had done the summoning. Ahab didn't know about it. The meeting was for the purpose of trying one who reportedly (by Jezebel) had spoken in an evil manner against God and the king. The leaders had already been informed (by Jezebel) that the man was Naboth. He was brought to the meeting and placed on a high platform where all could see him. (I Kings 21:8-12.)

"But I have never said anything against God or the king!" Naboth remonstrated when he was accused.

"Bring the witnesses!" someone in authority called out.

Two men who were strangers to Naboth were summoned to the platform to stand in front of the indignant victim of Jezebel's scheming.

"Is this the man you overheard shouting profane insults about our king?" the witnesses were asked.

"This is the man," they nodded in accord. "We were passing by his vineyard at dusk when we heard him making some shocking statements to a servant.
When he saw that we were very close, he stopped talking and hurried away."

"Stone the blasphemer!" was the shout that welled up from the crowd, a great part of which included priests of Baal and their friends and followers.

"Better than that," Jezebel answered gayly. "You won't have to buy it because Naboth is dead!"

"How did he die?" the king queried, staring at his wife perplexedly. "Even if he is dead, the land will go to someone in his family."

"Don't be concerned about details," Jezebel snapped impatiently. "I happen to know that there will be no one to inherit Naboth's vineyard, and that therefore it is the property of the crown. Could it be that in spite of the trouble I've taken to arrange matters for your benefit, you've lost your desire to expand your gardens?"

**The Penalty**

"Not at all," Ahab assured her. "I appreciate whatever you've done for me. Tomorrow I'll take possession of the vineyard."

Next day Ahab was pleased as he strolled between the neat rows of grape vines. He planned to remove all but a section of the best of them and plant other things. First he would have a high wall built all around, and would have the wall removed that was between his garden and the vineyard. In Ahab's mind there was no concern for Naboth. He was certain that Jezebel had brought about his death. He didn't know how and he didn't want to know.

"Don't you think that the price of this land is much too high?" a voice came from behind the king.

Ahab wheeled to gaze with irritation at someone he at first didn't recognize. When he did, he was quite startled. Elijah the prophet stood staring at him accusingly!

"Elijah!" Ahab exclaimed uncomfortably. "Where did you come from? Why do you speak of the price of this land as too high?"

"Because I don't think you would want to pay for it with your life," Elijah replied. "That's the
price you’ll have to pay because the owner was murdered. Dogs licked up his blood after he was stoned yesterday. Because you allowed your wife to plan his death, and haven’t cared about anything except gaining this vineyard, dogs shall also lick up your blood!” (I Kings 21:16-19.)

The king’s face turned ashen gray. He knew that this man of God didn’t make false or futile pronouncements.

“At one time you were my friend,” Ahab stammered. “Now you are my enemy. Otherwise you wouldn’t come here to seek me out just to make evil predictions against me.”

“I am doing what God told me to do,” Elijah continued. “You have always been aware of God’s laws. You’ve had plenty of opportunity to live by them. Because you have persisted in wrong and shameful ways, you and your family must go the awful way of Jeroboam and Baasha, who also led the people in the wrong ways. As for your idolatrous and murderous wife, dogs won’t just lick up her blood. They’ll eat her! Others of your family will share the same fate. If dogs don’t devour them, their flesh is going to be consumed by scavenger birds.” (I Kings 21:20-26.)

Ahab had nothing more to say. He walked slowly away, leaving the prophet standing in the vineyard shaking his head. The king returned to his private quarters in the palace and slumped dejectedly on a couch. He was beginning to realize how much he had allowed his wife to wrongfully influence him, and how low he had sunk.

Groaning with misery of mind, Ahab rolled over and madly yanked his cloak, tearing it in two. Having vented his disgust of himself, in a limited manner, by ruin-

Remorse Without Change

For the next several days Ahab was seen only by Jezebel and his servants. He ceased eating and drinking. His only apparel was rough sackcloth, a sign of sorrow. His servants wondered why he refused food, went about in his bare feet and dressed so shabbily, but they dared not ask him the reason. Ahab’s state of mind was different than it had ever been in his life. He regretted the way that he had lived, and that was all that concerned him at the time.

As for Jezebel, she laughed at her husband when he told her what Elijah had said and raved at him for being sorry and for fasting.

“My people’s gods were here long before the Israelites brought their God along,” Jezebel told Ahab. “Now their strange religion is driving you crazy. Look at you, lying there in rags like a beggar! Have you forgotten that you’re a king? If your subjects could see you now, they would lose all confidence in you as a ruler. If you don’t come to your senses, it will be up to me to rule Israel.”

Ahab spent days fasting in sackcloth and ashes, regretting the wrong way he had lived. Meanwhile, his wife Jezebel laughed at him and reminded him that his conduct was very silly.
"You've already been doing too much of that," Ahab muttered.

Jezebel gave her husband a long, searching stare. She wondered if it were possible that Ahab was seriously thinking about trying to curb her evil pursuits and activities. Finally she shook her head derisively and walked away, laughing shrilly.

At that time Elijah received a message from God informing the prophet that although Ahab had not fully repented, he had become so humbled that God was willing to delay a part of the curse He had put on the king and his family.

"I will not bring evil on Ahab's family while Ahab is alive," God told Elijah, "but it will surely come later in his son's days." (I Kings 21:27-29.)

**Strength and Peace Through Law**

While unpleasant events were taking place in the house of Israel, there was peace and prosperity in the house of Judah. Judah's king Jehoshaphat, son of Asa, was a king who followed God's laws and worked to put idolatry out of Judah. (II Chronicles 16:12-14; 17:1-4.) He built strong fortifications in the land and manned them with many well-trained troops. His reliance was more on God than on his soldiers, but fortifications and troops were things most of Judah's enemies respected and feared more than they did the only true God.

Even so, many of the people of surrounding nations were so conscious of the power of God that they brought gifts to Jehoshaphat, hoping that their offerings to one of God's royal followers would help insure their prosperity. Even the Philistines brought tributes of silver and valuable merchandise. Arabians from the deserts to the south and southeast brought flocks of thousands of male sheep and goats.

It was most unusual for neighboring nations to furnish tributes of their own will, but almost any good thing could be expected for Judah. God was sending rewards for the obedience of the Jewish king and the people who followed his example. They knew what to do because Jehoshaphat had sent priests to all parts of the nation to instruct the inhabitants of Judah how to live according to God's laws, and be happy, healthy and prosperous as a result. (II Chronicles 17:5-11.)

With an army of 1,160,000 soldiers around Jerusalem, besides those who guarded the cities, Jehoshaphat wasn't bothered with war or threats of war. Such a large army was possible only because the national economy was in good condition. Most everyone in Judah made a good living, and wasn't burdened by excessive taxes. (II Chronicles 17:12-19.)

During this period of grief for Israel and good conditions for Judah, a marriage occurred that didn't have God's approval. It later resulted in trouble for all the twelve tribes. Omri's granddaughter and Ahab's daughter, Athalia, was married to Jehoram, Jehoshaphat's son. (II Kings 8:16-18, 26; II Chronicles 21:5-6; I Kings 16:29-31.)

The wedding took place at Israel's capital, Samaria. Otherwise, Jehoshaphat probably never would have gone there. (II Chronicles 18:1; I Kings 22:1-2.) His presence provided an opportunity Ahab had hoped for since he had learned of the prosperity in Judah. After the wedding, he prepared a great feast in Jehoshaphat's honor, hoping to find special favor with the king of Judah. (II Chronicles 18:2.)

"Probably you know that the Syrians still occupy some of the cities they promised to give back to me," Ahab mentioned to Jehoshaphat. (I Kings 20:34; I Kings 22:3.) "I've been anxious to repossess Ramoth-gilead east of the Jordan river, but it begins to appear that the only way I'll get it back is to drive the Syrians out."

"You defeated the Syrians twice before," Jehoshaphat observed. "Surely you can do it a third time."

"I'm afraid not," Ahab said with a gloomy sigh. "In the last three years the Syrians probably have built another great army that would dwarf mine. If I commanded a magnificent fighting force such as yours, I would have no fears. I would be confident even if I had the use of a mere part of your army. But I can't ask you to help me with my problems. You have no interest in a city east of the Jordan."

"I have a great interest in any part of Israel," Jehoshaphat said. "Why shouldn't I? Your people and we Jews are all Israelites. If you need help
against your enemies, my soldiers are available to
you.” (I Kings 22:4; II Chronicles 18:3.)

“You mean you would be willing to send troops
against the Syrians?” Ahab asked, struggling to
mask his elation.

“If it’s God’s will,” Jehoshaphat replied, “Before
any such undertaking, we should inquire of
God to find out. If it’s not His will, we could be
defeated, no matter how many troops we use. We
should ask a prophet of God to inquire.” (I Kings
22:5; II Chronicles 18:4.)

“Of course,” Ahab agreed. “I’ll see to it at
once.”

Even though Ahab had gone through a miser­able period of remorse, he did something he thought
would insure help from Jehoshaphat. He called
together Jezebel’s four hundred prophets of the
groves who had escaped the death penalty for
idolatry earlier only because they had refused to
answer Elijah’s summons to Mount Carmel, where
the four hundred fifty prophets of Baal were ex­ecuted. (I Kings 18:17-40; 22:6; II Chronicles 18:5.)

“I want you to determine what God would
have me do about sending an army to seize the city
of Ramoth-gilead,” Ahab told the prophets. “I wish
to do this thing, but if God decrees otherwise,
I won’t act on it. I’ll return later to learn what I should
do.”

Prophets of Convenience

Knowing what the king’s will was, the prophets
knew better than to pass on a negative answer. When
Ahab returned they told him what he wanted to hear
— that he should act to take over Ramoth-gilead, and
that he would be successful.

On learning that four hundred prophets were
required to obtain information from God, Jehosha­
phat was quite disturbed. He knew that not one of
them was close enough to the Creator to be used as
a true servant.

“I think it would be wiser to ask just one man
who is a true prophet of God to contact God for us,”
Jehoshaphat suggested to Ahab. “That man should
be one who has the reputation of living according
to God’s laws. I’ll not be satisfied in this matter until
I learn what God has to say through someone I’m
convinced is completely dedicated to the Creator’s
service.” (I Kings 22:7; II Chronicles 18:6.)

Ahab knew what Jehoshaphat meant. He began
to feel ridiculous for calling in four hundred men to
do something the king of Judah knew could be done
by only one right one. Elijah could be the man, but
Ahab had no idea of where Elijah was. Then Ahab
thought of Micaiah, the prophet who had warned
him that he would lose his life because he had
allowed the king of Syria to escape from Aphek three
years previously. The king of Israel didn’t want to
have any more to do with this fellow, whom he
strongly disliked because of the prediction. But he
was so anxious to please Jehoshaphat that he gave
his servants orders to bring Micaiah to his palace.

“I have sent for a man who is reportedly a strong
follower of God,” Ahab told Jehoshaphat. “I don’t
like or trust the fellow because he came to me some
time ago to tell me that I would soon die. In spite
of what he said, I’m still alive and in good health.
If he has anything to say to either of us, I wouldn’t
rely on it.” (I Kings 22:8-9; II Chronicles 18:7-8.)

“I’ll know if he’s the right man when I see him,”
the king of Judah remarked firmly.

In an effort to impress Jehoshaphat, Ahab
arranged for their two thrones to be placed in a
spacious open area near the main gates of the city.
There the two kings sat while the royal guards of
Samaria displayed their skills and equipment. Other
groups entertained with music and dancing.

Then, to Jehoshaphat’s surprise, the four hun­
dred prophets, attired in robes that were alike, slowly
marched up to a position before the kings and began
to chant.

“*To Ramoth-gilead you should go
To win against the Syrian foe.
The city shall be yours again
Because the Lord will help your men.*”

While the prophets soberly chorused the lines
over and over, one of them rushed about in a helmet
with long iron horns attached to it. By charging
about like a frenzied bull, he attempted to depict the
victory the others were chanting about.
Ahab hoped that his guest would be moved by the performance. He was, but not in the way the king of Israel had in mind. To Jehoshaphat it was a silly display at a time when the issue at hand was serious. His interest lagged until the four hundred prophets marched somberly away and a man walked up before the kings and was announced as the special prophet Micaiah. In a loud voice Ahab inquired of him if Israel should go against Ramoth-gilead.

"You should go!" Micaiah proclaimed. "God will deliver the city to you!" (I Kings 22:10-15; II Chronicles 18:9-14.)

Both kings stood up in surprise. They hadn't expected that kind of answer. Each had a different reason for expecting that Micaiah wouldn't agree with the many other prophets.

(To be continued next issue)

What our readers say

(Continued from inside front cover)

quality and type of articles you publish. When I first received the copy I was surprised to learn it was literally 'free' to me, now I wonder how I can get more than the three copies you originally offered me. It is a magazine I would wish to see regularly... Thanking you and wishing you every success in your efforts... it was like a breath of fresh air, a magazine showing religion, politics, sex, science and people in a wholesome and informing manner."

Mrs. P. M. C., Burwood, Victoria

Unbiased Reporting

"In the September 1968 issue of The Plain Truth on the section about church unity by Raymond McNair, there was a photo of James Baldwin whom you described as 'one of the United States' most noted writers on the place of his race in American society."

"I don't know how many books you or Mr. McNair have read written by Mr. Baldwin, but I have read one entitled, Another Country' written in 1960 and published by Dell Publishers, New York City.

'This book has page after page of interracial sex... How anyone could ever write such a book, and have it published is beyond me. This is the most... raw, revolting piece of trash I have ever read. He may be a noted writer, but he's the lowest grade type around. His book, believe it or not, got excellent reviews in the New York Times, Washington Post, Saturday Review, among others.

'I like The Plain Truth and enjoy its articles very much, so that is why I thought I would call your attention to this fact."

Thomas K., Providence, Rhode Island

- Our coverage of the Fourth Assembly of the World Council of Churches was not to either condemn or approve delegates or their works, but to report and explain the meaning of the struggle for unity. The caption in the article did not say James Baldwin's books are either good or bad. Only that he is a noted writer on the impact of his race in American society and is influential in the drive for church unity.

"The other evening at the home of a college friend of mine, I noticed The Plain Truth magazine on his coffee table. That night, I read for the first time that 'other side' of many headline events in our newspapers. I must say, the articles did contain revelations no cynical reporter has bothered to investigate. I am so pleased and surprised that instead of renewing my subscription to Time, I am writing to you for a copy of your magazine."

John M., Glendale, Ohio

"A few months ago I heard Garner Ted Armstrong offer your free book, The Wonderful World Tomorrow, and
I wrote requesting it. Not only did I receive the book mentioned, but I have also been receiving your magazine The Plain Truth ever since. I am frankly astounded that you kept sending this 'quality' publication without even soliciting a donation. It is a rare experience to find people actually doing what you are doing. I'm beginning to believe you!"

Kenneth L. S., Tucson, Arizona

Marriage Soon Obsolete?

"Your article in the September issue of The Plain Truth on 'Marriage Soon Obsolete?' was, in my opinion, a much-needed and timely bit of journalism. The sex-mad tailspin that society is in today gets little help from most churches or groups. On the one hand is the leaning toward a 'new' morality, on the other is such gross condemnation and fear of discussing the issues that it is no wonder that especially our young people are confused and doubtful. Your SANE article was certainly a great importunce to me later on as a church priest, and I am sure it might give me some good insights."

Jerry S., Yellville, Arkansas

"I would like to inquire about the new booklet you are sending out, Why Marriage! I would like to have this book, if at all possible. As you may have noticed from my address, I am studying for the priesthood (fifth year) and I believe this book could be of great importance to me later on as a priest. I am extremely interested in this subject, as a future priest, and I am sure it might give me some good insights."

Robert O., Quincy, Illinois

• You bet it will — and may we wish you not only insight — but action?

"I am 45 years old and a mother of three boys and three girls. Two of the children are happily married but the four at home seem to be facing more temptations in our new environment. We have moved to a small college town in which the residents and, indeed, the University Administration have turned their backs on unmarried students living together. Residents seem far more interested in how much money they can get for their apartments than in who occupies them. This condition is puzzling and often attractive to high school students. Junior high students speculate about who their student teachers (from the university) are living with. Instead of the faculty setting a wholesome example for the young people, many of them are trying to copy the students. Even our physician scoffed at my hopes of raising all six children to adulthood and presenting them to their life mates as virgins. My husband and I need all the help we can get if we are to properly guide the rest of our children. Sometimes, I feel that we have no help at all from these professionals whose degrees indicate that they are qualified."

Mrs. Donald L. M., Carbondale, Illinois

• Degrees are hung in frames on walls. There is no such place of honor for shattered lives — though they're far more obvious. Presumably the physician would have smiled with knowing looks had you asked for the latest medical contrivances to avoid premarital pregnancies.

"With typical American cynicism, I feel no one takes a page ad in Life and puts out books with four-color plates without there being a catch. If you are doing this for the good of humanity, may God bless you in your efforts."

John W., Portland, Oregon

• We are — and He is.

"I read with great interest your article in the September, 1968, issue of The Plain Truth entitled 'Marriage Soon Obsolete?' Now my husband and I would like to take your suggestion and do additional reading. Please send us the 50-page booklet, Why Marriage! and also the Ambassador College publication, The New Morality. We were aware of the 'new morality' but some of the facts you published were abso-

lately shocking! To know that 1 out of 2 marriages in the Hollywood-Los Angeles area ends in divorce is almost incredible."

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick S. G., Cypress, California

New Subscribers

"In touring the United States and Canada this summer, I came across a copy of your magazine and also a very satisfied subscriber. It's kind of unusual that I had to go to Canada to read a magazine that is published in my home state. I was very impressed by your magazine and I would very much like to have my name added to the list of subscribers for The Plain Truth."

George H., Camarillo, California

"Please enter my subscription for your magazine The Plain Truth, the greatest and most truthful magazine I have read in ages. I read it for the first time (September edition, 1968) at a friend's house and was really delighted. I liked your objective views and reports of the main problems of our time. Being a born German, I especially appreciate your outstanding reports about Europe and my Fatherland. At last a magazine which is not filled with hate, lies and advertisements. I certainly hope and pray that there will be more and more people around the world who find out about The Plain Truth."

Roland J. W., Laurel, Maryland

"It may interest you to know that some of my friends started writing for their own subscription to The Plain Truth after I had explained to them that this great magazine is the best, that the subject matter is not always on religion, but anything under the sun, that you explain the plain truth of everything, from the simplest to the most complicated."

Jess A., Manila, Philippines

"I wish to thank you for mailing me your Plain Truth. My change of address (from Miami, Florida to Atlantic City, New Jersey) was so promptly
noted, I found my copy of The Plain Truth awaiting me when I arrived in Atlantic City.”

Mrs. Helen M. F.,
Atlantic City, New Jersey

“When my parents and grandfather noticed me reading The Plain Truth so attentively, they were compelled to ask ‘what’s it about’ so I translated the articles into Urdu and surprisingly they too appreciated them and remarked ‘really, it contains all the truth which other magazines lack.’ My congratulations and good wishes to the editorial staff and we most sincerely pray for its success and popularity.”

M. N.,
Kanpur, India

A Happier Marriage

“My wife and I have been married 43 years and do not contemplate a divorce, but I am wondering if the booklet about which you spoke on ‘Making a Happier Marriage’ could help us as we do occasionally have little disagreements, and at age 70 it would be better if there were no disagreements, because ‘It’s later than you think.’ ”

Elsworth S.,
Sedona, Arizona

“I thankfully acknowledge receipt of the book entitled Why Marriage! It is a wonderful book! I find it very inspiring and of great interest especially to someone like myself, who has been married thirty-three years and has a family of ten, and now an army of grandchildren, 18 in all. I have read the book, and shall read it again and again, as I find even more light in its pages each time.”

Mrs. H. L.,
London, England

Hippies

“Thank you very much for your magazine, ‘Hippies, Hypocrisy and Happiness.’ I am a young man, 22 years of age, and I have come all the way from India. I had the occasion to meet many Hippies on my way. There are places in Istanbul where you can find the Hippies from nearly all countries of the world — doing nothing — lying there for days together, smoking and even eating Hashish — young girls, barely 15 years of age, taking opium shots. I had once decided to become a Hippie, but when I saw all this dirt, I just couldn’t stand it.”

Kuldip Singh V.,
Munich, West Germany

“I am a woman of 63 and have five children married, and have 22 grandchildren. After reading The Plain Truth and also the booklets you send me, I pass them around to my children. My grandchildren read them, too. I must mention that my grandson of 16, after reading the booklet on ‘Hippies,’ went to get his hair cut, for before he had a tendency to let it grow.”

Mrs. Clair D.,
Hull, Quebec

“I have received your letter of introduction but not your magazine. However, your letter has given me a very good idea of the type of magazine you are publishing. And I have a few things to say to you. 1. I am NOT your dear friend, and I should be very sorry if I ever was. 2. Your letter revolted me! Do you think you’re talking to an IDIOT child? 3. When I sent for your magazine I thought it was a sensible publication. But I’m sure I shall not be surprised!... and delighted! by it. A senseless diatribe of doom has no place upon my bookshelves. 4. I like the hippies. And the students. And I couldn’t care less about world conditions. 5. I don’t want any solutions or answers. I don’t want you to serve or help or inform me. And understand this for I say without apology — you must have a membership of over four million fools! 6. Cancel my subscription!!! Yours nauseatedly.”

Sheryl P.,
Christchurch, New Zealand

• No, we wrote, we thought, to a sensible girl. And we like hippies and students, too. And we would never tolerate senseless diatribes on our shelves, either. But we do want solutions, and we are concerned about world conditions. And Sheryl — you’re one of them.

The Plain Truth

December, 1968

How Your Plain Truth Subscription Has Been Paid

Many ask: “HOW does it happen that my subscription has been prepaid? WHY can’t I pay my own? HOW can you publish a magazine of such quality without advertising revenue?”

The answer is both simple and astonishing! The Plain Truth is utterly unique. Your prepaid subscription is only one of many examples of that. It is a magazine of understanding of mankind’s fast-changing and incredible world conditions — of changing social, family, and personal problems — of the meaning and purpose of life.

Others report world news — describe what’s wrong with the world. The Plain Truth explains why — makes plain the causes — gives the answers and practical solutions.

Modern science and technology came forward in our time as the messiah to rescue society from its ills. In ten years scientific and technological knowledge has doubled — and in the same decade humanity’s troubles also have doubled!

Communism stepped forward, saying: “Others have explained what’s wrong in the world; it is necessary to change the world.” (Karl Marx.) Today after fifty years you can see for yourself the showcase of results — Communism vs. the “free world” — in the divided city of Berlin! Science, technology, Communism have proved false messiahs. World troubles multiply, and today they are frightening. Plain Truth editors, scholars, researchers, analysts, realize that neither these, nor governments, educators, established religions, psychologists, or any other human ‘authorities’ have the answers. None knows THE WAY to PEACE! None knows the purpose of life. None seems to point out the true values from the false.

Therefore Plain Truth editors have dared, without apology, to go to the one and only source that reveals these answers, and points unerringly to the solutions that will be achieved! It is a 10,000-page book! — the Book that Bruce Barton said nobody knows! Approximately a third of it is devoted to advance news reports, utterly overlooked, it seems, by educators, politicians, religious organizations, governments. Yet, over a 2,500-year span these advance news reports have proved unerringly accurate!

What is generally unrecognized is that there is a PURPOSE being worked out here below, and that this totally misrepresented Source is in truth the Maker’s instruction book. It reveals the meaning and purpose of life. It deals with world conditions today. It is not only up-to-date as of NOW — its advance news reports lay bare our future. There is NO OTHER source of understanding OUR TIME, and where we are going! And its Author says to us, “Freely you have received, freely give.”

We make the truth plain. It is priceless we simply cannot put a price on it. We happen to be conscientious about it. That is our policy. A comparatively small number of Co-workers, of their own volition, solicited by us, have joined with us to make such an unprecedented policy workable! We, and they, sincerely thank you for allowing us to serve you. It is, truly, “more blessed to give than to receive.” Thank you for giving us that pleasure!
Spectacular new space feats by both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. have accelerated the lunar competition. Who's ahead now? Who will reach the moon first? And after that—what?

by Gene H. Hogberg

THE RACE TO THE MOON — WHO WILL WIN?

The race to the moon is on again with renewed zeal.

The United States and the Soviet Union, based on their most recent space triumphs, are apparently neck-and-neck in their concerted drive to land the first human beings on the lunar surface—and bring them back alive to tell about it.

"Perfect Mission"

U.S. space experts are now confident of a landing on the moon in the autumn, or possibly even the summer, of 1969.

Their confidence stems from the huge success of the recently completed 11-day Apollo 7 flight of astronauts Walter Shirra, Donn Eisele and Walter Cunningham. It was a mission the Apollo program director said accomplished "101 percent" of its objectives. Apollo 7's success was especially gratifying since it was the first American manned flight since three astronauts were killed in a fire on the same launch pad 21 months before.

Then, only four days after Apollo 7 landed, the Russians, practicing a
CRUCIAL MOMENTS OF APOLLO 7 — Top, expended Saturn IV-B photographed from Apollo 7 spacecraft on October 11, 1968. Mississippi gulf coast is below. Bottom, Apollo 7 spacecraft is prepared for hoisting aboard USS Essex after 10.8-day earth orbital mission.
little "one-up-manship," launched their first manned space shot in 18 months. Soviet Cosmonaut Georgi B. Beregovoy guided his Soyuz 3 capsule safely on a 95-hour journey around the earth.

Soviet scientists, too, claimed their mission was near perfect.

Two weeks after Soyuz 3, the Soviets launched an unmanned spacecraft, Zond 6, on a mission around the moon and back.

Next major step in the moon race will be to send a manned mission on a lunar orbital flight. For the United States, this complex task is the announced goal of the Apollo 8 mission, scheduled for late December.

And so it goes, with both sides piling up technical breakthroughs in the frantic effort to be the first on the moon.

And to be first makes a great deal of difference, as far as the two contestants are concerned. "U.S. space officials," reported one American weekly, "are uncomfortably aware of the huge psychological difference between first and second place in the moon race."

National pride, prestige, world respect, all hinge on the outcome of the "Great Race."

Long String of Soviet "Firsts"

If history is any guide, the Russians may very well beat the U.S. in the space-age version of the Amundsen-Scott race to the South Pole.

While overall U.S. technological and scientific achievements in space are considered by many experts to be more impressive than those of the Russians, the Soviets have a peculiar knack for achieving significant "firsts."

The Soviets, of course, were the ones to inaugurate the Space Age with their successful orbit of the world's first artificial Earth satellite. This was the 200-pound Sputnik on October 1, 1957.

The Soviet Union also launched the first manned spacecraft — Vostok 1 — on April 12, 1961.

The United States leads in space walks 9 to 1 — but the apparent lone Soviet space walk in 1965 was still the first one.

It was the Soviet's Lunar 9, launched in January, 1966, that accomplished the world's first lunar soft landing and first transmitted photographs directly from the moon's surface.

The latest Soviet "first" is Zond 5. In mid-September of this year, this unmanned Soviet space station became the first spacecraft to make the 500,000-mile flight from earth to moon and back to a successful recovery. Zond 6, a similar mission, followed seven weeks later.

American space pioneer Dr. Wernher Von Braun described the successful flight around the moon and back of an unmanned Soviet spacecraft as "an outstanding demonstration of the U.S. S. R.'s capability in space. . . . A truly remarkable and significant step forward in the exploration of the universe."

Thus the surprising Soviets continue to come up with show-stopping space achievements.

"In sum, the Soviets have consistently increased the size and scope of their space activities, and have appeared to concentrate on achieving technological space firsts and manned space flights having the widest popular appeal" (by George E. Wukelic, World Book Science Service).

It is with this past history in mind that the U.S. is scheduling its coming shots in Apollo series as close together as technically possible.

Is It Worth It?

But after man — be he American or Russian — shuttles around on the bleak, barren, atmosphere-less surface of the moon — THEN WHAT?

According to one source, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration "is not entirely sure what it will do after the first historic moon landing."

More moon landings, perhaps? A few Mars "fly-bys?" More Venus probes? What exciting new goal can be dreamed up to inspire the imagination — and strain the national budget? Manned exploration of Mars or Venus — if indeed humanly possible — would run up a tab of 75 billion dollars!

And mark this: The United States has already spent 44 billion dollars on its total space program since the launch of Sputnik 1! What does America — and this goes for the Russians equally — really have to show for the huge expenditure, besides desirable "spin-off" by-products of the space program to private industry and certain advances in military technology?

Why should there be such a thing as a space program in the first place? One leading U.S. weekly answered most candidly in concluding a long article on the subject: "Even in this age of science, man needs symbols and still puts up shrines to express his aspirations."

This is nothing new. It's as old as history itself — even in the earliest biblical record.

Notice Genesis 11:4 — "And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name [a symbol, a shrine], lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

The Tower of Babel was the "space program" of its day!

Let's get "down to earth" — literally! What is the purpose of life? Why were we created to be earth-bound, oxygen-breathing human beings tied to the soil beneath our feet for our very sustenance? And yet, with a strange, driving desire to expand our horizons into the very heavens themselves.

Yes, what is the purpose of life? Few know. A former deputy administrator of NASA once confessed: "None of us know what the final destiny of man may be — or if there is any end to his capacity for growth and adaptation."

But this is not true. You can know the answer to the most fundamental questions of all — "Who am I? What am I doing here? Where am I going?"

You need to read our two free booklets Who Will Rule Space? and Why Were You Born? In these gripping booklets you will see outlined a fantastic future for man. A future that even includes MASTERY OF SPACE, believe it or not!

Man's feeble quest to reach the earth's nearest neighbor, the moon, will pale into insignificance when God's space program for man is revealed!
OLYMPICS
(Continued from page 23)

the Olympics symbolize a complete civilization superior to nations, cities, military heroes, and even to ancient religions... When they [the Olympics] take their appropriate place among other European customs, the cause of peace will have received a new and powerful support.

In short, the modern Olympics are intended to foster international understanding, racial brotherhood and, above all, world peace.

In further demonstration of the true "spirit of the Olympics," the Games close with a presidential appeal to the athletes in these noble words: "May they display cheerfulness and concord so that the Olympic torch may be carried on with ever greater eagerness, courage and honor FOR THE GOOD OF HUMANITY THROUGHOUT THE AGES."

Now we can begin to see the true Olympic spirit.

But was this the spirit that reigned at the Olympics?

The Bitter Spirit of Anarchy

Tragically, another spirit was very much in evidence before, during and after the XIX Olympiad.

No one should blame the Olympic principle for the host of problems which surrounded this year's event. You probably heard of the alcohol tests to discourage taking "courage" from a bottle. (One shooter "steadied his hand" so well with beer he had to be carried on a stretcher!) There were drug tests to screen out doped athletes. We got a chuckle out of the accidental confession of the Russian volleyball coach who said his men "were professionals or they would have been left home."

Did you hear about the boycott threat over South Africa's race policies (that's athletics?), and the ensuing blackballing of South Africa from the games (an act about as un-Olympic as you can get)? A Cuban tennis player walked out - refused to play against the U.S. Everyone noticed the announced pullout by American Negro athletes (for the Black Power cause), Black Power displays against the flag, penalties and punishments, expulsions, crass insults against Avery Brundage, the Olympic Committee head. There were political bickering and near riots in Olympic Village (caused by whites, not blacks), a cancellation by North Korea due to the name it could not have, a Czech refusal to eat at the same tables with the Russians.

Perhaps sportscaster Stern was right. Perhaps the Olympic spirit is dead.

Where was the Olympic spirit of brotherhood when San Jose Professor Harry Edwards "whitelisted" the Olympics - nearly causing American blacks to boycott the games? Where is the spirit of brotherhood in Edwards' brotherly phrases such as "Lynching Baines Johnson," the "pigs in blue," (policemen) and "kill them with axes in the middle of the street"?

Where was the Olympic spirit when South Africa was blackballed for a policy (right or wrong makes no difference) which has nothing to do with athletics?

Where was the spirit of Olympic patriotism when two American contestants refused to be medalled by Avery Brundage, 81-year-old head of the International Olympic Committee (a hardworking, self-sacrificing man who deserves praise, not the abuse he suffered from acrimonious and anarchical athletes)?

Where was the spirit of Olympic cooperation among races when two colored American athletes ambled to the victory stand wearing long black stockings on their shoeless feet, raised clenched fists encased in black gloves, and — eyes fixed on the ground — refused to look at the flag during the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner"?

But lest someone get the impression that these few were typical of America's black athletes, notice these good examples of Negro American winners:

George Foreman, Negro gold medal winner in the heavyweight boxing division, went so far as to carry an American flag into the ring to demonstrate pride in his country.

Willie Davenport, who won the high
hurdles, set the kind of example that all other athletes should have followed.

A European writer asked: “Wouldn’t you say that whites are treated better than Negroes?” Davenport bristled. “I didn’t come here to talk about race problems. I came to race.”

One Negro boxer requested that Mr. Brundage present him with his medal.

But these good examples do not save the spirit of the Olympics when there are so many sickening examples.

We need to remember that man’s beautiful dream of furthering world peace through athletic competition has not worked. It cannot work until human nature is changed.

Man’s record proves that whether war games or Olympic games, whether Paris peace talks or non-proliferation treaties, man’s efforts all record the same imperfect performances.

But man doesn’t know the source of knowledge that would help him understand his own failures. There is a true source that reveals that neither by sports, work, nor war can man produce peace on earth. Incredible as it may seem, it is man’s own nature that prevents him from achieving peace and world cooperation—the spirit of the Olympics.

But there is a solution. There is coming a time when peace and cooperation will prevail.

Write for our free booklet THE WONDERFUL WORLD TOMORROW—WHAT IT WILL BE LIKE. It is full of pleasant surprises.

**TELEVISION**

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

KWHY — Los Angeles — Channel 22, 8:30 p.m. Sun.
KNTV — San Jose, Calif. — Channel 11, 12 noon Sun.
*KAIL — Fresno, Calif. — Channel 53, 8:30 p.m. Thurs.
*KVOS — Bellingham, Wash. — Channel 12, 3:30 p.m. Sat. (Starts Dec. 28.)
*KCND — Pembina, N. Dak. — Channel 12, 1:30 p.m. Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. (Starts Dec. 29.)
KLTV — Tyler, Texas — Channel 7, 5 p.m. Mon., 10:30 p.m. Thurs.
KTAL — Texarkana-Shreveport—Channel 6, 12:30 p.m. Sun.
ZFB-TV — Hamilton, Bermuda — Channel 2, 5:30 p.m. Sun.
*CFCF — Montreal, Que. — Channel 2, 2 p.m. Sun.
*CFRN NETWORK — all 11:30 a.m. Sun.
Edmonton, Alta. — Channel 3.
Whitecourt, Alta., Channel 12.
Ashmont Alta., Channel 12.
*CFCN NETWORK — all 2 p.m. Sun.
Calgary, Alta. — Channel 4.
Drummel/Hend Hills, Alta. — Channel 12.
Banff, Alta. — Channel 8.
Brooks, Alta. — Channel 9.
Kamloops, Alta. — Channel 3.
Columbia Valley, Alta. — Channel 6.
Jubilee Mt., Alta. — Channel 8.
Lake Louise, Alta. — Channel 6.
Lethbridge, Alta. — Channel 13.
Drummel, Alta. — Channel 10.
*Asterisk indicates new station or time change.

**BEST AGE FOR MARRIAGE**

(Continued from page 5)

to begin acquiring the more mature preparation for either career, business, or marriage.

It should be borne in mind I am speaking of average ages. There are, of course, exceptions to all rules—but in my experience about 99 in 100 follow this pattern.

Another stage of maturity seems to be reached at about age 30. I have noticed that, although most young people reach a certain maturity at age 25, a far more complete maturity of mind, personality, performance, and influence on others is reached at age 30.

By age 30 the man or woman has added five years of practical experience, in addition to further study, to the preparatory knowledge and final reaching of mental maturity attained at 25. Prior to 25, the young man is often called just that — "young man"—by older men. I can remember how, in my carnal preconversion vanity, Ismarted under being spoken to as "young man" by business executives I dealt with. This expression simply meant they did not accept me, yet, as a fully mature man, and I knew it.

Somewhere, the vanity in a young man of 18 and older makes him want to be considered mature—as a completely adult, fully experienced man. He wants to be considered older than he is. But as soon as young women are past 20 to 25, female vanity usually causes them to want to be considered younger than they are.

**The Right Age for Marriage**

The fact that man attains a more complete maturity of personality, leadership and influence by age 30 seems fully recognized by the Eternal God. In ancient Israel the Levites were ordained to full priesthood at age 30—although they were put into physical service at age 20.

Jesus Christ, our Example, did not begin His active ministry until age 30. All years prior to that were years of learning and preparation.

Yet in ancient Israel men began actual service, adult work, and even military service, at age 20. This, however, does not mean that they were fully and completely educated at that age. Actually, their first years of service were...
those of apprenticeship — training, preparation. They probably were not accounted fully prepared for adult responsibilities until 25, though the exact facts are not given.

Apparently God has not given specific and direct instruction or command as to the proper age for marriage. God did not even count people in the census, as adults, until age 20. While there appears to be no punishable prohibition against marriage prior to age 20, there is every indication that on God’s instruction juveniles were considered children until 20. At 20 they were considered “of age.”

This by no means implies they were expected to marry by age 20! Rather that they were expected not to marry until at least 20 — OR MORE!

Based on actual experience, my judgment — and I think it is sound judgment guided and approved by God — is that until out of the “teens” a boy or girl is too young to marry! And it is also my judgment — and I think it is sound and approved by God — based on life-long experience counseling on marriage problems of hundreds of people — that even 20 is too young to be the best age for marriage.

Two factors are the major causes of broken marriages, or of unhappy problem marriages, in the hundreds of cases that have come to me for advice and counsel: sex ignorance and marriage prior to age 20. Quite often these two are merged in the same case. A majority of all unhappy or broken marriages that have been brought to my attention were those of people who married too young!

Only too well I know that teen-agers who think they are in love will not listen or heed. That very FACT proves they are too young for the responsibilities of marriage. Marriage is so much more than romance, necking, love-making and immature emotional bliss. Thousands of young people have gone ahead heedless, and been sadly disillusioned to learn that lesson — TOO LATE!

But in my judgment, except in rare cases or circumstances, even twenty is too early an age for marriage. I can only give my judgment. But it is based on experience. It is based on facts and knowledge. It is based on what Biblical revelation God has given us. It is based on hundreds of case histories.

But here it is, and young people will do well to heed it — and later be glad they did! The best age for a man to marry is around 24 to 26, after he has devoted those top aptitude years between 16 and 25 for mature education, experience, and preparation — after he has acquired the knowledge, preparation and preliminary experience to assume adult responsibilities — after he is able to assume the responsibility of supporting a wife — and family! And the best age for a girl to marry is between 23 and 25, when she has utilized those top aptitude years for preparation, and is prepared to assume the duties of wifehood and motherhood — the responsibilities of planning, decorating, arranging a home, keeping it, and being a help and inspiration to her husband.

I sincerely believe, in view of what God has developed, that He brought about circumstances and influences to shape my early life, and also my wife’s as a preparation for a very great worldwide work He willed to accomplish. I believe I was steered and guided by His unseen Hand in ways I did not realize then. And Mrs. Armstrong and I were married when we were both 25. We were mature enough to assume the responsibilities.

Our marriage was happy, and blest beyond words to describe. And, during all those years during which God blest us with four fine children, equally fine sons- and daughters-in-law, and eleven fine grandchildren, our marriage continued to be happy beyond words to describe. In fact it was happier after age 70 than ever before, because it had grown constantly more and more happy. What A BLESSING!

Wouldn’t you like yours to be equally so? Then heed! Use wisdom!

"We just don’t approve of their odd beliefs," seems the only thing wrong.

It seems they don’t have a right to choose their own religion. The neighbors say, in effect, "We think they ought to be denied to believe as they choose. They ought to be forced to let us, their neighbors, decide their religious beliefs. We think we ought to have the right to force OUR beliefs on them, even though ours may seem odd and ridiculous to them!"

Isn’t it strange, that after 6,000 years of human experience, most humans are still groping in the dark about what is RIGHT, and what is WRONG? Look at all the conglomeration of different RELIGIOUS IDEAS in the world. Of course most people follow the religion of their country and their parents. They absorb and take for granted that which they have always seen, and what has been injected into their minds. What religious CONFUSION!

Would it not seem, that if we have a Maker, that our religion should involve our relationship with HIM, and that it should come from HIM?

But in true fact, none of these recognized, established religions of this mixed-up world came from our Creator. His religion mankind has rejected. Yet it is still made available to those who are willing.

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Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 1)

They don’t have any broken marriages! They have no juvenile delinquents! They don’t break into the non-Hutterite homes and steal. They are honest. They are sober. They don’t believe in fun and play.

Try to learn from complainers how their “odd religion” harms neighbors, and you get this kind of answers!

The fact that I do not believe it necessary to live in a communal colony, that I do not choose to wear the same kind of hat that the Hutterite men wear, and would not have wanted my wife to wear the “old fashioned” kind of clothes their women wear, or may not subscribe to some of their beliefs and customs, does not, in itself, do any injury to me.

The more I read of this feature story, the more it became evident that these persecuted people are a sober, hard-working, industrious, well-meaning, honest people. They are law abiding. They do no harm to their neighbors.

What is WRONG with them?
"Now the Germans are No. 1 in Europe," bannered the Bild Zeitung, West Germany’s largest mass-circulated newspaper.

"The primacy of power in Europe has passed from Paris to Bonn," editorialized the Times of London.

For some time the Federal Republic of Germany has possessed the strongest economy in Western Europe. But it waited until the recent international monetary crisis to transpose economic power into political muscle. As West German Foreign Minister Willy Brandt said early in November, his nation must cease being an economic giant and a political dwarf.

Paris Loser, Bonn Winner

In the economic crisis that gripped the Western world in November, West Germany stood firm. It stubbornly refused to give in to heavy pressure from the United States, Britain and France to revalue the mark. French President de Gaulle also refused to back down and devalue the franc. His act of defiance stunned all the financial experts.

But, say impartial Swiss bankers, France is already the loser and West Germany the winner in the power struggle — no matter how the European currency crisis is resolved!

The bankers contend that French leadership is tarnished whether President de Gaulle is forced to forsake his prestige and devalue the franc or not. Should he save the franc with economic cutbacks, he only risks more strikes and riots like those of last spring, the bankers believe.

In a remarkable fulfillment of advance prophetic news, the New York Times of November 21 reported: "The riots of May and June showed that the French economy had feet of clay... the Zurich bankers argue, and set off a massive outflow of funds."

The coming ten-nation resurrection of the ancient Roman Empire — perhaps to be called the United States of Europe — was graphically described in Daniel 2:42. Notice it:

"And as the toes of the feet were part of iron and part of clay, so the kingdom [the coming United Europe government] shall be partly strong and partly broken" — some nations strong and others weak.

Will Austerity "Take"?

The unpredictable Frenchmen themselves are largely responsible for their nation’s current dilemma. Discouraged with inflation since the spring strikes, they initiated the rush out of francs into gold or German marks. International speculators joined in with ferocity.

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Since April, France has spent nearly $5 billion in defense of the franc’s parity. The huge drain came from its hard-earned reserves, International Monetary Fund drawings and swap arrangements with the central banks of other Western nations.

Now comes another round of austerity. Announcing the Government’s save-the-franc program, Prime Minister Couve de Murville told the French people: "This means pain, work, discipline. This is the price of salvation. If this is the will of the nation, victory is assured."

But is it the national will?

Should De Gaulle’s giant gamble on French patriotism fail, he may very well step down for good. France would then be consigned to further political instability — perhaps even a repetition of the "musical chair" rotation of prime ministers in pre-De Gaulle days.

For De Gaulle has made a great blunder: During his 10-year rule, he failed to groom a successor to himself.
Grandeur Finished

De Gaulle’s dream of grandeur, of undisputed French leadership in Europe, is over. Noted French author Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber admitted dejectedly the French have lost “the most important battle against the Germans — the economic one.”

The Times of London warned the West Germans not to get heady over its new dominant position on the continent. “It is hard to remember in times of power the lessons learned in weakness.”

A French reporter said that the present German pride for their money — Deutsche mark über Alles — may soon turn into dangerous national pride — Deutschland über Alles.

* * * * *

Everyone Wants the Mark

Another sign of West Germany’s economic might: the solid, stable deutsche mark has become the most sought-after loan currency in the world!

For the past several months, Germany — rather than London or New York — has been the “in” spot for international borrowers. Funds raised in Germany are bankrolling such projects as an autobahn across the Brenner Pass in Austria, electrification for the Transvaal in South Africa, and an industrial island for the port city of Kobe in Japan.

Other foreign borrowers include the French National Railway, the government of Venezuela, the federal government of Canada — as well as four Canadian provinces — and even the World Bank.

The services of German banks have been in great demand that, as the newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung remarked in a recent editorial, “The foreign borrowers are polishing the brass doorknobs.”

Where is West Germany acquiring all of its “embarrassment of riches” — as one German planner calls it? Primarily from its huge surplus of exports over imports, now running at an annual rate of $2.6 billion.

Rather than keeping the money in the country and increasing revaluation pressure on the deutsche mark, Germany has been shoveling the incoming capital back across its borders in piles of loans and investments. Each new prediction of mark revaluation only brings additional money into Germany.

“Bankers of the World”

West Germany’s big banks have become the “titans of international finance,” reports a leading American financial weekly.

The Federal Republic’s major commercial houses are making a bold bid to again assume the role of “financiers of the world” once held by their 15th Century forebears, the Rothschilds and the Fuggers.

And the bid is succeeding. Wall street estimates now place the huge Deutsche Bank in first place among international lenders. Roughly a third of West Germany’s trade is handled by the Deutsche Bank.

“The trend is clear,” said a Deutsche Bank spokesman. “It is toward one world as it used to be when the Fuggers and the Rothschilds linked continents with their money . . . .”

MARK UP --- FRANC DOWN

Source: International Monetary Fund

Black bar shows steady accumulation of West Germany’s gold and currency reserves; blue bar shows the sharp plummet of France’s reserves, especially since the riots and strikes of May, June, 1968.

The influential West German weekly der Spiegel joyously announced in one of its recent issues that “for the first time in history the Germans can regard themselves as the bankers of the world.”

All this is happening while the former international financial powerhouses — the United States, Great Britain and France — all are struggling to keep from devaluing their currencies by keeping precious capital from flowing out of their countries.

New Reserve Currency?

“Aided by the Federal Government and West German industry, the West German banks have managed to make German currency what it has not been since 1914 — an important reserve currency — substituting for the dollar and sterling — in international transactions, besides being an eagerly coveted commodity in itself.” So reported the New York Times on October 28, 1968.

This is an extremely important development. The pound and the dollar have been preserved from collapse in the international arena for one primary reason. Up until now there has been no other currency to take on the role of international reserve unit.

Watch the mark gradually assume more of this international role. Because, as the Toronto Daily Star explained just before the monetary flare-up, “The world now needs a pacemaker and lender to take over for the U.S., and to a lesser extent for Britain, as they stem persistent drains of their currencies.”
IN THIS ISSUE:

★ DID SHE MARRY TOO YOUNG?
WHY so many unhappy marriages? WHY is the divorce rate increasing? What are the chances of a teen-age marriage? Is there a BEST AGE for Marriage? Here are the answers, from a wealth of counselling experience. See page 2.

★ BUT IS THIS WORLD SICK!

★ SPECIAL REPORT—INDIA TODAY
It's time the facts about India were known to the West. To give our readers an insight into the complex problems of India — and how they affect the world — we sent two of our regional editors on an extensive trip through that country. Here is their eye-opening report. See page 9.

★ INSIDE REPORT ON GROWING CZECH CRISIS
While touring Europe, one of our PLAIN TRUTH editorial staff members — himself an American-born Slovak — had the unique opportunity of meeting leading government and education officials in Czechoslovakia. See page 17.

★ WHAT HAPPENED TO "THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS"?
Mexico rose above predictions of failure, hurling obstacles of race, riot and altitude to host the XIX Olympiad in record form. But experts say something is missing from these noble games, and the next Olympics are seriously threatened! See page 22.

★ THE RACE TO THE MOON—WHO WILL WIN?
Spectacular new space feats by both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. have accelerated the lunar competition. Who's ahead now? Who will reach the moon first? And after that — what? See page 41.