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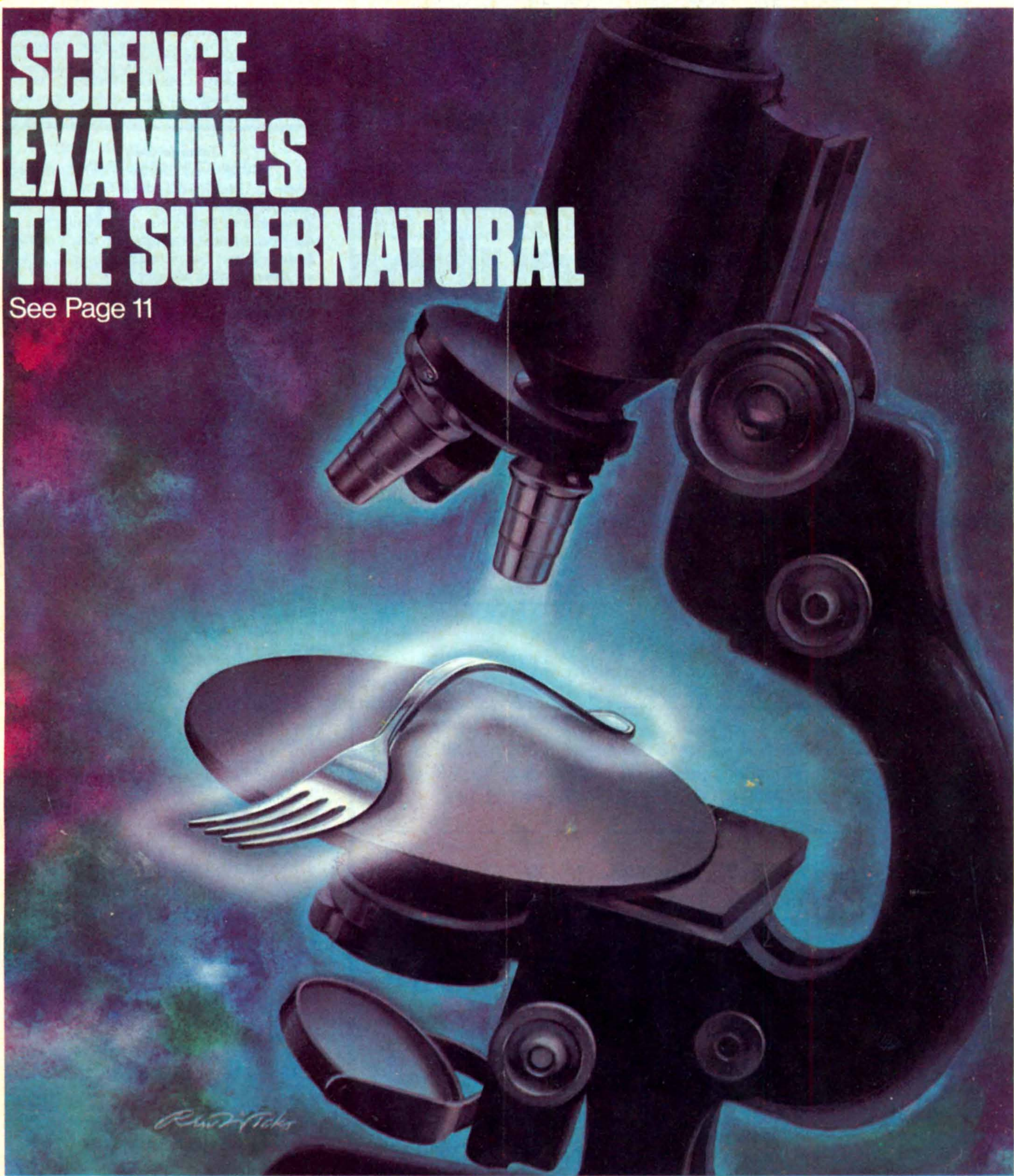
**The INCREDIBLE
HUMAN POTENTIAL**
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plain truth

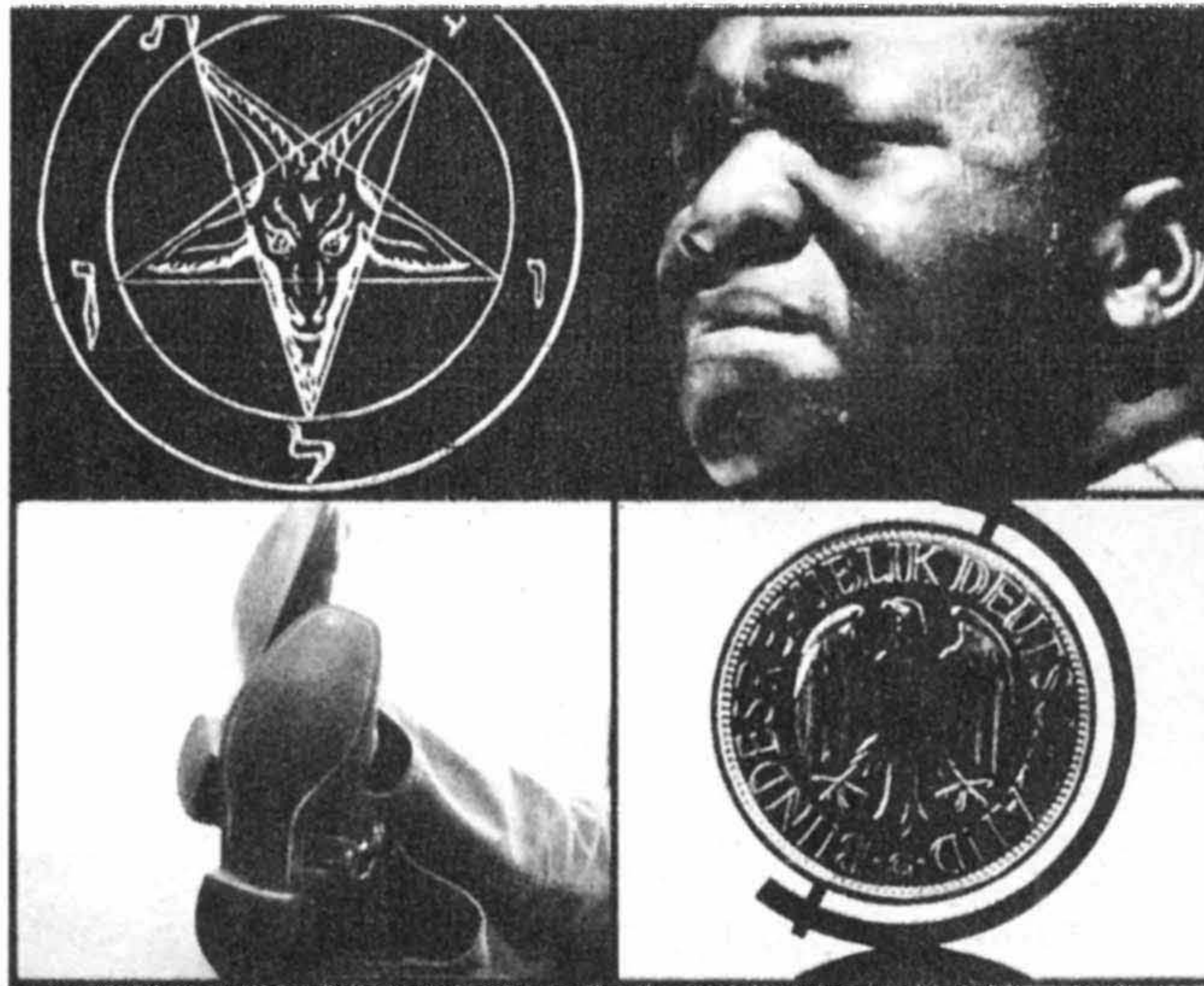
OCTOBER 1975

SCIENCE EXAMINES THE SUPERNATURAL

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Richard Tucker



plain truth

Volume XL No. 6 Worldwide Circulation: 3,628,460

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ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PUBLISHER

New Zealand readers will be surprised to be receiving a PLAIN TRUTH magazine again rather than a tabloid newspaper. Ambassador College in the U.S. is continuing with a fortnightly tabloid but have offered the overseas and N.Z. offices the alternative of a monthly magazine — which we have accepted. There may be a slight overlap of some articles so please forgive us if you have read one or two in other issues.

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Many heads of state today are faced with a serious credibility gap.

Governments of nations are being overthrown at the rate of about one a month. The pace is accelerating, with eight this year so far.

Let me start from March 1973. I was attending an outdoor garden luncheon in New Delhi at the official residence of Dr. Nagendra Singh (then executive secretary to President V. V. Giri of India — now a judge at the World Court). The ambassadors from Ethiopia and Afghanistan and their wives had been invited for me to meet. They each gave me an invitation to visit their respective countries and to have a private meeting with their respective heads of state — Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia and King Muhammad Zahir Shah of Afghanistan.

Before I could fit into my schedule the visit to Afghanistan, that government was overthrown in a political coup, and the king fled into exile. Later that year I did visit Addis Ababa and had a personal meeting with Emperor Haile Selassie. He is just eight days older than I. I visited Ethiopia again in January with several of my “Japanese sons” — all members of the Japanese Diet (the equivalent of Congress or Parliament), and I introduced them to the emperor. But in August the emperor was taken by the military revolutionists and was kept a prisoner until his recent death. A new military government replaced that of the emperor. One of the very last things the emperor did before being taken was to send me a telegram of congratulations on my birthday.

In August 1973 I was in Santiago, Chile, to see President Allende. Three weeks later I was visiting President Franjeh of Lebanon — whose capital Beirut is the financial hub of the Arab world. While I was there President Allende was assassi-

Personal from...



THE BIGGEST CREDIBILITY GAP IN THE WORLD TODAY

nated in the very room where I had had the meeting, and his government was overthrown in a military coup.

Three weeks later I was speaking at a banquet in Bangkok. At that time the Arab-Israeli war broke out.

Three weeks after that I was speaking in Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, to an audience of some 11,000, when a radio news flash was handed me saying a protest mob of 100,000 had overthrown the government of Prime Minister Kittichorn, whom I know well, and he had fled the country.

In late January this year, I was speaking before several groups in Bombay, and to some of these groups I mentioned the above incidents. Jokingly I said, “I wonder what will happen right here three weeks from now?” In four weeks I returned to Bombay and discovered that a week before, the local state government had been overthrown.

Since then President Thieu of South Vietnam fled his country and, as all know, the communist North Vietnamese took over that country. I had spent some time in private conversations with President Thieu and had expected to hold a campaign there attended by some

25,000 to 50,000 in the university stadium. But the war danger made it impossible to assemble such a crowd in any one place.

And now, another head of state whom I met, Prime Minister Rahman of Bangladesh has been assassinated, and the Bangladesh government overthrown. I had spent some 45 minutes with this strong leader in private conversation in his office.

When things like this happen continually to those I have known personally, it impresses deeply on me the kind of world we live in.

Leaders and rulers are criticized, blamed, plotted against, and enemies seek to create great credibility gaps between the people and the nation's leaders.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, prime minister of the world's second largest nation, has very narrowly escaped being overthrown. Political enemies, leaders of the minority party in India, sought to oust Mrs. Gandhi by accusing her of using illegal methods in a recent election campaign. Mrs. Gandhi was found guilty by a high court. Mrs. Gandhi subsequently had all opposition leaders arrested. Then she endeavoured to

(Continued on page 27)

Rhodesian Intransigence— Outgrowth of Black African Instability?

Prior to the commencement of the crucial Victoria Falls talks on the future of Rhodesia, the comment was made that if the talks succeeded we would have an eighth wonder in the world — the falls themselves being one of the seven wonders.

Well, we have no eighth wonder to date, although in spite of the breakdown of the talks between the Rhodesian government delegation and representatives of the African National Council in the railway carriage, efforts continue to be made to save the situation.

But why is it that white Rhodesians do so stubbornly resist the one-man-one-vote principle of democracy in their nation — even though to continue to do so threatens to submerge the whole of Southern Africa into a bloody conflict between black and white?

Perhaps the answer is that either way they consider that they stand to

lose everything they have striven and worked for.

Rhodesia's government and economy are entirely controlled by the former British colony's 270,000 whites, even though they are outnumbered more than 20 to 1 by the 5.7 million blacks in the country.

Mr. Ian Smith stated just before the outset of the Falls talks that his government had "never had a policy in Rhodesia to hand our country over to any black majority government and as far as I am concerned we never will have."

But perhaps the major clue to Rhodesian resistance can be found in what he said next. Black Africa, he went on, "had a ghastly record" when it came to protecting the rights of minorities. "How can you ask anybody to join you in planning a premeditated surrender in conniving at your own defeat?"

However we would choose to

judge current Rhodesian intransigence, it must be admitted that Mr. Smith has a point.

No one can deny that the nations of Black Africa almost without exception are plagued by political instability, poverty, illiteracy, corruption, economic chaos, civil wars and tribal rivalries.

Thirty-five Coups in Fifteen Years

Just two months ago these problems were accentuated by events in Nigeria, Black Africa's wealthiest nation.

Even while he was in attendance at the Organisation of African Unity Summit Conference in Uganda, Nigerian leader, General Yakubu Gowon, was ousted by a member of his government, Brigadier General Muritala Rufai Mohammed. Gowon, Nigeria's "gentle soldier" had enjoyed the reputation of being one of Africa's most honest and rational leaders. His fall, therefore, as *The Economist* noted: "Confirms the uneasy suspicion that large parts of Africa which came to independence in the 1960's are incapable of orderly political transition."

Gowon was the fifth leader in Black Africa to be deposed in a military coup in the past 17 months. The other overthrows occurred in Niger, Ethiopia, Chad, and Madagascar. During the past 15 years — since the beginning of the wave of African independence movements in 1960 — over 35 military coups have occurred across Africa.

The incoming "soldier-rulers" have generally justified their takeovers on grounds of corruption, political repression or economic mismanagement, but experience has shown that the new governments are usually as bad — if not worse — than those overthrown.

Orderly constitutional transfers of



"AT LEAST I'LL LEARN FROM YOUR EXPERIENCES!"

power have been a precious rarity. The pattern of coup and counter-coup appears to have become a more or less permanent feature of African politics.

As Gowon's successor was busy assuming the reins of power in Nigeria, a more bloody confrontation was under way in the Portuguese colony of Angola. With independence just two months away three rival Black nationalist movements — one backed by Moscow and the other two, in loose alliance, by Peking — engaged in a new round of fighting for control of this mineral-rich country, following the breakdown of the eighth truce this year. Observers feel the fighting is growing into a protracted civil war, with repercussions being felt throughout west Africa.

Elsewhere, border disputes continue between Uganda and Tanzania, Upper Volta and Mali, Nigeria and Cameroon, and Ghana and Togo.

In Ethiopia, a secessionist war simmers in the province of Eritrea. In Chad, sporadic fighting continues between Arab northerners and African southerners.

In short, no matter where one looks across Black Africa, there are nothing but "wars and rumours of war."

Tribalism and Colonialism

In searching for the causes of Black Africa's myriad woes, many historians and political observers have cited the ill-considered carving up of the continent during the 19th century by European colonial powers — primarily Britain, France, Belgium and Portugal. National borders were established with little thought to centuries-old tribal and ethnic boundaries.

Nigeria is a representative case. The nation is composed of three major tribes and over 200 diverse ethnic groups with differing religious practices and languages. In the latest coup, General Gowon, a Christian from the small Anga tribe in the middle of the country, was ousted by a northern Hausa Mos-

A POTPOURRI OF BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS. TOP PHOTO: Uganda's President Idi ("Big Daddy") Amin, host of the recent summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity in Kampala, is well known for his frequent outspoken — and unpredictable — observations on the world scene. **SECOND FROM TOP:** Samora Machel, President of newly-independent Mozambique, has led a protracted ten-year guerrilla war against Portuguese colonialism. **THIRD FROM TOP:** Brigadier General Muritala Rufai Mohammed addresses Nigerians following his recent takeover of the Nigerian government. **BOTTOM PHOTO:** General Yakubu Gowon, Nigeria's "gentle soldier", was toppled from power while out of his country attending the O.A.U. meeting.

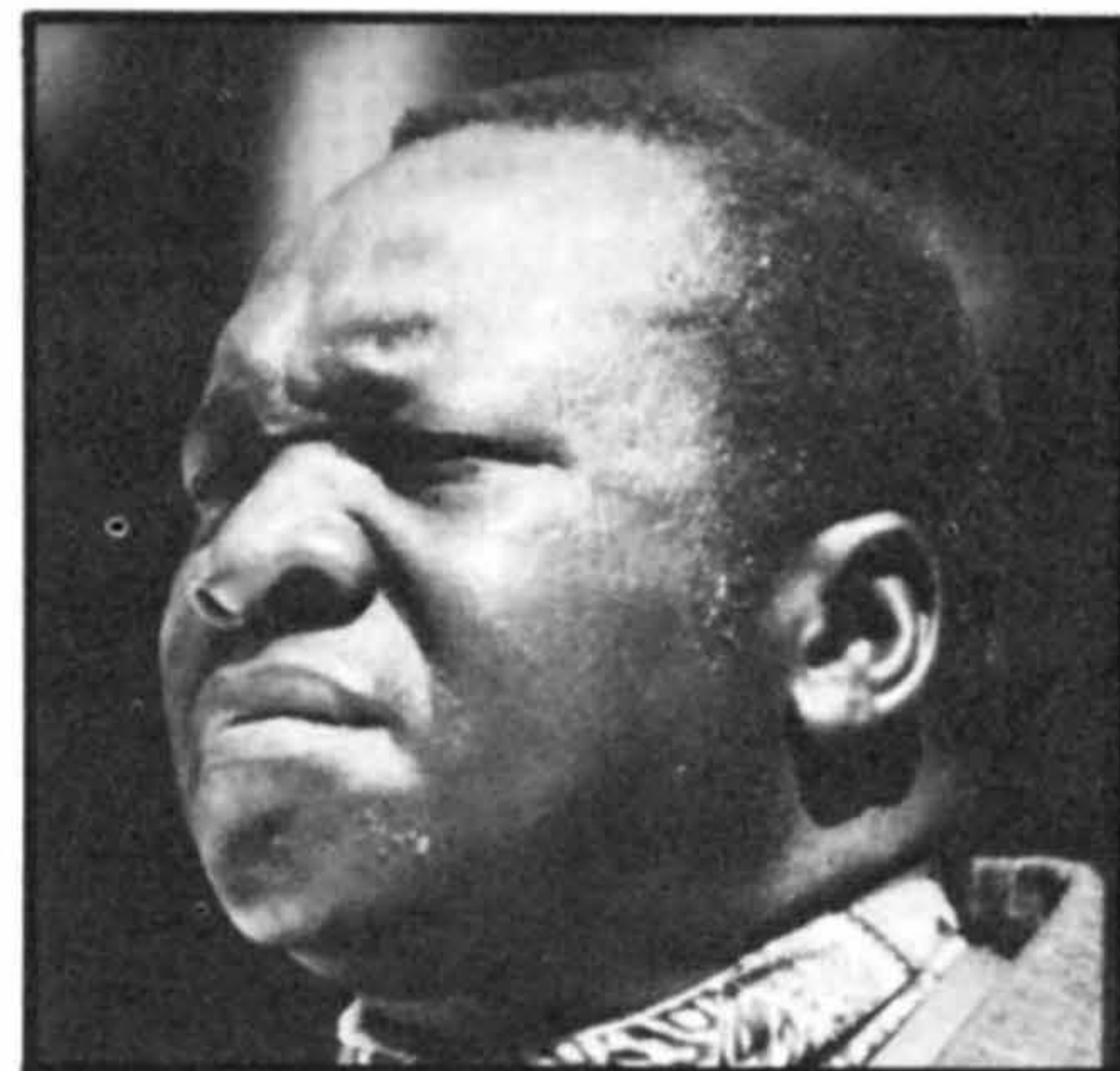
lem. Since the political and ideological differences between Gowon and his successor are minor, tribal loyalties are believed to have played a major part in the coup.

The 1967 Biafran war of succession between the eastern Ibo tribe and Nigerian federal troops also grew out of tribal rivalries, as did the major civil war in the Congo in 1960.

In addition to the problems of intertribal coexistence, the difficulty of reconciling old traditions of tribal loyalties with modern concepts of nationhood has also been a source of conflict on the continent.

It is no wonder then, that 270,000 Rhodesian whites look with such suspicion upon any negotiated settlement with the Black Africans in their country. No wonder that they seemingly would rather risk the potential racial conflagration which is brewing and which could eventually bring virtually all the Black African nations into a bloody military confrontation not only with Rhodesia but with white-ruled South Africa as well.

In these circumstances it is also no wonder that South Africa's Premier, Mr. John Vorster, and Zambia's leader, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, are making such strenuous efforts to achieve some kind of détente between white ruled southern Africa and the Black African nations. □



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West Germany

The Reluctant World Power Flexes Its Muscles

by Victor Root

BONN

"And what do *you* think Germany should do if the oil producing countries impose another oil embargo?" I asked my taxicab skipper in Berlin. The immediate answer: "Saddle up the Bundeswehr — charge down to the Middle East — and knock all those sheiks off their high horse!"

Outspoken words indeed from a citizen of a nation bent for three decades on staying on the outer periphery of the world political arena. Yet they symbolize, perhaps, a significant change in attitude. West Germany, economic colossus yet political dwarf, is at last awakening to a new political awareness.

Of course, not every German breathes as much political fire as the taxi drivers of Berlin. They seem to be a unique breed. To most Germans, the very thought of their nation once again becoming a major world power is repugnant — it holds too many aching memories. After World War II, the government in Bonn faithfully charted a course leading to both a phoenix-like economic resurrection and virtually total political disengagement. Both goals have been achieved.

Yet an irresistible combination of factors is forcing the Federal Republic willy-nilly into the world political limelight. The pressures have become strong enough to warrant a recent cover story in the leading West German news weekly *der Spiegel* entitled "Germany — World Power Against Her Will."

Bulging Reserves

Basically two factors are pushing the reluctant Federal Republic to-

ward a driver's seat in world politics. The first is the FRG's remarkable economic strength. West Germany accounts today for one-third of the total production of goods and services of the nine-nation European Community, or Common Market.

Among major nations, Germany is second only to the United States in per capita income (£2,700) and total foreign trade (£70,000 m. in 1974.) West Germany's 88,000 m. Deutschmarks (£15,000 m.) in gold and monetary reserves constitute the world's largest national savings account at present — twice that of the U.S.A. and larger than those of Great Britain, France, and Italy combined.

But world financiers envy the Bonn government's skilful handling of the present recession even more than its considerable assets. Bonn's trouble-shooting trio of Chancellor Schmidt, Finance Minister Hans Apel and economics Minister Hans Friderichs could boast of a 6.5% rate of inflation at the end of last year, lowest in the Western world. And, despite a 22-year high of over one million unemployed, large-scale social conflict is non-existent (largely due to cooperative unions).

Suspicious Neighbors

Yet Germany's long-running *Wirtschaftswunder* has triggered no corresponding *political* boom. Finance Minister Apel still says, "For me, 'world power' means 'pay for the others.'" Bonn's influence on the international scene has for the most part consisted of a burgeoning export trade, economic/financial

help, and various aid programmes to the developing nations.

Many German politicians, businessmen and thinkers shrink from the thought of increased world political responsibility. They consider the role of a "well-fed political dwarf with 88,000 million marks in the bank" very comfortable. Most share Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's fear of being pulled into hot foreign squabbles (Genscher hesitates to vie for a United Nations Security Council seat, as many statesmen are encouraging Bonn to do).

Germany's neighbours have never quite trusted this "hesitancy," however. France, in particular, having been front-line target of past German power aspirations, has for years anxiously watched the German economy catch up with and finally pass her own. The European press regularly publishes articles expressing the French fear that the Federal Republic's growing economic might would eventually relegate French aspirations towards Europe's political throne to the also-rans.

Pressure from Without

Germany's inward reluctance to go to the head of the class, strengthened by the poorly camouflaged hostility of neighbours such as France, has up to now squelched any German power-thinking in the bud. Yet a significant, unexpected factor has come into play: pressure from without, from close allies as well as distant trade partners, to join the international power community.

Admonitions have come from to-



Hennig — Plain Truth

WEST GERMANY Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Prime Minister Harold Wilson entertain questions during a recent press conference in Hamburg.

tally unexpected quarters for the Germans to wake up to the responsibilities of their own strength. As *der Spiegel* reported in its issue of January 6, 1975, a high official in the Soviet Foreign Ministry advised his German counterparts that "Germans must now assume the great responsibility resulting from their being the economically strongest, politically most stable, and militarily most important state in Western Europe."

The strongest pressure, however, has come from Washington. In February of this year the *Washington Post* ran an article to the effect that the Federal Republic should shoulder the political responsibilities devolving from its economic might and take on a measure of America's leadership role in world affairs. For years, the United States has expected West Germany to contribute effectively toward NATO's defence capacity. Yet the *Washington Post* article indicates the U.S. now expects much more than this from Bonn.

Cementing a United Europe

This mounting diplomatic pressure has been paralleled for some time by a lessening resistance on Bonn's part to a more independent political role in Europe. Willy Brandt's "Ostpolitik" really got the ball rolling, in that first efforts were made to establish friendlier relations with communist East Germany. This eased some of the internal pressure to reunite Ger-

many and meant that West Germans could now look on their country as a complete political entity, rather than just as a temporary "half-state" waiting for the adulthood of reunification.

In recent years this trend toward self-assertiveness in Bonn's foreign policy has accelerated. No longer does the Federal Republic's foreign policy bear the label, "Made in Washington." Bonn's recent decision to sell nuclear power plants to Brazil — a blow to Washington's nonproliferation hopes — is only one example of the republic's new self-assertiveness.

Particularly in Europe, leaders of the Federal Republic are beginning to flex their economic muscles. Sources in Bonn reveal one goal that influential Bonn foreign-policy makers now have in mind — that of West Germany providing the cement to bind together a united Europe, or as one policy framer phrased it, "to become the 'Federator' of Europe without letting the others know about it. We must force the Europeans toward solidarity with tact and elegance."

Bonn's slow ascendancy to power has also been fuelled by the rapid economic and political decline of her neighbours. Great Britain and Italy, riddled with inflation and social conflict, are in no condition to bolster European unity. Even France, beset with multiple economic, political and social woes, is no clear guiding light for the community. The Federal Republic, how-

ever, led by an increasingly respected Chancellor Schmidt and featuring an outstanding economic batting record, seems slated for the top slot.

A North German newspaper, *Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung*, recently ran an editorial entitled "Big Power Bonn?" which revealed a new awareness on the part of the West Germans of their country's growing international prowess. The editorial presented Helmut Schmidt with a lion's share of the credit: "In all its 26-year-old history, the Federal Republic has never made such an impact on international politics as nowadays, under Chancellor Schmidt.... In his relations with foreign statesmen, Chancellor Schmidt surpasses nearly everyone of his predecessors, as far as self-confidence, imagination and personal forcefulness are concerned." The article heralded the unprecedented pilgrimage to Bonn during mid-summer 1975 of Messrs. Wilson, Ford, Giscard d'Estaing, Sadat, and Rabin, as diplomatic acknowledgement of the increased prestige enjoyed by both the West German government and its chancellor.

New Pride in the Bundeswehr

For many years most Germans have looked at the Bundeswehr (the Federal defence forces) with a jaundiced eye. The post-World War II architects of the Bundeswehr designed helmets, uniforms, organization and discipline along U.S. lines, to avoid any reminders of the Wehrmacht of Hitler's vintage. No officers with Prussian names were included among the new staff. Secluded forest hideouts, far from public view, served the fledgling forces as bases.

Now, however, the tanks and trucks of the Bundeswehr trundle along autobahns and public roads far more openly. Whole classes of graduating high school seniors are trooping to the recruiting offices. A Bundeswehr officer candidate recently remarked to the writer that the esprit de corps among the professional German soldiers was sky-high.

Germany's NATO allies are also keenly aware of the Bundeswehr's professional potency. U.S. Defence Secretary James Schlesinger enthusiastically labelled the Federal Republic's fighting forces the "hub of the alliance." In an era when many Western states are cutting back on defence spending, the West German army stands out as a growing bulwark of strength.

Heir to the U.S. Throne?

Mr. Ford and Mr. Kissinger have vigorously pledged that American troops will live up to their European treaty commitments. However, West Europeans have been unnerved by the U.S. defeat in Vietnam. In the aftermath of the communist takeover, countless television and radio discussions bore down on one burning question: "Can we rely on America?" The answer was uncertain.

There is no doubt that the U.S. government fully intends at present to live up to its allies' expectations. Yet what if future developments force the "world policeman" to reduce troop commitments overseas? Who would fill the gap in NATO which a U.S. withdrawal would leave?

The answer seems increasingly obvious. As early as December 1969, the French Gaullist Information Service published the following comment: "The danger exists, that the 'American Europe' which existed since the war and against which we (the Gaullists) directed our efforts, will be replaced by a 'German Europe'... the future of Europe now depends on what the Bonn government does with its economic might and political freedom."

The Federal Republic is Washington's most reliable NATO partner. Countless economic and cultural ties bind the two nations. Most have evolved from U.S. efforts to rear a nation in Central Europe after its own image, fit to take over should America leave off. And now not just Father U.S.A. but many other nations are hustling a reluctant West Germany into a Superman suit which it already has the physique to fill. □

Across the Oder-Neisse, Life Is Better Now

Plain Truth correspondent in Bonn, Wolfgang Thomsen, recently took a first-hand look at conditions in communist East Germany. Here is his report.

If you should meet an old acquaintance again after, say, about 13 years, you might note with pleasant surprise a mellowing in attitude or an interesting change in his behaviour. The same changes can occur in nations as well. One could take East Germany — the German Democratic Republic, or GDR — as a good example.

Recently, when I crossed the border into the GDR from West Germany, I noticed that the people's police, or *Volkspolizei* and the customs officers handled their duties in a far more relaxed and friendly manner than was the case over a decade ago.

Many West Germans are taking advantage of the more relaxed atmosphere prevailing between the two Germanys. West Germans are now permitted to use their own cars to visit their relatives dwelling in the East. Previously they had to travel by train to their destination; only in rare occasions could they travel by private automobile. One not only sees cars bearing West German licence plates on the transit trip to East Berlin and back, but all over the GDR. As one East German citizen put it: "It's a result of Willy Brandt's Ostpolitik."

A Fiat by Any Other Name . . .

One is also surprised by all the obviously Italian designed cars with East German licences — but with Russian or Polish brand names on them. An East German friend explained that they are indeed of Italian design, but are actually built in various East Europe countries. An example is the "Polski Fiat" — an

Italian Fiat made in Poland. The Fiat concern has constructed assembly plants in many other countries, East and West, including the Soviet Union. The Italian cars built under licence are judged to be better in quality and performance than "native" automobiles such as the East German Wartburg.

Cost and availability, regardless of the model, are important factors for the car-buying East German public to consider. An automobile in the GDR costs between 17,000 and 25,000 East German marks, which is only about £1100-£1600. But should an East German worker with an average monthly income want to buy one of these rolling luxury items, he would have to put aside the entirety of his monthly salary for the coming two to three years. Not only this, but he would have to wait 5 to 8 years for the car to be delivered. So some people already order a new car, when they get their "old" new one delivered.

Cost of Necessities Controlled

While basic foodstuffs are, in general, not very expensive, the people have to pay very high prices for "luxury" foods. Two pounds of a medium-grade coffee, for example, costs about 70 marks (£4.50), a bottle of American whiskey 80 marks (about £5.50). Prices for housing, coal, public transport, and certain other basic necessities are

POSTERS BEARING socialistic slogans and quotations are found throughout East Germany. This display on a main street in Dresden declares: "Socialism gives meaning and purpose to the lives of the people."



Der Sozialismus
gibt dem Leben
der Menschen
Sinn und Inhalt!





Thomsen — Plain Truth

CAR PARK in Dresden, East Germany, contains vehicles from both sides of the Iron Curtain — attesting to increased tourism. Poster illustrates the “friendship” between the Russian Army and the people of East Germany.

deliberately kept very low. Medical and dental services are generally supplied free.

Even with all these advantages an East German family can only exist if both adults have a job. This is because the average income per worker is about 850 East German marks a month (about £50).

The attraction and appeal of West Germany seems to be somewhat less than it once was. East Germans are living reasonably well now, and in some ways the East German government has gone further than Bonn in providing the

security and order that Germans seem to desire.

The government has frozen the rents for flats and apartments at the level they were before the war. This is good for renters but not so good for those who happen to own rental properties. (The state is a big landlord too, of course.)

An owner of a four-family apartment-house told me that the income he derives from rentals just barely covers the necessary repairs inside of the house, leaving no money available for exterior repairs or even for landscaping. Therefore, deterio-

ration of older properties is a common sight. However, government plans call for 2.8 million to 3 million flats to be renovated or newly built by 1990. In the larger cities, such as Dresden, where I spent considerable time, one sees modern concrete apartment blocks standing side-by-side with older deteriorating ones.

Overall, life in the GDR is not quite the same as most people in Western Europe or the United States envision. Few in the Western world realize how far East Germany has come in the 26 years of its existence as a separate nation. Unlike its West German counterpart, the GDR is blessed with few natural resources other than the skill and energy of its 17 million industrious citizens.

Despite the meagre provisions she started out with — and what little industry the eastern part of the old Reich had was taken away by the Russians in a “reverse Marshall Plan” — the GDR has risen from nowhere to become the ninth largest industrial power in the world. It is an indispensable, and perhaps *the* single most important, element in the Soviet Union’s entire East bloc confederation.

Life in East Germany may, by our “capitalistic” standards, be dull, but it is not intolerable. The people work hard but on the other hand they seem to be able to relax far better than their brothers on the other side of the Iron Curtain. They take their time and are generally not in as much of a rat-race as West Europeans. And opportunities for conversations are generally not neglected.

Western visitors generally are embarrassed by the political slogans plastered everywhere on walls and billboards in every East German city which repetitiously proclaim that “Socialism will be victorious” or that “Socialism gives life goal and purpose.”

On the other hand, those in the West — if they are honest — must also ask themselves whether their own forms of political and social organization are providing the answers to the plethora of problems which beset human society. □

Will Australia Go Nuclear?

TIMOR CRISIS SHAKES CANBERRA

by Don Abraham

SYDNEY: The outbreak of civil war in Portuguese Timor — which is right on Australia's virtually defenceless northern doorstep — could have serious consequences for both this country and Indonesia.

Ever since the Whitlam Labour government first came to power in 1972, Australia's defence policy has been based on the assumption that there will be no military threat to peace in Australia's region for at least the next 10 to 15 years. However, the fierce fighting and bloodshed in Timor — only 435 miles to the north of Darwin and geographically part of the highly sensitive Indonesian archipelago — has exposed the incredible naïveté on which the government's defence policy has been based.

For whatever the outcome of the Timorese revolution, the rationale for the government's defence policy has been forever destroyed. Timor has effectively demonstrated just how quickly war, or the threat of war, can come to Australia's own doorstep.

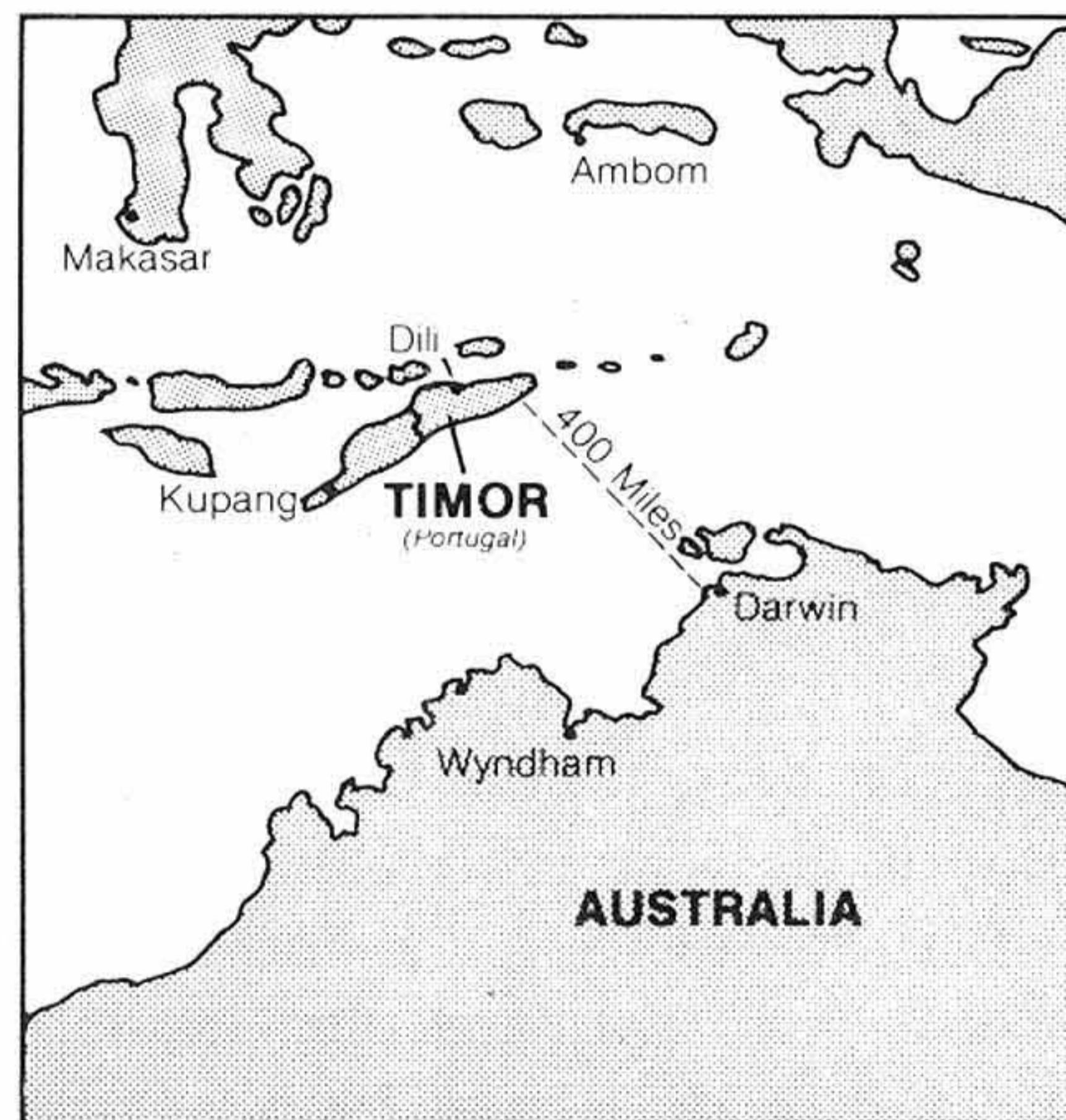
The fighting in Portuguese Timor involves three political factions — the Timor Democratic Union (UDT) which favours independence and continued links with Portugal, the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor (Fretilin) which wants total independence, and the Apodeti which is in favour of joining Indonesia.

The fighting began following the staging of a coup by the UDT on August 11. It was quickly followed by widespread killing and destruction. Within the first ten days hundreds of people were either killed or wounded while hundreds of others were forced to seek refuge outside the colony. By August 22 the Portuguese admitted they had lost control

of the situation and called for international assistance in helping refugees to escape.

Australia immediately sent ships — including two destroyers, H.M.A.S. Vampire and H.M.A.S. Vendetta — to Darwin on standby in case they were needed.

Reports from Lisbon, Portugal, indicated that fighting in East Timor has been very intense, with



mortar shells raining down on the capital, Dili. The warring political parties have also reportedly kept up a continual cross-fire in the city's streets.

Will Indonesia Intervene?

Whatever the outcome, the fighting has serious implications for both Australia and Indonesia.

First there is a strong possibility of direct Indonesian military intervention in East Timor. Portugal shares the island of Timor with Indonesia. The Indonesian government has consistently warned that while it does not want to interfere in the internal affairs of another country, it also cannot remain indifferent to what happens in Portuguese Timor.

Trouble Brewing on Another Doorstep

As serious as the Timor crisis is from Australia's point of view, it is only one of several serious problems looming on the Australian horizon.

Papua New Guinea — the world's newest nation following the granting of independence by Australia on September 16 — continues to live under the threat of multiple secessions. The most serious challenge comes from the copper-rich island of Bougainville, but splinter groups in other areas also threaten the political stability of the young nation.

If Papua New Guinea does experience a lengthy period of bitter factional fighting, it could lead to a crisis of first-class concern for Australia.

The ideological struggle between the Soviet Union and China for influence in Asian affairs could spill over into Papua New Guinea. The Russians in particular are likely to try to exploit any breakdown in relations between Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Still other national security problems are looming for Australia.

The imminent demise of the near defunct SEATO, Japan's doubts over the reliability of America's remaining defence commitments in Asia, and Russia's growing presence in the western and northern approaches to the Indian Ocean, all carry an air of foreboding for Australia.

While SEATO's critics might argue that the treaty is an anachronism, and that Asia will be better off without it, its passing could nevertheless have a serious psychological impact on countries such as Thailand and the Philippines.

A Call for a Nuclear Australia

While it is still too early to gauge the specific long-term effects of these developments on the political and military status of Southeast Asia, it is not difficult to see where they could lead.

It is against this unsettled and unpredictable background that the

former chairman of Australia's Atomic Energy Commission, Sir Philip Baxter, has called on the Australian government to advance its nuclear technology to the pre-weapons manufacturing stage.

Sir Philip said that those Australians who believed that the country would not be threatened militarily for at least another ten years were living in a fools' paradise. Warning Australians not to assume that Japan did not already have an atomic bomb of her own, Sir Philip said that he shuddered every time a government minister told foreign countries that Australia, with a population of only 13 million, had untold wealth in natural resources.

"The minister is issuing an open invitation for us to be attacked," he said.

Sir Philip suggested that if Australia did decide to produce the bomb within three or four years, for an investment of several hundred million dollars she could develop tactical nuclear weapons that could be carried by her F-111 aircraft. He also stated that to be effective the bombs would need to be about twice the strength of those that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Other calls have been made for Australia to look to its defences. Brigadier Ted Serong who acted for many years as an adviser to the South Vietnamese and U.S. High Commands, has gone so far as to call the run-down that has taken place in Australian defences "treason." He warned Australians that if they did not reverse the trend of recent years and start spending more on defence — and less on enormously costly social reform programmes — they would have to accept the consequences. "Without an effective defence force," he stressed, "foreign policy is no more than empty words; the vapouring of fools; or knaves."

The Labour government is committed to the defence concept of a "Fortress Ausualia." Australia's defences start and end at its own shores. But critics point out that the concept can't work if the fortress does not have any walls. □



Worldwatch

by Gene H. Hogberg

Sexual Revolution's Bitter Fruits

The tempest-in-a-teapot stirred up by Betty Ford, America's First Lady, when she said she "wouldn't be surprised" if her 18-year-old daughter Susan admitted to an affair, only underscores the mass transformation in moral values in the past two to three decades.

Within this time span, pornography has blossomed from a peek-a-boo, pin-up magazine subculture into a multimillion-pound industry whose standard-bearer girlie magazines far exceed many conventional magazines in both circulation and advertising revenue. "Adult" book stores, selling everything imaginable to arouse every conceivable prurient interest, abound in nearly every city.

Not to be outdone, the film industry has moved so far beyond Clark Gable's first "damn" as to be almost unrecognizable. The distinctions between 'U', 'A' and 'X' certificates continually narrows, and 'X' films flourish in response to the liberalistic moral climate.

During this same general time frame, lost virginity finally caught up with the hypocritical double standard. A recent poll of 100,000 women conducted in the U.S.A. by *Redbook* magazine, a leading women's journal, reveals that 90% of middle-class women surveyed under the age of 25 had engaged in premarital sex. The number of people who consider preuptial relations wrong falls with every survey. The figure stands at 48%, according to a 1973 Gallup Poll, — four years previously, two thirds of those polled disapproved. And recent surveys show that *married* women are also having more affairs than ever before, some estimates running as high as 40%.

Acceptance of homosexuality as an "alternate life-style" is the latest consequence of the sexual revolution. Barriers "discriminating" against homosexuality in government, business and even the military are falling. Anti-sodomy laws are being stricken from the statute books by lawyers defending the Gay Liberation movement.

Divorce and its tragic impact on the family continues its steady rise, as in both Britain and the U.S.A. the laws are changed to make divorce proceedings less painful and less time-consuming.

Overall, the fruits of the sexual revolution have not been good. Only a minority, it seems, have known how to rightfully use — in marriage — the profuse new knowledge about human sexuality.

In some ways, it is almost embarrassing for a Westerner to visit some of the supposedly "godless, atheistic" societies of communist East Europe, as I have had the opportunity to do recently. In these countries one finds moral standards that should be found in our own countries: no pornography on the newsstands and in the bookstores, no "gay bars," and a much healthier family life in general.

One finds "Christian" morality in the strangest of places. But as for all too many in Britain and America, "they boast that their sin is equal to the sin of Sodom; they are not even ashamed."

CAN SCIENCE EXORCISE THE SUPERNATURAL?

by Charles Hunting

Millions of viewers watched in amazement. A sceptical scientist, incredulous, admitted that he could offer no rational explanation. Apparently without chicanery, optical illusion, or sleight of hand, Uri Geller had caused a fork to bend before the eyes of a captivated audience.

National newspapers and scientific journals were abuzz with this perplexing phenomenon.

Unfortunately, the real significance of the event went unnoticed. For this was no isolated incident. There have been other reports of other individuals who can bend spoons, start or stop watches at will, or even cause objects to fly through the air. What took place could have far reaching implications for all of us.

Metal Bending – No Fantasy

The scientist who appeared on this astounding television programme was John Taylor, professor of applied mathematics at Kings College, London. He had been invited along to do a “hatchet job” on Geller’s metal bending claims.

Writing later about the occasion in the *Observer* magazine, Taylor candidly admitted: “Here was I, a trained physicist, a researcher for the past 20 years in the mysteries of matter and mind, witnessing something that I knew I could not explain to myself – let alone to those millions of viewers.”

Realizing that Uri Geller posed a serious challenge for modern science, Taylor stated: “Either a satisfactory explanation must be given for this phenomenon within the framework of accepted scientific knowledge or science will be found seriously wanting. Since such an explanation appears to be impossible either now or in the future, it is arguable that the Geller phenomenon is incompatible with scientific truth.”

The Scientific Method

Science deals only with that which it can observe, measure, weigh, or otherwise experiment with. The scientific method therefore takes a wholly materialistic approach to the universe.

Speaking of this scientific method as opposed to a supernatural explanation for some phenomena, Taylor commented: “Indeed, nowadays a scientist must take care to avoid being so biased in the other direction that he is over-sceptical. He may well refuse to believe what is staring him in the face because it cannot be fitted into his materialist view of the universe.”

But increasingly, the existence of a non-physical world *is* staring science in the face, even on national television.

In view of these seemingly indisputable occurrences, Taylor said: “For the scientist, it is necessary to prepare for many shocks to one’s scientifically-trained system. One clear observation of Geller in action had an overpowering effect on me. I felt as if the whole framework with which I viewed the world had suddenly been destroyed. I seemed very naked and vulnerable, surrounded by a hostile, incomprehensible universe.”

Yet science *could* have had an unshakeable framework all along if it had not rejected the source which gives understanding of psychic phenomena.

Science Found Wanting?

Taylor wrote: “I am still fighting hard to preserve the scientific understanding of life as the legitimate one. For me, the attempt to explain the Geller phenomenon is foremost in this. The attempt may fail, but now the stakes are higher than they were. Science has evolved so much since a century ago. It *should* be able to give a satisfactory answer. If

not, the scientific method truly will have been found wanting, and could then well suffer a blow from which it might never recover.”

Science needs urgently to face the possibility of a non-physical element in life.

But, given the existence of a non-physical world, just what *is* the source of power that metal-benders and persons possessed of *psychic* powers employ?

More important, is there anything *harmful* in these demonstrations or in the use of psychic powers?

Said Dr. Taylor: “... anyone suspecting metal-bending powers of being inherently evil may be reassured. From direct observation I can say that there is absolutely no evidence of the ability in itself being evil”. Nevertheless, metal-benders have little conception of the spiritual powers they are toying with – powers which, when manifested in other areas of human activity, can become terrifyingly destructive.

It is neither sensible nor safe to play or experiment with the supernatural. Many individual lives have been destroyed by dabbling in “harmless” non-physical phenomena. Just a little curiosity about the spirit world has led to hideously mind-bending experiences.

Guard Your Mind

If you are a parent who is allowing your child to play with spiritualist toys, watch televised psychic phenomena, or even dabble with actual spoon-bending, you need to realize that you could be destroying your child’s chance to retain a sound mind. The human mind, especially the younger more pliable child’s mind, is far too delicate an instrument to be exposed to these kinds of influences.

Psychic phenomena are going to increase as more and more people begin to show curiosity in the unseen world. But don’t YOU take chances with the most precious possession you have – your mind!

* * *

For further information, write for our free booklet, “The Occult Explosion”

The Ecology of Human Relations

by David Ord

A fascinating story is told by John Storer in *The Web of Life* about the destruction of an entire forest in the White River region of Colorado.

It started with a heavy wind that blew down several groups of Englemann spruce trees. Snapping many of the roots, but leaving enough in the ground to keep the trees alive, it weakened the flow of sap.

The underside of each tree, buried in a mat of crushed branches and covered by snow, was protected from woodpeckers. Beetles, safely hidden from their chief enemy, gained entrance to the weakened trees and found a paradise in which to work.

The fallen trees perished under the onslaught of the beetles. Multiplying rapidly, they were soon searching for more food than the dead trees could provide. So now they attacked the healthy forest.

The potent sap of these trees drove out the first attackers, but millions more followed. They punctured the bark, weakening the sap flow, until later hordes gained easy entrance. By now the swarms of beetles had vastly outgrown the appetites of the woodpeckers.

It took only a few years for four thousand million board feet of timber, covering many acres, to stand rotting where it died.

A Web of Life

What began as a routine forest storm led to havoc on a monumental scale. Had this one event not interrupted the cycle of forest life, the forest might still have been there today.

The story of the forest relates to our existence on this planet. We survive as part of an integrated web of life. Life is a whole, and each life-form is interdependent, functioning according to complex laws.

Ecologists are increasingly being made aware of how the violation of any one of the laws of nature can have a devastating effect on the earth's thin mantle of life.

Ecologist Barry Commoner, in *Science and Survival*, warns: "In the biosphere the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts; animals which absorb one insecticide may become more sensitive to the damaging effects of a second one. Because of such amplifications, a small intrusion in one place in the environment may trigger a huge response elsewhere in the system. Often an amplification feeds on itself until the entire living system is engulfed by catastrophe."

A poignant illustration of how this takes place was provided earlier this year when eminent French oceanographer Jacques Cousteau fired a thunderous broadside at the 138-nation Law of the Sea conference in Geneva.

Cousteau estimated that the vitality of the oceans had decreased between 30 and 50 per cent in the last 25 years. He warned that the sea, which produces the bulk of the oxygen humans need to survive, could be dead in less than 50 years! If the sea dies, the whole human race perishes with it. Said Cousteau: "We are talking about the survival of our children — not our grandchildren — our children."

Humans tend to view their actions as isolated from the rest of the planet. The pollution of the sea or the atmosphere — man's intrusion into the complex web of life in a myriad of small ways every day — it all seems insignificant when viewed apart from the whole. Take the aerosol can. What possible harm could be done by the simple use of a hair spray or spray-on deodorant?

Yet now scientists are warning that the ever-popular aerosol may be threatening the upper atmosphere. On a larger scale, we treat our planet as if it made no difference what we belch from our chimneys or flush into our rivers.

But not only is the biosphere an integrated whole regulated by orderly laws. *Successful living* is also the result of following a package of laws which regulate human relationships, our homes and families, our jobs or businesses, our mental and physical health, indeed our entire happiness.

Life a Supermarket?

Millions approach life like the housewife who trundles her trolley down the brightly-lit aisles of the supermarket. As she goes, she selects colourfully-wrapped products from a dazzling array of foodstuffs.

By the time she reaches the check-out point, her shopping cart is loaded with an entirely different variety of goods from the one at the next counter.

It's a familiar scene — a part of everyday life here in the West. Western society has become one giant supermarket. And the supermarket approach permeates the entirety of human activity in the industrialized nations. We subject our bodies to whatever tastes good or satisfies our cravings — when even the government warn us that we are harming our health. We have little concern for what enters our minds via the media, never stopping to consider that just as we are what we eat, our minds are what we take into them.

We approach life as if our actions, whether beneficial or harmful, will somehow "work out". We rarely stop to consider that there might be a right and a wrong way to do things, that there might be a *formula* for success.

Success No Accident

We can understand that the world about us is governed by laws. When those laws are flouted, tampered with, or even when one seemingly minor law is overlooked, disaster

may result. How many lives have been lost by the design of an aircraft which violated laws, until the violation was discovered and rectified?

Why can't we understand that human life is no different? We conduct ourselves as if any recipe — almost any approach to life imaginable — will result in success. We rely on our individual *opinions* or preferences when it comes to how to live. The concept of absolutes — of cause and effect — of a right and a wrong way — is rarely evidenced in how we function as members of the human race.

We are told in the Book of books, that if you break *one* law that regulates successful living, it's just as though you broke every law.

This principle is demonstrated a myriad times every day even in life's trivialities. You pick up a telephone and dial a number. The voice on the other end doesn't sound familiar. You might have dialled four out of five numbers correctly, but you got one wrong. You didn't get the person you wanted.

Take the housewife who leaves one vital ingredient out of a recipe. Her dessert for a special evening turns out a failure. The dinner party, in her mind, is ruined.

Sometimes the consequences are more serious. In a hospital laboratory, the omission of just one chemical from a formula can have fatal repercussions.

There is a way of life that will bring the right results. However most have overlooked that way.

Survival at Stake

Maurice Strong, Executive Director of the United Nations Environmental Programme, explained on a BBC television interview earlier this year that "all the evidence of a physical world, all the evidence of science, is now confronting us with the fact that there is a tremendous convergence between the moral and physical values, that these concepts of morality, of caring, sharing, of brotherhood, of stewardship, are no longer just to be seen as vague and pious ideals. They are preconditions for survival."

Strong was asked by the BBC interviewer: "You've spoken of values. I wonder what Christ would have to say about our crisis if he were in the world now."

His reply may come as a surprise. "That's a very interesting question. I suppose I would have to say in my view, if Christ were here today he probably would say very much to us what he said to the people of his day because on a smaller scale, the same greed, the same preoccupation with selfish interests, prevailed then. The real question is what would we say. How would we respond? Would we respond by crucifying him?"

Christ came talking about a way to live.

It was hard for people to understand that Christ wasn't trying to introduce some new religious sect. Maurice Strong explained that neither was *he* talking about a brand of religion — "vague and pious ideals." He was talking about a *mode of living*, but he used the more urgent terminology "preconditions for survival."

Because *Plain Truth* uses the Bible as a source-book, many have assumed that it carries a message of religious sectarianism. But nothing could be further from the truth!

Christ came to reveal a way to live that transcends petty religious arguments — a format for happiness and success that a world poised on the brink of destruction needs desperately as never before!

That is the message *Plain Truth* strives to proclaim.

The Way of GIVE

Christ referred to Himself as "the Way." The book of Acts refers constantly to "that Way". There is a broad, supermarket approach to life which most are following, and there is the pattern of life that brings success and happiness.

What is this way that will cause every right result?

Simply put, it is the way of giving. The world has followed the way of getting, taking, greed, selfishness. This, Maurice Strong explained, is the *cause* of our troubles. The solution, nationally, globally, as well as

individually, is to change to the opposite way. It is the way of respect for fellow man, of concern for others, as well as honour and respect toward the Creator. It is outlined succinctly in the Ten Commandments.

One thing every one of us has to admit. If the whole of society practised the Ten Commandments — if there were a respect for human life because of a recognition of its origin, if there were no lying, cheating or stealing, if there were no unfaithfulness — the world would be a safe and pleasant place in which to live.

The Ten Commandments outline a pattern of life that would produce only good. Yet we have this resistance toward them. But isn't it time we admit that the random way we have been running this world, diametrically opposite to the concepts embodied in the Ten Commandments in so many cases, has brought only continual failure and suffering to humanity?

Time For a Change

The biosphere is gasping for breath. We have spurned the very principles which cause it to operate, bringing ourselves to within a generation of extinction.

Our society is crime-ridden, filled with a veritable mountain of human abuse and injustice. We have sown the wind of unconcern for fellow man, and we are reaping the whirlwind.

Individually, we are wracked with ill-health, phobias, emotional instability, despondency and unhappiness, because we have never understood that it is the way we conduct life that *causes* these things to happen.

Can we, in this generation which faces the question of human survival, when finally the lesson of our lawlessness is being written in human and planetary failure, still yet turn from our suicidal plunge and find the way to peace, to prosperity, to success?

You can, as an individual. Begin by writing for the *free* publication, *The Ten Commandments*, made available in the public interest. Request a copy today. □



Relaxing Your Way to BETTER HEALTH

by Carole Ritter

The term "psychosomatic illness" conjures up visions of fleeting aches and pains the doctor can't diagnose, people who go sick on Monday morning, and the hypochondriac who had his tombstone inscribed, "I told you I was sick."

But contrary to this popular image, a psychosomatic illness is *not* "all in your head." In fact, you can die just as dead from a psychosomatic illness as the other kind. And in reality, the "other kind" of illness may be extremely rare.

Psychosomatic (or as one author termed it, "emotionally induced") illness probably accounts for over 50% of all cases doctors see. Some estimate that as much as 90% of all illness is precipitated by unhealthy emotions. So, far from being a figment of some hypochondriac's imagination, emotionally induced illness is something we all suffer from at one time or another.

Thousands of years ago King Solomon wrote that "a broken spirit dries up the bones." Even he recognized the link between what goes on in our heads and the condition of our bodies.

"Gut Feelings"

Research scientists have discovered that *stress* (defined as wear and tear on the body produced by any activity) *can be produced by feelings and emotions.*

SUBJECT at Biofeedback Research Institute, Los Angeles, learning to control brain waves, muscle tension, body temperature, and galvanic skin response (emotional level) using biofeedback training instruments.

Courtesy Biofeedback Research Institute

How does this happen? Experiments have shown that every emotion automatically produces certain *physical* changes in our bodies.

One dramatic example of this was a man who had a surgical opening made in his stomach following an accident. This made it possible for doctors to observe the changes that occurred under different circumstances. When he was upset, "his stomach became red and engorged, and soon the folds were thick and turgid. Acid production accelerated sharply and vigorous contractions began" (*Effective Psychology for Managers*, Mortimer Feinberg, p. 92).

How do such dramatic changes come about? Here is how scientists explain it: "Whenever you are in a situation of threat, your body prepares to flee or to fight. In moments of peril everything gets into the act. First, messages from your eyes or ears get carried to the pituitary gland located at the base of the brain. [It] secretes a substance known as ACTH into the bloodstream. ACTH triggers the adrenal glands, located above the kidneys, which further secrete... cortisone. Then everything within the body pops. The heart beats rapidly. Muscles of the stomach and intestines contract, forcing the blood to circulate faster. Breathing speeds up. You are ready for the enemy" (*ibid.*, p. 91).

If the provocation is minor — if it's not necessary to fight — then the body undergoes this stress for no good reason. You can't punch your boss in the nose for criticizing your work, so you suffer quietly while your stomach ulcerates.

After being battered by enough

negative emotions, the body breaks down at its weakest point and illness results. The list of diseases directly brought on by emotions is seemingly endless. Everything from colds to cancer has been attributed to mentally induced stress. And in between in seriousness are such maladies as arthritis, asthma, fatigue, hay fever, headaches, high cholesterol, heart attacks and circulatory disorders, hypertension, hives, insomnia, and ulcers.

Your mind can make you ill. But the reverse is also true. As Solomon wrote: "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine," and "A tranquil mind gives life to the flesh."

Just as negative emotions can wear the body down, positive feelings can build it up. And we now know that people have a lot more control over the way their bodies function than was previously thought possible.

Mind Over Matter?

The link between mind and body has been intensively explored in recent years. One resulting field of study is called *biofeedback*, which has given us new insights into how the human body functions.

But just what is biofeedback? Dr. Marvin Karllins explains it this way: "It is simply a particular kind of feedback — feedback from different parts of our body: the brain, the heart, the circulatory system, the different muscle groups and so on. Biofeedback training is the procedure that allows us to tune into our bodily functions, and, eventually, to control them" (*Biofeedback*, Karllins and Andrews, p. 24).

How does it work? "In a typical biofeedback training session a subject is given this feedback by hooking up with equipment that can amplify one or a number of his body signals and translate them into readily observable signals: a flashing light, the movement of a needle, a steady tone, the squiggle of a pen. Once a person can 'see' his heartbeats or 'hear' his brain waves, he has the information he needs to begin controlling them" (*ibid.*, p. 24-25).

Before biofeedback, it was believed that the autonomic nervous system (controlling breathing, heartbeat, and other automatic functions) couldn't be consciously controlled. But research has proven this wrong.

Patients have taught themselves to lower their blood pressure, increase poor circulation to their extremities, prevent migraine headaches, and overcome insomnia through experimental training.

In other words, they have cured themselves of various conditions formerly thought beyond their control.

But do-it-yourself cures are nothing really new. They've been happening for years. Before modern pharmacology had developed to its present level, doctors relied heavily on placebos, harmless sugar pills. They dispensed these to treat various ailments for which they had no specifically effective medicine. Just like the natives who trusted their local jungle witch doctor, these "civilized" patients got satisfactory relief over 50% of the time!

The placebos' healing effect was not due to some mystical faith in the doctor or even willpower. Rather the patients were exercising a certain amount of voluntary mental control over their health. Placebos seemed to reinforce a positive attitude in the patient that he would recover quickly. This emotion or feeling of well-being in turn stimulated the body to produce hormones conducive to repairing disease-caused damage.

Life, Liberty and Longevity

How can we translate these findings into practical ways to prolong life and avoid illness?

The book of Proverbs shows that what doctors and scientists refer to as a "positive mental attitude" can go a long way toward making one's life long and pleasant (see accompanying box). This isn't just an ancient philosopher's opinion, either. Dr. Hans Selye, Director of the Institute of Experimental Medicine and Surgery at the University of

Montreal and author of a number of books on stress, said virtually the same thing in the following quotation:

"There exists a close relationship between work, stress and aging. Aging results from the sum of all the stresses to which the body has been exposed during a lifetime. Each period of stress — especially if it derives from frustrating, unsuccessful struggles — leaves some irreversible chemical scars, which accumulate to constitute the signs of tissue aging. But *successful activity, no matter how intense, leaves you with comparatively few such scars.* On the contrary, it provides you with the exhilarating feeling of youthful strength, even at a very advanced age. Work wears you out mainly through the frustration of failure. Many of the eminent among the hard workers in almost any field have lived a long life . . . well into their seventies, eighties or even late nineties. They lived . . . a life of constant leisure by always doing what they like to do" (*Stress Without Distress*, Dr. Hans Selye, p. 96).

Notice how Dr. Selye's words parallel the advice of King Solomon in the book of Ecclesiastes: "Go, eat your bread with enjoyment, and drink your wine with a merry heart. . . . Let your garments be always white; let not oil be lacking on your head. Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life . . . because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might . . ."

But very few of us find ourselves doing something we really enjoy "with our might." Dr. Selye agrees and adds that: "Few people belong to this group of the creative elite; admittedly, their success in meeting the challenge of stress cannot serve as a basis for a general code of behavior. But you can live long and happily by working hard along more modest lines if you have found the proper job and are reasonably successful at it" (*Stress Without Distress*, pp. 96-97).

Health and Hope

Occupying one's life with enjoyable activities is important, but in order to do so one has to be in control of his life. If he isn't, trouble is ahead in the form of depression and resulting disease.

Dr. Martin E. P. Seligman stated, "I believe that depression, the common cold of psychopathology, is really the belief in one's own helplessness. In psychological post-mortems of 26 sudden, unexpected deaths among Eastman Kodak employees, depression was the dominant state of mind. When these depressed persons became anxious or angry, they had heart attacks" (*Catholic Digest*, December 1974, pp. 95-96).

Dr. Seligman emphasized the beneficial effects of learning to *hope*, versus the helplessness caused by the feeling of loss of control over one's life: "I do not know what physiological mechanism is at work, but mounting evidence indicates that being placed in a helpless situation and reacting with passivity increases the risk of death, for human beings as well as animals" (*Psychology Today*, May 1974, p. 80).

Here is where belief — faith and hope — enter the picture. If a person can make scriptures like Romans 8:28-31 ("We know that all things work together for good to them that love God. . . . If God be for us, who can be against us?") a part of his life, he will be much less likely to become depressed, ill, or to die from the effects of hopelessness.

Scripture is full of information on how to maintain a hopeful, happy, tranquil mind. One of the best summaries is found in Philippians 4:4-8: ". . . Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything . . . let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (RSV). □

Tension— Solomon's Remedy

The book of Proverbs has a lot to say about the connection between emotions and health. Below are excerpts from Proverbs on this subject, quoted from the Revised Standard Version.

- My son . . . let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare will they give you (3:1-2).
- Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones (3:7-8).
- The fear of the Lord prolongs life, but the years of the wicked will be short (10:27).
- A man who is kind benefits himself, but a cruel man hurts himself (11:17).
- There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing (12:18).
- Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad (12:25).
- Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life (13:12).
- A tranquil mind gives life to the flesh, but passion (KJV: envy) makes the bones rot (14:30).
- A gentle tongue is a tree of life; but perverseness in it breaks the spirit (15:4).
- A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken (15:13).
- All the days of the afflicted are evil, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast (15:15).
- Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fatted ox and hatred with it (15:17).
- The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and good news refreshes the bones (15:30).
- Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body (16:24).
- Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife (17:1).
- A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones (17:22).
- A man's spirit will endure sickness; but a broken spirit who can bear? (18:14).
- A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls (25:28).

The Holmes Stress Scale

Psychiatrist Thomas H. Holmes of America's University of Washington School of Medicine has developed a scale to measure the relative stress induced by various changes in a person's life. The amount of stress is measured on a point scale of 200 "life-change units." Studies by Dr. Holmes and his associates show that if you accumulate more than 200 units in a single year your life has probably been disrupted enough to make you vulnerable to illness.

Event	Scale of Impact
Death of spouse	100
Divorce	73
Marital separation	65
Gaol term	63
Death of close family member	63
Personal injury or illness	53
Marriage	50
Fired at work	47
Marital reconciliation	45
Retirement	45
Change in health of family member	44
Pregnancy	40
Sex difficulties	39
Gain of new family member	39
Business readjustment	39
Change in financial state	38
Death of close friend	37
Change to different line of work	36
Change in number of arguments with spouse	35
Major mortgage or loan commitment	31
Foreclosure of mortgage or loan	30
Change in responsibilities at work	29
Son or daughter leaving home	29
Trouble with in-laws	29
Outstanding personal achievement	28
Wife begins or stops work	26
Begin or end school	26
Change in living conditions	25
Revision of personal habits	24
Trouble with boss	23
Change in work hours or conditions	20
Change in residence	20
Change in schools	20
Change in recreation	19
Change in church activities	19
Change in social activities	18
Minor mortgage or loan commitment	17
Change in sleeping habits	16
Change in number of family get-togethers	15
Change in eating habits	15
Holiday	13
Christmas	12
Minor infringement of the law	11

The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL...

The Missing Dimension in Knowledge

by Herbert W. Armstrong

HOW could the great God, who is spirit, reproduce Himself out of PHYSICAL MATTER? And what accounts for the vast superiority of human MIND over animal brain?

Part VII

FEW PEOPLE indeed know *what* a human being really *IS*. Few know *HOW* we came to be here on the earth, *WHETHER* we were put here for a *PURPOSE*, *WHERE* we are going, or *WHAT* is the *WAY*!

In preceding installments I have shown what caused God to create *MAN* and put him here on the earth, the true *PURPOSE* for human life, the breath-taking *AWESOME* human potential, and *HOW* God planned to actually *REPRODUCE HIMSELF* by a reproductive process out of earthly material substance.

Even a human manufacturer sends along with the instrument or device he manufactures an *INSTRUCTION BOOKLET* describing what his product is intended to do, with full directions for accomplishing its purpose. The most perfect mechanism ever designed and made is the marvelous mind and body that is *MAN*. It is only natural that our Maker did send along His *INSTRUCTION BOOK* — revealing for our good what we *ARE*, *WHY* we are, where we are going, and what is *the way*. Yet man has made this the most *MISUNDERSTOOD*, *MISINTERPRETED* and *MALIGNED* book that ever came into human hands.

Nevertheless, the *MISSING DIMENSION IN KNOWLEDGE* is all there revealed. The incredible *HUMAN POTENTIAL* is there revealed and made plain — if *MAN* would only read it — and *BELIEVE WHAT IT SAYS*!

That is our source book. It covers pre-history, history, instruction for the present, and prophecy revealing the future.

It reveals, as we have shown in

preceding installments, that originally from eternity, there existed *GOD* and with Him there coexisted, also from eternity, “*THE WORD*,” a second *PERSON* who also is *God*. *God* created all things by and through the coexisting *SPIRIT BEING* called “*THE WORD*” (John 1:1-4).

In Genesis 1:1, the Hebrew word which Moses wrote, translated “*God*,” is *Elohim*, a uniplural name meaning *ONE GOD* who is composed of *more than one person*. In other words, a *divine FAMILY*, of which the *GOD* mentioned in John 1:1 is *HEAD*.

We have seen how the Bible reveals that *God* first created angels — beings composed of spirit, though lesser beings than *God*, and lacking in creative power.

Next, *God* created — brought into existence — the physical universe, including the earth. At earth’s creation, a third of the angels were placed here. They were put under rule of the *GOVERNMENT OF GOD*, administered by the great archangel Lucifer, a cherub. Under the *GOVERNMENT OF GOD* the earth was filled with wonderful *PEACE*, *HAPPINESS* and *JOY*. But ultimately Lucifer led his angels into rebellion. The *GOVERNMENT OF GOD* was rejected, no longer enforced. The earth as a result became waste and empty, in confusion and utter darkness.

Then in six days *God* renewed the face of the earth. During this “creation week” of Genesis 1, *God* formed first the flora — plant life. In plant life there was simple reproduction, without consciousness — no brain.

Next *God* created the fauna — animal life on earth, in which He placed *BRAIN*, with a limited consciousness, yet without the thinking, reasoning, decision-making process, and without ethical, moral or spiritual capabilities.

Finally came the creation of *MAN* — created in *God’s* own image and likeness — [form and shape] — but composed of physical *MATTER* from the earth. *MAN*, to be born ultimately into the very *GOD FAMILY*, was designed to have *GODLY*-type *MIND* — ability to think, to reason, to make choices and decisions, capable of forming ethical, moral and spiritual attitudes.

God’s *PURPOSE* in creating man is to reproduce Himself — with such perfect spiritual *CHARACTER* as *ONLY GOD* possesses — who *WILL NOT* and therefore *CANNOT* ever *SIN* (I John 3:9).

Such perfect spiritual and holy character cannot be created by fiat. It must be *developed*, and that requires *TIME* and *EXPERIENCE*.

Such character is the ability in a single entity to come to comprehend and distinguish the true values from the false, the right way from the wrong, to choose the right and reject the wrong, and, with power of *WILL*, to *DO* the right and resist the evil.

Animals are equipped with *BRAIN* and instinct. But they do not have power to understand and choose moral and spiritual values or to develop perfect spiritual *CHARACTER*. Animals have *BRAIN*, but no intellect — instinct, but no ability to develop *HOLY* and *GODLY* *CHARACTER*. And that pictures the transcen-

dental DIFFERENCE between animal BRAIN and human MIND.

But WHAT CAUSES that vast difference?

There is virtually no difference in design, shape, and construction between animal brain and human brain. The brains of elephants, whales, and dolphins are larger than human brain, and the chimp's brain is slightly smaller. Qualitatively the human brain may be very slightly superior, but not enough to remotely account for the difference in output.

What, then, can account for the vast difference? Science cannot adequately answer. One scientist, earning his Ph.D. in the new science of brain research, concluded that, of necessity, there has to be some non-physical component in human brain that does not exist in animal brain. But most scientists will not admit the possibility of the existence of the nonphysical.

What other explanation is there? Actually, outside of the very slight degree of physical superiority of human brain, science has NO explanation, due to unwillingness to concede even the possibility of the spiritual.

When man refuses to admit even the very existence of his own Maker, he shuts out of his mind vast oceans of basic true knowledge, fact, and UNDERSTANDING. When he substitutes FABLE for truth, he is, of all men, MOST IGNORANT, though he professes himself to be wise.

When man, in the name of science, denies his Maker, he blinds his mind to what he is, why he is, where he is going, and what is THE WAY! No wonder this world is filled with evils! There has to be a CAUSE for every effect!

But when our minds are opened to the knowledge of our GOD and His purposes, then we have glorious access to the vast MISSING DIMENSION OF KNOWLEDGE: the very knowledge that God is the divine FAMILY — that God is REPRODUCING HIMSELF — that He is using MATTER in the process, and that He opens our understanding to vast vistas of new knowledge.

So now CONSIDER. God is composed of SPIRIT. God is CREATOR, DESIGNER, RULER, EDUCATOR. God has SUPREME MIND. He IS the PERFECT HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS CHARACTER!

But He is using material substance from this physical earth with which to REPRODUCE HIMSELF. Out of physical EARTH He has formed MAN in God's own image and likeness (form and shape).

But if man is to BECOME God, in the process of God reproducing Himself, then the CHARACTER that is to be built in us MUST emanate from God — and the spirit LIFE that is to be ours also must emanate from GOD.

In other words, God has had to plan to *bridge the gap* between MATTER (of which MAN is now wholly composed) and SPIRIT (which God now is, and man must become). Matter is NOT spirit — cannot be converted into spirit. HOW, then, can God change mortal material MAN into immortal, spirit-composed GOD?

Man is composed wholly of MATTER. God says: "And the ETERNAL God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7). MAN was made out of the dust of the ground. He receives his temporary human life from air, breathed in and out of his nostrils. His *life* is in the blood (Gen. 9:4). But the life-blood is oxidized by breathing air, even as petrol in the carburetor of an automobile. Therefore breath is the "breath of life" even as the life is in the blood.

Notice carefully that MAN, made wholly of matter, BECAME a *living soul* as soon as the BREATH gave him his temporary physical life. The scripture does NOT say "immortal" soul. Man does not *have* an "immortal" soul. He IS a soul as soon as physical LIFE enters him.

The Hebrew word for "soul" is *nephesh*. In Genesis 1:20-24, animals are called *nephesh* three times — only the translators translated the Hebrew word there "*creature*." Animals have the same temporary

physio-chemical existence as man. Both die the same death (Eccl. 3:19-20).

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4). Again, God's Word says: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18:20). Adam was a soul, and God said to him, in regard to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, "... in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:17). But Satan denied this, and Adam and Eve believed Satan, as most of humanity has ever since.

So let us UNDERSTAND! Man is FLESH and BLOOD — composed wholly of MATTER — and that living matter IS a living soul. The SOUL is composed of physical MATTER, not spirit.

Now I have explained that human brain is almost identical to animal brain. But man was made in the form and shape of God, to have a special relationship with God — to have the potential of being born into the FAMILY of God. And God is a SPIRIT (John 4:24).

To make it possible to *bridge the gap* — or to make the transition from MAN, composed wholly of MATTER, into SPIRIT beings in God's kingdom, then to be composed wholly of spirit, and at the same time to give MAN a MIND like God's — God put a *spirit* in each human.

In Job 32:8, we read, "There is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding."

This is a great TRUTH, understood by but very few.

I call this spirit the HUMAN spirit, for it is IN each human, even though it is SPIRIT ESSENCE and not matter. It is NOT a spirit *person* or being. It is not the MAN, but spirit essence IN the man. It is NOT a *soul* — the physical human is a soul. The human spirit imparts the power of INTELLECT to the human brain. The human spirit does not supply human LIFE — the human LIFE is in the physical BLOOD, oxidized by the BREATH of life.

It is that nonphysical component in the human brain that is NOT in the brain of animals. It is the ingre-

dient that makes possible the transition from human to divine, *without* changing matter *into* spirit, at the time of resurrection. That I will explain a little later.

Let me make clear a few essential points about this spirit in man. It is spirit essence, just as in matter air is essence, and so is water. This human spirit cannot see. The physical BRAIN sees, through the eyes. The human spirit *IN* a person cannot hear. The brain hears through the ears. This human spirit cannot think. The brain thinks — although the spirit imparts the power to think, whereas brute animal brains without such spirit cannot.

A scripture often used by those believing in an “immortal soul” explains this point. In I Corinthians 2, the apostle Paul is explaining to the Corinthians that he did not come to them using hard to understand speech as many do to exalt their own vanity. He came to them with plain and simple speech, in humility. And yet none of the princes — the elite, the highly educated, the rulers — of this world could understand.

WHY couldn't the more highly learned understand? Because he was preaching Christ's message of the kingdom of God. This is *spiritual* knowledge. This kind of knowledge cannot be seen by the physical eye, nor heard with the physical ear. Spiritual knowledge cannot enter the human mind by natural means — for spirit cannot be seen, heard, felt, tasted or smelled.

Then he explains that in this manner (verse 11) no MAN could have the knowledge a man possesses, except by “the spirit of man which is in him.” The brute animal has a brain virtually identical to human brain — and some even larger. But their brain cannot KNOW — comprehend — what man knows. Neither could man without the spirit of man which is in him. In other words, this spirit imparts the power of intellect to the human brain.

Yet this human MIND is limited to knowledge of the physical. It cannot KNOW — comprehend — the spiri-

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tual things of God. *WHY?* Because even the human MIND can know, naturally, only what knowledge comes to it through the senses of sight, hearing, smelling, tasting, feeling. A brute animal may see, hear, smell, taste or feel what a man does, and still be unable to utilize what enters his brain in thought or knowledge.

Now the second half of I Corinthians 2:11: “EVEN SO” (in like manner) no man can know — have knowledge of, understand or comprehend — the things of GOD, except by ANOTHER spirit, *the holy spirit of GOD.*

Just as no dumb animal can know the things of man's knowledge, neither could man, by brain alone, except by the spirit of man — the human spirit — that is in man. So also, in the same manner, even a man cannot know — comprehend — the things of God, unless or until he receives *another* spirit — *the holy spirit of GOD.*

Stated still another way, all humans have from birth a spirit called “the spirit of man” which is *IN THEM.* Notice carefully that this spirit is NOT the man. It is something *IN THE MAN.* A man might swallow a small marble. It is then something *in* the man, but it is *not* the man or any part of him as a man. The man was made of the dust of the ground — mortal. This human spirit is not the soul. It is something *IN* the soul which *IS* the physical MAN.

Notice, further, verse 14: “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they

are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

So, from birth, God gives us one spirit, which for lack of a better term I call a human spirit. It gives us MIND power which is not in animal BRAIN. Yet that MIND power is *limited* to knowledge of the physical universe. *WHY?* Because knowledge enters the human mind *ONLY* through the five physical senses.

But notice that God had not completed the creation of MAN at the creation of Adam and Eve. The *physical* creation was completed. They had this “human” spirit at their creation. But now must follow the *spiritual* creation. This required *a second* spirit in man — the HOLY SPIRIT of God.

“And the ETERNAL God formed man of the dust of the ground... and planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the ETERNAL God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil” (Gen. 2:7-9).

Actually and literally, Adam, as yet, was “not all there!” The spirit of man was in him — but not the spirit of God. God offered him freely the fruit of the TREE OF LIFE — which symbolized God's HOLY SPIRIT. Taking of the tree of LIFE would have done two things: (1) opened his MIND to comprehend spiritual knowledge, and (2) imparted within him the GIFT of God's holy spirit, leading to ETERNAL LIFE. But, when God explained to him the KINGDOM OF GOD, Adam disbelieved what God said and disobeyed — SINNED. Then what?

“And the ETERNAL God said... and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: therefore the ETERNAL God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man: and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming

sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life" (Gen. 3:22-24).

Do not forget God's great PURPOSE! Through human man, composed of material substance, God is reproducing Himself — adding to His own holy, righteous, sinless GOD FAMILY. But God is composed of SPIRIT. How does God *bridge the gap* between mortal physical MAN and immortal SPIRIT-composed God?

The *very first* human had made the wrong choice, and by SIN rejected the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. God had driven him out of the garden of Eden and blocked all possible reentry to the tree of life. But of course God anticipated the probability of this. God's PURPOSE must, nevertheless, STAND! But *HOW*?

It now required the "second Adam" — Jesus Christ. He had offered Himself before the world was. But He was not to come, born human for the purpose of death, for about another 4,000 years.

God had marked out a 7,000-year period — the first 6,000 for mankind, *cut off from God* (with few exceptions), to go his own way — to write the lesson in human suffering and anguish of living *contrary* to GOD'S WAY OF LIFE, commanded by THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD — which Adam rejected.

This 6,000 years, with Satan still here, would be followed by a single 1,000 years, during which CHRIST would rule, having qualified to restore THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD on earth. Satan would be totally restrained during the seventh millennium.

During that seventh millennium, the KINGDOM OF GOD — the RULING FAMILY OF GOD — would be established on earth.

Meanwhile, during the first 6,000 years, FEW would be offered opportunity to enter into the *spiritual creation*, which begins with the receiving of the SECOND SPIRIT — that is, the gift of the HOLY SPIRIT of God. Outside of this comparative few, God adopted a "hands-off" policy toward the human race. Abel, Adam's second son, apparently fol-

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lowed God's way, for Christ called him "righteous Abel." Enoch "walked with God." Noah found favor with God — but apparently that was all during the first 1,900 years or so.

After the flood, Abraham, Isaac, Israel, and Joseph lived God's way. Then God called and formed the nation of Israel, but they were offered no spiritual salvation or eternal life — only material and national blessings. God called and used a few prophets. Then Christ came and made spiritual salvation possible for all. Yet only the first comparatively very small spiritual harvest has been called to spiritual salvation during the nearly 2,000 years since Christ.

Human Reproduction the Type of God's Reproducing Himself

Few people realize that human reproduction has a sacred and GOD-PLANE MEANING NOT APPLICABLE TO ANY OTHER KIND OF LIFE.

Human reproduction pictures spiritual salvation — which is actually God the Father reproducing Himself in the GOD FAMILY.

Now see the ASTOUNDING COMPARISON!

MAN, remember, is composed wholly of MATTER from the ground (Gen. 2:7 and 3:19). But HOW can God bridge the gap, in reproducing Himself, of converting a wholly physical man into a wholly spirit-composed member of the GOD FAMILY?

It starts with a spirit (a portion of spirit essence) IN the wholly physical man. Remember, this spirit is NOT the man — only something IN the man. Remember, too, this spirit cannot see, hear, or think. The MAN sees, hears, and thinks through his physical brain and the five senses of

seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling and feeling. The spirit in man imparts the power of PHYSICAL INTELLIGENCE to the physical brain, thus forming human MIND. This spirit acts, among other things, as a COMPUTER, adding to the brain the psychic and intellectual power. Knowledge received in the brain through the eye, ear, and the senses is immediately "programmed" into the spirit computer. All memory is stored in this spirit computer. This "computer" gives the brain *instant recall* of whatever portion of millions of bits of knowledge may be needed in the reasoning process. That is to say that MEMORY is recorded in the human spirit, whether or not it also is recorded in the "gray matter" of BRAIN.

This human spirit also adds to man a spiritual and moral faculty not possessed by animals.

God had made the needed second spirit — the HOLY SPIRIT — available to Adam. But on Adam's rebellion and taking the forbidden fruit, God had driven Adam out and closed all access to the tree of LIFE — symbolical of His holy spirit.

Yet through Christ, a repentant humanity may yet receive God's GIFT of His holy spirit. To Nicodemus Christ said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Of course Nicodemus could not quite understand that. Almost nobody today understands it. Jesus explained, "That which is born of the flesh IS FLESH, and that which is born of the Spirit IS SPIRIT" (John 3:6). Man came from the ground. He IS flesh. Jesus was not talking about another *physical* birth — but about a *spiritual* birth — when man shall BE spirit, no longer composed of matter, but composed wholly of SPIRIT! Yes, LITERALLY! Then he shall have been born of God. God is a spirit (John 4:24).

Now to become human, each of us had to be *begotten* by his human father. Likewise, to be born *again* — of THE SPIRIT which is of GOD the Father, one must first be *begotten* of the SPIRITUAL FATHER — of GOD.

This is explained in Ro-

mans 8:16: "The Spirit [of God] itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the [begotten] children of God: and if children, then heirs [not yet inheritors or possessors]; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ. . . ."

And God's holy spirit, now combined with our human spirit in the human MIND, does two things: (1) begets the human with divine eternal life to be later BORN into the GOD FAMILY as a divine being, then composed wholly of spirit and (2) imparts to the human mind power to comprehend SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE — to understand the things of God (I Cor. 2:11).

This spirit-begotten Christian now has, conditionally, the PRESENCE OF ETERNAL LIFE — GOD LIFE — within him (or her), but he is NOT YET an immortal SPIRIT BEING — not yet composed wholly of SPIRIT.

He is now an heir of God as the son of a wealthy man is the heir of his father — but NOT YET "born again," — NOT YET an inheritor or a possessor. But IF His holy spirit dwells in us, God will, at Christ's coming back to earth as King of kings, "quicken" to immortality our mortal bodies BY His spirit that dwells in us (Rom. 8:11; I Cor. 15:49-53).

Now see how the astonishing analogy continues:

Just as in human reproduction, the impregnated embryo, which later becomes the fetus, is not yet BORN, but still being nourished through the human mother; so the begotten Christian is *not yet* BORN into the God family. The divine life has merely been begotten.

Satan has managed to deceive most of fundamental Christianity into believing they already are "born again" on accepting Christ.

But just as in human reproduction when the HUMAN characteristics of form and shape and the human body and brain gradually begin to form during the period of gestation, so now the RIGHTEOUS and HOLY CHARACTER of God begins to take form and GROW. Actually in many, this divine CHARACTER may form so slowly it seems hardly in evidence at

first, except that in some there will appear the glow of that ecstasy of spiritual "romance" — which may radiate in that "first love" of spiritual conversion. But, so far as growing in SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE (II Pet. 3:18) and spiritual CHARACTER goes, most of that is still to be learned and developed.

When newly converted, one is now a spiritual "EMBRYO." Now he must be nourished and fed on SPIRITUAL FOOD. Jesus said man must not live by bread (physical food) alone, but by EVERY WORD OF GOD. The BIBLE is the written Word of God, just as Christ is the personal Word of God. This growth is the character development that REQUIRES TIME and comes largely by EXPERIENCE.

Above all, it requires continual BIBLE STUDY to show ONE'S SELF approved of God, as well as much continual and earnest PRAYER. When you study the Bible, GOD IS TALKING TO YOU. When you PRAY, you are TALKING TO HIM. You get to really KNOW God in this manner, just as you become better acquainted with people by conversation.

Yet much of this spiritual character development comes through Christian fellowship with other spiritually begotten people in God's church.

Further, just as the human physical embryo and fetus are given physical nourishment through the human mother, God's CHURCH is the spiritual MOTHER of its members. God's church is called "Jerusalem above, which is the MOTHER of us all" (Gal. 4:26).

Notice the exact parallel. God has set called and chosen ministers in His church to feed the flock, "for the perfecting of the saints, for THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY [proclaiming Christ's gospel of the kingdom of God in all the world], for the edifying of the body [church] of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Eph. 4:12-13).

It is the duty of Christ's true min-

isters (and how few today), to PROTECT the begotten but yet unborn saints from false doctrines and from false ministers!

What a wonderful picture of God's reproducing Himself is human reproduction!

And remember God intended human reproduction to be a FAMILY matter. It adds human children to the human FAMILY. The HUMAN FAMILY is the exact TYPE of the GOD FAMILY. God has bestowed MARRIAGE and FAMILY life on NO OTHER form of life except on HUMANS, whose potential it is to enter the FAMILY OF GOD!

But *consider further!* As the physical human fetus must grow *physically* large enough to be born, so the begotten Christian must grow *spiritually* in grace and knowledge of Christ (II Pet. 3:18) — must overcome, develop in spiritual character, during this life, to be born into the kingdom of God!

That is well illustrated by the parables of the pounds and the talents. In the parable of the pounds (Luke 9:11-27), Jesus pictured Himself as a nobleman going to a far country (heaven) to receive a kingdom and later to return. He called His ten servants and gave each a pound. While He was gone, one of the ten traded with the money and gained ten pounds. He was commended and made ruler over ten cities in the kingdom of God. A second gained only five pounds — he did half as well, starting with EQUAL ability. He was given reign over five cities. A third gained NOTHING — and had even that pound taken from him. In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30), one was given five talents, another two talents, and another one — each according to his own ability (like handicap golf). On Christ's return, the one who had been given five talents had gained five more (representing spiritual growth and overcoming in this life). He was commended as a good and faithful servant and given responsibilities accordingly in God's kingdom. The one who had two gained another two — just as much in pro-

portion to ability. He, too, received an equal reward. But the one who had been given the one did NOTHING WITH IT. In other words, in his Christian life here and now, he did not overcome, he did not grow spiritually — he developed no character. He represents one who “RECEIVED CHRIST” and considered he was already “born again” but did not think he needed to overcome, grow spiritually, or develop spiritual character. He thought he was “already saved.” He said he didn’t believe in salvation by “works.” What he didn’t realize is that while salvation is a FREE GIFT, we are REWARDED according to our works. But by doing NOTHING, he lost not ONLY the reward, but he lost out on the free GIFT of eternal life.

Christ’s answer to such, when He returns with the KINGDOM OF GOD, is, “Thou wicked and slothful servant. . . . Take therefore the talent from him. . . . And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Many have been deceived into a FALSE “salvation.”

To conclude the parallel: As the physical fetus gradually develops the *physical* features, organs and characteristics one by one, even so the begotten Christian must develop in SPIRITUAL CHARACTER during this life, one by one, *love, faith, spiritual knowledge, patience, gentleness, kindness, and temperance*. He must be a DOER of the Word of God.

Bridging the Gap

Finally, HOW has God planned to “bridge the gap” from physical to spiritual composition — to reproduce Himself out of PHYSICAL HUMANS THAT COME FROM THE PHYSICAL GROUND.

First, He put IN the physical MAN a “human” spirit. It is NOT, however, the human spirit that makes the decisions, comes to repentance, or builds the character. As I have emphasized, this spirit does not impart life, cannot see, hear, feel or think. It empowers the PHYSICAL MAN, through his BRAIN, to do these things. But this spirit RECORDS every

Perfect spiritual and holy character cannot be created by divine fiat. It must be developed over a period of time, and requires a lifetime of experience.

thought — every bit of knowledge received *through* the five senses.

The human MAN is made literally from CLAY. It is like the master potter forming and shaping a vessel out of clay. But if the clay is too hard, it will not bend into the form and shape he wants. If it is too soft and moist, it lacks firmness to “STAY PUT” where the potter bends it.

Notice in Isaiah 64:8: “But now, O ETERNAL, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.”

Yet God has given each of us a MIND OF HIS OWN. If one REFUSES to acknowledge God or God’s ways — refuses to repent of the wrong and turn to the right, God cannot take him and create godly character in him. But the human CLAY must be pliable, — must yield willingly. If the human stiffens up and resists, he is like clay that is too dry and stiff. The potter can do nothing with it. It will not give and bend. If he is so lacking in will, purpose, and determination that he won’t “stay put” when God molds him partly into what God wants him to be and he is too wishy-washy, weak, and lacking root of character, he will never endure to the end. He will lose out.

We are, in truth, the WORK OF HIS HANDS. Yet WE ourselves must do our part in this spiritual development. If we lazily neglect Bible study and prayer — or if we let other material interests become more important and we NEGLECT such great salvation, we lose out.

But if we have the strength of character to YIELD — of our own WILL put ourselves in God’s hands — HE will instill within us HIS SPIRIT and by it His righteousness — His character — open our minds to His spiritual knowledge. We have to WANT IT! We have to WORK AT IT! We have to PUT IT FIRST, above all else.

It must be GOD’S righteousness, for all of OURS is like filthy rags to Him. He continually instills His knowledge, His righteousness, His character within us — IF we diligently seek it and want it. BUT WE HAVE OUR VERY IMPORTANT PART IN IT. Then all credit goes to GOD.

As we receive the CHARACTER OF GOD through the holy spirit of God, more and more God is REPRODUCING HIMSELF IN US.

Finally, in the resurrection, we shall be as God — in the position where we cannot sin, because we ourselves have set it so and have turned FROM sin and have struggled and struggled AGAINST sin and overcome sin.

God’s PURPOSE WILL be accomplished!

WHY Made From Material Substance?

Once again, STOP AND THINK!

WHY did God choose to make MAN out of physical matter instead of spirit? He made angels out of spirit.

Remember God’s PURPOSE is to reproduce Himself! His divine children are to be *begotten* of Him and then BORN into His God family. Christ, our pioneer, was begotten by the Father in a manner no one else ever was, when conceived by the agency of the holy spirit in the virgin Mary. He was the begotten (the ONLY begotten, in that manner) Son of God from human conception and birth. He is already the FIRSTBORN of many brethren (Rom. 8:29), born a Son of God by a resurrection from the dead (Rom. 1:4), as we may be later.

To show the preeminence above angels that is already Christ’s and also is our potential, remember we are joint-heirs with Christ, and God

says of Christ, "being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee?" (Heb. 1:4-5). In the book of Job angels are spoken of as sons of God in chapters 1, 2, and 7, but only as created "sons." God never said to them, "You are my own *begotten* sons." But when *we* humans receive the holy spirit of God, we do become His *begotten* sons and His heirs, to receive by inheritance His NAME — just as my begotten sons inherited my name.

When we are BORN of God, we shall BE spirit. Then why did God form man in the first place of material substance — out of the earth?

I have partially answered that question already. Angels, being spirit, are immortal. Those who sinned shall go on bearing their punishment forever. Their punishment is NOT death. Their punishment is the loss of the glorious opportunity God gave them to accomplish His purpose on earth, and also it is the penalty of having to live forever in the resentment, bitterness, attitude of rebellion, and utter hopelessness and frustration of mind their own sins brought upon them. Once they perverted their own minds, they can never regain balance. Happiness and joy has left them forever.

Whereas, if MAN, composed of matter, sinned and refused to repent and turn from his sin, he will die the second death — he shall utterly PERISH — he will be as though he had not been (Obadiah 16). This reflects God's MERCY.

But there is another all-important reason. As the humanist philosopher Elbert Hubbard said, "Nothing is permanent but change." Matter does not remain *as it is*, unchanged, permanently. But it continues *changing* permanently. Perhaps stone or iron is as unchanging as any elements. But after a few thousand years, the giant stones in the wall around Jerusalem have lost all their newness and show their age.

HOW can God change mortal material man into immortal, spirit-composed God?

Whatever you see now on this earth will CHANGE. In time it will CHANGE.

Spirit is CHANGELESS — except as God instilled in angel beings the power of mind — of thinking, reasoning, making decisions and exercising *will* to act on decisions or choices. But spirit substance apart from the mind power of God or spirit beings is CHANGELESS.

In reproducing Himself God requires righteous CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT. And that requires CHANGE. If God had made us of spirit, the spirit couldn't change. Man, composed of matter, is subject to CHANGE. Man, if called by God, can be made to realize that he has sinned, and he can REPENT — CHANGE from his sin — turn to GOD'S WAY. And once his course is changed, with God's help he can pursue it. He can GROW in spiritual knowledge, develop character, overcome wrong habits, weaknesses, and faults. And this is all done by the PHYSICAL MAN, through the PHYSICAL BRAIN.

The human spirit in man empowers the brain with physical intellect, and the spirit of God united with it empowers the brain with spiritual comprehension, and these spirits RECORD the knowledge and the character and preserve them, as well as the physical shape and appearance. These spirits do not develop the righteous character, but through the holy spirit God does give us His faith, His righteousness — as long as we ourselves earnestly desire it. But once character is developed in physical man, *HOW* does God bridge the gap, changing MAN into SPIRIT?

The Spirit MOLD

I have shown you that the Scriptures picture man as the clay —

which he literally is — and God as our potter. We might call God, also, our SCULPTOR, for with our submission and eager willingness, we are the WORK OF HIS HANDS in spiritual and character development. As Job said, "If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait till my CHANGE come. Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee [in the resurrection]: thou wilt have a desire to *the work of thine hands*" (Job 14:14-15).

This brings us to the question of death of the physical MAN and the resurrection which Job called the "CHANGE" into the kingdom of God.

Now notice, as quoted before, in Isaiah 64:8: "But now, O ETERNAL, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter, and we all are the work of thy hand."

God could not form, shape, *change*, and develop His character in us had we been made of spirit.

Notice further: "Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?" (Isa. 45:9).

Another passage of scripture so often misapplied: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it [the faith] is the gift of God: not of works . . ." We do not *earn* salvation by good works or gain it by works — BUT *when* we receive it as God's GIFT, *the degree of reward* will be according to our "works" (Matt. 16:27) — performance in living GOD'S WAY — building character.

But now read the rest of this passage which is nearly always purposely omitted by those misleading people on this point: "...not of works" . . . WHY? . . . "lest any man should boast. *For we are HIS WORKMANSHIP*, created in Christ Jesus UNTO GOOD WORKS, *which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them*" (Eph. 2:8-10).

I have tried to point out that we must gain contact with God and that HE is the potter — or sculptor — fashioning, molding, and shaping our lives and righteous character into His CHARACTER IMAGE, *AS WE DESIRE AND YIELD*.

All right. The godly character in us, I have stated, cannot be created by fiat. It must be developed. We must yield. We must desire it, seek it. But it comes from GOD. Thus if we keep a close daily contact with our Creator, through His spirit and through our spirit — for remember, His holy spirit “beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God” (Rom. 8:16) — then He is fashioning and shaping our characters. Had God made us of spirit, this could not be done.

Now, as Job brought out, we die. Afterlife comes through the resurrection. When we die, all consciousness ceases. Send for the free booklet *After Death . . . Then What?* The physical brain becomes unconscious and decays.

With what BODY do we come in the resurrection? That question is answered in I Corinthians 15:35-38: “But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? . . . that which thou sowest [burial in ground], thou sowest NOT that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him.”

The body that dies is NOT the same body that will come up in the resurrection.

Now we come to a MOST IMPORTANT part for the SPIRIT IN MAN — which I have termed the “human spirit.” It does not impart human life. It does not see, hear or think. The HUMAN MAN makes his decisions, and it is in the physical MAN that character must be built. It is the human CLAY that God forms into His character. The SPIRIT in man RECORDS what the brain comes to know, even the attitude, the facets of CHARACTER, not only of the human brain, but also of the whole body. It keeps the imprint even of the fingerprints.

Compare it to a sculptor’s mold. The sculptor may want to produce a bronze statue of a man. The sculptor might use clay or other material to form a model. Then the sculptor makes a MOLD of the model he has formed and shaped. The mold is a

hollow form, made from the finished model. Into the mold is poured molten liquid bronze. The mold is removed, and the bronze figure is an EXACT copy of the original model.

The spirit that is in every human acts as a MOLD. It PRESERVES the human’s MEMORY, his CHARACTER, his precise FORM AND SHAPE.

Now I do not conceive that the spirit is a hollow form. But it supplies the same purpose as the sculptor’s mold. If one has received the holy spirit, then in the resurrection, the resurrected being will be COMPOSED of SPIRIT, not matter as the human model was. But in the resurrected SPIRIT form he will suddenly come ALIVE. It will seem like the next flash of a second from his loss of consciousness at time of death. He will have all his memory intact. He will look as he did in human life in form and shape. Even his fingerprints will be the same.

The CHARACTER which he allowed God to build within him will be there. He will be alive FOREVER! And, like God the Father, by his own will, he will have been made so that he CANNOT sin.

The body that comes in the resurrection is not the same body that was flesh and blood in this human lifetime. God does not turn flesh and blood matter INTO spirit. The flesh and blood physical body, after death, decomposes and decays, but the spirit that was IN that body, like the sculptor’s mold, preserves all the form and shape, the memory, and the character INTACT.

Notice what happens AT DEATH.

“Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.” After death, whether buried in the earth, cremated, or what, the physical body returns to the earth. But the spirit that was IN the man, now having recorded everything — the body’s form and shape, the facial identity, the memory and the character — returns to God. It will be PRESERVED UNCHANGED. Such saints as Abraham, Moses, David and Daniel died thousands of years ago.

SO STOP AND THINK ABOUT

THAT! God had to provide some way to PRESERVE the form, shape, appearance, mind and character of saints for thousands of years. They were composed of corruptible flesh and blood. All that was THEM (man is composed wholly of matter) long since decomposed. Yet in the resurrection, it will seem to them as the next fraction of a second since loss of consciousness at death.

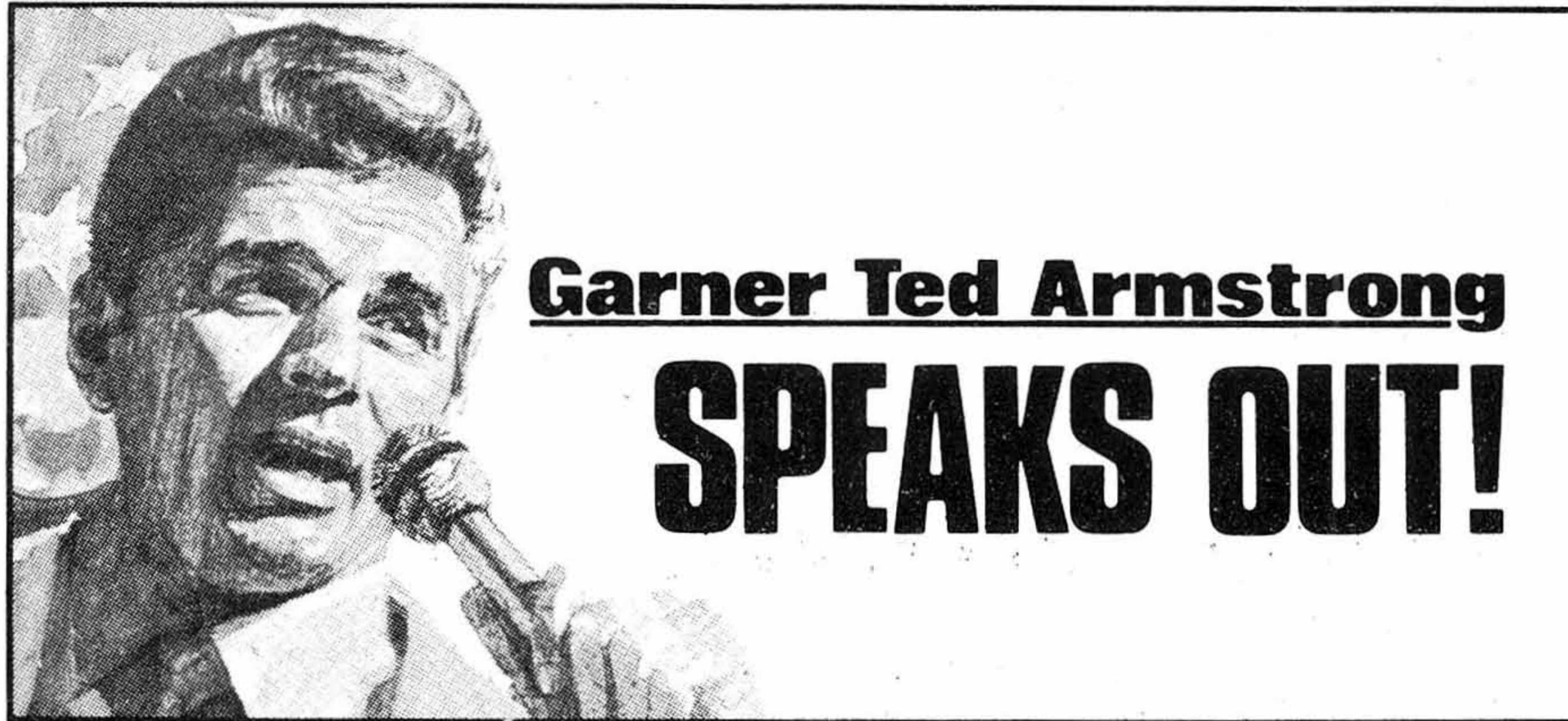
In death, they know absolutely NOTHING. Says God’s Word, “For the living know that they SHALL DIE: but *the dead* KNOW NOT ANY THING” (Eccl. 9:5).

The spirit which returns to God is the human spirit that was in them throughout life. It was not an “immortal soul,” for the soul was mortal and corruptible.

Those who died with God’s holy spirit will be in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-5). They will come forth IMMORTAL, in a glorious body of SPIRIT composition, their faces aglow as the SUN.

All others who have not been called to eternal salvation by God during their human lifetimes will be resurrected after the thousand-year reign of the kingdom of God under Christ, in the “great white throne judgment” (Rev. 20:11-12). They will be resurrected MORTAL, once again in a flesh and blood physical body, just as before. In this great judgment they will be “called” — their eyes opened to God’s truth. Then, finally, there will be a last resurrection (Rev. 20:13-15) of those who HAD been called by God in their mortal human life, but had rejected or turned from it. They, with those who reject it in the great white throne judgment, will be condemned to the “lake of fire” (II Pet. 3:10-11), which is the second death. They then shall be ashes under the soles of the feet of the immortals in God’s kingdom (Mal. 4:3), and will be as though they had never been (Obadiah 16).

Then, ahead of the millions of immortal redeemed, shall lie the tremendous awesome HUMAN POTENTIAL — when God the Creator shall have put THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE under our jurisdiction (Heb. 2:7-8)! □



Seeing Yourself Walk By

In the investigation of a sensational murder, police always look for the *motive*. Many times, in the "whodunit" novels and motion pictures, the writer purposefully muddles the entire complex plot with dozens of seemingly irrelevant facts. Usually, the actual criminal remains obscured until the very end. He becomes apparent only when some hidden *motive* is brought to light. Once the motive is known, — perhaps it's greed, jealousy, lust, or revenge — the whole picture becomes clear.

In this dog-eat-dog competitive world of ours we have grown so accustomed to *evil motives* on the part of practically anybody from practically any organization and from practically any source — be it personal, social, religious, educational, cultural, scientific, or governmental — that most of us have adopted the idea that "there's no need to worry — NOBODY is honest anymore."

This attitude is becoming a prevalent trait in our Western society. After undergoing the agony of spirit that was Watergate and after having suffered through the incredible social upheavals of the sixties, with its race riots, burning cities, campus rebellions, shootouts between police and paramilitary organizations, Americans in particular are understandably equipped with a large measure of suspicion involving the *motive* of any group.

The blatant profit-seeking motive of the big cigarette companies, cos-

metic manufacturers, and producers of the various and sundry items sensationally advertised on television are painfully obvious to us all. No matter, what the potential serious — and possibly deadly — consequences may be, this particular sure-fire extra-long cigarette is guaranteed to transport you into new horizons of bliss and delight.

It's one of the games people play.

We have "succeeded" in the ultimate con game of all — that of totally deceiving ourselves!

We all know that the profit-seeking motive is there, and that no matter what organizations might tell us about how they are actually in the business trying to "help us" (such as the savings and loans adverts or the adverts from your local bank urging you to open up an account), we nevertheless know better. They want our money. But have you ever really striven mightily to investigate YOUR OWN motives?

We have all overheard the luncheon conversations where people in the booth NEXT to us were busily gossiping about personalities they mutually knew. Very few of us are able to turn the mirror around and see in OURSELVES that same incredible, swelling, egotistical, motive-glorifying self, exalting self, magnifying

self, perpetuating and promoting self, preening, currying, combing, fondling, stroking, petting, and otherwise adoring self!

Our motive, through much of what we say, think and do, is to aggrandize and exalt ourselves! And at the root of all this is human nature, which is, after all, vanity, jealousy, lust and greed.

It's no wonder the Bible tells us that human nature itself, the carnal mind of man, is "deceitful above all things".

We have "succeeded" in the ultimate con game of all — that of utterly and totally deceiving ourselves!

It's a lot easier to see the motives of *others*. They are totally transparent. By assessing the shenanigans and chicanery of big governments; by looking at the bewildering morass of large-scale organized crime; by suspecting the *illuminati* or some other "worldwide conspiracy" behind every social-economic movement; by remembering all the dozens of conversations with friends who revealed their pet methods of getting around the law; by learning from a business associate some lucrative loophole they discovered on their income tax reporting — by these and hundreds of other methods, we all understand that the average human being is possessed of a very large degree of dishonest motivation.

It's no wonder we are so well equipped to recognize these evil motives in others — we very likely have plenty of them OURSELVES!

Today, a new "thing" is transcendental meditation. In an incense-filled candle-lit room, a practitioner might give to the questing student a "mantra," which may mean only an unintelligible bit of gibberish, a sound, a name, or a meaningless series of sounds. He is then supposed to repeat this "mantra" endlessly (and mindlessly), in order to transfix or to transport himself into some state of "transcendental meditation."

Notwithstanding the claimed physiological benefits (lowered blood pressure, etc.), there may also be some very deleterious spiritual side effects!

But the point is, all of us seem to want to know more about what is inside of us! We want to understand OURSELVES! But the process of discovering our own true selves — looking introspectively inside our own hearts and minds — can be the most painful, and yet also the most constructive, process you will ever undergo. (However, it should by no means bring about a state of *mindless bliss!*)

I have often speculated that it is a wonderful thing that the vanity that can cause us to consider ourselves to be the most important thing, object, being, physiological anatomical structure, item for discussion, or object of concern on the face of the earth (and for that matter in the entirety of the universe!) does not produce observable physiological symptoms, such as ugly and grotesque warts or purple splotches. If it did, we would all look like the most ugly, toadish combination of the beast (in the story of Beauty and the Beast) and the dragon at the end of St. George's spear.

It is only when we can finally "step aside" and watch *our own selves* pass by — that is, to come to that unique experience called repentance and conversion during which we look deeply inside our own hearts and understand how truly egotistical and vanity-ridden we are, and begin to change our lives — that we can be truly free from all this preconceived assigning of MOTIVES to other people!

Only then does the statement, "To the pure all things are pure," finally come true.

What about you? Have you ever *really* investigated your own motives in everything you think, say and do? Have you ever tried to fathom the very ultimate motivation for the concepts you hold to be true? Have you ever really stepped aside and watched yourself walk by — seeing yourself quite literally as others see you?

When and if you ever accomplish such a feat, you will finally be on the way toward the greatest form of freedom of all — freedom from *yourself*. □

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

have the constitution amended retroactively, to change the law on the points concerned. The Indian high court has yet to give a ruling on the legitimacy of Mrs. Gandhi's constitutional amendments. Thus she has hoped to wipe out the "crime." But what will she do now regarding her imprisoned political enemies? It seems hardly possible she can leave them all in prison — the number is very great — until they all die there. And if she releases them — then what?

One might get an idea out of the Bible. It is recorded that, on Christ's return as world ruler, Satan is to be imprisoned for a thousand years (Rev. 20:2-3). But after the thousand years, it is recorded, "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations." And millions will be led against the world government ruled by Christ. Mrs. Gandhi might do well to read that prophecy. Of course she denies doing any real wrong, claiming the old obsolete law should have been repealed long ago, and saying she is upholding the democratic system of government, which is by majority. It's not my job to judge Mrs. Gandhi.

But the most monumental CREDIBILITY GAP of all has been against the one who will RULE for that coming thousand years — Jesus Christ.

He came, more than 1900 years ago, born as a human, with a message (His gospel, almost unknown to the world today) about His future worldwide government, the kingdom of God. But only a few really believed Him. Many "believed ON HIM," just as today, but they didn't BELIEVE Him — that is, they didn't believe what He said.

NOTICE IT: "As he spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those which believed on him, If ye continue in my word,

then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We . . . were never in bondage to any man. . . . Jesus answered them . . . but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you And because I tell you the truth, *ye believe me not.*" They would not believe WHAT HE SAID! (John 8:30-45).

What a credibility gap!

The chief priests and Pharisees (rulers) had sent officers to take Jesus into custody and bring Him to them for condemnation, or perhaps execution. The officers were impressed with what they heard Jesus say and were afraid to take Him. When the officers returned to the chief priests and Pharisees without Him, "Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?" (John 7:47).

No credibility among any of the leaders or the ruling class.

Yet the prophecy says of Him: "...and the government [of the world] shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

NO CREDIBILITY, it would seem. Yet He is the one who shall finally STOP the overthrow of governments on earth and usher in WORLD PEACE the only way it can be brought about — BY the POWER of the Creator God, setting up the GOVERNMENT of the KINGDOM OF GOD on earth — one super, world-ruling government over all the nations of earth.

He who has suffered the greatest CREDIBILITY GAP of all time will finally rule FOREVER in PEACE. The prophecy says:

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

He will have 100% credibility EVERYWHERE then! □



In Brief

by Stanley R. Rader

Last Chance for Mideast Peace?

JERUSALEM, August 6

Last evening the Japanese ambassador to Israel hosted a dinner in honor of four Japanese Congressmen (Diet members) who, with Mr. Armstrong and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation (AICF), were in Israel to promote better understanding between the peoples of Japan and Israel.

A few days before, these same Congressmen had visited Cairo. In each capital the Congressmen were urging their counterparts in the foreign ministries of both Israel and Egypt to do what they could respectively to continue the dialogue and momentum toward peace and to settle ultimately the volatile Middle East situation which poses such a clear and present danger to all of mankind.

Yesterday the Japanese Congressmen and I were received by Israel's Prime Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, who briefed us on the past, present and future of this troubled and explosive region. Egypt is the key to any settlement in the area, said the prime minister, not only because it is the largest of Israel's Arab neighbors but also because during each war Egypt has carried the main burden of the armed conflict with Israel.

When asked by the Japanese about Israel's willingness to make a compromise in the Sinai to effect an interim agreement, the prime minister stressed that there were only three strategic areas in the entire Sinai peninsula — the oil fields at Abu Rudeis, the Gidi and Mitla passes, and the Straits of Tiran.

Israel had already indicated its willingness to give up the oil fields which provide them with 60% of their total oil requirements, but it could not give up the passes in such a manner as to undermine its entire military defense nor could it give up control to the Straits of Tiran without absolute assurance that Israel's passage to the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean would be guaranteed.

It was very important, according to Mr. Rabin, that the Japanese and the rest of the world understand the difference between peace and an armistice

because it was the armistice of 1949, not a peace settlement, that led to the borders for Israel and its neighbors — borders which prevailed until the Six-Day War of 1967 — the same borders which the Arab nations are insisting that Israel withdraw to once again. As Mr. Rabin explained, after the United Nations had partitioned the former British mandate and thus created the state of Israel, the Arab armies invaded, and only after the tide and fortunes of war had changed in favor of the Israelis was an *armistice* effected. According to the prime minister, Israel made every effort for a permanent peace settlement, but such settlement was steadfastly refused by the Arab nations. It was obviously the prime minister's position that an ultimate peace settlement will provide for a withdrawal of Israeli forces from the present lines but not necessarily to those lines as they existed after the *armistice* in 1949.

In any event, another outbreak of hostilities would clearly be a disaster. For the Arab peoples, a new war might be the end of their last chance to avoid additional irreparable losses which for more than twenty-seven years have condemned the entire Arab world to economic and social stagnation.

If an ultimate peace should result, on the other hand, the Arab world would have anywhere from twenty-five to fifty years to recapture those lost years and to use the income from the production of petroleum to transform their entire economy and society.

This would be a rare and historic chance for the Arab people and for the entire region — a chance without precedent perhaps in the entire history of man, but a chance that will be surely wasted if another war should occur. Of course, in order for the entire Arab world to prosper, even with peace, it will be necessary for those Arab nations which produce oil to share their wealth with Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Without sharing this oil wealth a peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors would not prevent a radicalizing of the area that would result from the greater disparity between the super-rich oil producing countries and their poverty-ridden neighbors.

Now is the time for President Sadat to boldly take the lead of the Arab world: to bring hostilities to an end with Israel once and for all and to lead all of the Arab nations, rich and poor alike, into a cooperative effort — ultimately even with Israel — to make the entire Middle East region flourish as it did some 2,000 years ago.

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