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# Youth85

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**COVER:** Examining a model building gives an idea of one aspect of city planning. What would your ideal city be like? Read "Tomorrow's Cities — What Changes Would You Make?" starting on page 5. Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.

#### Letters

#### "Never Say Never"

Just to thank you for your article, "Never Say Never" (Youth 84, October-November issue). It helped me a lot and it encouraged me to read more of your articles. It also helped me not to be so easily giving up, but to hang on and do it until you succeed. Thank you again Mr. Ron Toth.

John Soh Boon King Selangor, Malaysia

#### "World Tomorrow" telecast

Hi! My name is Tina and I am a 16-year-old teenager who's very concerned and distressed about the items you [Herbert W. Armstrong] were informing the public about on your last TV program. I have heard of these topics before, but they really aren't things which most people willingly like to think about all the time. But your actions have again reminded me of the tribulation soon to come and I would really like your help to handle this approaching situation.

So, I'm requesting your magazine, the one you emphasized so strongly [The Plain Truth]. I would really like to get more information and study these more carefully.

Also, I'd like to thank you on your intentions and your concern for others. I believe what you're doing is very important.

Sun (Tina) J. Ma Cerritos, California

#### "Adopting a Parent"

Your article, "Adopting a Parent," in the August issue has triggered my pen to write about "Adopting a Child."

As a widower, I may decide one day to remarry and become a stepfather to a stepchild. Of course, I shall be a stranger to the family, and especially to the child, as a strange organ that was transplanted in another body. This organ usually is undesirable and the body will try to get rid of it or rather will not cooperate to let it perform its function.

The same thing I expect will happen that I shall be faced with some resistance from my stepchild. To overcome this resistance, I must use my utmost patience in dealing with the child. I have to be tolerant to his adversary actions against me and treat him as if he were my natural son.

I shall let him consider me not only his stepfather, but also his closest friend.

Mohamed Abdelsa Jersey City, New Jersey

# Basketball Game-Witha Difference!

By Herbert W. Armstrong

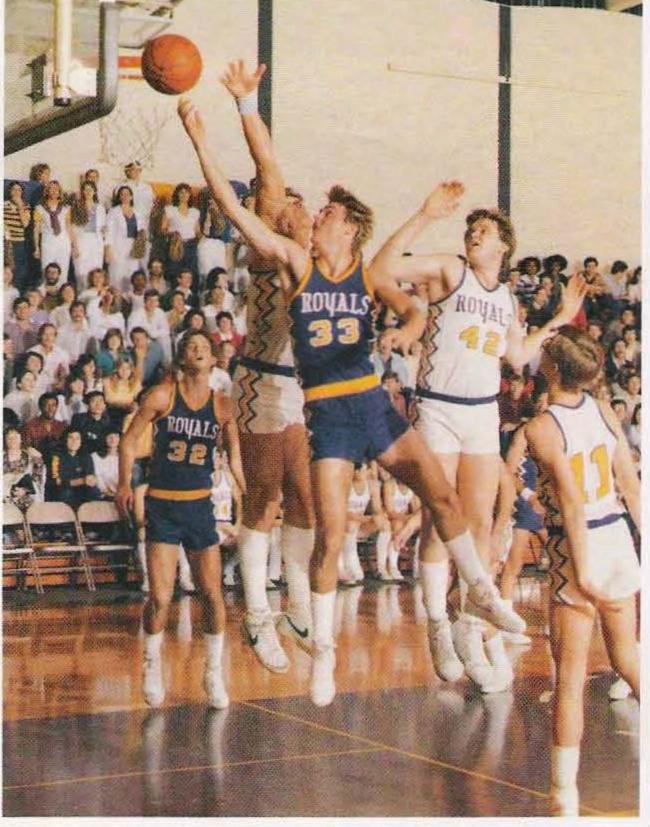
ow many of our Youth 85 readers, I wonder, would realize that a basketball game could be an important part of EDUCATION?

Before you draw conclusions — wait a minute! Let me give you some facts I'm sure you don't know.

All colleges — at least, certainly, nearly all have basketball teams. And do they consider basketball games a part of the EDUCATIONAL function of the college or university? Probably not. They don't rate any academic credits.

But this gives me an opportunity to explain another way in which Ambassador Col-LEGES are different! Yes, and so refreshingly different! So delightfully different!

Through the basketball season, we have been having doubleheader basketball games on Saturday nights in our gymnasium. The gymnasium itself is a part of the



Physical Education Facility and absolutely the most beautiful building of its kind we have ever seen.

The gym is not a giant basketball pavilion, like those of some of the major universities, with seating capacity for spectators of from 7,000 to 15,000. But our gym does have bleachers on

each side of the basketball court that fold out or telescope back against the walls. They will seat about 1,200.

Let me explain what would be the probable reaction of a student or basketball player from some other college or university.

First, he would be struck with the beauty and the character of the building itself. Even the entrance lobby is carpeted. He might look for the ticket-selling window — and be a little bit flabbergasted because there is none! Think of it! College basketball games — and NO ADMISSION PRICE!

Our visitor would hear the music of a really good

band. And, entering the gymnasium, he would see about a 40-piece pep band. He would see two officials waiting for the game to start, with their official-looking shirts — just as in any college, university or pro game.

The two teams would be warming up, shooting practice baskets at their respective ends — each team in different colored uniforms — it might be the faculty team at one end.

"Why," he might exclaim, "this looks just like any other college game." But he would have a few SURPRISES coming. The band would stop, and an announcer's voice would come out over the public-address system:

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the first game of a doubleheader tonight, between the faculty and the freshmen."

Then would follow the introduction of the respective starting players of each team — just as in any other college game. And then, from the announcer: "And now will you all rise and join the band in singing the national anthem."

This is followed by applause and some yelling, as the two teams go to the floor, and one of the officials takes his stance to toss up the ball between the two centers, starting the game. The electric scoreboards — one at each end — are set at 20 minutes

for the first half, and as the ball is put in play, the seconds begin whipping past in bright red colors, indicating the amount of time yet to be played.

Our visitor might be a little surprised to see the caliber of play, the poise and accuracy of the players, as they begin scoring baskets smoothly and accurately in spite of alert, vigorous and tight defense — both teams playing a torrid fast-break game. He might be quite surprised to see the scores building up as rapidly as in a big-university game.

All just like any other college? Well, NOT EXACTLY!

Our visitor would begin to notice several differences! He would begin to be aware that he was not sitting in a cloud of cigarette and cigar smoke, but in fresh, clean, pure air kept fresh by the air-conditioning system. Then he might be quite amused — if not shocked. He would see in the stands, not only students, some in "rooting" sections, but many whole families, including

the kiddies and even babies.

"Man!" he might exclaim.
"I never saw anything like that before." Most of those with babies or little children would leave after the early 7 o'clock game, to put the kiddies to bed.

As the game would progress, he would be amazed to see that while the play is fast, aggressive and determined,

there is no deliberate or intentional fouling. Of course, unintended and accidental infractions of some of the rules are bound to occur. But when they do, the one who fouls will usually raise up his arm almost before the official blows his whistle. And — sur-

prise of surprises!! — he NEVER sees a player get angry at an official or make any complaint whatsoever!

When a time-out is called, of course, the band strikes up a lively tune or a rapid march, and the girl rooters on the floor do some maneuvers to the rhythm of the music.

But now for the REAL POINT!

We do not play intercollegiate basketball at Ambassador, but instead intramural games. There are four teams of the four general classes, and a faculty team.

We do not give academic credits for basketball, of course. Yet this definitely is a part of the students' EDUCATION — the way it is played at Ambassador. Our present Director of Physical Education, who was a star college player, will tell you that any one of our teams would win its quota of games should we enter one of the minor college leagues.

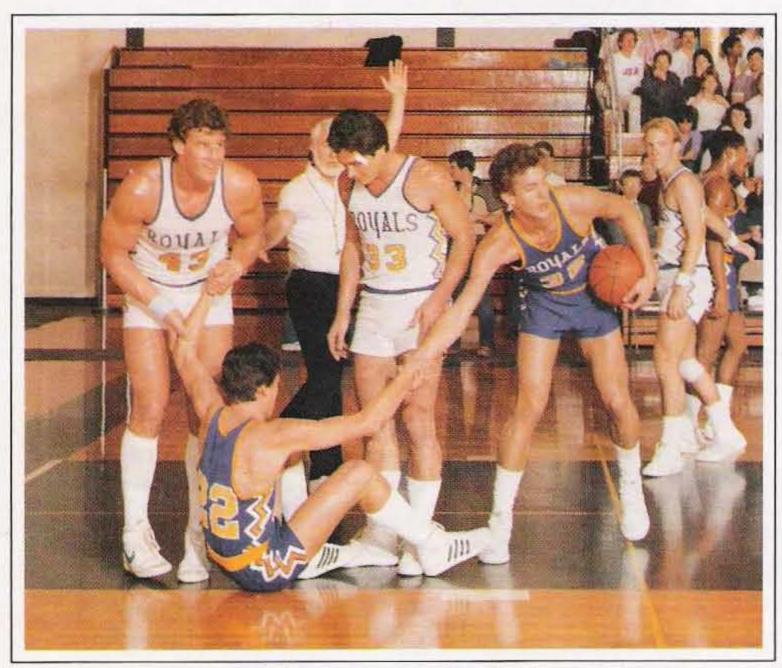
Basketball at Ambassador is a CHARACTER-BUILDING activity. Our men are taught to play hard and to develop skill, but without overdoing it, or devoting too much time to it. Life at Ambassador must be BALANCED, and time must be budgeted. This activity must not take time needed for study. But by making the most of every minute, there is ample time to develop basketball proficiency without WASTING time.

Ambassador is a CHARACTER-BUILDING institution and, at this college, basketball is used to BUILD CHARACTER.

I have always taught our students that whatever they do should be done WELL — the very best they can. They play hard — they put their whole energies into it. They try to be both fast and quick — there is a difference. But they try to avoid roughness of a type that might harm or injure other players.

I have actually seen our players raise their arms, and tell the officials they had fouled an opponent — unintentionally — when the officials had failed to see it. But NEVER have I seen a player gripe, or complain in any

(Continued on page 26)



In an Ambassador College basketball game, there is no deliberate or intentional fouling. When accidental infractions occur, players don't get angry or complain to the officials — they help each other up instead. (Photos by Hal Finch)



# Why Not?

By George Hague

To some people, the impossible just takes a little longer!

Short, burly man was sitting in the back of a taxicab.

Snow was falling in the city, so the distinguished gentleman was wearing a wool overcoat. With his derby hat, the bulky coat made him look even shorter and broader than he was.

The taxi came to a stop. After paying the fare, the man buttoned his coat, readying himself for the biting wind.

Then, no more than a foot outside the car, the man was hit by another taxi! He flew 10 feet, landing heavily on the icy pavement.

The taxi driver — already stunned by the accident — was in for another shock. He could not believe who was lying on the pavement of that

crowded New York City street. The man was British statesman Winston Churchill.

On a speaking tour of the United States, Mr. Churchill's first stop was New York City. But after the accident, the tour was immediately canceled. Instead of touring the nation and making thousands of dollars, Mr. Churchill spent his time recovering in a hospital for six weeks. Not only was a major source of income taken away, he was now stuck in a hospital, unable to do anything.

Or was he?

Determined not to let the trip be a total loss, Mr. Churchill set about writing an article. Entitled "My New York Misadventure," he sold it for \$2,500. That's resourcefulness!

Would you think of an idea like that? After

# There are two types of people — those who wonder why, and those who wonder why not. Why not people are problem solvers.

everything seems to be lost, can you make a success out of a total failure? You can develop that ability to its maximum. It can become one of your greatest traits!

#### Why not?

Somebody once said that there are two types of people — those who wonder why, and those who wonder why not.

The people who wonder why see problems and difficulties, but don't do anything to solve them. These people don't find solutions.

The people who wonder why not, on the other hand, are problem solvers. One of these people typically asks questions like: "Why don't we try this? It might be the answer to our problem."

These why-not people all have one trait in common. They don't assume a problem is impossible to solve. They look for solutions without being overwhelmed by the problem.

Lt. Andrew S. Rowen was such a man. His story is told in A Message to Garcia by Elbert Hubbard.

The Spanish-American War raged. On the island of Cuba, a general named Garcia led a band of guerrilla troops. But whose side did they support?

U.S. President William McKinley needed to know if they would fight for or

against the United States in the war. President McKinley sent Lt. Rowen to deliver an important message to Garcia.

Through jungles infested with malariacarrying mosquitoes, on an island where he had never been, Lt. Rowen would be searching for a man he had never met. Nor did Gen. Garcia know anyone was looking for him! And don't forget that it was in the middle of a war! Lt. Rowen had a problem.

What would you have done? Would you say: "That's impossible! I've never been to Cuba. It will be like searching for a needle in a haystack"? Probably most people would say something like that. But Lt. Rowen's attitude was completely different.

Within days Lt. Rowen was in Cuba. Using ingenuity and sheer persistence, he found Gen. Garcia and delivered the message. He did not give up before trying.

Many people are defeated before even getting started. Overcoming a problem, no matter what it is, can be so difficult. And quitting is so easy.

Which will you choose? Remember, to overcome a problem, you first have to try. Develop this attitude. The difficult do immediately. The impossible will take just a little bit longer.

#### Consider the options

To develop resourcefulness, you must know what it is. Resourcefulness can be defined as the

ability to deal promptly and effectively with problems.

To overcome problems and challenges, you need a plan of attack — a plan of attack that works.

The first step in this plan is to consider all of your options. Perhaps you have heard the story about the truck that got stuck under a bridge. The situation seemed hopeless — the truck wouldn't budge. A team of experts gathered to solve the problem.

Some of them proposed moving the bridge. Others thought that dismantling the truck piece by piece was

the solution. The team argued and argued about the best plan.

Then a little girl rode by on her bicycle. In the heat of the argument, she asked, "Why don't you let the air out of the tires?"

The team of experts had made a major mistake. They didn't consider all of their options.

The solutions to some major problems seem almost too simple to be considered. Solving problems requires creative thinking. Sometimes it requires considering things that might seem absurd.

The IBM Corporation, long one of the most successful businesses in the world, uses a sign (Continued on page 29)



If your truck is stuck under a bridge, you need to consider all the options!

### Tomorrow's Cities-

# What Changes Would You Make?

By Mike Bennett

You may have the chance to help plan, build and govern tomorrow's cities! What would your city be like?

Today we are surrounded by nightmare cities — huge cities with even huger problems.

Many people, if offered the job of being mayor of one of the world's largest cities, probably wouldn't take it. The problems seem too big to solve.

Even in smaller cities and towns, problems are growing.

#### What would you change?

If you could change one thing about your city or town, what would you change?

Would you add more beautiful parks, bicycle paths, tree-lined streets?

Or would you rebuild the run-down neighborhoods and slum areas with attractive houses, making sure the poor and the street people had a comfortable place to call home?

Would you remove the crime, immorality and fear from the streets so that everyone from young children to the elderly could be safe and secure?

Or would you make sure there was good schooling available to everyone, and enough desirable jobs to go around?

Would you clean up the litter, smog, water pollution, traffic jams and noise pollution?

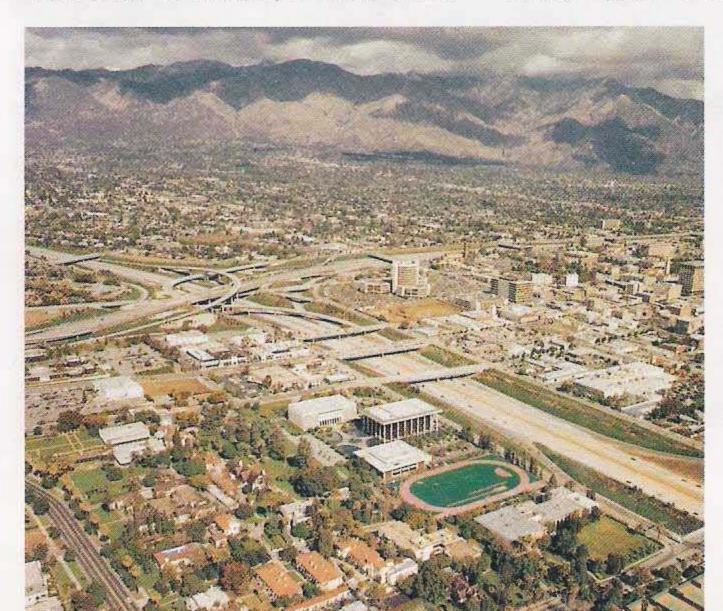
Perhaps you would want to do all these things, and many more. Many cities today seem little more than open sores on the face of the earth. But the good news is that soon beautiful, livable cities will be built. And you have a chance to help plan and build them!

#### The cities of tomorrow

The perplexing problems of today's world — including its cities — have proven to be too big for humans to solve on their own. But the solutions are coming.

God shows in the Bible that after a time of great violence soon to come on the world, Jesus Christ will return to prevent human annihilation and to set up God's government.

(Why not take a few minutes to read eight sentences from God's Instruction Book that tell about this? Matthew 24:21-22,



If you were planning a city, what would it be like? On the small scale, how would the buildings look? On the large scale, what would it look like to someone in an airplane? (Photos: left, Warren Watson; above, G.A. Belluche Jr.)

#### If you could change one thing about your city or town, what would you change?

29-30, Zechariah 14:3-4 and Daniel 2:44.)

God won't let humanity totally destroy itself, but instead will bring peace and happiness to the world under His rule. His plan includes building cities like the world has not seen before!

To understand more about this, send for our two free publications: Are We Living in the Last Days? and The Wonderful World Tomorrow - What It Will Be Like.

Under God's government, there will be a change in the way people treat other people — a change in human nature.

The way of giving and helping will spread everywhere, and the way of selfishness and taking will gradually be eliminated. This change will make it possible to solve all of today's unsolvable city problems.

Read a little of what God says about the cities of tomorrow:

"Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'My cities shall again spread out through prosperity" (Zechariah 1:17).

"Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, neither wasting nor destruction within your borders" (Isaiah 60:18).

Poverty and violence, two of today's greatest problems, will be solved! And overcrowding won't be a problem in the cities that will be rebuilt: "They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; they shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them" (Amos 9:14). Imagine lush gardens in a city!

We don't yet know every detail as to what these cities will be like.

help plan and build them. Plan a city!

Why not get some practice in now? Why not learn more about city planning and practice draw-

But we do know God will use

assistants — perhaps you — to

ing up some city plans?

Do some research about city planning and city services at your library or even at city hall. Take a map of your city and mark trouble areas — things that you would do differently.

Then start fresh with a clean sheet of paper and draw a map of your imaginary city. Ask yourself

questions like these:

How many people would live in this town? Would it be prepared for growth or would the city size be restricted?

How many parks should there be, and where?

What kind of jobs will the

people have? Will there be enough jobs to go around?

Will there be a central business district or smaller town centers scattered around?

Will there be an airport and, if so, how will noise be kept to a minimum over places where people live?

How will traffic be controlled to prevent snarl-ups? Will there be mass tran-

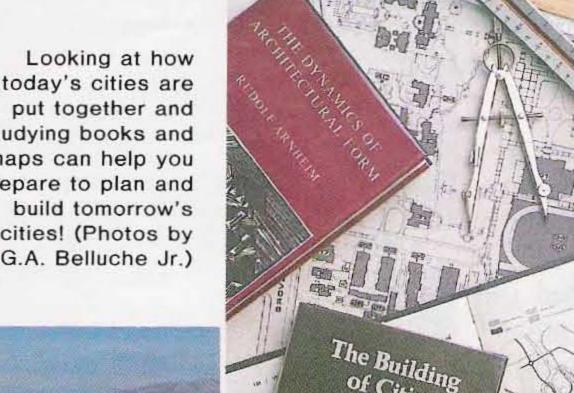
sit — buses, trains, subways?

Would there be apartment buildings or only single-family homes? How would the school system be laid out?

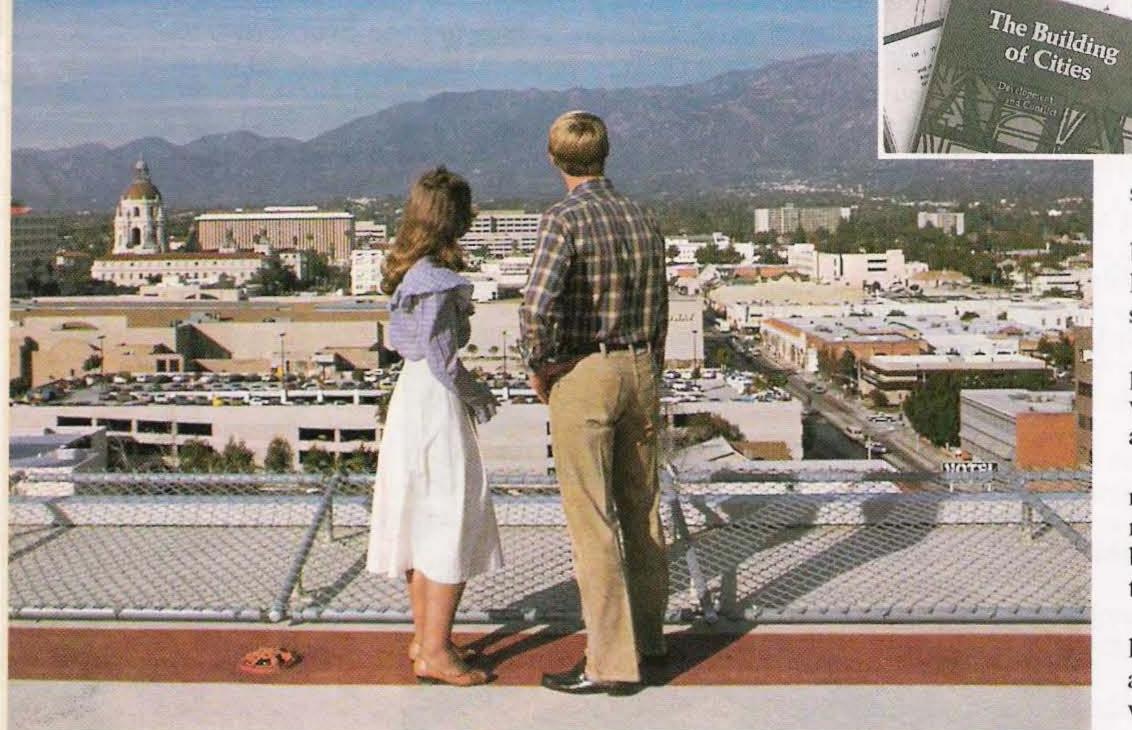
What would you do to prevent pollution? What would you do with garbage and sewage? What about water purification?

There is a lot to consider, and maybe your first attempt will never make it off the drawing boards, but it is worthwhile to think about it.

After all, soon you may be helping to build happy, beautiful and livable cities in the wonderful world tomorrow!



today's cities are studying books and maps can help you prepare to plan and cities! (Photos by G.A. Belluche Jr.)





Suicide. A scary word that more young people are hearing as the number of teenage suicides begins to skyrocket. Before that final act, most young people turn to a friend for help. What would you do if a friend needed your help?

# When a Friend Cries for Help

• If your friend was thinking of taking his or her own life, where would he or she turn? The chances are, to you. One study showed that 93 percent of teenagers will turn first to a friend, rather than an adult, when thinking of suicide.

One of the major triggers of teenage suicidal thoughts is a loss of some kind. Often, it is made worse by lack of family support.

Dr. Barry Garfinkel, a researcher at the University of Minnesota, told the Associated Press: "When an adolescent is depressed or troubled and has no available adult, that compounds the situation. An adolescent may see suicide as the only way out, whereas adults could provide alternatives."

Many experts feel that most teen suicides could be prevented if someone recognized the pleas for help made by the teenager.

In their book A Cry for Help,

Mary Giffin and Carol Felsenthal write: "People who attempt or commit suicide are almost always highly ambivalent [uncertain] about actually killing themselves. Remember, 75 percent of people who commit suicide give repeated warning. Most suicidal people are crying — indeed begging — for help. It is up to their friends, and especially their families, to give them that help."

Showing understanding and concern is vital, suicide specialists claim. The authors of A Cry for Help continue: "The most important force preventing young people from killing themselves is a warm and dependable relationship with someone who genuinely cares . . . In short, someone to really talk to — and we emphasize really talk to. And, even more important, someone who will really listen."

Mental health experts say that talking about the situation will

help a potential suicide open up and talk about the problem.

If a friend should come to you for help, listen. Show your friend that you really do care. Above all, experts stress that teenagers should get help from a trusted adult immediately if a friend talks of suicide.

After the immediate crisis is over, then what? In many cases, the problems that caused a person to think of suicide will still be there. Two free booklets, Why Were You Born? and The Seven Laws of Success, can help bring hope and the tools to change a life. — By Janet Eddington and Lowell Wagner Jr.

### Buckle Up-It's the Law

• "I had the freedom not to wear my seat belt, so now I'm confined to a wheelchair," Jeffrey Cressy wrote in a Newsweek editorial.

Lawmakers around the world have been looking at ways to prevent thousands of people from suffering the kind of trauma and loss Mr. Cressy experienced.

In 1970, the Australian state of Victoria made history by passing the world's first law requiring people to wear seat belts. The entire nation of Australia followed suit in 1972.

Since then, 16 countries have passed similar laws. The United States will be joining them.

Only 13.9 percent of Americans use seat belts regularly. The U.S. Department of Transportation wants to change that by pressuring the states to pass mandatory seat-belt-use laws by Sept. 1, 1986.

Enough states (accounting for two thirds of the U.S. population) must pass these laws, or the Department of Transportation will require all cars built after September, 1989, to be equipped with automatic restraint systems. These systems, like automatic seat belts or air bags, would increase the price of cars.

Why so much emphasis on seat belts? According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, people who wear them are 45 percent less likely to be killed and risk 50 percent less chance of becoming injured.

With mandatory seat-belt-use laws, between 14,000 and 18,000 lives could be saved each year, says the U.S. National Safety Council.

How well do the laws work? Nations with seat-belt laws report 15 to 30 percent fewer deaths and injuries because of auto accidents.

In the Canadian province of Ontario, less than 12 percent of the people wore seat belts before it became mandatory. Now an

estimated 60 percent wear safety belts.

In Ottawa,

where the law is more strictly enforced, about 80 percent of the drivers use them.

Some drivers claim that the risk is their own business. Not so, says Richard Greene, manager of traffic safety for the Canada Safety Council. "You and I and everybody pay for those things through our insurance payments."

Seat-belt-use laws could mean good news for drivers who hope to pay less for insurance. — By Robert C. Taylor

# Ice Skating Without Ice!

• You used to have to put your ice skates away in the spring, and not see them again until the cold weather returned. But don't put them away this year!

Skate-USA, a company in Miami, Florida, has developed a plastic substitute for frozen water called Astro-Ice. This plastic "ice" looks, feels and sounds almost like real ice, according to Steve Mittleman, director of operations and sales for Skate-USA. The difference is that it's not cold and wet.

Astro-Ice comes in panels of high-density plastic connected with strips of the same material. The strips make the joints between panels so smooth they are barely perceptible to a skater.

The Parkwood Sports Complex in Great Neck, New York, is one of the first to install an Astro-Ice rink.

"When the weather's warm, you can find people skating in bathing suits," Fred Ondris, recreation supervisor at Parkwood, told *Youth 85*.

Mr. Ondris said that beginners especially like Astro-Ice. "If they fall, it's just like falling on a gym

floor," he explains. "And it's not as slippery as ice, so they don't fall as much."

But beginners aren't the only ones that are leaving ice for plastic. Phil Esposito, one of the newest members of the National Hockey League's Hall of Fame, is a partner in Skate-USA and has a rink in his basement.

He feels that Astro-Ice will make possible amateur and professional hockey teams in areas where none were possible before because of the high costs of ice time and scarcity of rinks.

The Parkwood Sports
Complex's skating school was able
to open two months early last
year, using the plastic rink until
the regular ice rink opened in
November. "Hockey teams
especially took to the Astro-Ice
— they were on the 'ice' all
October, and in condition and
ready to go when the season
opened," said Mr. Ondris.

He added that the ice was a "marvelous teaching aid" because



A penguin? Skating in a hotel lobby?

And if that's not strange enough, that white stuff on the floor isn't really ice

— it's plastic! Right: Installing sheets of Astro-Ice. (Photos courtesy Astro-Ice)

small children can gain their balance and start skating on Astro-Ice in about half the time needed on real ice.

The major advantages plastic

If it wasn't for the magnetosphere, your life would be a lot different. This magnetic blanket protects the earth from the million mile (1,600,000 kilometer) an hour solar winds. Just how does it do it? Using a new satellite, astronomers hope to find out.

ice has over real ice are cost and convenience. The cost to install a plastic rink is considerably less. Maintenance costs are about one tenth that of an ice rink.

And no more long, cold waits while the ice is resurfaced every hour or so. Astro-Ice needs maintenance only three times each week.

Astro-Ice uses no energy, cutting out one of the greatest expenses of running a real ice rink. Many ice rinks have to shut down for the summer months because of high energy costs. With plastic ice, they can stay open all year round.

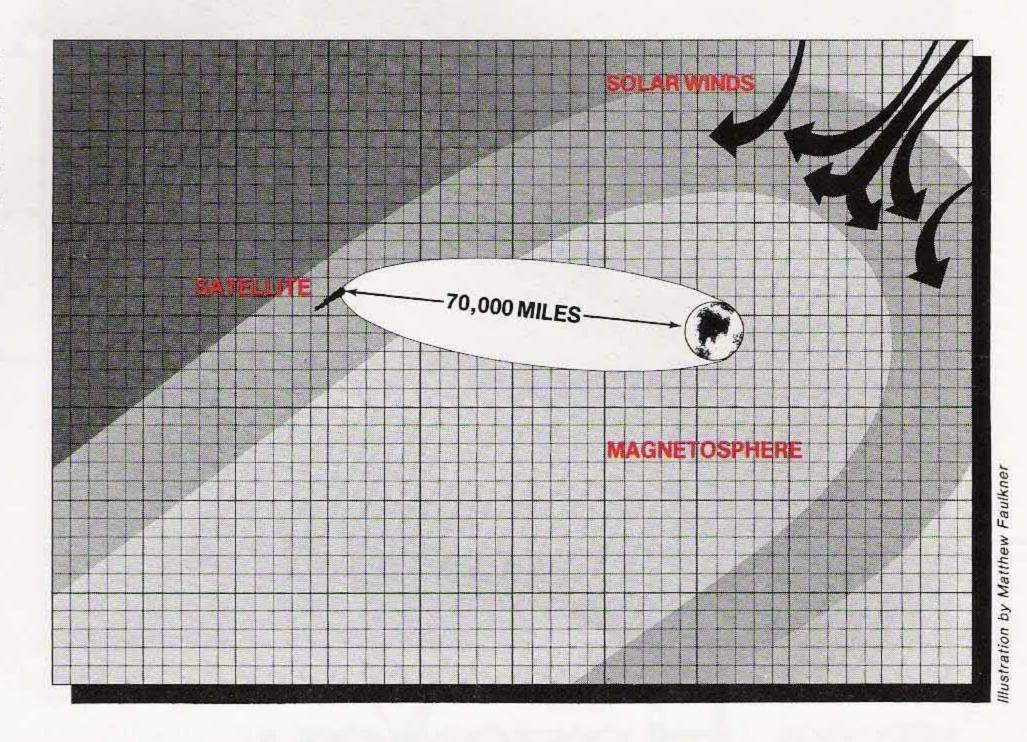
Many people in the skating business feel that more people would skate today if their first



experience hadn't been on real ice. "Have you ever spent time in a skating rink?" asks Mr. Mittleman. "It's cold and wet. It's even hard for parents to come out to watch."

Mr. Ondris agreed.

"Personally, I think it's a great addition. It's definitely the best substitute for real ice." — By Sandi Borax



### Gone With the Solar Wind

• It was the first extraterrestrial fireworks show!

But the Dec. 27 experiment was not just to provide early risers with something pretty to look at. Astronomers were trying to unlock some of the secrets of the solar wind and the earth's magnetic field.

From earth, with binoculars, the experiment looked like a brightly colored comet. American, British and West German scientists created it by releasing barium into the solar wind from a satellite 70,000 miles above the Pacific. The solar wind is a stream of particles that the sun is constantly emitting at a million miles (1,600,000 kilometers) an hour.

Scientist Bob Cameron, flying in an observation jet, told the Associated Press: "At the outset, it exploded. It looked like a very bright star — sort of a yellowish-blue flash that quickly went to purple. It held that shape for three to five minutes, then we began to see a tail which grew very rapidly."

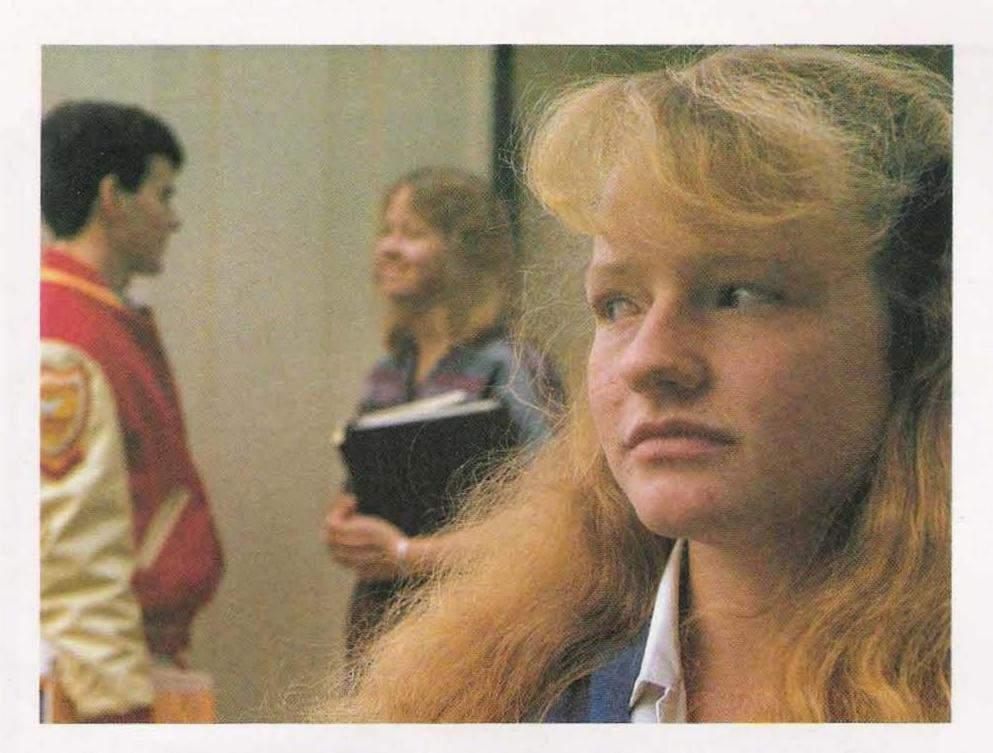
The tail was formed as the solar wind hit the cloud of gas, stretching it into a cometlike shape. Scientists were surprised by the strength of the solar wind, saying that the comet blew away "much more rapidly than we expected. It was a very strong solar wind."

Astronomers hope this experiment will teach them new things about the solar wind.

It is already known that the earth is surrounded by a magnetic shield — the magnetosphere — that blocks out most of the particles in the solar wind.

But the magnetosphere doesn't block out all the particles. The aurora borealis, also called the northern lights, may be created by parts of the solar wind that reach the earth's atmosphere. Scientists also suspect that the solar wind is related in some way to the earth's weather patterns.

Just how does the solar wind affect earth? With the help of the satellite, this is a question scientists hope to answer. — By Lowell Wagner Jr.



# Have You Heard the Latest?

By Colleen Dixon

ou know about Gwen, don't you?

Gwen's not all that bad. She really enjoys people.
You hardly ever see Gwen without somebody around,

talking with her.

Hanging around Gwen has its advantages. It's fun chatting with her, and you get all the news first. You find out when Mr. Angerstrom decides to curve the test grades because the whole class did poorly. You know what the dance theme will be months before they announce it. You also find out that Jeff and Ann have broken up.

Gwen telling someone else that you're hoping Jeff will ask you to go to the dance with him.

That's supposed to be a deep, dark secret! If word gets around, things could get mighty awkward between you and Jeff. And if the other guys hear it! — well, that

will reduce your chances of being asked to about minus 2.

That's when you realize that many of the tidbits of news you've been getting from Gwen, though they seem innocent enough, are really gossip.

Which brings up an interesting question: Where does ordinary newsy conversation end, and gossip — the kind of conversation that makes people say, "Don't listen to Gwen, she's a gossip" — begin?

To answer, you might consider the following questions:

Is the news true? Do you remember the rumor that a major fast-food restaurant chain put worms in their hamburgers? It was ridiculous, but enough people believed it to lower the firm's sales by 30 percent — despite the company's protests that with worms selling at \$6 to \$8 a pound, "wormburgers" would bankrupt them!

A simple rule will keep you out

of trouble here. If you don't *know* something is true, don't repeat it. Lies only get bigger and uglier in the telling.

Is it about others' shortcomings? This can be a hard question to ask ourselves. People are generally trying to feel better about themselves when putting others down.

If Mrs. Abercrombie is always praising Josie's compositions, it's tempting to conclude — and complain to others — that this favoritism is affecting everybody else's grades.

Those who spread these kinds of accusations may only half believe them. But if word of these rumors reaches the ears of either Josie or Mrs. A, it's likely to deeply hurt.

That's the nature of gossip. We take the gossip we repeat about others lightly, but the gossip repeated about us seriously.

Is it invading someone's privacy? Ever feel like you live in a glass house? Like people are forever watching and commenting on what you do, what you wear, where you go and whom you go with?

Privacy doesn't just happen because we want it to. The price

of privacy is discretion.

All of us, at times, learn the intimate details of others' lives. Sometimes the friend tells us in trust; sometimes, just by chance, we happen to see something we weren't supposed to. The proper course of action is the same — be discreet. You'll become known as a loyal friend people can count on.

Is it worthwhile? It has been said that big minds discuss ideas, ordinary minds discuss things and small minds discuss people. Even if everyday gossip isn't false, malicious or indiscreet, listening to it can waste time.

Gossip is essentially a spectator sport — gossips need an audience and we might be the suckers who fill their bill.

Which brings us to the bottom line about gossip: Instead of talking about interesting people, why not spend more time becoming one?

# How About a Career That COUNTS?

By Albert M. Baroody Jr.

uca Paciolo would be amazed! In 1494, the Italian monk wrote out the first organized rules of accounting.

Today, no business, school or government can function properly without it. Accounting seems to be a secure career field nearly 500 years later!

Accounting involves collecting, recording and classifying financial information. The accountant provides the information for managers to help them make business decisions.

Accountants may have special jobs. Once, while working as a junior accountant, I had to help inventory an entire county courthouse building.

Another time, while working in the payroll area of a university, I had to prepare and deliver a check for \$90,000 to a supervisor in another building on campus. I tried to look as calm as possible and walk as fast as I could!

Accountants help prepare budgets, tax returns and take care of banking matters. They rely on computers to help them process the information to make reports. Calculators are an important tool an accountant uses.

Do you like to handle money? Who doesn't! A large part of an accountant's job involves keeping track of money. Accountants have the responsibility of paying the bills on time. They keep track of money owed to the company. If payroll checks are not delivered on time, the accountant may

instantly become the most popular (or unpopular) person around!

#### What does it take?

What does it take to be an accountant? A few questions may help explain. Are you good at remembering the batting averages of your favorite baseball players? How about comparing and remembering the size, shape, color, price and weight of two

bicycles you're thinking of buying?

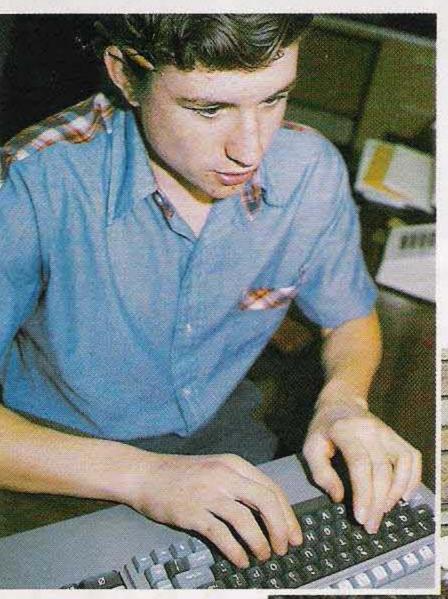
Are you good at adding up a restaurant check quickly? Can you figure out how much pizza to order and how much it will cost for you and three of your friends?

Do you like to keep your school notebooks or your room in a neat, orderly manner? If you're a bowler, can you add up the score sheet quickly and accurately?

Do you ever ask your parents about how or why things work? Do you like to write down how much money you spend and what you spend it on?

These questions involve your liking for numbers, detail work and keeping things in order. Accountants use these abilities a lot.

Accountants work on some



What does it take to be an accountant? Do you like dealing with numbers, money and computers? Can you figure out how much pizza to order and how much it will cost for you and your friends? (Photos by Nathan Faulkner)

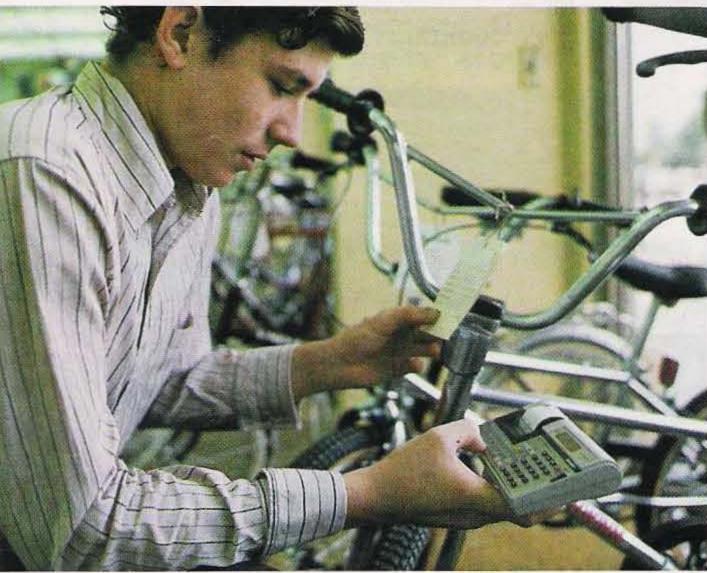


problems for long periods of time. Do you concentrate and remain patient when solving homework problems? Sometimes accountants have to work under pressure to get a report in on time.

There can be much satisfaction in accounting work. I once saw a normally quiet accounting manager suddenly jump up on a chair, throw his hands in the air and yell, "We did it, we did it!" after his staff had successfully balanced the department's budget.

Accountants work with the important financial records of a business and must be honest and trustworthy. They have to keep certain information confidential. I had the job of recording the salary increases when I worked in payroll. Obviously, you couldn't be a blabbermouth there!





Do you like comparison shopping or keeping score for card games? You may have a knack for accounting! (Photos by Nathan Faulkner)

The accountant must be a good speaker and listener, able to give reports to his or her supervisor, and get information from many department heads.

Most accountants are college educated. A college accounting program will have courses on everything from beginning accounting to the more specialized areas like income-tax accounting or auditing.

You will learn to prepare important financial statements like the balance sheet and income statement. Managers and other business people rely on the information in these statements, so let's briefly explain them.

#### A sample business

Let's say you and your friends Jim and Linda decide to open up

a lemonade stand for the summer. You borrow some money from your parents to buy the paper cups, lemons, honey and anything else you might need. Of course you'll have to pay Jim to run



the errands and Linda to sit in the hot sun and sell lemonade. You'll probably have to pay for a business permit. Other expenses include advertising and taxes.

After you operate your business for three months, you want to

find out how you did. You, as the accountant, kept track of the expenses, the lemonade sold and how much was borrowed.

The balance sheet you prepare will show the overall financial picture of your business at a point in time. It will include three sections called assets, liabilities and owner's equity. Basically, your assets include the value of the lemonade stand, supplies and cash on hand. Liabilities are the expenses and loans. Owner's equity is any money invested in the business.

Your income statement will show how much money you made. After subtracting your expenses from your sales, you come up with your profit (or loss!).

If Linda didn't give out too many free samples and business was good, then you probably made a profit. Another type of statement shows what was actually done with the income. Maybe your stand did well and you were able to save money for college or for expanding the business next summer. Remember this is a simple example, but it may help you understand some of the things accounting involves.

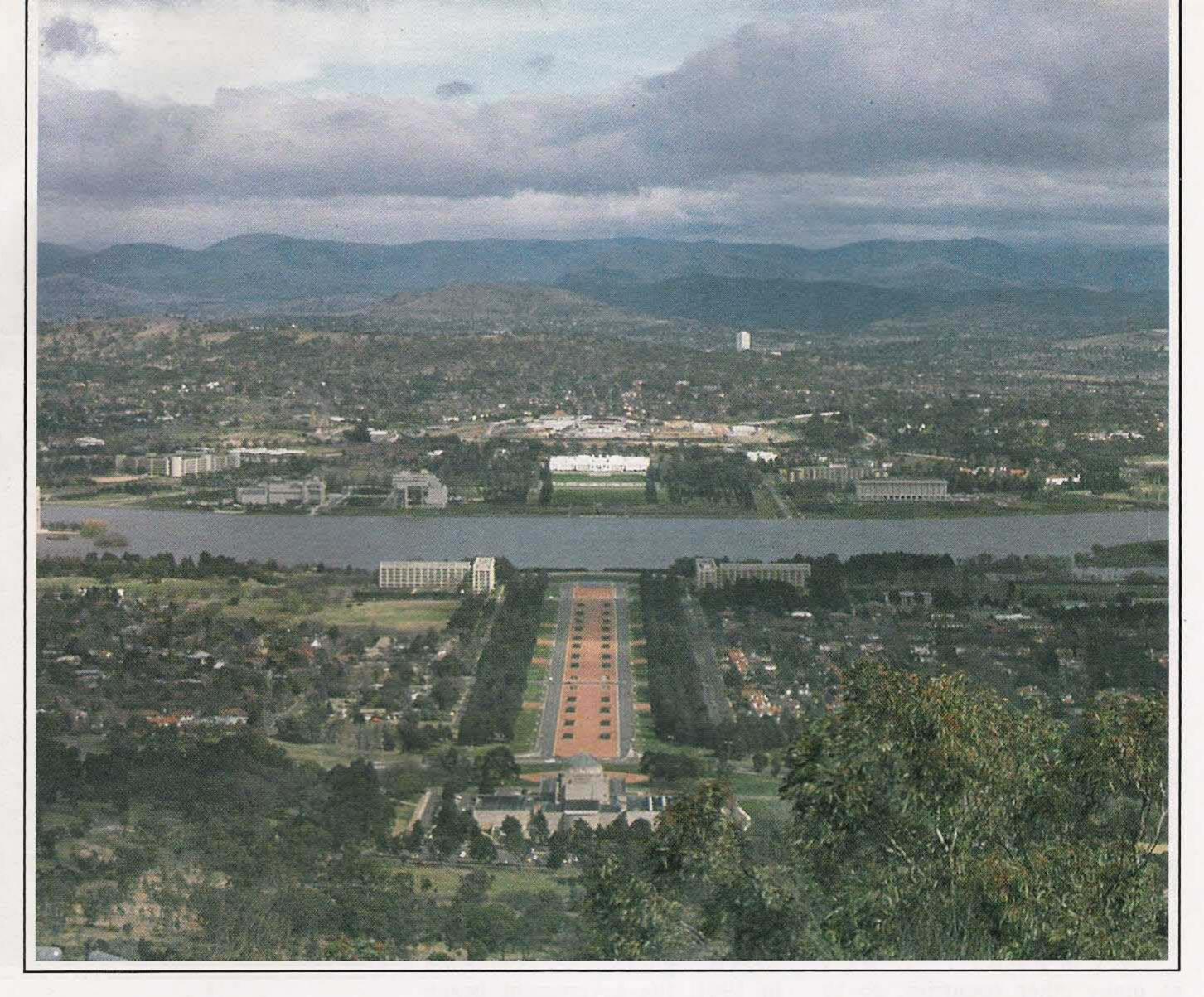
#### Types of jobs

Someone with an accounting degree can find jobs in many types of businesses. Graduates may work for a time and then gain professional recognition as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). A CPA is someone who has passed a state examination in accounting.

Accountants work for corporations, small businesses, hospitals, schools and many other types of organizations. Some accountants are called auditors. They examine the accounting records of businesses for accuracy. Governments employ auditors to check business tax records.

Many times the accountant is promoted to higher positions within the company because of his understanding of the business.

If you are interested in accounting, be sure to talk to your school guidance counselor and read more about it. Who knows, maybe you'll get to deliver a \$90,000 check someday!



# What's It Like to Be a Teen in CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA?

live in a planned city?

A city where broad, sweeping roads wind past modern buildings in a green and restful parklike setting? A city without noisy, bumper-tobumper traffic, harmful smog or unsightly slums?

Here in Canberra, Australia's capital, we live in such a city.

Cyclists and joggers can travel all over Canberra without ever having to compete with motor vehicles. A network of 100 kilometers (60 miles) of paved paths crisscross the city through peaceful parks, quiet suburbs and around a tranquil lake. Where they intersect roads and freeways, either an underpass or overpass has been built.

The area around Canberra provides limitless activities for teens: Horse riding, waterskiing,

# Planners wanted the city to have the quality and character fitting for its purpose.

sailing, ice-skating, bushwalking (hiking), tennis, squash and soccer are but a few. Sports are encouraged by the excellent facilities available throughout the city.

#### Seasonal recreation

Being inland, Canberra experiences greater extremes in temperature than in other parts of Australia. In the winter (June to August), we can go skiing in the Snowy Mountains just 150 kilometers (90 miles) south of the city.

Hot, dry summers make water sports a favorite. Canberra was the first Australian city to have a water slide. A high tower supports flumes that rush energetic bathers down and around curves. Jets of water propel them faster and faster until they plunge into a pool at the end.

Teens in Canberra, like teens in many other countries, go to school until they are at least 16 years old. After finishing six years of primary school, we go immediately into high school. There are no junior high schools.

All students are required to finish four years of high school. This qualifies us for a 4th form

(four-year) certificate (diploma). We can then either leave and find work or continue with the last two years of high school.

Although four

years is enough for those who wish to learn a trade at a College of Advanced Education (community college), six years of high school education are required for entrance into a university.

There are no festive graduation ceremonies to honor high school graduates as in America and some other countries.

Although unemployment is especially high among Australian teens, jobs are more available here than elsewhere in Australia. Since Canberra is the administrative center for the whole nation, government jobs are plentiful.

Many of the world's cities began as small villages or towns and eventually burst at the seams. A great number of these have become overpopulated, cluttered and disorganized. What makes Canberra different?

When the states of Australia were brought together as a nation in 1901, the government began the search for a suitable site for a new capital. Because of rivalry between Sydney and Melbourne, neither of these major cities could be used.

#### Planning Canberra

Like the United States before them, Australia's planners wanted this new city to be a part of a national district.

In southeastern New South Wales, below the Brindabella range, they found sweeping plains interspersed with rolling hills. A small river ran through the limestone plains that could be dammed to make an artificial

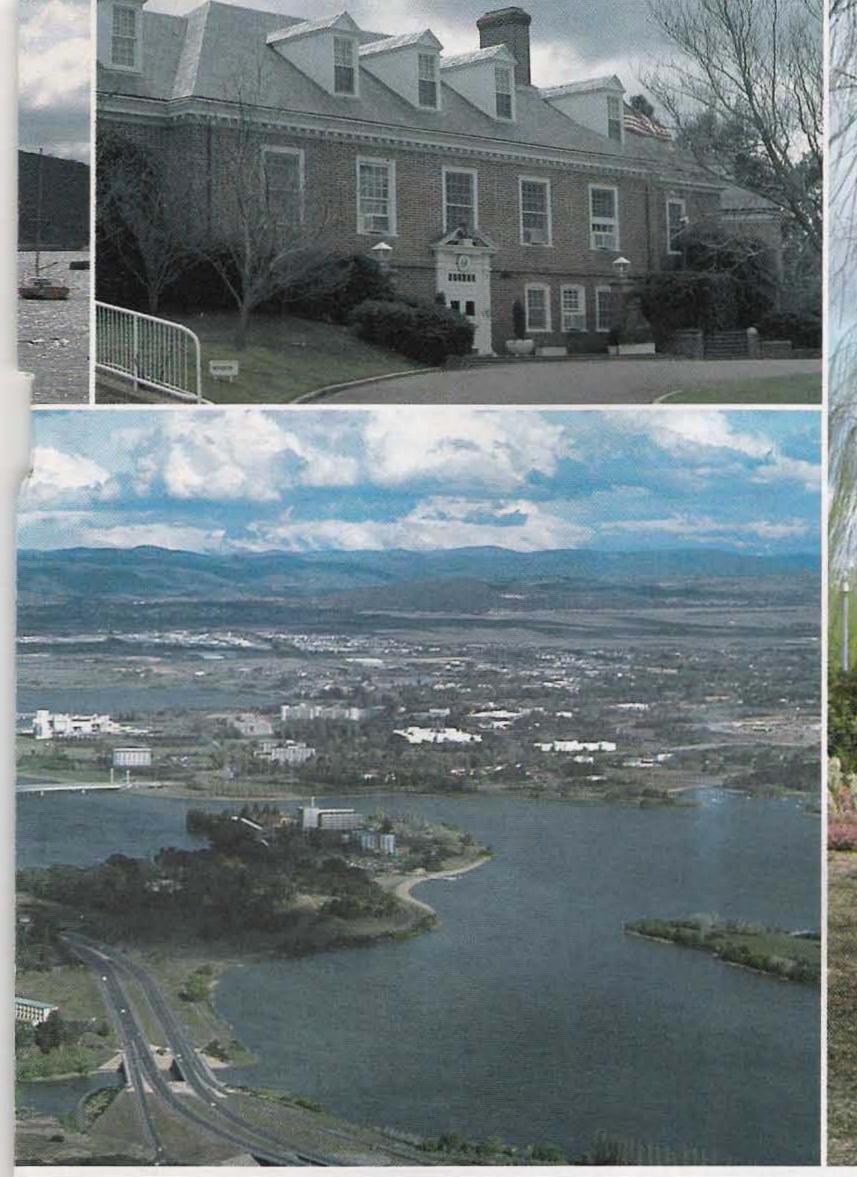
lake. In 1911, this region was designated as the Federal Capital Territory.

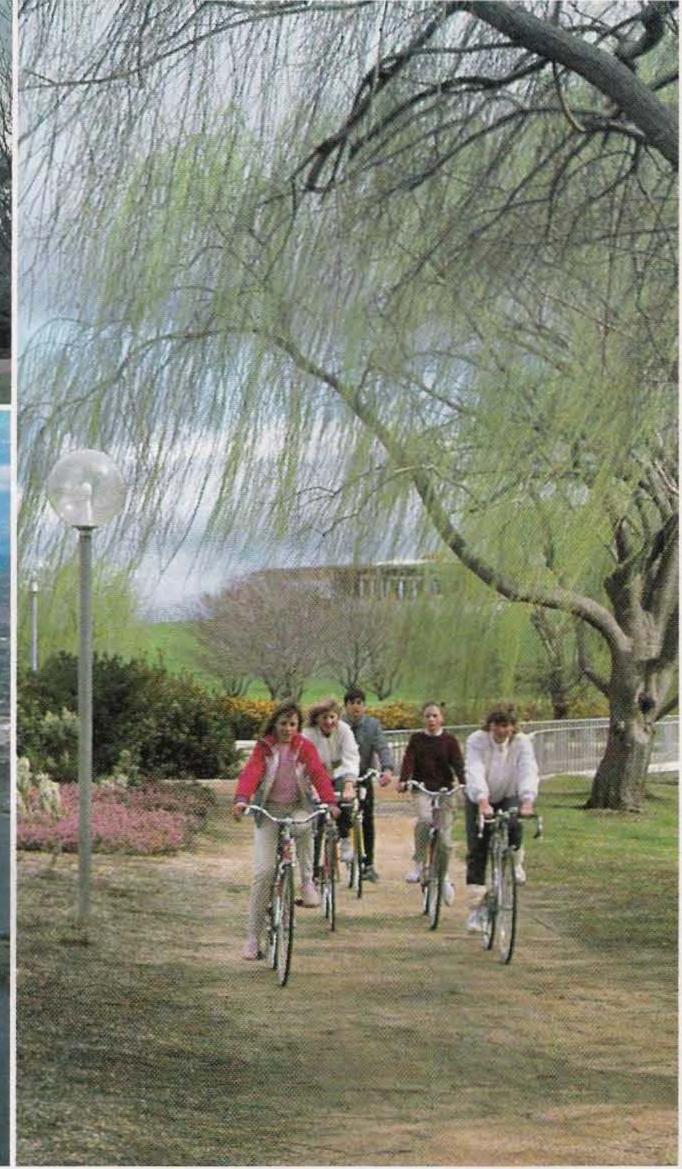
The planners wanted the capital city to have the quality and character fitting for its purpose. Canberra had to be unique. So an international competition to design the city was announced.

The winning de-



The High Court typifies the modern design of Canberra's newest buildings. The entry ramp is used for important ceremonies. (Photo by Robert C. Taylor)





sign was the creative work of an American architect, Walter Burley Griffin. He envisioned great triangles of avenues and smooth flowing traffic. The sparkling lake would serve to reflect the grandeur of key government buildings and monuments.

Since then, Canberra has truly become a showcase city. From the shores of Lake Burley Griffin, we can view some of the finest architecture Australia has to offer: the National Library, the High Court and National Art Gallery, the stately Canberra Carillon (bell tower) and the spectacular Captain Cook Memorial Water Jet.

Perched above Canberra, on Black Mountain, is the Telecommunications Tower. From its viewing platforms, visitors can take in a panoramic view of Canberra and the surrounding area. As a capital city, Canberra is host for the embassies and high commissions of many nations. Some of these reflect the architecture of the homelands, while others employ modern designs.

These and other noteworthy sites help make Canberra an impressive and stunning city. But it is not just what Canberra shows that makes it impressive. It's also what Canberra doesn't show. If we stay on the main roads, we can drive through the entire city and not see service stations, factories, run-down buildings or similar eyesores.

#### Hidden buildings

The less attractive buildings are hidden on side streets and in areas where they will not spoil the scenery for the general public. However, this sometimes creates a dilemma for visitors who are running low on petrol (gasoline).

From top left: Boats sail in the afternoon shadow of Black Mountain. The stately American Embassy. Teens take a brisk ride through Commonwealth Park. (Photos by Rod King) Center photo: Canberra as seen from the Telecom Tower. In the center is the National Library; on its left, the Captain Cook Memorial Water Jet. (Photo by Robert C. Taylor)

For the first inhabitants of Australia, the aborigines, the word canberra meant "meeting place." What was once an uninhabited plain has become the meeting place for men and women who will decide the direction of Australia.

For the teens living in Australia's capital, it's a city of beauty, challenge and opportunity.

This article was compiled from reports by Rod King, Simone Lovett and Simon Sharp.



# In Search of Sunken Treasure

By Ron Toth

he hot, humid summer day drained the strength from everyone on board the two-masted schooner.

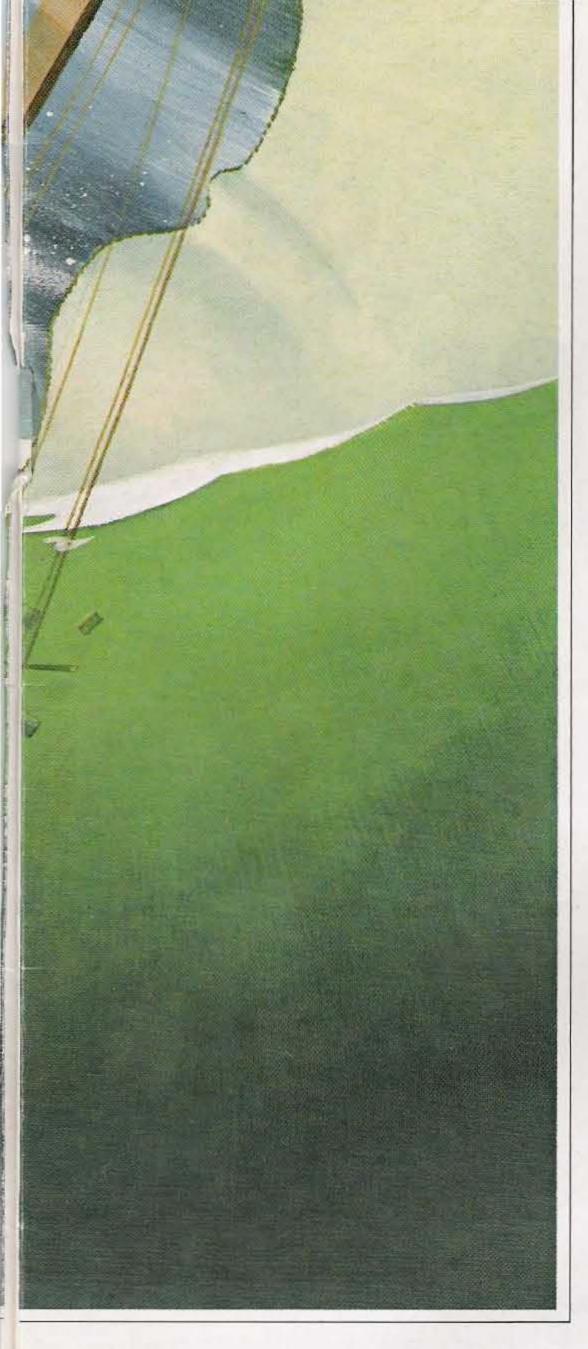
As darkness approached, a cool breeze brought refreshing relief. The exhausted sailors were soon asleep.

Then, during the early morning hours, a thunderstorm struck. Blinding flashes of lightning and deafening thunder were accompanied by wind blowing like a typhoon.

Cold rain and huge waves slammed into the ship, pouring water across the deck. Winddriven waves crashed on the side, causing the ship to list.

The schooner could not endure the combination of pounding waves, wind and rain. Within minutes the stricken ship sank, carrying men and equipment to the bottom of Lake Ontario.

The lake swallowed the schooner, named *Scourge*, entombing its contents. For 170 years it sat on



the cold, dark bottom of the lake — all but forgotten.

#### Treasures beneath the sea

Scourge is not alone beneath the water. Numerous shipwrecks litter the bottom of the earth's oceans, seas, rivers and lakes. Shipwrecked galleons laden with gold, silver and jewelry wait for treasure hunters to discover their secrets.

But for historians and marine archaeologists, shipwrecks are important for another reason. They are looked at as a slice of civilization frozen in time. The ship, with the wide variety of items aboard it, provides archaeologists with a picture of the past.

Huge waves and typhoon force winds sank the schooner Scourge on an August day, 170 years ago. When scuba divers discovered her, it was like a dream come true for historians.

Looking at a shipwreck is like looking at a moment of time at a standstill — a specific time and date frozen, just like a photograph. Picture in your mind a 35-year-old photograph. Notice the old-fashioned style of clothes on the people.

Now imagine that the picture is 170 or 440 years old, and you can remove, handle and examine its contents! This is something of what a shipwreck can give historians.

The equipment, tools, cargo and personal belongings discovered within a sunken ship can help in piecing together what everyday life was like when the ship sank. In many cases, these discoveries cannot take place on land, because many items are damaged by wind, rain or man. But under the oceans, ships remain remarkably well preserved.

#### Scourge, 170 years later

Lake Ontario's fresh water and near-freezing temperatures toward the bottom preserved the schooner Scourge, which sank Aug. 8, 1813. It's so well preserved, it's almost as if you could just raise it to the surface and sail away.

What makes this ship so special is that few records remain from its time period about ship design and construction. For historians, Scourge is a dream come true.

The ship also contains a wealth of well-preserved items (archaeologists call them artifacts): cannons, cutlasses (curved swords), boarding axes and cannonballs, among other things. These things all remained in position through the decades since the sinking.

Another ship that revealed much historical information is the English ship Mary Rose. While she was on the way to a battle with an invading French fleet, a freak wind struck, and the Mary Rose rolled over and sank.

That was July 19, 1545. Now, 440 years later, divers have recovered a beautifully preserved barber-surgeon's chest, containing 64 items used in the trade. One container of ointment still had the surgeon's finger marks on the salve!

Other items recovered were a nail completely preserved because it was dropped into tar more than four centuries ago, and a magnetic steering compass, the oldest found so far in northern Europe.

The Mary Rose also revealed that bows and arrows were still used at sea, even after heavy cannon were added to ships. The skeletons of archers were found on the gun deck, prepared for battle.

Before this discovery, no bows or arrows had been known to survive from the 1500s, but divers recovered 2,500 arrows and 139 longbows. Some longbows were so well preserved that they were restrung and shot arrows. In all, more than 17,000 artifacts were recovered from the Mary Rose.

Another important shipwreck rests off the coast of Turkey. Historians say the ship sank 3,400 years ago.

#### The time of Moses

Just think! When this vessel sailed, Moses, Aaron and Joshua lived. Moses had just led the children of Israel through the Red Sea and had begun writing the first five books of the Bible.

This ship, sailing from Syria, stopped at Cyprus. After receiving more cargo, it set sail again. A warm, gentle breeze made sailing easy, and all went well as they followed the coast of Turkey.

But not long after, a mighty wind came up, catching the ship and driving it into some rocks. The foundering vessel sank rapidly to the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea.

There it sat, untouched until \$ now. Only last summer historians & began examining it.

"I can say without hesitation § that this is the most exciting and (Continued on page 29) €

# Busy as a Beaver'? How Busy Is That?

By Clayton Steep

If you accomplished half as much, you'd really be getting things done!

There isn't a lazy bone in its 3-foot-(1-meter-)long body!

The industrious beaver, once nearly exterminated by fur hunters, has been making a comeback. And it's a good thing, too! Few other animals can contribute so many benefits to the areas where they live.

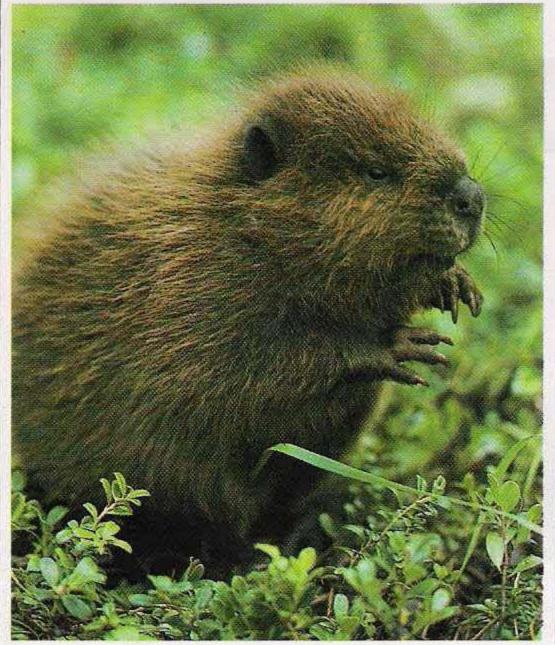
The beaver has some unusual features. It has large front teeth for quickly cutting wood. Its front paws are almost like hands. Its rear paws are webbed for swimming.

Its tail is broad and flat and can be used in swimming, diving or to beat the ground or the surface of the water, apparently to signal danger.

#### **Animal architects**

Beavers build their homes in water, like out in the middle of a pond. From a distance the construction might not seem like anything more than a heap of sticks and branches. But look more closely.

The branches are skillfully interlaced and cemented with a mortar of mud and dead leaves. They form a dome covering a large and comfortable living quarters — known as the beaver lodge.



Inside, the floor of the lodge is above water level. But there is no visible doorway.

Instead, the entrances — two of them — are below the surface of the water, where sloping tunnels lead up into the lodge itself. Here, in safety and warmth, the beaver family spends the winter.

For food, beavers love the bark and shoots of various trees. So, on the floor of the pond they store wood from which to eat during the winter months.

All this requires a lot of work. Trees have to be cut down, trimmed, then dragged or floated to the storage site or to the construction site. There they are fitted and mortared together. Some are even weighted down with heavy stones to keep them in place.

But this is only part of the picture! In order for the lodge to be an effective shelter, the surrounding water has to be maintained at just the right level. It has to be high enough to keep the entrances hidden under the surface, yet it can't be so high that it floods the lodge.

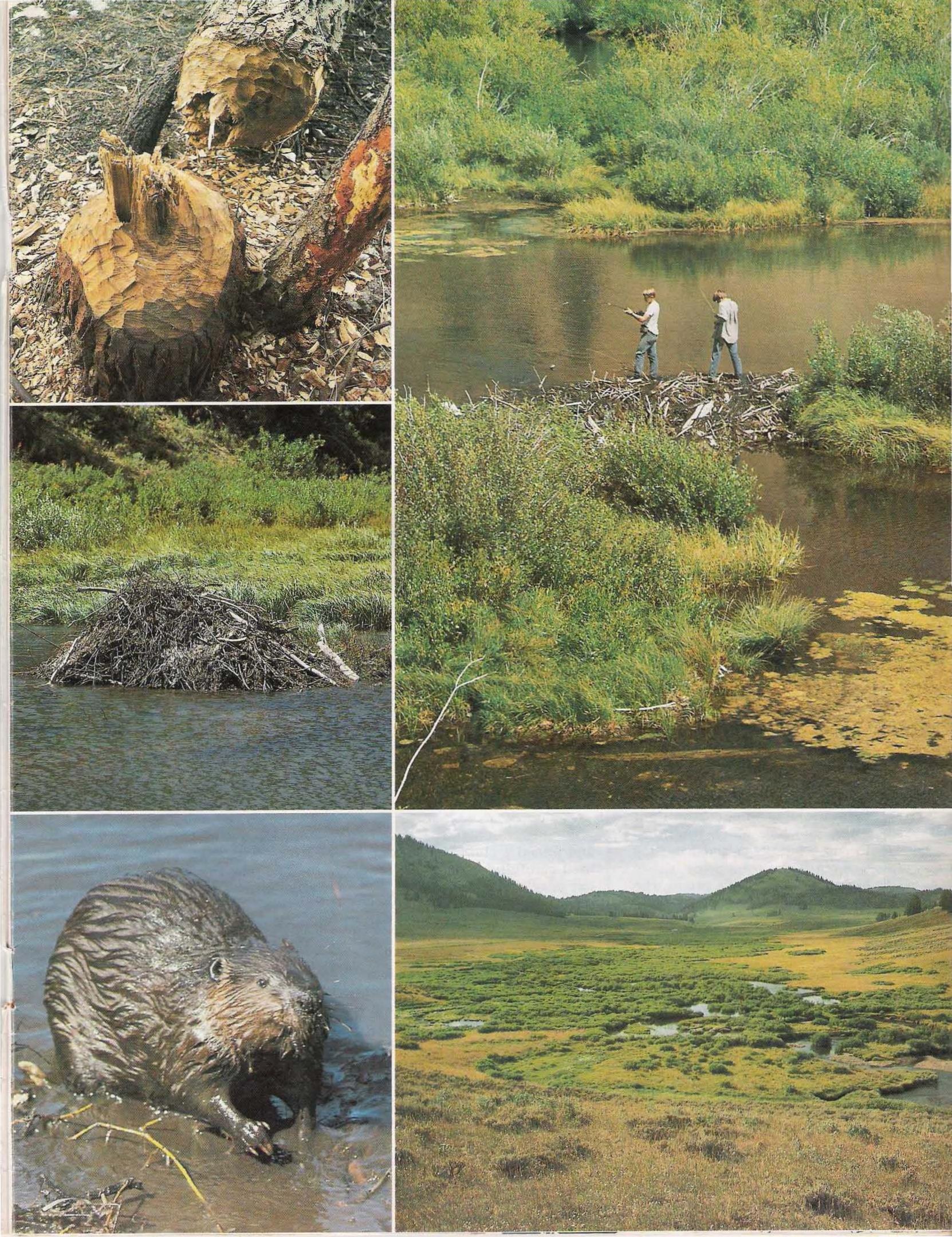
How do beavers solve this problem? They build dams to create and regulate the ponds in which they construct their lodges.

#### **Expert engineers**

It is in constructing their lodges and dams that beavers show themselves to be engineers and builders without parallel in the animal kingdom. Only human beings can rival their technical skill in such projects.

No two dams are identical, yet (Continued on page 29)

Clockwise from upper left: the stump of a tree felled by a beaver; fishing in a pond created by a beaver dam; a pond drains, revealing rich land; a working beaver, ever alert to danger; the visible part of a beaver lodge. (Photos: page 18, Masterfile — Al Harvey; page 19 lower left, Masterfile — Janet Green; others, Youth 85)



# JEAS PLUS

## Is This a Good Deal?

Are six records or tapes for free really a good deal? Will you be happy with the five books you bought for the price of one?

Maybe so. If you understand what you're getting into, membership in a book or record club can be a good thing. But if you don't, you can get yourself into trouble.

When you respond to a club's advertisement, you are in effect signing a contract. It's your responsibility to read the contract and know what it requires you to do. Be sure you know what else you must buy and how much time you will be allowed for the purchases. Will you have

Figure out how much you will be paying for each recording or book. Write to the company before joining to check on their prices and how much you'll have to pay for postage and handling.

Even if the total price is higher than a store's prices, the cheaper items from the introductory offer may bring the average price below retail. On the other hand, you may find that you would do better to buy directly from a store.

Be sure the company will offer what you want. Some make their own versions of books and recordings to keep their prices low. That may not be important to you unless you want them to be exactly the same as those in the stores.

Does the club offer the selections you want? Don't get stuck having to buy a bunch of books and recordings you don't really want just to fulfill your part of the deal.

Think back over the past year. How many books or recordings

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try to help you straighten out the problem.

Maybe after thinking it over, you've decided you can't really afford a club membership. But perhaps you have a trustworthy friend or family member who would like to share a membership with you. *Both* of you can make your selections from the

introductory offer — and each of you agree to buy half the records or books needed to fulfill the contract.

Choose your clubs to fit your needs, and don't join more than you can keep track of. Book and record club membership is a responsibility. Don't take on more than you can comfortably manage. — By Maria Root

have you bought without being in the club? If very few, this may not be the time for you to make an agreement to buy several.

Finally, when you have chosen and joined a club, watch your mail carefully! Most clubs send out notification of their selections. You must let them know if you don't want to receive the book or recording they have selected.

If you don't notify the club, you may end up with books or recordings you don't want, but still have to pay for.

If you ever receive something you know you didn't order, either return the package unopened, or notify the club immediately of the mistake. They will

## It's to Your Credit

Clearance sale! One week only!
All merchandise 50 percent off!
The new shoes Ralph wanted

were sitting in

Illustrations by Monte Wolverton

the window. But even with the sale price, he knew it would take several weeks to save up enough money. By then the sale would be over.

So he made a deal with the store. "If you leave what you have here as a down payment," the store owner told him, "we'll hold the shoes for you until you can pay the rest."

Ralph has just started what is usually called a layaway plan. It is just one of many forms of credit. Until recently, it was about the only form of credit available to teens. Other forms, such as loans and credit cards, were mainly for adults.

But now, some businesses are making credit cards available to teens, basing their credit on the record of their parents. One such business is Buffums department store in Southern California. According to Buffums, teen credit can help establish a good credit rating for teens. This is its biggest advantage.

But credit isn't always a good thing. Just ask one of the many adults forced to declare bankruptcy every year because of using credit in the wrong way. If you aren't already planning out and sticking to a budget, a credit card probably isn't for you.

Understanding what credit is and how it works will help you use it wisely. Here are some ways to use it properly:

 Before applying for credit, discuss it with your parents. They can often be held responsible for any money you owe, so they have a right to know. Their signature also may be needed for you to get credit.

 Don't sign anything until you understand every last bit of fine print and how it could affect your life.

· Once you have credit, don't buy things you don't know how you will pay for.

Use your credit to purchase

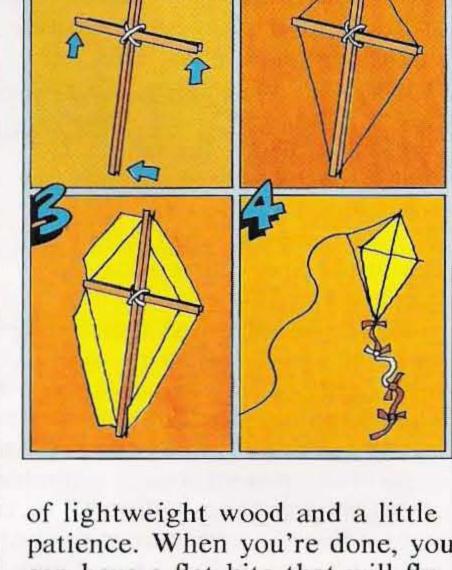
needs, not wants.

• If you lose a credit card, notify the company immediately so you will not have to pay for things other people may buy without your permission.

• Pay your bills on time. If an emergency forces you to miss or be late on a payment, let the store know right away. If you show them you aren't just going to walk out on what you owe, they can help work out a solution to the problem.

• Using credit can raise the price of what you are buying since the business makes money by charging you interest on what you owe. Try to pay your entire bill as soon as possible.

Want to learn more about your money? Write for the free booklet Managing Your Personal Finances. — By Wesley B. Webster and Lowell 



patience. When you're done, you can have a flat kite that will fly with the best of them.

The first step is to cut notches into the ends of each of the two sticks. Once this is

> done, tie the two sticks together at the place shown in the diagram (figure 1). The sticks must be tied tightly together so that the kite frame is sturdy.

The next step is to form the outer edge of your kite by linking the four ends with a string (figure 2).

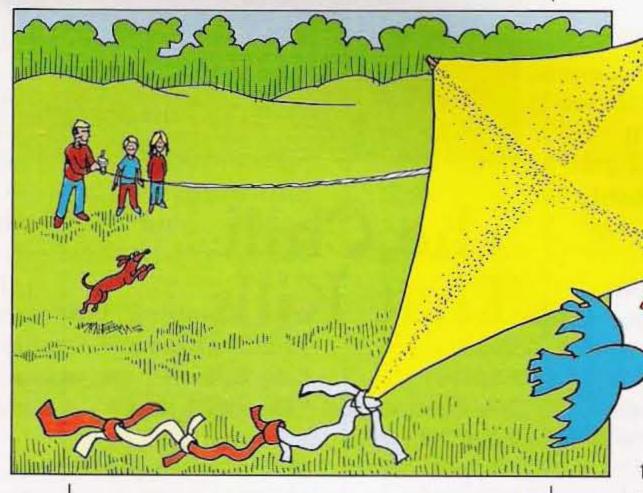
Tie a knot at each of the four notches to keep the string tight.

Now you're ready to cut the paper for your kite. You will need a sheet of paper large enough to cover the whole surface. It must also be

rather strong to resist all that wind it will be meeting.

If you can't find a single sheet that is strong enough, you can make one by gluing two sheets of newspaper together. Remember: Your sheet of paper needs to be big enough to cover the front and still have enough for 2 inches (5 centimeters) of overlap on the back of the kite.

Next, spread the paper over the frame. Fold it carefully over the string and glue it to the



#### The Sky's the Limit

Blue skies, spring weather and fresh breezes — the perfect time for flying kites. Why not try something different this year and make your own kite?

It's easier — and more fun than you might think. What you need is string, paper, old rags, white glue, scissors, two pieces

back of your sheet of paper (figure 3).

Now attach a tail made of small knotted rags to the bottom of the kite (figure 4). This tail is necessary to stabilize the kite in the wind.

Finally, attach the bridle, a string that is tied to the top and bottom of the kite (figure 4). Tie your main control string to the bridle and you're ready to go!

# Proverbs for Today: 'I'm No Thief'

"It's not that much money,"
Doug said to himself. "She'll
never miss it. Besides," he
reasoned, "Mom would probably
give it to me anyway if she was
home."

He pulled the bill out of his mother's purse and slipped it into his pocket.

Was Doug right to assume there was nothing wrong with what he did? Was he right — or was he stealing?

Here's what wise King Solomon said: "Whoever robs his father or his mother, and says, 'It is not trangression,' the same is companion to a destroyer" (Proverbs 28:24).

Few doubt that taking large amounts of money is stealing.
But it's easy to think that taking only small amounts is not stealing, even though it is.

God gave a commandment against stealing. He also gave one that says to honor our parents (Exodus 20:12). This includes respect for their possessions. What they have

doesn't automatically belong to their sons and daughters and isn't up for grabs.

The property of others, and especially of family members, should be respected. Any other attitude can hurt the family.

Honoring our parents is a building block of good character. And that is worth far more than a little bit of money. — By Jim Roberts



## The Chill That Kills

It's been called "the chill that kills." The scientific name is "hypothermia." But it is simply "freezing to death."

It happens when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it. And it doesn't have to be below freezing to happen. Most cases occur between 32 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit (zero and 10 Celsius).

Normally, the body stays at 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit (37 Celsius). During hypothermia, that temperature drops rapidly. If it goes below 95 degrees Fahrenheit (35 Celsius), the body will be unable to raise the temperature on its own.

The first visible signs of

hypothermia are shivering, clumsiness, irritability (the person may deny feeling any ill effects) and slurred speech. The lips and nails may be pale or blue. Amnesia may set in as the body temperature drops.

When planning any cool weather activity, bring along more clothing, food and water than you think you will need. Carry rain gear if you will be

away from shelter.

Closely watch the weather reports before you go. If bad weather is predicted, don't chance it on the hope the weather report is wrong.

You should also know how to recognize hypothermia if you see it in other people. When traveling in a group, watch each other for the signs mentioned earlier. It is usually easier to spot symptoms in others than in yourself.

People who show signs of hypothermia should be helped to increase their body heat immediately. The National Outdoor Leadership School recommends in its

Wilderness Guide, these steps:

"First, remove him from the offending environment . . . Then provide external heat. Put him in a sleeping bag which has been warmed ahead of time, since the victim cannot generate enough heat to warm the bag himself. Put in hot water bottles and feed the victim warm, sugary drinks.

"If a double sleeping bag is available, place the victim inside between two . . . persons." As soon as possible, get medical attention for the victim.

Cooler weather provides many opportunities for sports and outdoor activities that can't be enjoyed at other times of the year.

# Teen Bible Study

### Making Wise Decisions

By Richard A. Sedliacik

Will you go to college or continue your education in some other way? What career will you choose? Whom will you marry and where will you live?

These and other decisions we face can affect us for the rest of our lives.

If we make wise decisions, our lives will be happier and we'll have peace of mind. But making the right decisions is not a matter of luck or chance. It is a matter of knowing and applying the keys to successful decision making. Few realize that the Bible contains the all-important guidelines we need to make truly wise decisions!

Before we begin this study and learn these keys to wise decision making, get a Bible, pen or pencil and some paper. Writing out the verses that answer the questions will help you remember the priceless principles you'll be learning.

- 1. Who was the wisest of all men? I Kings 4:30-34. How did Solomon obtain his wisdom? I Kings 4:29. (Read also I Kings 3:5-13.) Did he write the book of Proverbs? Proverbs 1:1.
- 2. What key principle did Solomon give for making wise decisions? Proverbs 3:5-6. Will God grant His wisdom, knowledge and understanding to those who seek it? Proverbs 2:1-6.

The primary way that God directs us, provided we are striving to please Him, is through the Instruction Book He has given to humanity — the Holy Bible. God inspired the Bible to be written for our benefit (II Timothy 3:16-17).

3. Is God's Word like a spotlight that shows us the way to go? Psalm 119:105. What comparison is drawn between the vital knowledge, guidance and wisdom contained in God's Word and a treasure chest full of precious things? Proverbs 8:10-11. (See also Proverbs 3:13-18.)

God's Word is far more valuable than all the gold, silver and precious gems in the world! In it are principles that can help us make wise decisions in all areas of life. A gold mine of wisdom and understanding is to be found especially in the book of Proverbs.

It contains priceless wisdom that can guide both young and old alike in making decisions that lead to lifelong success and happiness, including good health, a challenging career, a beautiful marriage, happy children and lasting friendships.

4. Did God also have the lives of Old and New Testament personalities recorded so we could profit from their experiences? Romans 15:4, I Corinthians 10:6, 11.

By reading about the lives of the great men and women of the Bible — men like Abraham, Moses, David, Christ and women like Ruth, Hannah and Sarah — we can learn valuable lessons and principles that will help us in making decisions and in other areas of our lives.

5. How did King David refer to the Word of God that was available to him? Psalm 119:72, 162. Did he obtain wisdom and understanding from following God's instruction? Psalm 119:97-100, 104.

David knew from practical experience that God's Word contains a priceless storehouse of wisdom, knowledge and understanding! He diligently studied the portion of God's written Word available to him in his day.

David thought about God's law and how to use it in making wise decisions. Therefore, he was exceedingly blessed, becoming wiser than his enemies and understanding more than his teachers.

Now, let's examine some additional keys for wise decision making, contained in the book of Proverbs.

6. Is it important to avoid making rash or hasty decisions? Notice the principles in Proverbs 21:5, 4:26 and 14:15.

An important rule to follow in good decision making is to avoid being hasty. A hasty decision can end up creating unnecessary difficulty because you have not really understood the facts before making a



Will you go to college? That's just one of the decisions young people face. (Photo by Warren Watson)

decision. Take time to carefully analyze the situation and get the facts. Think through the end result of the various alternatives you might have.

Also, don't allow others to pressure or rush you into a decision you may regret. They may not always have your best interests in mind.

7. Before making important decisions, is it wise to seek advice and counsel from others with knowledge and experience? Proverbs 11:14, 12:15, 15:22, 19:20.

There is an old saying that "two heads are better than one." Advice and assistance from others — especially from your parents, teachers and experts in a particular field — are often of great help in solving a problem or making a wise decision. A good adviser can often steer us in the right direction by giving us ideas we would not think of ourselves.

Sometimes what we think would be a good decision may not necessarily be the best.

That is why advice from our parents, teachers and elders is so important. Often they have gone through similar experiences and are more than willing to give us the guidance we need to make the right decisions. They want to help us avoid making mistakes that could prove costly and cause much heartache.

8. Is it also to our benefit to get to know and associate with those who are wise? Proverbs 13:20, 27:17.

Seek friends who are known for their

wisdom and good judgment. Such friends sharpen our wits and can help us to make wise decisions.

Reading autobiographies and biographies of successful men and women can also help us in making wise decisions. We can glean from their experiences important traits and ways of doing things that we can apply in our lives.

Men and women known for their wisdom and common sense, whose biographies are profitable reading, include Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Winston Churchill, Dwight Eisenhower, Queen Elizabeth, Golda Meir and Anwar Sadat, to name just a few.

9. Should a person carefully "count the cost" to be sure he or she is able to follow through with a decision? Luke 14:28-30.

In making decisions such as whether to buy a new or used car and what make, deciding on a career or whether to live on your own, count the cost! Decide whether your plans might be premature, financially inadvisable or beyond your ability to achieve. Sometimes it is best to hold off on a decision and wait till the circumstances are more favorable.

10. Has God promised to give us the wisdom we need to make wise decisions, if we ask Him? James 1:5-6.

God, who is the supreme source of wisdom, will guide us as we apply the keys to decision making that He reveals in His Word. He will steer us in the right direction. But we must ask Him for that help!

Even though we may do our best to follow the keys discussed in this study, we still will sometimes make a bad decision because of unknown factors or circumstances beyond our control.

When this happens, don't get discouraged. Chalk it up to experience and learn whatever lessons you can from the entire situation.

To briefly summarize what we've learned, remember to avoid making hasty decisions. Be sure to get the facts. Seek counsel and advice from qualified experts. Study God's Word and ask Him for guidance and wisdom.

By following the all-important keys outlined in this study, you'll begin to experience the happy, productive and successful life God wants each of us to have!

## Dear Youth 85,

## Practical Bible-based answers to the problems of growing up.

Q. I am a girl 16 years of age. I've been best friends with another girl my age ever since junior high school, but we had a big fight last week and haven't spoken to each other since. How can I save this friendship, or is it too late?

A. Friendships are wonderful to have and are certainly worth saving most of the time. There are times when we can save them, however, and times when we can't, and even times when we

shouldn't try.

You didn't say what the argument was about, but most arguments are about things that aren't too earth shattering (such as a few cross words spoken without thinking). Arguments like this many times are caused by each person's inner pride and unwillingness to admit faults in some small matter (see Proverbs 13:10). Usually these type arguments almost solve themselves without doing anything except forgetting about them. If your friendship really has strength, it will survive minor tiffs.

If the argument is bigger, then one person may have to go and apologize to the other. If you are in the wrong, have the courage to be the first to try and make up. Even if you are not the one in the wrong, try and find some kind words for the other person and show your willingness to forgive. Don't expect perfect success every time, for some people will not apologize no matter how wrong they may be. But if that is the case, then this particular friendship was destined to fail in time anyway.

Some friendships should not be patched up. These are ones where the conflict arises from a basic difference in values, such as between one friend who wants to experiment with drugs and anoth-

er who refuses them. In this case, have the courage to end your friendship.

Q. I am 15 years old. My problem is that I don't know how to start talking to people I'd like to meet.

A. Fear of meeting new people, especially those of the opposite sex, is a problem many, if not all, teens (and adults) suffer.

The problem usually is that we imagine the other person to be some sort of superperson with no problems or insecurities of his or her own. We think that he or she will probably find us inferior. Realize instead that the other person is just a normal person who probably would be flattered by your desire to meet him or her. This is more likely the case.

Those few who are stuck-up might rebuff you, but this should not make you feel inferior. They should feel bad about such treatment, not you.

And remember this: The best way to break down a fear of people is to force yourself to meet them in spite of it. If you give in to your fear, it will just grow stronger, and could hold you back even more the next time.

Q. I am only 13 years old, but I have a problem that worries me. My parents and my

grandparents don't get along very well and don't talk to each other hardly at all. I love my grandparents and can't understand why my folks fight with them.

A. The problem you are talking about is, sadly, far more common than you might think. It is an unhappy fact of life that many close relatives, including parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, just don't get along well. Of course, this is not good.

And it is tempting to hastily judge and maybe even criticize if people don't get along as they should with relatives. But many times the hurts between relatives go far into the past or into such deep feelings that we ourselves would find them difficult to deal with. Often both sides wish to solve the problem, but just can't seem to find the way to do so.

Therefore, tell your parents of your wish for better friendships with your grandparents, but do not be confused if things can't be patched up quickly. Sometimes solving these problems takes much time and effort. However, do not confide in your grandparents about any feelings you or your parents have, for the matter is best handled on the adult level by the relatives themselves.

We welcome your questions and will excerpt as many as possible. Sorry we can't answer them all. Answers are prepared by Bernard W. Schnippert, a minister of the Worldwide Church of God. Address your questions to "Dear Youth 85," 300 W. Green Street, Pasadena, California, 91129.



#### Basketball Game

(Continued from page 2)

way when an official calls a foul against him — even if the official made a mistake. It is the BEST of good sportsmanship.

When the game is over, losers will shake hands with and congratulate the victors with enthusiasm and with smiles!

Sure, they play to WIN, but they expect the other team to try to win, too. Basketball is good, clean recreation — played the Ambassador way — and they realize that coming off with the biggest score is not the most important thing.

If they lose, they simply try

harder next time; but they have BIGGER GOALS than winning a ball game.

One of these games is a delightful CHANGE from the other activities of the day. WHATEVER we do, here at Ambassador, we try to do it in a manner to develop wholesome and right character, based on the laws of God — and in a manner to live, always, by EVERY WORD OF GOD!

Basketball, of course, is only a small part of the uses and activities for which the Physical Education Building is used. During the five school days of each week, it is in use all day long with physical-education classes, one following another —

one hour for each class.

Students are put through a series of calisthenic exercises and taught physical skills during each hour, for the development of better health.

In the full-college-size, six-lane swimming pool, some students take swimming lessons. Others who are good swimmers train for racing.

This facility was the first unit to be completed in our campus-expansion program, and it serves a tremendous need — in use constantly every day. And it is only one more example of the fact that emphasis at Ambassador is on recapturing the TRUE VALUES — and building right CHARACTER!

#### READER BY-LINE

## 'I Love You, Too'

A couple of years ago my father was seriously injured in an accident. He was paralyzed from the neck down and, a month later, died in the hospital.

During that month I visited him nearly every day, for hours at a time, doing things for him like massaging the top of his head or just talking. The last time I was doing this, just before his death, he said to me, "You know I love you, don't you?"

I didn't say anything, I just nodded. I should have said, "I love you too, Dad," but I didn't. I couldn't. But my father died without me telling him how much I loved him and respected him.

He was a great man. But, you know, I almost hate myself for never telling him how much I cared. I know that he knew, but supposing he didn't, what if?

It's a terrible, terrible thing to live with because, of all my memories of my father, that one incident stands out most. It really hurts.

Now, I try not to let a day go by without telling my mother I love her. My relationship with her is very close, and I appreciate, respect and admire her a great deal. But I don't show it a lot of times.

Sure we argue, and get angry, and when

we do, it always makes me feel guilty.

Because, if you really think about it, what meaning could getting the car for a day or staying on the telephone longer possibly have compared to your mother or father?

What if you left for school angry at your parents and something happened to them while you were away? Would you like your last words to be, "You don't understand!" or even, "I hate you!"?

Don't ever take that chance — it's too big.

Learn to control your temper and appreciate your parents. Think of all they have done for

you, and how much you owe them in return.

Let your parents know how you feel. Don't make the mistake I did. Learn to say, "I love you, too!" It's so important.

Editor's note: The author, age 17, wishes to have her name withheld.

If you would like to submit an article for the "Reader By-Line" section, send it to: "Reader By-Line," Youth 85, 300 W. Green Street, Pasadena, California, 91129.

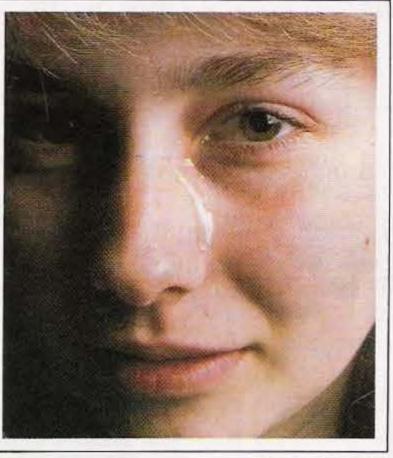
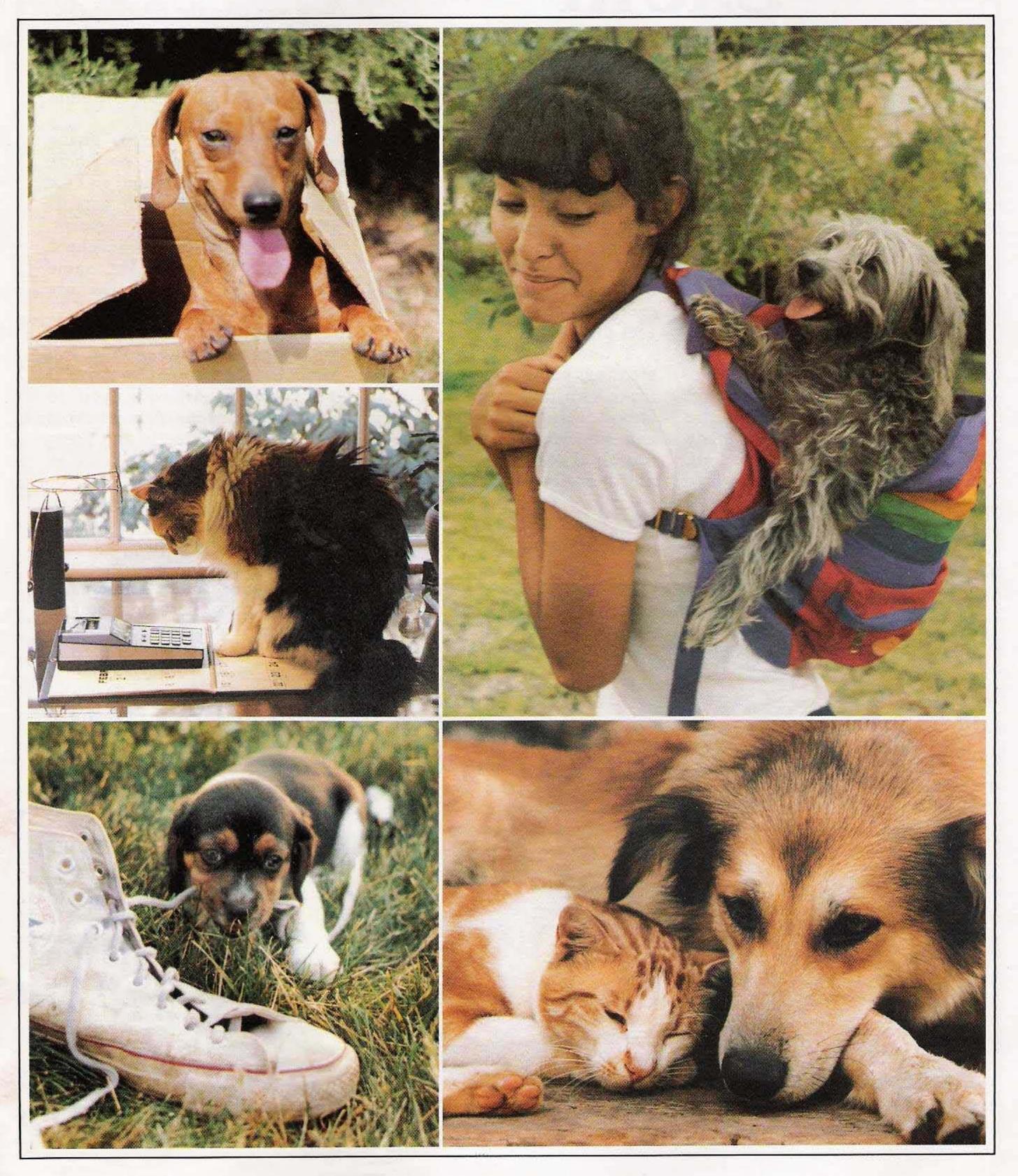


Photo by Hal Finch

## MORE Picturesque Pets

Here are some more great pet pictures sent in for the contest!

Clockwise from top left, the photographers are: Richard Landis, from Carbondale, Kansas; Nancy Schaeffer, from San Antonio, Texas; Henry C. "Hank" Fuhrman, from Harrison, Arkansas; Nathaniel Hicks Jr., from Canandaigua, New York; and Maryanne Halle, from Minneapolis, Minnesota.



#### BY THE WAY...

# Life in the Fast Lane

By Dexter H. Faulkner

Stop," "Wrong Way,
Do Not Enter,"
"One Way" and "No
Right Turn."

All these signs, plus large white painted arrows and stripes and several other barriers guard the freeway exit on my way to work.

I pass them every morning, taking them for granted, a little amused that there are so many of them at one exit. After all, who would be foolish enough to enter a busy California freeway on an exit ramp? Not anyone who values his or her life very

much, that's for sure.

Some mornings I'm sleepier than usual, sometimes I've got my mind on a problem, sometimes I don't feel too well, but I notice those signs every day, and every day I don't turn my car in that direction.

I don't resent those stern warnings commanding me not to make a mistake that would mean almost certain disaster for me and whoever else was riding in my car. I realize those warnings are there for my good.

#### Heard it a million times

How do you feel about warn-

STOP STOP

ings? Does it grate on your nerves when Dad gives you that same lecture on safety every time you take the car out? OK, OK, you may feel like saying, I've heard it a million times, I already have it memorized, I don't want to hear it again. Don't you trust me?

Or maybe it's Mom, giving you the third degree on where you're going, with whom and for how long. What's with parents anyway? Why do dads or moms, and teachers and counselors, constantly harp on the same subjects? Is it really because they don't trust you?

If you couldn't be trusted with the family automobile, you shouldn't be allowed to drive it by yourself. Allowing you to drive shows your parents trust you to drive correctly and bring the car, and yourself, back in one piece.

You're living in a fast-paced world today where in many instances — just like entering the freeway exit the wrong way into ongoing traffic — you can't afford to make certain mistakes. Not even once.

Your parents realize that. Life is more hectic, a lot is expected of teens today, you're under more stress than many of your parents were when they grew up.

Today's society almost demands that children grow up as quickly as possible, and many times, under the most trying circumstances. Our families move around more, there are

(Continued on page 29)

Most of us see stop signs every day. We don't resent the stern warnings because we know they're there to prevent accidents. (Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.)

#### Fast Lane

(Continued from page 28)

more broken homes, and people are too busy trying to cope to care about other people in the way they should.

Many of our movies and television shows and other entertainments don't help either. They portray young people and adults acting as if there are very few laws or rules to be concerned with anymore. Why worry — go out and have all the fun you can no matter whom it hurts, seems to be the message.

All this pressure is affecting not only you young people, but everyone today. Look around you. Sitting in your classrooms are teens who are suffering in one way or another from mistakes either they or their parents or both have made.

#### Accidents waiting to happen

You know that several of them are just accidents waiting to happen.

They're teetering on the brink of whatever — drug or alcohol abuse, premarital sex, various criminal acts. Wrong experiences that will scar them for life and limit whatever success or happiness they ever hope to achieve, whether in their future marriages or careers.

This worries loving, concerned parents. They can't follow you around and, at every wrong turn, shout and scream and wave their arms to warn you not to go the wrong way.

So they lecture and they warn and they hope you'll remember what to do in an emergency or when you're under a lot of pressure because you've heard it so many times.

The next time Mom begins lecture No. 32 on being careful who your friends are and Dad gives you lecture No. 18 on auto safety, give them a break. They love you.

They want to protect you, not from enjoying yourself, but from hurting yourself — maybe for life.

#### Why Not?

(Continued from page 4)

with a slogan on it. Some people almost consider it the motto of the company. The sign says THINK. Sometimes they spell it THIMK, just to make sure everyone gets the message! The slogan works for IBM, and it will work for you.

Remember: Creative thinking is considering all of the options.

#### If you want more

Determination and thought are only two of the ingredients of resourcefulness. And resourcefulness is only one of several steps to achieving success. If you want to know more, write for our free booklet *The Seven Laws of Success*. It's free, just like *Youth 85*.

Write to our office nearest you today. And, if you can't find a stamp, why not use a little resourcefulness!

#### Treasure

(Continued from page 17)

important shipwreck found in the Mediterranean," says Dr. George Bass, an underwater archaeologist.

"We knew more about safety pins and sewers of ancient Athens than about the ancient Greek ships," said Dr. Bass.

Since the ship went straight to the bottom, much of the cargo remains on board. The wellpreserved vessel contains a wide variety of goods: copper, tin, glass ingots, medallions, pottery, storage jars, beads and various weapons. Even several varieties of seeds were found.

These items recovered from shipwrecks allow us to reach back in time and actually piece together how the people lived.

History becomes more real when you can see and handle cutlasses from 170 years ago, surgeon's ointment and longbows from 440 years ago and glass ingots from the time of Moses!

#### Beaver

(Continued from page 18)

they are all constructed according to basic engineering principles that take into account such factors as the speed and force of the water current and the tensile strength of the available building materials.

Some dams may be only a few yards in length; others may be much longer, even hundreds of feet long. In any case, each piece of wood has to be individually cut, transported and positioned. And the lodge and dam have to be continually repaired when damaged.

In addition to all this, beavers find time to maintain an affectionate family life. The young do not leave their parents until they are 2 years old.

It is true that the beaver's activity sometimes interferes with civilization. Farmlands or roadways, for example, can be flooded because beavers locate their dams in the "wrong" places.

And beavers don't give up easily either, as people who have tried to destroy their dams testify. But the benefits from the activity of these furry little engineers far outweigh any nuisances.

#### Beaver benefits

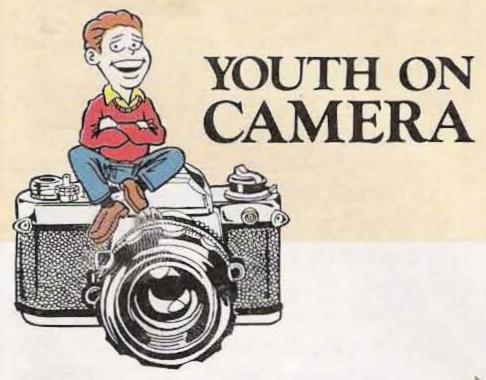
Beaver dams lessen the danger of floods, conserve rain water, reduce erosion. A beaver pond is a boon to other wildlife. Many kinds of birds nest and hunt there. Turtles, frogs, muskrats, otters and mink share the water. Timber wolves, foxes, bobcats, moose, deer, bear, elk are attracted to the area.

Eventually, though, the dam serves its purpose and is abandoned.

The water drains out of the pond, but it leaves behind a rich, fertile soil. Some of the best farmland was created by centuries of beaver activity.

Any land where the busy beaver is allowed to function freely is a blessed land indeed!





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