

**FEEDING THE WORLD'S SIX BILLION
EDUCATION FOR LIFE**

The Mideast in 1976

**MORE
OF
THE
SAME?**



Is a man truly educated unless he knows WHAT HE IS? And unless he knows WHY he is, whether there is any purpose or meaning to life, and what that is? And unless he knows where he is going in the end? And unless he knows the true values from the false and THE WAY to such desired conditions as peace, happiness, prosperity, and the enjoyable, pleasant, and interesting life?

Right now many high school seniors are facing the problem of whether to go on to college — and if so, which college.

If I were a young man or young woman facing that question, I'm very sure — knowing what I know now — that I would want to know which college or university teaches these things. I'm sure I'd want to attend the school of higher learning which would teach me not merely how to earn a living — pardon me, I mean an existence — but the one which would teach me HOW TO LIVE!

What Is Life?

Did you ever wonder why it is that nearly everybody wants to live a life that is pleasing, enjoyable, interesting — without boredom, aches, pains, suffering, or unpleasant environments or circumstances? And yet, nearly everyone experiences a HUNGER for something that will really SATISFY; and yet, somehow, he never finds it except at brief intervals that never seem to last.

When this Work of God was only about two years under way — or three — in Eugene, Oregon, and I was, most of the time, preaching in evangelistic campaigns about six nights a week, broadcasting every Sunday, editing and mimeographing *Plain Truth*, and counselling with scores of people, I found the need of something relaxing — something to get my mind for a little while off of these serious problems and this driving activity. Mrs. Armstrong and I found a total change, mentally, in attending occasional basketball games at the University of Oregon basketball pavilion, MacArthur Court. At that time the University of Oregon had a team of sophomores and one senior which looked like a "comer."

And sure enough, in their senior year these boys went on to win the first national championship — late winter of 1939. That was the first year the NCAA had a national playoff leading to a national championship.

Even today we can find an occasional "change of pace" by attending a game. There we will see thousands being thrilled by scintillating play. Are these basketball "fans" enjoying life? If you ask them, at the moment, the answer might be "you bet!" Are they bored? Not during the excitement of the game! Do they feel a sort of mental, emotional, or spiritual hunger? Not during the thrill of the game.

But after the game — then what? Why, after the game is over and the "fans" have gone home, do they experience a letdown — until the next game, or the next experience of some pleasure?

I got to wondering. After the game, I don't experience any letdown. I don't have to suffer the experience of EMPTINESS, boredom, or this sort of soul hunger — whatever it is — until the next exciting entertainment. As a matter of fact, I find my life interesting, invigorating, stimulating, satisfying, and abundant at all times! It is tremendously exciting at times. But it is never boring, never dull, never discontented!

WHY? What's the difference?

I know what's the difference. I want to tell you what it is.

The answer is bound up in these questions I asked at the beginning of this *Personal* talk with my readers.

I have learned WHAT man IS!

I have learned that man was put on this earth for a PURPOSE, and I have learned what that purpose IS! I have learned how to fulfill it. I have learned WHAT the true values are, and what are the false. And I have learned the secret of a full, abundant, interesting, enjoyable life! NOT merely during a basketball game or some occasional entertainment! ALL THE TIME!

I have learned THE WAY to peace of mind, to invigorating, satisfying, always interesting living. I have learned WHY I am here, WHERE I am going, and THE WAY to get there. I'm on my way there now, and the journey is more interesting than I can tell you! There's never a letdown. There used to be — years ago, before I learned these answers. But not any more!

Yes, if I were a young man graduating from high school, I'd look for the college or university that would teach me WHAT I am, WHY, and what are the TRUE VALUES. I'd want to learn something more than merely a profession for earning an

Personal from...



EDUCATION FOR LIFE!

income. Money can't buy happiness or contentment, or the things that really satisfy — CONTINUALLY, without ever a letdown.

But I am no longer a lad of eighteen. I'm even older than Jack Benny's thirty-nine. And I not only know these answers, but I know also that there is only ONE PLACE ON EARTH where a student may learn these answers that are worth more than all the money in the world. But, for that matter, when you learn these answers and apply them, you don't have to worry about money — for the very application of these principles brings economic security.

The only college or university on earth that teaches these MOST IMPORTANT areas of knowledge are the two Ambassador Colleges — at Pasadena, California, and at Big Sandy, Texas.

People remark that they never have seen such a happy atmosphere as the Ambassador College campus.

"Why, all your students seem to really enjoy life," they say. "They seem alive, alert, full of spark and interest — and HAPPY!"

"You're right," I reply. "They DO — and they ARE!"

When I started writing the first paragraph of this *Personal* talk, what I had in mind was to tell you WHAT man IS. I intended to show you that science doesn't really know. What we call education in the usual sense, as disseminated at colleges and universities, generally doesn't know. And they can't teach what they themselves do not know!

The philosophic approach of modern education is that of the ancient Greek and Roman philosophers. And they didn't know the answer.

But here I have rapped out four typed pages of this talk on my office typewriter, and I have been informed that I am already past the usual deadline for getting this to the printers, so I'm afraid I cannot take time to get that answer into this present talk. It ought to take ten to twenty typed pages to explain it, anyway. So it probably would be better to write it as a full article later on.

But don't think you already know the answer. You don't!

I thought I did; yet I did not know the full answer until just recently. When we STOP GROWING in knowledge, we're through. I don't propose to be through yet — if keeping my mind open to new truth, when it is PROVED to be truth, will keep me going. I think I can guarantee the answer will surprise you.

Just what ARE you? What IS a human being?

Yes WHAT?

The TRUE answer, I think, is not only thrilling and exciting, but it is also IMPORTANT!

By the way, if you are facing this question about whether to attend college — or which college — I suggest you write for the Ambassador College catalog.

Send your request for the catalog to: Admissions Office, Ambassador College, 300 West Green Street, Pasadena, California 91123. The latest catalog will give you full information and will be mailed to you as soon as possible. □

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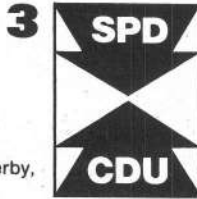
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Volume XLI, No. 2

Circulation: 3,063,895

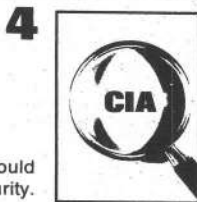
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Plain Truth is published monthly by Ambassador College, Pasadena, California, 91123. © 1976 Ambassador College. All rights reserved. Second Class Postage paid at Pasadena, CA, and at additional mailing offices. PRINTED IN U.S.A.



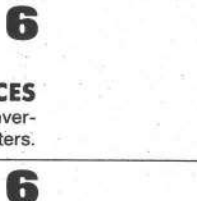
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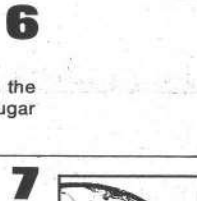
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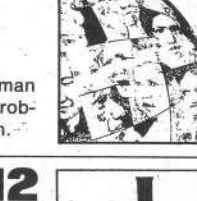
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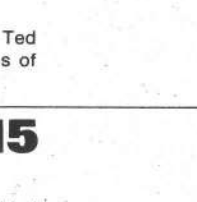
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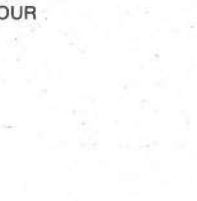
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THE MIDEAST IN 1976— MORE OF THE SAME? *

by Keith Stump

Since earliest antiquity, the Middle East has been the setting for countless wars, repeated invasions, and frequent domination by foreign powers. Those throughout history who have made their homes on this strategic land bridge — lying astride the traditional routes of trade and communication between three continents — have done so with the certain knowledge that one day they would have to fight to defend them.

The current conflict between Jew and Arab in the Middle East is actually a relatively recent phenomenon. Civilizations of the distant past fought there even before Jews and Arabs — both the progeny of the patriarch Abraham — existed as a people. Later, Assyrians and Babylonians invaded the land, carrying the people of Israel into captivity. Subsequently, the Romans, Seljuk Turks, Crusaders, and Ottomans — among others — waged war on the coveted soil, occupying it for varying lengths of time. Napoleon's armies swept across its barren deserts. And early in this century, Arab and British forces ousted the occupying Turks.

It was really not until the end of the quarter-century-long British mandate over Palestine in 1948 that the national armies of Israel and the Arab states first clashed in the area — each claiming the land as its own by virtue of history and religion.

Three subsequent wars — in 1956, 1967, and 1973 — ravaged the area without settling the territorial dispute. The one-time land of milk and honey remains, lamentably, a land of blood.

Moreover, the new factor of oil — of little importance until recent decades — has focused the concern of the entire world onto the conflict, which in times past might have otherwise been viewed as of only regional significance. Now the literal survival of many nations — especially those of Western Europe — rests on who controls the region. So the outsiders watch with concern, wondering when the estranged children of Abraham will again shed one another's blood.

War in '76?

Will war again flare up in the Middle East this year? In a sense, the war has never stopped. Guerrilla raids, air strikes, and terrorist bombings are daily reminders of the unsettled Arab-Israeli dispute. Whether a fifth full-scale conflict may erupt is an impossible question to answer with any degree of certainty. The volatile Middle East defies prediction.

There are factors, however, which provide a few indications, but they can be no more than that.

Firstly, continuing rivalry in the Arab world may prevent, at least temporarily, a resumption of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

For over nine months, a bitter civil war has been under way in Lebanon between Moslem leftists and right-wing Christian Falangists, claiming thousands of lives. Besides disrupting that once serene, commercially energetic nation, the fight-

ing has set Syria and Egypt to feuding, each accusing the other of interfering in the conflict. Syria and Iraq, which have been making separate initiatives toward ending the Lebanese conflict, have also been wrangling over each other's moves.

The Syria-Egypt quarrel over Lebanon comes on top of already strained relations. The two countries have been engaged in bitter polemics because of Syria's opposition to the controversial Sinai disengagement accord reached last summer between Egypt and Israel. Syria, the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), and other radical Arab states have labelled the accord a "sellout," branding Egypt a "traitor to the Arab cause." Syria feels the accord has taken Egypt "out of the battle," leaving Syria largely isolated in her confrontation with Israel.

Consequently, Syria — skeptical about the prospects for further Mideast diplomacy — is pushing for the formation of a "northern front" with Iraq, Jordan, the PLO, and eventually even Lebanon, which would be able to wage war, if necessary, without Egypt's participation. If bickering with Iraq can be overcome, such a coalition may eventually be possible.

Many observers feel that economically troubled Egypt, on the other hand, will want to spend this year concentrating on the exploitation of the Sinai oil fields returned to her as part of the accord with Israel, rather than on waging a war she can ill afford (*Plain Truth*, Sept. 20, 1975).

The Palestinian question is another important consideration. The grievances of millions of displaced Palestinians will have to ultimately be reckoned with, or war will be inevitable. Yet Israeli Prime Minister Rabin steadfastly declines to deal with the Palestinians — especially the PLO — or to entertain the idea of a possible Palestinian state on the West Bank of the Jordan. There is, however, apparently some division in his cabinet on these issues, with a few officials said to be leaning toward some accommodation with the Palestinians.

The presidential election in the United States this fall is also a factor in the war-or-peace equation. Washington would unquestionably prefer a more-or-less tranquil Middle East during the campaign months and will undoubtedly exert its influence accordingly.

And finally, the Kremlin too would undoubtedly prefer a "no-war, no-peace" situation this year, thinking it wise to avoid potential causes of friction with the U.S. in major world arenas in a year when the Soviet Union will be importing large quantities of American grain.

Amid all the uncertainties of the complex Middle East situation, one thing is sure. Events there, as *Plain Truth* has predicted for over 40 years, will ultimately bring the nations of the world to a supreme crisis at the close of this age of human experience. *Plain Truth* will continue to bring in-depth articles on the many aspects of this vital topic. □



WEST GERMAN chancellor candidates, Kohl (left) and Schmidt.

CAMPAGNING BEGINS FOR 1976 GERMAN ELECTIONS

As 1976 begins, West Germans like Americans are beginning to turn their attention to their coming fall elections.

But unlike the still-confused American campaign, the battle lines in West Germany are clear-cut and well defined. The contending parties have already put their internal party squabbles behind them and have settled upon their candidates for chancellor in the October federal election.

The decks have thus been cleared for a vigorous national campaign which is already moving into full swing.

Surface Unity

At its biannual congress in the industrial city of Mannheim in November, the ruling Social Democratic Party (SPD) patched up, for the most part, a three-way ideological split in the party to achieve at least a surface show of unity. The SPD is headed by former Chancellor Willy Brandt (party chairman) and current Chancellor Helmut Schmidt (vice-chairman).

The split had involved the radical leftist faction of the party (the "Young Socialists" or *Jusos*), the moderates, and the party's "right wing."

A consensus was finally achieved, however, and Brandt and Schmidt were overwhelmingly reelected to their party offices.

Schmidt, the incumbent chancellor who succeeded to the office in May 1974 after the resignation of Brandt in the wake of an espionage scandal, was predictably named as the party's chancellor candidate in the coming election.

A Deadlock in the Bundestag?

Political observers hold out little possibility of the SPD's gaining an absolute majority in the *Bundestag* (the lower house of parliament) in the fall election. Recent public opinion polls indicate that only an estimated 41% of the vote will go to the SPD.

To retain power, therefore, the SPD will have to maintain its coalition alliance with the small liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP), with which it has been in partnership since 1969.

The FDP, headed by Chairman Hans Dietrich Genscher (also foreign minister in the Schmidt cabinet), will command about 9% of the electorate, according to current estimates. The socialist-liberal

coalition, therefore, is expected to pull in roughly 50% of the ballots.

Though the two coalition partners have had their share of disagreements, little chance is seen of an actual breakup at this time. (Prior to 1969 the FDP had been allied with the SPD's rival, the conservative Christian Democratic Union.)

The opposition CDU, headed by Chairman Helmut Kohl (governor of the Rhineland-Palatinate state), along with its Bavarian "sister" party the Christian Social Union (CSU), also commands a combined 50% of the electorate, according to polls.

A close battle between the two coalitions is thus indicated for the fall election.

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The Vatican's New Activism

Pope Paul VI has recently launched major diplomatic offensives in two critical areas of the world, the Middle East and Europe.

The Vatican Secretariat for non-Christians has come out strongly for a Middle East peace settlement which includes "recognition of the rights of Palestinians and a special status for Christian holy places in Israel and the Israeli-occupied west bank of the Jordan." At the same time the Vatican is pressuring the Israeli government to release Archbishop Hilarion Capucci who is now serving a

12-year sentence for gun running for Arab guerrillas.

The secretariat's pronouncement, the Capucci affair, and a whole string of Vatican pronouncements over the past five years which show strong sympathy with Third World causes seem to imply an increasing papal preference for coming down on the Arab side of the Middle East equation. The effects remain to be seen, though it seems likely that the Vatican will benefit from the increasing diplomatic isolation of Israel.

Pope Paul has also initiated several peace moves in Leba-

Europe with One Voice

GROWING SOLIDARITY IN THE COMMON MARKET

BRUSSELS: The European Community, or Common Market, is increasingly speaking on the international scene with one voice. Some examples are:

- In the United Nations the nine have adopted a common European position on major issues.

- At the 27-nation north-south dialogue begun this past December in Paris, the nine have been represented by a single spokesman. As a reflection of its ever-increasing importance as the world's greatest trading bloc, the EC has two co-chairmanships on the four committees created to work throughout the year. No other nation or group of nations was granted more than one chairmanship.

- The nine Community nations jointly signed the final act of the European security conference in Helsinki last August when Italy's Prime Minister Aldo Moro signed in his capacity as President of the European Council.

- During several sessions of the Euro-Arab dialogue held last year, a single European delegation was present as a joint community-cooperation exercise.

- After the Dublin community summit last March the nine offered their united services toward helping achieve a peaceful resolution of the Cyprus problem. The Common Market has association agreements with the three countries concerned — Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus.

- The Community last year established a new European unit of account based on a composite "basket" of the nine community currencies. The members further agreed to introduce a uniform passport in 1978, in addition to holding Eu-

rope-wide elections on the same day, in the spring of 1978, to elect representatives to the European parliament.

As much cohesion as these moves show, there are yet major changes needed before the Community can achieve its professed goal — a European union by 1980.

Gaston Thorn, premier and foreign minister of Luxembourg who is also the current president of the EC Council of Ministers, stated in an interview in the European edition of *Newsweek*: "... it's impossible to continue on present lines... under present conditions, we only skim the problems, we don't solve them."

In addition to procedural changes needed in the present structure, there are other areas that need profound alteration and, in some cases, bold new initiatives if Europe is to consolidate its growing strength in world affairs. These other areas include the need for common policies in defense, foreign affairs, and energy, to mention the most important.

Yet for all the petty squabbles that surface from month to month among the member states, the words written by Anthony Sampson several years ago in his book, *The New Europeans*, hold equally true today: "However bitter the arguments at Brussels, the Common Market remains a new kind of forum where national rivalries take for granted a common objective... The new machinery is still working, still influencing people and bringing them together."

— Ray Kosanke

non. On November 10 he dispatched his personal envoy, Cardinal Paolo Bertoli, to conduct talks with warring Christian and Moslem leaders. Cardinal Bertoli personally bore a letter from the pope to Lebanon's President Suleiman Franjeh to convey the pontiff's "sympathy and readiness to make every effort to restore peace between the conflicting parties." While the Vatican efforts in Lebanon have met with little success thus far, the significant fact is the pope's willingness to personally become involved in a Middle East dispute.

Meanwhile in Europe, the Catholic Church has launched its biggest offensive against communism since Pius XII excommunicated communist voters in 1949. The Italian bishops' conference recently dropped the bombshell statement that "one cannot be simultaneously a Christian and a Marxist." Coming as it does after years of "dialogue" between Catholics and Marxists in order to establish some sort of common ground, the declaration underscores the Vatican's fear that Italy might come under communist domination.

Pope Paul personally approved the change in policy which reflects his growing concern that the Communists may win the municipal elections in Rome next spring. The Communists already control or share in the control of every major Italian city except Rome and Palermo. With the Communists winning more than a third of

(Continued on page 4, col. 4)



Worldwatch

by Gene H. Hogberg

"Is America Going Mad?"

To friends and enemies alike, the United States is taking on the image of a shackled giant. In this case, the Lilliputians tying down Gulliver are not foreigners, but Americans themselves — especially key figures in Congress along with members of the press who, in their post-Watergate quest for a totally open society, no longer feel there is any such thing as a legitimate state secret.

The issue came to a head with the assassination in Greece of Richard Welch, a CIA agent attached to the U.S. embassy in Athens. Angry U.S. intelligence chiefs blamed the lethal blowing of Welch's cover on a variety of sources — continued Congressional probing of CIA operations, a recent flurry of spy-ferreting books by ex-CIA agents, and a quarterly expose magazine called *Counterspy*, which had identified the whereabouts of Welch and over 200 other agents in recent issues.

No one — not even former CIA directors — denies the agency has, on occasion, overstepped its chartered responsibilities. That should not be surprising given the fact that in this imperfect and ideologically competitive world, over 40 nations, large and small, are engaged in clandestine operations.

But the juicy front-page headline news of specific CIA covert activities, such as involvement in the Allende overthrow in Chile, have led many Americans to believe the CIA is nothing but a Frankenstein monster, running amuck without any control. Nothing is further from the truth. No national intelligence organization is subject to more supervision than the CIA. Moreover, proven instances of improper activities are few. But the chasing after every spicy rumor to fill newspaper headlines and the lead story of the nightly news telecasts takes precedence over the facts.

The upshot is a severe hampering of American intelligence officials in performing their main — but largely unheralded — function: the nonpublicized gathering, assimilation, and evaluation of information necessary for the security of the nation. Retiring CIA Director William E. Colby complained last year that "the almost hysterical excitement that surrounds any news story mentioning the CIA, or referring even to a perfectly legitimate activity of the CIA, has raised the question whether secret intelligence operations can be conducted by the United States."

He added in testimony before a House subcommittee that morale in the agency was low, agents overseas were worried about exposure, and "a number of intelligence services abroad with which the CIA works have expressed concern over its situation and over the fate of sensitive information they provide to us."

A big question now is whether the U.S. will be able to continue to obtain critical intelligence from communist defectors or underground Soviet informants — if they can no longer trust the CIA or its Congressional watchdogs to keep a secret. How important this factor is can be illustrated by the case, 13 years ago, of Col. Oleg Penkovsky, who sat at the very nerve center of the Soviet military establishment. Without the detailed intelligence he provided, President John F. Kennedy would have been in a very poor position to deal with the 1962 Cuban missile Crisis.

London's *Daily Telegraph*, in an editorial titled "Is America Going Mad?" views the deteriorating U.S. scene this way: "The United States should know that her European cousins and allies are appalled and disgusted by the present open disarray of her public life. The self-criticism and self-destructive tendencies are running mad, with no countervailing force in sight. She has no foreign policy any more, because Congress will not allow it. Her intelligence arm, the CIA, is being gutted and rendered inoperative, the names of its staff being published so that they can be murdered. Her President and Secretary of State are being hounded, not for what they do but simply because they are people there, to be pulled down for the fun of it."

The *Telegraph* editor concluded by pleading: "Please America, for God's sake pull yourself together."

BUMPER CROPS BUCK WEATHER TRENDS

Well-timed wet weather swelled America's grain harvest to record-breaking yields in 1975.

When the final U.S. Department of Agriculture reports were in, wheat production stood at 2.3 billion bushels — a 19% increase over 1974. The corn yield amounted to 5.8 billion bushels, a 25% increase over the drought-seared 1974 crop.

How long the good news from the farm belt — so critical to hungry mouths around the world — will last, however, is a matter of no small concern.

Some scientists are predicting that devastating drought lasting from three to eight years will hit the Great Plains within the decade.

"The climate trends that some scientists are predicting could bring us to a point of catastrophic convergence between the increasing population and inadequate food supplies much sooner than many people expect," says Henry Lansford of the National Center for Atmospheric Research.

What are these climatic indicators?

First is a 20-year drought cycle in the American midwest which last hit in the 1950s. This cycle has followed a consistent pattern ever since the mid-1800s when well-documented records were first kept. The dust bowl of the thirties was part of this cycle.

Dr. Walter O. Roberts, formerly of the National Center for Atmospheric Research, postulates a correlation between sunspot activity and the 20-year drought cycle. Sunspots occur every 10 or 11 years. The drought cycle seems to correlate with alternating sunspot activity.

Another trend which may further complicate crop-crippling drought before the end of this decade is the gradual cooling of the earth.

From 1890 to 1940, the earth experienced a period of warmer weather. The result was a growing season that was increased by two to three weeks.

Since 1940, however, a lowering in temperature has cut back the growing season by about two weeks. As temperatures continue to drop with this cooling trend, grain production on America's northern plains could be severely curtailed.

Despite the shorter growing season, the period from the mid-1960s until 1974 saw a burst of productivity that overflowed U.S. granaries. This abundance was attributed solely to "a remarkable run of normal

weather" by a U.S. government report published after the 1973 harvest.

This same report, however, went on to spell the fate of the 1974 harvest: "The reliability of grain yields in the midwest in recent years is due to an extraordinary sequence of favorable seasons. This cannot be expected to continue."

And, indeed it hasn't. 1974 brought a hot scorching summer to the midwest. The drought-weakened corn crop yielded 18% less than the previous year.

In 1975, a relentless heat wave cancelled hopes for what appeared to be a super-abundant crop in Iowa and neighboring states. Only "last-minute" unexpected rains allayed farmers' worst fears.

Texas and California continue to suffer some drought, and the lack of moisture has already cut predictions for the winter wheat harvest 9% below last year's record. Insect infestations in parts of Oklahoma and Kansas threaten to reduce the crop still further.

Even though this year's harvest may still be large enough to prevent major food shortages, the prospects for any significant buildup of food reserves appear dimmer by the day. With the prospect of cooler weather, shorter growing seasons, and an overdue 20-year drought cycle, future severe crop shortfalls may prove to be all too likely a possibility. □

GERMAN ELECTIONS

(Continued from page 3)

Strauss Backs Off

The CDU/CSU alliance, like the SPD/FDP coalition, has not been without its personal and ideological feuds.

The junior partner of the coalition, the CSU headed by fiery ultraconservative Franz Josef Strauss, has its membership almost entirely in the state of Bavaria. The CSU runs its candidates exclusively in that state, though Dr. Strauss has sympathizers throughout the nation.

The CDU runs in the other nine West German states and in West Berlin. Thus there is no actual competition between the two coalition partners, and they are looked upon as one party in national influence.

Some conservatives, however, had begun to fear last year that Strauss might "go national," that is, expand his right-wing Bavarian state party into a full-fledged national party, with himself as the candidate for chancellor.

An opinion poll in June had indicated that if the CSU carried on an independent national campaign, the two conservative parties might receive 3% to 6% more votes than under the current "electorate-sharing" setup.

The poll added to already strained relations between the two "sister parties" which had developed in 1972 when the CDU lost the federal election,

dogma against artificial birth control, and condemned "doctrinal disputes" in proposing renewed evangelization efforts. There are even some small indications of an increasing militancy toward non-Catholic religions.

In a 13,000-word apostolic exhortation given in December, the pope termed non-Christian religions "incomplete" and said the church should intensify its efforts to convert those who embraced such faiths. The pope did not specify any non-Christian faith, but his statement appeared to be all-encompassing, including Judaism and Islam. He conveyed his church's "respect and esteem" for non-Christian religions but said they had not succeeded in establishing "an authentic and living relationship" with God.

In mid-October the pontiff made a rare but critical reference to the Reformation, stating that it had held back European unity.

This sudden flurry of activity on the part of the Vatican, both in diplomacy and theology, seems to indicate that the Roman Catholic Church is gearing up to play an expanded role in world affairs. □

Vatican

(Continued from page 3)

the votes in the regional elections last June, the Vatican is now taking the specter of a Communist-dominated Italy very seriously.

Many observers believe that in spite of the church's diplomatic efforts to reach an accommodation with the communist regimes of Eastern Europe, the Vatican is not about to accept communist governments ruling in the West and will therefore use its leverage to prevent them from coming to power.

This fear has sparked the recent papal push for the unification of Western Europe. (See *Plain Truth*, November 22, 1975.) In a speech before more than 80 bishops, cardinals, and prelates, Pope Paul called for a reawakening of "Europe's Christian soul, where its unity is rooted."

The pontiff's call for European union coincides with signs of a growing theological conservatism. In the last several months the pope has reaffirmed the full scope of his authority over the Catholic Church, reiterated the official church

while at the same time the CSU did exceptionally well in regional polling. The CSU, led by the aggressive Strauss, has also harbored serious doubts about CDU chief Kohl, whom it sees as being somewhat weak and vacillating.

Nevertheless, Strauss and his CSU decided to back off late last year and pledged to support Kohl in the interests of the "common cause." The CSU stated that the CDU, as the bigger member of the "union," had



BAVARIA'S STRAUSS backed out of chancellor derby.

tempt to gain a nationwide following and win the chancellorship on its own in the next election.

Strauss has frequently been pictured as having an eye on the chancellor's office, but it is doubted whether he has the national appeal to ever realize his ambitious dream.

It has been suggested that the only way he may ever attain the office is by Kohl's winning the national election and then leaving office in midterm, as three of the five postwar chancellors have done for one reason or another. Strauss would then move into the position in the same manner as did Schmidt following Brandt's surprise resignation in 1974.

Because of the conservatives' suspicion of détente with the Soviet bloc, Willy Brandt in early campaigning openly called the conservative CDU/CSU a "security risk" to West Germany, implying that the conservatives might start a war with the communist bloc if the CDU/CSU coalition ever comes to power in Bonn.

Brandt, who became West Germany's first Socialist chancellor in 1969, was the driving force behind the nation's policy of *Ostpolitik*, or reconciliation with the East.

CDU-chief Kohl termed Brandt's remark "a reminder of Weimar" (the short-lived German parliamentary democracy preceding the Nazi era) and demanded that Brandt take it back. This Brandt has refused to do. In the meantime Schmidt has seconded the original "security risk" accusation.

Despite the current numerical equality of the two opposing co-

"Security Risk"

alitions in the opinion polls, it is generally felt that the SPD has the advantage due to the popular personalities of Brandt and Schmidt. Other observers, however, feel that the conservatives might surprise everyone by squeaking through with a bare majority at the polls.

Should the CDU/CSU union succeed in its bid for power this fall, West Germany may be in for substantial changes in both domestic and foreign affairs. □

Zionism and Mr. Koh

by Norman Cousins

The other night, I sat around a large table and listened to a group of U.N. ambassadors attempting to justify the position of their countries at the United Nations.

One of them was a young man — he must have been in his early 30s — who belied the notion that the Third World nations have nothing to contribute to world order and/or intend only on using the forums of the United Nations as an amplifying system for propaganda against the United States and the West in general.

The young man was P. T. Koh, head of the Singapore mission to the United Nations. What impressed me most of all about Koh was that he has the eloquence, logic, and common sense we have a right to expect of the people whose job it is to maintain world peace.

Before Koh spoke, the conversation at the table sounded like an extension of the debates

in the General Assembly. The ambassadors were trying to justify the positions of their governments.

Ambassador Koh began by saying he hoped the day would come when the delegates to the United Nations would consider global issues according to what was best for the world rather than just for their own countries. He pointed to the General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism as an example of narrow national self-interest leading to an act of prejudice and injustice. He went around the entire table, examining each country's actions at the United Nations.

He addressed himself to the ambassador from Cyprus, a distinguished elder statesman who over the years has been an eloquent advocate of a strengthened United Nations with the capacity to enforce law on the basis of justice on a world scale.

Ambassador Koh said he knew the ambassador from Cyprus was aware how historically absurd it was to say that Zionism was a form of racism. But he also knew that Cyprus needed support for its own U.N. resolution condemning Turkey for aggression. And there were more than two dozen Arab or Muslim states whose votes were essential for that purpose.

Then the Singapore ambassador addressed himself to the entire group. He said he had been told by several members that Israel was racist because non-Jews did not enjoy full economic and political opportunity in Israel. Ambassador Koh referred to one Muslim country after another in which Christians and other non-Muslims were unable to obtain govern-

ment or university jobs on a par with Muslims. If racism is defined as discrimination, Ambassador Koh said, then it was obvious that many Muslim nations would have to condemn themselves.

Koh asked his fellow ambassadors whether they actually knew what Zionism was at the time the resolution came up and, if not, whether they had taken the trouble to find out. He said that he himself was not ashamed to admit that he had no knowledge about Zionism when he was called upon to vote. So he went to the basic source — Theodore Herzl's book on Zionism.

"Gentlemen," he said, "do you know what I discovered? I discovered that Zionism is nothing more than nationalism — a popular movement to create and maintain an independent nation. So we're all the same. How can we condemn Zionism for having the same basic objectives that we do ourselves?"

Ambassador Koh then went on to say that the only hope for world peace was to create a world organization capable of meeting problems that calls for intelligent and impartial judgments.

"Gentlemen," he said, "unless we can think and debate honestly and objectively and have respect for basic facts, then we will separate ourselves from the benefits of an intelligence and ultimately will lose our souls."

P. T. Koh is a young man but I have a hunch the world may come to know him well in the years ahead — and this is all to the good.

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ART BUCHWALD

Hail to the Chief

WASHINGTON: The American Indians seem to be divided over whether or not to participate in the Bicentennial celebration next year. Some tribes are going along with the festivities because they have decided it's good for their jewelry business. But others are boycotting them on the grounds that the Indians really have nothing to celebrate.

Chief Hard Nose of the Kalorama Indians, whose forefathers once hunted buffalo and bear where the Watergate now stands, told me his people have no interest in celebrating the

200th anniversary of the United States.

"Why should we celebrate an anniversary that was the start of us losing everything on this continent?"

"How can you say that?" I asked. "You've got a Bureau of Indian Affairs."

"Before you people formed a country, we had clean air, fresh water and blue skies. And we had an ozone layer to keep us from getting skin cancer. Now you've messed things up so badly it isn't even safe to eat chicken eggs."

"But, Chief, look what we gave to your continent: railroads, highways, suburbs, shopping centers and trading stamps. Where would the American Indian be today without the white man?"

"We'd be living in Palm Springs and Beverly Hills."

"Ah, but what kind of life would you be living?" I asked. "You'd still be in tents sleeping on buffalo hides and fishing in streams and dancing around fires. What type of existence is that?"

"It's better than selling souvenirs on the rim of the Grand Canyon," Chief Hard Nose said. "Frankly, I don't know what you people are celebrating anyway. Look what you've done to New York! When we sold you Manhattan Island for \$24, New York bonds were worth their weight in beads. Every tribe with a pension fund fought to buy them. Now you can't give them away."

"When the settlers first arrived there were trees and hills and streams from Wall Street up to Columbia University. You could ride a horse from the Hudson River to the East River in 10 minutes. Now it takes an

hour to get from First Avenue to the West Side Highway. What kind of progress is that?"

"New York isn't America," I pointed out to Chief Hard Nose. "Look at Detroit and Newark and Wilmington, Delaware. The Indians never could have developed those places on their own. When we celebrate our 200th anniversary, we're celebrating it for all Americans, and that includes you Indians. We couldn't have made it without you."

"Why do you say that?" "Don't forget it was on your land that we found the gas and oil and coal and from that made this country what it is today."

"Then how come we don't get anything out of it?"

"Because we know you are a proud people who would never accept money for land that was stolen from you."

Chief Hard Nose said, "Why don't you try us?"

"We must forget the past," I told him. "Your people and our people must join hands and rejoice in this great Bicentennial celebration. You are part of our culture. Without Indians there might never have been a movie industry or John Wayne."

"I forgot about John Wayne," he admitted.

"And don't forget your people gave us the names for three professional football teams. No other ethnic group has been so honored."

Chief Hard Nose thought for a moment and then said, "If we join in your Bicentennial, will you honor the treaties and promises you made to us for the last 200 years?"

"Of course," I promised. "Have we ever lied to you?"

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In Brief

by Stanley R. Rader

Bridging National Differences

Tokyo, Japan, December 11, 1975: One year ago today, Mr. Herbert Armstrong and I were received by Japan's Prime Minister Takeo Miki, who had recently taken office. For more than seven years we had been working with the help of many of Mr. Miki's colleagues in the Japanese Diet, along with outstanding leaders from universities, industry, and society, to promote better understanding between the people of Japan and the United States — and, in addition, between the people of Japan and the nations of the developing world.

Mr. Miki's predecessors, the late Eisaku Sato and Kakeui Tanaka, had given us much encouragement in what was a seemingly impossible task and one that was apparently at that time running against a very strong tide. Secretary of State Kissinger, for example, had very deeply offended the Japanese and Prime Minister Sato, driving Japanese-American relations to their lowest postwar point. Mr. Kissinger had failed to consult Mr. Sato and other members of his government before his 1972 "secret mission" to China, causing Mr. Sato and his government to lose considerable face in Japan as well as in the entire free world and hastening the retirement of Prime Minister Sato. Shortly after his retirement, Mr. Sato told me in his home that he was very concerned about the Japanese-American relationship surviving Mr. Kissinger's well-publicized "shock," as it was commonly referred to in Japan. Referring to Mr. Kissinger, Mr. Sato stated, "He forgot that one should consult with one's friends first before one consults with one's enemies."

The United States itself and the American people in the last year and a half have also suffered not one or two shocks, but a whole series of shocks which have been unprecedented in U.S. history. The psychological effects of these social temblors are still largely unmeasured.

Public faith in U.S. institutions has been seriously corroded and replaced by widespread distrust, skepticism and cynicism, as institution after institution is revealed to have been affected by decay and corruption of proportions heretofore unsuspected by a trusting American citizenry. Every day new revelations about important agencies of the U.S. government and important political figures of the past and present literally shock the conscience of the American people.

Despite all of this, however, relations between the United States and Japan are actually improving because the U.S. foreign policy is, perhaps for the first time, taking full cognizance of the importance of Japan in the Pacific area and throughout the free world. For too long, America has taken its close relationship with the Japanese people too much for granted as it sought new friends and alliances, including détente with Russia and full working relationships with China — much like the insurance man who takes his good clients and their renewals for granted as he devotes his energies and time in pursuit of new business.

President Ford's new Pacific doctrine emphasizes just how important the Pacific area is to the United States and to the peace of the world. Despite America's setback in Vietnam and its withdrawal from the Asian mainland (except in South Korea), the doctrine recognizes the prominent role Japan must play if the goals and objectives of the U.S. and the free world are to be realized. With Japan the U.S. can have a military posture that will support its allies without interfering in the internal affairs of each country. Maintaining the Tokyo link will also prevent Russia, and for that matter, China, from obtaining hegemony over the entire Pacific region. It is Japan that will be able to establish truly important economic and social ties with China. It is Japan that will be free of basic ethnic differences which hinder a true and full understanding between the nations of the East and the West. And it is Japan that will be able to avoid the colonial label which has been so often and so rightfully ascribed to the nations of the West.

We should continue to work closely with our friends and colleagues in Japan, not only to promote better understanding between the United States and Japan but between all nations of the world. Japan has already evidenced a great interest in helping the nations of the Third World. We have had the privilege of working closely with outstanding Diet members and other Japanese leaders in Africa, in the Middle East, throughout Southeast Asia, in India, and in Central and South America. Various projects involving Japanese institutions and Ambassador College, and in the future the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation, will continue to play an important role. □

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letters

A Growth Process

Concerning your article in *Plain Truth* week ending November 1, 1975, called "Christianity Is a Growth Process." I have never read such an inspiring article. You have no idea how much that article helped me. An article like that should make the front page of this country's newspapers.

Mrs. Henry Lanier,
Atlantic City, NJ

Your Personal column in the November 1 *Plain Truth*, "Christianity Is a Growth Process," is so wonderful and uplifting. It gives us courage to get right up and try, and try, again and again. Thank you for this most helpful article. I intend to study it thoroughly.

Lois Martin,
Goldonna, LA

Mr. Armstrong's article on "Christianity Is a Growth Process" in *Plain Truth* on November 1 is the greatest yet! Never have I read so much truth in so few words. It has changed my life. I read it every day and when temptation is great, I read it again. It seems to inspire me to try harder to do what God has planned for my life.

I wish all the world could read it as they begin a new day which brings us closer to that wonderful world tomorrow he tells us about so often.

I hope you will give it to us in pamphlet form that I may pass it on to friends. I thank God for the friend who first told me about *Plain Truth*.

Mrs. J. R. Jackson,
Marietta, GA

Civil War Among Our Readers

"The New Civil War" by Ron Horswell is an outstanding literary achievement! Bravo, *Plain Truth*!

Jacqueline Sweithelm,
Rockville Centre, NY

I just reread "The New Civil War." It is, without a doubt, the poorest written article printed by you ever.

I won't waste my time and effort with a critique.

While I'm at it, who do I write to, the editor-in-chief, editor, managing editor, assistant to the editor, news editor, feature editor, or one of the senior editors?

I'm serious. I've never written anything like this to you before. Do you seriously call this plain truth? With so many editors, who accepts the blame for passing this?

Please don't take this to mean I'm totally against you. I pray often for you and since reading the article, I will pray for you more often.

Bob Markwith,
Plainfield, IN

In your October 18, 1975 issue, Ron Horswell's "The New Civil War." Mr. Horswell has a wonderful comprehension of truth. His definition of our social organization (government) is the most clear of any I've ever heard. His support of Ambassador Daniel Moynihan with some of the

truths pointedly expressed, including inconsistencies, is about to lift us to a less pathetic position of appraisal. Bully!

Raymond W. Sayre,
Baltimore, MD

Sugar: The Dentists Respond

The article in *Plain Truth*, November 1, 1975 by Arthur W. Docken, is essentially correct and a good documentation of the case against sugar in dental disease. Unfortunately there is one glaring fault in his story — the suggestion that honey can be safely substituted for sugar to avoid dental problems. This is absolutely incorrect. Honey is an excellent substrate for acid-producing bacteria of the mouth, and will result in a high decay rate if used freely in place of sugar. It is unfortunate that an otherwise useful article would contain such misinformation for your readers. We have many early decay problems in small children who have used nursing bottles containing fruit juices. The point is that natural sugars are quite capable of causing dental disease if ingested frequently and especially if in a sticky or adhesive medium.

David B. Law, DDS, MS,
Professor of
Children's Dentistry,
University of Washington,
School of Dentistry,
Seattle, WA

I would like to help the readers of *Plain Truth* learn to prevent cavities. Your article, "The Sugar Conspiracy," gives an excellent explanation of the cause-effect relationship of sugar and cavities. It should also be pointed out that any sugar, whether it comes from natural sugar cane, natural sugar beets, natural honey, or even the natural sugar in apples or any fruit, can cause cavities by the same fermentation process. Eliminating the sugar is excellent, but sometimes impractical, so that a combination of cutting down on sugar intake, no matter what source, and by removing the other component of the fermentation process (the bacteria) will enable children to live healthy, cavity-free lives.

It is also possible to prevent cavities by first effectively removing the bacteria and the bacterial plaque (the white sticky mass on the teeth) just prior to eating any natural sugars. This breaks the fermentation chain. Instead of removing the sugar you are removing the bacteria and accomplishing the same thing. However, it does not help obesity, heart disease, or other disease problems caused by high sugar intake.

Sheldon Schwebel, DDS,
Mill Valley, CA

Uri

I have seen the fantastic cover story of "Science Examines the Supernatural" in the October 1975 issue of *Plain Truth*. I would appreciate very much if you could send me ten copies of this issue. P.S. It's a great magazine.

Uri Geller,
New York, NY

• Mr. Geller is referring to our international edition of *Plain Truth*.

HUMAN SURVIVAL

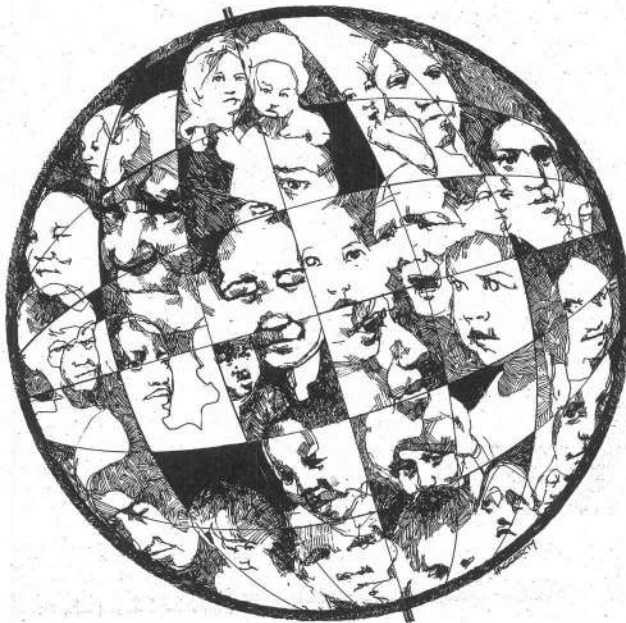
The world failed to replenish its depleted food stocks in 1975, and the outlook for the hungry in 1976 is bleak. Bumper grain harvests in North America were offset by poor crops in Europe and the Soviet Union. Year-end wheat stocks are likely to be even lower than in 1974 when they were drained by a worldwide food shortage. As a result, the world will be dependent for what it eats in 1976 on what it grows — UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL news release, December 29, 1975.

Silently, ominously, inexorably, the food-population crisis is closing in on our overcrowded world — now containing four billion people as of November 1975. It is the most complex and nearly insoluble problem that has ever faced the human race. Next to nuclear annihilation, this crisis is the greatest threat to survival for hundreds of millions of the earth's inhabitants. Yet it is largely an ignored crisis.

Already the world is hard pressed to keep food supplies ahead of population growth and food demand. There is less food per person on the planet today than thirty years ago. World population is growing almost 2% per year, food supply is increasing 2½%, but food demand is increasing 3% per year. Affluence and rising expectations are emerging as a major new claimant on world food supplies, in addition to population increases.

Humanity as a whole is literally living hand to mouth, staking everything on the next grain harvest and depending upon the blessings of good weather. In recent years, however, monsoon failures, droughts, and other weather upsets have devastated immense crop areas in the Soviet Union, China, Africa, India, and even parts of the United States. Under the combined assault of bad weather, soaring populations, and affluent demands, world grain reserves have plummeted from 95 days in 1961 to less than 30 days today.

Unremittingly, the ragged leading edge of famine's scythe reaps an increasing toll in suffering and death in the earth's famine belt — Africa, Latin America, and many parts of Asia. Hunger and malnutrition presently plague over half of humanity. Over 500 million are chronically hungry, barely surviving on the edge of life. These unfortunate millions are more or less recognizable because of physical disabilities or the bloated or emaciated bodies indicative of nutritional deficiencies. Less recognizable are the tragic numbers of people whose mental development is permanently stunted. Most of these are children, a quarter to a half of whom die before age five. So far, scores of millions are dying silently each year from the ravages of malnutrition and starvation.



By the year 2000 **HOW WILL WE FEED THE WORLD'S 6 BILLION?**

by Donald D. Schroeder

What haunts "food futurists" is this: Food supplies can only be increased gradually, but populations are destined to grow explosively despite reductions in birth rates all over the world in recent years.

In 1965 global population was increasing at 2% annually. Due to national and international efforts, the rate was brought down to 1.7% in 1974. Whether future declines will be rapid enough to stave off massive famines is a great unanswered question.

Population and food officials disclose that close to a doubling of current food production is already needed just to bring the present world's population up to an adequate dietary level. Even if we accept the conservative figure of six billion people living on the earth at the

beginning of the twenty-first century, food production *four times* the present level will be required.

A New Dark Age?

Since the early 1960s, literally hundreds of top-ranking leaders in all fields have echoed apocalyptic warnings of famines ahead unless mankind unitedly acts to rapidly increase food supplies and to blunt population growth.

The population experts and statisticians tell us if three to four billion more human beings are added in this century to today's four billion human inhabitants, only abject poverty, economic stagnation, and permanent semistarvation will await the vast majority of mankind.

The world, they tell us, cannot survive

in peace and stability with a "Luxury Club" of three quarters of a billion human beings living in a score of advanced and well-fed countries while the rest of humanity watches the slim means of survival steadily shrink from its grasp. When the poor have nothing to eat and no hope for future progress, they also have nothing to lose by violent revolution.

Despite the multitude of warnings that mankind can solve the onrushing food-population crisis only if he acts immediately, most nations are acting as if it's somebody else's problem, or as if they can tackle it after they get other nagging problems out of the way.

"We are participating in a grand-scale evasion of reality which bears all the signs of insanity," said Dr. Georg Borgstrom, noted population expert, a few years ago. "Nothing less is required than a global will to act" to ward off the calamity, he said.

"Very few grasp the magnitude of the danger that confronts us," said Thomas M. Ware, head of the Freedom From Hunger Foundation, before a Senate subcommittee as early as 1965. "The catastrophe is not something that may happen; on the contrary, it is a mathematical certainty it will happen."

It is happening today, but few, East or West, seem overly concerned.

Two years ago the world population and food crisis was propelled to world attention when 1974 was designated as "World Population Year." Several rhetoric-filled international meetings were held; yet today none of the proposed lofty schemes have gotten off the ground to forestall future famines and starvation.

All is not totally hopeless even yet. Don Paarlberg, chief economist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, states that "for the next decade there is a reasonable likelihood that food production can be kept half a step ahead of population." But after that, he says, projected birth rates zoom off the charts and food production at current levels simply won't be able to keep pace.

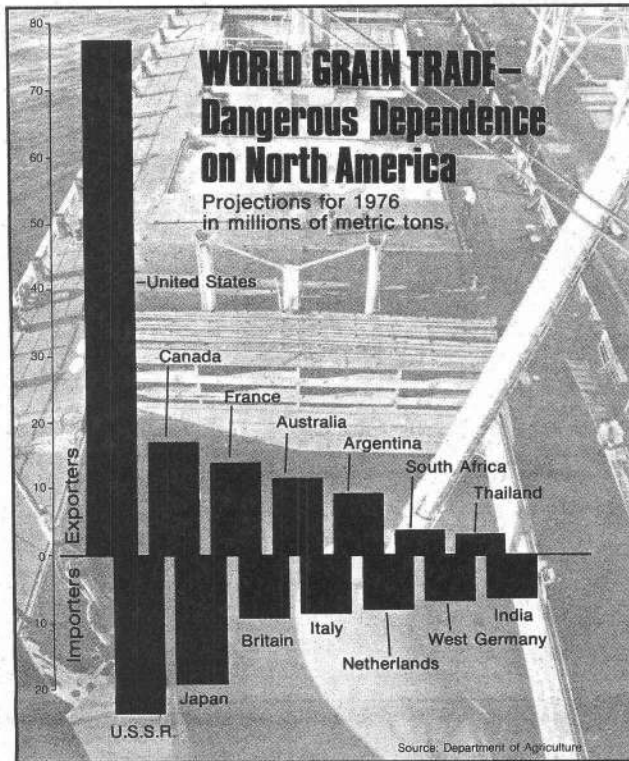
A Century of Unprecedented Population Growth

Many do not realize that population increases in this century are unparalleled in recorded history. Only a lucky combination of the past few decades of good weather and new agricultural technology has permitted nations to barely keep ahead of burgeoning population demands. But in the years ahead the stark is destined to outdistance the plow.

It is hard to imagine today's nearly 2% annual world population growth rate as "explosive," but the figure is deceptively small. Compared with the rest of history, it is a staggering rate and portends incredibly rapid population increases for the rest of this century.

A look at mankind's history of population growth is necessary to appreciate this fact.

Due to war, disease, and starvation, world population grew at mere fractions of 1% annually until this century. At



yearly increases of around 0.1% per year, it took thousands of years for world population to reach an estimated 250 to 300 million at the time of Christ.

At a slightly higher rate, it took 16 more centuries, to around the year 1650, for world population to increase to 500 million (give or take 100 million to allow for the Crusades, bubonic plague, and other high death factors). Two hundred years ago at the birth of the United States in 1776, world population was, according to rough estimates, around 700 million. *Not until 1830 did the world finally reach its first billion.*

But look at the incredibly short time periods required to add additional billions in the years after 1830, particularly in the twentieth century!

	Years Required to Add One Billion	Year Reached
First Billion	Several thousand	1830
Second Billion	100	1930
Third Billion	30	1960
Fourth Billion	15	1975
Fifth Billion	11	1986
Sixth Billion	9	1995

By the end of this century, U.N. statistics indicate that world population will be increasing by a billion persons every five years.

World population has doubled from 2 billion to 4 billion since just before World War II — in the lifetime of many reading *Plain Truth*. Building upon today's population, a 2% annual world population increase means world population doubles every 35 years. Barring

some catastrophe, some officials estimate that world population will reach 6.5 to 7 billion around the year 2000.

But worse yet, the annual population increase in many developing nations in Latin America, Africa, and Asia is not 2% annually but as much as 3 1/4% — a rate that doubles population every 20 years.

Death Rates Cut in Half

The major reason for the sudden population growth in this century has not been higher birth rates, but lowered death rates. Medical, chemical, and sanitary breakthroughs have cut death rates in half in this century. Millions now survive diseases that were once commonly fatal.

The post-World War II use of DDT, for example, employed to kill malaria-carrying mosquitoes, has drastically lowered the death rate in most underdeveloped areas. Life expectancy in areas such as India has jumped from 29 years in 1940 to 55 years today.

Latin America, the former "sleeping giant," passed the 200 million population mark in 1960 and exploded to 300 million only 12 years later in 1972. At a 25-year doubling rate, Latin America must prepare to feed, house, and employ 645 million Latins by the year 2000 — a tripling of population in this century — unless the culturally and religiously alien practice of birth control takes hold immediately. Mexico alone will jump from 60 million to 135 million by the year 2000, at the present growth rate.

Nearly 60% of humanity lives in Asia.

Two countries alone, India and China, account for over a third of all humankind. Any temporary agricultural gains in these two nations are offset almost immediately by an exploding population. Each country adds the population of an Australia (14 million) every year, a United States (215 million) in a decade.

Unless dramatic steps are taken now, by the turn of the century India's population will hit one billion, the Philippines will mushroom from 42 million to 100 million, and Indonesia's already teeming 130 million population will almost double.

The chances of stemming this growing tide of humanity register somewhere between slim and none.

Six Billion No Matter What?

Another aspect of the population crisis is not as fully appreciated as it should be. A major global food crisis is assured unless very dramatic reductions in birth rates are forthcoming.

"We should understand that even if all known family-planning methods were pushed to the fullest, the world's population will still [almost] double by about 2006," said Douglas Ensminger, an internationally recognized population expert.

"Even if we succeed in substantially lowering the world population rate, the number of people for several decades will grow faster than we are likely to succeed in increasing food production," adds Ensminger.

Several developed nations have come very close to achieving zero population growth. A few have achieved it.

Assuming the miraculous happened and the number of children born to every woman in the developing countries was cut in half (roughly replacement-level fertility), zero world population growth would still not be achieved until the end of the next century.

If a population ceiling of two children were suddenly universally adopted, it would still mean over five billion people on earth by the year 2000, and world population would gradually level off only after that high threshold had been reached.

The primary problem responsible for this condition stems from the very structure of the population in many developing nations. In many of these lands, the number of people under 15 years of age comprises 40% or more of the populace. Median age in these countries is around 19 compared to 31 in the developed countries. This means record numbers of women will be coming into their peak childbearing years in the next few decades. Consequently, populations in developing nations will continue to swell for some time to come even if fertility rates steadily drop to replacement levels, which all officials consider extremely unlikely. There is no evidence such a precipitous birth-rate decline is imminent in the developing world.

The U.S. Population Reference Bureau summed up this situation as follows: "In order to achieve a nongrowing population, even in most of the more developed countries, fertility would have to decline significantly below the replace-

ment level. In the less developed countries such a situation seems inconceivable during the coming 50 years..." (*World Population Projections: Alternative Paths to Zero Growth*, p. 26).

Philander Claxton, special assistant to the secretary of state for population matters, puts the problem in the simplest of terms: "The world must prepare for a world population of at least 6 billion by 2000. There is nothing except famine, pestilence, or nuclear war to prevent it from reaching that figure. That's the minimum."

Birth Control or Else

With almost one voice population experts say that if birth rates in most of the developing world are not drastically dropped, all other attempts by governments to combat the population-food crisis will be futile.

But, even assuming the unachievable, how do governments suddenly and radically change the most intimate sexual behavior of their citizens? Can the frequently unstable, corrupt, and poor governments in these nations persuade their teeming and often illiterate masses to reject tribal traditions such as the custom of producing multiple sons for future security? Can they suddenly change inefficient agricultural practices? Can governments wipe out superstitious food

"... and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places."

— Matt. 24:7, RSV

taboos that in many widespread areas do not permit chicken, eggs, milk, and other rich protein sources to be used as food?

Reaching zero population growth in overfed Western nations does very little to solve the problem in the main arena of the food-population race: Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

"Considering the growing interdependence among the nations of the earth and the proliferation of sophisticated weaponry around the world, no country — however farsighted it may be in controlling its own population — can escape the consequences of the failure of others to moderate population growth," said Dr. Russell Peterson, chairman of the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality.

Science to the Rescue?

In North America, 40% of the diet is milk, meat, eggs, and fish; in Africa, 11%; in the Near East, 9%; in the Far East, only 5%. Admittedly, North Americans could do with less of such foods, but what can science do to materially change such overwhelming odds?

Rising expectations and affluence in developed nations are actually adding to the disparity by creating new demands on shrinking world food supplies. People increasingly want "indirect" protein from meat, not directly from grains and vegetables. And the rich nations are outbidding the poor and needy nations who cannot as readily afford to pay.

An even more critical factor than rising affluence is the fact that virtually all

the readily exploitable arable land in the world (3.5 billion acres) is already under cultivation. The vast majority of land in most countries is unsatisfactory for farming, being too precipitous and too rugged, or having soil too infertile.

Only 1% of Australia is suitable for cropland, only 10% of China, only 5% of Canada. Unfortunately the equatorial rain forests of the world or the Amazon basin is no agricultural El Dorado. The soil is so thin, so low in fertility, and so high in fragility that it is leached of essential nutrients after the heavy rains of just a few growing seasons.

Experts estimate 6.6 billion more acres could be tilled if governments were willing to pay massive development costs. But nations whose GNP averages out to around a few hundred dollars a year per person simply cannot afford to shell out the minimum of \$400 per acre (over \$1,000 is a better average) to bring new lands into production.

Where will water for the new lands come from? Most readily exploitable water sources have already been dammed or tapped. In addition, overgrazing or poor irrigation practices are annually turning thousands of acres of once arable land into barren ground or salt deserts.

Everywhere in the world, three quarters or so of new population growth ends up in cities. In developing and industrialized nations alike, cities creep deeper into fertile countryside, replacing fields of wheat, corn, and rice with housing projects and paved roadways.

Can America Play God?

When food shortages or famines develop anywhere in the world, all eyes immediately turn toward North America. The United States, along with Canada, supplies 85% of the world's internationally traded grain. Not a single significant new exporter of grain has appeared in the past quarter century.

America may no longer be the policeman of the world, but it has become its grocer. After feeding their own countrymen, American farmers have left over for export nearly 60% of their wheat and rice, nearly half of their soybeans, one fourth of their grain sorghum, and over one fifth of their corn.

"In a world of food scarcity... North America must decide who gets how much food and on what terms," said one U.S. agricultural official.

America is blessed with the largest contiguous land mass of fertile soil, good growing climate, and adequate rainfall of any place on earth. While the best growing land in the U.S. lies south of the 45th parallel, most of the Soviet Union's lies above it. That's the main reason Soviet grain production is a very chancy thing. "The best land in Russia has a climate something like North Dakota — and from there on it gets worse," said one noted climatologist.

Nearly every government official agrees the United States can apply its tremendous agricultural capacity as a lever on foreign countries to adopt policies beneficial to Washington if it chooses to do so.

There is strong evidence, for example, that the Soviet Union did not try to

interfere with the Sinai agreement between Egypt and Israel because of the Soviet need to purchase American grain. A significant amount of the warming up in U.S.-Egyptian relations has been credited to food by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz. "I had a little wheat in my pocket," says Butz.

But since food is such an elemental human need, withholding it to any needy nation would raise a moral dilemma. "Can you imagine the repercussions of the U.S. trying to play God?" asks one White House official.

As formidable as it is, it is certain that even the great food-producing capacity of the U.S. could not feed a world stricken with huge famines for very long. America's safety reserve of idle crop land has already been thrown into production. There is only so much the U.S. can produce and give. A huge moral dilemma faces American leadership in the near future if the country without enough food for all must decide who shall eat and who shall starve.

No one wants to think about such a situation, but those who have thought about it cautiously present the case for *triage*, a French term first applied to wounded soldiers: In the first category are those who can survive without treatment though they may be suffering severely — the "walking wounded." In the second category are those who can be saved by immediate care. In the last category are those so seriously wounded they cannot survive regardless of the treatment given to them — the "can't be saved."

Cruel as it sounds, the U.S. could conceivably be forced to write off millions of starving people in "third-category" nations whose population growth has far exceeded their own agricultural capacity.

Weather Upsets Ahead: Will America Even Be Able to Feed Itself?

As we have seen, population growth in the years ahead will generate more and more famines even in relatively good years. But the biggest single factor that *presently* separates all nations from feast or famine is not yearly population growth, but *weather*. Leading climatologists warn that even the United States may be headed for tough years if certain adverse weather cycles of the past are repeated.

"The evidence is now abundantly clear that the climate of the earth is changing in a direction that is not promising in terms of our ability to feed the world," says Reid Bryson, noted University of Wisconsin climatologist.

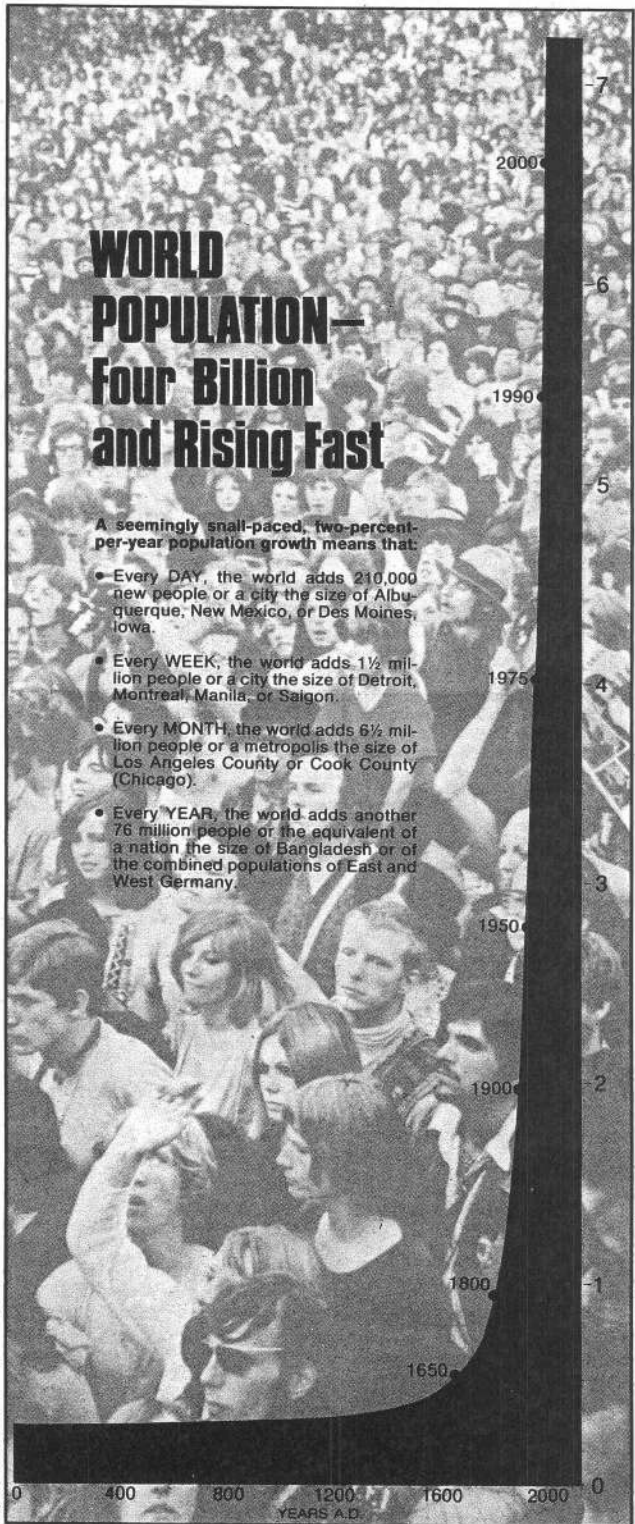
With world food supplies so precarious, "even a mild drought in the Great Plains could be a disaster," adds a U.S. agricultural official.

Mankind, with reasonable weather, can possibly avoid mass famines for as much as a decade. But if any sudden change of weather hits the world's breadbasket nations, massive famines could result almost overnight.

Will the U.S. see a return of the dust-bowl years of the thirties and fifties?

So vital a factor is the weather that it will be the subject of Part 2 of the Food-Population Crisis in the next issue of *Plain Truth*.

(To Be Continued)



WORDS ARE HARD TO EAT

WASHINGTON: The world's four billionth inhabitant gasped his first breath during the third week of November 1975 according to those who calculate such things. Significantly, world population experts were gathered here for a major conference at the very time this historic event took place.

The international convention sponsored by the World Population Society was designed as a follow-up to the United Nations conference on population in Bucharest, Romania, in August 1974.

The Bucharest conference, through its controversies if not through its accomplishments, "finally put population on the front page around the world," according to Senator Charles Percy (Republican senator from Illinois), a member of the U.S. delegation there.

But this time, the follow-up conference was curiously relegated to the society page. One had to look closely in

articles reporting on the meeting of the Shah of Iran's sister with some Senate wives and on Mrs. Marcos, wife of the Philippine president, having tea with Mrs. Ford to find out that two foreign dignitaries were "in town to speak at a population conference."

Indicative of the reduced interest in this conference would be a comparison between the 75 journalists who were here to cover it and the 660 who had covered the Bucharest conference only one year ago.

It seems the same pattern is now being followed in dealing with the population crisis that has been evidenced in other crises which have precipitated international conferences.

Remember pollution? A few years ago it was a major public issue. First came the growing public awareness resulting in pressure on national governments and international organizations to "do something." Then came the major headline-grabbing conference in Stockholm, Sweden, in June 1972.

This conference served a two-fold purpose. On the one hand, it provided a preliminary assessment of the global ex-

tent of the problem so that research could be directed toward ways in which the problem could be attacked. But the other purpose of the Stockholm conference and other similar conferences has been to serve as high-water marks of the tide of public interest.

The results from the studies are now coming in. But where is the public interest, or more importantly, the political will necessary to take action based on those results?

There was the famous World Food Conference in Rome in November 1974 and the Law of the Sea Conference in Geneva in the spring of 1975. In the planning stage now is a major international conference on human habitats which is slated for Vancouver, British Columbia. When Armageddon is unleashed, there will probably be a conference in session on how to avoid it, puns novelist Arthur Koestler.

But what is the result of this "much speaking"? Aside from intensified research into and publicity generated by these several global crisis areas, very little. For example:

- No real attempts are under way to

make a serious dent in the world's exploding population, most of which is in the developing Third and Fourth World countries. Conflicting ideologies and religious traditions virtually assure failure.

- Despite urgent pleadings from leading world food experts to establish food stockpiles, next to nothing has been done in spite of the fact that world food reserves are at their lowest level ever. A morass of political "considerations" in both food exporting and importing countries frustrates food reserve planning.

- Law of the Sea conferences invariably bog down over the political hot potato of national sovereignty of offshore waters. Meanwhile, the over-fishing of the oceans continues, and a new threat — global sea pollution — proceeds virtually unchecked.

In spite of what has already been accomplished — or perhaps better put, publicized — in world population, in food, in pollution, and in other crises, it is nothing compared to the job yet remaining to be done. World citizen number four billion would agree.

— Henry Sturcke

A FEAST FOR RATS

Rats, birds, insects, and moisture spoil enough grain in India each year to make up for the entire world food shortage.

In the underdeveloped world as a whole, some experts estimate that more than half the potential food crop is wasted. In fact, if the pests that attacked the world's feed grains were brought under control, an additional 200 million tons of grain could be made available — enough to feed one billion people each year.

Expressed another way, the elimination of waste due to crop pests could

result in an immediate 25% increase in edible grains *without any change* in agricultural productivity.

Much of the grain produced in the Third World is not kept in large warehouses or giant grain elevators but rather is stored by farmers in their local villages under less than ideal conditions, often only in burlap sacks or simply heaped up in a corner. As a result, over \$2 billion worth of food is lost each year.

To make matters worse, the insects, rodents, and microorganisms which attack grain also lower its nutritional quality because these pests go for the higher protein portion of the grain.

Nowhere is the tragic problem of food spoilage exemplified more than in India.

"But for rodents, pests, and poor storage, India would be a food surplus country," reports a U.N. Development Program study. Over 10 million tons of food grains are lost each year because of faulty storage, which is about a fifth of the domestic crop and more than twice the amount of food India had to import in 1974.

While the jute sacks or mud containers in which Indian farmers traditionally store their crops are much of the problem, an uncontrolled rodent population plays the primary role in lowering India's grain output.

Many people in India consider rats "holy," and Hinduism teaches that they are to be considered as the "divine mounts" of the elephant-headed Lord

Ganesh, the Hindu god of prosperity. The strong Hindu belief in the sanctity of animal life has allowed the rat population in India to grow to 2.5 billion, so that the "revered rodents" now outnumber the human population five to one.

Agricultural losses from rat infestation exceed \$240 million a year; yet most rural villagers remain reluctant to use rat poison because of their religious convictions.

Other areas of the Third World present similar conditions. In Africa, fifty-five million people could be fed from the grain which is instead consumed by rats, locusts, birds, beetles, moths, weevils, and bacteria. Furthermore, over 4.24 million square miles of good grazing land is off limits for cattle production because it is dominated by the tsetse fly which spreads sleeping sickness among domestic animals.

Food spoilage isn't the exclusive province of the developing countries either. The Department of Agriculture estimates that up to a third of the potential American grain harvest is lost to insects, disease, and weeds. Dr. Elvin C. Stakman, plant pathologist at the University of Minnesota, believes that American farmers plant over 75 million acres of crop land a year in order to support weeds and pests.

At the moment, food development experts are working on several ways of stemming the waste of food crops. More effective drying of grains, hermetic sealing of large airtight bins, and greater use of plastic bags to keep insects out of the food are all possibilities.

Yet the fact that the United States, a technologically advanced country with all these means at its disposal, still loses a disproportionate amount of its crop to pests is discouraging. This casts a doubt on the possibility that 200 million tons of grain in the underdeveloped world can be diverted away from voracious pests and into hungry human mouths.

— Jeff Calkins



Karl H. Maslowski — Photo Research/Chas

Science Rediscovered Sin

by Ron Horswell

If we are to survive the future, we may have to "rediscover sin." That's the way economist-futurist Kenneth Boulding put it at last summer's convention of the World Future Society. Although Hollywood hasn't yet latched on to it as a motion picture title, we seem to be living in the "Day of the Prophet," a time when gloomy Jeremiahs and Isaiahs once again roam the earth exposing sins that society has forgotten.

The Modern Prophets

Our latter-day prophets are not feeding on locusts and wild honey, and they are clad in doctorate degrees rather than camel skins and leathern loincloths. Their message is that the future will be shaped more by *morality* than by *miracles* of technology. To phrase that more succinctly and old-fashionedly, "sin" can undermine even the most optimistic forecast. The implication is that we can only ensure an enjoyable tomorrow by facing some hard decisions today.

Twenty, fifteen, or even ten years ago we would scarcely have tolerated such spoilers casting righteous aspersions on our golden calf of progress. Back then our oracles were of a different cast. The message from most every Delphi was crystal clear — somehow an incredible, unstoppable, divine chain reaction of technical and scientific progress had been detonated. No matter where you lived, be it Brooklyn, Bombay, Beirut, or Bangkok, it was only a matter of time before your neighborhood would be figuratively in the suburbs of Disneyland. It wasn't a question of morality or ethics. It was a simple matter of knowing the right equations and subscribing to the right journals.

There was, to be sure, one dark cloud even in those headier days: the communist menace with the accompanying threat of first atomic and then nuclear war. But that dose of pessimism was different from the prophetic messages we hear today. The Red threat was perceived as an evil force against which we in the white hats must stand firm. It didn't take a prophet to point out the sins of someone else.

Miracles vs. Discontinuity

In the 1950s and 60s, "miracles" was probably the most utilized word in the prognosticator's vocabulary. A typical forecast went something like this one from 1955: "A bright, exciting future, full of opportunities. You will be living much better than you do now. Get your mind adjusted to miracles, coming fast."

Whether we got our minds adjusted or not, the "miracles" did come fast. Here, just to illustrate, are some of the more often made forecasts of the late 50s and early 60s:

- Electric power produced from atoms.
- Long-distance telephone direct dialing.

- Air conditioning in almost all new homes.
- Television transmittal across oceans.
- Space travel, probably even to the moon.

We felt we were operating on a continuum of one technological miracle after another, and the future was sure to be more of the same. If that prognostication philosophy had continued unchanged, we would by now all firmly believe that within the lifetimes of most of us, this old orb would be scarcely distinguishable from even the most imaginative view of heaven.

In reality, however, the majority today has abandoned hope of any technologically induced beatific visions this side of death. Rather than fantastic tales of a perpetual fiesta (sobered only by the possibility that the communists might rain on our party), we now feel quite sure that we ourselves have overindulged at our own banquet. We forecasted headily and then made our own forecasts come true. We tasted all brands of progress — regular, filter king, menthol, and extra long — and now we have cancer.

In the vocabulary of today's prophet, the key word "miracles" has been replaced by "discontinuity." A typical forecast goes something like this one taken from an essay written by Lester Brown for last summer's World Future Society convention. Brown sees ahead "... a shift away from historically accelerating growth, a shift in political power from industrial countries to raw materials suppliers, and shifts in emphasis from economic growth to distribution, from supply expansion to demand conservation, and in international trade, from access to markets to access to supplies." All of this places us, in Brown's opinion, on "the verge of one of the greater discontinuities in human history"; i.e., the age of miracles is over.

The impact that the specter of discontinuities makes on our thinking is enormous. In the 50s and 60s, when we expanded then-present trends, the emergent future seemed quite desirable. As a result, we were basically satisfied with our societal institutions, be they governmental, economic, or whatever. In the 70s, when we expand present trends, the future takes on a sinister hue. The result is that we question all our established institutions. Such questioning contributes further to the general instability that already seems to comprise too much of the future.

The Approaching Day of Discontinuity

The essence of the discontinuity concept as preached by the new prophets is that our present course of civilization has inherent within it a day of reckoning. Unless we "repent," there is coming upon us the great and terrible Day of the Lord in the form of temperature

inversions, assorted ecological mega-disasters, traumatic termination of economic growth, and violent redistribution of wealth.

Our modern seers have revived a prophetic tradition that goes back a long way, all the way back, in fact, to the days of Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. "Discontinuity" is an old concept given a new name. Jeremiah referred to it as follows: "Alas! that day is so great there is none like it; it is a time of distress for Jacob..." (Jer. 30:7, RSV).

Daniel called it "a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time..." (Dan. 12:1, RSV). Jesus Christ prophesied that "there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be" (Matt. 24:21, RSV).

In our modern age, at least until recently, we neglected the messages of the biblical prophets. We considered their words too ancient or too difficult. But as evidenced by the recent wave of interest in the Bible (and especially in prophecy), we have come to realize that we scrutinized too critically.

It is certainly true that we may not know what every passage such as "the

"Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin . . . get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!"

— Ezekiel 18:30, 31, RSV

earth shall reel to and fro" or "the sun shall be turned into darkness" may mean, if indeed they are anything more than spicy doses of poetic license. But the essential message of the ancient prophets is clear. They proclaimed that man's moral and ethical actions were the keys to his future. They warned men to *rediscover sin*, or the future would come crashing down. And as our modern world is rediscovering, that message is as valid as ever.

Confusing Doom With Gloom

Our latter prophets, like the former, have been called doomsdayers, an appellation which most of them dislike and rightfully so. Although their words seem pessimistic to our miracle-acustomed ears, their essential message is not one of pessimism but rather one of change, not technical change but changes in human character. Instead of seeing the quality of the future being dependent on what is technologically possible, these prognosticators see it as dependent on what is *humanly possible*.

Speaking at the World Future Society convention, Jay Forrester, the MIT professor whose research in systems dynamics laid the foundation for the famous *Limits to Growth* study, said he feels a major presentation error of the *Limits* research has been its emphasis on physical limitations (i.e., population, resource supplies, etc.) rather than on the social and political constraints that make the necessary changes difficult if not nearly impossible.

Rising Expectations

Until recently most of our major institutions have cast a blind eye in this

direction. We have said, for example, that science and technology are neutral. However, the avowed neutrality of the internal combustion engine doesn't clear the smog from Tokyo or Los Angeles. Theoretical impartiality of nuclear physics doesn't prevent an arms race.

Now our ethical expectations are changing. The emergence of ecology as a prominent branch of science is significant, for ecology has been called the first ethical science. It concerns itself not only with what *can* be done but also with what *should* be done. It entails not only *laws* but also *values*, values whose influence is gradually permeating society. To cite one precedent-setting instance, the blocking of the SST in the United States was the first time in Western technological history that a project of such magnitude was halted in advance on environmental considerations.

In the field of economics, both domestic and international, there is now great hesitation to dogmatically state that traditional economic theories can adequately deal with all the moral responsibilities presented by poverty and extreme disparities of wealth.

Businesses large and small are coming to realize that they can only continue to exist if they respond to demands from the public that are entirely new in nature. People are coming to demand not only goods and services from business but also ethical standards pertaining to the environment, to hiring and promotion policies, and to political connections. (To the consternation of businessmen, the change in psychology is far from complete as illustrated by the fact that the public demand for morality does not yet overshadow its demand for more miracles.)

Too Little, Too Late?

So there has been some change. Values have been altered. Practices revamped. Institutions restructured. How much more change and how drastic it should be are matters of dispute. But one thing is clear. Much more fundamental changes will be required if mankind is to avoid his prophesied *Gottterdammerung*.

In this regard as well, the modern prophets are following in the sandal tracks of the ancients, although on this theme of changes in human character, the ancients were far ahead in both understanding and eloquence of presentation. An imperative transformation of the human heart is among the most consistently present and thoroughly developed themes of the Old Testament prophets. Joel said: "Render your hearts" (Joel 2:13). From Ezekiel: "Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin . . . and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!" (Ezek. 18:30, 31, RSV.) Also Jeremiah: "Turn now, every one of you, from his evil way and wrong doings..." (Jer. 25:5, RSV).

The tenor of the modern prophets is set: The future will be shaped more by morality than by miracles. If we fail to establish and act upon adequate moral and ethical standards, then the future will not be bright. Or, as the ancient prophets would have put it: Surely your sins shall find you out. □

YOU Can Help Liberate the World

by Jeff Calkins

"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."
— Leviticus 25:10

Inez is a Roman Catholic nun working in the shantytowns surrounding a major city in Chile. She is also a communist, dedicated to the violent overthrow of the existing government — ready to take up arms, even die in a bloody confrontation if necessary in order to overhaul her society.

Inez has made a long journey regarding her personal loyalties: from ostensibly serving Christ, who said, "Resist not evil" and "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you" to serving the gospel of Karl Marx, who called the working class to violent revolution: "Workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains."

Inez is only one of many. In Latin America particularly, revolutionary groups and guerrilla terrorists such as the infamous Tupamaros are supported by local missionaries sent from various Protestant denominations in the United States and Western Europe. And many of the Roman Catholic priests and nuns have also taken up the communist cause — even though it means being at odds with the official stance of their church.

Revolutionary "Christians"

The spectacle of professing Christians forsaking the simplest and clearest principles of Christ — basic benevolence and nonviolence toward all of humanity — and taking up arms in some "liberation" movement contains some vital lessons about the sorry state of the world and what can be done to change it.

Simply put, for much of humanity, conditions are wretched. An emotional desire for an end to such misery causes some religionists to disregard all logic, knowledge of economics, or the Bible and take up communism.

For example, F. Reid Buckley, an American novelist, describes the squalor with which Inez came in contact while working among Chile's poor:

"... Infants deformed by hunger and disease, and with nothing to be done for them ... families of eight and ten people crammed into a single room cabin, the rain sluicing in, the muck of the sod floor ankle deep, the frigid Andean winds whistling through cracks and knotholes ineffectively stuffed with rags. There was no work. There was no hope. Brothers slept with sisters for warmth, and sometimes lay with them. Inebriated fathers (wine, cheaper than food, narcotizes hunger) lay with daughters. It is hard to speak of depravity with such conditions, but there were incest and resulting Mongolism and terrible debasement...."

This is what Inez saw in the novels that ring Chile's cities. Buckley notes: "The only hope she and her charges can

have is for a change, a very radical change...." That's why Inez and her friends have become Marxists.

A typical pattern emerges: A priest or nun goes into the slums honestly hoping to "do something" for the poor people living there. But the situation is a hopeless mess, and the government is usually seen as a cruel oppressor. Since the conventional means of helping the poor seem to be getting nowhere, the priest or nun, in frustration, turns to communism. Impatient with the genuinely wretched conditions in which more than two thirds of the world live, many religious workers turn to Marxism because at least it promises the poor a victory in an all-out "class struggle."

True Liberation

The priests and nuns who take up arms to fight alongside the communists in Latin America are right about one thing: If the terrible problems of the poor are going to be solved, it will mean a total upheaval — an institutional and structural change.

They are also right that someone is going to have to use force and violence in order to effect this change. The "power structure" (the apostle Paul used the phrase, "the powers that be") simply isn't going to lie down and play dead.

Paul made it clear, in Romans 13, however, that Christians are not to try to overturn the status quo *now*. But they are going to get the chance.

Christians will have the opportunity to help Christ institute divine government, which will overthrow the existing powers that be. Revelation 19:11 describes Christ's return to earth in terms of "making war." And Revelation 11:15 describes the *transfer of power* from human fallible government to supernatural, infallible government.

This is why Christ instructs his disciples to pray: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

Don't Just Stand There

In the ultimate spiritual sense, Christians are long-term activists who advocate the *radical* solution of a *supernatural coup d'etat*. But there are a number of things you can do now — as an individual — to promote this divine "change of administration."

Pray — Thy kingdom come: God himself will eventually make the decision to send Christ back to earth. Requests to him that he do so can have the effect of hastening the decision.

Do what you can now for people. Just because the rest of the world is intent on making life miserable for itself doesn't mean you have to help it along. One could assume the posture of an ambassador of the government of God — acting within one's limited scope to share with others the benefits of that government. Consider the interests of others. In many cases, whatever small

thing you could do would be probably more than their present physical human governments do for them.

Work! Lay the foundation for Christ's return. The Old Testament states that the world will have to be prepared before the Messiah will come. "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me..." (Mal. 3:1). "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord..." (Isa. 40:3).

The biblical prescription for ending the horrors of oppressive government is *not* to engage in violent revolution — or even write "congress persons." It is to actively work in *laying the groundwork* for the time when Christ's own power structure will take over. That means the preaching of the gospel.

The principle of leverage is involved. Every effort you make toward furthering the gospel furthers the day when the myriad evils which seemingly can't be solved will be solved. The Church of God is dedicated to the purpose of preparing the world for that day. Your support of the Church of God and the Work it is doing does more to change the na-

ture of government on this weary planet than all the world's foam-flecked revolutionaries running around espousing "class conflagration" could ever do.

The revolution which will solve the problems of Satan, sin, and human nature has yet to occur. Mao Tse-tung has tried in vain to remold man into the communist image — witness the continual agony in the Chinese press over "materialism." The Chinese communists don't have eternal life to offer, and they still have trouble providing their people with anything other than an incredibly dreary, material existence.

Christ, on the other hand, promises both eternal life and material abundance when his "revolution" comes to pass. "... The plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt" (Amos 9:13).

The description is that of a world of plenty for all, including Chile's urban poor, whose plight religious workers such as Inez find so despairing. Such a world is coming. It is being hastened by the Work of God. □

What is *real* good news, anyway? Is it good news when delegates from around the world gather to discuss the food crisis, but do nothing about it? Is it good news when men talk of peace but prepare feverishly for war?

Good news is not really good unless it faces squarely the monstrous, onrushing trends that threaten to sweep mankind into oblivion and tells us *how* these problems are going to be solved. There *is* a source of such news. You can read about it every month in a publication appropriately titled *Good News*. It's yours for the asking. Just return the coupon.



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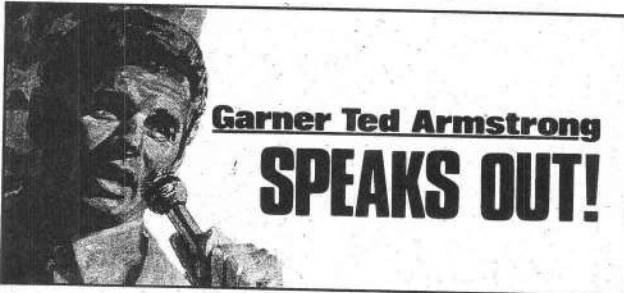
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**Garner Ted Armstrong
SPEAKS OUT!**

**Britain "Brewing Up"
Trouble for EEC**

LONDON: The Common Market nations are becoming increasingly irked by the British attitude these days. Britain, popularly labeled the "Sick Man of Europe," has been, officially at least, a member of the European Economic Community for three years now. But in a variety of issues facing the Common Market in the last few months, Britain has taken what has been considered a petty or an unrealistic stand vis-à-vis the other members of the West European bloc.

Recently, for example, the British rejected community-wide water pollution control measures on the grounds that continental standards were too stringent. The British are also opposed to various Common Market regulations involving taxation and tariffs and are dragging their feet on the issue of direct elections to the European parliament. Her EEC partners see the parliament decision a vital step toward a democratic European union.

And to top all this, in December Britain demanded a seat of its own at the North-South international economic conference in Paris. The Common Market was supposed to be represented by a single delegation at that conference. The insistence on a separate seat at the North-South dialogue stirred German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to write a stinging rebuke to Prime Minister Harold Wilson.

The reason for all of this, which many people thought would threaten the conference itself, was that Britain's North Sea oil will put her in the role of a producer — a potential exporter — as well as a consumer by the end of the next decade or so.

In the end, a face-saving compromise was reached. The nine, including Britain, did speak "as one," but Britain was permitted the privilege of also addressing the conference separately if she so desired — but only within the parameters of the Common Market position.

No wonder it is often said that it is Britain, no longer France, that is the leading obstacle to European unity these days.

It all comes back to Britain's nagging domestic problems. I'm absolutely astounded at what I see when I visit Britain. During the recent holiday season, I saw massive traffic jams, Christmas shoppers thronging the streets, and people spending as if there were no tomorrow. And they are doing so in spite of rising unemployment, zooming inflation (over 25% a year), and the continuous slide in the value of the pound (now at the lowest ebb in its entire history, hovering right in the neighborhood of \$2.00).

The news here has also been full of the

problems of the Chrysler subsidiary. The British government has had to guarantee to bail out the Chrysler corporation in Britain simply because of the total inability, it seems, of Chrysler to produce at a profit in Britain. One strike after another, with endless demands for more pay for less work, is absolutely killing the productivity of this nation — at least that of its once proud automotive industry.

For example, as BBC television reported the other night, the Chrysler corporation had decided to begin production of a highly competitive light-weight new model it hopes is going to get the company back on its feet financially. But instead of producing the new model here in Britain, unfortunately, Chrysler decided to use its plant in France. Why? Because company cost control experts had calculated they could produce twice as many cars in their French factory for the same cost and with the same size work force! The plant near Paris has not suffered from a strike in 23 years! Imagine! The exact number of workmen will be able to produce double the number of automobiles in Paris for the same cost.

Something is drastically wrong when British labor and management allow a situation such as this to persist and when, instead of solving the problem, they resort to government subsidies to bail out corporations which simply cannot get their own affairs in order and produce at a profit.

In all of the many, many years I have

been traveling to Britain — 19 years now since I first visited this country — I have come to know a bit about British work habits. I have seen the problem grow increasingly worse.

We used to comment back in the early 1960s how the British workmen seemed to come to tea and, once in a while, took a "work break." That was due to the British custom of "brewing up." (It was quite an experience for other allied soldiers in World War II, in the North African campaign, and even in the battle for Europe to see British tank commanders who were rattling along on an attack suddenly pull over and "brew up" their tea.)

When one sees British workmen taking their tea break from ten o'clock in the morning until nearly eleven, then again at two o'clock, and perhaps again at four, he begins to wonder: When in the world is the work ever done?

These observations are made, by the way, completely irrespective of nationalistic or political attitudes. No one has spoken out more forcefully, continuously, or perhaps bitingly concerning American work habits, inferior production, or national sickness than have I. It would be a shame if British citizens were inclined to dismiss very real problems by summarily assigning me to the "ugly American" role or calling me "that colonial" who seems to delight in taking pot shots at the British people. I happen to believe that, by the grace of God, "there will always be an England" — but I also believe it will be through a great deal of tribulation and national suffering brought upon a proud people by problems created by themselves.

How Real Is the Common Market Commitment?

It's no wonder that other Europeans are beginning to question whether the British aren't acting stubbornly independent simply to take their minds off their own terrible domestic problems.

Others claim that there never was any chance that Britain, with its long history of jealously guarded sovereignty, would ever happily move into a posture of cooperation and harmony with its Common Market associates. Britain entered the Common Market with a Conservative Party government in power. Then later the present Labour government took over, demanding a renegotiation of the

original entry terms and threatening to quit the organization if it didn't get them. That renegotiation quickly became a diplomatic charade aimed at soothing Wilson's anti-Common Market critics within his own party.

Leaders in the other eight countries, realizing Wilson's internal difficulties, went along, giving Wilson much needed outside support. In return, the continentals had hoped for a greater show of unity from London after the successful referendum. Those hopes persisted despite warnings from Roy Hattersly, Minister of State for foreign and commonwealth affairs, that the prospects of European union were very remote and that "it's not the policy of the British government to promote it."

So for these reasons Britain's partners in Europe are feeling a bit bruised and depressed knowing that there are likely to be other obstacles thrown up by Britain in coming months and years.

For many, many years *Plain Truth* has been saying that eventually a "United States of Europe" is going to emerge. The other nations of Europe, and most specifically West Germany, want to bring about complete political unity of Europe.

These nations are disturbed by the continuing arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union (despite détente), by the always potentially explosive situation in the Middle East, and by the war right now developing in Angola. They are sick and tired of playing the role of mere spectators on the world scene, unable to greatly influence conditions vital to Europe's own security. And yet, they have at present no powerful global voice. Many of them want to see a European Common Market grow into a United States of Europe with full military — and nuclear — power, able to act in a decisive manner, and perhaps arbitrating between East and West.

As I have said recently, it is not required that a United States of Europe grow out of the context of the European Economic Community. It is true that some of the nations presently in the Economic Community will become a part of a third power bloc with its own nuclear arms — both tactical and strategic, no doubt. It is also true that there is emerging more and more a drive toward full political unity in Europe. But whatever context in which such a third power bloc should emerge, the point is that this power bloc is prophesied in the pages of your Bible, in the book of Daniel and, indirectly at least, in the book of Revelation — the 13th and 17th chapters. Also in the book of Ezekiel, in many of the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah, and particularly in some of the prophecies in what are called the minor prophets, such as Hosea and others, there are passages which clearly show what is going to happen to the United States and Britain if we don't change our individual and national ways in the future.

To get the true overview of world conditions and to understand what is ahead for Britain, the United States, and the rest of the world, you need to understand the overall perspective of biblical prophecy. You need to view what is happening inside Western Europe in the light of what the Bible predicts will happen.

Write for our booklet entitled *The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*, one of the most widely circulated of all of the booklets we have ever produced. You can have yours absolutely free of charge by return mail. □



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