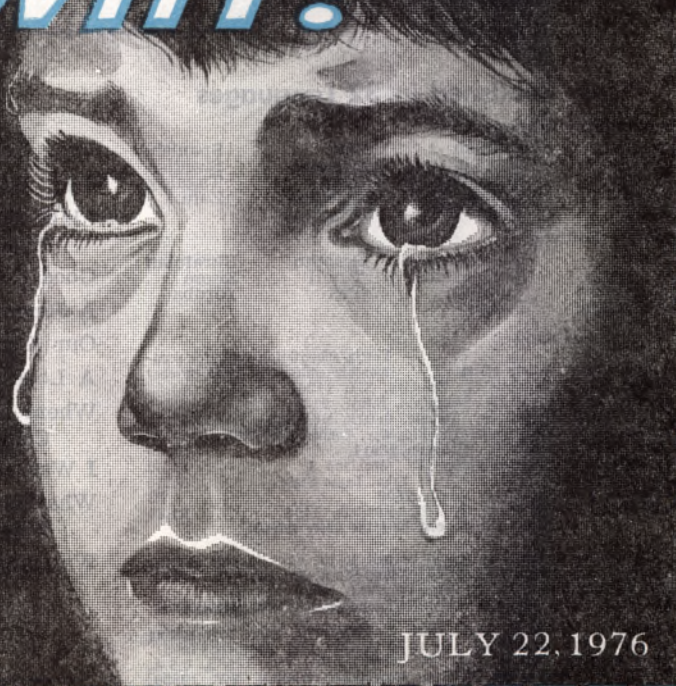


Awake!

CHILD ABUSE -WHY?

**WHAT CAN
BE DONE
ABOUT IT?**



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Today as never before, what goes on in the rest of the world affects each one of us. "Awake!" reports on the world scene. But it does more for you personally.

It probes beneath the surface and points to the real meaning behind current events. And it gives practical suggestions to help you to cope effectively with the mounting problems of our time.

The scope of subjects covered by "Awake!" makes it a magazine for the entire family. Customs and people in many lands, the marvels of creation, religion, practical sciences and points of human interest all are included in its pages.

In keeping its freedom to bring you the truth, this magazine has no commercial advertisers to please. Also, it stays politically neutral and it does not exalt one race above another.

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FEAR

HAS ITS PLACE

FEAR can be both beneficial and harmful. An unhealthy fear may give rise to digestive troubles, blood-pressure problems and other serious bodily malfunctions. It can, in fact, be death-dealing. Says the *Illustrated Medical and Health Encyclopedia*: "In all life there is nothing so destructive to happiness and longevity as fear." A wholesome fear, on the other hand, can be life-preserving, restraining a person from dangerous, foolhardy action.

Yes, like other strong emotions, fear has its place. But just what is that place? What makes fear good or bad? The Bible is most helpful in determining the answers.

"The fear of Jehovah is the start of wisdom," says Proverbs 9:10. As to the manner in which this proper fear is expressed, the Bible tells us: "The fear of Jehovah means the hating of bad." (Prov. 8:13) This hatred is based, not on human standards of what is bad, but on God's standards, contained in his Word.

The "fear of Jehovah" is therefore a wholesome, beneficial fear. As the Creator, Jehovah God knows what is in the best interests of humankind. Since he is a God of love, he has outlined moral standards that promote the highest good for those who follow them. The famous English jurist Blackstone acknowledged that fact, saying: "God has so intimately connected, so inseparably interwoven the laws of eternal justice with the happiness of

each individual that happiness cannot be attained but by observing God's law; and, if God's law be punctually obeyed, it cannot but induce happiness." A wholesome fear of God is indeed the start of wisdom in that it prompts one to act in a way that contributes to the enjoyment of a meaningful and happy life. Consider:

Servants of God are admonished: "The time that has passed by is sufficient for you to have worked out the will of the nations when you proceeded in deeds of loose conduct, lusts, excesses with wine, revelries, drinking matches." (1 Pet. 4:3) Real benefits come to those who heed these words because they have a wholesome fear of God.

They avoid the shame, injury and heartache that result from excessive drinking of alcoholic beverages. In the United States alone alcohol abuse is implicated each year in a million serious traffic accidents, one fourth of all the suicides and half of all murders. Many thousands die each year from ailments caused or aggravated by excessive drinking. Alcohol abuse is responsible for shortening the life-span of individuals by about twelve years, on the average. So in avoiding alcohol abuse, the fearer of Jehovah God may actually be adding years to his life.

Regarding morality, the Bible counsels: "Abstain from fornication; . . . each one of you should know how to get possession of his own vessel in sanctification and hon-

or, not in covetous sexual appetite such as also those nations have which do not know God; that no one go to the point of harming and encroach upon the rights of his brother in this matter.”—1 Thess. 4:3-6.

How different things would be in the world if more people would have a wholesome fear of God in this area of life! Think of the mental and emotional pain that could be avoided. Cases of venereal disease, unwanted pregnancies, abortions and broken homes would certainly be less frequent than they are today. Even those who condone marital unfaithfulness are forced to acknowledge that serious problems can result therefrom. A leading science-news reporter in the United States wrote: “If you do opt for extramarital activity, remember to be very cautious about any decision to tell your spouse. Regardless of how sophisticated you think your marital partner may be, regardless of the number of times you have discussed the problem in the abstract and have said that it wouldn’t matter, most experts agree that in almost all cases it *does* matter.”

Another benefit for the person who fears Jehovah God is that he preserves a clean conscience. He does not have to worry about the possibility that his conduct will be exposed, bring disgrace or give rise to other serious problems.

A proper fear of the Creator even eliminates what is generally viewed as the greatest unwholesome fear—a morbid fear of death, especially of a violent death. This fear of death has been a tool by which ruthless men have controlled many people. Succumbing to fear of torture or execution, many men and women have gone against their conscience and obeyed the orders of dictatorial superiors to commit horrible atrocities against their fellow humans.

This has not been the case with fearers of Jehovah God. They know that the present life is not all there is. Even though men may kill them, they do not doubt God’s promise of a resurrection. They, therefore, act in harmony with Jesus Christ’s words: “Do not fear those who kill the body and after this are not able to do anything more. But I will indicate to you whom to fear: Fear him who after killing has authority to throw into Gehenna,” that is, a symbolic place representing total annihilation. (Luke 12:4, 5; Matt. 10:28) Yes, not man, but God can destroy in Gehenna a person’s title to be a living being.

There is nothing uncertain about death in the case of those who truly fear God. The Bible says: “His spirit goes out, he goes back to his ground; in that day his thoughts do perish.” (Ps. 146:4) So death is simply a state of total inactivity and unconsciousness—a sleep from which an awakening is possible.

Accurate knowledge of the Bible is thus seen to have a part in liberating a person from many damaging fears. It is of interest that medical men acknowledge that the greatest fears are prompted by lack of knowledge. The *Illustrated Medical and Health Encyclopedia* says: “We do not fear what we can see or what we can understand nearly so much as we fear the things we do not see or that we cannot understand.”

For this reason study of the Holy Scriptures is needed to rid one’s mind of unwholesome fears, replacing these with a proper regard for the Creator. Hundreds of thousands have done this in recent years and rejoice in the fine results from a proper fear of the Creator. Are you among those persons? Would you like to be? Then take the time to find out how helpful the Bible can be to you.

THEY BATTER LITTLE CHILDREN

-WHY?



"IT READS like a primer for concentration camp torturers or experts in the practice of human degradation." To what was the newspaper writer who penned these words referring?

Child abuse. Recent reports state that it has now reached "epidemic" proportions in the United States and other parts of the world.

How serious is this epidemic? **"CHILD ABUSE—'DISEASE' KILLS TWO CHILDREN DAILY"** declared a headline in *American Medical News* of April 21, 1975. A month later *The Journal of Legal Medicine* reported: "The most common cause of childhood death today may be child abuse. According to one commentator, the

incidence of deaths due to child abuse, or battering, is greater than the total of those due to accidents and infectious diseases combined."

Toward the end of 1975, a news release by United Press International stated: "More than a million American children suffer physical abuse or neglect each year." Reporting on information obtained from Douglas Besharov, an official of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the news item continued: "By the narrowest definitions, he said, 2,000 children a year die from circumstances associated with abuse or neglect." Data indicates that children who suffer such abuse are usually less than five years of age and frequently under a year.

Appalling Cruelty to Children

Accounts of child abuse are heartrending. According to a police report, a Bronx, New York, man subjected four young children to the following episodes of horror:

- Coating their knees with pancake syrup and forcing them to scurry on their knees back and forth across a floor sprinkled with rice.
- Removing the children's clothes and placing them on shelves inside a metal cabinet seven feet (2.1 meters) tall; then pouring hot candle wax upon their buttocks and locking them in the cabinet for an hour or more.
- When because of noisemaking the seven-year-old boy awakened him, the man stuffed the lad into the oven, closed the door and lit it. The child escaped a fiendish death

IN COMING ISSUES

- **I Gave Birth at Home.**
- **How to Make the Best Use of Your Time.**
- **Should a Pocket Calculator Be in Your Pocket?**

only because his mother rushed into the room and released him.

In another instance an eighteen-month-old baby boy was found dangling from a plant at the edge of a cliff 300 feet (91 meters) above a raging surf. He had been abandoned. In her book *Children Are People Too*, Virginia Coigney states: "Parents have chopped off small hands, burned, mutilated, beaten, starved, chained, imprisoned and murdered their young." Besides physical abuse, infants and toddlers frequently experience verbal, emotional and sexual mistreatment.

What type of parents or other adults would subject children to such cruelties? Is it mainly the mentally depraved, economically impoverished or some other unfortunate category of persons?

"No Stereotype"

Actually child abuse cuts across racial, economic and social lines. "There should . . . be no stereotype of the abusing parent," notes Virginia Coigney. "If the problem is studied in Baltimore, more parents will be black; if studied in Salt Lake City, they will be white. Racial factors depend on the composition of the group studied." The same author goes on to point out:

"Child abuse itself is seldom the result of even a dislike of children, much less hatred. Experts, with few exceptions, agree that the battering parent loves the child he batters. If not that particular child, then other

children. There is ample evidence that the child abuser wants to act differently, and in the vast majority of cases it is the abuser who brings his actions to the attention of the appropriate authorities, apparently in the hopes of protecting the child from his [the parent's] illness. And illness it is. Child abuse has been described as a chronic illness with acute traumatic recurrent episodes."

What causes this "illness"? How can a person prevent it from getting a hold on him?

Uncontrolled Anger—Why?

Much research has been done to lay bare the causes of child abuse. In nearly every case one element is present. What is that? According to an interview with Dr. C. Henry Kempe, an expert on child abuse, more than 90 percent of parents who abuse children do so out of *uncontrolled anger*. What incites this?

Often anger results when circumstances arise for which one or both parents are not prepared. Sadly the new circumstance is often a couple's first baby. "Many young girls have no idea of what it means to take care of a child," explains Dr. Jane Gray, a co-worker with Dr. Kempe. "No one tells them about changing diapers, fighting down a fever, cleaning up spilled food, getting up in the night." Some parents who are delighted to care for a helpless infant succumb to despair and rage when the little one starts walking about, climbing out of its crib or playpen and 'getting into everything.' Others do well with older children, but cannot cope with infants.

A major factor in child abuse is urban living. Overcrowded cities with air, water and noise pollution create tension that many adults cannot handle. All too often helpless children become the victims when such adults 'blow their top.'

Pointing to another factor in child abuse, an article in the *Detroit News* remarked: "Experts are concerned that a

sharp rise in child abuse cases may be a by-product of rising unemployment in the metropolitan Detroit area." Not only do unemployed fathers suffer from a feeling of uselessness, but they find themselves in the presence of their children for greater parts of each day, rather than the hour or two they used to spend with them when employed. Men are seldom equipped to cope with the squeals, wiggles and incessant movement of very young children.

The roots of child abuse, however, usually stem from deeper, more personal levels. How so?

Parents Feel "Not OK"

Persons concerned with eliminating child abuse urge parents to look at themselves. These parents often harbor unrealistic expectations of their children. Why? Carole Bowdry, head of a child-abuse project in Dallas, Texas, pointed out: "Many abusive parents have low self-esteem and have been made to feel 'not OK,' that there was no way they could meet their own parents' expectations. As a result, when they moved into maturity and had their own children, they began to play act being OK by telling their children, 'You're not, but I am.'"

Starved for love, these parents who were abused as children often expect impossible things from their offspring. Commenting on a study headed by Dr. Kempe, writer Edward Edelson explains:

"Obviously, every case is different. But the one constant factor in almost every case, Dr. Kempe's group discovered, is that a battered child grows up to be a battering parent. Rejected by their own parents, convinced of their own inadequacy, they have difficulties in establishing normal relationships with other people and expect a great deal of their children. Those expectations never are fulfilled, because no normal child could be the perfect being that these parents want. And so the child is beaten, to start the cycle again."

Similar were the results of a study by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. This group investigated child-abuse cases in 115 families with 180 children. The results showed that in nine out of ten cases child abusers have "serious social problems." They are mostly loners, with little or no group association. Many of such parents seek satisfaction of nearly all their needs for companionship and affection from a child (or children). They view the youngsters as "miniature adults" and require them to display affection, motivation and self-control characteristic of grown-ups. Of course, no infant or toddler can meet such expectations. Yet their failure is viewed as willful disobedience and they are punished accordingly.

Effect of the "New Morality"

Attitudes toward sexual morality have changed radically in recent years. Today it is popular for men and women to swap sexual partners at their whim. Whatever your view of this may be, did you realize that it has contributed to the increase in child abuse? In what way?

Dr. Peggy Ferry, a children's neurologist at the University of Oregon's Medical School, observes: "The new boy friend is frequently enraged at the small, irritable child. The child may remind him of the mother's previous lover, or it may interfere with the recreational plans of the couple." It was such a "boy friend" who thought up the tortures mentioned at the beginning of this article.

Tragic indeed are the multiplying reports of the battering, torturing and murdering of helpless children. We have considered some principal causes of child abuse. How can adults come to grips with the causes and overcome the inclination to batter little children?

THE "epidemic" of child abuse has now reached alarming proportions. As noted in the preceding article, a variety of circumstances and attitudes affecting parents lead to mistreatment of little ones.

How can parents and other adults cope with the tendency to abuse children? One thing is to realize the harmful results of child abuse. Have you thought seriously about this?

A Pittsburgh research team carried on a study of twenty abused youngsters. A report of this study explains:

"Most of them appeared to be permanently damaged mentally, physically, and emotionally. Only two out of the twenty could be described as completely normal. More than half were underweight, some were extremely malnourished, six also showed signs of central nervous system damage. In two cases this was clearly the result of blows received on the head. Three of the group had marked physical defects: one had a skull deformity, another paralysis of the lower extremities, and a third had permanent eye damage. Two others were undersized and underweight, four scored below 80 on I.Q. tests, four were emotionally disturbed; about half of the group had speech problems."

Did you know that similar ill effects can result from *shaking a small child*? This too can lead to permanent brain damage. Constant screaming and otherwise vocally assaulting youngsters are other things that lastingly harm children.

The Scriptures admonish everyone desiring to meet God's approval: "Let all

malicious bitterness and anger and wrath and screaming and abusive speech be taken away from you along with all badness." (Eph. 4:31) That strikes at the root of nearly every case of child abuse, namely, uncontrolled anger.

"But I Have a Vicious Temper"

Is that your problem? What can you do to avoid angry outbursts?

Getting a correct viewpoint of anger is important. Doubtless your own experience has taught you that today's world views anger and violence as an acceptable way of coping with problems and pressures. But have the two world wars and numerous other conflicts that have resulted from that attitude shown it to be beneficial?

According to the Scriptures, anger and violence are an indication, not of strength, but of weakness. We read: "A stupid man gives free rein to his anger; a wise man waits and lets it grow cool." (Prov. 29:11, *New English Bible*) Illustrating the weakened condition of an enraged person, the Bible further states: "Like a city that is breached and left unwallled is a man who cannot control his temper."—Prov. 25:28, *NE*, margin.

How can you better control your temper? A basic step is to heed the further Scriptural advice: "Do not have companionship with anyone given to anger; and with a man having fits of rage you must not enter in, that you may not get familiar with his paths and certainly take a snare

CHILD ABUSE

*Things You
Can Do
About It*

for your soul." (Prov. 22:24, 25) That should be easy for you to obey, for likely it is within your power to choose the persons with whom you regularly associate. Seeking companionship with mild-tempered individuals will aid you in maintaining self-control.

Can you avoid situations in which your child is likely to provoke anger? What about engaging a baby-sitter while you do your shopping, or shopping at a time when other family members can care for the children? When children become cranky because of being overtired, many discerning parents stop whatever they are doing and sit down with them on a bench or any nearby facility that will serve the purpose. A few words of comfort, rather than a rebuke, and the little ones usually calm down.

Some may view this as overly doting upon youngsters who ought to "know better" than to cause such a fuss. But often the children are simply worn out from several hours on their feet or otherwise expending their energy. In connection with such cases the Bible urges paying attention to complaints, saying: "If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the helpless, he will cry for help himself and not be heard."—Prov. 21:13, *NE*.

Do You Recall When You Were Little?

An important way to avoid getting exasperated at children is to remember what it was like when you were little. Instructive is the following experience related by a journalist and mother:

"One day a young man got on a bus with a child who was screaming and writhing in his arms. It was all he could do to hold on to her. As she wailed at the top of her lungs, he was well aware of the looks of annoyance on the faces of people on the bus. When he finally got seated, the young father kept a firm grip on the screaming mass of humanity in his arms and spoke to her in a low, steady voice. 'Jenny, darling,' he said, 'I know just

how you feel. You are so hungry and tired. It's a scary feeling. You're all mixed up about everything. You just can't stop crying. I know you can't help it. Let me rock you. I promise we'll be home soon, and you can get into your bed and I'll sing you to sleep. Yes, poor baby, I know you can't stop crying.'"

What was the result of this father's tender fellow feeling for his child? "After a few minutes, as the message of understanding seeped through the exhaustion, Jenny quieted down, sucked her thumb and fell asleep." The observer concluded from this experience:

"If a parent tries to empathize with what the child is experiencing—and acknowledges feeling the same way long ago—it changes the whole situation. If you think your child is a spoiled brat who is trying to drive you out of your mind, then the wish to strike back becomes overwhelming. If, on the other hand, you think to yourself, 'When a little kid gets tired the whole world falls apart—and it must have been that way for me once, too,' then nurturing beneficial to both parent and child can take place."

Discipline Without 'Irritation'

Does this suggest that physical punishment, such as spanking, is entirely out of place? Not at all. There are many occasions when that type of punishment is necessary. The Bible declares: "Do not hold back discipline from the mere boy. In case you beat him with the rod, he will not die. With the rod you yourself should beat him, that you may deliver his very soul from Sheol [the grave] itself."—Prov. 23:13, 14.

But physical punishment is *not always* necessary; nor is it effective with every child. And have you noticed that many parents carry physical punishment to extremes? They lose their temper and inflict hurt far beyond what is required for correction. Studies have shown that the overwhelming majority of child abusers are parents who overdiscipline.

The Scriptures warn against this. While

encouraging parents to bring up their children "in the discipline and mental-regulating of Jehovah," the apostle Paul warns: "Do not be irritating your children." (Eph. 6:4) In another place Paul counseled: "You fathers, do not be exasperating your children." (Col. 3:21) This would rule out brutal beatings or other physical torture, as well as badgering youngsters by continually screaming at them, belittling them or subjecting them to other psychological indignities. As a pattern of conduct pleasing to God the Bible points to the parent who "cherishes" and is "gentle" with the little ones. —1 Thess. 2:7.

Help for Abusing Parents

Basic to overcoming child abuse is helping the parent. In an article entitled "It's the Parent Who Needs Help," Edward Edelson points out:

"In almost every case, the cure for child abuse is to give parents enough self-respect and dignity to achieve the deep friendships they lack. Most of these parents have lived in unspeakable loneliness, because they are afraid of being rejected by acquaintances in the same way they were rejected by their parents. Only this sort of friendship can make the parent see the child in the proper light—not as a living toy designed to satisfy the parents' needs, but as another human being with a life and demands of its own."

To achieve vital personal relationships with other adults, some abusing parents have grouped together into organizations such as "Parents Anonymous" and "Mothers Anonymous." They meet regularly to help to improve relationships between the parents and their children. In some areas there are emergency day-care centers where parents can drop off their children when matters become stressful. Is there a facility of that type in your area? A call to your family physician or local hospital or your consulting the telephone directory may put you in touch with persons who

can help with the problem of child abuse.

But there is something even more effective than these secular services when it comes to developing meaningful human relations. What is that?

Guidance That Really Works

With regard to the written Word of God, the apostle Paul wrote: "All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial . . . for *setting things straight*," including injured relationships between parents and children. (2 Tim. 3:16) Let us consider some basic principles that produce such improved relations.

Persons who study child abuse say that abusing parents expect far more from their children than they can reasonably give. The Bible works for correcting such a selfish attitude, saying: "I tell everyone there among you not to think more of himself than it is necessary to think." (Rom. 12:3) Adults will be inclined to heed that advice when they recognize the further Scriptural truth: "There is no man righteous in the earth that keeps doing good and does not sin." (Eccl. 7:20) All have faults, adults as well as children; and when you think of it, are not the foibles of infants and toddlers less blameworthy than the unkind deeds (sometimes premeditated) of grown-ups?

True, there are times when children deliberately act 'bratty' and parents become justifiably annoyed. As noted above, discipline with the literal "rod" may become necessary. But never should parents lose self-control when administering discipline. They must keep in mind the Scriptural advice: "Continue putting up with one another and forgiving one another freely," and this even when someone justly "has a cause for complaint against another." —Col. 3:13.

The Bible's lofty standards for sexual morality constitute a further deterrent to child abuse. Children whose parents heed

the Scriptural command, "Flee from fornication," need not fear cruel treatment by visiting "boy friends" or "girl friends" of the parent with whom they live. —1 Cor. 6:18.

The Joy of Interest in Others

The Word of God especially excels when it comes to the need for child-abusing parents to develop fruitful relationships with other adults. A principle that is sure to succeed is found at Philippians 2:3, 4: "[Do] nothing out of contentiousness or out of egotism, but with lowliness of mind considering that the others are superior to you, keeping an eye, not in personal interest upon just your own matters, but also in personal interest upon those of the others."

But does that make sense? Is it practical to treat others as "superior" to yourself in today's hostile world? Jesus Christ assured that, not only does it make sense, but it will cause persons to act toward you in the same unselfish way. "Practice giving, and people will give to you," said Jesus. "For with the measure that you are

measuring out, they will measure out to you in return." (Luke 6:38) Why not try it and prove to yourself that the Son of God knew what he was talking about.

The Bible principles set out above really work when applied. Would you like to make them succeed for you? That will require regular association with others who are putting forth effort to improve relations with their fellowman, including their families. Where can you find such people?

Jehovah's Witnesses gather at their Kingdom Halls for five weekly meetings. Frequently discussions at these meetings center around Bible principles for happy family life and how parents and children can truly enjoy being together. You are cordially invited to attend at the Kingdom Hall nearest to you. No collections of money are ever taken. Besides that, Jehovah's Witnesses will be happy to conduct a free Bible study with you and your family, either in your home or at another convenient place. If you would enjoy that, simply contact the Witnesses at your local Kingdom Hall or write to the publishers of this magazine.

Good Conduct Unites a Family

WHEN people begin changing their lives to bring them into harmony with God's will, family members are at first not always favorably impressed. Eventually, however, they may come to appreciate the beneficial changes one has made and therefore themselves begin studying the Bible.

This was the experience of a man in the Republic of San Marino. His bad habits made a happy homelife impossible. Rather than spending time at home with his family he was often at a bar in the evening. Disturbed about his way of life, he prayed to God for help in shaking off his bad habits. Later, while visiting his mother one day, he learned that she was studying the Bible with Jehovah's Witnesses. He began attending this study, but this only gave rise to family opposition. His wife

took no interest in what he was learning. She even threatened to leave him and take the children.

Then, one day, this man got into an argument with his father-in-law about family matters. His father-in-law got so angry that he struck his son-in-law with his fists. Even though the son-in-law knew that he was right, he did not retaliate. He forgave his father-in-law and harbored no resentment against him. Impressed by the conduct of her husband in this matter, the wife began to investigate the beliefs that her husband had accepted. She started attending the meetings of Jehovah's Witnesses. Commenting on developments thereafter, the husband says: "I began a Bible study with my children and my wife, and it is a joy to see how she is making progress and how we are now a united family."

A Journey To ANCIENT CORINTH

“A RENOWNED and voluptuous city, where the vices of East and West met.” That was ancient Corinth. It has also been said that the city’s wealth “was so celebrated as to be proverbial.”

What kind of city would merit those descriptions? Could anyone profit from a “journey” to such a place? We shall see.

Corinth Becomes a Flourishing City

Ancient Corinth was situated on the narrow isthmus connecting the Peloponnesus and mainland Greece. To the east lay the Saronic Gulf and the Aegean Sea, and to the west the Gulf of Corinth and the Ionian Sea. The city was strategically located at the northern base of the Acrocorinth, a steep, rocky hill 1,857 feet (566 meters) above sea level.

Originally but a small town, Corinth was a flourishing city by the seventh century before the Common Era. Early settlers had included the Phoenicians, who may have introduced weaving, dyeing and other crafts. Next came the people of Attica, then the Dorians and eventually the Macedonians. The Romans freed the city in 196 B.C.E. As an independent city-

state, Corinth joined the Achaean League, became involved in opposition to Rome, and was burned by Roman consul L. Mummius in 146 B.C.E. The city lay nearly desolate until founded as a Roman colony by Julius Caesar in 44 B.C.E. By the first century of the Common Era, it was the capital of the Roman province of Achaia and was ruled by a proconsul.

With some 200,000 free residents and perhaps more than twice that many slaves at the peak of its power, Corinth was indeed a bustling city. Among its residents were Greeks, some Italians and quite a number of Jews. But the streets were filled with many foreign merchants and travelers, visiting for business or pleasure.

“The Bridge of the Sea”

Overland trade routes passed through Corinth. Also, seagoing vessels brought goods to the city’s ports, Cenchreae, eight and a half miles (13.6 kilometers) to the east on the Saronic Gulf, and Lechaenum, on the Gulf of Corinth a mile and a half (2.4 kilometers) to the west. Some ships anchored at Schoenus, a small eastern port.

If the articles aboard ship were



bound for points farther east or west, how could they be taken across the isthmus? Some men thought of constructing a canal. In fact, Roman Emperor Nero actually began such a project in about 66 or 67 C.E., only to abandon it to attend to more pressing matters elsewhere. Centuries were to pass before such a waterway was completed, in 1893. That four-mile (6.4-kilometer) canal linking the Gulf of Corinth and the Saronic Gulf is still in use.

But no canal existed on the isthmus during Corinth's heyday. Large vessels were unloaded at one port and their cargoes transported overland to the other harbor. Then the goods were loaded onto another ship and sent to their destinations. However, smaller vessels were hauled across the isthmus with their goods aboard. This was accomplished by means of a shipway with rails of wood. The Greeks called it the *di'ol-kos*, meaning the "haul-across." With good reason, then, the isthmus of Corinth was called "the bridge of the sea." Most mariners were willing to cope with the problems of overland transport across the isthmus in preference to a 200-mile (322-kilometer) voyage around the peninsula's storm-swept capes to the south.

"The Eye of All Greece"

Corinth also was a seat of learning. So true was this that the Roman orator, writer and statesman Cicero (106-43 B.C.E.) called the city *totius Græciæ lumen*, that is, "the eye of all Greece."

True, a number of Corinth's residents were well educated. Yet, many Corinthians engaged in activities that were morally corrupt. For that matter, the expression "to corinthianize" meant 'to practice fornication,' and a "Corinthian damsel" signified a harlot. Do you wonder what contributed to such moral laxity in this city termed "the eye of all Greece"?

False religion was a major factor. Consider, for instance, the worship of the goddess Aphrodite (the Roman Venus). Her resplendent sanctuary stood atop the Acrocorinth, towering some 1,500 feet (457 meters) above the city. "The temple of Venus," wrote Bible commentator Adam Clarke, "was not only very splendid, but also very rich, and maintained, according to Strabo, not less than 1000 courtesans, who were the means of bringing an immense concourse of strangers to the place."

But how could a visitor to Corinth ignore the impressive temple of Apollo? What about those sanctuaries built to such deities as Jupiter, Hera and Asklepios, the god of healing? Why, statues of heroes and gods lined Corinth's streets and public squares! Moreover, Adam Clarke commented: "Public prostitution formed a considerable part of their religion; and they were accustomed in their public prayers, to request the gods to multiply their prostitutes!"

Christianity Makes Its Mark

Into such an environment came the Christian apostle Paul about the year 50 C.E. In Corinth, he made tents along with the Jew Aquila and his wife Priscilla. Doubtless all three also cooperated in building up the new Christian congregation in that city. Paul "would give a talk in the synagogue every sabbath and would persuade Jews and Greeks," those Greeks evidently being proselytes to the Jews' religion. Encountering Jewish opposition and verbal abuse, the apostle turned his attention to people of the nations and transferred to the house of Titius Justus, adjoining the synagogue. Paul's preaching bore fruit as Crispus, the synagogue's presiding officer, his household, and many persons became believers.—Acts 18:1-8.

By night the Lord appeared to Paul in vision and said: "Have no fear, but keep

on speaking and do not keep silent, because I am with you and no man will assault you so as to do you injury; for I have many people in this city." So, the apostle remained in Corinth a year and a half, "teaching among them the word of God." He thus planted "seed" in the Corinthian field. Some time after Paul, Aquila and Priscilla departed, Apollos "watered" that "seed" by further teaching. Of course, it was God who brought forth growth by means of His active force, the holy spirit.—Acts 18:9-11, 18-28; 19:1; 1 Cor. 3:5-9.

Probably in 55-56 C.E., Paul spent three months in Greece, visiting Corinth and writing to Roman Christians from that city. (Acts 20:2, 3; Rom. 16:1, 23; 1 Cor. 1:14) That the apostle had love for his fellow believers in Corinth is evident from the two inspired letters he wrote to the congregation there. In the second of these, Paul made it clear that his heart had "widened out" in its affections to embrace the Christians of that renowned city. (1 Cor. 1:1, 2; 2 Cor. 1:1; 6:11) Moreover, those letters contained remarks that had special significance for Corinthians.

For instance, Corinth teemed with fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, thieves, greedy persons, drunkards, revilers and extortioners. Paul plainly said that such individuals would not inherit God's kingdom. True, some Corinthian Christians had been persons of that sort. But, how thankful they were that, as Paul said, they had been 'washed clean, sanctified, declared righteous in Jesus' name and with the spirit of God'! (1 Cor. 6:9-11) Moreover, thought provoking was the apostle's counsel to "be babes as to badness." Obviously, that meant not seeking knowledge of corrupt, immoral things, but, rather, remaining as innocent as very young children regarding wickedness. —1 Cor. 14:20.

A Walk Through Corinth

Ancient Corinth was built on two terraces, one about a hundred feet (30 meters) above the other. At the city's center was the Agora, or marketplace, lined with monuments and colonnades. Opening into it were rows of shops that sold various items. On the doorstep of one shop appeared an inscription reading "Lucius, the butcher." In another inscription was found the Latin term *macellum*. Paul used a form of its Greek equivalent *ma'kel'lon* in saying, "Everything that is sold in a *meat market* keep eating." (1 Cor. 10:25) When Corinthian Christians heard those words, likely they thought of a local *macellum* or meat market.

Many of the Agora's shops had provisions for fresh water. It flowed from a natural fountain through an underground channel into individual wells in each shop. Among other things, this apparently allowed proprietors to lower foods into the water, thus keeping them cool and helping to preserve perishables.

The Agora was in two levels, with shops situated along the line dividing the upper and lower sections. In the midst of these business places was the Bema or Rostra, an elevated platform of white and blue marble replete with decorative carvings. Alongside, on the lower level, were two waiting rooms with marble benches and mosaic floors. Here petitioners could await their turn to appear before a magistrate. Quite a crowd could gather before the Bema; so it was an excellent place for public speaking.

On one occasion, opposing Jews of Corinth rose up against the apostle Paul and took him to the "judgment seat" (Greek, *Bema*), thought to be the elevated platform just described. There Paul appeared before Proconsul Gallio, but this Roman ruler drove the Jews away, refusing to get involved in their controversies. At that,

the persecutors seized Sosthenes, then the synagogue's presiding officer, and beat him in front of the judgment seat. Possibly this experience led to Sosthenes' embracing Christianity, for Paul, in opening his first inspired letter to the congregation in Corinth, mentions "Sosthenes our brother."—Acts 18:12-17; 1 Cor. 1:1, 2.

The Corinthian Christians must have been quite impressed when Paul told them by letter: "We must all be made manifest before the judgment seat [a form of the Greek word *Bema*] of the Christ." (2 Cor. 5:10) They could walk into the marketplace and see the Bema, or judgment seat, where mere men rendered judgment. How much more significant to be judged by the glorified Jesus Christ!

Entertainment and Athletics

Theatrical productions were among the attractions of ancient Corinth. In fact, the city had two theaters, one large enough to seat 18,000 persons. Hence, Paul made a very understandable comment when he told Corinthian Christians that the apostles were "a theatrical spectacle to the world, and to angels, and to men."—1 Cor. 4:9.

Incidentally, near the large theater northwest of the Agora is a plaza paved with limestone blocks. One of these bears a Latin inscription reading, "Erastus, procurator and aedile, laid this pavement at his own expense." It has been suggested that this Erastus was the same person as "Erastus the city steward" mentioned by Paul when writing to Roman Christians from Corinth.—Rom. 16:23.

Corinth also attracted sports enthusiasts. Every two years, the Isthmian Games were held nearby. It is probable that these originated in honor of Poseidon (Neptune), for a temple to that false god was situated in the southern portion of the isthmus. The contests may have included competitions in music and poetry. But the

games also featured such events as chariot racing, running, leaping, dart throwing, boxing and wrestling. What exertions were required of the athlete who sought to win! And what would he receive? The plaudits of men and perhaps a perishable crown.

A Race for Life!

In his first canonical letter to Corinthian Christians, the apostle Paul used the ancient games as an illustration, one that residents of that area could readily understand. "Do you not know that the runners in a race all run, but only one receives the prize?" asked Paul, continuing: "Run in such a way that you may attain it. Moreover, every man taking part in a contest exercises self-control in all things. Now they, of course, do it that they may get a corruptible crown [in the Isthmian Games, it might be of such perishable things as ivy, celery or parsley], but we an incorruptible one [immortal life in heaven]." Then, for their encouragement, Paul used himself as an example, saying: "Therefore, the way I am running is not uncertainly; the way I am directing my blows is so as not to be striking the air; but I pummel my body and lead it as a slave, that, after I have preached to others, I myself should not become disapproved somehow."—1 Cor. 9:24-27.

Like so many ancient cities, Corinth of old is in ruins today. Modern Corinth is situated three miles (4.8 kilometers) northeast of the former site. So, that "renowned and voluptuous city, where the vices of East and West met," exists no more. Yet, those desiring to complete the Christian race for eternal life successfully will find the apostle Paul's counsel in First and Second Corinthians to be encouraging, up-to-date and spiritually rewarding. Why not take your Bible in hand, read those divinely inspired letters, and thus complete your journey to ancient Corinth?

OUR ATMOSPHERIC "OCEAN"

WHEN you stand by the seashore, you no doubt marvel at the ocean's power, its restlessness, its vastness and depth. You may have wondered how the sea creatures feel, surrounded as they are by water. Thousands of feet down you can find crabs and other sea animals walking on the ocean floor. The tremendous pressure down there would crush a man, but the bodies of these animals are built to tolerate it.

However, have you ever viewed us humans as actually living in an "ocean" of air? We do. It is far deeper—more than fifty times the greatest depth in the seas. It is subject to more sudden changes in temperature, and is more restless than the watery oceans. Massive streams of air hundreds of kilometers wide and several kilometers deep move at altitudes of ten to twelve kilometers (about six to seven miles) above the earth's surface. Known as "jet streams," they blow at velocities as high as 500 kilometers (about 300 miles) per hour. Then, there are violent storms constantly raging in various layers of this "ocean" of air. We are familiar with the gigantic forces released in hurricanes and tornadoes. Also, about 44,000 awe-inspiring thunderstorms take place every day in this great and restless "sea" around us.

Air Has Substance and Weight

Air, though invisible, has substance. Because of this, our atmosphere exerts considerable pressure at earth's surface—of course, not as great as does the ocean, because air is not as heavy as water. However, air has weight, as is demonstrated by the fact that a helium-filled balloon rises. Helium being lighter than air, the air pushes it up, just as a bubble is pushed up in a glass of water. The average air pressure at sea level is about fifteen pounds (about seven kilograms) per square inch (6.5 square centimeters). At higher altitudes it becomes less dense, therefore lighter. But our "ocean" of air is so extensive that it weighs more than 5,000,000,000,000,000 (five quadrillion) tons.

This air weight means that, at sea level, there is a load of about a ton across your shoulders. But you do not notice it because pressure is pushing in equally on all sides of your body. To offset this outside compression the body maintains an internal pressure, just as the bodies of sea animals have an internal pressure to equalize the tremendous outside pressure from the water surrounding them. This internal pressure that humans have when "at home" in earth's atmosphere makes it necessary for them to wear pressurized suits when they are "away from home" in space.

Otherwise, in the near vacuum of outer space, lungs and blood vessels would be ruptured.

When you are in a strong wind you are convinced that air has substance. And any doubt as to this is certainly removed if you are in a laboratory and see it change into a liquid at about -310 degrees Fahrenheit (-190 degrees Celsius) and into a solid at about -436° F. (-260° C.).

We can, in effect, "see" air even in its normal gaseous state when heat differences cause it to act as a "lens." The air concentrated densely at some points and thinly at others deforms the light rays so that we see mirages—reflection and refraction of light from things sometimes miles away. The waves we see above a hot radiator give us a small sample of this phenomenon.

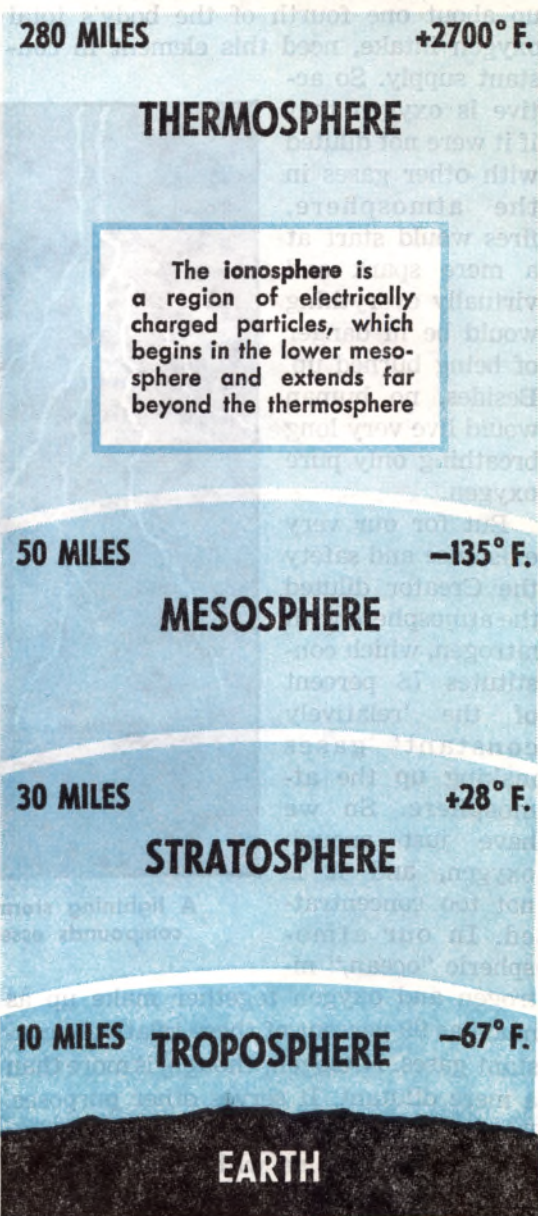
A valuable feature of air is its expansive property. Water, in its normal liquid form, will partially fill a container. But air molecules move much more freely and very fast, generally above the speed of sound. Therefore a very small volume of air expands so that it fills the container to its limits. Only the earth's gravitation prevents the air from leaving and spreading out into empty space. When the size of the containing space is reduced, air molecules increase their speed and give resistance, creating pressure. This characteristic is highly useful. Liquids cannot be compressed appreciably, but compressors can "pack" a great quantity of air into a small container, so that as it is released it can operate pneumatic presses, drills, air lifts, and so forth.

Essential to Life in Many Ways

However, we are primarily concerned with air because of its importance to life on this planet. Air's main constituent for

life is oxygen, which comprises only 21 percent (by volume) of the atmosphere, that is, of the gases that appear in relatively constant proportions.

Oxygen combines readily with other elements or compounds to produce combustion. Thus, when a piece of wood burns,



it is actually being rapidly oxidized. Our bodily warmth is maintained by the body's metabolism in the oxidizing of nutrients. This process also provides energy for brain power, muscular energy, and so forth. That is one reason why the red blood corpuscles, the blood's oxygen carriers, are so vital and why the brain cells, which use up about one fourth of the body's total oxygen intake, need this element in constant supply. So active is oxygen that if it were not diluted with other gases in the atmosphere, fires would start at a mere spark and virtually everything would be in danger of being burned up. Besides, no human would live very long breathing only pure oxygen.

But for our very existence and safety the Creator diluted the atmosphere with nitrogen, which constitutes 78 percent of the 'relatively constant' gases making up the atmosphere. So we have just enough oxygen, and it is not too concentrated. In our atmospheric "ocean," nitrogen and oxygen together make up as much as 99 percent of these relatively constant gases. Nitrogen, though, is more than a mere dilutant. It serves other purposes. During a thunderstorm, lightning allows nitrogen to combine with other elements. Then rain carries the resultant compounds

to the earth for fertilizer. It is an essential element for many plants.

But even in the less than one percent of the other atmospheric gases we find gases that are either essential for life or that greatly contribute to our comfort. There are the five almost inert, so-called "noble" gases: argon, neon, helium, krypton and xenon. We are all acquainted with the use of argon and neon in lighting, helium in balloons and in many other applications. Methane, hydrogen and nitrous oxide are other atmospheric gases found in nearly constant concentration.

**Water Vapor,
Ozone, Dust
—Important
Constituents**

Aside from the gases that vary but little in quantity, there are other gases that are found in the atmosphere in different proportions according to time and place. Two of these are water vapor, from zero up to as much as 7 percent (by volume), and carbon dioxide, between .01 percent and one percent. Plants absorb carbon dioxide and give off oxygen. Without carbon dioxide, plant life would die. Ozone, a form or an "allotrope" of oxygen, is also there in small quantities, constituting only about .01 percent of the atmosphere. It is found mainly between ten



A lightning storm prepares nitrogen compounds essential to plant life

and fifty kilometers (six to thirty miles) up, and provides a shield from the deadly ultraviolet rays. Who but an all-wise, all-powerful Creator could have made such an atmosphere for the benefit of all living things on earth, with constituents in the right proportions for the utmost safety, comfort and well-being of all?

Water vapor, as a gas in the atmosphere, is the source of rain, mist, snow, sleet and hail. It forms a large proportion of the clouds. Water vapor is produced by the sun's evaporation of water from the seas and lakes, and from foliage. Without this cycle of rain and evaporation plant life would soon die off the earth. The Bible speaks of this cycle as designed by God.—Isa. 55:10, 11.

Besides minute percentages of the gases sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide, there are solid particles such as dust, soot from smoke, salt from the oceans, pollen, microbes, and ashes of meteors that burn up as they pass through the atmosphere. Dust, except where it is excessive, cannot be called "pollution," for dust particles are important in forming the nucleus of raindrops and have to do with the sky's beautiful blue coloring and the rich red of the sunsets. Except, perhaps, for the discomfort to hay-fever sufferers, plant pollen distributed by air currents serves a beneficial purpose also.

Temperatures in the

Atmosphere's "Ocean"

Most of the things discussed have to do with the layer of air we live in—the troposphere. As is common knowledge, the temperature drops with an increase in altitude. However, after reaching a low of about -67°F. (-55°C.) at the top of the troposphere the temperature rises through the stratosphere (where the jet streams are found) to about 28°F. (-2°C.) and

drops again toward the top of the next layer (the mesosphere) to -135°F. (-93°C.). The temperature in the next layer, the thermosphere, rises, at the height of about 280 miles (450 kilometers), to an amazing $2,700^{\circ}\text{F.}$ (nearly $1,500^{\circ}\text{C.}$)!

The ionosphere is not one of the regular atmospheric "layers," but is the region (that includes several "layers") in which the air molecules are electrically charged by radiation from the sun. Its lower boundary is about thirty-four miles (55 kilometers) above the earth and reaches several thousand miles into very, very thin atmosphere. In the ionosphere the beautiful aurora borealis or "northern lights" (and the aurora australis in the southern hemisphere) occur.

In the ionosphere charged air particles "ionized" by radiation from the sun and from outer space create a radio-wave "ceiling." This makes possible radio transmission over a distance of thousands of miles. Radio waves travel in straight lines and would reach only a limited area, because the earth curves away from under them and they go straight toward outer space. But the radio ceiling "bounces" them back at an angle to a faraway point on earth. Satellites are now used similarly.

By the use of satellites and more refined instruments, a much better understanding of our "ocean" of air has resulted. Much more is known about its currents, temperatures, and so forth. Weather forecasting is consequently becoming more and more accurate. But there is yet much that man has to learn about the atmosphere, which extends, though in a very attenuated state, several earth radii (one earth radius = 3,960 miles [6,372 kilometers]) into space. Many of its mysteries are as hidden as ever, and new ones spring up as space exploration expands.

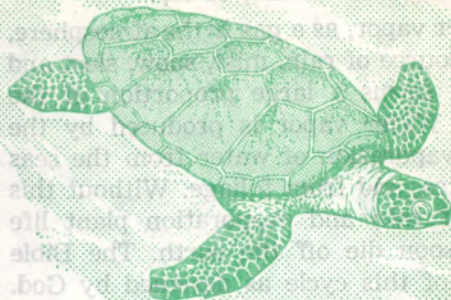
A Look at the 'LORD MAYOR'S TURTLE'

WHAT do you know of the 'Lord Mayor's Turtle'? Actually, there is no species of turtle officially called that. But in England the Lord Mayor's banquet traditionally began with a bowl of green-turtle soup, so that name was applied to the Caribbean green turtle.

Perhaps you have tasted turtle soup, made with the gelatinous calipee found under the shell of green sea turtles. In West Germany, the United States and other affluent parts of the world it is considered a delicacy. But being the source of a delicacy as well as offering a supply of meat rich in protein has led to the green turtle's being threatened with extinction. Come along and consider close up the interesting lives of these creatures. Here in Costa Rica you have an unusual opportunity to do so.

For centuries the green turtle's eggs and succulent flesh were sought as food. But with the arrival of the Spanish in the Americas the hunting by man of this large amphibious reptile began on a wide scale. According to an authority on sea turtles, zoologist Archie Carr, "more than any other dietary factor, the green turtle supported the opening up of the Caribbean." It is said that during the first century after the invasion of the Spanish more than 75 percent of the breeding colonies were destroyed. Now Costa Rica possesses the only large remaining spawning site in the Caribbean.

Until recently in Costa Rica the turtles were hunted indiscriminately. Then the



By "Awake!" correspondent in Costa Rica

government, aware of the dangers of extinction, passed laws prohibiting the hunting of turtles or their eggs on the beaches. This was not the first attempt to stop their wanton destruction. As far back as 1620 the Bermuda Assembly passed a law to protect "so excellent a fische." This law prohibited the killing of small turtles on or near the shores of those islands. Offenders were punished by a fine of fifteen pounds (5.8 kilos) of tobacco, half of which was for public use and the other half for the informer.

Visiting Tortuguero

The green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) uses as its breeding and nesting ground a twenty-mile (32-kilometer) stretch of beach on the Atlantic coast of Costa Rica, called Tortuguero. During the months of July to October, green turtles from all over the Caribbean converge on this lonely stretch of beach to go through their mating rites. The actual mating is done offshore and is very seldom witnessed by man. After that the females are obliged to risk their

lives in order to deposit their eggs in the warm sand, which serves as an incubator. At two-week intervals a female may go through this dangerous mission up to seven times during the mating season.

I decided that I could best describe the scene if I went to see it for myself. I arrived at Tortuguero beach by launch just as it was getting dark. With the aid of a flashlight I was able to pick my way through the branches of trees and other obstacles that were strewn about by the surf. After walking for about fifteen minutes I came across two parallel tracks about two feet (.6 meter) apart. My heart leaped. Could this be the trail of a turtle in search of a nesting place? I decided to follow the tracks and, sure enough, they led to a turtle half hidden in the sand. She certainly was large, but I should have anticipated that, for a mature green turtle can weigh up to 250 pounds (113 kilos).

I found, though, that we had company. Three policemen armed with rifles were standing guard against poachers. When I told them that I only wanted to take pictures, they were very cooperative. The sound of voices and the light from the flashlights and the camera did not interrupt the turtle as she silently occupied herself with digging a suitable hole. Alternately she sank her flippers into the sand, curled them up and with a swift movement threw the sand clear of the hole.

When unable to reach any deeper she began to deposit her eggs. They fell like ping-pong balls, two or three at a time, into the nest. After laying about a hundred eggs she went about the task of filling in the hole and covering up her tracks with different movements of her flippers. We observers certainly were intrigued.

By this time some small boys from the village had arrived on the scene. They aid the authorities in their conservation

program, being paid three colones (about 35 cents) for every turtle they turn upside down. This does not harm the turtles and in the morning they are marked with a metal tag before being released into the sea. These tags help to trace the turtles' migratory routes and feeding grounds. That night I saw about eight turtles in different stages of the egg-laying process.

Dangers Ahead

A hundred eggs may seem quite a lot for one sitting. But probably fewer than one in a thousand young turtles survive. If the sand happens to be too wet or too dry, the eggs may be attacked by fungi or bacteria. Egg poachers are also a constant menace, as the eggs are a favorite *boca* or appetizer and are served with the drinks in the local bars.

The incubation period lasts about two months. Then the tiny creatures begin using their sharp beaks to break free from their shells. The next task is to reach the surface. This calls for much teamwork. So those that hatch first wait until all their brothers and sisters are hatched and their shells have hardened. In an experiment twenty-two eggs were buried separately. Of these only six baby turtles made it to the surface.

But how do groups of a hundred or more manage to reach the surface? As the young turtles emerge from their eggs the available space in the nest increases. The space occupied by the hatchlings and the crumpled egg shells is less than that filled by the eggs themselves. When all have hatched and conditions are just right, the young turtles begin thrashing with their tiny flippers. Those on the top break down the ceiling, those on the sides undercut the walls and those underneath compact the fallen sand onto the floor. In this way they all rise to the surface en masse.

The small creatures, weighing only

about three ounces (85 grams), must now make a dash for the sea. Instinctively their tiny legs begin to carry them as fast as possible toward the ocean that they have never seen. Overhead, black vultures may be waiting to swoop down and gobble them up. Dogs and other animals also take their toll. Thus, even though the surf may be just a few minutes away, not all the turtles reach it. If a baby turtle can survive this dangerous period, it may live more than one hundred years.

Very little is known about what happens to the baby turtles after they enter the ocean. When young hatchlings are released into tanks in captivity they usually swim for about ten days without even stopping to eat. So in the ocean they could be hundreds of miles from the shore by that time. After about six years of ocean life the females will return to the same beach to reenact the egg-laying scene performed by their mothers.

Their Navigational Ability

Although we know little about what happens to the baby turtles after their entering the water, we can be pretty sure that they do not get lost. According to naturalists, they have a homing and navigational ability that rivals that of pigeons, bees and salmon. Female turtles have been tagged on Costa Rican beaches and in a little more than a year have shown up about 1,400 miles away. Nevertheless, studies have proved that they will always return to the same beach to lay their eggs, perhaps a couple hundred yards (183 meters) from where they themselves were hatched. According to *A Natural History of Sea Turtles*, no turtle tagged at Tortuguero has ever been found nesting at another place.

How does the turtle manage to find its way back to this beach after having traveled thousands of miles in the ocean?

Many theories have been proposed, but so far no satisfactory answer has been forthcoming. Consider some of the possible answers to this marvelous mystery.

A native legend says that the turtles are guided by Cerro Tortuguero. That is a mount of volcanic rock at the northern end of the nesting beach. It is five hundred feet (152 meters) high and covered with tropical vegetation. But sea turtles cannot see well above water, and many turtles return to parts of the twenty-mile (32-kilometer) nesting beach that are out of sight of the mountain.

Another theory is that green turtles use celestial navigation, orienting themselves by observing the stars. Celestial position-finding would require a fantastically complicated map sense. Yet, their poor eyesight when their heads are out of the water presents a problem as to this possible explanation.

A professor of zoology who has studied our Costa Rican green turtles for many years speculates that the turtles "smell" their way back to the same beach. Imagine that! But how? Is there something about the chemical characteristics of the sand or groundwater in this area that the turtles can recognize? Then how do they guide themselves back and forth over the years to ocean "pasture grounds" many hundreds of miles away? This specialist on green turtles concludes: "We really have made very little progress in accounting for either the long-range navigation of turtles, or their ability to recognize their hatching place."

Future of Our Turtles

In spite of the laws prohibiting the wanton destruction of these delightful creatures, their numbers continue to diminish. The species is threatened with extinction. Some hunters still defy the law, for it is difficult to patrol long stretches

of isolated beach. Often poachers do not bother to carry off the whole animal but cut away the calipee and abandon the rest. When dry, this calipee may weigh less than five pounds (2.2 kilos). Still, because of the great demand for it in making soup, the poachers can earn easy money rather than doing honest work.

Historical evidence found in ships' logs indicates that other breeding grounds existed in the past. Operation "Green Turtle" was organized by the Caribbean Conservation Corporation for the purpose of increasing the turtle population and with the hope of reopening some of these former breeding grounds. Hundreds of thousands of green turtles were hatched in captivity, transported and released near former nesting sites with the hope that the females would return there to lay their eggs. However, the project was abandoned, as there seemed to be no increase in the

turtle population and no new breeding grounds were established.

Furthermore, some nations in whose waters the turtles pasture have not cooperated with efforts to preserve this diminishing resource. The turtles are relentlessly hunted in the water near their feeding areas, being harpooned or taken in nets as they rise for air. Will men continue to exploit these interesting creatures until they, like the dodo bird and the passenger pigeon, are driven to extinction? Let us hope not, for the green turtles add to the truthfulness of this statement of praise about their Creator:

"How many your works are, O Jehovah! All of them in wisdom you have made. . . . As for this sea so great and wide, there there are moving things without number, living creatures, small as well as great. . . . Jehovah will rejoice in his works."—Ps. 104:24, 25, 31.

Where Does the Yellow in an Egg Come From?

By "Awake!" correspondent in West Germany

AN EGG yolk's color may vary from pale yellow to deep orange. Does it make any difference to you what color the yolk is? It does to many persons. Naturally, preferences among egg eaters differ from country to country. Most West German buyers, for example, prefer eggs with a deeply colored yolk. From where does the color come?

An egg yolk's color is due to pigments that the chickens naturally get in their feed. These pigments, called carotenoids, are present in corn and green leafy plants such as alfalfa. A mixture of yellow and red pigments is what brings about the color found in egg yolks. With differences in the amount of pigments contained in the feed, the color of egg yolks varies greatly. Hence, with natural feed much depends

upon the type of feed, as well as the time of the year.

In some areas eggs with pale yolks are graded lower in quality. By adding natural carotenoids a conformity in color could be achieved, but, since these pigments have a very short life-span, they have completely disappeared in feed stored for up to a year's time. Pale yolks can result from using such feed, and buyers may tend to avoid such eggs.

It has become possible to produce a carotenoid artificially, contained naturally in citrus fruits. Some of this pigment can be added to feeds, thereby assuring that the yolks will have a desirable color.

So the next time you observe the pretty yellow color of the egg yolks on your breakfast plate, you will have a little better idea as to the source of the color.

I WAS born in Sicily, Italy, in 1932. Shortly after the second world war, I attended a Pentecostal religious service in a private home. The middle-aged pastor began his sermon by praying very loudly. This surprised me, but I stayed.

During the sermon I interrupted him a number of times to ask for proof that God really exists. He pointed to the Bible as proof of God's existence and gave me a gift copy. I began reading about seven chapters of it a day. However, I soon realized that I was understanding little, if anything, that I was reading. So I decided to turn to the Pentecostal Church for help.

Religious Background

From early childhood I had been interested in religion, as were my parents. Like most Sicilians, they were Roman Catholics, and quite zealous.

However, as I grew older I realized that the Catholic Church did not satisfy my spiritual needs. I could not understand, for example, why the clergy wore distinctive dress, why they interested themselves in the personal affairs of others in the confessional, or why there were just as many idols in the churches as there were in pagan temples. Because I was unable to obtain satisfying answers to such questions, my interest in the Catholic Church waned.

In those prewar days, my home was often visited by a priest for whom the fruit of our vineyard was reserved. He maintained that Fascism was the best form of government for Italy because it defended the Catholic Church's interests. However, when the war ended there was



a great exodus from the Church, since people could see that it had sided with Fascism. And they were disgusted with the way the Church supported the wealthy at the expense of the poor.

As a result, following the war many turned to atheism, and I, too, inclined toward this way of thinking. Hence, I considered religious services only a means to come in contact with friends. But still I felt a spiritual need.

Life as a Pentecostal

It was consciousness of this need that prompted my interest in the Bible. So I began attending the Pentecostal Church.

The religious services were quite startling. The pastor would begin by saying a prayer, with his eyes closed and his hands and arms outstretched toward heaven. Then he would invite those present to sing a hymn with him. After this, various ones would be given opportunity to "testify," that is, relate the difficulties they encountered in life prior to coming in contact with the Pentecostal religion, and what their present conduct was like.

This was usually followed by a sermon based on a Bible verse. I was unable to understand what the pastor was saying,

but thought this might be due to my limited knowledge of the Bible. After his sermon the pastor would move among those present and lay his hands on them, shouting: "Shout, shout louder! The Lord is near!" Then the people would shout: "Hallelujah! Lord, listen to us!" or some similar expressions.

In 1950 I became a baptized member of the Pentecostal Church. I thought that God had called me, and for this reason I made many changes. I no longer smoked, nor did I go to the movies or dances anymore. I discontinued listening to the radio, since the church to which I belonged held that this was not proper for a Christian.

The people where I lived in the small town of S. Cataldo in the Sicilian province of Caltanissetta were amazed at the changes I made. I spoke to everyone about my new faith, telling them to come and be saved, otherwise they would be tormented in hellfire. Many listened, and became Pentecostals.

On the occasion of the visit of a prominent American pastor, I was appointed to be Sunday-school superintendent. This assignment consisted of presiding at the meetings of the Pentecostal congregation in which a bulletin called "The Sunday School" was studied. Due to my exceptional zeal in directing the Sunday school, I was appointed to be a pastor in June 1952, even though I had no training in theological schools. For the next four years I served the Pentecostal churches in the province of Caltanissetta, including the town of Caltanissetta.

Receiving the Gift of Tongues

Although pleased with the progress I had made, I was disappointed that I did not possess special gifts that the Pentecostal Church considers manifestations of

God's spirit, such as the gift of tongues. But one day my desire was realized.

While I was presiding at a religious service and praying, a voice told me to lay my hands on a certain woman of the congregation. With my eyes still closed, I found the woman among those present and laid my hands upon her. Immediately there was a loud shout and she began, together with me, to speak in tongues. This involves uttering words independently of the will of the speaker. The experience made me very happy.

However, I still was not able to understand the Bible, and this disturbed me very much. I was told that the Bible could be understood only by those having the special gift of interpretation, and this explanation satisfied me somewhat. I was grateful, at least, for having received the gift of tongues.

But it was not many months before I became convinced that something was wrong with this so-called "gift." I began having terrible nightmares. It was as though I were paralyzed and, at the same time, I would see dark forms that held me on all sides. I began to wonder whether these evidences of attack by wicked spirits might have some relationship with the "gift" I had received. My suspicions increased when a pastor, who possessed the gift of interpretations, ordered a person with the gift of tongues to stop speaking, since the things he was saying were shameful and unrepeatable.

Continued Search Rewarded

I was determined to find an explanation for these things. I searched in other religious organizations such as Apostolics and the Baptists, but without success. When I heard about a couple of full-time preachers of Jehovah's Witnesses in the nearby town of Caltanissetta I went there.

I raised many questions. All of these

were answered by the Witnesses from the Bible. Their Scriptural knowledge amazed me. I accepted their offer to conduct a Bible study with me free of charge. In time I finally learned the truth about the gift of tongues.

The Bible makes clear that Almighty God bestowed upon early Christians the gift of speaking in foreign languages that they had never learned before. In the infancy of the Christian congregation this gift assisted the limited number of disciples to instruct foreigners about "the magnificent things of God." (Acts 2:5-11) Also the gift of tongues served as a visible evidence of God's favor upon this new Christian organization. (1 Cor. 14:22) But is speaking in tongues a gift that would remain with the full-grown Christian organization?

No, I learned that this gift was temporary, as were the gifts of prophesying and of special knowledge. The Bible says: "Love never fails. But whether there are gifts of prophesying, they will be done away with; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will be done away with." These special gifts of God were an identifying feature of Christianity in its infancy, but, as an adult does away with the traits of a babe, so the Bible shows that these special gifts, too, were to pass away.—1 Cor. 13:8-11.

Therefore I came to appreciate that the apparently God-given gift that I received while a Pentecostal was actually an operation of Satan and his wicked spirit forces. The Bible warns that 'Satan would transform himself into an angel of light' and that he would deceive many with "lying signs and portents and with every unrighteous deception."—2 Cor. 11:14; 2 Thess. 2:9, 10.

How happy I am to have come to an understanding of these matters! Especial-

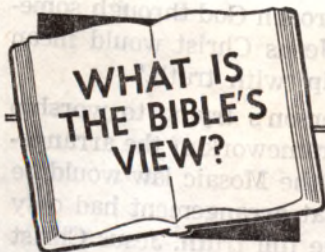
ly has it brought me peace and satisfaction to understand God's purpose to establish his righteous Kingdom government over earth for the blessing of all who will serve Him with spirit and truth. The Bible promise is that soon now, under that Kingdom rule, "God himself will be with [humankind]. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore."—Rev. 21:3, 4.

A Different Kind of Preacher

It has been fifteen years now since I dedicated my life to serve the true God, Jehovah, and symbolized this by baptism in water. Since then my main goal in life has been to share in fulfilling the prophecy of God's Son, Jesus Christ, namely: "This good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations; and then the end [of this system of things] will come."—Matt. 24:14.

What brought me particular joy was to help many in my hometown of S. Cataldo, where I had previously served as Pentecostal pastor, to learn the truth about God's kingdom and share in the Kingdom proclamation. Now I live with my family in the northern Italian city of Torino. And it has been my added joy to see the three eldest of my seven sons join with me in preaching to others in this community that the only true hope for peace and happiness is God's kingdom.

Therefore, it is with keen anticipation that we, along with God's servants everywhere, look forward to the complete fulfillment of the Bible prophecy: "In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be brought to ruin. And the kingdom itself will not be passed on to any other people. It will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, and it itself will stand to times indefinite." (Dan. 2:44)—*Contributed.*



What Worship Does God Approve?

"GOD is a Spirit, and those worshipping him must worship with spirit and truth." (John 4:24) This is what Jesus Christ said to a Samaritan woman at Sychar, thereby indicating what God desires as to worship. But how can one worship "with spirit and truth"?

To get a more complete picture of what is involved, we might consider more of the conversation that the Samaritan woman had with Jesus Christ: "Our forefathers," said she, "worshiped in this mountain [Gerizim]; but you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where persons ought to worship." "Jesus said to her: 'Believe me, woman, The hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you people worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews. Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshipers will worship the Father with

spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike ones to worship him.'"—John 4:20-23.

Unlike the Jews, the Samaritans worshiped at Mount Gerizim, claiming that this was the holy mountain of God. However, they had no basis for this. The five books of Moses, which they accepted as their inspired Scriptures, did not justify their viewing Mount Gerizim as sacred. Evidently to give credence to their belief, the Samaritans changed a passage in the fifth book of Moses to read "Gerizim" instead of "Ebal." (Deut. 27:4) Furthermore, by rejecting the rest of the inspired Hebrew Scriptures, the Samaritans had but an incomplete concept of the true God Jehovah. Jesus, therefore, could rightly tell the Samaritan woman: "You worship what you do not know."

The Jews, on the other hand, could appeal to the inspired Scriptures in support of their worshiping at Jerusalem. For example, 1 Kings 14:21 speaks of Jerusalem as "the city that Jehovah had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel to put his name there." In harmony with this choosing of Jerusalem, the Israelites worshiped there as commanded at Deuteronomy 12:5, 6: "To the place that Jehovah your God will choose out of all your tribes to place his name there, to have it reside, you will seek, and there you must come. And there you must bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices and your tenth parts and the contribution of your hand and your vow offerings and your voluntary offerings and the firstborn ones of your herd and of your flock."

So the Jews who accepted the Hebrew Scriptures and carried out their worship in the manner outlined in those Scriptures knew the One whom they were worshiping. No one could render acceptable worship apart from the Scriptural arrangement centered at the temple in Jerusalem. Additionally, the Messiah, as a descendant of King David, was a Jew. And only through him is salvation possible. Even the Samaritans who heard the testimony of the woman to whom Jesus spoke acknowledged this fact. They said to her: "We do not believe any longer on account of your talk; for we have heard for ourselves and we know that this man is for a certainty the savior

of the world." (John 4:42) So 'salvation did indeed originate with the Jews.'

Although the Jews had a Scriptural basis for regarding Jerusalem as the center for worshiping God, Jesus' comments to the Samaritan woman showed that this arrangement for worship was not to continue. The sacrifices, festivals, priesthood and the like, forming a part of the Jewish arrangement for worship, were a shadow of greater things to come. Regarding various provisions of the Law, the Scriptures tell us: "Those things are a shadow of the things to come, but the reality belongs to the Christ." (Col. 2:17) "Since the Law has a shadow of the good things to come, but not the very substance of the things, men can never with the same sacrifices from year to year which they offer continually make those who approach perfect."—Heb. 10:1.

Thus with the coming of the Messiah, to whom the reality belongs, the time had arrived for a change as to worship. No longer would worship depend upon the presence or use of visible things or geographical locations. A true worshiper would not rely on sight and touch. Regardless of the place or things about him, he would maintain a worshipful attitude. He would worship, not with the help of something he could see or feel, but with spirit, with an impelling force that shows appreciation for spiritual things. Worshiping with spirit, therefore, would rule out using images or other material objects as aids to worship.

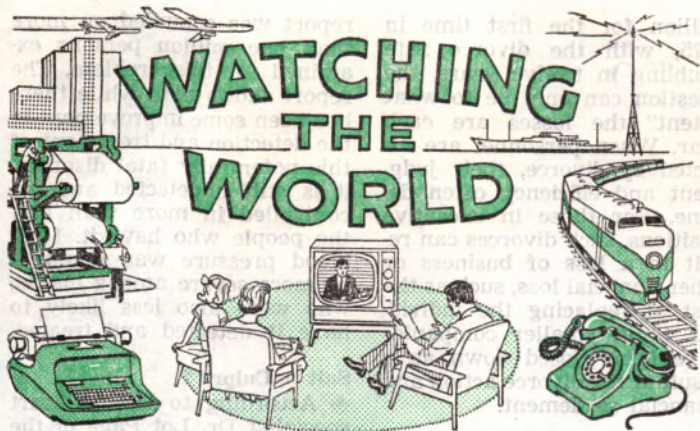
To worship God with truth would require that one's worship be in harmony with the truth found in his Word, the Bible. This includes acceptance of Jesus Christ as the only channel for making proper approach to the Father. Jesus Christ said: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) Hence,

any effort to approach God through someone other than Jesus Christ would mean failing to worship 'with truth.'

Likewise, a person's trying to worship God within the framework of the arrangement outlined in the Mosaic law would be unacceptable. That arrangement *had* only a shadow, not the full truth. Jesus Christ fulfilled the shadows of the Law, revealing that he was the truth to which those shadows pointed. That is why he could refer to himself as "the truth." Apart from Jesus Christ, worship with truth is therefore an impossibility.

But true worship is not limited to what might be called "sacred duties." One's whole life is involved. Wrote the Christian disciple James: "The form of worship that is clean and undefiled from the standpoint of our God and Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their tribulation, and to keep oneself without spot from the world." (Jas. 1:27) Acceptable worship, then, includes doing positive good for those in need and refusing to become spotted by the degrading, loveless ways of the world. It means shunning jealousy, contentiousness, pride, misuse of the tongue, selfish conflicts or warring, and the like. It calls for reflecting the wisdom from above, which is described as "first of all chaste, then peaceable, reasonable, ready to obey, full of mercy and good fruits, not making partial distinctions, not hypocritical."—Jas. 3:1-4:4.

So if you desire to worship God "with spirit and truth," keep yourself clean from the ungodly ways of the world. Be a person who eagerly responds with help to those in real need. Discard images and other material objects of devotion used by people as aids in worshiping God. Make your approach to the Creator through the one whom He has appointed—Jesus Christ—doing so in harmony with the full truth revealed in the complete Word of God.



Science magazine David Wake of the University of California's Department of Zoology asks: "Why are there so many kinds of organisms, and how have so many complex structural patterns evolved?" He answers: "One is left with the numbing feeling that biologists remain unable to present convincing arguments to explain the evolution" of these specialized features in living things. He adds: "Evolutionary biologists are indeed clever, but has the production of pattern in evolution really been explained, or has it been explained away?" He says regarding the explanations given for evolution in a book he reviewed: "There is a vagueness in some instances approaching mysticism." But that has always been the case, since evolution is based, not on fact, but on what scientists prefer to believe.

Catholic Losses

◆ Official Catholic Directories show that in the United States "about 3,100 Catholic elementary and high schools, out of 13,340, have closed in the past ten years, and enrollment has dropped from 5.6 million in 1965 to 3.5 million in 1975," according to *Time* magazine. It also observed that "some 35,000 American nuns and 10,000 priests—even a brilliant bishop—left their ministries, and sometimes even the church, in a great exodus." Also, there are fewer new priests and nuns to replace those who have left, retired or died. For example, seminary enrollment, nearly 49,000 in 1964, fell to 17,200 in 1975. Much the same condition confronts the Catholic Church throughout the world.

Schools Cannot Cope

◆ Elizabeth Shannon, writing for the Poynter Center on the Public and American Institutions at Indiana University, says: "Junior and senior high schools cannot continue to cope with an increasing number of

"A Police State"

◆ A headline in *The Standard* of Nairobi, Kenya, calls the nation of Malawi "A Police State." In the accompanying article by C. Legum, attention is drawn to the brutal treatment of various minorities under the dictatorial rule of H. Kamuzu Banda of Malawi. Mr. Legum notes that many black Malawians are political prisoners who for years have been held under terrible conditions, without trial. Then, concerning Malawi's Asians who have been discriminated against for some time, he states: "Life has been made almost intolerable for Malawi's brown minority." Finally, Mr. Legum cites the horrible persecution of Jehovah's Witnesses and calls it "the saddest aspect of Banda's rule." Observing that Britain has been giving financial aid to Banda's government, he asks: "How long will Britain continue to support Banda's despotic rule?"

Reading Habits Changing

◆ By 1975, newspaper circulation in the United States fell 2.5 million from its peak of 63.1 million in 1973. Rising costs were given as one reason. But there is another. *Newsweek* magazine commented: "Editors are worried that Americans are simply not read-

ing as much as they used to. They seem, instead, to be devoting more time to television, to leisure-time activities, to scores of vividly illustrated and easy-to-read specialty publications." An editor said: "We're living in an age of audio-visually educated readers, and competing with much brighter visual products."

Machine "Reads" for Blind

◆ A machine has been developed that can "read" out loud to blind people. It scans printed material with a special camera and "translates" this into electronic signals. The signals are sent into a miniature computer that recognizes the letters, sorts them out, and produces words that can be heard. While the "voice" is somewhat difficult to understand at first, students who have used the machine have learned to understand as many as 160 words a minute with just a few hours of practice. Though the cost of the first machine was about \$50,000, it is hoped that production models will cost only \$5,000 to \$6,000.

No Convincing Evidence

◆ Many people who have investigated the theory of evolution have been struck by the lack of evidence and indications that its acceptance borders on blind credulity. In

frustrated, non-motivated adolescents who arrive... wishing they were someplace else and unable to understand what they are supposed to be learning. There is no way a teacher, no matter how gifted, can teach language, maths, science, or history to a large high-school class, half or more of whom have reading skills so poor that they cannot begin to understand the material in the textbooks they are using. Those youngsters will soon be in the streets, unskilled, untaught, and looking for someone to blame. Unless our society can devise better ways of handling these failures, schools will not be able to cope with violence in their hallways. And unless the burden of this load is lifted from the schools, the schools themselves will crumble under the weight."

Subway Stress

◆ People who use subway trains in big cities are familiar with the stress involved, especially during rush hours. Two American scientists experimented with rats to see what effect subway stress had on them. The rats were exposed to hour-long simulated subway rides in a crowded, vibrating cage with taped subway sounds. This was done twice daily, five days a week. A second group of rats was not exposed to the subway stress conditions, but was physically handled as much as the others. The tests resulted in death for four of the stressed rats within 16 weeks. Not one of the unstressed rats died. While the results cannot be applied directly to humans, they are highly suggestive.

Divorce Affects Business

◆ *Dun & Bradstreet Report* says that divorce is draining hundreds of millions of dollars in obvious and hidden costs from business in the United States. The magazine states: "With divorces exceeding one

million for the first time in 1975, with the divorce rate doubling in twelve years, the question can only be to what extent" the losses are each year. When personnel are affected by divorce, their judgment and efficiency often decline. For those in executive positions, such divorces can result in a loss of business or other financial loss, such as the cost of replacing the individual. Some smaller companies have been closed down as a result of the divorce action and financial settlement.

Different Advice

◆ Vigorous massage of the scalp and similar combing and brushing of the hair have, in times past, been recommended to prevent or delay baldness. Now, nearly the opposite advice is given by Dr. Joseph Jerome of the Department of Drugs, American Medical Association. To keep hair longer, he claims, do not massage the scalp vigorously, and do not comb and brush the hair vigorously. His advice: "Shampoo and dry gently, and avoid scalp massage." He feels that neither the scalp nor hair roots need massage, and that vigorous manipulation of the scalp and hair tends to break the hair and induce baldness.

Collecting

Unemployment Checks

◆ Many nations have provisions for unemployed workers to collect unemployment payments. In Florida, a 34-year-old former professional football player acknowledged that he too was collecting these payments although he was worth \$500,000. He said: "Sure, I collect unemployment. Why not? A lot of my friends are into it. I'm unemployed. That's why I draw unemployment."

Treating Hypertension

◆ Hypertension—high blood pressure—and its consequences are leading causes of death in the United States. Recently a

report was compiled on more than one million persons examined for this problem. The report shows that, while there has been some improvement in the detection and treatment of this potentially fatal disorder, it is still undetected and uncontrolled in more than half the people who have it. High blood pressure was found to be more severe among blacks, who were also less likely to have it detected and treated.

Salt a Culprit?

◆ According to Boston heart specialist Dr. Lot Page of the Tufts University Medical School, a major medical study declares salt to be the chief cause of high blood pressure. He claimed that after all the medical factors associated with high blood pressure were analyzed, only one stood out as highly significant. That was the daily intake of salt. He said that it was equally striking that "every one of the 18 'low blood pressure' populations known is also a low salt population, whether they live in the desert, jungle or Arctic."

Bugs Help Museums

◆ Many museums carry impressive displays of stuffed animals, or the skeletons of others. How is the flesh taken off these animals where that is necessary? In a number of museums around the world, the work is done by thousands of furry little insects, the larvae of the dermestid beetle. After the animal is skinned, the excess flesh is cut away by hand and the carcass is dried. Then it is put inside a special box where the beetles go to work. The females lay their eggs in the dried flesh and the growing larvae feed on it. The larvae then burrow into cotton laid on the floor of the bin. In time they emerge as adults ready to lay their eggs on another carcass. Why this method? For one thing, cleaning flesh from bones entirely by

hand is too time consuming as well as difficult. Chemicals tend to disintegrate the bones as well as the flesh. On the other hand, the beetle larvae can safely clean a fish in about two weeks, or have a sheep skeleton spotless in a couple of months.

A Belly Full

◆ Surgeons in New York operated on a mental patient they thought might have a tumor, since his stomach was badly extended. But when they cut into the 38-year-old patient, they found 300 coins—quarters, dimes, nickels, pennies and subway tokens. In addition they found more than 200 other objects, including broken thermometers, can openers, knives, spoons, forks, nuts, bolts, chains and car keys. Said one of the surgeons: "It was the most amazing thing I've ever seen." They had no way of knowing how long the objects

had been in his stomach. Surprisingly, there was no damage to his esophagus or intestinal tract.

Job Losses

◆ About two million migrant workers in western Europe have lost their jobs in the past two years. These workers had been imported from southern Europe and North Africa to the more industrialized northern countries to make up for a labor shortage. But the recession of the past two years took its toll. The International Labor Organization now estimates that, despite the economic recovery now in progress, more migrants will lose their jobs. They will return to swell the ranks of the unemployed in their home countries to the south.

Rat Plague

◆ The Philippines reported a plague of rats. The crops on

nearly 500,000 acres of land in the northern part of the country were said to have been heavily damaged.

Women More Violent

◆ In some countries, the rate of increase in violent crimes is greater among women than among men. Britain's only woman police commander, Daphne Skillern, says that this increase comes about in nations where "women's emancipation is the greatest."

Lots of Shaves

◆ An estimated 600 million men shave their faces regularly, according to *Parade* magazine. And this does not include men in China, India or the Soviet Union. Eighty percent of the shavers are said to use the "wet" blade method, and the other 20 percent the "dry" electric shaver. About ten billion razor blades are sold each year for the wet shavers.

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