

Awake!

RECORD CROPS,

BUT Food Shortages

-WHY?



Also In This Issue:

WHEN A HINDU BECOMES A CHRISTIAN

JULY 22, 1974

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News sources that are able to keep you awake to the vital issues of our times must be unfettered by censorship and selfish interests. "Awake!" has no fetters. It recognizes facts, faces facts, is free to publish facts. It is not bound by political ties; it is unhampered by traditional creeds. This magazine keeps itself free, that it may speak freely to you. But it does not abuse its freedom. It maintains integrity to truth.

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Awake!

"It is already the hour for you to awake."

—Romans 13:11

Volume LV

July 22, 1974

Number 14

RECORD CROPS,



EVERY shopper knows what has happened to the cost of food in recent times. In most countries prices have gone up very sharply. This reflects the basic fact that there are food shortages throughout the world.

Yet, during 1973, there were record harvests in many major food-producing countries. The American corn, wheat and soy-bean crops set new records. In the Soviet Union grain production rose from 168 million metric tons in 1972 to about 222 million tons in 1973, a huge increase of about 54 million tons.

Why, then, are there food shortages with resulting higher prices? Just what is happening to the world food supply?

Supply and Demand

In the field of economics, there is what is referred to as 'the law of supply and demand.' What this simply means is that

when the demand for something rises faster than the supply of it, prices will usually rise.

That has been happening to food. There has been a tremendous surge of demand for food in the past few years. This huge increase of demand has outstripped the increase in supply. Hence, a food shortage, resulting in higher prices.

Also, while 1973 was a good crop year, 1972 was not. In fact, 1972 saw a net decline in the world's food production. United States Department of Agriculture official Don Paarlberg said: "Never in modern times have crops been so poor in so many major producing countries at the same time. Prices rose and stocks were drawn down." Of wheat production, *The Americana Annual* said: "The world production

of wheat was 300,489,000 metric tons of wheat in 1972, down from 323,188,000 tons in 1971."

But the demand for food did not drop in 1972. It kept increasing, relentlessly. And the higher food production of 1973 was not enough to build up reserve stocks. Thus, Paarlberg says:

"Even with this large crop, no appreciable increase in U.S. stocks of the principal grains seems likely in the near future. . . .

"This anomaly of continuing tightness in the grain markets, despite a much-improved crop, gives rise to the feeling that we may have entered a new era of short supplies, hungry people, strong prices."

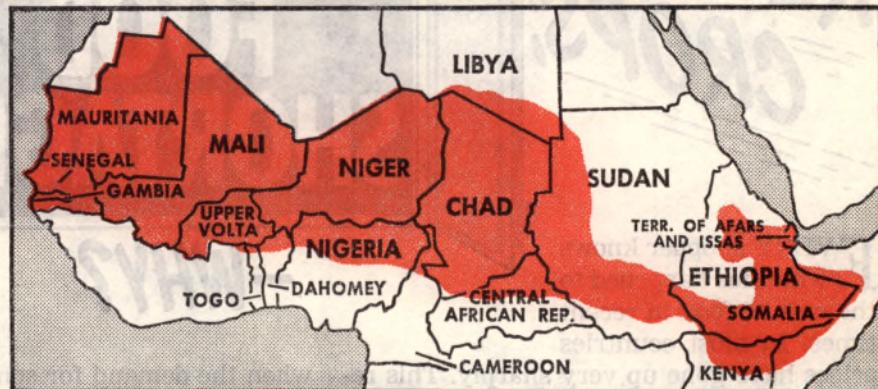
Indeed, world grain stocks are getting lower all the time. *U.S. News & World Report* notes that in 1961 world grain reserves were 222 million metric tons, enough to feed the world's population then for 94 days. But by mid-1974 reserves are said to be only an estimated 105 million tons, enough to feed the world's population for only 29 days.

With demand for food soaring everywhere, more and more nations have looked to the United States to make up their food deficits. An estimated 90 countries have ordered U.S. grain this year. As Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carroll Brunt-haver states: "The nations of the world are using more grain, they are buying more of what they use in the world market, and more of what they buy is coming from the United States. . . . The world's

food economy is running increasingly on U.S. [grain]."

But this has put immense pressure on U.S. grain reserves, so that they are practically nonexistent now. The vast food surpluses of past years are no longer the case. And because of the huge demand by so many other countries, the cost of this food has jumped. In mid-1972 a bushel of American wheat cost \$1.30. In the next year and a half the price quadrupled, although it has now lowered somewhat because of good crops.

AFRICAN DROUGHT



The area shown in color represents the zone of severe drought that has spread in this part of Africa in recent years

So because of increasing domestic and foreign demand, there are no more large surpluses in the United States. This has a sobering meaning for poorer countries. Stephen S. Rosenfeld, an editorial writer for the *Washington Post*, points out: "Its food surpluses exhausted and its priorities changing, the United States no longer can act as international good Samaritan." An example of what this can mean is noted by *Saturday Review/World*:

"America's surplus policy has changed drastically. During India's famine of 1966-67, the United States dispatched enough wheat to feed more than 50 million people . . . But in 1973, during the Sahara drought,

the United States found it could pack off only 156,000 tons of food, barely 1 percent of the earlier Indian shipments."

What Experts Are Saying

The trend in the world food supply is causing deep concern everywhere. More and more observers are now saying the same thing in regard to the immediate future.

Washington Post writer Rosenfeld declares: "The world, including the United States, may be entering a period of indefinite, if not permanent, food shortages. Some experts envision hunger, malnutrition, and starvation on a scale never before contemplated."

Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Dr. A. H. Boerma said last year: "The world food situation in 1973 is more difficult than at any time since the years immediately following the devastation during the Second World War." And, because of the low reserves everywhere, Boerma warned: "There is little if any margin against the possibility of another widespread harvest failure, and the world has become dangerously dependent on current production."

Norman Borlaug, winner of the Nobel Prize for his work in developing new types of wheat and rice (described as the "green

revolution"), agrees. He said regarding 1973: "Only a handful of people are aware of just how close we were to having 50 to 60 million people die."

A recent article in the New York Times carried this headline: "WORLD SEEN NEAR A FOOD DISASTER." The article stated:

"Dr. John H. Knowles, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, said tonight that the world was coming close to the brink of a Malthusian disaster, with starvation and misery for millions . . .

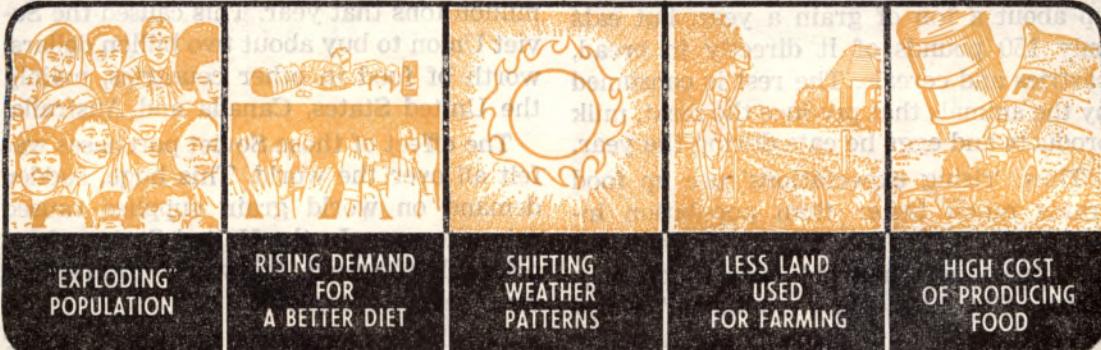
"Among the 2½ billion people living in the world's less developed countries, Dr. Knowles said, 60 per cent [1½ billion] are estimated to be malnourished, underdeveloped physically and poorly educated and 20 per cent [500 million] are believed to be starving at this moment."

Population "Explosion"

One of the main reasons for such dire forecasts has to do with world population growth. It is "exploding." And the largest growth is taking place in the very lands where food shortages already exist.

By 1975 there will be four billion people on earth. The net increase will then be about 80 million *each year* (it is now about 78 million each year for a population of 3.9 billion). Such increases *each year* are the equivalent of the entire population of

KEY FACTORS IN WORLD FOOD SHORTAGE



Bangladesh. India alone adds some 13 million more mouths to feed annually.

What worries experts so much is that world population is increasing faster and faster. It took thousands of years for the world to reach a population of one billion, by about 1830. But it took only 100 years for the second billion, by 1930. Then it took only 30 years for the third billion, by 1960. However, it evidently is taking only 15 years for the fourth billion—in 1975!

Thus, agriculture expert Lester Brown says: "World wheat reserves in 1973 fell to their lowest level in 20 years. . . . In 1974, even with good to very good crops anticipated in most key countries, already depleted world grain reserves are expected to decline further."

What makes the population problem even more "explosive" is that the growing billions are demanding a better diet. As more people increase their incomes, they want to eat better. In the United States, for example, the consumption of beef per person has doubled since 1950. Spanish consumers now eat twice as much meat as they did in 1960. In nation after nation, the story is the same.

The greater demand for meat, milk products and eggs puts a strain on all food resources. A person eating grains directly may consume about 400 pounds of them a year. But meat, milk and eggs added to the diet takes much larger amounts of grain to produce. To illustrate: Each American uses up about a ton of grain a year, but eats only 150 pounds of it directly in bread, pastries and cereals. The rest is consumed by the animals that produce the meat, milk products and eggs he eats during the year.

Thus, 'rising expectations' use up food grains much faster than population increase alone. It is a relatively new element that previously had not been much of a factor. But now, the "exploding" world population *plus* its demand for a better

diet constitute a dramatic, new, twofold assault on available supplies.

Changing Weather

In recent years weather patterns have changed in many areas. Droughts in some places and floods in others, unexpectedly, have caused havoc with food production.

A severe drought has persisted in large parts of North Central Africa. In its seventh year now, the drought area embraces thousands of square miles along the southern part of the Sahara Desert. The nations most affected so far are Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger and Chad. Also stricken are parts of Nigeria, Cameroon and Sudan.

In those areas, thousands of people have already died and millions more are now in danger. The bones of once-great herds, literally millions of animals, lie bleaching in the sun. What is happening is being called the greatest "natural" disaster in Africa's history.

There is also a severe famine in Ethiopia. One estimate gives the death toll as being over 100,000. Entire villages reportedly have been wiped out by starvation and disease. And the famine continues to spread relentlessly.

The Soviet Union suffered adverse weather during 1972, including severe droughts. This caused a large drop in food production. The grain harvest, targeted at 195 million metric tons, came to only 168 million tons that year. This caused the Soviet Union to buy about two billion dollars' worth of food in other countries, mainly the United States, Canada and Australia.

The effect of those Soviet purchases was felt all over the world. This huge, sudden demand on world grain supplies caused prices to soar. In the United States wheat prices skyrocketed. And world grain stocks were severely depleted.

Weather experts now say that a major

drought is overdue in the United States. There has been a historical pattern of severe drought about once every twenty years. The last droughts were in the 1930's and 1950's, so more are expected in the 1970's. Since the United States is the leading food exporter in the world, one bad crop there would have a calamitous effect on the food available to other nations.

More Problems

In addition to "exploding" populations, rising demands for a better diet, and shifting weather patterns, there are other problems that bode ill for poorer nations. One is the rising prices of all commodities, including oil. This price rise puts a tremendous strain on the ability of poor countries to buy food, fertilizer and farm machinery.

For example, the price of oil has quadrupled in recent times. This means that the hungry nations must divert a far greater portion of their limited income to pay for necessary oil products. In the case of India, *U.S. News & World Report* says:

"India's oil bill, at precrisis levels of consumption and current prices, would take 80 per cent of India's export earnings. Oil-fed fertilizer plants are in trouble. Fertilizer-fed 'green revolution' and the bumper crops India has enjoyed may now be ending. If so, 1975 may be India's year of famine."

Recent sharp price increases are a disaster for people in poorer nations. It makes the difference between eating, although poorly, and not eating at all. This is why, as the *New York Times* put it, World Bank president Robert McNamara has been "asserting with almost missionary zeal that the rich nations have not yet

calculated the economic and human consequences of quadrupled oil prices or begun to grapple with the food and fertilizer shortages he foresees. . . . One or two more seasons of bad weather, he observes, and the human family will be enduring unimaginable disasters."

Furthermore, the land now used for planting

crops is diminishing as population increases. For instance, in 1944 there were 366 million acres planted in 16 major crops in the United States. But in 1974 that had dropped to 278 million acres. Why the huge decrease? The *New York Times* says:

"The decline in planted acreage since 1944, despite sharply higher farm prices, reflects steady conversion of croplands to housing, shopping centers, highways, airports and other nonagricultural uses, as well as livestock raising."

Can the world's oceans be looked to for more food in the form of fish products? That is not likely, say authorities. The world's vastly expanded fishing fleets are taking so much fish from the oceans that the fish are barely able to reproduce their number. Some experts even say that "overfishing" is already a fact, resulting in less fish for the future.

All these reasons make the world food picture bleak indeed. Human society, as presently constructed, is simply unable to feed earth's billions properly. Even those experts who had been optimistic about this matter a few years ago now feel that mass starvation seems inevitable. That is why an American government official predicted: "The food crisis of 1974 will look like a Sunday school picnic compared with the food crisis of 1975-1976."

THE street is lined with rows of pitiful beggars. It is a sight Purshotham Patel cannot help contrasting with the magnificence of the building he is about to enter. In the receptacle at the door he dips his finger and puts it to his forehead. Inside, the somber darkness is relieved by the flickering lights that reveal the recessed images of the holy ones to be worshiped. Incense weighs heavy in the air. Holy music is in the background.

Patel moves to the images before which he wishes to worship. Some images have the form of women, others of men. There he prostrates himself alongside other worshipers. Patel earnestly petitions for the matters he has in mind, which, as usual, involve personal problems. He touches an image three times, returning the hand to his forehead and chest. Surely his faith and devotion are without question.

Do you wonder what the religious faith of Patel is? You may say he is obviously Catholic. But if you are a Hindu you may say that he is obviously a Hindu. Would it surprise you to hear that the above description fits either place of worship?

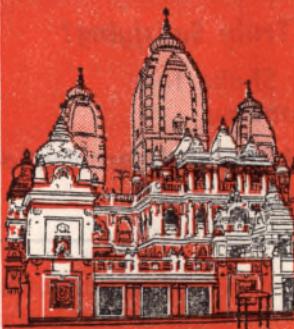
The worship of Catholics and Hindus in India is so similar that Hindus commonly say they are one and the same, just that the gods have different names. In fact, Patel commonly worshiped in both the Hindu temple and the Catholic church, as is the custom with many Hindus.

Similarities in Worship

The Hindu religion in India, with its over 400 million devotees, has wielded a

WHEN

A Hindu BECOMES A Christian



By "Awake!" correspondent in India

strong influence on the 10 million professed Christians in the country. The churches claim to have "Indianized" their services, yet church members often say the services have been "Hinduized."

Commenting on the introduction of Hindu rites in a Catholic church, the South Indian newspaper *Malayala Manorama* said: "Mass was conducted in the genuine model of Hindu pooja (worship). Hymns and songs in word and in tune were like that of the incantation of Hindus. The emblems used were the same as in Hindu temples." Similarly, the official daily newspaper of the Catholic Church in Kerala, *Deepika*, quoted a leading priest as saying: "We are still following the customs of Brahmins with timely changes."

Hindus here carry their god through the streets in a procession accompanied by loud music and vigorous dancing, even as Catholics carry images of their saints. In some churches priests wear saffron robes and have long hair. At the main festival time for Hindus, called Diwali, lanterns and "stars" are widely used. Then, shortly thereafter, at Christmastime, these same decorative lights are used by professed Christians in their celebration.

"Christian" women mark their foreheads with a circle of red powder, "Kum Kum," which is a Hindu caste identification. At the Shrine of Our Lady of Vailankanni in South India, Catholics who

have made vows shave their hair and beards off, the same as Hindus who make a vow at their temple. Here, too, ear-boring ceremonies and special rites are carried on for girls when they come of age. For marriage and other important events, the Hindu custom of consulting the horoscope is used to determine the auspicious time for the event.

It is these and many other similarities in worship that cause the Hindus to say to Jehovah's witnesses when they call in their preaching work: "Our religions are all the same. You Christians call your god Jesus and we call the same god by other names."

This is how Purshotham Patel felt. Although born a Hindu, he explained why he became a Catholic: "It was my desire to go to heaven. In the Hindu belief I could see that this could have taken an unknown period of time, but in the Catholic faith the priest told me that this could happen at the time of my death. So to become a Catholic was simply a short-cut to my objective of getting to heaven." Yet his change of religion resulted in no corresponding change in his way of life. In fact, he said: "As a Catholic I felt more free for worldly living."

Bible Truth Changes Lives

It is different, however, when a person becomes a true Christian. Real changes then take place in one's life. This is illustrated by Latha, a devout thirty-year-old Hindu woman who lived near Ernakulam, Kerala.

Her devotion to the goddess Kali was so intense that there were times when she would be completely possessed. She would be informed nine days in advance when the goddess would take control of her. During the intervening time she would eat only fruit. Toward the end of this period she would eat some betel nut, immediately

after which Kali would take control of her.

As Kali was a goddess of blood, Latha's sisters would cut her legs until the blood flowed freely. The period of possession was for one hour, and during this time the sick were brought to her to be healed, including those mentally ill. She would also give correct information about things stolen. For eighteen years her superhuman abilities were the main support for her and her family, although she was also a well-known dancing tutor.

However, a study of the Bible was then started by Jehovah's witnesses with one of Latha's sisters. In time Latha joined the study and made good progress in gaining Bible knowledge. She came to see that it was not a god made of clay that possessed her, but really invisible wicked spirit forces.—Eph. 6:11, 12.

She threw away the stones around the neem tree in her garden, which were used in connection with the worship of Kali. Immediately the neem tree dried up, and neighbors knew that Kali had left her. An oppressive pressure was lifted from the entire family.

Latha stopped giving dancing instructions so as to devote more time to learning of the Bible promise of God's approaching new order of righteousness. (2 Pet. 3:13) Now her income is derived from manufacturing ladies and spoons made from coconuts. She is grateful for having found the true God and the happiness that this has brought her.

Family Problems Corrected

Among those who have had unfortunate family situations corrected is V. T. Devasia of South India, and his Hindu companion Savitri. After a period of studying the Bible, they came to the point where they wished to dedicate their lives to Jehovah God. However, Devasia had previously been married to a Catholic woman,

Mary. He had two children by her before abandoning her to live with Savitri, by whom he also fathered two children.

When the elders of the local congregation of Jehovah's witnesses explained the Bible principle that a husband can properly have only one wife, Devasia decided to rejoin his wife Mary. This meant he would have to leave Savitri, even though she had now progressed with him in understanding the truth of God's Word. Both Devasia and Savitri prayed earnestly to Jehovah for guidance.

In the meantime the elders contacted Mary to explain the situation. Her joy knew no bounds when she learned that she was to get back her beloved husband. This was something she never dreamed would happen, since neither the Catholic priest nor the police had proved of any help when her husband had abandoned her.

When Devasia and Savitri made their decision to separate, Savitri wrote to Mary. She explained that because she wanted to be one of Jehovah's witnesses she was prepared to separate from Devasia willingly and wished to see him back with his legal wife. The time came for the separation. It was a time of deep emotion as both Mary and Savitri embraced in warm love.

A Bible study was arranged with Mary, who attends the meetings of Jehovah's witnesses along with her husband and the children. One can well imagine the feelings of Savitri as she sees the man who was considered her husband sitting in the same hall with his legal wife. Bible truth can certainly build noble personalities and reunite broken families in the bond of love.

Change of Religion Difficult

Family pressures often make it hard for a Hindu to change his religion. This was true in the case of Y. N. Bushan of Bangalore. As a Hindu he understood that those

who were considered wicked would go to a "hell" where they would suffer torments. These torments included being forced to walk on fire, being put into a vessel of boiling water, and having one's body cut into two parts from top to bottom. But Bushan could not see how such physical torments could be suffered when the body had been cremated and returned to the dust.

Such confusing Hindu teachings caused Bushan to search for truth through Bible study. The simple, clear statements of the Bible made sense to him, resulting in his changing his form of worship, even though it meant the loss of favor of his relatives.

—Eccl. 9:5, 10; John 5:28, 29.

This difficulty of breaking away from family religious traditions was also experienced by Veeramani Iyer. He was of a Brahmin (priestly) family and his wife's father was a Brahmin priest. He said that his change to true Christianity caused his parents distress. "But," he said, "I loved Bible principles even more than the pleasure of my kin."

Abandoning Religious Customs

It is often particularly difficult to abandon popular religious customs. For example, married Hindu women wear around their necks a string necklace called a "thali." This has considerable significance.

Since the word "thali" means "to bind," this necklace, given at the time of marriage, becomes a visible sign that the wearer is married. To remove it could indicate that the woman is a bad type, or that the marriage is broken. However, the thali also has lines engraved on it to indicate which god the wearer worships. Thus the removing of the thali indicates that the wearer has thrown aside her god. This thali is also worn by some church members, but,

instead of a symbol of a Hindu god, a cross is engraved on it.

Because of its religious significance, a decision has to be made by one who becomes a Christian as to whether she is going to continue wearing the thali. This is one reason why Jehovah's witnesses endeavor to include the husband when a Bible study is conducted in a Hindu home. As a result, he will understand that his wife has no intention of breaking the marriage should she remove the thali upon learning its religious significance. Her removal of the thali simply indicates that she is now worshiping Jehovah and does not approve of idol worship.

Another religious custom that Christian women here abandon is the marking of their foreheads with a dot of colored powder, usually red, called the "Kum Kum." Originally this was for caste identification, but today many modern Indian women wear it for decorative purposes. However, because of its association with the Hindu religion, Christian women prefer not to use it.

Maintaining Local Customs

At the same time, becoming one of Jehovah's witnesses does not require persons to abandon customs of their land that are not in conflict with the Holy Bible. Most Christian women in India, in harmony with local custom, will not eat their meals with their husbands. Only after the husband has eaten will the wife eat. Also, when men enter the presence of women, the women cover their heads with their saris.

There are many other local customs that are often observed in Christian homes. For example, upon entering a home the householder and visitors will customarily remove their shoes and leave them at the door entrance. When eating, members of the family usually sit on the floor, using

their fingers, but only those of the right hand, to eat. In some areas of India, such as in Tamil Nadu, there is much objection to the eating of beef. When people from this area become Christians, it is noticed that generally they continue to show a dislike for eating beef. The typical Indian greeting "Namastay," made by holding the two hands in a prayerlike position, is also commonly used. Thus, with these and many other local customs, the Christian maintains his Indian identity.

A New Way of Life

While, in general appearance, it may not be noticed whether one is a Hindu or a true Christian, in the way he conducts his life it will be. This was found out by Purshotham Patel when he began to study the Bible regularly with his friend.

Patel soon learned that his worldly habits of gambling and getting drunk, which had been no barrier to his being either a Hindu or a Catholic, had no place in the worship of Jehovah God. This meant a new way of life for him, a new set of friends, but also progress toward a good relationship with the true God, Jehovah. Now his hope is not set on a Nirvana of nonexistence, but on living forever on this earth when it will soon return to paradise conditions in harmony with the loving purposes of Jehovah God.—Ps. 37:29; Rev. 21:3, 4.

Hindus are sensitive to "conversions." They know that the churches in the past used force to convert Hindus to their faith. In recent times bribes of food, such as cheese, milk powder and similar items, have often been used to influence the poor and hungry to associate with the churches, and Hindus understandably object to this. However, a person who becomes one of Jehovah's witnesses does so because of his

own desire to worship the true God and not because of coercion or for selfish reasons.

Today, in many parts of India and in other parts of the world, Hindus are becoming Christian witnesses of the true

God, Jehovah. This is often not easy, due to family and community opposition, but the pleasure of knowing and serving the Grand Creator, who promises everlasting life to his worshipers, is what motivates them.—John 17:3.

YOUR AMAZING

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

I AM your blood, I and I travel through some 100,000 miles of blood vessels from the top of your head to the tip of your toes. I am really a very special transportation system. In me are red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets carried around in a fluid called plasma. The average person contains about six quarts of my fluid.

Just relax for a few minutes as we take you on a tour. My red blood cells would like to tell you something about their role in your amazing circulatory system.

Red Blood Cells

Do you know what we red blood cells look like? Well, we are shaped much like a doughnut without the hole; we are very small disks with indentations on both sides. We are colored a faint pink by an iron-containing substance called "hemoglobin." However, when we are joined together by the millions in a drop of blood, we look red. Now, we are not going to dwell on that. We know that some of you get uneasy when you see us, so we try to stay out of sight. But we are your friends.

We are made in a "factory," as it were, called red marrow. In the bones of your

arms, legs, and so forth, your marrow is very busy turning out new supplies of us red cells. Every day about eight and a half trillion of us are made; and a similar number are destroyed. Did you know that all of that was going on inside you?

Our life-span is not very long—only about four months. What happens when we come to the close of our life? Well, we end up either in the liver or in the spleen. Here special cells called phagocytes (meaning "cells that devour") are waiting for us. They engulf the old red cells as they move by in the blood. Then inside the phagocytes we are broken up. But our remains are treated with respect. About 85 percent of the iron in the hemoglobin is kept in your body to use in the making of hemoglobin for the new red cells. So only the 15 percent of iron that is used up needs to be replaced. You do that by eating liver, oatmeal, eggs, spinach—a diet that includes iron-containing foods.

Our main purpose is to carry oxygen from your lungs to the cells of your body. As you may know, when we go to the

lungs, we unload our carbon dioxide and get a fresh supply of oxygen.

Since the number of us in your blood is determined to an extent by your needs for oxygen, some persons have more of us than others do. For example, an athlete has more red blood cells than an office worker. And people who live at high altitudes have more of us than those who live at sea level. You may have heard the familiar expression, "Your blood thins when you become accustomed to warm weather." Actually, as far as we are concerned, the opposite is true! For we increase in number during warm weather and we thin out in numbers during cold weather.

There is a peculiarity that we have. You really ought to know about it because it might save your life. You see, we grab up a poisonous gas called "carbon monoxide" even more quickly than we do oxygen. If you start your car in the garage before you open the door, we red cells load up with carbon monoxide. This is bad for you, because then we cannot carry oxygen. Furthermore, the hemoglobin does not let go of that poisonous gas easily. So it is a long time before we affected red cells can do good work for you again. In the meantime, your body cells are deprived of the oxygen they need. The result is dangerous. It is as if a large number of us were taken out of circulation! If too many of us are affected, that is the finish—for us and for you! So please be careful.

Our companions, the white blood cells, also have something to tell you.

White Blood Cells

First, let us say that we are not really white but colorless, so that to see us under a microscope you have to add a special dye. Even though there are five kinds of us white blood cells, there is only one of us to about every 700 or so of the red cells. Let us tell you how we differ from red blood cells.

To us white blood cells, our companions, the red cells, are like rafts on a river; they cannot choose where they want to travel. They just go whatever way the river flows. But we are different. We can move anywhere! We even have the amazing ability to change shape! Because of this some of us can actually squeeze through the tiny spaces between the cells of the capillaries and move about among the body cells.

Now our ability to travel where we want to go is very important for you. You see, we can rush to any spot in your body to aid you in destroying certain germs. Say you cut yourself; as soon as bacteria get into the wound, we gather our forces and a battle begins. You do not hear any noise; you may even sleep through it. But we

are on the job to take care of you. Each one of us can engulf many of the bacteria. Though most of the time we win the battle, there are casualties on our side too. As the engulfed bacteria are broken up, bacterial toxins or poisonous wastes are released. These toxins kill some of us

white cells. But then other white cells arrive to carry on the struggle.

Now a word from our smaller associates, the blood platelets.

Blood Platelets

We may not look very impressive; we are small and colorless, but we are important to you. You see, we aid in the clotting of your blood. Without us, you could bleed to death. Did you know that?

Just how blood clots is not completely understood by your medical scientists. We keep it as our secret. But we will tell you this: As blood starts to escape from a cut in your body, we platelets stick to the rough edges of the wound and begin to dissolve. At the same time we release a substance that aids in forming a trap for the escaping red and white blood cells. As this net or trap contracts, a firm clot is produced. The system really works.

All of us in the bloodstream have high regard for the heart, and we would like to have you hear from him too.

The Heart

Physically speaking, I am your master pump. I am located in the chest a little to the left side and between the lungs. My two auricles receive blood from the veins and my two ventricles force blood through the arteries. I am about the size of your fist, have strong muscular walls, and continually pump blood to all the cells of the body and back again. In a healthy person, I contract from sixty to eighty times a minute. Try to open and close your hand that fast. How long can you last? Remember, I do it for a lifetime, with no days, nights or weekends off.

Men have spent a lot of time studying me. They still have much to learn. But one of them did make this observation:

"The work the heart does during the day is about equal to the energy expended by a man in climbing to the top of a mountain 3,600 feet high. Assuming that the

man weighs about 150 pounds, this would be equal to an amount of energy sufficient to lift 90 tons to a height of three feet. The work of the left side is greater than that of the right, since the former has to drive the blood all over the body, while the latter has only to force it to the lungs, which are near by. For this reason the muscle walls of the right ventricle are much thinner than that of the left ventricle."—*Elements of Biology*.

Every time I beat, the blood is forced into the arteries in a wave that can be felt in the wrist or neck by placing your finger over an artery. This rhythmic wave, as you know, is called the pulse.

There is much, much more to be said, but that is enough for this time. While you are getting acquainted with us, the blood vessels would like to tell you about their role.

Blood Vessels

We are mainly three kinds: arteries, veins and capillaries. You might compare us to three sizes of pipes. In fact, your amazing circulatory system is much like the water supply system of a big city with its variety of pipes. How is that? Well, water in the reservoir has to be pushed a long way to the city. Pumps do the pushing. The city needs a big pipe through which the water can travel. The big pipe branches off into smaller ones. Each of these smaller pipes may provide water for one street. Then smaller pipes lead from the street pipe into the houses. In your circulatory system, your pump is, of course, your heart, and we blood vessels are the pipes.

We arteries carry blood AWAY from the heart. The aorta is like a main pipe in a water supply system, since it is the

biggest of your arteries. Starting directly from the heart, the aorta branches into smaller arteries that enter every organ of your body. The walls of us arteries are much thicker than the walls of veins. Inside we are very smooth when we are in good health, so blood can flow through quickly. We have no small valves as the veins have. But they will tell you about that.

Before we veins tell you about our valves, you may want to know why we have valves in the first place. This is because blood has to get back to the heart, and we veins do not push it back, for we have very little muscle. So what pushes your blood back to the heart?

Well, it is not entirely pressure, because that pressure is largely gone by the time blood reaches us veins. In fact, the pressure in us is only one thirtieth of the pressure that is in the arteries. This explains, incidentally, why a cut artery bleeds more vigorously than a cut vein. Blood in us veins needs help, then, to push it along. The ordinary muscles of your body and arms and legs provide that help, the muscle action forcing the blood in us toward your heart.

'Why doesn't the blood just fall back again when the muscles relax,' did you ask? That is where our valves come in. You see, our valves are unique in that they consist of a small fold of tissue that lies closely pressed against the walls when the blood flows toward the heart. However, we form cuplike pockets and fill with blood when backward pressure is exerted. Thus we keep the flow of blood going in the proper direction. We like to keep our valves in good shape, but sometimes they weaken to the point that they no longer keep the blood from backtracking. Doctors then call us "varicose veins."

You probably have noticed that when you sit still in one place for a long time you become uncomfortable. We are involved. You see, the flow of blood through us veins has been slowed down. But when you move about a little, you feel better, because the movement of your body and leg muscles speeds up the flow of blood in us. Keep that in mind and help us out.

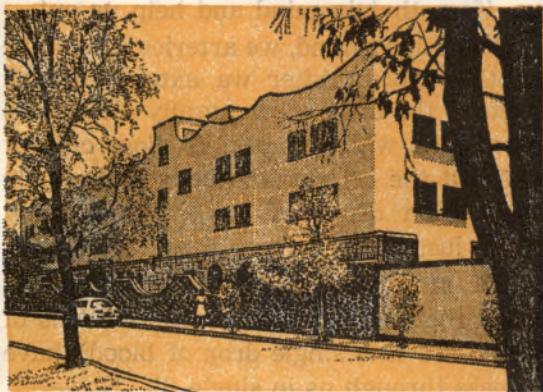
If you don't mind, we arteries would like another word: After we extend into all parts of the body, we generally divide into capillaries, which come into close contact with all the cells of the body and supply them with dissolved oxygen and foods. Now, just a word from those capillaries.

We are quite small. How small? So small that the red blood cells (millions of which are in a single drop of blood) have to pass through us in single file. However, what we lack in size we make up in numbers—we are so many that if all of us in a man were stretched out in a single line, we would measure almost 60,000 miles! Because of our great numbers we can easily carry nourishment and oxygen to the tissues and readily remove the waste.

So you can see now what the general pattern of blood circulation is: From the heart, blood goes through the arteries, then usually spreads out to us tiny capillaries; next, it moves into the veins and travels back to the heart again. We have been doing this for people for thousands of years, but this basic fact of circulation of the blood is something that was discovered by your medical scientists only some 350 years ago.

All of us hope that this brief tour of your amazing circulatory system will help you to understand our individual roles and to appreciate the marvel of the human body, that it is, as the Holy Bible says, "wonderfully made."—Ps. 139:14.

New Building FOR CULTURAL WORK IN MEXICO



By "Awake!" correspondent in Mexico

APRIL 19 and 20, 1974, were filled with excitement for Jehovah's witnesses in Mexico. Those days were the occasion for inaugurating a new building as headquarters for the cultural work of the Witnesses in this country. It contains facilities for printing and shipping literature used in this work, and provides living accommodations for a staff of volunteer workers.

The new building, set in a valley dominated by two snow-capped mountains, is located about eleven miles from Mexico City. Work on it began on June 7, 1973, with excavation on the 64,907-square-foot piece of property, and it was completed in 317 days.

The three-story building is 16,146 square feet in size. Some 120 tons of cement were used, greatly strengthening it against damage during seismic movements. The ground floor includes the printing shop, a laundry, storage area for more than 1,500,000 books, and a Cultural Meeting Hall, beautifully decorated in Mexican colonial style. On the middle floor are found office space, a kitchen, a dining room that seats 120 persons, and 16 bedrooms. A library and 36 more bedrooms are on the top floor. The building can provide living quarters for up to 104 persons, with room for future expansion of the printing facilities. A solar heater on

the roof provides hot water for the entire building.

There was a pressing need for a new headquarters building in Mexico. The number of Jehovah's witnesses there has increased rapidly in recent years. For example, in November 1973 there were 61,106 Mexican Witnesses. By February 1974 this number had climbed to 65,553, an increase of 4,447 in just three months. The former building, acquired in 1938 and enlarged in 1945 and 1962, could not meet present demands for printing and shipping the literature published by Jehovah's witnesses in Mexico. Also, government plans to build roads call for demolition of the former structure.

A most unusual feature of this building project was the number of people who volunteered to work on it; over 90 percent of the work was done without pay. Witnesses from all over the country, and even some foreign visitors, donated their time, energy and skills to put up the new building.

Among the 3,379 present at the dedication program were the Mexican headquarters staff, more than 250 of the volunteer workers, a number of overseers of the congregations in Mexico City, and many guests. To begin the program, the administrator of La Torre del Vigia de Mexico, A.C. (legal corporation for Jehovah's witnesses in Mexico), spoke of the success of the cultural work done by the Witnesses there during the past thirty years. He noted that since 1946 they have taught 46,468 persons to read and write, and have helped thousands to give up an immoral way of life.

The highlight of the program was a talk by N. H. Knorr, president of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society. He pointed out that the new building will be used to help the people of Mexico to learn of God's arrangements for blessing mankind. He stressed the need for all to cultivate appreciation for things God provides to aid them. "Many people," said Knorr, "lack real appreciation for the things they receive. To them the expression 'Thanks' is nothing more than a formalism. This should not be the case with us. We must keep in mind that to 'appreciate' means to esteem something highly, to consider it of great value. Let us view everything we receive from Jehovah in that way."

The program of April 19 was repeated the following day to enable the majority of those involved in the project to attend. When it was over, all went away refreshed and joyful at having shared in a truly beneficial work.

THEY KEEP DOGS FOR PROTECTION

"**B**EWARE of the Dog," printed in a bright, glowing orange, was observed as the most prevalent sign in one part of New York city. It was followed by a more official-looking one: "This Property Is Protected by Guard Dogs."

People can hardly be blamed for seeking protection, especially after repeatedly being mugged or burglarized. But are dogs the answer? Are they really an effective crime deterrent?

What Dog Keepers Say

Dog trainer Arthur J. Haggerty, who has had over seventy rented dogs on nightly duty at construction sites in New York, says: "Contractors have told us that petty thefts and vandalism start to decline as soon as they post a 'Warning—This Area Patrolled by Attack Dog' sign on the site. When a dog moves in, thieves just move on to easier pickings."

Dogs have also proved valuable in protecting stores. "I was robbed eight times in four years," said Martin Blauvelt, the owner of a small liquor store, as he fondled his huge German Shepherd. "But since I bought Hercules two years ago, nobody has had the nerve to try anything."



In large department stores, specially trained attack dogs accompanied by a handler patrol floors at night. While thieves may be able to conceal themselves from human guards, it is not so easy to hide from a dog. During the past year, according to Emanuel J. Falcone, security director at Gimbel's, more than eighteen persons were apprehended with the help of dogs in one of their New York stores.

Many home dwellers, too, now consider a dog vital for their protection. For example, a family man living in a high-crime area explained: "Ordinarily I wouldn't keep a dog in the city, especially a large one. But every home in this building has been burglarized, *except ours*. Besides, I would be afraid to let my wife step outside alone without him."

A young man interviewed while walking his fierce-looking shepherd near the Brooklyn Heights section of New York felt similarly. Twice he had been mugged in recent months, once being severely knifed. "It wouldn't have happened," he claimed, "if my dog had been with me. I rarely go out without him now."

Even little dogs are valuable, says Diana Henley of the Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Of her own Chihuahuas, she noted: "They couldn't do

anyone much harm, but they are great at alerting me if anyone is outside." She also keeps a black Labrador that has growled at and scared off would-be muggers that have stalked her while they were out walking.

Even in many small towns and rural areas dogs are now considered important to have. For example, a young man living in the country at Wallkill, New York, recently paid \$1,400 for a professionally trained guard dog.

Journal of nutrition

Instinctive Characteristic

Such examples could be repeated thousands of times over. It is estimated that over twenty-five million dogs are maintained by households in the United States. And dog trainer Tom Nova claims that by far the majority of them instinctively protect the home. In addition, he says, many thousands of trained guard dogs are kept specifically for protection.

Most dog owners probably have observed a protective instinct in their dogs. Regarding it, *The New Dog Encyclopedia* says:

"Once a dog has accepted a person or family as his master, he immediately develops a well-defined sense of proprietorship and is ready to defend them, their home and possessions against all intruders. This sense of guardianship is present in almost all dogs, regardless of the breed, although it naturally asserts itself more in bolder or more aggressive animals. This guardian trait [is] now recognized by science and canine authorities as a definite instinct."

This protective instinct can be encouraged and developed to a high degree of efficiency. A dog can thus become a weapon more effective, in certain circumstances, than a loaded revolver. For this, however, special training is required. Yet a dog may provide fine protection without any such training.

Dogs Without Guard Training

Professional trainers tend to categorize dogs according to the protection they provide. For example, a so-called "image dog" is large and imposing, belonging to a breed with a reputation for aggressiveness, such as a German Shepherd. Yet the dog need not have any aggressive tendencies. He can be mild-tempered and good with children. Simply his *looks* are a deterrent to wrongdoers. Interestingly, a dark-colored dog is generally feared more than a light-colored one, and so makes a better "image dog."

A "watchdog" is a housedog that will bark, which is usually his principal effectiveness. Yet he may instinctively show signs of aggression in the appropriate situation. He may even bite an intruder, but since he has had no real guard training, there is little guarantee he will. You might consider a large "image dog" the best watchdog, but even inoffensive-looking little poodles or Chihuahuas can also make good ones.

Dogs with Guard Training

Then there are dogs with various degrees of special guard training. Some may simply be obedience trained, and developed to the point where they jump to their owner's protection on command, or upon provocation. But they have, only to a very limited extent, been taught to bite.

It is different with the fully trained "guard dog." He is trained to fight, and the power of his bite is developed by practice to where it can break an arm or snap a collarbone. He learns to protect himself and his handler from knife, gun and club. Such a dog has been compared to a professional soldier who may feel more at home in battle than in civilian life.

The dog is trained on a leash. A handler holds him while an "aggressor" agitates

him with increasing offensiveness—by shouts, menacing gestures, digging a rounded-end stick in the groin, and so forth. The "aggressor" may have a heavily padded arm sleeve for protection, or hold a burlap bag that the dog bites. The dog's confidence is built up in these attacks for he *always* drives off the aggressor. He never loses. Thus he is taught to believe that he can subdue any opponent.

An elite guard dog is sometimes called an "*attack dog*." Instead of just a few weeks or months of training, he may require a year or so. Such a dog can sell for \$4,000 and more. He will not only protect his owner but attack a specified person on command. This dog is, in every sense of the word, a weapon.

Are Dogs with Guard Training Safe?

Theoretically they are, since they supposedly will attack only on command, or under real provocation. Thus experiences are told of guard dogs escaping and being befriended by passersby who took them home and noticed nothing unusual about them. Yet different experiences occur too. Last fall in New Jersey two such dogs kept to protect contracting equipment escaped and killed six-year-old Hubert Russell. When they lunged at police officers, they were shot.

Even owners may not be safe. Craig Iwig paid \$1,200 to a well-known New York dog trainer for a German Shepherd to protect his TV repair shop. The dog worked well for about six months. But then one Sunday, while alone in his shop, Iwig stooped to pick up a tool. The dog sprang, hitting him in the side of the face, and raking his scalp with his teeth.

"Guns misfire, and so do guard dogs," trainer Tom Nova observed. "Like humans, dogs, too, make mistakes. They misinterpret. Two youngsters may be roughhous-

ing, and a guard dog may hit one of them. It happens. I'd never keep one at home."

Many trainers feel similarly. They are very hesitant to sell a guard dog for home use; some simply refuse to sell one to families with children. As trainer Jack Healy explained: "Sooner or later they'll tease the animal, and even the finest dog can hit a child, given the right provocation."

A Protection Dog for You?

Police departments and persons owning or in charge of stores, construction companies, trucking concerns and other commercial establishments may well decide that professionally trained guard dogs are for them. But is such a dog for you?

You might ask yourself: Would I keep a loaded pistol? Would I have it around the house where children might play with it? If not, a trained guard dog is not for you! The risk, not to mention the high price of such a dog, simply is not worth it, except perhaps under the most extreme circumstances.

However, due to skyrocketing crime, you may decide to keep a watchdog, or so-called "image dog." But first count the cost. A New York city owner of a 75-pound German Shepherd recently calculated his weekly feed bill at \$3.40. That is over \$175.00 a year! Then there is the cost of collars, chains, license and perhaps veterinarian fees. And remember, a dog kept in an apartment needs to be walked outdoors at least once or twice a day.

Dogs can be wonderful pets and companions. How sad it is that world conditions are so bad that they have been trained to attack people! Happily, the promise of God's Word is that soon, under His righteous Kingdom rule, all mankind will enjoy true security, with no need to keep dogs for protection.—Isa. 11:6-9.



Delicious Drinks

FROM UNLIKELY INGREDIENTS

By "Awake!" correspondent
in Guyana

WHEN food is in abundance, waste is common. But when prices are high or supplies are short, some housewives learn to be resourceful. In Guyana many women do not even throw away the peel of the potato. They use the skins of potato, pineapple, plantain and other items to make beverages. Seeds of fruits such as papaw are also used to produce delicious drinks.

These beverages are very easy to make, and are nonalcoholic. Their widespread use in Guyana springs from the fact that an almost endless variety can be produced. They are served as thirst quenchers and refreshers, particularly on a warm day. Their tastes are quite varied and each one has its own characteristics.

Are flavorings used at all? Yes. Cinnamon and clove, among others, may be added to improve taste. Experience has shown that only very small quantities of these flavorings are needed.

Developing the art of making these drinks is largely a matter of trial and error. How so? The housewife merely sets peels or skins in some water, and after a few days she adds some sugar. Should it taste good, she experiments with it further.

After a Guyanese housewife finds good recipes, according to taste, color and length of time involved in preparation, she may pass on the information to others. Repeated experi-

ments with respect to different fruits lead to a long list of homemade drinks of various blends, colors and tastes. So fruits formerly picked only for eating are, in addition, processed for producing beverages.

For the potato beverage the ingredients used are skin or peel of 4 to 6 potatoes, $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon of water, clove and sugar. These are mixed together and left for three days before straining.

A particularly delicious drink is the one made from the pineapple peel. It is simple to prepare. Ingredients: (1) peel of one pineapple; (2) 4 glasses of boiling water; (3) sugar to taste and two cloves; (4) a piece of dried orange peel, if desired. Method: The peelings, cloves and orange peel are put in a jug, and boiling water is added. It is covered and left for twenty-four hours, after which the mixture is strained and sweetened. It should be used at once or bottled and kept for one or two days. When pineapples are plentiful, some of the pulp may be chopped and used with the peel.

A similar method may be adopted in using the pods of green peas and the skins or peels of guava and plantain. The green-pea beverage has the following ingredients: (1) 4 handfuls of green-pea pods; (2) 4 pints of water; (3) sugar to taste and a few cloves; (4) 1 level teaspoon of cinnamon; (5) 1 piece of dried orange peel; (6) a few drops of almond or pineapple essence. Method: Wash green-pea pods, place in a jar and add the water, sugar, spice and cloves, and dried orange peel. Leave it for three days. Strain and add the essence and ice, then serve.

A delicious papaw drink is made out of these ingredients: (1) Seeds taken from a yellow papaw; (2) 3 pints of water or more; (3) sugar to taste and a few cloves. Method: Put ingredients into a covered bottle and leave it for three days. Strain and serve with ice. Use a similar method for mango beverage.

There are obviously advantages from converting these apparent waste products to active, useful ingredients for beverages. For one thing, waste is conserved and money is thus saved. Production is inexpensive and almost labor free. There is the additional satisfaction the industrious housewife enjoys in developing her skill. Slight variation in processing can lead to a blend of different tastes and colors. Peels and seeds may seem to be unlikely ingredients, but they can produce delicious drinks.

CHILDHOOD is a happy time for most youngsters. It is a time in life when they are usually free from responsibility and worry. They are usually cheerful, brimming with energy and curiosity. But there generalizations end. For with each child the time when he is happiest and the reason for his happiness are as varied as are his circumstances.

For instance, one young man recalls regarding his sixth year of life: "I was the only child and one of my friends had a little sister. After playing with me he could go home and play with his sister. But I had no one to play with. I wanted a sister so badly. Well, when my parents told me we would be having a baby soon, I just knew it was going to be a girl. And I can't express the happiness I felt when my sister was born. It was what I really wanted and it made me very happy."

With Other Children and Alone

Most children enjoy playing and being with other children. One young woman remembers: "My happiness as a child was centered on playing outside. We had so much fun. In the winter, we looked forward to the snow. We'd get out the sleds for racing downhill; we'd make snowmen and throw snowballs. Our parents understood this, for if we did something

SOME OF

Their Happiest Memories



bad, we had to stay indoors. In other seasons, we skipped rope, played jacks, hopscotch, went on treasure hunts, and if it rained, we played house and school inside with our dolls. Those were really happy times!"

Not all children are the same, of course. One may be the only child in a family, not used to having playmates, or he may be one of a large family and like to get away from others to do things on his own. He may be happiest when he can spend quiet periods alone. Here is how a nine-year-old boy, an only child, expressed himself:

"I love to read. First of all, because if we couldn't read, we couldn't read the Bible and we wouldn't know God's will. So reading is important. But I like reading because it's quiet. When I read about real-life experiences of other people, I feel like I'm with them. Of course, I like it when Mom, Dad and I go to the beach or up in the mountains. But when I'm alone, I like reading very much."

Is that true of your children? Have they discovered the joys of serious reading, and the vast world it can unfold to them? Or are they allowed to sit for hours

watching television, where all their thinking is done for them, or, worse yet, where violent trends are allowed to develop in their young and impressionable minds?

Pretending, and Developing Talents

Motion pictures have been another source of pleasure for many children. Since they like to pretend, films have provided a means of escape into the world of make-believe. As one woman, who was an only child, expressed it:

"When I was young, I used to go to the movies often and pretend I was the star, mentally doing all the things she had done in the movies. Of course, it wasn't too long before I was back to myself again. But, at the time, it was fun pretending to be somebody else." Unfortunately, the current trends in movies provide little that is wholesome for young minds to dwell on or to pattern their lives after.

But, regardless of the trends, the pursuit of natural talents can bring a child much happiness. An eight-year-old girl, who loves to draw, finds pleasure in giving her pictures to others. She exclaimed: "I drew a picture of my mommy and gave it to her. It made me so happy to see her put it in her room. Now, every time I go into her room, I see *my* picture." Her face reflected the delight she had.

Encouraging your children to pursue whatever talent they may have can prepare them to serve others and give of themselves later in life.

Time Spent with Parents

Although children like to be with other children, they also want to be with their parents. A parent has but to stop and look down at a young child to appreciate this. He is greeted with a broad grin, as if the child were saying: "I love you. I want to be with you. You make me happy."

Are you the parent of such a young one?

Do you sometimes get annoyed when your child is constantly underfoot? Your annoyance at such times is understandable. But these moments with your children are soon gone. Rapidly youngsters grow up and their childhood is just a memory. So make the most of the time you have with them. It can provide happy memories for both you and them in the future.

Interestingly, some parents think that what makes their children happy is what they can give them. So they surround their youngsters with toys and many things they lacked in their own childhood. This usually fails, however, because material things alone cannot make anyone truly happy, and that includes children. Now, that is not to say that children do not like to receive gifts. They do. But when they are very young, they will often be more content to play with the box the gift came in than with the gift itself. Why so?

It is because they like to use their imagination. To a little boy an ordinary shoe box can become a ship, a plane, a cave or a truck within a matter of minutes. In fact, toys that do everything mechanically leave him nothing to do but watch, and he soon becomes bored. Toys have their place. But they cannot compare to the time and attention given children by their parents.

It is a fact, children crave love and affection, and nothing material can substitute for these qualities. For this reason young ones are often happiest when they are doing things with their parents. It does not have to be anything special. It could be a picnic, a walk in the park or woods, or even a quiet chat. The important thing is that they are together.

Indeed, a wise father realizes that little else can compensate for the love and devotion he gives his children, especially in their formative years. Some well-known men have inherited great wealth and yet never really knew their fathers who left

it to them. The man, however, who has memories of good times with his dad feels rich indeed, no matter what his financial condition. And the love and admiration he feels for his father will be reflected in the shine in his eyes and the pride in his voice when he talks about his father. Is that how your sons will feel about you?

Family Togetherness

For children, any place can seem special if their parents are with them. For instance, a trip to the zoo with his father and brother a year ago stands out to one eight-year-old boy. His eyes lightened up when he described it: "We saw lions, tigers, a giraffe and a big elephant. But oh, I didn't like the smell of some of them (as he wrinkled up his little nose). I would like to have all of them to play with." He added: "My daddy said that in God's new order the animals won't be in cages. They will be free. I'll like that!"

Often children appreciate a change of pace in their schedules as much as their parents do. A ten-and-a-half-year-old boy considers a trip the family took to be an outstanding time in his young life. He said:

"Last year we went on vacation to Virginia and Delaware. It was different from the city—a lot of trees and things—it was nice. We stayed in a hotel and ate in the dining room. I really enjoyed that. It was fun having someone wait on you and give you what you ordered. I enjoyed driving to different places and seeing different things and the way other people live."

But even when families are unable to travel together, they can enjoy happy times that are long treasured. A woman from a Caribbean island remembers: "I was one of seven children and we were very happy, doing things together. Dinner times were especially enjoyable. And after supper we would all gather around my father and

he would read a passage to us from the Bible. At other times he would play his fiddle and we would sing and dance. Our happiest times were when company came from other parts of the island and we were allowed to stay up past our bedtime and listen to the grownups talk."

Parental Training a Blessing

Truly, parents have the key role in training their children. And if they set fine examples, their children will find genuine happiness in serving Jehovah God. For example, one ten-year-old girl, when asked what she enjoyed most, said: "I love to come to the Kingdom Hall more than anything else, because I love Jehovah and I love his people." Does this not reflect the fine training she received?

Children who receive such training are often motivated by deep concern for others. Thus an eleven-year-old girl whose mother has been one of Jehovah's witnesses for over two years, but whose father had opposed their Bible study, related this experience:

"I had been thinking about my daddy for a long time. I asked him to come with us to our Bible study meetings a lot of times but he never did. I told him I didn't want a new daddy in God's new order and if he didn't study, he wouldn't be there. So the happiest day of my life was the day my father came to the Kingdom Hall for the first time." No present this little girl has received can compare to that happy moment.

What a delight to hear expressions from young people who find reasons to be happy and who are grateful to their parents and their Creator for life! And what a vital role parents have in contributing to that happiness and shaping the lives of their children!

The MONARCH of *All Precious Stones*

IT CAN serve as an ornament for decoration. It helps to prevent skidding on highways and airport runways. Industry uses it in lathes, drills and in machines for grinding and polishing. What is it that has so many uses? The "monarch of all precious stones"—the beautiful, versatile diamond.

Diamonds are among the most coveted minerals in the world. On February 14, 1972, a workman in a mine at Sierra Leone caught sight of a diamond about the size of a hen's egg. It turned out to be the third-largest diamond ever unearthed and the largest known uncut diamond in existence. Though weighing only half a pound, this precious stone sold for several million dollars.

What are diamonds? Why are they so valuable? How are they found and transformed into precious gems and useful helpers in industry?

What Are Diamonds?

When you look at black soot on your clothes, or at graphite in your lead pencil, you are beholding the same substance that constitutes a diamond. What is that? CARBON! The carbon of diamonds, however,

has a close-knit, dense and strongly bonded crystal structure. This makes it differ from graphite, native carbon's other form.

How did diamonds come into existence? No one knows for sure. But many scientists believe that this happened when carbon beneath the earth underwent great pressure and heat. Thus in modern times scientists have been able to synthesize diamonds by subjecting graphite to pressures of more than 1,500,000 pounds per square inch at temperatures above 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

One thing that makes diamonds so valuable is their extreme hardness. Diamond is the hardest naturally occurring mineral. "A diamond can be used to cut another diamond. The only other material that can scratch a diamond is borazon, an artificial substance first made in 1957," according to *The World Book Encyclopedia*. This hardness is the reason why diamonds, in addition to being dazzling gem stones, are especially useful to industry.

Rarity is another thing that enhances the value of diamonds. They are 120 times rarer than gold. In some places workers must process 250 tons of earth, gravel and rock to find a total weight of only one or two carats* in diamonds.

The value of a diamond depends in large measure on its purity, that is, freedom from flaws such as pores, cracks and spots of uncryallized carbon. The monarch of precious stones comes in many colors, yellow and brown being the most common. But they also turn up red, green, black and sometimes, though rarely, blue. Most rough diamonds have eight sides and are shaped like a double pyramid. Some have twelve, twenty-four or forty-eight sides; others are cube-shaped, with only six sides.

* There are 142 carats to an ounce.

Up from Beneath the Earth

Many diamonds are found in the sand and gravel of stream beds or at seashores. Beneath the earth diamonds are located in funnel-, pipe- or carrot-shaped rock formations called "blue ground" because of its blue, claylike appearance. For centuries India supplied the world with diamonds. But now Africa accounts for about 80 percent of the world's diamond production. Important diamond fields are also located in Russia and South America.

A considerable amount of work goes into extracting diamonds from the earth and preparing them for use by industry or as glittering ornaments. Bulldozers first remove tons of "overburden" in order to get down to the gravel and rocks bearing the diamonds. The material containing the diamonds is then washed in pan plants, leaving a "concentrate." A jet of water moves the concentrate over a sloping, greased table. The stones and gravel slide over the grease, but the diamonds, which are heavier and repel water, stick in it. Because some diamonds are missed in this process, certain persons make their living by buying the waste and sifting through it for small diamonds and chips.

After the diamonds are collected, highly trained men must sort them out. It takes about seven years to train a good diamond sorter, for these precious stones may go into any one of over 2,000 categories, depending upon their size, quality, color and shape.

Diamond Cutting—a Delicate Operation

To bring out a diamond's full capacity to reflect light in a delightful array of colors, experts must cut many little sides, or "facets," on it. The standard "brilliant" cut has fifty-eight facets. As light enters the various facets of this monarch of precious stones and sprays out through its

"table" (the topmost facet), a whole rainbow of colors capture the fascinated eye. With regard to the delicate operation of diamond cutting, the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (1974 edition) points out: "Great skill is necessary at every stage, but especially during faceting, because the angles of the facets must be exact in order to yield maximum brilliancy, and their sizes must be accurately regulated to preserve symmetry."

Before preparation of the facets, large diamonds undergo cleavage into smaller ones. This is an especially ticklish procedure. An expert must first make a careful examination to determine the direction of the crystal's grain; then he marks lines along which it may be split. After this a cleaver cuts a groove along a selected line of cleavage, mounts the diamond in a holder and inserts a steel wedge into the groove. Then there is the tap of a mallet and, if all has been done correctly, the diamond splits in two. But a mistake in the process of cleaving can cause a diamond to shatter, or even explode. How so?

A well-known Belgian diamond cutter explained:

"Sometimes a diamond contains a small pocket of gas held under high pressure. Hit the stone where one of these pockets is located and a very expensive stone explodes and is reduced to powder.

"A few months ago I had a 5½ carat diamond worth 500,000 B[elgian] Fr[ancs] [about \$13,000]. There was an almost undiscernible flaw on the edge of one of its facets and the buyer insisted that it be corrected. Hardly had the stone touched the disk when it exploded into a thousand pieces."

Some Famous Diamonds

Diamonds, as mentioned above, are very rare. So rare, in fact, that during all the centuries that men have looked for them only about 400 large ones have been found. Among these is the famous Cullinan dia-

mond, which, in its rough state, weighed 3,106 carats (about 1½ pounds). This was cut into nine large stones and 96 smaller ones. The Star of Africa, which came from the Cullinan, is still the world's largest cut diamond, weighing 530.2 carats.

The *Koh-i-noor* diamond came into British possession in 1849 after many changes of hands. It weighed 186 carats upon arrival and was thereafter recut to 106 carats. The *Koh-i-noor* was designed for Queen Mary in 1911 and is the central stone of the queen's state crown.

About two centuries ago a person named Tavernier bought a very rare sapphire-blue diamond. This was sold to Louis XIV and cut into a triangular stone weighing 68 carats. It was stolen in 1792, never to show up again. But in 1830 the 44-½-carat *Hope* diamond appeared on the market. Was it cut from the larger one that had belonged to Louis XIV? Many think so.

Some Determined to "Get Rich Quick"

Diamonds have caused greed to well up in the hearts of many, bringing harm to them. A number of natives in Sierra Leone have lost their lives diving to the bottom of the treacherous Sewa River in quest of large diamonds. Many more have perished in tunnel cave-ins. Illegal mining, smuggling and bribery are common where diamonds are to be found.

Some have tried to swindle their customers out of more money by a clever deception. They dip a yellow diamond into a solution of potassium permanganate. This covers it with a purple film that neutralizes the yellow, making it appear colorless, or "white," which draws a higher price on the market than yellow.

A man who left the diamond-digging business after many years to become a full-time minister of Jehovah's witnesses observed: "Digging for diamonds gets hold

of a person like gambling. Most of the time you are on the losing end in time, energy and capital expense, but there is always that unceasing desire and craving to find that elusive 'big one.' "

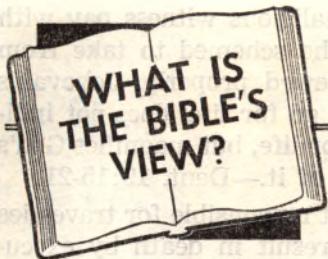
Sometimes problems crop up after one comes into possession of a large diamond. A gemmologist remarked: "Large diamonds and large cars have certain things in common. They are wonderful to own, expensive to insure, and it is difficult to know where to keep them." In the case of a wealthy film star, for example, the insurance policy on her 69.4-carat gem would not allow her to wear it "more than 30 days a year." When she did wear it, two armed guards would accompany her.

Caring for Diamonds

If you own a diamond, be careful not to drop it or strike it against a hard surface. Although diamonds are the hardest of natural minerals, such a blow can cause them to split, shatter or come loose from their setting. Be careful, too, to avoid dumping an uncovered diamond ring, brooch, or earrings into a jewelry box containing other items. It may scratch them.

A diamond can become quite soiled with dirt, grease or cosmetics. But you can keep your diamond bright and shining by giving it a bath from time to time. Sprinkle a few soap flakes along with a dash of ammonia into about two cupfuls of warm water. Then gently scrub the gem, using a soft toothbrush or eyebrow brush. After rinsing in lukewarm water, dip in rubbing alcohol to remove any remaining soap, and dry with tissue paper or a soft cloth. It is best to remove a diamond ring when doing household chores or digging in the garden.

"Among the splendors of Jehovah's natural creation are its 'precious stones,' especially the monarch of them all, the beautiful and useful diamond.—1 Chron. 29:2.



CAPITAL PUNISHMENT —Is It God's Law?

"THE death penalty is NOT God's law," declared a dramatic headline in the Toronto *Star* of January 29, 1971. That was the unequivocal view of the writer, a former moderator of Canada's United Church. For various reasons many religious groups favor abolition of capital punishment. In general, opponents of the death penalty consider it cruel. But advocates believe that it deters crime.

Inescapably, this is an issue charged with emotion, for it involves life, man's most precious possession. Who is best qualified to resolve the matter? Why, the Supreme Life-Giver, Jehovah God. (Ps. 36:9; Isa. 42:5) Surely, Jehovah also has the right to make laws governing his gift of life. Of course, his thoughts and ways are higher than man's. (Isa. 33:22; 55:8) So, at first, one may not fully understand or appreciate God's regulations. Yet, his decrees are not loveless, unfair or faulty.—Jer. 9:24.

It cannot be said that Jehovah is opposed to capital punishment per se, though

he certainly does not approve of all executions. For disobedience to divine law, Adam and Eve suffered the death penalty, as God decreed. (Gen. 2:16, 17; 3:17-19; 5:5) Jehovah executed wrongdoers during the global flood of Noah's day and in wicked Sodom and Gomorrah. (2 Pet. 2:5, 6) Through human authorities in ancient Israel, God sometimes had capital punishment carried out. (Ex. 32:27, 28; Num. 25:1-11) Furthermore, in the coming "great tribulation" Jesus Christ will execute blatant violators of divine law.—2 Thess. 1:6-9.

Human authorities frequently have classed murder as a capital offense. What does God's law say about it? "You must not murder," states one of the Ten Commandments. (Deut. 5:17) The Christian apostle John wrote: "You know that no manslayer has everlasting life remaining in him." (1 John 3:15; Rev. 21:8) When emotionally moved, perhaps by sensational journalism, some may feel that execution of wanton killers is cruel. But cannot the same be said of their violent acts that deprive others of life? Often, too, 'the murderer slays the afflicted and the poor one.' (Job 24:14) And while mere sentiment is not the basis of all judgment in these matters, who can ignore the grief of the bereaved?

Surely, the all-wise Life-Giver weighed every essential factor when he originally stated his immutable law involving murder and capital punishment. To survivors of the earth-wide deluge, and with the entire human family in mind, Jehovah declared: "Your blood of your souls shall I ask back... Anyone shedding man's blood, by man will his own blood be shed, for in God's image he made man."—Gen. 9:1, 5, 6.

The Supreme Law-Giver thereby authorized the exercise of human authority in executing murderers. By putting such criminals to death, governmental authority acts as "God's minister, an avenger to express wrath upon the one practicing what is bad." (Rom. 13:1, 3, 4) Of course, this does not give unauthorized persons the right to 'take the law into their own hands' and violently do away with a manslayer.

While considering deliberate murder a capital offense, God's law to Israel made provision for merciful treatment

of the unintentional manslayer. He was granted safety within one of the nation's cities of refuge, but only after responsible men had determined that the death was accidental. The unintentional manslayer was not imprisoned, but was required to do useful work that benefited himself and others.—Num. 35:9-34.

Jehovah's law given to the Israelites also required capital punishment for criminal negligence and certain acts of wrongdoing that were extremely injurious physically, mentally and spiritually. God thus showed loving concern for the people in general. If adhered to, his regulations would have elevated Israel above pagan nations, steeped in such corrupt practices as incest, sodomy and bestiality. (Ex. 21:29; Lev. 18:6-30; 20:10-23) Capital punishment removed grossly immoral wrongdoers from the scene and with them the possibility that they might cause others to follow them into degradation. Furthermore, execution of wanton killers prevented their depriving still others of life.

Some may ask, "Does capital punishment really deter crime?" God, who knows well the makeup of man, says it does. Concerning the apostate, we are told: "You must stone him with stones, and he must die, because he has sought to turn you away from Jehovah your God . . . Then all Israel will hear and become afraid, and they will not do anything like this bad thing again."—Deut. 13:6-11.

Occasionally, human authorities have executed persons unjustly for trivial acts of wrongdoing. For this, worldly governments must bear responsibility before the "Judge of all the earth." (Gen. 18:25) Also, at times the innocent have been put to death. For instance, Israel's Queen Jezebel saw to it that Naboth was falsely accused of cursing God and the king. So, he was executed for something he did not do. (1 Ki. 21:1-16) But God's just law re-

quired that a malicious witness pay with the very thing he schemed to take from the accused. Viewed properly, Jehovah's decree that 'life go for life' does not indicate disregard for life, but magnifies God's high evaluation of it.—Deut. 19:15-21.

Jehovah is not responsible for travesties of justice that result in death by execution, for he is just. (Deut. 32:4; Isa. 40:14) Moreover, he can resurrect the hapless victim of unmerited capital punishment at the hands of human authorities. (Acts 24:15) The Romans imposed the death penalty on two thieves impaled alongside Jesus Christ. While robbery itself was not a capital offense according to the Mosaic law, one of these evildoers acknowledged, "We are receiving in full what we deserve for things we did." That wrongdoer asked Jesus to remember him when in Kingdom power, and Christ promised, "You will be with me in Paradise." He thus assured that criminal of a resurrection in the future earthly paradise. (Luke 23:32-43; Matt. 27:38) Of course, Jehovah shall decide whether specific individuals suffering the death penalty through the centuries will be resurrected.

We must conclude, then, that capital punishment for deliberate murder was part of divine law that applies to all mankind. In ancient Israel, when God's decrees were followed strictly and the death penalty was justly imposed for certain serious crimes, this was not due to the cold, cruel whim of a loveless deity. Capital punishment served as a deterrent to crime and was a protection for the people. And we know that Jehovah is neither unaware nor insensitive to any abuse of human authority in imposing the death penalty. Happily, Christians can also look to this God of love and mercy to bring about earthly conditions wherein death—and eventually the need to inflict capital punishment—will be no more.—Isa. 25:8, 9.



Religion and World Crises

❖ How do secular leaders view religious interference in programs to combat the crises facing mankind? Derek Davies, editor of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, told a "Population and Economics" seminar audience in Hong Kong that "the time for intellectual debate, for gentle persuasion, has come and gone." He said that "the problem has reached such proportions that governments cannot afford to preserve the people's freedom of choice. Direct official sanctions against large families are regrettably necessary now." Citing as examples the Moslem 'right' to four wives and refusal to eat pork, Hindu veneration of the cow, and the Catholic stand on birth control, he asserted: "Many years ago, the civil governments . . . should have begun the process of over-riding the archaic laws and morality structures erected by the world's major religions. . . . we must use what tools we have in a war which we cannot afford to have limited by archaic religious laws and by the theology of celibates."

Governments in Crisis

❖ All nine presidents and prime ministers of the European Common Market have changed at least once during the past year and a half. Ad-

ditionally, governments have toppled or experienced crises in Canada, Australia, Japan, India, Israel, Portugal, Iceland, Ethiopia and Niger. "The generalized collapse of so many incumbent governments is real enough and cries out for some rational hypothesis to account for it," editorializes the Washington *Star-News*. "At this point, however, there is no convenient and tidy theory to explain the unprecedented political upheaval," it adds.

'Irresponsible Society'

❖ "The days are gone when docile workers in Europe accepted a certain degree of self-discipline and moderation in the hopes of speeding economic recovery," says one of Europe's leading economists. A German analyst believes that a demanding "society of irresponsible men" is emerging, while government ability to satisfy them is shrinking. And a European specialist on social economy forecasts that "all of these problems could suddenly join together and push Western countries toward authoritarian rule. . . . because the sense of responsibility, the kind of civic spirit that made democracy and free enterprise work so successfully after World War II, are being lost."

The "Real Plague"

❖ Europe's business magazine *Vision* says that the crises dominating newspaper headlines "have masked one of the real plagues of industrial Europe: absenteeism." Sweden's projected absentee rate of 400,000 per day for 1975 is nearly four times that of 1960! Those reporting "sick" in West Germany nearly tripled from 1966 to 1972, to 11 percent. Italy's absenteeism tripled, to 15 percent, during the same period! *Vision* notes that "a large percentage of 'illness' is curiously benign," as indicated by the "number of 'sick' people who attend a midweek football match, picnic, go shopping or fill the betting-shops on most afternoons."

Clerical Alcoholics

❖ An Adrian Dominican nun, Therese Golden, campaigns against the alcoholism and drug addiction plaguing U.S. religious orders. She says that, though about 10 percent of social drinkers develop alcoholism, the National Clergy Council on Alcoholism estimates that "Among the clergy, this rate increases to one out of every eight or nine." She asserts that the pressure on nuns to live up to their 'mythical image' produces tensions that cause a 'tragically high percentage to choose alcohol or [prescription] drugs' for relief. Longer-than-usual treatment periods for alcoholic nuns are required, she says, because "the frightening discrepancy between this image and the reality of her alcoholism is extremely hard to reconcile."

Oil Crisis—Plus and Minus

❖ About a fourth of those who would have died in U.S. auto accidents during the first part of 1974 are still alive, thanks to reduced speed limits since the oil crisis, says the National Center for Health Statistics. On the other hand, bicycle deaths are up well

over a third since the beginning of the energy crisis, according to a Department of Transportation panel. The number of bicycles sold annually has quadrupled since 1960. The panel recommended that highway planners consider cyclists when designing roads.

Methodists on "the Road"

◆ The new 1974 *Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches* reports that most of the large mainline Protestant denominations are losing membership. United Methodist Church (UMC) Bishop W. McFerrin Stowe warned: "If we go on the way we're going, the road we'll be going won't be the road to God, but the road to hell." He lashed out at church leaders for not providing moral leadership when "the hungry sheep are looking up and not being spiritually fed."

Religion and Famine

◆ What has the Ethiopian Orthodox Church been doing to help her hungry millions? After five weeks in the area, Martin Walker, columnist for England's *The Guardian*, writes: "Drought or no drought, the church, owning one-third of all the land, has demanded its rents from the impoverished peasants. . . . The peasant farmers . . . have paid about 90 percent of their crops in rents and taxes." Walker's report, as published in the *New York Times Magazine*, said that a provincial governor "persistently refused to distribute any of the aid food until every last bushel of his own harvest had been sold at three times the normal price. . . . The Governor had been donating \$500 a month to the church, and the priest had threatened the townsfolk with mass excommunication if they attacked the Governor."

Wheat Disappointment

◆ "At a time when buyers all over the world are looking to

Canada's prairies as a source of badly needed wheat, it now appears that this year's crop will be no better than average at best," reports the *New York Times*. Heavy snow, then rains delayed seeding. The crop is expected to be as much as 20 percent lower than last year. Canada exports about four fifths of its wheat.

"Most Deadly Drug"

◆ Dr. Robert Dupont, director of the U.S. National Institute of Drug Abuse, classed tobacco with heroin as a hard-to-control addiction. He branded it "probably the most deadly drug in our society. . . . People who use cigarettes have the same problem as heroin users," in that they have great difficulty exercising self-control over their problem.

Shocking Comparison

◆ Simon Winchester, writing in Britain's *The Guardian* about the shocking murder rate in Detroit, Michigan, provides a European perspective for Americans: "This year alone Detroit, which has almost exactly the same numbers as Ulster [Northern Ireland], will casually eliminate 850 of its citizens; and in 1975, there is little doubt, it will kill 1,000, the same number as in that hugely publicised tragedy in Ireland, but in one-fifth the time."

"Human Kindness Day"

◆ Annual "Human Kindness Day" festivities on the grounds of the Washington Monument in the U.S. capital ended in "rock and bottle throwing, looting of concession stands and beatings as a crowd which had numbered in the tens of thousands turned angry," reports a United Press dispatch. Earlier a free concert, dancing and celebrities began the festivities, but after many attending "smoked marijuana and drank liquor," the crowd became unruly. "We

have had police officers assaulted with rocks and stones and surrounded, and rescued by other officers," said the U.S. Park Police captain.

'Astounding' Tornadoes

◆ End to end, the paths of more than 90 tornadoes that struck the U.S. in just one day last April would extend over an astounding 2,000 miles, compared with 5,300 miles for all the record year 1973. Tornado expert Dr. Tetsuya T. Fujita says there is no other outbreak in recorded history that compares. In the aftermath, a grateful victim wrote Tennessee's *Louisville Courier-Journal* that, among those who helped, "outstanding were those Jehovah's Witnesses who came with their crews of men equipped with chain saws and trucks early Thursday morning to assist. . . . These men are skilled in the building business but left their jobs to offer their services free of charge. They worked with such organized precision that onlookers seemed astounded."

"Water-witching" Dangers

◆ Locating water by means of sticks, rods or pendulum devices is called "dowsing" or "water witching." A letter recently printed in Ohio's *Buckeye Farm News* calls attention to a letter from the president of the American Society of Dowsers. He took exception to an article in *The Watchtower* that linked dowsing with spiritism and that recommended abstinence from the practice. However, he did acknowledge: "The point of the article is, perhaps, well taken. We agree with the theory that dowsing is a form of ESP and that engaging in any form of ESP can lead to 'possession' or the involvement with wicked spirit forces, unless precautions are taken."

Appearance and Travel

◆ "American visitors can be jailed for up to life in Tan-

zania for wearing miniskirts or tight trousers, wigs or long hair," says a United Press International report. Scanty shorts for women, also tight dresses and some kinds of makeup, and bell-bottom slacks for men are also illegal since last October. In Uganda, visitors with hippie-type clothing and hairstyles are refused entry or are detained until they correct the violations. Men with long hair and women wearing miniskirts or pants can get into Libya and Saudi Arabia only if they get a haircut or change clothes. Singapore does not tolerate long hair on men.

Witch Doctors and Sports

◆ Kenyan sportswriter Hezekiah Wepukhulu estimates that 90 percent of that country's leading football (soccer) clubs hire witch doctors to

help win games. He says: "Sometimes before a match, soccer teams will picket the stadium to prevent their opponents from bewitching the field. . . . players will avoid the official gate in case a spell has been placed there. . . . Balls suspected of containing charms have been split open during a game." East Africa's best known sports charmer Shariff Omar wrote offering to cast spells for England's team to ensure a World Cup victory. He asserted that "they ignored it and paid dearly for it" when they lost.

Drink to Death

◆ Two Florida men settled their long-standing argument about whose drinking capacity was greater—permanently. After a contest in which each consumed between a quart and a quart and a half of gin in

less than an hour, both died within two days. Doctors said that that amount of alcohol was "more than enough to be fatal," able to cause death by paralyzing the heart or respiration, or causing the brain to swell.

"Feeling-Heart Dogs"

◆ The psychiatric unit of the Ohio State University Hospitals has apparently successfully treated 18 schizophrenic patients by adding "feeling-heart dogs" to the usual therapy. The patients were allowed to play with experimental dogs housed on the same floor in the hospital, and were observed by a videotape camera. "The pet seemed to add a great deal to the development of a humanizing atmosphere on the ward," says the director of the experiment.

