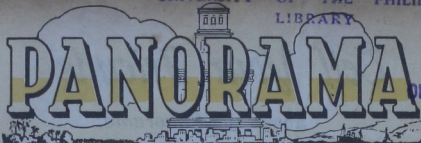


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THE PHILIPPINE MAGAZINE OF GOOD READING

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## EDUCATION FOR A HUMAN SOCIETY

Our educational ideals these days are expressed in the phrase "marketable skills". But entirely apart from the inability of the educational system to keep up with the market and forecast what skills it will buy, and entirely apart from the inefficiency of vocational training in school as compared with that on the job, the idea of producing marketable skills is ignoble and degrading for an educational system. It is an ideal that seduces the system into doing what it cannot and should not do and that forces it to neglect what it can and should do.

What education can and should do is help people become human. The object of education is not manpower, but *manhood*. This object we are now able to attain. We can now make the transition from a working to a learning society. . . . The man who is truly educated, rather than narrowly trained, is ready for anything. He has developed his human powers and is able to use them and his understanding of the world to meet any new problem he has to face. He is prepared by his education to go on learning. . . .

The democratic society is the *learning society par excellence*. . . . The law, the professions, the voluntary associations to which we belong, the political campaigns through which we suffer — all the institutions in our society should be regarded as teachers. Through them, as well as through the educational system, we can learn how to become human and how to organize a human society. — *By Robert M. Hutchins, Saturday Review.*

## FILIPINOS IN AMERICA

The popular columnist of the Manila Bulletin, Rex D. Drilon, published a diary of a student which runs as follows:

"A group of prominent Filipinos arrived today in New York City (date omitted) and the first thing they whispered was, 'Where can we get women around here? Evidently they came without their wives, and this question was quite standard for government and non-government people. Everybody was doing it, and every Filipino old-timer was helping. The motto seemed to be 'Women first before duty'.

"We were in a class of 50 taking a course on Plato's Republic. The American students were very articulate, and one of us four Filipinos did not like to be outshone. He began to be so irrepresible that he talked and gesticulated every day, almost

monopolizing the discussion. Three of us Filipinos squirmed in our seats because every American student was looking at us politely quizzically. The American professor was very kind and every time the Filipino star talked and rent the air with his two arms, the teacher would nod and say, 'Yes, yes; I see; of course, yes; yes, indeed . . .' It went on for a month — this drama of the Filipino talking and the professor accommodating. At last the professor said to one of us three Filipinos, 'Mr. So-and-So, I would like to see you after class'. When the students had filed out of the room, the kindly professor asked, 'What was your countryman trying to say all this time?' From that time on we never opened our mouth because while we thought we were speaking English, no one, especially the professor, really understood the way we impart the king's language.

"At the International House in New York City, we were asked to see a program of international cultures. Every nation contributed a number, and the applause was great except for ours. The Filipino group contributed 'Tinikling' with the usual barefeet and rolled-up pants. A Negro from Ghana exclaimed in glee, 'This is exactly one kind of dance we have in Africa'. We disappeared presto from the crowd and muttered, 'So, we are no better than the Africans!'

"In places on the U.S. west coast where Orientals congregate in great numbers, the

Americans have a hard time distinguishing the Chinese from the Japanese, and these from the Filipinos. At last they (Americans) hit upon one unerring behavior among these Orientals that guided them. The formula: 'If you bump against an Oriental and he stops and bows and slinks away, he is a Chinese. If you bump against an Oriental and he stops and bows low and says 'I am sorry', he is a Japanese. But if you bump against an Oriental and he looks at you fiercely and hits you in the jaw, that is unmistakably a Filipino!"

## THE BARBER

Close shave: A corporal back from furlough told about visiting his local barber shop, only to find a new barber had taken over. There was also a pretty manicurist whom he had never seen before. So he asked for a manicure. During the course of the clipping he suggested a dinner and a show to the manicurist.

"I don't think I ought to," she said demurely. "I'm married, you see."

"Ask your husband," the corporal suggested, "I'm sure he wouldn't mind."

"Ask him yourself," returned the manicurist. "He's shaving you." — *Broadcaster.*

## A THIRD POLITICAL PARTY IN THE PHILIPPINES

A student, during a college examination for creative thinking, wrote that he preferred that the Third Force start fielding their candidates for "maybe next elections." But if they start now — as they have already done — and they fail, this "would certainly be a good lesson for the coming generation that 'haste is waste'" and teach us that "the big things always begin small."

This answer is part of an analysis made to answer an examination question. The problem allowed a choice of agreement or disagreement with the Third Force's decision to join the presidential race and for the rest of the elective posts. If the student agreed, he was asked to suggest ways to improve winning chances; if he disagreed to suggest what role or activities the Third Force should undertake for better government.

Eighteen students approved of the Third Force's election bid, and thirteen disapproved. Most of the 31 students, however, whether they approved or not of the Third Force's election plans, warned against "campaign dirt" — name-calling, empty words, destructive criticism, unsupported charges, impossible or false promises, and so on, including attacks on either the Nacionalista party or the Liberal party. Three students expressed distaste over publicity and wrote that the Third Force members should avoid being in the limelight.

Those who supported the Third Force bid generally agreed on more publicity and on a program of promoting "economic prosperity, social values, increased food production." For the campaign several suggested listing problems and evaluating what has been done about them, starting projects that will

"impress," and living among the rural folk to attend to farmers' problems. To accomplish these, according to the students, the following must be done:

1. Organize a club among the poor and needy.
2. Introduce ways of earning a living like home industries.
3. Undertake projects like establishing more public libraries, and more toilets; improving the railway system, and providing adequate water supply.
4. Create a committee to "check up on the work of government officials."
5. Become ideal leaders in their own families and communities. Do not tolerate show-off sons. Present a public statement of assets. Participate in anti-smuggling campaign.

Among those who disappointed, the general opinion is that the Third Force has a "very slim chance" of winning, and that "it's a waste of time." They also feel that the Third Force has to prove itself and its motives. This is very significant as it reflects now the thought be-

hind the many quips that the PPP has drawn. We may recall that the PPP convention has been called a U.P.-Ateneo alumni homecoming, an oratorical contest, and a launching pad for the presidential ambitions of Senators Manahan and Manglapus .

So what would our students have the Third Force do? Analyzing its membership, one student wrote that with the Third Force's "brains, financial resources, and social prominence," it can work toward "economic and industrial stability — help by suggesting ways and financing." Another wrote that if its activities are directed toward civic, cultural, and economic projects, "we can imagine how much work they can do." Two students suggested that the Third Force could be the "medium for the voice of the people to be heard." However, someone approved of at least having candidates for the minor posts to start off being "in." Afterward, as another student put it, "they may reap the crop for the next harvest — that is during the next elections."

The civic, cultural, and

economic projects suggested include the following:

1. Promotion of peaceful and orderly elections. Creation of a 12-man committee to assist the Commission on Elections.
2. Charity work.
3. Cleanliness and beautification campaign.
4. Development of patriotism.
5. Exchange of opinions with people.
6. Encouragement for the use of the "mind to invent."

Item "5" could be a warning bell to the Third Force. A party that to speak for the people should avoid indulgence in oratory and sloganeering. The other suggestions reveal much of the temper of the young: they want action — drab and unglamorous and hard but concrete. It may be an anonymous and thankless job, but as one student suggested, the Third Force may join the "party of lesser

evil" and "reform the party from within." That takes some doing, indeed, than running for president.

From both sides we may infer that our young are looking for new leadership which can direct a shift in the practice of political craftsmanship. They are looking for a positive outlook where cooperation takes the place of the current trend to downgrade in order to rise to top government positions. The students do not go with the idea that government can be improved by running for election.

The impression has now probably grown among these students that the Third Force is nothing more than a group out to perpetrate the image of the Outstanding Young Man out to Revolt Against Tradition by becoming president or vice president. What hopes therefore could we hold out for that much-vaunted deviation from the NP and the LP? — *Perla S. Dee.*



- The Philippines and the Filipinos need to observe some national discipline.

## BANKRUPTCY IN THE COUNTRY

Sigus are galore of bankruptcy in the Philippines. Whether it is a moral bankruptcy, a political one, a social one, an economic or otherwise, it is bankruptcy just the same. Many respectable elements of our people seem to be jumping on the bandwagon for merry time.

Let us mention known cases of levity and decadence. Smuggling is rampant and uncontrolled; dishonesty or cheating in bar and other government examinations; payment by applicants to police recruitment office for qualifying as majors or patrolmen; textiles unloaded and deposited at the wharf or goods and merchandise consigned to importers disappear at the Custom House; technical smuggling by grossly undervaluing imports; warrant of arrest for harassment; hush money or grease money from Chinese Immigration Quota; blackmarketing of donated foods and

drugs from abroad; hick-backs in government contracts for building materials or in reparation materials; bribery at City Hall; the short-lived or "ningas cogon" enthusiasm that spelled the doom of such worthwhile projects of tilapia and mushroom culture projects — these are but concrete examples of our moral bankruptcy and decadence.

One of the weaknesses of our people — a great many of our leaders — is the apparent inability to distinguish our *needs* from our *greeds*. There is the challenge to re-orient or re-direct our educational system — the national leaders included — to the end that a new set of values be evolved. There is something wrong with our moral fiber. We are building unless arrested early enough a new fetish and cult, a cult of materialism and material gain at the expense of decency and bonos

mores. A name is no longer cared, and honor is no longer protected. What has become of the national backbone that has produced a galaxy of Filipino heroes of the caliber and stature of Rizal, Mabini, del Pilar, the Lunas, Bonifacio, Quezon and Osmeña? If leaders we look up to with pride and honor could not be exemplary in conduct and demeanor, by what tokens could not expect the rank and file to surpass them (leaders). The common saying, "the river could not rise higher than its source" is applicable.

It is time that we take

stock of ourselves. While everything is not lost although things as they are, are depressing, the situation is not hopeless. It is about high time to initiate a program of individual and national discipline. As people we compare with other races in ability. But truth to admit, we lag behind in assessment of moral values. Here is where our schools and school system could initiate definite and aggressive steps for improvements of our national character by starting anew and aright with the children in their fold and tutelage. — *Antonio F. Ascaño.*

## EVALUATING STUDENT COMPETENCE

Colleges, like industrial enterprises, should continually evaluate their product — their seniors. To do so they must use techniques similar to what industry calls quality control. The qualities to be measured should grow, in part, directly out of the material each college has to work with, its own objectives and its resources for learning. Each institution, and the schools and departments within it, should stand educationally for more than a specified accumulation of course credits and the pious platitudes found in the catalogue and the speeches of the president and deans. — *by John A. Perkins, Saturday Review, 9/65.*

## THAT MAN IN SINGAPORE

One day in September, 1965, the Prime Minister of Singapore — a brash, brilliant young man who has been, in spite of the separation, the thorn in the Tunku's side — called reporters to his make-do office in Singapore's City Hall.

Singapore is the tiny island-city-state south of the peninsula of Malaya. About the size of Basilan, it's small, compact, and prosperous.

Singapore's Prime Minister is Lee Kuan Yew, 42. His credentials are: a double first in Cambridge ("Something better than a summa cum laude," admirer gushed), a way with words and a cutting wit, a revolutionary background (he once worked hand in glove with the communists), and a commitment to democratic socialism.

If Lee Kuan Yew has been the thorn in the Tunku's side, he was now going to be, for a number of days, the thorn in Uncle Sam's flesh.

Lee Kuan Yew had been on the front pages of just about every newspaper in the world as a result of his disclosures on the CIA of U.S.A. In the course of a press conference, at the moment, on the huge British base in now-independent Singapore, Lee had said:

"Now, I want to be quite frank with you here. If the British withdraw I am prepared to go on with the Australians and the New Zealanders. But, I am not prepared to go on with the Americans." I shall quote from the transcript:

Creighton Burns, of *The Melbourne Age*: Why not, Mr. Prime Minister? Why do you think the Americans. . .

Prime Minister: Can I put it this way: I think they are a highly intelligent, often well-meaning, people, and some of their leaders like Mr. Kennedy, the late Pres-

ident, had signs of growing greatness, depth. But, by and large, the administration lacks depth and judgment or wisdom which comes out of an accumulation of knowledge of human beings and human situations over a long period of time. That is lacking, and it is not their fault. What have they got? Three, four hundred years of history, and they have become a nation just recently. I will tell you this. I have had three experiences, only three experiences, with the Americans. And, they did not intend any harm in each one of them. But, the tragedy was, they did real harm. First — this is old stuff now — we caught an American CIA agent trying to subvert our Intelligence Special Branch Officer, bribe him, so that the Special Branch officer will feed the CIA because the CIA wants to know what is happening. Subverting a Singapore officer! The man might have succeeded. But I am proud the officer, offered a large sum of money and continuing sums of money . . . this was in 1960 . . . refused and reported the mat-

ter to his chief who reported it to me.

Questioner: Well, don't you think . . .

Prime Minister: No, no. Let me explain. The British have 400 years of Empire, and I will come to that. This is crucial to the whole of my thinking on this. Four hundred years of Empire, and they know this place, and they know human beings. If it had been the Americans in charge, I think today I would not be here, and you would not be interviewing me. Because, they lack what one calls wisdom, i.e. a computer fed with data, judgment which comes out of long experience. I will tell you this. Trying to do that! I told my officers, "Lay a trap: microphones, everything." The man was caught, arrested, enough evidence to send him to gaol for anything up to 12 years. We had got them by the throat. The American Consul-General, shaking at his knees, knew nothing about it. And, I really believe he knew nothing about it because this man flew in from Bangkok. And, the ignominy of it! He

was not really trying. The man was looking for a place of assignation to seek comfort. Do you get confidence in an outfit like that? That is how the Bay of Pigs takes place, that sort of an operation. The man was caught, locked up, and it was on a razor's edge whether we would charge him in open court or not. Now, let me explain this. And, I told the American government, "We keep quiet, you take this man away, \$100 million to the Singapore government for economic development."

Questioner: Now . . .

Prime Minister: No, no. You listen to me. I never spoke to the Americans direct because they lack the finesse. They may say, "Yes, give it to you. Why to the Singapore government? Give it to you." to me, which would have ruined me. But through an intermediary they offered me and my Party \$10 million. The insult! I told them, "You can keep it." But I will say this for President Kennedy: that he said no, his government would give me, if I wanted, publicly, but not because I

got him by the throat. No, no. I will say this for Kennedy — I don't know if they have got other Kennedys coming; even Kennedy didn't have the full maturity. In the end, I decided to release the man because if I charged him, the damage it would have done with our relations with Kuala Lumpur then — we wanted merger, Malaysia, we fought for it — and Americans would have worked on Kuala Lumpur and we would have been so antagonistic, merger and Malaysia would have broken. They probably never knew why we released the man. We just said, "O.K., get out," And the Consul-General, who was a Rhodes scholar, I have forgotten his name now — they sent a Rhodes scholar. They thought, a bit of the English polish on him, and he can get on. Well, he resigned — or, he left, anyway. They sent a new man. That is when Mr. Gillstrap came. That is experience No. 1.

Now, let me explain this to you. It is fundamental. If the British bases go, there will be no American bases in Singapore. This is a mat-

ter of the utmost importance for Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and for America to understand that.

Second traumatic experience: etc. etc.

The U.S. government had, as expected, denied the existence of such an incident.

Lee Kuan Yew now was calling in the reporters to make public a letter of apology from Dean Rusk, the U.S. secretary of state — a document confirming that there had, indeed, been such a scandal.

"I have never lied in my public life," Lee Kuan Yew said. "If the Americans stupidly go on denying the undeniable, I shall play the tape on Radio Singapore.

Before him on a table lay red lined yellow folder marked "Top Secret" — "the complete file," wrote Jackie Sam of the Straits Times, "on the CIA agent who came from Bangkok in 1960, and tried to buy over a Singapore Special Branch officer to keep him supplied with information, for which he was prepared to keep on paying."

There was no doubt of it,

Lee Kuan Yew had got the poor chaps by the throat.

Excitement over this incident has died down, but while it simmered, newspapermen had managed to revive stories about CIA intrigue in Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Vietnam, and, supposedly, in the precipitation of the Indian-Pakistan war. Lee Yew, meanwhile, was being projected as the man to watch in Asia, as the new emerging voice in the Afro-Asian block. Sure enough, Kuan Yew was back in the limelight in a few days with a suggestion to form a regional multilateral defense system to replace Western military influence in Asia. It embarrasses Lee Kuan Yew to be reminded that "blonde men with guns are defending Asia." "What to do?" Lee Kuan says. "I have just go to grin and bear it for a while."

The British in Singapore?

"I do not think it is just love and affection for Singapore and sentimental reasons.

"She has got a role to play — to counterbalance with the Americans in Europe. If they play a role here then

they have got more voice about the disposition of affairs in Europe."

Now a member of the UN — one of the tiniest nations to make the club — Singapore makes no bones about its foreign policy.

"You might say it's one of non-alignment." S. Rajaratnam, minister of external affairs, explained, as we sat down in the small ante-room of his City Hall office. Suddenly independent as a result of the so-called "break-away," Singapore's national offices have had to be housed

in city government buildings, which were now being remodelled and repainted to make room for the new set of national officials.

"The less we get involved, avoiding entanglements on issues of no direct concern to us, the better. The politics of small nations need not be based on the assumption that your friends are my friends, or your enemies, our enemies . . . Now in cases of mutual interest, that would be different. We modify the basic line." — *Jose Luna Castro in the Manila Times, Oct. 12, 1965.*

### **THE LETTER OF APOLOGY FROM DEAN RUSK, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE**

Dear 'Mr. Prime Minister:

I am deeply distressed to learn that certain officials of the United States Government have been engaged in improper activities in Singapore. I want you to know that I regret very much that this unfortunate incident has occurred to mar the friendly relations that exist between our Governments. The new Administration takes a very serious view of this matter and intends to review the activities of these officials for disciplinary action.

Sincerely yours,  
Dean Rusk

## EYES THAT NEVER TIRE

In a factory just outside Pittsburg stands a giant press which towers 35 feet in the air. It has massive jaws between which heavy steel plates crinkle as if they were made of tissue paper.

Vicious as this mechanical monster looked to me as I watched it at work, the men who operated it did so in perfect safety, for at various parts of the press narrow beams of light traced out the danger line. The instant a man's hand might cross this beam of light, the press would stop dead in its tracks, thanks to the magic of untiring "electric eyes" or phototubes. It was almost impossible for an operator to get hurt around this machine.

This practical application of the phototube or "electric eye" is an example of one of the many thousands of amazing services rendered by this mechanical servant of man. In our industrial plants alone, tiny, gadget-like elec-

trical eyes are credited with preventing numerous accidents each year.

No doubt most persons have encountered some of the modern phototube at one time or another. For example, the entrances to many modern office buildings are equipped with electric-eye operated doors which open with uncanny precision as one approaches them. Phototubes are the magic "elevator men" behind the scenes in self-operated elevators frequently used in hospitals. Without them the express elevators in skyscrapers would never hit the floor level "on the button" each time. Without them the colors in the rotogravure supplements of the Sunday newspapers would not come out even. And if you have ever bent over a water fountain for a drink and the water jumped up at you like a miniature geyser without warning, it was because in



the act of bending you started an electric eye into action.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about the "electric eye" is its versatility. It is being used to sort out all kinds of items — defective beans, oranges, apples, buttons, cigars, or what have you, at a phenomenal rate. If you have noticed that you no longer land on solid "rock" occasionally while munching on a peanut bar, it is because the peanuts used in making candy bars are now scanned by phototubes to catch any stray bits of stone or other impurity which may get by a visual inspection of the peanuts.

One manufacturer of small gears, bolts, and nuts by means of the new molding processes of power metallurgy uses the phototubes to count out more than 50,000 molded parts per minute. Producers of small unit items like cigarettes, matches or jelly beans can count their day's production accurately and automatically with the aid of electronic counters.

Working as they do with the speed of light, phototubes can match fabrics or

false teeth according to shade, fill gingerale or milk bottles to an exact level, count the number of persons going in and out of the New York Public Library, or any other public building, or take a tally of the traffic through the Holland tunnel or over the Golden Gate Bridge. Fruit growers have found that electric eyes are tireless inspectors. They have used them to sort fruit into nearly uniform sizes, as well to sift out the occasional "bad" apple, lemon, orange or grapefruit.

Scientists use phototubes day in and day out to determine the vitamin contents of certain foods in a jiffy. Using an instrument called a photoelectric colorimeter, a research chemist is able to determine how much iron is present in spinach or how much sulfur in an egg yolk in a matter of a few minutes. An instrument, known by the alarming name spectrophotometer, uses electric eyes which are capable of picking out and grading two million different shades of color! The very best the sharpest-eyed human being can do is

to detect about ten thousand different shades.

Electric eyes are the most sensitive instruments known to man. Recently, I saw them at work in a steel mill rolling 15-ton ingots of red hot steel back and forth between huge rollers as casually as I used to roll my own cigarettes.

In another sheet metal plant I saw phototubes acting as master eye-detectives, finding minute holes in a continuous tin sheet rolling machine. Not only would they pick out the holes in the thin metal sheeting, the kind your favorite canned foods come in, but they would also operate mechanisms to mark the spot of the defect! Thousands of dollars are saved in this way each year by eliminating food spoilage in what would otherwise be defective tin cans.

In textile mills fabrics are shuttled out with the indispensable assistance of phototubes. If a thread breaks, the weaving or knitting machine is stopped in a flash.

Television and the transmission of pictures by wire are made possible by means

of electric eye devices. The pictures carried to a television screen come in millions of pieces, pieces which are put together by electric eyes in a systematic manner.

Probably one of the most interesting future uses for phototubes which I have run across is the recent prediction by Dr. Irving Langmuir, the famous General Electric, Nobel Prize winner. According to Dr. Langmuir, it is possible that some day a machine will be constructed which will be a super-Goldberg contraption. Using a battery of phototubes, this instrument will be able to scan a fruit tree and direct mechanical pickers to apples, oranges, or pears, which are of the desired degree of ripeness. The mechanical pickers could pick fruit of a predetermined size and color, and drop it gently into waiting containers!

In Philadelphia bakery electric eyes control the high speed saws which slice the bread, and also the automatic wax paper wrapping machines. In Boston similar devices insure uniform stropping of safety razor blades. One of the most effective

anti-burglary set-ups ever invented is on the job in many New York banks. Here electric eyes are so set up as to help a hidden camera take a snapshot of a burglar as he prowls about a safe. At some of our smaller airports, electric eyes will turn on floodlights automatically should a plane be forced to make an emergency landing in the dark of night.

One of the most practical applications of phototubes was demonstrated to me recently at a Chicago electronics exhibit. There I saw a new electronic "seeing-eye" being offered as an amazing substitute for the seeing-eye dog. This new instrument proffers to do for the blind what electronic hearing aids do for the deaf.

Although the electric eye got its start as a gadget more than 50 years ago, it has since proven its worth, and its future today is more promising than ever before. Here, indeed, is an invention which men have put to good use. This mysterious electronic tool alleviates routine burdens and substitutes safety where once only danger and death lurked. That there is no end in sight for its usefulness as an untiring servant of man is demonstrated by the opinion of one electronics engineer who told me, "It has been estimated that electric eyes have at least 100,000 uses. Fifty years from now I predict they will have 200,000 uses." — *By O. A. Battista, from American Mercury.*

## LEADERSHIP

Leadership in a democratic society does not mean the exercise of control and direction of a group of followers or of a section of the country. It is recognition of consensus and stimulating that consensus into a final and concrete objective.

## CHRISTIAN STRENGTH

Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-1375) ranks among the great names in Italian literature. One of the world's great books is his *Decameron*, a collection of prose tales which greatly enriched the literature and language. In *The Conversion in Rome*, he tells about a rich merchant, Jeannot de Seigny, who lived in Paris in close friendship with a Jew, a respectable merchant whose name was Abraham. Impressed by the integrity and honesty of this Jew and concerned with the salvation of Abraham's soul, Jeannot tried to convert him to the Christian truth. Overcome by Jeannot's persistence, Abraham decided to go to Rome to see the one who "represents God on Earth" and to learn about the way of life of the cardinals.

From all that Abraham saw, he soon learned about the corruption reigning in Rome — the addiction to sensual pleasure. There was

not piety, no devotion, nothing praiseworthy. Jeannot had no hope that his friend would become a Christian. To his great surprise, Abraham upon his return home declared that, although he found in Rome only evil, nothing in the world would keep him from adopting the Christian religion. He gave this reason for his conversion:

"As it appears to me, your Lord Bishop and consequently all others, too, are trying hard to disgrace the Christian religion and blot it out from this world; whereas they should be its foundation and pillars. But since they are not succeeding in their aspiration, for your religion gains more ground daily, and shines ever so bright and pure, my conclusion, which I believe to be right, is that the Holy Ghost Himself must be the basis and support of this religion and that it surpasses all others in truth and holiness." — *Andrew R. Cecil.*

## DESCARTES AND HIS DISCOURSE

Rene Descartes, the French thinker, has been called the founder of modern philosophy. Descartes had given the world a whole new system of reasoning, clearing a way many of the accumulated prejudices of centuries. He was born in 1596, of a prosperous Breton middle-class family. Although he always had a private income, which helped leave him free for his philosophies and scientific studies, he often complained of inadequate means. It was feeling this pinch that set him to writing. But first he studied law and medicine at the University of Poitiers, spent some years in travel about Europe, and even served a term as a volunteer soldier. When he finally decided to take up writing as a profession, he spent nine years in study before he produced his first published work, the "Discourse on Method."

In his day, learned works were nearly always composed in Latin. Descartes broke with tradition by writing the "Discourse" in French. He intended it not merely for scholars, but for the average educated person of his day. The book's unaffected, colloquial style and narrative form make it still easy to read, and it has a warm, personal touch.

Because of this deceptive easiness of style and the fact that the methods of reasoning Descartes recommends are accepted in the main without question today, it is sometimes difficult to keep in mind that in his time he was a startlingly original thinker. For he dared to suggest that an intelligent man should begin his mental processes by doubting everything he has been taught on the subject he wishes to examine.

In Part I of the "Discourse," Descartes makes the

famous statement: "It is not enough to have a good mind; the principal requirement is that we should apply it in the right way." He himself, he adds modestly, has only an average mind, but has had the good fortune in early youth to form a method of thinking which has increased his knowledge step by step and raised it gradually to its highest possible point.

Disillusioned with book learning, Descartes tells how he then turned entirely to practical matters, traveling widely and serving terms in courts and armies, to learn from "the great book of the world."

Finally, he decided to study his own nature. This decision was the result of a kind of revelation, or flash of spiritual insight.

Descartes went about his mental reformation with the precision of a born mathematician. He drew up a set of four rules to steer him by:

1. "The first rule was to accept as true nothing that I did not know to be evidently so; that is to say, to avoid, carefully, precipitancy and

prejudice and to apply my judgment to nothing but that which showed itself so clearly and distinctly to my mind that I should never have occasion to doubt it.

2. "The second was to divide each difficulty, I should examine into as many parts as possible, and as would be required the better to solve it.

3. "The third was to conduct my thoughts in an orderly fashion, starting with what was simplest and easiest to know, and rising little by little to the knowledge of the most complex, even supposing an order where there is no natural precedence among the objects of knowledge.

4. "The last rule was to make so complete an enumeration of the links in an argument, and to pass them all so thoroughly under review, that I could be sure I had missed nothing."

In these four rules Descartes produced a blueprint for the modern scientific approach to investigation of all kinds.

Next, Descartes tells how he applied his method to both geometry and algebra, in order to "correct the de-

fects of the one by the other." The result, known as analytical geometry, is one of Descartes' great contributions to the science of mathematics.

In Part III of the "Discourse" Descartes tells how, in case he should fall into moral error during this time when he was clearing his mind of preconceptions, he formulated a "provisional morality" for himself, based on a few simple maxims. He resolved that he should obey the laws and customs of his country and adhere to the religion he had held since childhood (he was a devout Roman Catholic). He would be firm and resolute in his actions and, once he had made up his mind on a subject, he would adhere to his views strongly. Finally, he would accept the belief that "there is nothing that lies wholly within our power save our thoughts."

During the period of nine years when Descartes was emptying his mind, then refilling it with ideas which he had, by using his own method of analysis, decided were true, he lived in Holland. He deliberately exiled himself so that he could live the soli-

tary life of a man wholly devoted to mental exercises.

In Section IV of the "Discourse" he reveals the foundation on which he built all his new philosophical reasoning — the "Cogito ergo sum."

"As I strove to think of everything as false," he says, "I realized that, in the very act of thinking everything false, I was aware of myself as something real; and observing that the truth: 'I think, therefore I am,' was so firm and so assured that the most extravagant arguments of the sceptics were incapable of shaking it, I concluded that I might have no scruple in taking it as that first principle of philosophy for which I was looking . . . I concluded that I was a substance whose whole essence or nature consists in thinking."

The next step was to examine why he should have doubts; why, in other words, his thinking was not always perfect and, consequently, his nature was not perfect. He came to the conclusion that his sense of doubt and imperfection sprang basically from the fact that somehow he knew, in his innermost

being, what perfection should be — and therefore how far he fell short of it.

This idea of perfection could come to him only from some outside source more perfect than he, Descartes reasoned. Therefore it must come from God. In this fashion, by analysis back to first causes, he proved entirely to his own satisfaction (if not to that of later thinkers) that God does indeed exist, and is the source of all perfection and truth.

Because Descartes was preoccupied with mathematics, and because so many mathematical propositions stood up to the tests of logic he had evolved — and so could be proved to be “true” — it is not surprising that he appears to have thought of God in one sense as the ultimate and sublime mathematician, and that he looked for a mathematical order underlying all creation. This sense of the orderly one-ness of the universe is one of Descartes' significant contributions to Western thought.

He began to write a long treatise to illustrate his mechanistic views, and this he describes briefly in Part V of

the “Discourse.” He tells how he discussed the motions of the heavenly bodies and the nature of inanimate bodies and plants. Using the English physician William Harvey's recent discoveries on the circulation of the blood, Descartes deduces that the heart is a type of machine. Indeed, all living bodies are machines, he says, motivated by mechanical laws. The important difference between man and the rest of the animal kingdom, however, is that man also has an immortal soul, which has an independent existence. In proposing this dualism between body and mind or soul in man, Descartes launched an argument which has continued among European philosophers ever since.

So far, in a few brief pages, Descartes has proposed several new concepts. But now comes the bombshell. In the final, Part VI of the “Discourse” he tells how he has given up all idea of publishing the treatise he has described. It might give offense to certain persons to whose authority he defers, he says. — *T. Van Sommers, from Variety.*



## DOWN WITH MEETINGS

Among its definitions of "meet," my Oxford University Dictionary gives "to encounter or oppose in battle," again "to oppose, cope or grapple with (something impersonal)." Even meeting someone's eye involves the cocky willingness "to submit oneself to his look without turning away," and meeting (n.) sometimes is a euphemism for a duel. In other words, the very etymology of this device for rational discussion and intellectual resolution of problems involves belligerency. Certainly the spate of "emergency" and "prótest" meetings which are routinely called today, of "rallies" and "crusades" launched for this cause or against that one, proves the point.

Yet, despite such an overheated mental climax, not to mention the creature discomforts, The Meeting theoretically composes deep-seated dif-

ferences, works out complex solutions of delicate problems and achieves lasting results by "democratic processes." I submit that this is manifestly impossible on the face of it.

Those who profess to believe that large outpourings of confused citizenry somehow represent democracy in its finest workings often cite as precedent the New England Town Meeting of yesteryear. I, too, feel a proud, nostalgic identification with this Yankee heritage, but let's face it. Like the village green which has become a parking lot, the immemorial elms which have succumbed to blight, the Town Meeting is archaic, and it betrays that ultimate Yankee heritage — common-sense — to pretend otherwise.

Perhaps, though I have some reservations, small groups of neighbors meeting to discuss small and mutual-

ly understood problems such as road work in lieu of taxes could efficiently co-transact business. But that is altogether different from large gatherings of comparative strangers of widely different backgrounds who pass off-the-cuff on technical reports drafted by experts. In this latter instance, The Meeting is far more dangerous than democratic because those with axes to grind can mislead public ignorance and cloak the strange result in a large vote of endorsement.

In some organizations, it is routine parliamentary tactics for rival groups to race to get the first resolution on the floor, the theory being that the first one presented is the first one voted. Among Communist cadres, this trick is worked in reverse. I have seen them filibuster meetings till every normal man has left in disgust for bar or bed, where upon they whip through the party-line resolutions. When I read that some ringing protest has been adopted "in the name of" of this-or-that organization and its presumably outraged membership, I ask myself

two or three questions. How many stayed with it to the vote? How many really knew what they were voting about? How many lacked the moral courage to vote No?

Perhaps I am just a cynical old sinner, but from what I have seen of meetings and the ill temper they engender, the number of "unanimous" votes reported passeth understanding. As an example, I cite a Town Meeting not so long ago in my native Connecticut where this has been a way of government for some 300 years. First, the town clerk forgot her minutes of the previous meeting and delayed everything while she went home for them. Then proponents of zoning were shouted down as they tried to speak, and as always, somebody challenged the very legality of the meeting. A clergyman lost his temper and stalked out, a woman fainted, and a reporter noted wonderingly: "There wasn't a word said in a temperate tone."

This parliamentary fiasco confirms my own youthful newspaper experiences covering Town Meetings around Fairfield, Weston and West-

port where the rich New Yorkers can now outvote the clammers and farmers. Once, I remember, practically the only Democrat in town (at that time) kept 1,000 voters — and me — in session till 1 A.M. by demanding that each individually prove his franchise and submit a written ballot rather than an oral *aye* or *nay*. It was, of course, what we used to call pure swamp-Yankee cussedness, but none of the thoughtful element, including at least one millionaire, could think of any way of outwitting him. So, if the Yankees themselves, after 300 years, can't control their own invention, the fault must lie in the inherent unworkability of The Meeting.

There is, in all meetings, a basically insoluble problem which must be frustrating to the organization leaders, though none of them seems to have thought it through. A small meeting at which issues could be rationally discussed and quickly voted might accomplish something, but it is generally considered a waste of everybody's time, a rebuff to the leader-

ship and an economic extravagance because of the custodial overhead. Success is gauged by "turnout" — and that brings us full circle to the large meeting and all its intellectual frivolity.

Exasperating as the governmental and protest-type meetings are, with all their bickerings, those other meetings which theoretically promote such admirable, if elusive, goals as good fellowship, understanding and peace on earth can be equally trying. In fact, I think that if the Good Fairy were to grant me lifelong immunity from any particular type of meeting, I would choose the men's luncheon clubs. Some of my friends are Rotarians, others follow the Kiwanis persuasion, and a few, I think, are Lions. Individually, they are fine fellows: but the strenuous jollity and aggressive good humor which are the hallmarks of their meetings I find insupportable.

If I may be forgiven another reminiscence of my sensitive journalistic youth, I once patrolled the hotel beat which included, in addition to interviews with dig-

nitaries passing through town, daily coverage of the luncheon clubs. So dismal was this chore that the opposition reporter and I made a deal, though in those days scoops and mutual suspicions still enlivened newspaper work. I covered for both Mondays and Wednesdays, he grimly attended Tuesdays and Thursdays, and we flipped a coin to see who got stuck Fridays. Both of us just couldn't stand five days running of fellowship, and it was so restful to sit downstairs in the hotel lobby and not have to listen!

For some reason, and the only one I can think of is that this country has a national inferiority complex, the incorrigibly gregarious, the maritally maladjusted who don't dare spend a night home alone with their wives and the other sincere meeting-lovers refuse to meet just for the hell of it. Always, they attach some unassailable good cause or overwhelming crisis to the call, thus playing on my guilt feelings to force my attendance. Nor will they settle for my money or my signature on a petition; some-

thing that smacks of sadism also demands my personal inconvenience.

Lots of other Americans — the vast majority, I suspect — must feel at least somewhat as I do; and with courage and firmness, we could do something about The Meeting. I do not delude myself that such an ingrained bad habit will be quickly cured, but we can individually launch a tapering-off process by our own stubborn *non-attendance*. We can try to persuade the various meeting-happy organizations to which we belong to restrain themselves to quarterly, semi-annual or even better, annual sessions.

Meantime, the officers and committees, who hold the power and responsibility anyhow, can meet as often as they please. If they must talk, let them talk to each other. For serious membership-wide affairs, they can submit written reports by mail and let us vote by postcard ballot. The effort of putting thought on paper will force them to make a more logical presentation, and my vote, in the undistracted privacy of my

home, will be a more thoughtful vote. Even when the posts from Virginia to Massachusetts were notably bad, it seems to me, the Founding Fathers accomplished more in those long, cool correspondences they carried on from their quiet studies than in their face-to-face wrang-

lings in New York and Philadelphia.

In essence, The Meeting is an archaic, time-wasting, temper-straining, inefficient device; a problem to the police, fire and sanitation departments; a threat to simple family life.

I move we adjourn! — *Henry Lee, from Mercury.*

### SOUNDS BETTER WITH MUSIC

There was one point on which Mark Twain and his wife were at odds, and that was Mark's profanity. Knowing how his use of the strong word afflicted her, he used to indulge himself when she was out of earshot.

One Sunday morning while he was agonizing through the shaving and dressing hour, with language suited only to the privacy of the bathroom, he discovered that his shirt was shy a button. It was too much! Mark swore in his best manner. His oaths continued with magnificent virtuosity. Then he heard a gentle cough.

The bathroom door was open, and there stood his wife! With a withering look she repeated his last irreverent blast.

"Oh, Livy," he said, "did it sound like that?"

"It certainly did," she answered. "Only worse."

Said Mark sorrowfully: "It would pain me to think that when I swear it sounds like that. You get the words right, Livy, but you don't know the tune!" — *Tyler Mason.*

## MISTAKES THAT PAID DIVIDENDS

Some of the world's greatest discoveries that permit you to get more pleasure and value out of modern life — were really mistakes or accidents. They were made by men who realized that while they had failed to attain a sought-for goal, they had nevertheless produced something worthwhile.

Scientists give the name "serendipity" to such mistakes. The word dates back to fairy-tale days when the Three Wise Princes of Serendip "always made discoveries, by accident or sagacity, of things they were not in quest of."

In an eighteen-year-old boy in 1856 had not failed in his ambitious task of making synthetic quinine and had not analyzed the black crystals which formed in his test tube, the coal-tar dye industry would not have been born. But William Henry Perkin was curious. He found that the crystals, dissolved in

boiling water, produced a beautiful purple liquid. He dipped strips of silk into his purple liquid and they sopped it up. When the color did not wash out and did not bleach when exposed to sun, Perkin knew he had produced the world's first aniline dye, forerunner of the colors that make our clothes beautiful today.

While printing and photography owe much to the research of a French painter and physicist, Louis Daguerre, they owe considerably more to his carelessness. In the 19th century, there was no photography as we know it today: plates had to be exposed for hours in order to secure a picture. One day Daguerre stored an underexposed plate in a closet where he had absent-mindedly left an uncovered saucer of mercury. The mercury vaporized becoming a reagent. It brought out the image on the discarded plate.

Daguerre's accidental discovery resulted in the first commercially successful form of photography. Today it is known as the Daguerreotype.

Similarly we owe the colored advertising plates in our magazines to the accidental observance one day by a Swedish apothecary Karl Scheele, of the action of light on silver chloride.

Charles Goodyear conducted rubber experiments for years, yet not until he accidentally spilled a rubber and sulphur mixture onto a hot stove did he get the result he was seeking. While the inside of this patch of rubber was seared by too much heat, the outer edges were firm, soft and pliable.

Further tests showed that Goodyear's process, which he called "vulcanizing" in honor of Vulcan, Roman god of fire, produced sheet rubber which had lost its stickiness. As a result, the sap of the hevia rubber tree today yields overshoes, raincoats, hot-water bottles, tires, insulation materials and thousands of other useful articles which do not crack in winter or melt in summer.

The Discovery — or rather the rediscovery — of blotting paper was also an accident. While blotting paper was known as early as 1460, it was virtually unused until the early 19th century when an Englishman in a Berkshire mill forgot to add sizing materials to a vat of paper. The entire run was unsalable. The frugal mill proprietor tried to salvage some of the soft paper for his own use, but the ink from his pen spread so rapidly through the fibers that he gave up trying to write.

As he surveyed the messy sheets, it flashed through his mind that this paper would absorb ink, thus replacing the dry sand then in use. He advertised his discovery as "blotting paper," and not only sold the entire lot but continued to receive orders for more.

Although the beautiful colors of marble seen in modern buildings are natural, more than six hundred different hues are permanently imparted to the stone by dyes. The idea of coloring marble was accidentally discovered in an experiment to

make barrel staves impervious to petroleum. The experimenter used a piece of marble to hold in place the barrel he was working on. When through, he pulled out the marble wedge and, although he noticed it was stained a beautiful color, he threw it in scrap heap. A month later he picked up the wedge again. Upon breaking it into pieces he found that the color had penetrated. That accident was the beginning of experiments which have given us the beautifully tinted stones we know today.

In our own time there is the wonder of shatterproof glass, discovered accidentally when a French scientist, Edouard Benedictus, dropped a bottle on the floor. The glass broke into fragments, but did not scatter. M. Benedictus wondered why. He found that the bottle had contained collodion, which when evaporating had left on the inside a thin skin strong enough to hold the broken pieces together. From this accident he conceived the idea of making a "sandwich" of two pieces of glass

with a sheet of nitro-cellulose between.

Our American planes owe much of their superiority to another accident. George W. Lee of Binghamton, New York, a collar-button manufacturer, decided to make aluminum snap buttons. In adjusting his machinery to the new device Lee made the punch longer than he had intended. To his surprise his machine produced a long aluminum tube instead of a flat button, for the soft metal was forced by pressure through the narrow opening between the punch and the die. By accident, Lee thus invented the process of fashioning seamless tubes from thin metal, one of the greatest discoveries in metal working.

When Lee could find no immediate practical application for his invention, he sold it to a bicycle manufacturer, Leslie Hooker, who used it to make such things as guards for women's hat pins, cases for physicians' thermometers, and automatic pencils. Then one day he was asked to make a radiator with a maximum of cooling surface and



a minimum of air resistance for a racing car.

Hooker borrowed an idea from the bees. He laid hundreds of small seamless copper tubes horizontally into brass shell. The tubes had six sided ends so that they fitted together closely and could be soldered into a single unit. The open ends of the tubes faced the onrushing air. In contrast to the ordinary radiator, the water did not flow through the tubes but around them, and Hooker's invention made automobile history.

Penicillin was discovered by accident. So were many of our new lightweight metals and our plastics. Hundreds of similar mistakes are contributing to greater safety

and comfort in our lives.

Industry, realizing the value of such accidental discoveries, is spending 200 million dollars annually to unearth more of them. Chemists and research workers are not given a definite problem: instead they are told to find out everything they can about a particular material. Usually when they have finished they have found new uses for the basic product.

That is why American industry is "serendipity"-minded today, searching constantly for the secret of making bigger and better things at a price low enough to put them within reach of millions. — *by Josephine M. Opsahl, from Coronet.*

## KNIVES AND FORKS

An American missionary who had spent some time in Borneo and vicinity was asked whether he had been able to get the natives to give up cannibalism.

"No," he admitted, "I did not quite succeed in that, but I did persuade them to start using knives and forks." — *Carol Long.*

## REFLECTIONS ON KITTENS

When Prince Potemkin wanted to send a gift to Catherine the Great that would distinguish him from all other suitors, he passed over such obvious possibilities as jewels, perfumes or rich fabrics, and presented her with a kitten. The success of his gift is reflected in history, but it is only one instance of the everlasting appeal of kittens and cats through the ages.

Ben Jonson's favorite excursions were to the fishmonger's to get oysters for his fastidious pet; Sir Walter Scott took delight in encouraging his pet's domination of a bloodhound; Lord Chesterfield left his cat a pension; Victor Hugo, Matthew Arnold, Henry James, the Bron-tes, Mahomet, Petrarch, Walpole, Gregory the Great and Cardinal Wolsey were other devoted slaves of kittens and cats.

Cardinal Richelieu depend-

ed on kittens for relaxation and entertainment. The melancholy that threatened to weigh upon him in an hour of inactivity was always dispelled by the appearance of a basket of frolicsome, tumbling, mischievous kittens. But Richelieu banished his feline jesters as they approached maturity and replaced them with a younger, gayer generation.

Perhaps the most innocently happy moment of Louis XV's reign was provided by a kitten. The young king, only eight, had been presiding wanly over a tedious, incomprehensible meeting of state when a kitten jumped upon the royal lap and then onto the council table where it rolled and romped amongst papers of national importance.

The Renaissance was the Golden Age for cats; ecclesiastical and royal approval was bestowed upon them, and

anyone who amounted to anything in society had at least one of the animals for a pet. One royal lady, an accomplished harpist, insisted her kitten had more than ornamental value; if she played well, the feline purred; if she played badly the animal snubbed her.

While cats may no longer enjoy the stamp of governmental approval, affection for them has not waned. Not too many years ago, this advertisement appeared in a German newspaper: "Wanted by a lady of rank, for ade-

quate remuneration, a few well-behaved and respectably-dressed children to amuse a cat, in delicate health, two or three hours a day."

Even those who profess to dislike cats weaken at the sight of a kitten. They excuse their weakness with such remarks as "Kittens aren't cold and unfriendly," or "But kittens don't catch birds," seeming to forget that the animals won their owners' affections as kittens but retained them as they grew up to become cats. — *Warren Brown, from an American Magazine.*

## A WORM

The late King Edward VII was an indulgent grandparent, but he did not allow the children to interrupt him. At luncheon one day a small granddaughter, allowed as a special privilege to sit next to the king, suddenly started to say something to him just as the salad course was being served. He cut her short and continued with what he had been saying.

The child watched him anxiously and presently tried again to speak, but was again silenced. When the king was quite through with his remarks, he turned to the little girl and asked, "Now, my dear, what was it you wished to say to me?"

"It's too late now," said the little princess. "I was trying to tell you there was a worm on your lettuce." — *Louise Lamprey.*

## RISING STATUS OF WOMEN

The countries of the Middle East have made amazing progress in modernization since they began functioning independently. This progress is evident in Lebanon, where independence was gained in 1943; Jordan, independent since 1946; Syria and Egypt — all referred to as Arab countries. The same is true of Israel, recognized as an independent country in 1948.

The most profound changes in culture patterns in the Middle East are the results of the emancipation of women through education and their growing freedom to move outside the home. Although it is early to discuss equalization between the sexes, there is much evidence that women are moving in that direction. For example, in a study to determine priority given by men and women in planning new

housing in the suburbs of Khartoum, five features were listed as important: (1) a wall between houses which would give women seclusion in the yard, (2) a bathroom, (3) a store room, (4) a veranda, (5) a shelter for earthenware water jugs. The men gave highest priority to the dividing wall but women gave it the lowest. In the same study only 57 per cent of the women, about the same as men, mentioned marriage as one of their greatest of three wishes. When the same question was asked of a group of women four years later, this figure had declined to 41 per cent, 7 per cent lower than for American college women who mentioned marriage in exactly the same type of study.

The enrollment of girls in primary schools in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and

Syria increased by 703,996 from 1931 to 1954; and the proportion of girls enrolled in secondary schools in the same countries in 1954 ranged from 25 per cent to 41 per cent, with the highest percentage in Lebanon. These figures give evidence that compulsory elementary education is reaching an increasing proportion of children, and higher education has also grown rapidly. The increase in technical education has not been as great.

In addition to the increased enrollment in public schools in the Middle East, educational opportunities through the press have been expanding with an increase in circulation of newspapers. There has been a gain in book production, also. The number of radio receivers has more than doubled in less than a decade. Attendance at cinemas has likewise risen for both European and American films.

Lebanon, although the smallest of the countries named, is the most up to date. It is half the area of Israel to its south, and 6 per cent of the area of Syria. It

has one and one-half million inhabitants and more than one-fourth of these live in Beirut.

According to a survey in 1943, the population of Lebanon was slightly more than 50 per cent Christian and the rest were of the Moslem faith. The Moslems are divided into two groups and the Christians into at least six. By general agreement the government recognizes these differences. The President is a Christian and the Prime Minister is a Moslem. The parties have thus established an equilibrium. They have freedom of religion, of the press, and of speech.

The country receives no foreign aid now. Most of the revenue comes from custom taxes. They have no vast oil reserves like some of the other Arab countries. The people are described as hard-working, paying their own way, and very hospitable.

There is 85 per cent literacy, with good schools. Because of its emphasis upon training people to think for themselves, the American

University of Beirut, started years ago as a missionary enterprise, has had great influence upon the country.

Jordan, which started out as a poverty stricken little kingdom held up entirely by outside aid, in which the United States had a major part, has made phenomenal progress. We rode over a magnificent new highway from Amman, the capital city of Jordan with a population of more than 200,000, to Jerusalem. The guides proudly told us the highway was built with American money, part of the Point IV program.

Syria, formerly a part of the United Arab Republic, organized to work for Arab unity, is now under the rule of the Ba'ath Party. This party opposes the dreams of President Nasser, of Egypt, for organic union. There have been flare-ups and counter-revolutions since the Ba'ath Party took over the government of Syria in 1963. Immediately after our visit to Damascus and return the same day, a riot broke out and the border between Sy-

ria and Lebanon was closed for several weeks.

Much has been written about the miraculous developments in Israel. One writer refers to the frantic activity of the Israeli as "making up for lost time." In the first three years after the country became a republic, the population doubled; in ten years it had trebled; and in fifteen years it had soared to 2,300,000, of whom over two million are Jews born outside Israel.

Irrigation has turned a desert or semi-desert into a garden with citrus and banana groves, sugar beets and other crops, and \$70,000,000 worth of agricultural products being exported annually. New developments include, in addition to water traveling immense distances to revive parched soil, strawberries growing by the shores of the Dead Sea, roses growing in the desert, crops growing in gravel, salt water being desalted, refrigerators driven by sun-power, straggling rivers straightened out, new forests where only naked crags existed, fens turned in-

to farms, and maps becoming outdated.

There are three big cities in this little country of less than a thousand square miles, about the size of Massachusetts. Haifa, situated on the Mediterranean, down under Mt. Carmel, has a population of 300,000. This city has the first underground electric train in Israel, includes Haifa Harbour, and is known for its cleanliness and attractiveness.

Tel Aviv, the newest and largest of the cities, has a population of 400,000. This city includes theaters, fashion shops, concert halls, luxury hotels, modern offices, and other important buildings.

New Jerusalem, the capital, has a population of 175,000. In contrast to Tel Aviv and Haifa, Jerusalem has no places of amusement but has synagogues and seminaries, cathedrals, colleges, museums, and government buildings. The oldest part of the city, called Mea Shearin, is populated with ultra-conservative Jews. Life revolves around the old Jewish Law with its 613 command-

ments. Mea Shearin guards the Faith that has guided the Jewish people for thousands of years.

Another town which reflects the older traditions of the Jewish people is Nazareth, where there has been little change in the past two thousand years. New and modern buildings are now being erected in the surrounding area, however, and new industries are being opened.

There is as much contrast in the clothing worn in different parts of Israel as there is in the type of buildings and activities. Western dress is worn much in cities like Haifa and Tel Aviv, but in Mea Shearin the dress of the orthodox Jews reflects the traditions being fostered by that group. Men wear heavy frock coats and big broad-brimmed hats of plush, while women, demurely kerchiefed, appear in long-sleeved and high-necked dresses. The little children have glossy braids, wear white woolen stockings and side curls. Men and boys wear sideburns.

One of the first acts of the

new state was to make elementary schooling compulsory and free for all children between ages five and fourteen, with responsibility placed upon the central and local governments. Two types of schools are maintained, state schools and state religious schools. The main difference is that in the state religious schools there is more emphasis on religious studies, including the Bible, the Talmud, prayer, and the Sabbath, but not to the exclusion of other educational studies. The state schools also include Jewish studies and a thorough knowledge of the Bible. The Hebrew language is spoken and taught in all schools. Education is practical and most schools have well-equipped laboratories, workshops, and even small farms.

Two very important institutions of higher learning are the Hebrew University, in Jerusalem, and Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology, located in Haifa. The enrollment in the Hebrew University multiplied eight times, from one thousand to eight thousand, be-

tween 1945-47 and 1962-63. Students, who come from all parts of the world, take their work seriously and study hard. All students must learn Hebrew but 90 per cent of the books are written in English.

The big problem in the Middle East is the so-called Palestine Question. Encouraged by the Balfour Declaration in 1917, the Jewish people flocked back to Israel. The Zionist party, partly religious and partly political, felt that Palestine was their own land, quoting Scripture to prove that God had given it to Abraham and his descendants forever. On the other hand, the Arabs, who had lived there for a thousand years, felt that the land belonged to them. Feeling is intense and bitter on both sides. Someone stated that the problem is anchored in the emotions of two peoples. There is no communication between Israel and the Arab countries. Only at one point, the Mendelbaum Gate in Jerusalem, is there passage from one country to another, and it is strictly one-way travel from Jordan to Israel.



The number of Palestinian refugees in the Arab countries exceeds one million, over half of them seventeen years of age or younger, who deserve an opportunity to become members of society. The majority of these refugees are in Jordan, but the Gaza strip; a narrow coastal plain twenty miles long and five miles wide next to Egypt, is crowded with 350,000 people — 250,000 of them refugees — where 80,000 used to live.

For several years the refugees were crowded into miserable huts but most of them are in better housing today. The United Nations is feeding them, with an average of 1,500 calories a day. Their ration stamps include flour, rice, sugar, cooking fat, and a bean-like substance. The United Nations also provides some hospital care and schools for vocational training including eleven teacher-training schools. Although conditions are better, the refugees are still a

burden and a problem to their host countries; and they increase at the rate of thirty thousand a year. The most encouraging fact is that the number of young people who start to school and remain in school is increasing rapidly. These young people are developing skills and getting enough training to move out into other places as five thousand of them did in 1962.

It is evident that the patterns of culture in the Middle East are changing, and the changes are becoming more rapid. The rising status of women through education and their emergence into the world of affairs has greatly influenced the changing patterns. Changes appear to be more rapid in places where Western culture has had greatest influence. Improvement in the quality of education will, no doubt, mean continued change for better living. — *E. Reed Waters, condensed from Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin.*

## GLAND THAT MAKES THE MAN

A number of years ago, Henry L. Mencken ranked the respectability of body organs. Heart and lungs, he found, were quite discussable, kidneys barely mentionable, the liver beyond the pale of polite conversation. There has been a decline in prudery since Mencken wrote his piece. Today, we accept one body organ as being quite as respectable as the next — with one exception. The exception, of course, is the gland that plays the largest role in shaping any man's life — the testicle.

This remarkable gland possesses quite as much dignity as any other body organ. It is far more complex than the heart, which is the simplest of muscular pumps; more interesting than the component parts of the digestive tract. It is indeed, more directly associated with a man's well-being than any other organ.

No one is quite sure at what period during life this gland begins to play a major role. But activity of the testes is at minimum levels until the age of puberty. Then the twin glands spring to action. The effect is immediate. The boy's voice deepens, a beard appears, there are other changes. The sexually neutral individual develops characteristics that are unmistakably male. In late mid-life, activity of the testes begins to taper off. By the age of 60 activity is at about the level of the pre-puberty period.

The gland serves a dual function. It is a chemical manufacturing plant, producing an incredibly potent hormone which it empties into the blood stream. Second, it produces the sperm cells upon which the creation of all new life depends. These cells are the most remarkable cells produced by the human body.

Earliest man knew that removal of the gland changed the fiery bull into the docile ox, the wild stallion into the mild gelding, the predatory male into the placid harem guard. But most knowledge about it has been gained only in recent years. And even now, there are wide gaps in the research.

First, look at the structure of this gland. It is ovoid in shape, about two inches long and one-and-a-quarter inches at its greatest diameter. Early anatomists cut through it and saw what looked like strands from a tangled ball of yarn. The organ was largely composed of an intricate system of tiny tubules.

Centuries passed before the confusing skein of tubes was untangled. Then working under water, with the finest dissection instruments, a research man at the University of Michigan separated the gossamer strands. Each testis was found to contain nearly 1,000 tubes, each the size of fine sewing silk. The tubes are one to two feet long. In total length they would stretch nearly half a mile.

It is in these tubes that

sperm cells are manufactured. The cells are passed along to a large collecting tube, the epididymis. This duct, attached to the upper part of the testis, is about 20 feet long. It bends and twists in tight coils. As sperm cells move slowly through the epididymis, they gradually mature. The growing-up process is completed in the *vas deferens*, or spermatic duct. This tube, an eighth of an inch in diameter and a foot long, passes vertically upward from the gland.

It is this cord-like duct which supports the glands, permitting them to hang loosely as a protection against injury. The duct comes near the surface of the skin in the groin. Tying off this canal produces a permanent sterility. The operation is frequently performed on mental misfits.

Until a short time before birth, the testes are inside the body. Then they descend to the skin sac. In a sense, it is astonishing that nature didn't give them the protection of a permanent home inside the body, in the same

manner that it gave protection to a woman's ovaries. Some animals — the elephant for example — do have this protection, with testes contained in the abdomen.

But there is good reason for man's glands of maleness being outside the body. The skin sac which contains them is, in a sense, an elaborate air-conditioning system. Unless the testes are kept at a temperature a degree or so cooler than the rest of the body they cannot produce sperm cells. In an occasional person, these glands fail to descend properly. Such people are always sterile until the glands are brought into their proper place by surgery or hormone treatment.

To see that the glands are properly cooled, the skin sac in which they hang is equipped with an elaborate system of sweat glands. Evaporation of the moisture they produce maintains an even temperature. There are other controls as well. When chilled by a cold shower, the skin contracts — drawing the glands closer to the body for warmth. In a Turkish bath,

it relaxes, to bring all possible cooling action into play.

At times, this vital cooling system fails. The high fever that goes with disease often produces a temporary sterility. In one set of experiments, a transient sterility was produced by keeping the glands wrapped in wool for several weeks. Hot baths are generally blamed for the declining fertility of civilized people.

Climate also plays a large role in determining male fertility. When the weather is too hot, the testes cannot function efficiently in producing sperm cells. This explains why tropical people are often on the borderline of sterility, and why northern people are almost explosively fertile. In this respect the Swede, the French Canadian, will shame their Latin brothers — despite all the legends to the contrary.

Physicians have been able to transplant certain tissues from one individual to another: bone, cornea, cartilage, a few others. But the testis is apparently designed for the use of its owner only. All efforts to transplant these

glands from one man to another have failed. Similarly, efforts have been made to transplant glands from animals to man. These, too, have failed.

The sperm cells produced by the testes are the smallest of all human cells. Something like 100 *billion* could be contained in one cubic inch!

These cells go through periods of youth, middle and old age. Too frequent sexual indulgence launches immature cells which are incapable of producing new life. On the other hand, if cells accumulate in the body for too long a period they grow old and die.

Each cell has an oval head and a hair-like tail. The tail is the sperm cell's means of locomotion. By kicking it, he can move himself along.

The head, despite its microscopic size, is probably the most intricate of all tissues. All other body cells contain 48 chromosomes. But the sperm, like the egg cell from a woman, contains only 24. There is a good reason for this. When sperm and egg

combine to make the initial cell of life, each contributes its complement of chromosomes to make up the normal 48.

The sperm cell's 24 chromosomes contain thousands of genes, too small to be seen by any microscope. These are the factors which determine inheritance. A father does not give his child his blood, as such, but he directly passes along his genes. They combine with the genes in the mother's egg cell to shape the life of any child. One gene or set of genes will give the child his father's red hair, another group will give him his mother's musical talent, and so on.

In this connection, note that the mother has nothing to do with the sex of the child. Sex is determined solely by chromosomes in the male sperm. Half of all male cells contain the Y chromosomes which produce boy babies. The other half contain girl-producing X chromosomes. The woman's egg cells, on the other hand, contain only girl-producing X chromosomes.

Thus, if Y sperm from the father fertilizes the egg, a boy child results. If it is X sperm, there is a girl baby.

Fertilization of the female's egg cells calls for the interaction of a number of events, each timed to hair-line sequence. By themselves, sperm cells could never produce a new life. In order to achieve their destiny, they need a highly favorable environment.

For example, they need nourishment once they are launched on an independent existence. Further, they need a fluid environment in which to live. This fluid nourishment is supplied from two sources — the prostate gland and the two seminal vesicles. The fluid from these sources is slightly alkaline. This is to overcome the normal acidity of women, which would kill the sperm. The fluid contains a small amount of sugar, to provide energy for the sperm cells.

Sperm cells are launched in incredible quantities; 500 million at a time would be a good average figure. Their migration toward the egg cell

of the woman is a drama of the microscopic world which has no counterpart in the scopic world. The odds against any particular sperm ever fulfilling its final destiny, reaching and fertilizing an egg, are 500 million to one.

Mountainous obstacles stand in the way of the fragile sperm as it moves through the uterus and into the Fallopian tube where it meets the egg. A slight fold of tissue is a hurdle greater than Mt. Everest would be to a walking man. A slight flow of mucous is a torrential Niagara.

At best, the sperm, fighting with all the meager energy it possesses, can travel no more than one-20th of a millimeter per second. At this rate, an hour would be required to move seven inches — which is about the distance the sperm must travel to meet the egg.

Although it has directional sense, the sperm lacks the sureness of, say, the homing pigeon. On its way, it will twist and turn, losing time and losing distance. Although no one can be sure

about such things, most research men guess that it takes the sperm about two hours to reach the egg.

The slaughter that takes place along the way makes any battles that men have fought seem tame by comparison. Tens of millions of spermatozoa die of exhaustion. Other millions perish for lack of sugar to nourish them; still others are victims of an unfavorable environment.

Yet, as time runs out, the migration continues, a few stalwarts surviving. Within four hours, exhaustion will overtake the vast horde. They will lose the ability to move, and once this is lost they will die.

This, then, pretty well summarizes one testicular function: production of the sperm cells which are the creators of new life. The second testicular function is to produce the hormone of maleness, testosterone.

Before puberty, the testes produce only meager quantities of the hormone. Then, at the time of puberty, the testes are triggered into action by a secretion from the

pituitary gland, which lies under the brain. Under this stimulus, the testes start producing dozens of times the amount of hormone produced in pre-puberty days.

Almost immediately, the boy's voice deepens, facial hair sprouts, sexual organs enlarge. Testosterone, apparently, is the common denominator for maleness throughout the animal world. The hormone produced by man is chemically identical with that produced by a rooster, stallion, or lion.

How potent this chemical is in determining maleness of any animal can be demonstrated by any one of a dozen experiments. When testosterone is injected into a chick, the chick begins to behave like a grown rooster. He emits canary-like squeeks — the best he can do in the way of crowing.

When it is injected into a capon, the creature grows a comb, starts strutting. When it is given to male mice that have been castrated they become normally belligerent, start fighting. Its effects on the human male are much the same. One castrate re-

ported that the magical chemical gave him courage, for the first time in his life, to talk back to a taxi driver.

Testosterone has been a godsend to hundreds of soldiers desexed by land mines. It has converted listless, apathetic men into vigorous human beings, normal in all respects but one. They are sexually capable, but unable to have children, since they lack sperm cells. In sum, they are potent but sterile.

Such men may be treated with daily pills. Or, a pellet of hormone may be implanted under the skin. This minor operation is performed under local anesthesia, takes only a few minutes. A slight incision is made in the leg, the hormone implanted, and the wound closed with a stitch or two. Gradually dissolved in the blood over a period of four to six months, the pellet is, in effect, an artificial gland.

Production of testosterone reaches a peak in the 25-to-35 age range, then tapers off gradually. By the age of 60, production is a gradual process. But in some cases there is a sharp drop. In this

event, a man may suffer some of the same menopausal symptoms a woman experiences when her ovaries cease functioning.

Studies of one large group of men with such symptoms showed a common set of complaints. Eighty-five percent were depressed, 65 percent sleepless 50 percent suffered periods of uncontrollable excitement. A third of the group had frequent fits of weeping and a few either contemplated or attempted suicide. In virtually all cases, hormone treatment banished the unpleasant symptoms.

You have heard a great deal about the male hormone staying the aging process — making the old young again. Take such statements with a handful of salt.

Testosterone won't prevent aging. Nor will it restore youthful vitality to older men. If they are suffering menopausal symptoms for markedly decreased production of the hormone, it will restore chemical balance to their bodies. And that is just about all that it will do.

\* \* \*

To sum up, the testes produce a dazzling chemical



stuff. They manufacture the miraculous sperm cells upon which all life depends. Instead of looking on these organs as being vaguely indecent we might better regard them in their true light.

They are among the most remarkable organs in the body.

They are, quite possibly, *the* most remarkable of all body organs. — *By J. D. Ratcliff from Science Digest.*

### **"AFTER YOU, MY DEAR ALPHONSE!"**

About forty years ago there was a popular comic strip called *Alphonse and Gaston*. Two extremely courteous Frenchmen were always trying to outdo each other in politeness. Many a comic impasse was reached as Gaston would insist, "After you, my dear Alphonse," and Alphonse would reply, "No, you first, my dear Gaston!"

Funny as they were, there's no question about who should come first. The other person, of course. He should be first to order the meal, first to go through the door, first to be offered the best seat.

And what does it cost you? Generally he or she responds as Alphonse would with "After you, my dear Gaston!" He or she will try to outdo *you* in politeness as long as politeness is in the air. So you end up first at least fifty per cent of the time.

But if you are to grab the opportunity, the money, the edge in any kind of an activity, you automatically give warning that the other person should start looking out for himself, too. Instead of trying to outdo in courtesy, he may begin to outdo you in selfishness.

"After you, my dear Alphonse!" Try that simple formula for just one day. See how many times you can give the preference to the other fellow, friend or stranger. See how much you *gain*, by outscoring him in politeness and courtesy. — *James T. Mangan.*

## HOW TO IDENTIFY GEMS

The Gemological Institute of America owes its origin to the curiosity of its founder, Robert Shipley. In the early 20s Shipley became the proprietor of a retail jewelry store in Wichita, Kansas, by the simple expedient of marrying the boss' daughter. A conscientious individual by nature, Shipley felt keenly his lack of knowledge of the jewelry business. The main source of information was the often inaccurate word of the traveling salesmen. The only textbooks dealt with gems from minerological considerations. When circumstances compelled him to close his store, Shipley went to England where he could receive a formalized training in gemology.

Late in 1929 Shipley returned to this country to apply his newly acquired knowledge to the operation of a jewelry store in Los Angeles, but America was in the midst

of panic. He decided to establish himself as a consultant in anticipation of more propitious times. A group of jewelers prevailed upon him to give a series of lectures at the University of Southern California. Over eighty jewelers registered, some coming from a distance of over 200 miles. Soon Shipley was mailing his lectures throughout the country and, in 1931, the Gemological Institute of America had its official beginning.

Many old timers still pride themselves on their ability at sight identification. A customer returned a ring with a large purplish stone to the jewelry store where it was purchased. The ring had been dropped on the bathroom floor, and the stone had shattered. Since the jeweler had bought the stone for amethyst and under the impression that genuine stones are durable, he return-

ed the ring to the manufacturer with an outraged letter demanding immediate replacement. The manufacturer agreed that a stone which had so fractured could only be an imitation and as such, not the stone he had sold. The argument was referred to the Gemological Institute of America who confirmed that the stone was indeed amethyst which, while less fragile than glass, is highly breakable when subjected to a blow of sufficient severity.

Transparent or translucent stones may be separated into species with the use of a refractometer, an instrument which measures the degree of bending of a light ray passing through a stone, in conjunction with a polariscope, an instrument for determining the crystal structure. Imitations are easily detected, but synthetic stones similar to the genuine in every chemical, physical and optical property are occasionally very deceptive, particularly in the small sizes running anywhere from ten to fifty to the carat. Tiny gas bubbles and curved striae detectable

under high magnification by a skilled technician provide the clues. Dealers who employ the institute consultants are sometimes rewarded for their precaution.

The most common failing of the layman in recognizing stones is the attempt to classify by color. Thus a ruby is red and a sapphire is blue, and conversely any red gemstone is thought to be a ruby and any blue to be a sapphire. The fabulous ruby which for five hundred years graced the imperial crown worn by the rulers of England and described by Ruskin as "the loveliest precious stone of which I have any knowledge" has been proven under modern instrumentation to be a red spinel, a material ordinarily less valuable than ruby, but nevertheless of great rarity since spinels so large in size are almost unknown.

Since coloring is caused in most gems by foreign material and is not a part of their chemical component, stones can occur in a variety of shades. Sapphire, tourmaline and quartz have been found in every color of the spectrum.

Ruby and sapphire are actually the same material. Ruby is merely the name given to the red variety. Amethyst is a purple quartz. Emerald and aquamarine are the identical material. Emerald is infinitely more valuable because of the dearth of fine green beryl in large crystals. Even the fabulous diamond has been found in all colors except purple, and that is not to say that the diamond does not occur in purple but merely that no natural specimen has been discovered as yet. The fa-

mous Hope diamond is a wonderful rich blue more reminiscent of fine Ceylon sapphire. Precious topaz, popularly known as a brown stone, has been found in all colors with blues and pinks as the loveliest varieties. With some gem materials color changes can be induced by baking the stones in a furnace at temperatures which duplicate the heating process in nature. In a few species such as topaz this entails a risk of cracking the stone. — *W. Untermeyer, Jr. from the American Mercury.*

### ACHIEVEMENT BY COLLABORATION

It is because the earth is round that we have become human: you see, we could not get away, we could not help but rub against each other; and this rubbing polished our minds, sent the mental temperature up; in such heat minds became flexible, moved with speed; became involved and convoluted and related in ten billion ways. Now, suddenly today, we are only a few hours from every man on earth, and our minds are showing a startling leap forward toward complexity: men in small groups, collaborating, can solve problems in a few weeks or months or even days that one man, working alone and in isolation, could never have solved had he lived a thousand years. — *Teilhard de Chardin.*

## GOSSIP AND GOOD BUSINESS

"Let your people gossip and you will have contended employees". This suggestion comes from the U.S. and is beginning to run the circuit in West German concerns. What do the experts think of the U.S. idea? Is gossip as spread out as some sociologists think?

Coffee cups clatter. Cake forks shovel creamy pies. The rest is talk. Six office girls talk during work. They do what according to the experts is the normal thing to do and what costs the concerns millions of Marks monthly: They pay homage to gossip, the original sin of all offices.

Marita Grundgens, the sister of Hamburg's deceased star actor, Gustav Grundgens, has thoroughly studied the role which gossip plays. Employed by a Solinger metal concern, she came up with the following:

"Everyone gossips about the

other. The carrier of gossip can become quite dangerous." At worst, he is in a position to destroy a person's work and his future.

In order to prevent as much of this happening as possible, Marita Grundgens hit on the idea of shutting up gossip with music. "Those who hear music keep their mouths shut."

It is a well meant suggestion, but unfortunately it does not work practically. Gossip is tough to reform. The talking continues even with music.

This fact caused other responsible people to realize that man, cannot live without gossip.

Prof. H. Distel, a work psychologist from the U.S., favours gossip for easing tensions, "Take a break and talk about your neighbour." After that the work will go along better again.

American personnel chiefs immediately latched on to Distel's ideas and began to support the Kaffeeklatch among the employees.

The motive: Our people are coming closer together. The feeling of unity intensifies. Work atmosphere gets looser.

It went so far in U.S. concerns that employes have coined such phrases as "Love goes through the coffee pot." "Flirting only gets nice through the Kaffeeklatsch." Many a couple, delicate and bashful by nature, were brought together because of all the talking.

"Gossip is essential," is also the opinion of the director of a West German coffee house chain which employs 30,000 persons. Naturally he does not say this because of love. "Man needs gossip as a pressure valve. Without

this release, work would begin to decline."

His is an optimistic view not shared by all personnel chiefs. Most are resigned and tolerate the news agencies without interfering. But they are aware of the fact that gossip is not only good for conversation, but that it also potentially jeopardizes the work community.

"We have already gone through some trials," complained the director of a chemical concern in Hamburg. "It has happened that rumors developed, that assumptions were treated as facts, and that innocent parties were persecuted."

Fortunately it is not often that one's career is destroyed because of the colleagues' gossip. The possibility that some gossipers will unwittingly do good at a Kaffeeklatsch is an American justification for letting them be.  
— *The Chronicle*.

■ Thieves who do not mean to steal.

## HOW TO DEAL WITH KLEPTOMANIAC

When the police finally caught the Phantom Burglar they could hardly believe their eyes. The man who had broken into 403 women's bedrooms, and performed human-fly stunts to get into them, was a crippled victim of infantile paralysis.

He admitted his thefts — cheap jewelry, powder puffs, filmy handkerchiefs, even love letters. He said that he knew he had done wrong, but couldn't restrain himself — the things he stole gave him a feeling of fulfillment which he could not attain in a normal way.

Because he knew the difference between right and wrong, as well as the nature of his act — the standard sanity test in 29 states — a plea of insanity would not have been accepted. The jury found him guilty, and the judge sent him to Sing Sing.

Yet he was no ordinary

thief. He was sick. He was a kleptomaniac. He needed psychiatric treatment, not punishment. By rare good luck he got it. He was put under the care of Dr. Ralph S. Banay, psychiatrist-in-charge at Sing Sing from 1940 to 1943 and now associate director of research on Social Deviation at Columbia University.

In the course of many interviews Dr. Banay discovered why this man was a kleptomaniac. He had contracted infantile paralysis as a boy, and he was thus unable to compete with other boys. To make matters worse, he had an athletic sister who provided a constant contrast to his own inadequacy. Since his parents made no attempt to guide him into pursuits at which he might excel, he grew up nursing his grievances. Then he found he was distasteful to girls.

In a confused attempt to

assert himself, he embarked on his career of crime. His gymnastic burglarizing gave him a feeling of physical mastery. The inexpensive feminine knick-knacks he stole were substitutes for the love that had been denied him.

Dr. Banay made him understand this connection between his childhood frustration and his adult conduct; and understanding is often half the battle for a cure. Once he realized that his frustrations had produced his craving to steal, he began looking for normal ways to fulfill those desires.

Dr. Banay believes his patient is now entirely adjusted to society. But he has had no chance to prove it. The Phantom Burglar is still serving his prison term.

Not all kleptomaniacs suffer such a fate. Five years ago a well-to-do clergyman was hauled into court as a common auto thief. His lawyer argued that any automobile thief who owned a car, and could well afford another if he needed it, must obviously be unbalanced. But the clergyman was legal-

ly sane, and therefore guilty. Fortunately, the judge sentenced him to a mental hospital. He was discharged a year later, fit to take his place in society.

Today he is nationally known under a new name earns a salary in five figures, and has a tireless talent for helping unfortunates.

Discovery of what caused his kleptomania was half the cure. He had unconsciously disliked his profession, but he had clung to it because his admiring congregation satisfied his yearning for approval, which an overly critical mother had exaggerated in him as a child. This yearning was later aggravated by a wife who constantly found fault with him as a husband.

Divorce and a confession of his religious duplicity would have been the obvious way out, but he hadn't dared to kick over the traces. By stealing cars he gratified a suppressed desire to be a ruthless he-man *without having to admit his difficulty publicly or even admit it to himself*. Once he understood and accepted his con-



ficts, he was able to rehabilitate himself.

Doctors recognize kleptomania for what it is — a *sign* of illness, comparable to pyromania and pathological lying. *Kleptomania is a symptom, not a disease.* Disturbances that are known to cause kleptomania (or compulsive stealing, as it is more properly called when used in its broadest sense) are physiological irregularities: brain disorders like epilepsy, paresis and feeble-mindedness; and acute mental conflict.

Store detectives and court psychiatrists believe that much compulsive stealing in women occurs as a result of physiological disturbances. Women who steal during pregnancy, for example, are actually victims of a capricious pregnancy appetite. Some courts know this and treat thefts committed at these times with extreme leniency.

Compulsive stealing among epileptics, paratics, and victims of other serious brain disorders is very much like sleep walking. These people literally do not know what

they are doing, but most kleptomaniacs are entirely conscious of their acts.

Kleptomaniacs are frequently people whose emotions have been thrown off balance by their parents' failure to maintain happy family relationships. When these people are unable to overcome their childhood frustrations, compulsive stealing may occur

"The normal person," says Dr. Sandor Lorand, internationally known psychiatrist, "is the one who can make social, working and family adjustments. Kleptomaniacs fail in all these."

The ways they fail are legion, but the failures usually have some relationship to marital maladjustments or celibacy. A husband's inattention has driven many a woman to theft. Girls shocked by strained relations between their parents often develop abnormal feelings of isolation, avoid wedlock, and resort to stealing. Kleptomaniac bachelors generally suffer from a feeling of inferiority.

While these mental conflicts can be adjusted, the

success of the treatments depends largely on the patient's desire to overcome his social conduct. A well-to-do married woman who was caught recently stealing velocipedes was one patient who wanted to be cured. She was obviously not a felon. She stole bicycles, tricycles or scooters, took them home, painted them, and sold them cheaply to mothers of children whose fathers were overseas. Then she gave the money to the Red Cross.

She was the only sister of five older brothers, who used to tease her and call her a sissy. As a girl she tried desperately to win their admiration with tomboyish behavior. When she discovered one day that she could ride her bicycle faster than one of her brothers could, she experienced a thrill she had never known before. Subconsciously, she remembered that thrill as an adult.

Her marriage was happy until her husband started to neglect her for his business. Then frustration was transformed into a compulsion to steal, and the objects she

stole were like the one which had gratified her as a child.

She was arrested and sent to a psychiatrist. When she was made to understand the cause of her conflict, she turned her urge into constructive channels.

The stealing of a thief who is not a kleptomaniac is a means to an end. The kleptomaniac's stealing is an end in itself. For this reason kleptomaniacs seldom take anything expensive. The object has symbolic rather than material value.

The way to prevent kleptomania is to teach parents to understand their children and to maintain satisfactory family relationships. Since family relationships can be intricate, the parents' job demands conscientious attention.

Nobody knows how prevalent kleptomania is, partly because many kleptomaniacs are not caught, and there is consequently no record of them, and partly because, those convicted appear on the records as ordinary thieves. States and cities alone arrest about one hundred thousand thieves a year.

This figure does not include Federal arrests, or arrests of pickpockets and shoplifters.

Typical of the kleptomaniac shoplifter was an awkward girl who had a very pretty younger sister. She found release from her feeling of inferiority in stealing costume jewelry. She never wore it or sold it — just hid it away at home. The psychiatrist to whom she was sent for treatment recognized that just having the jewelry around provided her some consolation. He worked with her for about a year. Today, as a successful dress designer, she has won the admiration of her less-gifted sister.

Kleptomania has been called a privilege of the wealthy. The kleptomaniac who is poor is usually assumed on circumstantial evidence to be a common thief. The rich get the benefit of the doubt. Yet the Phantom Burglar was poor. So was a young music teacher treated by Dr. Lorand.

This 22-year-old girl started teaching piano at the age of fourteen. She stole knick-knacks from her pupil's

homes and, later money from her father and stepmother. The knick-knacks she hid in a bureau drawer. The money she sent to an impoverished aunt.

Treatment revealed that her thefts were caused by an unconscious resentment of her father, who had abandoned his family when the girl was nine months old. The mother had slaved to make ends meet. When the mother died the child was sent to live with the aunt, who also made sacrifices in order to support her.

Her father remarried. When she was nineteen he sent for her. Her hatred for him soon included her stepmother. Every time her thefts were discovered, she swore she would never steal again. But she always did.

The psychiatrist made her father understand that her thefts were an expression of defiance and insecurity. They were not committed for gain. Poor as the girl was, she never profited from them. Not once did she spend the money on herself. Not once did she sell her stolen goods to a "fence." If she had not

had the attention of a psychiatrist, she might have gone to jail.

Since kleptomania results from personal maladjustment, it is obviously not hereditary. Also, the kleptomania compulsion is infrequent among children — though most children do some stealing until they are taught not to.

When juveniles continue to steal in spite of their training they usually do so because of a lack of affection or because of too much pa-

rental domination.

Dr. William Healy in his book, *The Individual Delinquent*, describes another sort of case, in which a ten-year-old girl played with a small boy who taught her to swear and misinformed her about things.

Dr. Healy convinced the mother that this experience was the cause of the child's thefts. By devoting more time to the girl, answering her questions correctly, and keeping her busy, the mother effected a complete cure. — *D. Ferguson in Coronet*.

## POWDER

The three-year-old boy had taken his mother's powder puff and was fixing his face as he had so often seen her do, when his five-year-old sister grabbed it from him.

"You mustn't do that," she said, "only ladies use powder. Gentlemen wash themselves." — *Stator*.

## NORMAL BREATHING UNDER WATER

A wisp of synthetic membrane, only a thousandth of an inch thick, may hold the answer to a simple system for supplying submarines with air drawn from the water around them, the purification of air in space capsules or moon stations, and a means of providing cheap, reliable oxygen supplies for patients in hospitals or at home.

The secret lies in a silicone film that is thinner, and therefore more permeable than any silicone membrane ever before reported. Even though this membrane is completely free of holes, it permits the passage of liquids or gases. The method of producing the membrane was discovered by Dr. Walter L. Robb of General Electric company research laboratory. Possible applications are being studied at the GE's advanced technology laboratories and elsewhere.

Membranes have been made from a variety of materials, one of the most useful is a special type of silicone rubber in the development of which GE research played a major role during World War II. The membrane is 30 times as permeable as the rubber in automobile tires would be at equal thickness and 1,000 times as permeable as the plastic films used for wrapping foods.

Since different gases pass through the membrane at different rates it is called "selective." The ability of the membrane to "select" those gases which will pass through most easily could be applied to space capsule.

An opening covering with such a membrane would allow unwanted water vapor and carbon dioxide to escape easily into the vacuum of space, while vital oxygen was held in, because the first two

gases pass through much more quickly than oxygen. In fact, since water vapor passes through 60 times as fast as oxygen, the membranes might be used on earth as devices for dehumidifying air.

Oxygen, on the other hand, passes through such a membrane over twice as fast as nitrogen, which makes up 80 per cent of the air we breath. As a result, if ordinary air is brought into contact with one side of a membrane, while the other side of the membrane is maintained at a lower pressure, the gas passing through the membrane will be rich in oxygen. If the low-pressure side of the membrane is maintained at 1/15 of atmospheric pressure, for example, the air passing through will contain approximately 35 per cent oxygen, instead of the usual 21 per cent. The 35 per cent figure

is close to that found in hospital oxygen tents and infant incubators.

In industry, enriched air is used in a variety of processes, where the membrane system could reduce costs. Helium could also be "filtered" out of air or natural gas. In such cases, other types of polymers would be used, rather than silicone rubber, since various polymers differ in the rate which they allow different gases to pass through.

Underwater applications would depend upon the fact that sea water is essentially saturated with air to a depth of many hundreds of feet. A membrane with sea water flowing past on one side and with pressure below one atmosphere on the other side would extract air, while resisting the passage of water under tremendous pressure. — *Manila Bulletin*.

## WORLD CONFERENCE OF UNIVERSITIES

One of the most important conferences on higher education took place in Tokyo from August 30 to September 6 this year. It was the quinquennial meeting of the International Association of Universities. The meeting preceding it was held in Mexico City in 1960.

About 400 universities and institutions of higher learning from all parts of the world participated in the Tokyo conference. Seven Philippine institutions were officially represented. They were the University of Santo Tomas, University of the East, Centro Escolar de Señoritas University, Philippine Women's University, National University and Foundation College of Dumaguete, these being full members of the IAU.

The International Association of Universities is not sponsored by any government

or state. So universities from all parts of the world, public and private, free communist, and neutral, sectarian and non-sectarian, are represented without distinction. Political subjects are not included in the agenda at any meeting. The sole requirement for membership is that an institution should maintain satisfactory standard of instruction. And in this connection, the directorate has decided that admission of new members will henceforth be stricter than in the first years of the Association's life, some twelve or fifteen years ago.

In the Tokyo conference the general subjects in the agenda which were discussed by the representatives were three in number, namely: Access to Higher Education, University Autonomy, and Contribution to Higher Edu-

cation to Economic and Cultural Development.

To enable the entire conference to consider the different points or phases of each subject, three separate working groups, which were smaller groups or committees of about 20 members each, were organized. The procedure followed was: first, a plenary session was held on each subject; and this was succeeded by a close-door session of the working group or committee assigned to consider the points raised during the plenary session and to summarize them. Another meeting of the working committee was held the day following to which any member or representative of any member institution could go and take part in the discussion of different points brought together in the first meeting of the committee. In this session any member may question any point presented before or add any new idea pertinent to the general subject. After this the rapporteur makes a summary of the various points which received group approval. In the general

and final plenary session, the 3 working committees presented their summaries. The President of the Association then submitted them to the entire conference for final approval or modification. This was the concluding part of the program of the conference.

On the last day the election of the President for the following five years took place. Dr. Zurhaik, well-known professor of history of the American University of Beirut and former university rector, was unanimously elected to the post. He succeeds Dr. F. Cyril James, the retiring President, a former professor of economics of the University of Pennsylvania and former President of McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

One cannot help but admire the ability, dignity, and poise of Dr. Cyril James. His speeches were models of clearness in thought and in the logical presentation of pertinent ideas, without circumlocution nor pompous appeal to emotion. His delivery was deliberate and pleasantly measured. Every



word and phrase were distinctively expressed, every sentence left no doubt in the hearer's mind about its intended purpose. Vivid pictures and scholarly expressions all clothed in language of simplicity, made Dr. James addresses, which were never tedious and long, something which served to enlighten the minds of the representatives at the conference on the significance of the role of universities in the present-day world.

The delegates were largely university presidents, rectors, and vice-chancellors of institutions in European, British, North American, South and Central American, African, Asian, and Australian countries. Ancient universities, such as Paris, Oxford, Heidelberg, Cambridge, Milan, Salamanca, Cordova, and more modern ones, such as Harvard, Yale, Michigan, California, Moscow, Berlin, to mention but a few, were all represented.

Meeting famous scholars, scientists, academic executives, all with long and rich experience in the pursuit of education and learning, is a

distinct privilege for all who appreciate the intellectual life. One cannot help but notice the gulf of difference between such event, on one hand, and a convention of politicians, on the other, in which no more than pompous and futuous addresses and comments fill the hall in boresome repetition. This second group attempts to believe that it could solve problems with hasty and superficial solutions. The first realizes the difficulties of the problems it discusses and proposes no more than suggestions for needed action which may fit certain conditions, with full awareness of the complexity created by rapid changes taking place in the present fields of scholarship, education, technology, and science.

The Tokyo conference of the IAU was of special significance to the emerging nations or the less developed communities in the world today. For in addition to the discussion of the subjects common to all institutions of higher education everywhere, the conference gave particular attention to the

role of higher education in the development of the economic, social, and cultural conditions of the new nations today.

The Japanese managers of the conference deserve full praise for the orderly way the sessions were conducted, the excellent reception of the delegates, and the perfect smoothness with which the activities were carried out. Japanese hospitality was unsurpassed.

Finally, one could not help but notice the relatively minor attention given to the matter of the election of the succeeding officials of the Association. There were 28 posts in two administrative bodies to be chosen, but only 24 nominations were submitted by the members or delegates. Consequently, the outgoing executive committee on elections had to designate 4 more candidates in order to fill all the 28 posts. What

a contrast this presented to what happens in Philippine elections where for one vacant post there are always ten or more candidates fighting noisily for it. The explanation is simple: the members obviously went to the conference chiefly to participate in the discussion of the subjects rather than to concern themselves with the election of officers. The inexperienced university head who went there to get himself elected to a high post must have come out badly disillusioned.

Membership in the International Association of Universities is surely a mark of distinction and a high privilege for the university or college who acquires it; and attendance in its quinquennial conference can prove a stimulating experience to heads and professors of institutions of learning who are able to take part in its discussions. — *Foundation Time*.

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