

AUGUST

Youth 85



**Take a Walk
in the Wild**

This Is the Life!
By Herbert W. Armstrong

Youth 85

August

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COVER: The adventure of getting out in God's creation and roughing it has growing appeal. Read, "Take a Walk in the Wild," starting on page 13. Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.

Letters

Cover to cover

I am writing to tell you that, for the first time, I read a magazine that kept my interest from cover to cover. The magazine I am talking about is *Youth 85*. I saw this magazine for the first time in our school library. The thing that caught my eye was the title. I have always liked to read things like this, but nothing can compare to *Youth 85*. It is absolutely the best magazine I have seen and read. I would like to subscribe for this magazine. If there is a charge, please let me know!

Mike Chavez
Denver, Colorado

We've already entered your subscription — there's no charge to you.

Cancellation

I'm writing to convey my indignation for your hypocritical article, "God's Great Sex Law!" in *Youth 85*, April. Why didn't you mention that men should abstain from premarital sex also? I've had enough of examining your biased propaganda. Stop sending me your publication.

Cindy Cerrone
Fayetteville, New York

God's laws about sex apply just as much to men as to women, as the article showed. The article gave a specific example about women, but it was directed at young men as well.

Change of thought

Thank you Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong for your article, "A Basketball Game With a Difference" [March *Youth 85*]. It was inspiring and headed me in the right direction, though it struck me a little different than I thought it was meant. It put a little light on the subject of school and college. I never did care much for school and my mother made me feel guilty about it because "I was giving my younger brother a wrong impression." She was absolutely correct too. But at that short time ago I was rebellious and didn't care.

Your article briefly describing the Church schools and how they are run really made me stop and think. The Church's schools sound much, much more exciting and pure than other schools.

Just a few weeks ago I had decided that I would get my graduation slip, let my mom gloat over it and I would get a job somewhere. Now I see I should go on with my education if [I can] afford it.

Diane Fast Horse
Appleton, Wisconsin

This Is the Life!

By Herbert W. Armstrong

In this personal article, Youth 85's editor-in-chief tells why he has called himself "the most blessed man on earth," and shows how you may taste the joys of real abundant living.

Like the apostle Paul, I feel that I have been the chief of sinners — yet God's marvelous grace has so richly abounded that it seems He has simply *lavished* on me *every* blessing that even the loving GOD can bestow!

Business associates, not quite comprehending the spiritual significance or real reasons, admit and marvel at the really happy and enjoyable life I have been granted. They *seek* the full joys of life. I did, too — once. And as long as I tried to GET and TAKE them, I somehow never had them.

Back in my preconversion days in the magazine and newspaper world, I fought and strove energetically for that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow — the *money* that would buy happiness and all the good things of gracious living. I sought and struggled valiantly to attain the vanity-pleasing status of being considered important by businessmen.

Yet, somehow, I never quite caught up with the end of that rainbow. For a few years — in my middle and late 20s — I enjoyed considerable financial success — for a young chap under 30. Even

so, I never seemed to get out of debt. My heart was set on material things and on plain vanity — and they just never seemed to *satisfy*. Neither, incidentally, did the brand of cigarettes whose advertising claimed "they satisfy."

You say you couldn't imagine me smoking cigarettes? Well, I couldn't either — NOW more than 60 years later. I remember

But did I ENJOY it? Never! What an idiot I was! In my mouth the saliva flows freely on the slightest provocation. A cigar in my mouth started the saliva glands flowing. I was forced to use the napkin for a cuspidor — and even then, it usually made me slightly sick at the stomach. Enjoy it? No!

Those were days of ambition and hustle and striving — but



with almost a pang of stomach-sickness, the many times I sat at a banquet table, smoking a fine cigar. Why? Vanity. I was a "sheep." Others did. I followed.

Many people struggle to get sleek new automobiles and other nice things that money can buy. But do these things bring real happiness? (Photo by Warren Watson)

I wish all people, everywhere, could realize the real source of true happiness!

they also were days of frustrations, fears and worries, and an underlying sense of insecurity. Carnality and this world's ways simply *never paid off!*

Then two successive major business depressions, and circumstances beyond my control, brought three successive total business failures. It was then that a Bible-believing woman, neighbor of my parents in Salem, Oregon, convinced my wife that the Bible enforced observance of the seventh-day Sabbath in this New Testament time of grace! The facts of my outraged reaction at this "religious fanaticism" have been published many times.

I was unable to talk, reason, argue or threaten her out of her newfound conviction. I was literally angered into my first STUDY of the Bible — to *prove* to her that

I sought, wrote for and obtained at the public library every book or booklet possible, purporting to refute seventh-day Sabbath observance. I searched every nook and cranny of the New Testament to find the sanctification, making holy, or command to observe Sunday. It was like hunting for the needle in the haystack — the needle that isn't there! Like the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, I never found it!

Instead, I found that Jesus Christ always kept this day "as His custom was," and the apostle Paul kept it "as his manner was." I found Jesus gave us an example that we should do as He did, and that we were commanded to walk in His steps — to walk as HE walked. Also that it is "Christ IN us" who gives hope of glory (by

find it interesting, as well as surprising and eye-opening. Remember, it's FREE, as Christ's Gospel is free, of course.

Well, Satan may have "opened" the eyes of Adam and Eve to evil — and then BLINDED the eyes of all of us ever since — but in that study the true Creator GOD *opened* my eyes to His TRUTH! There it was, staring at me in the Maker's own INSTRUCTION BOOK!

What would people say?

I didn't like it — at first.

"What would my business associates say?" was the question that came automatically to mind.

That's the question that chains *most* people to the darkness, the curses and frustrations of this world. They seldom give a thought to "What would GOD say?" They *ought* to ask, "What is CHRIST GOING TO SAY, when I have to face Him in the judgment?"

To me, God's truth meant GIVING UP! It meant giving up associates and friends — at least, so I supposed. It meant giving up MY OWN WAY! It seemed like GIVING UP everything I had ever held dear or lived for. It was like GIVING UP my very life.

But then, with God's BIBLE before me, I came to realize that Christ had bought and paid for my life — and it wasn't mine, anyway. God had made the giving up easier by repeated defeats — by reducing to economic poverty. I was only a "burned-out hunk o' junk," anyhow. Finally, I did make the surrender — UNCONDITIONALLY! I told God He could have my life, and if HE could make anything out of it, He could have it — I had made only a failure out of it! And I *did* mean that!

To me, it meant giving up everything I had valued as worth living for. But, you know, we have to die to LIVE — to LOSE our

(Continued on page 26)



New clothing and stereo equipment are desirable — but does just having them bring real satisfaction? (Photos by Warren Watson and Hal Finch)

the Holy Spirit), and that He is a changeless Christ — the *same* today as when He walked the earth in human flesh. I found that the New Testament *commands* Sabbath observance.

By the way, we have a booklet explaining in detail what I found on this question in the Bible. It is entitled *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?* I think you might

"all these churches couldn't be wrong" — and that the Bible commanded and enforced the observance of Sunday, in this New Testament period.

Go Ahead- DARE TO BE DIFFERENT!

By Clayton Steep

But there is a better way to do it than by following a fad.

How much of your hard-to-come-by cash would you pay for a slightly used hoola-hoop?

Probably not very much, yet these large hoops that many people swung around their hips were a big fad several years ago.

So were pet rocks. To so many it

seemed absolutely essential to have at least one pet rock, along with a cage to put it in and a handbook giving instructions on its care. It may be difficult to believe, but at least one person became rich selling pet rocks. But who cares about them now? It would be hard to give one away.

Why do such fads catch on? One reason is that people often desire to be different in some respects from the majority. They want to be special. *Unique* is probably the best word to describe it. So they join a small "in" group that is doing things a certain different way. And a fad is born.

Cabbage-Patch dolls, glittery gloves designed to be worn

on one hand only — what will be the next fad?

The life cycle of a fad

Do you know how long a fad will be popular? Until so many people follow it that following it no longer seems unique. Until the novelty is gone. Then it too will die out.

We don't know who started the very first fad. It

was probably somebody who decided to be different from everyone else by acting or appearing a certain way. Soon somebody else tried to be different by copying that person. And then somebody else. And then somebody else. It wasn't long before the fad became so common it lost its appeal.

Your parents can remember the hippies and the flower children of the 1960s. They too wanted to be different. Many fellows let their hair grow long and both

Clothing has often been used to express individuality — or sameness. When so many people adopt a style, it becomes a fad.

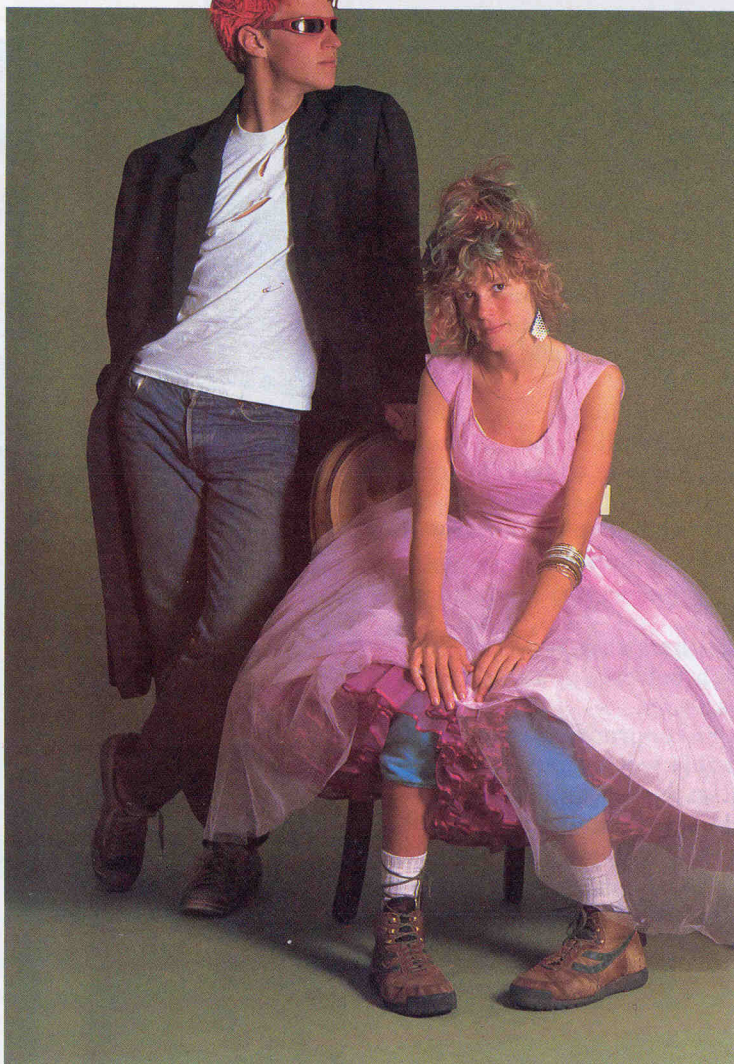


Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.

Why do fads catch on? One reason is that people often desire to be different in some respects from the majority.



fellows and girls wore baggy clothing and used certain expressions in their speech. And you know what? Before long, it was awfully hard to tell them apart because they all looked and acted and talked so much alike. It was another fad.

The same thing is happening to the punk fad. Once the novelty wore off, they all began to seem pretty much alike. They were trying to be different, but instead they look like all the other punkers. So they really aren't unique after all. The punk fad will come and go like so many other fads have.

How to be really different

Some fads are harmless; others should be avoided. In any case, there is a much better way to be really unique: Do what God says to do!

Don't laugh! It takes an enormous amount of courage. So few people in this world obey God that anyone who does obey Him is very different. Oh, there are quite a few people who talk about God. But talking about Him and doing what He says are two different things.

If you don't believe it, just think about this: How

many friends do you have who keep each of the Ten Commandments? In case at this moment you can't recall what the Ten Commandments are about, here is a general and brief idea. As soon as possible, though, you should read them in full right from the Bible in chapter 20 of the book of Exodus:

The first says not to put anything else in your life ahead of God.

The second says not to get involved in certain wrong religious practices.

The third says not to use God's name wrongly.

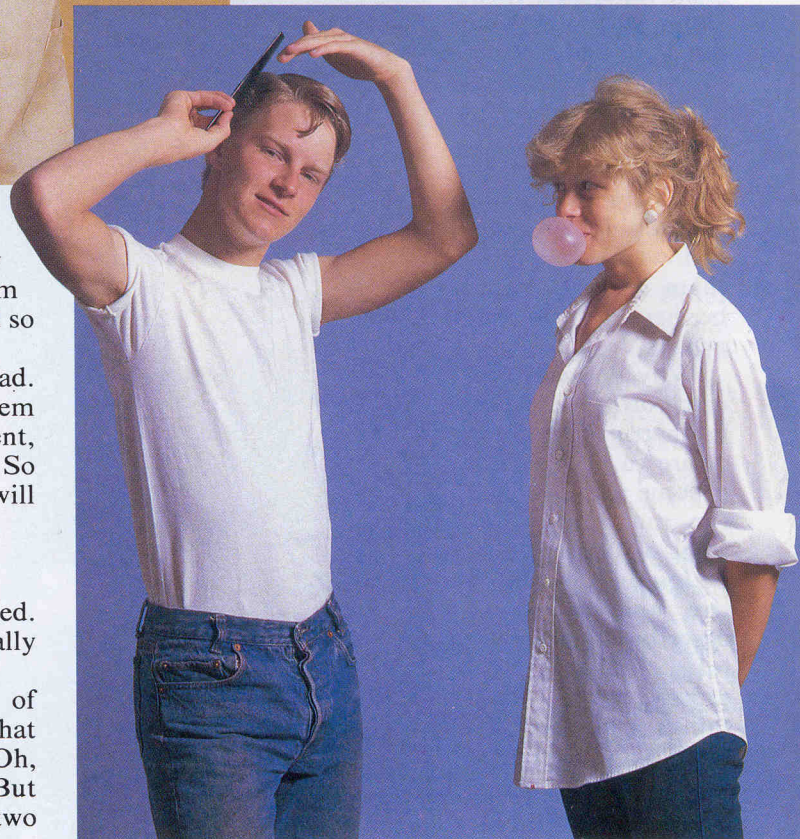
The fourth says to keep the Sabbath holy.

The fifth says to honor your parents.

The sixth says not to kill, meaning we shouldn't even hate.

The seventh says not to get involved in wrong sexual practices.

The eighth says not to steal.



The ninth says not to lie.

The tenth says not to be jealous about what someone else has.

Now how many friends and classmates do you have who follow the Ten Commandments?

Of course keeping them is not easy. God knows that. However, if a person who is trying to keep them slips up and makes a mistake, God will forgive if that person asks Him to — as long as that person is trying hard. But the point is, how many people do you know who are even trying?

That's why anyone who does try is so different — so unique!

Not a passing fad

And it's not just some fad that will pass away, either. The time is coming when everybody on earth is going to be keeping God's commandments, because His commandments are right and good. They create peace and happiness. They do away with war and crime and fear. That's why the world tomorrow will be governed according to those laws.

But if everyone will be obeying God's laws, won't everyone be alike? No, that's not true. Keeping God's commandments is a sure way to be unique in today's world. But in tomorrow's world, obeying God's laws isn't what will make you unique. There are many other good ways to be unique.

**Do you know
how long a fad will last?
Until the novelty is
gone. Then it too
will die out.**

God loves variety. You have your own personality, your own talents and abilities. No one else who has ever lived is exactly like you. You don't have to try being unique by copying or imitating fads someone else has invented. Be an individual in the right way. Let your own individuality develop within the guidelines of God's laws.

If you start now, you can get in on the ground floor of something big. However, be warned that others around you are going to think you are different. It doesn't necessarily take courage to follow a fad. It does take courage today to be different God's way, though.

But what difference does it make what other people think anyway? Do other people always understand you? Are other people always available and willing to help you whenever you need it? Can

Clothing and other types of fads come and go. They are usually started by somebody who decides to be different — until everybody else starts copying!
(Photos by G.A. Belluche Jr.)



other people give you eternal life? No. But God can do all these things and more for you if you will step out and follow Him.

Why not take up God's challenge? Be different. Obey God's laws. For example, instead of giving in to pressure to go along with the crowd and shoplift — to break the Eighth Commandment — practice God's way of give. Do good to others. Say a kind word. Lend help where it is needed.

For more information, send for our free booklet, *The Ten Commandments*. It explains more about how to be truly different — a positive force for good in every aspect of life. □



A Moving Experience

By Wendi Butler

It's not easy to just pack up and say good-bye to the place you've called home.

The last box has been packed, the last piece of furniture stowed into the moving van.

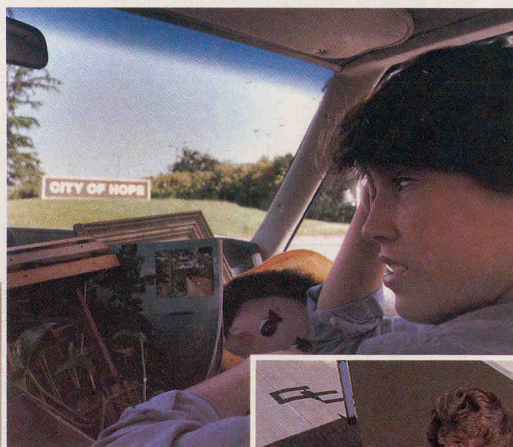
You walk around the empty rooms where you and your brothers and sisters played, teased one another, laughed and cried.

Your parents' voices echo across the living room, into the kitchen and across the hall to your bedroom. It's time to go.

Soon you're entering your new place. Its bare

white walls and curtainless windows don't seem too inviting at first. But within hours Mom and Dad have installed the family belongings, and the empty apartment or house begins to look like home.

Only it's not home. Moving



It can cause you to feel uprooted, unsettled, lonely. How can you make moving less traumatic, and your new home an exciting, fun place to be? (Photos by Hal Finch)

Twilight Zone at first, but give yourself time. There are steps you can take to lessen "moving shock."

If you didn't feel good about

the move in the first place, you will have to work out your feelings.

Be honest with yourself and be honest with your parents. Talk to them and calmly let them know how you feel, without accusing or blaming them. It may not keep you from moving, but at least your parents will be able to help make things easier for you.

For instance, my family moved to Oregon from California when I was 17. My last year of high school and my parents had to be transferred out of state!

To me this was a tragedy. What? Leave all my friends before I graduated? Well, after talking with my parents about my feelings, I discovered that they understood and would try to work things out so it would be easier for me.

It may not solve every problem, but an open line of communication between you and your parents will lessen built-up tension and help you to understand the reasons the move was necessary. You may even find out that your parents aren't all that excited about the move either and that they'd like moral support from you!

If this is the case, then be sure you do everything you can to help make the move easier for your parents too.

There is something about helping others that can really take your mind off your own problems. This way you won't be tempted to hide in your bedroom, sulk or let bad feelings ruin everyone's day.

All right, so your house is becoming organized and things are pretty well back to normal. Well, almost.

After exploring the neighborhood, you find that there are few young people your age around. As you walk, you begin to wish you
(Continued on page 26)



Photos by the United Nations, Warren Watson and Ellis La Ravia

Young China's Dreams

• *Zhongguo Qingnian* — that's Chinese, folks. Roughly translated, it means *Youth of China*. It is a publication for young people in China. We ran across the following article, translated by the *Beijing Review*, and thought you might be interested in seeing what young people in China are thinking. The author of the article, a young worker named Xin Qin, titled the article, "10 Things We Want." Here it is:

"We would like to speak out what is on our minds," he wrote, "so as to be understood, recognized and helped by society.

"First, we young people want to be successful in our careers and to contribute to society.

"Second, we want to be intelligent and well-educated. Our

enthusiasm for knowledge is increasing throughout the country.

"Third, we want good social ethics. Having suffered enough from the 'cultural revolution,'* we young people deeply hate erroneous tendencies. We hope the working style of the [Chinese Communist] Party and the morality of the people will become better as soon as possible.

"Fourth, we want varied and interesting recreational activities organized by the Youth League, so that we can learn more and look back with fond memories on our life in the League.

"Fifth, we want an ideal spouse with good ethics and behavior.

*The Cultural Revolution was a massive attempt to reform Chinese society in the 1960s. It was later abandoned by the country's leaders.

"Sixth, we want a comfortable and warm family life.

"Seventh, we want to become more beautiful and healthy. This is a distinctive characteristic of the youths of our generation.

"Eighth, we want our personal interests and hobbies to be respected, supported and assisted, not criticized and even satirized or interfered with, especially by leaders and the comrades around.

"Ninth, we want some good friends who share the same ideals. Young people enjoy vigorous lives. It's our common desire to discuss problems and share what we have learned with friends.

"Tenth, we want to visit other places in China. Not just bustling cities but also famous scenic spots and ancient cultural sites." □



Youth 85 Hero Survey

My three biggest heroes are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

_____ I can't decide who they are.

_____ I don't have any heroes. (Write us a note and tell us why.)

I am _____ years old. _____ Male _____ Female

Mail this coupon by September 15 to:

Hero Survey
Youth 85 Magazine
 300 West Green Street
 Pasadena, California 91129
 U.S.A.

Who's Your Hero?

• Who's your hero? U.S. President Ronald Reagan — himself a hero to many young people — has called this “an age of heroes.”

Kings or queens, athletes or industrialists, singers or senators — who do you admire? Who do you look up to? Who do you hope to be like someday? We'd like to know.

Announcing the *Youth 85* Hero Survey! Use the coupon at left to send us the names of the three people you admire the most, whether they're known around the world or only in your hometown.

While you're at it, send us a note telling us why these people are your heroes. Then be sure to watch for the results in our January issue! □

Chunneling Under the Channel

• From the “If at first you don't succeed” file:

For nearly 180 years, the English and French have talked about building a tunnel under the 22-mile- (35-kilometer-) wide English Channel, permanently linking the two countries. Several times, it looked like the dream might become a reality. But each time, the tunnel was canceled.

Once again, plans are being made for a tunnel. But this time, with the backing of French President Francois Mitterrand and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, it just might work.

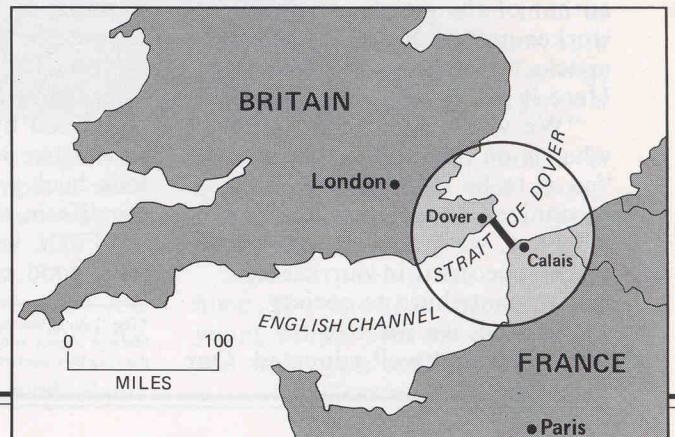
It's not known just how many different plans have been made for tunnels, bridges, pontoons and other links. Twice, tunnels have even been started, only to be stopped abruptly.

But last spring, President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Thatcher gave their support to a new attempt. They agreed to guarantee that should a tunnel — or “Chunnel,” for *channel tunnel* — be started, neither

country will stop construction for political reasons.

It may take a while for everyone to agree just what kind of tunnel will be built. It may not

Map by Ron Grove



even be a tunnel. Some have proposed a bridge connecting artificial islands dotting the Channel. The project might be a combination of bridge and tunnel.

Ferry operators carry cars and trucks across the Channel now. But a high-speed tunnel link could cut hours off travel time, while avoiding the notorious fogs and rough seas that often limit

ferry operation.

The Channel tunnel won't be easy to build. Imagine digging a 22-mile-long tunnel that has to be wide enough for both a train track and auto traffic. You'd have to coordinate two governments to build this, and your workers would be speaking at least two different languages. And, of course, if you start at both ends,

you'd have to meet somewhere in the middle!

But several companies are eager to take on the challenge. The tunnel's biggest obstacle, they feel, has always been political. But now, with the agreement between Mr. Mitterrand and Mrs. Thatcher, the Channel may finally become a reality. — *By Maria Root* □

Want to Be in the Big Leagues?

• Jim Bouton, the former pitcher for the New York Yankees, knows the thrill of seeing his own face on a baseball trading card. And now he's in the business of giving others the same thrill — even if they've never been up to bat!

Mr. Bouton's company, Big League Cards Inc., of Teaneck, New Jersey, produces cards that look, smell and feel like regular baseball cards, but the people featured on the cards are everyday, ordinary, you-and-me people.

All that's required to put together an authentic-looking status symbol is a picture of yourself and the statistics you want recorded on the card.

Spaces are available for your name, title, team or company name and a logo of your choice to accompany your picture on the front of the card. The back of the card displays your statistics — height, weight, hometown, position or title, favorite activities and a personal story or message.

Big League Cards charges \$30 for a minimum order of 50 cards. The cards arrive ready to be traded, packaged in waxed paper with a slab of bubble gum — just like the real thing.

The response to Big League Cards has been tremendous. "People are having fun with these," Mr. Bouton told *Youth 85*. They've been used for everything from birth announcements to business cards to personalized gag gifts.

The cards invite originality. Brett Levine, age 17, advertises his juggling business ("Different, exciting and unique," says the back of the card) on Big League Cards. Alexis Alvey's

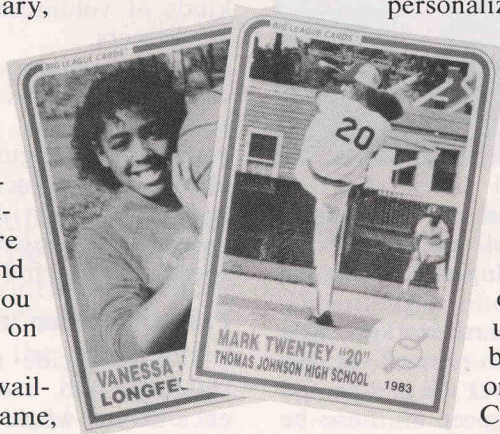
bubble-gum-card picture was taken when she was less than a week old. Her hobbies are listed as eating and wetting.

Phil Niekro, a pitcher for the New York Yankees, has been on his share of cards during his 27 years in baseball. Now, the whole

Niekro family is on its very own card (Height: 22 feet, one inch [6.7 meters]; weight: 600 pounds [270 kilograms]," says the card.)

The Jordan family from Old Lyme, Connecticut, even gave their dog Hoops the distinction of being the first canine featured on his own bubble gum card.

Mr. Bouton thinks everyone should have the chance to feel like a hero. — *By Sandi Borax* □



Youth 85 on Tape

• Because of numerous requests, *Youth 85* is now available on audio tapes for the blind. Only selected articles were available on tape. Now, the entire issue will be recorded.

The tapes are available free to people with physical handicaps that make reading difficult or impossible. Please write to the *Youth 85* office nearest you for more information. The addresses are on the inside front cover.

— *By Thomas C. Hanson* □

HELP!

By Ron Grove

When help is needed, volunteers go into action. Could volunteer work add a new, satisfying dimension to your life?

Met Rob. A teenager living in the U.S. Midwest, he has a fulfilling job teaching life-saving techniques to hearing-impaired youngsters.

In addition to winning several national awards, making many friends, gaining public recognition and learning valuable job skills, Rob says it feels good to be able to help fill a need.

How did he get started? Rob learned American Sign

Language (ASL) shortly after his younger brother, Danny, was found to have a hearing impairment. He learned ASL quickly and the Red Cross, an international service agency, asked him to help.



It was only the beginning of an interesting, satisfying eight years for Rob.

A hard worker, Rob applied himself at his volunteer job and earned the respect of those he worked with. Because of his leadership ability, he was asked to preside over

Helping youngsters and the elderly can be quite rewarding. Volunteering has benefits you might not have thought of before! (Photos by Hal Finch)

his city's Youth Council. He also served as the coordinator for his area's Youth Disaster Action Team.

Unexpected benefits

When Rob began teaching ASL, he didn't realize it would generate so many benefits. But he learned that a small service opportunity can open many doors.

You can find many doors opened to you, too. Treated seriously and conscientiously, a volunteer job can lead to a part- or full-time, paying job. It gives you a chance to learn job skills and gain work experience that will look good on a resume to a future employer. And giving of yourself to help others just plain feels good.

Thousands of people, worldwide, find giving beneficial. One of every four Americans volunteers time and energy in community service. Britain estimates having about five million volunteers in a given year. Between 1979 and 1980, 2.7 million Canadians volunteered for service to help others. Australia, with a population of about 15 million, has as many as 37,000 agencies to help in volunteer work.

There are just about as many kinds of volunteer jobs as there are careers.

In many communities you can volunteer for jobs in agriculture, accounting, the arts, forestry, counseling, language, nutrition, library work, recreation, teaching, fire fighting, driving a vehicle, ecology, secretarial, speech, sports and many more.

Prepare for an interview

If you decide to apply for a volunteer job, treat the experience as you would applying for a paying job. (See the article "So, Do I Get the Job?" in the April issue.)

Think about the type of work you would like to do before going to an interview. Do you like working with people or would you rather perform a service with less personal contact? Be sure to be
(Continued on page 29)





Photo by Nathan Faulkner

When It Looks HOPELESS

By George Hague

*If you've faced failure, you're in
good company!*

People thought Tom was hopeless. After attending school for only three months, his teacher called him "addled."

That was the end of his school career. His mother decided she would have to try teaching him at home.

At age 12 Tom got a job selling newspapers on trains, but (according to some reports) that job ended because he accidentally set fire to a rail car!

In his late teens, he was fired from job after job. And, when he patented his first invention, nobody wanted to buy it.

Tom failed from the very beginning. But before he was 25 he received \$40,000 for an invention, and he went on to patent the phonograph, the motion picture camera, the microphone and 1,090 other inventions. Thomas Edison, America's greatest inventor, didn't allow failure to defeat him.

How about you? Are you a failure? Have you failed a test in school? Did the coach say you were not good enough to play on the team? Have you been turned down for a date?

Perhaps you try hard in everything you do. You educate your-

self to know how to reach your goals. You devise new methods to accomplish your projects, but still you can't seem to succeed. Again you fail.

Life is filled with failures, both small and great, but initial failure does not mean total defeat. Instead, people like Thomas Edison (and you!) can learn how to persevere — to never give up.

Striking out

Do you ever strike out? So do those who are the best in their fields.

Baseball star Hank Aaron holds the home-run record — a fantastic 755 home runs. But did you know that he struck out almost twice as often as he hit a home run? In spite of the strikeouts, Hank Aaron is still one of the greatest names in the game of baseball.

As a young person, if you are a failure, you are in good company. Did you know that Isaac Newton was considered a dunce? And that Albert Einstein's parents were told he "would never make a success of anything"?

The great British statesman
(Continued on page 29)

TANNING POWER

By Richard R. Rand

It all begins with deadly rays in the center of the sun.

Where would you tan faster: on an ocean beach, or on a mountaintop?

If you said the mountaintop, you would be right, although you might also get a little cold.

You see, the rays of the sun that cause us to tan (and burn!) can be twice as strong at high altitudes. This is because there is less air to block them as they

fight their way through.

We need a certain amount of these ultraviolet rays, but too many can be harmful. And so earth's atmosphere provides an important service to humanity, shielding us from harsh radiation.

Sun shield

But did you realize that an even more important shielding is done by the sun itself, or there would be no life on earth at all?

Here on earth, the sun can gently tan us, but from close-up, its power is far from gentle. There, 93 million miles (about 150 million kilometers) away from us, is awesome, mind-boggling power.

At the superheated center of the sun, conditions resemble thousands of hydrogen bombs going off at once. Bits of matter are continuously being turned into energy — energy in the form of deadly gamma rays.

These literal death rays, if not thwarted in some way, would mean the total annihilation of mankind. But there is a vital reason for these rays, because without them we could not live either!

Here is where a poison and the converter of that poison work together for humanity's benefit. Both ingredients are needed! Here is a simplified look at what happens:

The sun is surrounded by a dense outer shell of hot gas. When the gamma rays start their journey out from the core of the sun and contact the atoms of this gas, fantastic changes take place, transforming the deadly gamma rays into rays that make life possible here on earth.

As a gamma ray strikes an atom, the atom will absorb the energy and rise to a higher energy level.

Then, to return to normal, the atom will give off some energy. This energy could be in the form of light or heat — useful energy from a deadly ray!

Necessary for life

The sun is a pretty fantastic power plant — and it is absolutely vital for life on earth.

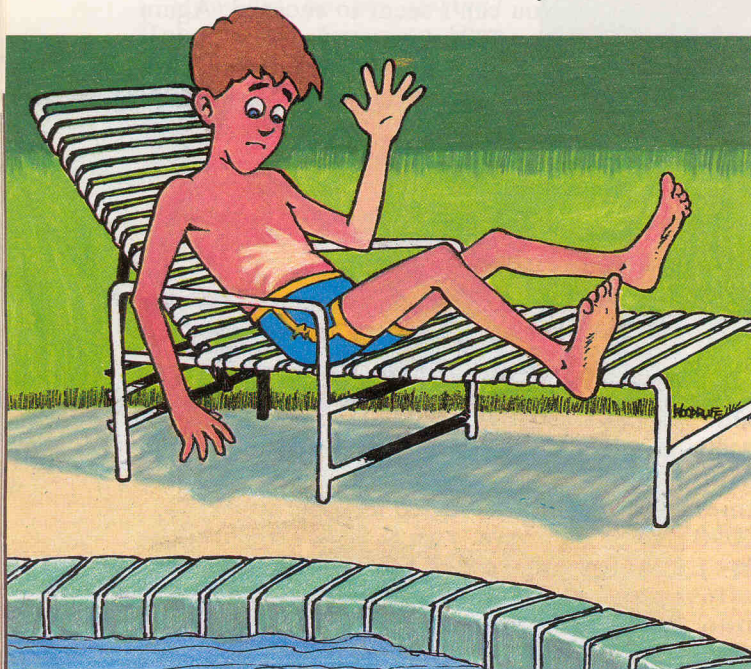
Without the sun, our planet would be a frozen, dark place. Even the air would freeze, becoming a solid sheet covering the entire earth!

Plants can't live without the sun's light and heat, and almost every form of power man uses is or was supplied by the sun, including oil, coal, wind and hydroelectric power.

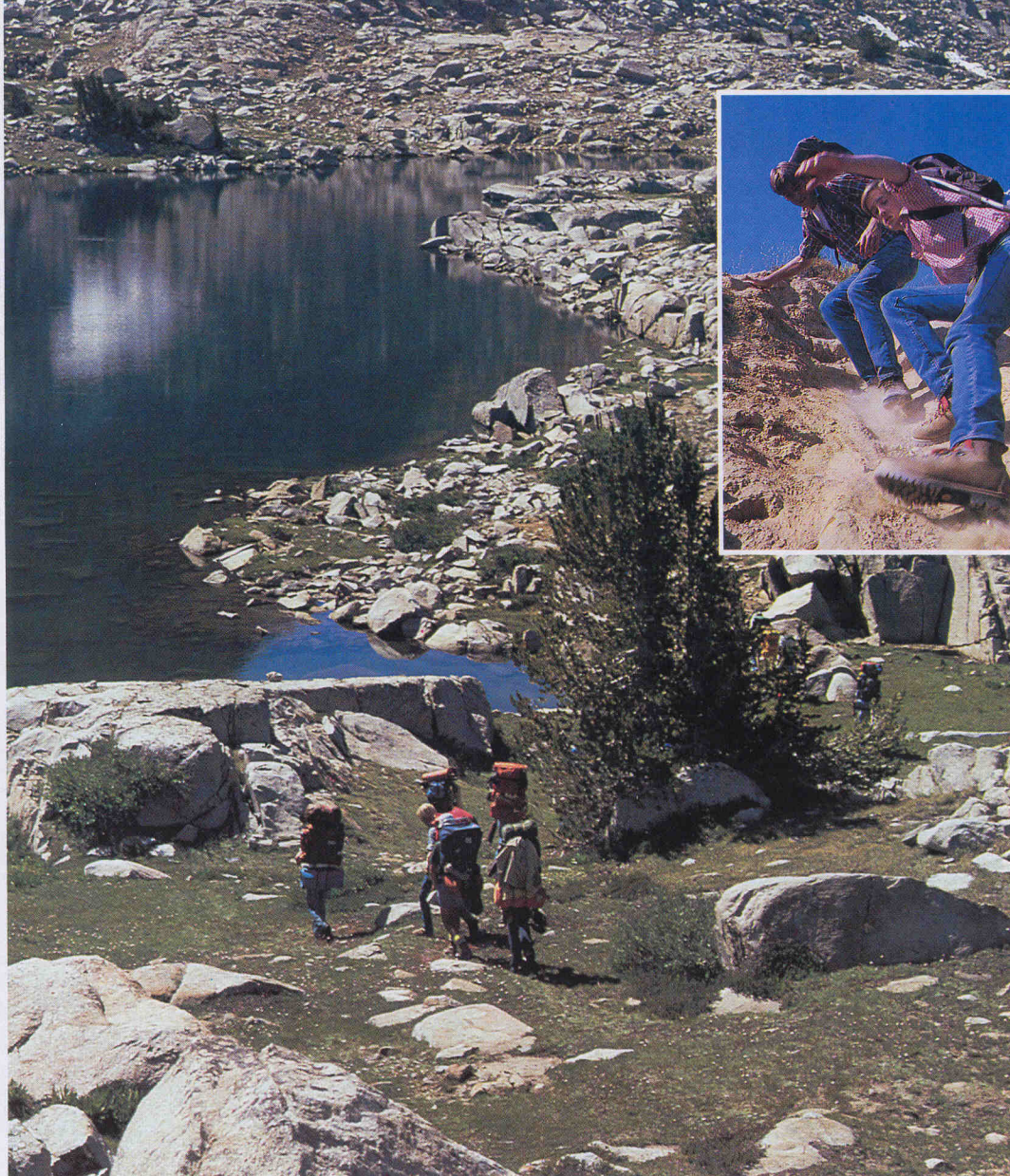
Such an incredible amount of solar energy reaches earth, it's hard to believe that the sun is constantly putting out more than a thousand million times that much!

Throughout history humans have seen the fantastic benefits the sun gives us and, instead of worshiping the great Creator and Designer of the sun, they have worshiped the sun itself. From ancient Egypt to Stonehenge in England, sun worship was nearly universal.

But, as we can see by examining the hundreds of amazing facts scientists have discovered about this great light, the sun is a masterpiece of design, a tribute to the great Designer of the universe — the Creator God! □



The sun's rays can be painfully strong when they reach earth, but that's nothing compared to how powerful they were when they started out! (Illustration by Michael Jon Woodruff)



Take a Walk in the Wild

By Scott Ashley

Have you ever stood face to face with a bull moose with only a camera and a small sapling between you?

Or almost tripped over a fawn hidden in knee-high grass while following a herd of deer along a lake shore?

Or waded across a 150-foot-wide (45 meters) river of ice water reaching to your chest?

These are samples of the kind of excitement

that came my way, and all within a few days, during my first backpacking trip several summers ago.

Thrilling experiences like these are part of the reason for the recent backpacking boom. The adventure of getting out in God's creation and roughing it has a growing appeal in our increasingly mechanized and crowded world.

Where to start

Like many other good things, backpacking

Previous page, large photo: Hikers survey lakes at the bottom of Bishop Pass, high in California's Sierras.

The lakes were formed by the melting snow. (Photo by Norm Edwards; inset photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.)

Clockwise from left: Hikers pause to enjoy the scenery (Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.); a view of the majestic High Sierras of California; this friendly deer took a liking to photographer Michael Snyder and his party, following them for mile after mile; the Mineral King area of the High Sierras; pancakes cooked in the out-of-doors can really hit the spot after hiking up an appetite! (Photos by Michael and Cynthia Snyder)



takes determination and hard work to reap the rewards. If you think you want to try it out, head first to the library or a sporting-goods store and pick up some books on the subject. The best I've come across is *Backpacking: One Step at a Time* by Harvey Manning. Read these books carefully, and include a good book on first aid.

Other good sources for backpacking information are scouting organizations; the Sierra Club, which has chapters in many larger cities; and community colleges, some of which offer backpacking classes. Through one of these groups you should be able to take part in a trip this summer. A more expensive alternative is to sign up with an expedition group or wilderness school advertised in backpacking and adventure magazines.

If there is enough interest in your immediate area, you may be able to find someone with outdoor survival training willing to supervise a group on a short trip. If you're not thoroughly experienced, resist the temptation to go it alone

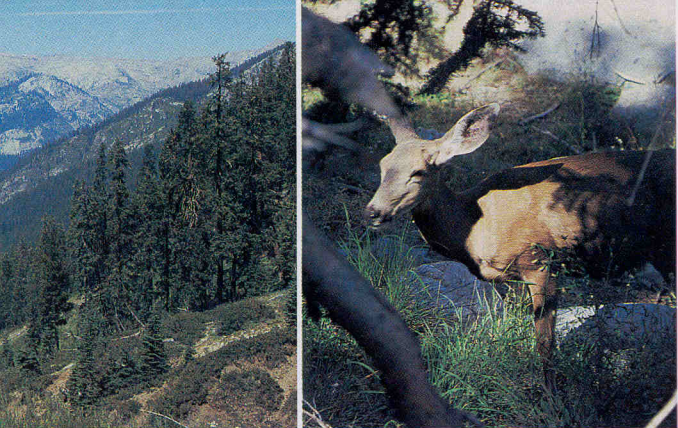
on a wilderness solo or to organize a trip among equally inexperienced people. Not only is such a venture foolish, it's downright dangerous.

While you're studying up on the subject, get your body into condition. A good standard is the ability to run 1½ miles (2.4 kilometers) in 12 minutes for the guys, 1¼ miles (2 kilometers) for the girls.

It helps to strengthen your upper body and shoulders (it's not easy carrying a heavy pack), and you should build up your lung power if you're planning on hiking at altitudes above 5,000 feet (1,500 meters).

Where to go

At the mention of the word *backpacking* your mind probably immediately conjures up images of beautiful and well-publicized areas — such as Yellowstone (Wyoming) or Yosemite (California) national parks in the United States. Unfortunately, many other outdoor enthusiasts picture the same areas, causing trails in many



It's the peace and beauty you'll remember. You'll get a different perspective on life . . .

vary considerably depending on the location and duration of your trip. At high elevations the temperature can drop below freezing at night even in July, and you should have the proper clothing and sleeping bag to keep you warm. At lower elevations, temperatures are milder, so you can get by with a lighter bag and clothing. Shelter may range from a nylon tent capable of withstanding a mountain snowstorm to a simple plastic sheet to keep you dry in a light rain in other areas.

Food is largely dependent on how long you'll be on the trail and what else you'll be carrying. If you're going for a few days, you can take dry cereal, powdered milk, fruit and instant foods, but for longer hauls switch to freeze-dried foods and a backpacker's stove for less weight and more balanced meals.

Very important, but often neglected, is a good pair of boots. Specially designed hiking boots can be expensive and, if your feet have stopped growing, you may want to make that investment. As a less expensive alternative, you can buy work boots, military surplus boots or a durable pair of tennis shoes. Wear thick wool or athletic socks over a thinner pair both when you try on and when you wear the boots — this will really make a difference comfort-wise on the trail.

Don't go out and spend a small fortune for a backpack, sleeping bag or parka that you might outgrow in another year or never use again. You should be able to borrow some of the gear you'll need and other items you can rent from sporting-goods stores or pick up at a reasonable price from a military surplus outlet.

If, after your trip, you think you'd like to continue to backpack, you can invest in better gear.

Backpacking is a learning experience unlike any other. It can be a physical test, and often it's a mental test to see if you have the determination to

finish what you've started when your body tells you to quit. But it's the peace and beauty that you'll remember. You'll see things you've never seen before and you'll get a different perspective on life away from the hustle and bustle.

Backpacking — it's rough, it's tough, but it's worth it. □

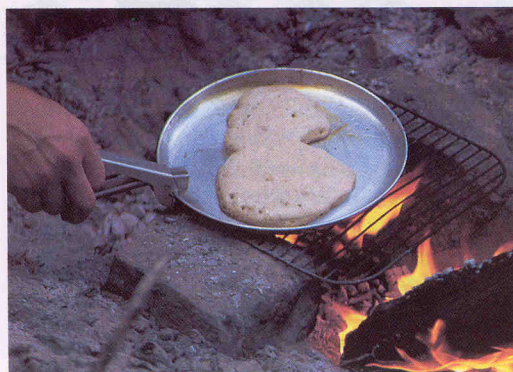
national parks and other popular areas to resemble freeways at rush hour.

If you don't like being trampled, you have to look around for places that are less publicized, but equally as beautiful. If you are in the United States, for example, you might try the national forests. You'll find them bordering most national parks (thus sharing the same spectacular scenery) as well as elsewhere.

Most of the states also have state parks suitable for backpacking. Detailed maps of these areas are available from the individual national forest headquarters or the U.S. Geological Survey, or through your sporting-goods store.

What you'll need

You'll also need equipment and the three essentials — food, clothing and shelter. These will



By Robert C. Taylor

“The desert?” people ask in disbelief. “Why would anyone want to live there?”

The very word conjures up images of rattlesnakes, scorpions, unbearable heat, dried animal skeletons and barren wasteland.

But not all deserts are uninhabitable or foreboding. The High Desert of California, for example, is not only survivable, but actually has many advantages for the people who live here.

The High Desert is about 100 miles (160 kilometers) northeast of Los Angeles and is on the opposite side of the San Bernardino Mountains. It is made up of several communities: Victorville, Apple Valley, Adelanto, Hesperia and Lucerne Valley. Their combined population is about 125,000 — about twice as many as 10 years ago.

Summertime temperatures can be as high as 112 degrees Fahrenheit (44 degrees Celsius). In the winter the temperature can fall to 9 degrees (-13 Celsius). Once in a while there is snow, but it usually melts quickly.

Plenty of water

Here on the edge of the Mojave (pronounced muh HA vee) Desert, the sun shines 350 days a year. In spite of having less than five inches (13 centimeters) of rain annually, there is more water than meets the eye. Below us is an underground lake with plenty of water for everyone. All we have to do is pump it to the surface!

The Mojave Narrows Regional Park offers nature trails for hiking and horse riding. Aside from the desert's numerous golf courses, the park is one of the few areas with thick groves of trees and large fields of green grass.

Here also is Horseshoe Lake, which is fed by the Mojave River. The Mojave River itself runs underground — all we see is a dry riverbed.



What's It Like to Be a THE HIGH D

Paddleboats and rowboats can be rented for use on Horseshoe Lake for about \$2 a half hour. Eager fishermen frequently line the shores.

Many of us, when we have the urge to go for a hike or a nature walk, simply go into our own backyards. There are usually plenty of hills, gullies, wildlife

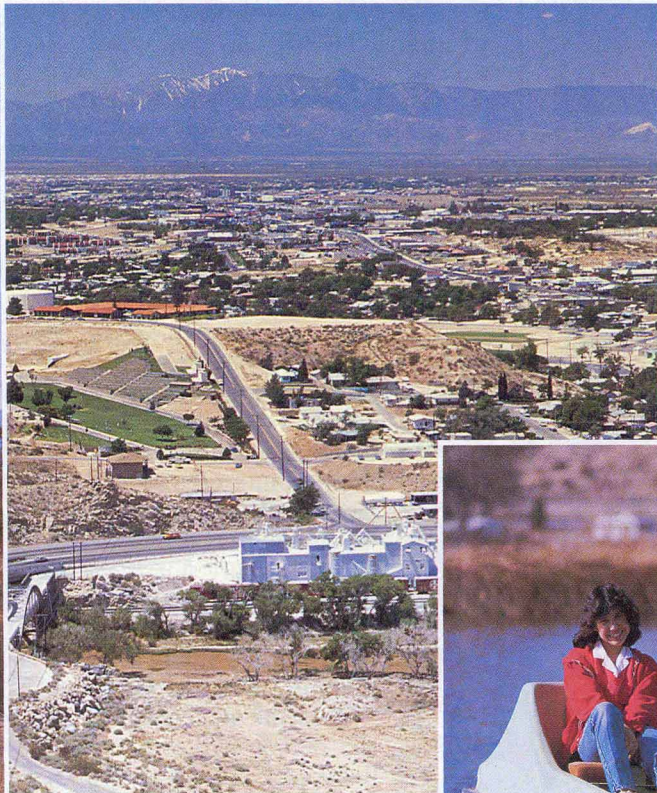
and wild flowers close by.

If we are feeling more adventurous, the nearby mountains are ideal for hiking, camping and fishing. During winter nights, we can see the lighted slopes of the ski resort in Wrightwood.

The Victorville Fairgrounds is host to events year round. There are swap meets, picnics, square



From top left: Chuckawallas, such as the tamed pet shown here, can be found clambering among the rocks in the hills. A child gains a flock of friends as he offers popcorn to ducks on the shore of Horseshoe Lake at the Mojave Narrows Regional Park. Stucco-covered, ranch house homes are the favorite among High Desert residents. (Photos by Robert C. Taylor)



From bottom left: A symbol of the High Desert, Joshua trees can be seen everywhere. A mountaintop view of Victorville — the largest city in the High Desert community. Paddleboating is a popular pastime for visitors at the Mojave Narrows Regional Park.



Joshua tree bark. We decided that I would lift the bark and he would quickly grab the lizard before it knew what was happening. So I jerked the wood away, and before we knew what was happening, Greg was within inches of grabbing a 5-inch- (13-centimeter-) long green scorpion! He pulled back just in time and we immediately revised our lizard-catching techniques.

The desert is often pictured as drab and colorless. Much of the time this is the case. But when there is rain, it's amazing how many quick-growing flowers and grasses there are. The desert can blossom overnight.

Starry nights

Desert sunsets fill the entire horizon with an orange, red and purple glow. At night, the dry desert air allows thousands of stars to become visible — far more than in humid climates or polluted and brightly lit cities.

Many High Desert residents are willing to commute long distances to their jobs just so they can live in the sunny, quiet desert. Housing and land here are far less expensive than in the urban areas of Southern California.

Of course, the desert is by no means a paradise. Afternoon winds can kick up a lot of annoying dust. Even though it does feel good to escape the crowded cities and enjoy the calmness of the desert, at times we can really miss the abundant green trees and plants of better-watered regions.

Jobs, especially for young people, are not as plentiful or as well paying as in the highly populated regions. Still, the High Desert is a region of rapid growth.

The desert may at times appear desolate and undesirable, but for those who call it home, it's a pleasant retreat from the clamor, clutter and congestion of the big cities. □

Teen in DESERT?

dances, concerts, fireworks displays (on July 4, the American Independence Day), car shows and, of course, the annual San Bernardino County Fair.

Facilities for skating, racquetball, tennis, swimming, bowling and rifle and pistol target practice are nearby. The Roy Rogers-Dale Evans Museum draws many

visitors who come to see the memorabilia from Roy Rogers' Western movies and television shows made many years ago.

The desert does have its share of scorpions and rattlesnakes. For the most part, they are not active during the day and they do all they can to avoid people. Far more people are injured in automobile accidents than by snakes, scorpions and tarantulas.

Nevertheless it pays to be cautious. My nephew, Greg, and I were out trying to catch harmless lizards one day when we saw one scurry under a chunk of

IDEAS PLUS

Photo Fun!

A camera can be more fun than you ever realized, especially when you put your creativity to work! Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Write your own photo comic strips. Decide the plot ahead of time, then have your subjects (family, friends and pets) dress up and pose accordingly. After the pictures are printed, glue them onto white cardboard and add some typed captions.

- Show off your hometown with a slide show featuring the most beautiful and exciting sights in your area. For a professional effect, add narration and recorded background music. This might even earn credit as a special project for class.

- Create your own fashion album! Have some of your friends model their favorite outfits. The best photos can be placed into an attractive album with clothing descriptions next to each model. For a humorous album that's sure to get your friends laughing, show a few not-so-fashionable styles.

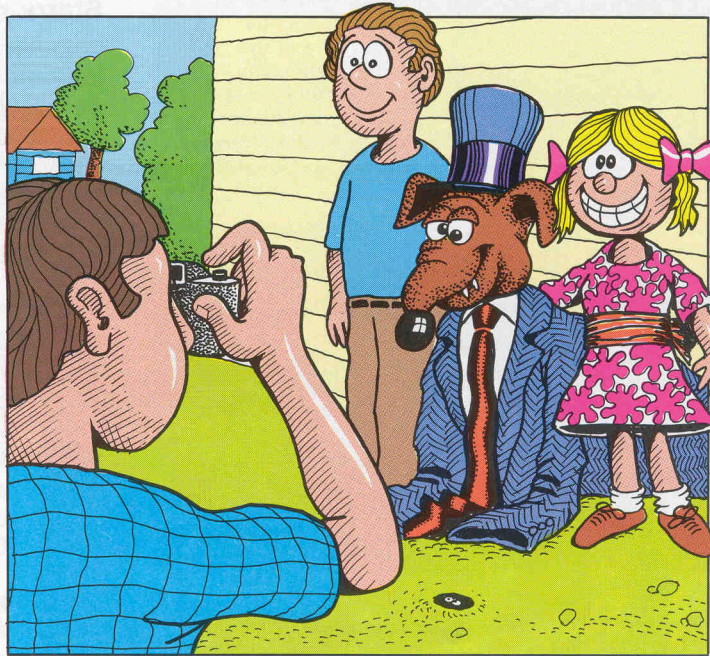
- Find a scenic spot and put your camera on a tripod. After each shot, rotate the camera so the next frame picks up where the previous one left off. Keep going until the camera comes back to its starting point. Tape the photos together for a panoramic view!

For a novel group shot using the same technique, have friends

form a circle around you.

- Create a photo poster. Choose a subject such as "fast cars," "laughter," "unusual buildings" or "flowers." Shoot a set of imaginative pictures and assemble them into a poster.

- Use your sense of humor



and imagination to create some humorous pet portraits. For ideas, see page 15 of the February *Youth* 85. —By Robert C. Taylor □

Packages Handled With Care

The little yellow card in my mailbox read, "Package too big for mail slot." How thrilled I was as I raced to pick up the package and see what surprises were awaiting me.

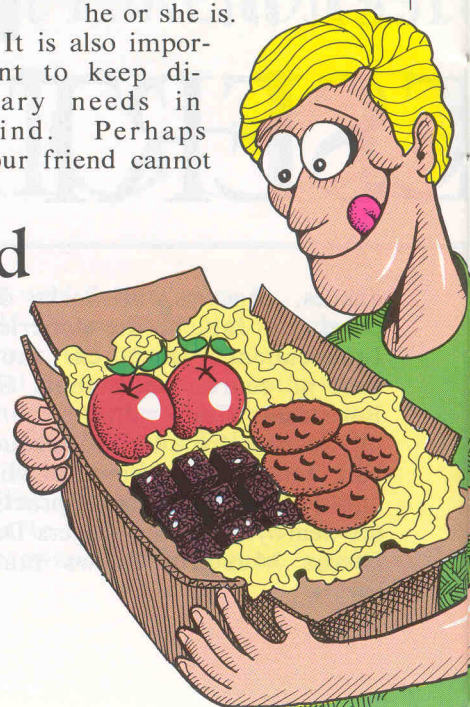
As my fingers tore at the string, I caught the faint aroma of chocolate brownies wafting up from the layers of wrapping. Now I was really excited!

Do you remember how grateful you felt the first time you received a care package while away from home? Sending a care package to brothers, sisters or friends shows them how much you are thinking of them while they are gone. Care packages can help boost their spirits and relieve feelings of homesickness, depression and loneliness.

It's really not that difficult to assemble a care package. You can have quite a bit of fun planning what to send.

First of all, consider the person's likes and dislikes. Splurge a little and send something delicious that may be scarce where he or she is.

It is also important to keep dietary needs in mind. Perhaps your friend cannot



eat sweets at all. There are plenty of healthy snacks you can send such as crackers, mixed nuts, dried fruits and sugarless foods.

Homemade goodies take more time to make, but they are (in *my* opinion) the best. However, if you're not too good in the kitchen or if time is short, you may have to buy goodies already made from the store.

For a special touch, include in the care package a small gift like a bottle of cologne, photos of a get-together back home, a new joke, a puzzle or a souvenir from a trip you've taken.

When everything is ready to go, choose a sturdy box that will hold up through the mail. Put plenty of padding in so things like cookies won't arrive in crumbs. Popped popcorn is good to use for padding.

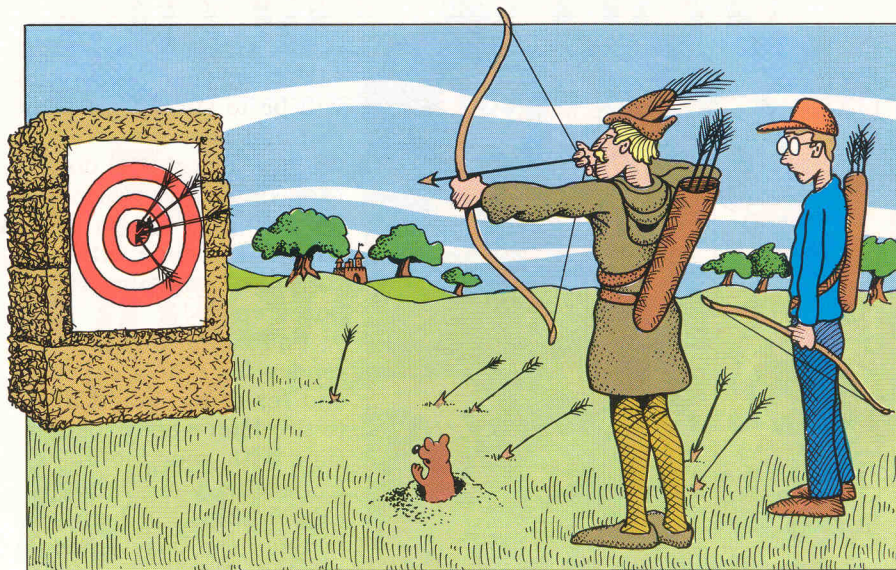
After wrapping the box in sturdy wrapping paper, secure the package with strong wrapping tape. Clearly mark the address before sending the care package on its way. Your act of giving will be long remembered and greatly appreciated. — *By Wilma Vernich* □

Right on Target!

I slipped the arrow onto the string, pulled it back to my ear and aimed. The yellow bull's-eye, 50 feet (15 meters) away, danced on the end of my arrow. I was nervous. Could I hit it?

I held my breath, then released the arrow. It sliced swiftly through the air until, with a solid *thud*, it stopped — surrounded by yellow!

My first bull's-eye!



Archery is one of the world's most ancient sports, with roots that go back thousands of years. Today's archer, though, makes use of some of the most advanced engineering available.

Archery takes several forms. Many archers enjoy the popular sports of bowhunting and bowfishing.

Some prefer an interesting variation called flight shooting — shooting arrows for their maximum distance. Special bows have launched arrows more than 1,000 yards (more than a kilometer).

But the most popular forms of archery are target and field archery. Target archery consists of shooting arrows at a large target in an archery range. A variant of this, field archery, allows archers to travel through woods and fields to shoot at targets.

As with any form of recreation, it is important to play it safe. Know the rules of safety before shooting your bow and arrow. Following these rules will help you, and other archers around you, have a safe, enjoyable time.

If you would like to try archery, contact archery dealers or instructors. They can help you select equipment that is right for you. They can also show you the basic techniques

for successful shooting.

So give archery a try! It's a challenging and exciting sport.

— *By Andrew Burdette* □

Proverbs for Today: Antics of the Ant

Where were they coming from?

The ants raced in formation out of the crevice in the floor, up the kitchen wall, onto the counter top, behind the stove, across the sink and up into the cabinet. Here, they ganged up on a half-open package of chocolate chip cookies. They scurried away with the crumbs, like a triumphant army returning home with the spoils.

I traced their twisting path outside, across the walk, down the flower bed, around the patio and underneath the woodpile.

There are, perhaps, no creatures so diligent and determined as ants when they are storing up food for the winter.

Have you seen the antics of the ant? Apparently wise King Solomon had. He observed: "The ants are a people not

Teen Bible Study

A Brighter Tomorrow

By Richard A. Sedliacik

“World peace is possible *only* through world government.” That is the conclusion voiced by many leaders in government, science and education.

Yet, these same people generally admit that such a utopia is merely wishful thinking. This world’s nations could not agree on who would rule or how.

What about it? Are world government and universal peace impossible?

Believe it or not, a world full of peace, happiness and prosperity is not only possible, it is coming — and in our time!

Before you continue, be sure to get your Bible, a pen or pencil and some paper. Reading and writing out the Bible verses in this study will help you remember what you’ll be learning.

1. More than 1,900 years ago, God sent a special messenger to earth with important news for humanity. Who was that messenger and what was His message? Mark 1:14, Matthew 9:35.

Jesus Christ was an advance news broadcaster — telling us the news before it happens. Christ’s message was big news — a sensational announcement of the most colossal future event ever to occur in human history! His message was the Gospel (meaning “good news”) of a coming government — the Kingdom of God — a literal, world-ruling government to be established on earth.

2. Who will be the head of that future world-ruling government? Luke 1:30-33, Revelation 11:15, John 18:36-37. Where did Jesus Christ go after being brought back to life? Acts 1:11. Will He return to the earth? Same verse and John 14:3. Will He restore all things? Acts 3:20-21.

After being killed and then resurrected,

Christ went to His Father’s throne in heaven from which they rule the universe (Hebrews 1:1-3, 8:1). Christ is now looking forward to His return to restore the government of God over the entire earth.

The government of God at one time did exist on earth, perhaps millions of years ago, when God placed a third of His created angels on earth. But His government ceased to be administered here when the archangel Lucifer (now Satan), whom God made ruler over the earth, rebelled against God and attempted to replace Him as ruler of the entire universe (Isaiah 14:12-14).

3. Though we will not know the day or the hour of Christ’s return (Matthew 25:13, 24:36), can we still know generally when it will occur? Matthew 24:32-33. What signs did Jesus say would precede His Second Coming? Read and summarize verses 3-31.

4. Just how bad will world conditions become immediately before Christ’s Second Coming? Matthew 24:21. What would happen if these days of world peril or tribulation were allowed to continue? Verse 22.

5. Has there ever been a time of trouble as will occur just before Christ’s return? Matthew 24:21, Mark 13:19. Also read Jeremiah 30:7, Daniel 12:1 and Joel 2:2.

Each of these references shows that this future time of crisis will have no equal. Therefore, they can only be referring to the same great climactic period of worldwide trouble! They refer to events soon to occur, for only in this age of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons has

The United Nations’ flag symbolizes man’s hope for peace. But how will peace really come?



the destruction of all human life been possible.

6. Will Christ intervene in world affairs to cut short this time of great tribulation, and thus prevent the annihilation of all humanity? Mark 13:20.

Just before all human life would otherwise be blasted out of existence, Christ will return! He will intervene at the last moment to save humanity from extinction.

7. Will the entire world see Christ at His return? Matthew 24:27, 30. Will a mighty trumpet blast announcing His return be heard by all? Matthew 24:31, I Thessalonians 4:16.

The greatest event in human history will be the return of Jesus Christ to this earth! It will be a dramatic, earth-shaking event. The whole world will hear and see Jesus coming in great power and glory.

8. Who will come with Christ? Matthew 25:31, Revelation 19:14.

Who else will accompany Christ as He descends from the sky? Zechariah 14:5 (last part), I Thessalonians 4:14-17.

Christ will be accompanied by a powerful army composed of millions of angels, as well as the "saints" — members of His true Church who will have just become spirit members of God's divine Family.

9. Will Christ be welcomed by everyone, or will many view Him as an invader from outer space and attempt to fight Him? Revelation 17:14. But will Christ (the Lamb) totally defeat them? Same verse and Revelation 19:11-16.

Many of earth's inhabitants will refuse to yield to Christ's authority, perhaps thinking He is an enemy alien. They will be angry at Christ and attempt to fight Him. He will therefore have to subdue the world and force humanity, at first, to submit to His rule.

The nations will finally come to learn, through experience, that the returned Christ is a loving ruler, and that His righteous rule leads to peace, happiness and prosperity.

10. What is one of the first things that will

be done after Christ returns? Revelation 20:1-3.

Satan, who is responsible for having influenced humanity to sin (Ephesians 2:2, Revelation 12:9), will be banished! His evil influence will no longer be around.

11. Will the immortal saints assist Christ in ruling the nations of mortal human beings for a thousand years? Daniel 7:22, Revelation 2:26-27, 3:21, 5:10, 20:4.

In the coming government of God, all in Christ's administration will be spirit beings, appointed by Him to many different positions of responsibility.

12. Will Christ and the saints rule righteously and with true justice? Isaiah 11:2-5, Matthew 20:25-28.

Christ and His assistants will rule with godly love — with outgoing concern for the welfare of their subjects. Their rule will be for the good of all the people!

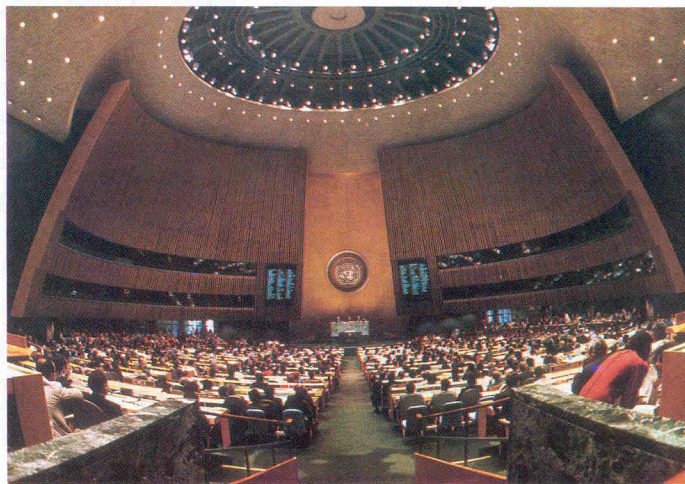
13. Will the knowledge of

God's way be taught in the wonderful world tomorrow? Isaiah 2:2-4. Will that knowledge eventually spread over the entire earth? Isaiah 11:9.

After establishing His government over the nations, Christ and His assistants will begin to reeducate the world, teaching God's law of love. The nations will convert their weapons of warfare into instruments for peaceful productivity.

The various physical laws that regulate our minds and bodies, as well as God's spiritual law — the Ten Commandments — that regulates our spiritual well-being, will be taught and followed throughout the earth. The result will be vigorous, vibrant health. And people's lives will become filled with enthusiasm, dynamic interest, constructive activity, happiness and joy!

Your Bible shows that a brighter tomorrow really is on the horizon! A utopia of peace, prosperity and happiness is coming soon! (For more information, write or call for two free booklets: *Are We Living in the Last Days?* and *World Peace — How It Will Come.*) □



The United Nations General Assembly can't bring world peace — but peace is coming, and soon!

Dear Youth 85,

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

Q. I am still a teenager, but in a few months I will be 20 years old. The problem is that people still treat me like a kid, almost like a baby. I feel like an adult and want to know how to make people treat me like one.

A. We can understand how being treated as younger than you really are could be irritating. Of course, even if you do nothing the problem will pass with time, but there are things you can do until then.

Here are some things to consider. Often people treat us the way we act or the way we look like we expect to be treated. That is, if we (perhaps unconsciously) express immaturity by our actions, then people will treat us accordingly. Although this may not be what's happening in your case, it could be worthwhile to stop and ask yourself if you are retaining some habit, attitude or mental characteristic that seems young or childish.

In the same way, people will treat us as if we are younger if we dress in styles that make us look younger than we are.

One exception to the rule that people treat you the way you act or appear is the case of parents. All parents (this one included — I have three girls quickly growing up) tend to find it hard to accept the fact their children are maturing, and so they continue to treat them like kids.

Still, the best way to deal with this is to prove, by your actions, that you are a responsible person. Even parents will sooner or later notice the change in you. But don't expect them to ever forget you are their little girl!

Q. I like your magazine very much, but one thing I still don't understand is why we are com-

manded by the Bible to get married. I am 14 years old and don't think that I would like to ever get married. Am I wrong?

A. Deciding whether to marry or not is an important decision, and we're glad you asked for clarification. Please don't assume that the Bible commands everyone to marry.

In many situations, deciding not to marry, at least for a time, might well be the advised course of action. Even those who do plan to marry someday have a lot of things to consider — things that will probably cause them to postpone marrying until their mid-20s. (For more information, send for our free article, "What Is the Best Age for Marriage?")

Of course, some people have not married simply because they haven't found someone they wish to share the rest of their lives with yet. Certainly this is a good reason to remain single.

On the other hand, deciding against marriage simply because you have seen other people's marriages fail may not be a sound approach.

It should be a reason for caution and for right education about how to have a happy marriage, but it is not necessarily a reason to avoid marriage altogether. In making a decision, consider happy marriages as well as the people you know with unsuccessful ones.

You do not have to make a firm decision to marry or not to marry in your early teen years. Whether you decide someday to get married or not, your caution and willingness to seek advice will help you have a happy life.

Q. I want to ask you to solve an argument between my friend and me. I say that the Bible says it is wrong for a boy to wear his hair long, but my friend says long hair on guys is OK. Who wins?

A. You do. More specifically, the Bible says that for a man to wear long hair is a "dishonor to him" (I Corinthians 11:14). The reason is that God intended men and women to look differently and each to have his or her own role in the family unit. When a man wears long hair he — whether he knows it or not — is in God's eyes showing his refusal to accept his family role as leader of the home under Christ.

If you or your friend have further questions about this, you may want to send for our free reprint article, "Did Jesus Have Long Hair?" It shows in detail that Jesus Christ did not wear long hair and neither should men today. □

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





READER BY-LINE

Pedal Power

By Graham Castledine
and Colin Cicero

Have you ever wanted to try something really challenging and adventurous? Something to tax your physical and mental resources? Our group of 16 set out to do just that. The goal was to cycle from Perth to Albany, a distance of 600 kilometers (370 miles) through the southwest of Western Australia.

Following the guidelines set out in previous articles on cycling in the *Youth* magazine, much thought and preparation were put into our trip. Organizer Peter Thomas began planning months in advance. He plotted the course to include beautiful jarrah and karri forests, picturesque rivers, national parks and fruit and dairy country.

He also drew up a training schedule for the cyclists. Beginning with regular short rides, we built up to 30 kilometers (19 miles) each day. These were interspersed with group practice rides that helped us to monitor our progress.

After getting into shape, our main concern was safety. We all purchased safety helmets, and the group was accompanied by vehicles in front and behind displaying large caution signs.

The big day

At long last the big day arrived and the cyclists assembled with family and friends to begin a most unforgettable adventure.

Initially we rode as a group, excitedly talking about what we thought lay ahead. But as the

morning wore on, the group spread out over a few kilometers, as there was a wide range of riding ability. While most were teenagers and young adults, there was also an enthusiastic 10-year-old and an extremely keen and courageous mother of one of the teens. In spite of not having cycled before, she determinedly strove on each day. She was an inspiration to the rest of us.

A tremendous amount of this team support and encouragement was necessary for us to reach our goal. When you rounded a corner only to be confronted by yet another long, steep hill, it was only the person next to you who enabled you to conquer the hill.

But the trip was not all hard work. There was plenty of time for swimming and relaxing at nights, with ample opportunity to talk to everyone. So as the trip wore on, we got to know each other well.

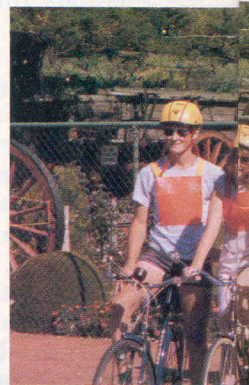
We made camp at a caravan park that first night after riding 95 kilometers (59 miles), and 16 pairs of weary legs gladly stopped pedaling. That meal was the most welcome in memory!

Sunrise next morning saw us packing tents and getting ready for a hearty breakfast of porridge, eggs and toast. This second day we again covered 95 kilometers (59 miles), traveling through green dairy country. Some of us,

though, were more interested in the shops along the way!

"Helping" people swim

The main attraction of the day was a beautiful swimming hole among some weeping willow trees. The water was so cold that most had to be "helped" in! That night was spent in a town hall and our "rest" consisted of dancing and talking with



friends who live in that area.

On the third day we stopped for lunch at the Old Cheese Factory, a workshop where pottery, wool and woodcraft demonstrations were performed. The afternoon ride took us along a beautiful winding riverside road. We saw magnificent views of the countryside from vantage points along the road, helping us to forget our aching limbs.

That day, the only accident of the trip occurred when one of the girls hit some rough road and came off, bringing down the rider behind her. Injuries were minor, though painful, and both continued riding next day. On such occasions determination subdued the pain, as the injured cyclists and all of us continued striving for the goal.

Though the fourth day was the hottest day, neither the sun nor the ever-present head wind could penetrate the thick, heavily wooded karri forest we cycled through.

The karri is one of the largest species of hardwood in the world. The trees can be up to 88 meters (290 feet) high.

At the end of the day we were

(miles). When we got to our lunch stop, we found it was up in smoke! The fire rangers were burning off the area. It was a unique experience to ride through a bushfire with smoke in our eyes and the flames only a few meters away from us!



Saturday was a much appreciated rest day. It was glorious to wake up at a leisurely time and not have to ride! That night we played pool and table tennis and generally relaxed.

We could have conquered the world as we set out to cover the final 50 kilometers (31 miles) to our goal on Sunday morning. Then at 12:30 p.m. we arrived! Standing atop Mt. Melville in Albany we celebrated our success.

It was the endurance and perseverance that had been required of us that made this moment most rewarding. We stood as conquerors, looking out over the town from our vantage point. Yes, we had done it — and together!

We spent about three hours in Albany and then it was time for the five-hour trek back home on the bus. We pondered much about our successful journey and about what we had accomplished as we lay back in those comfortable seats.

All gained tremendously from the experience. Some learned patience in waiting for others. Some learned perseverance when they felt like quitting. Some learned resourcefulness when they faced difficulties. We all learned what service really is — helping when it hurts. And we all built many valuable friendships, as only adversity can build. □

Editor's note: The authors are from Armadale,

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



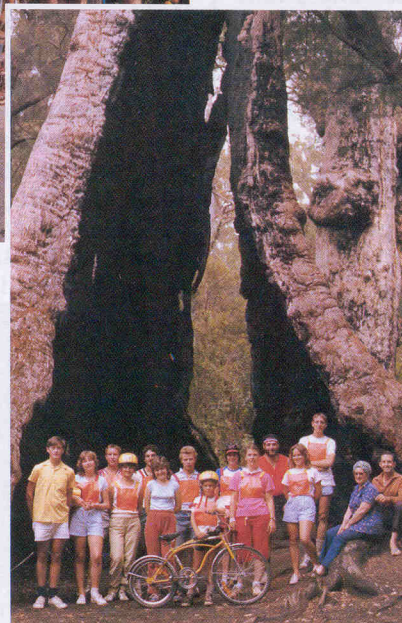
thrilled to find we had a two-kilometer (1.2-mile) downhill run to the campsite. "Going downwn!" floated back the elated cry as the rider in front found top gear.

After making camp, eight of us climbed the Gloucester Tree. This is the highest fire-lookout tree in the world. It took about five minutes and a bit of courage to climb the 153 rungs to the hut on top. From 61 meters (200 feet) up, the forest stretched as far as the eye could see.

Bushfire!

The fifth day's ride was the longest, being 120 kilometers (75

Teamwork, safety and visits to interesting sites (such as the huge Tingle Tree, right) help make for a memorable cycling trip. A controlled fire (above) provides a surprise for the trip. (Photos by Peter Thomas)



On the sixth day, Friday, we stopped at one of the widest trees in Australia, the Tingle Tree. Our entire party easily fit inside the hollowed-out trunk of the tree for a photo.

Moving Experience

(Continued from page 6)

were back in your old neighborhood playing baseball with Jack and Tom or riding bicycles with Sara and Veronica.

"It's so lonely here!" you tell your mother when you get home. "How am I ever going to find any friends?"

This can be a big problem. Not only do you want to find people like yourself to hang around with, but you want to find the right kind of friends: those with similar interests, who are responsible but fun to be with. Not those with bad reputations or whose main interests are drugs and alcohol. When you're the new kid in town, it's easy to be deceived — and you don't want to find out later that you've joined up with the town delinquent!

One place you'll meet a lot of people your age is at school. With the new school year, you have a golden opportunity to start fresh. Look for students who are accomplishing things. Try out for a sport or join a club — not only will you meet people, but you'll also enjoy the activities.

Our closest friendships develop with those we share common beliefs and interests with. Don't forget that church can be an ideal place to find and develop deep friendships.

Don't wait for others to come up to you or to invite you over — break the ice yourself. Talk to your parents about inviting your new friends over to your place. Snacks and games, hobbies and family activities can help build your new friendships and even strengthen your family ties.

Moving into a new neighborhood can be a time of great stress. If you enlist the support of your parents and take your mind off yourself by helping them as much as possible, much of this stress can be eased.

Then, by getting involved, breaking the ice and having people over, you can make your new home an exciting and fun place to be. □

This Is the Life!

(Continued from page 2)

lives in order to FIND THEM! Perhaps, then, I never expected to really ENJOY LIFE anymore. I had sought hard to ENJOY LIFE — and failed. So now I gave it up!

But, actually, that was precisely when I really FOUND IT!

Happiness begins

THAT was when truly ENJOYING LIFE first began!

I remember many a happy, blessed, really ENJOYABLE hour spent in the bare kitchens of financially poor people, studying the Bible with them. It seemed as if the angels were there with us — as, indeed, they were! It was as happy as if the bare, poverty-ridden kitchen had been a gilded king's palace. No — that's wrong, it was *not just as happy* — it was a thousand times more so!

I began to learn that happiness did not consist of material possessions. Happiness is in the MIND. And, somehow, I had found happiness — real, full, abundant, deep-down HAPPINESS! We didn't have money — but we had inherited the TRUE RICHES!

I was literally plunged into the very work of God. I didn't seek it — God PUT me in, once I yielded wholly to be faithful to His Word. Having a part in God's own work was the greatest joy I had known.

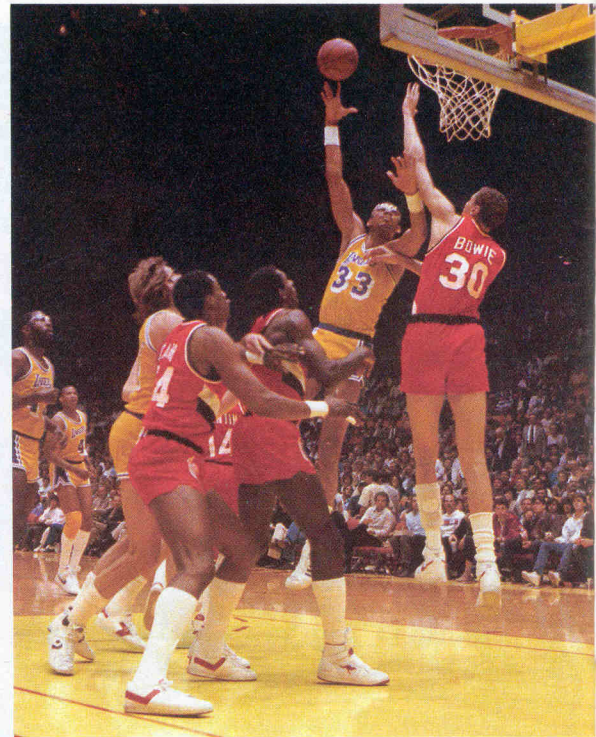
The *change* came early in 1927. Almost night-and-day Bible study continued. My wife was miraculously healed — even a dumbfounded doctor was forced to admit that. Then I was blessed with my first son. Years later, God tried me to see whether I would be willing to give *him* up. Struggling in prayer, I told God I was willing — not for a moment believing He would require it of me. But He did.

The first conversions through my preaching came in December, 1930. NEVER had I experienced

such joy. Talk about THRILLS! I had experienced thrills at football games, and worldly entertainments — but never *anything* like THIS!

Blessings piled up on blessings. God opened the powerful DOOR of radio — and the printing press — and finally television in the very smallest manner, at first. But the work grew and grew. More and more conversions followed — dozens, then scores, then hundreds, then THOUSANDS! I expect to have a lot of COMPANY in God's Kingdom, where we shall live FOREVER!

After 28 years of economic poverty — 21 of which had been spent in the joys of God's true blessings — God allowed even a



measure of material blessings! This, however, came only after I had learned NOT to set my heart on economic prosperity.

The best is yet to come!

Best of all, we in this great work have the matchless knowledge that we are HEIRS of GOD — and joint heirs with CHRIST — to be BORN INTO GOD'S OWN FAMILY AND SHARE HIS HONOR AND GLORY forever!

But meanwhile, our minds are



free from fears and worries. There are never any frustrations! We have been given abiding FAITH, which never fails — and never will! We have ABSOLUTE security! We are allowed high position and authority in GOD'S work, directed personally by the *living* Jesus Christ. I am privileged to work directly UNDER HIM!

We are kept BUSY. We are privileged to enjoy the physical BEAUTY of (we believe) the two most beautiful college campuses in the world!

We are privileged to ENJOY seeing the almost incredible transformation and character-development spiritually, mentally, morally, emotionally and physically, in hundreds of purposeful college students. We are privileged to lead them, counsel with them in their problems, serve them in many ways.

I wish men of position, and growing success in the world, could realize the REAL SOURCE OF

true happiness — of real, enjoyable, interesting, happy and abundant LIVING!

Yes, I wish ALL PEOPLE, *everywhere*, could really *enjoy* life as much as we do.

And I rejoice in the sure knowledge that, in the very imminent future, Jesus Christ is going to return to this earth in all

the supreme POWER and GLORY of the Great GOD, and literally *force* this whole world to see the TRUE VALUES, and learn the way to all we enjoy now — and MORE!

SURE I'm happy — just brimful and running over with it. I've tried to share a little of it with our *Youth 85* readers. □



Professional sports bring excitement and thrills for a while. But real, long-lasting happiness comes from God — by learning and following the way of life that produces full, abundant, deep-down happiness. This is the way taught at Ambassador College. (Photos by Hal Finch and Warren Watson)

BY THE WAY...

Confessions of a Busy Teenager

By Dexter H. Faulkner

There's an old saying, "Before you judge a person, walk a few miles in his or her shoes."

In other words, before finding fault with others' actions or deeds, we need to stop and ask, "How would I measure up under the same circumstances?"

Have you ever taken time to think about what it will be like when you are old enough to marry and become a parent?

Sometimes we live such jam-packed lives when we are teens that we forget to take time to reflect on the many things we have to be thankful for. It's good once in a while to walk in the shoes of those people who provide for us and greatly

influence our teen years.

What if you had your parents' responsibilities? What if you had to be *your* parent? Would you work as hard for and give as unselfishly to someone like you?

One of our *Youth 85* staff members took some time to reflect about parents and sent me a copy of a letter that I would like to share with you.

Dear Dad,

Every year I buy you a Father's Day card, and maybe I scribble a couple of lines. But it seems I don't take the time to get across what I really want to say.

Dad, I know you haven't had an easy life. You've always worked hard and have had to face the trials of being laid off and of then being self-employed in a depressed economy. I really appreciated your taking me along to work with you, and your paying me more than I was worth.

I remember that first painting job you took me on. I worked day after day scraping and painting that short section of rusted iron fence, while you painted the whole house!

I remember your example of hard work. When we

would get home, all I would feel like doing was eating or resting, but you would always take time to clean and take care of the equipment.

But, even more, I remember one time after you had helped me get my own summer painting business started. I was given a job to paint the inside of an apartment so it could be rented right away. I knew it was a big job, but as it got later and I got more tired, I realized I wouldn't be able to get it done. I got more and more frustrated, just wanting to give up and quit.

You don't know how much of a relief it was when you showed up and offered to help me finish. You'd already worked a hard day, and it was late. But still you found out where I was and came to my rescue. It meant a lot!

I don't think you know how important all the things we did together were to me: the hikes, fishing, the one-on-one basketball games we played, taking me to practices and even coming to my orchestra concerts (even though I could get little but squeaks out of my violin).

You somehow survived my attempts to learn how to drive. "Don't go any faster than you can handle." "I won't." "You're going too fast!" "I'm only doing half the speed limit!" "But that's faster than you're ready for!" (And you were right!)

You may not have known how many times I used your authority
(Continued on page 29)

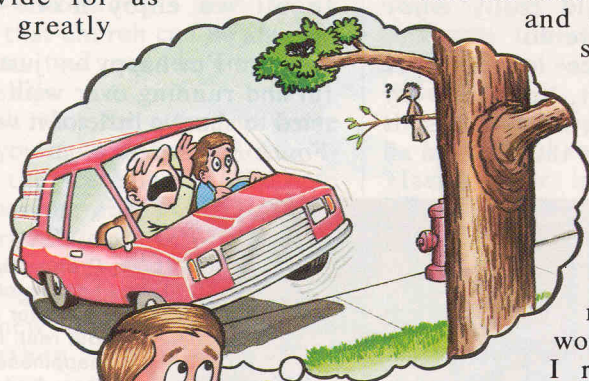


Illustration by Bruce Hedges

Confessions

(Continued from page 28)

ty to get out of something my friends were trying to get me into: "My dad wouldn't let me do that." My friends probably thought you were really old-fashioned, but it kept me out of a lot of trouble.

A lot of my friends didn't have dads — at least not around where they could talk to them, learn from them, enjoy them. But, you might say I took you for granted. You were always there.

Your moderation set a good standard for me. I'm glad you didn't smoke — it never seemed intriguing to me.

I'm not trying to kid you — I didn't turn out perfect. But you made me want to do well so you'd be proud of me. Like I'm proud of you.

Dad, I'm beginning to see how much you gave up to be my dad. It took a lot of things like patience and selflessness — things I know I need to have more of before I ever become a parent.

When I pray (as you taught me the importance of doing), I thank my Father in heaven for giving me a dad like you!

Love,
Your child

P.S. I love you too, Mom, more than words can express.

How about right now getting a piece of paper and pen and writing your dad or mom a note of appreciation? You do have a lot to be thankful for, don't you? I know I do.

By the way . . . when was the last time you gave your dad and mom a big hug and said, "I love you"?

I know you may surprise them, but believe me I know they both continue to have this need. Don't ever be reluctant to show love and appreciation to those who have given you so much in your teen years.

Remember, someday you will want your teens to do the same to you. □

Looks HOPELESS

(Continued from page 11)

Winston Churchill was considered a young failure as well. He was often at the bottom of his class in school, and even failed the entrance examination to the military academy twice.

But in later life Churchill overcame these failures, as well as a serious voice impediment, to inspire his nation through the darkest hours of World War II.

During the war, Britain was in desperate danger of Nazi invasion. It was Churchill's powerful and inspiring speeches that convinced his nation not to give up — to continue the fight for freedom. The man who had had a speech impediment and who had failed in school had persevered, and through perseverance he led his nation to victory.

Overcoming failure

All of us face failure. What brought Thomas Edison, Winston Churchill, Hank Aaron and many others through to success was a trait they all had. It's a trait you can develop too. That trait, a key to all success, is perseverance.

Not giving up is perseverance. Not giving up despite apparent total failure is perseverance. Perseverance is determination, immovability and persistence. You could even call it stubbornness.

What if Thomas Edison had decided that he really was a failure? What if he thought that everybody was right and that he would never succeed? Fortunately for the world, young Tom did not listen to the pessimists. By not listening to the voices that said, "Give up," he invented more than a thousand useful devices.

During the war, Winston Churchill gave an address at Harrow, the school where he had failed years before. In that speech he summarized one of the most important lessons that he had learned during his life. He said: "Never give in! Never give in! Never, never — in nothing, great or small, large or petty — never give in except to convictions of

honor and good sense!"

Perseverance is one vital key to overcoming failures and reaching your goals. If you would like to learn more about success, request our free booklet, *The Seven Laws of Success*. Write to the Youth 85 office nearest you — see the inside front cover for details. □

HELP!

(Continued from page 10)

open and frank about your feelings, for your best interest as well as the interviewer's.

Know beforehand how much time you are willing and able to give. Consider the number of hours you can give each week as well as the specific day or days.

Once you find a volunteer job, realize the importance of devoting the amount of time, each week, agreed upon. You will earn a good reputation when people see your dependability.

Your volunteer job will last as long as you want it to. But if you give a couple of hours your first week and decide to quit, you haven't given it a fair chance. Get to know all the ins and outs of a job by spending at least three to six months, a few hours a week.

If you find your volunteer job isn't working out after giving it a fair trial, don't just quit without a word to anyone. Talk with your supervisor. There may be an area more challenging or suitable for you.

Rob graduated from high school and is going to college now. His volunteer job is working into a paying job to help meet his college expenses.

On the borderline about volunteer work? Consider this comment from Rob: "A lot of kids today have the idea [that] if I don't get anything out of it right away, it's not worth my time." There are immediate rewards, but more than that, lasting, satisfying rewards come from the simple act of giving. After a while you look back and realize, as Rob says, "Hey, I've helped this person!" □

Coming Attractions

...IN FUTURE ISSUES

More Than Just Pets.

Touching tales of pets saving lives and lavishing their masters with love and loyalty.



A High That Won't Let You Down.

There is a way to feel good deep down inside with no fear of side effects! It's far better than any chemically produced high.

Teens in Tokyo.

Eating raw fish isn't the only thing that makes living there unique! What's life like in the land of the rising sun?



Just Shy.

Shyness: the pros and cons and tips on using it to your advantage.

"I'm Not an MCP!"

"By the Way . . ." article about sex roles brings heated response.

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