
MEET
AMERICA


MUNAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

MUNAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
P.O. ERNAKULAM.

MEET AMERICA

Facts about the United States

FOREWORD

This little book tells something about the government and people of the United States, something of the geography of the country, its economy and its culture.

Tourists are usually impressed by the size of America — by New York's skyscrapers, the big trees of California, the immensity of the Grand Canyon. Visitors who spend a few months or more in the United States find also other things to admire — the hospitality and friendly spirit of people in the small towns, and the diversity of customs and cultures. A distinguished professor from Europe had been led to believe that American cities were noisy and that life in the United States was quite hectic. He was pleasantly surprised by the quiet and serenity he found during his two-year residence at an American university. Although university towns are not typical, neither is the bustle of New York or Chicago.

This book naturally leaves out a great many interesting facts about the United States, but it may encourage people in other countries to want to read a great deal more about America, its people, its history and its customs.

MUNAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

CONTENTS

	Page
THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE	5
GOVERNMENT –	
System of Government	11
Organization of the Federal Government	13
Cost of Government	18
Foreign Policy	18
Territories and Other Areas	20
NATURAL RESOURCES –	
Water	21
Forests	23
Metals and Minerals	23
FIELDS OF ACTIVITY –	
Agriculture	24
Fishing	26
Electric Power	26
Manufacturing Industries	27
Communications	30
Transportation	33
Foreign Trade	37
Science	37
Oceanography	41
Atomic Science	44
Professions	45
Services	46
Banking and Finance	47
THE ARTS –	
Music	49
Opera	50
Musicals	50
The Dance	51
Literature	52
Art and Sculpture	52
Stage and Screen	56
WAY OF LIFE –	
Living Standards	59
Foods and Housing	59
HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE	62
EDUCATION	62
Ending Segregation	64
SOCIAL SECURITY	66
LABOR AND LABOR UNIONS	67
AMERICAN WOMEN	68
YOUTH	69
RECREATION	73
RELIGION	80
Voluntary Aid	80
OUTSTANDING DATES	81
AMERICAN HOLIDAYS	IBC



MUNAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE

THE UNITED STATES is a varied land – of forests, deserts, mountains, high flat lands and fertile plains. Almost every kind of climate may be found but the country lies mostly in the temperate zone. It stretches 4,480 kilometers from the Atlantic Ocean on the east to the Pacific Ocean on the west. It borders Canada on the north, and reaches south to Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico. A fast railroad train, traveling 96 kilometers an hour takes more than 48 hours to cross the country.

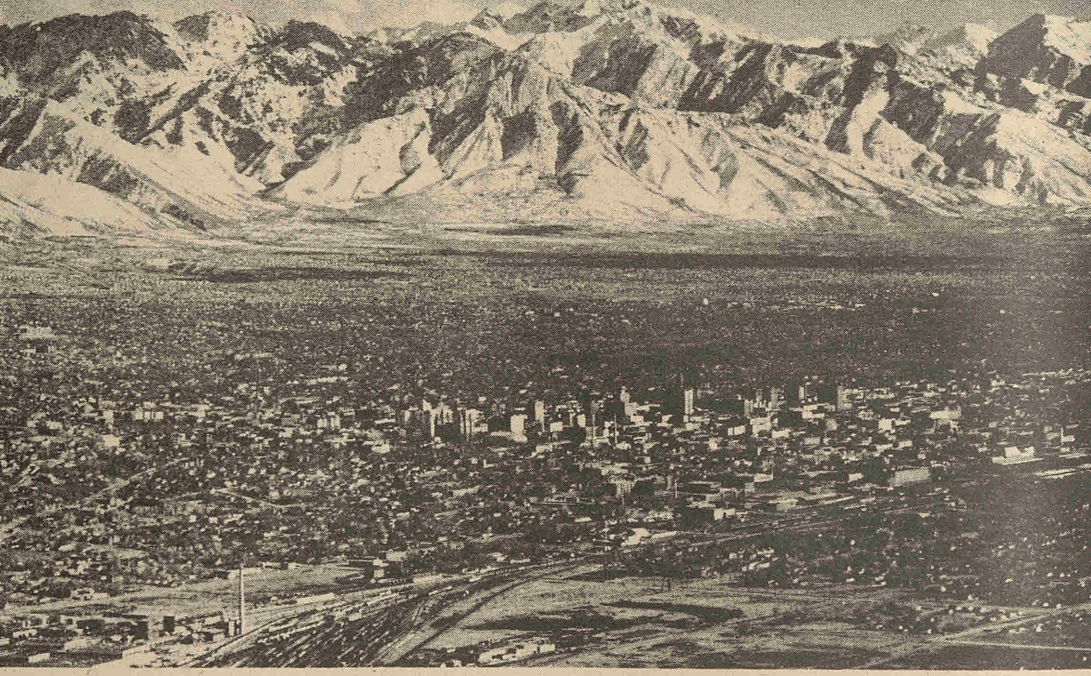
A jet plane crosses the United States from east to west in about five hours. Taking off from an Atlantic coast airport, the plane is soon flying over the gentle slopes of the Appalachian Mountains. Then, for hundreds of kilometers it crosses the fertile fields of the farm belt of the great Middle West. To the north, on clear days, passengers may see the five Great Lakes lying between the United States and Canada. Continuing into the West, the plane flies over vast prairies and rough cattle-grazing country. Soon the snow-topped Rocky Mountains appear in the distance. After crossing these high ranges, the plane can almost glide from its great altitude into the rich valleys of California and, finally, to a landing not far from the beaches of the Pacific Ocean.

Including the newly added States of Alaska and Hawaii, the United States covers an area of 9,000,000 square kilometers. Alaska borders on northwestern Canada; Hawaii lies in the Pacific 3,200 kilometers from the mainland. Alaska is the largest in area of all the fifty States, and Texas, in the southern part of the country, is second in size. Texas alone is larger than France, and Alaska is twice as big as Texas.

From the Appalachians in the eastern United States to the Rocky Mountains in the West, the center of the country is drained by the Mississippi-Missouri Rivers and their branches. These rivers form a 19,000 kilometer system of waterways that are connected to the Great Lakes in the north by a canal. The Mississippi is one of the world's great rivers; it was known to American Indians as the "father of waters." It is almost 6,400 kilometers long from the source of its main branch, the Missouri River, which rises in the northern Rocky Mountains, to the mouth of the Mississippi in the Gulf of Mexico.

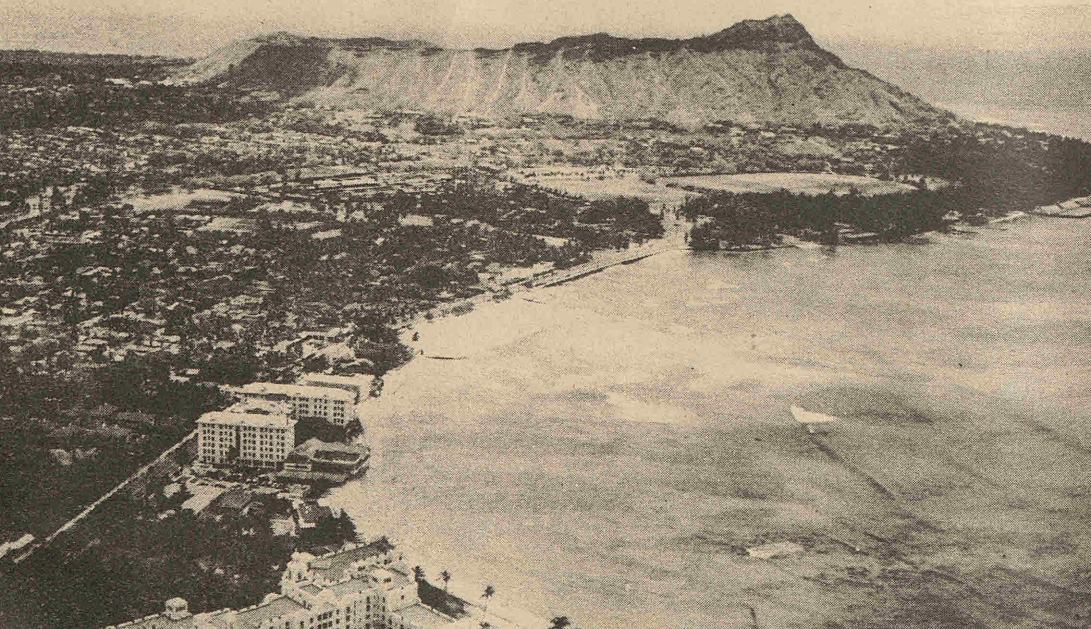
There are other important rivers – the Yukon in Alaska, nearly 3,168 kilometers long; the Rio Grande, which flows for some 2,880 kilometers and forms part of the United States-Mexico border; the Columbia, which rises in western Canada and continues in the United States for 1,942 kilometers west

New York Harbor handles about 40 percent of the nation's foreign trade. In distant background may be seen the world's tallest buildings.



More and more Americans are moving westwards. Here is Salt Lake City, Utah, headquarters of the Mormon Church.

This view of Honolulu, Hawaii, shows the famous Waikiki Beach. The landmark, Diamond Head, looms in the distance.



MUNAVIRVL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM

of the Rocky Mountains; and the Colorado, which begins in the Rocky Mountains and flows southwest for 2,186 kilometers. For 342 of these kilometers it flows through the famous and magnificent Grand Canyon, carved through the ages by its waters. Other well-known rivers include the Hudson, which pours into the Atlantic Ocean at New York City; the Potomac, bordering the national capital at Washington; and the Ohio, a branch of the Mississippi that flows west from the Appalachian Mountains.

The People

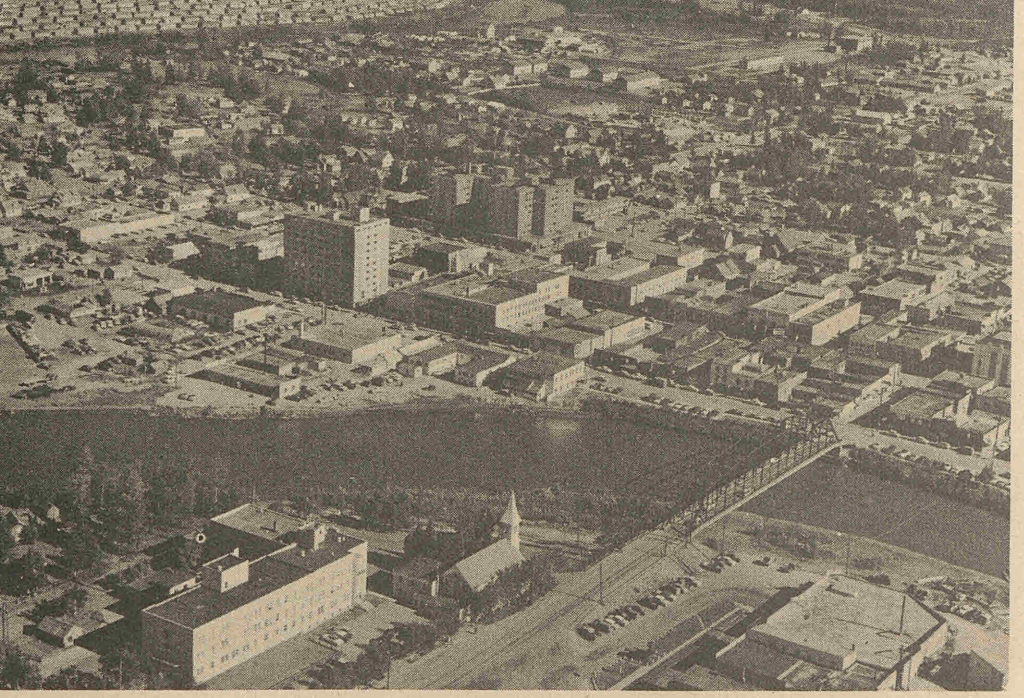
The United States has long been known as a "melting pot," because so many people from all over the world make up its population. The first immigrants in American history came from England and the Netherlands. Immigrants from many other countries then began arriving and are still coming. The greatest numbers came in the years 1880-1914. Between 1820 and 1961, the United States admitted nearly 42,000,000 immigrants. Most came from Europe, but many came also from Latin America, Asia, Africa, Australia, and Canada.

Some 500,000 American Indians, descendants of North America's first inhabitants, dwell in the United States. Half of the Indians live on land set aside for them in thirty States. There are more than 300 separate tribes. The largest is the Navaho tribe in the southwest.

Negroes first came to America from Africa as slaves (in 1863 President Lincoln freed those still enslaved). Negroes now make up 10 percent of the population. They once lived mainly in the South but now are scattered throughout the nation. In the middle western city of Chicago, for example, the Negro population is now 800,000 — almost three times what it was in 1940. New York State has the largest Negro population — 1,417,000 — an increase of a half million in ten years.

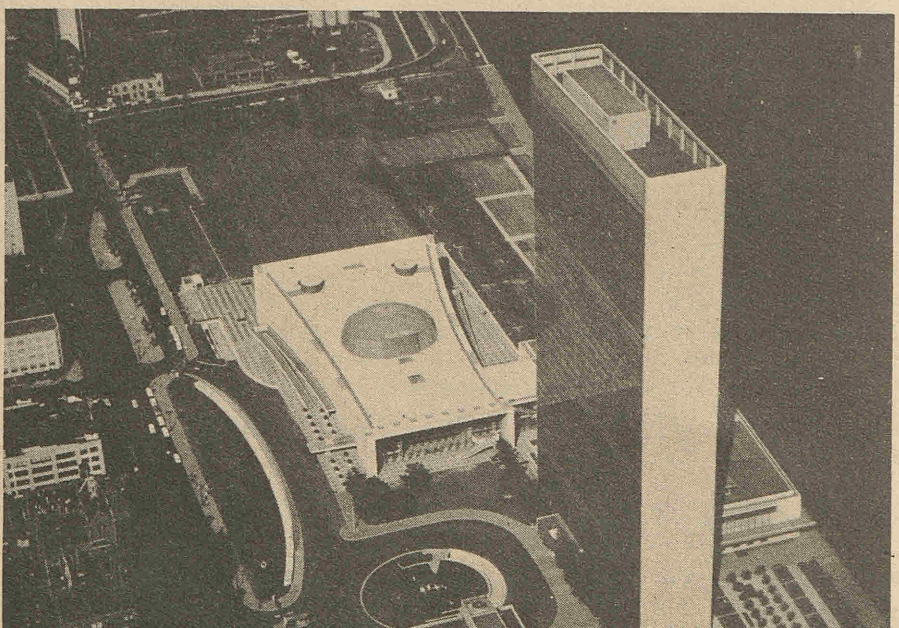
In Hawaii, more than a third of the inhabitants are Japanese, a fourth are Caucasians, about 15 percent are people of Polynesian background, and the others are mainly Filipinos, Koreans, Puerto Ricans and Chinese.

Every ten years the United States makes a complete count or census of its people and industries. When the first count was made in 1790 the new nation had less than 4,000,000 people, almost all living along the East Coast. Today there are more than 182,000,000. In the past twenty years many people have moved to the western part of the country. The State of California on the Pacific Coast is now second largest in population — the East Coast State of New York is still first. Another western State, Colorado, is growing almost twice as fast as the nation as a whole. Some of the other western States, such as Arizona and Nevada, now have about 70 percent more people than they had in 1950. The southern State of Florida, known for its pleasant



Fairbanks is the second largest city in the State of Alaska. It is near the Arctic Circle but the summers can be very warm there.

United Nations headquarters in New York. The domed structure is the General Assembly Building; at right, the 39-story Secretariat.



Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

climate, has increased nearly 80 percent in population since 1950.

There are other population changes: there are now nearly 55,000,000 young people (between the ages of five and 21) — or 28 percent more than there were ten years ago. And there are 16,000,000 persons over the age of 65 — nearly one-third more than there were ten years ago.

The American people are ever on the move — from one part of the country to another, from one city to another, from farm to city, from the city to the suburbs. One in five Americans moves to a new home every year seeking new job opportunities, a better climate or for other reasons. Many industries have scattered their factories, often far from the parent plant, and have drawn their workers to the new locations.

Today two-thirds of Americans live in towns, cities or suburbs; only about 60,000,000 live in rural areas. Two-thirds of all families live in separate households, and 60 percent own their own homes. The number of households has increased from 46,100,000 in 1950 to nearly 53,000,000. This is due in part to the sharp rise in the birth rate — some 4,250,000 babies were born in 1960 as compared to fewer than 3,000,000 twenty years ago.

The 1960 population count revealed that there are now 130 cities of 100,000 or more people; ten years earlier there were 107. Some cities have made enormous increases — Anaheim, California rose from 14,000 to 104,000 in ten years, and St. Petersburg, Florida doubled in size from 96,000 to 181,000. Some of the large cities, such as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit, have lost population, but their suburbs have grown greatly. In the suburbs there is plenty of room for gardens and places for children to play. Shopping centers, schools, churches, theaters and community centers have been built in great numbers to serve the suburbs.

New York remains the largest city. In 1960, its population was 7,780,000. For the first time, the population of its suburbs (people living in the surrounding counties) exceeded that of the city — 7,790,000. The city's 840 kilometers of waterfront give it the largest harbor in the world. It is visited by more than 1,000 ships a month, carrying nearly a million passengers, with cargoes valued at more than 40 percent of all U.S. ocean-borne trade.

Chicago, Illinois, is the second largest city, with 3,550,000 inhabitants. Los Angeles, California, is third with a population of 2,480,000. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, fourth largest, has 2,000,000 people. The city is important in American history, for the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution were born there.

The national capital, Washington, is ninth in size with 760,000 population. The first city especially planned and built as a national capital, it was laid out by the French architect, Pierre L'Enfant late in the 18th century. A city of great beauty and a center of world affairs, it is also becoming a leading cultural center.



Busy metropolitan street. The 28-story glass building reflects neighboring buildings on New York's Fifth Avenue.

GOVERNMENT

System of Government

The United States is a Federal Union of fifty States. The District of Columbia is the seat of the National Government. The Federal Constitution outlines the structure of the National Government, its powers and activities. Other activities are the responsibility of the individual States, which have their own constitutions and laws. Within each State are counties, townships, cities and villages each of which has its own government.

All government in the United States is "of, by and for the people". Members of Congress, the President, the State leaders, and those who govern counties and cities are elected by popular vote. Heads of Federal departments are named by the President, and judges are either elected directly by the people or are appointed by elected officials. Voting is done in secret so that no one need know for whom a citizen is voting. Public officials may be removed from office for failing to perform their duties properly.

When the Constitution was written in 1787 there were only thirteen States. The drafters of the Constitution saw that the future might bring a need for changes, so they provided for adding amendments. Over the years twenty-three amendments have been added. The pattern of government planned so long ago for thirteen States today meets the needs of fifty States and over forty-five times as many people.

Individual rights and freedoms are assured in the Constitution, and are listed in the first ten amendments to the Constitution — the Bill of Rights — which were added in 1791. They include freedom of speech, of the press and of worship; the right of citizens to meet peacefully; the right to be secure in one's own home against unreasonable searches and seizure of person or property; and the right of any person charged with breaking the law to have a speedy trial by a jury of fellow citizens.

The Constitution divides the powers of the Government into three branches — the executive, headed by the President; the legislative, which includes both Houses of Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives; and the judicial, which is headed by the Supreme Court. The Constitution limits the powers of each branch, and prevents any one branch from gaining undue power.

For example, the Constitution gives Congress authority to make laws necessary for the common defense and good of the nation. As the country has grown, these laws have been adopted to provide for social welfare, public works, economic controls, and protection of the rights of labor. But if any law passed by the Congress and signed by the President is contested it can be held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court and nullified.



The town meeting best represents democracy in action. Local citizens freely discuss and take action on civic problems and needs.

The whole system of American Government is based on long-established principles. The people believe that the Government should provide a framework of law and order in which they are left free to run their own lives.

The State governments follow much the same pattern as the Federal Government. Each has a governor as the chief executive, with power divided among the executive, legislative and judicial branches. State governments manage such affairs as highway building and public higher education. The Federal Government deals with national and international problems and problems that involve more than one State. Laws affecting the daily lives of citizens are enforced by police in the cities and towns. Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation — the famous FBI — track down criminals who cross State borders or who break Federal laws.

Before an accused person can be put on trial for a serious crime in a Federal court — or in the courts of many States — his case must be presented to a Grand Jury of private citizens who decide whether there is enough evidence of guilt to try him.

Organization of Federal Government

The President of the United States is chosen in a national election for a four-year term of office, and may be re-elected for a second term. He must be a native-born citizen at least thirty-five years old. His salary is $100,000 a year, and he also gets an extra $50,000 for expenses, but he must pay a Federal income tax on the whole amount. He gets an added $40,000, tax-free, for travel and entertaining and is provided a home — the White House.

As head of the executive branch, his duty is to carry out Government programs and enforce the laws. He recommends many laws to Congress and requests money for Federal Government operations. If he refuses to sign a bill passed by the Congress, a two-thirds vote of both Houses is needed to over-rule his veto and make the bill a law. The President appoints Federal judges, ambassadors, and hundreds of Government officials.

Under the President are ten executive departments. The heads of these departments form a council known as the President's Cabinet. They are appointed by the President, with the Senate's approval.

The Department of State, headed by the Secretary of State, advises the President on foreign affairs. This department carries on relations with other countries, and issues passports to American citizens who wish to travel abroad and visas to visitors to the United States.

The Treasury Department manages Government finances, collects taxes, and coins and prints money. It is also in charge of the Coast Guard, which watches over the coastal areas and prevents goods from being brought into the country without payment of duties.



The National Capitol in Washington symbolizes democratic government in the United States. Dome is crowned by the Statue of Armed Freedom.

The Department of Defense is responsible for the nation's security. The Secretary of Defense is assisted by the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The Department of Justice is headed by the Attorney General. He acts for the Government on legal matters and moves against violators of Federal laws. The FBI and Federal prisons are his responsibility.

The Post Office Department, headed by the Postmaster General, collects and delivers the mail, issues stamps, and operates the thousands of post offices.

The Department of the Interior protects and develops the nation's natural wealth, and is in charge of the national parks. It also enforces Federal hunting and fishing laws, checks on the safety of mines and looks after the welfare of the Indian tribes.

The Department of Agriculture aids food production and looks after the welfare of the farmers. It issues numerous reports on the supply and prices of farms products; conducts scientific studies of agriculture, and lends money to build rural electric systems. Most farms today are served by electricity.

The Department of Labor is concerned with the welfare of the nation's workers. It enforces laws on minimum wages and maximum hours for workers engaged in interstate commerce or in producing goods that cross State lines. A mediation and conciliation service helps employees and workers to settle labor disputes.

The Department of Commerce helps develop domestic commerce and trade with other countries, particularly in the mining, manufacturing, and transportation industries. It has many important branches. One issues patents for new inventions; another tests products to be sure they meet high standards; another reports on weather conditions.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare operates the huge social security program. In this department also are the Public Health Service and the U. S. Office of Education.

Besides these ten executive departments, there are many independent offices. Among these are the Civil Service Commission, in charge of Government employment; the Federal Aviation Agency, responsible for air traffic and control and safety. The Atomic Energy Commission, which directs the use of atomic energy in industry, agriculture, and medicine; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and the United States Information Agency, which has libraries and information offices in most countries.

The legislative branch, Congress, is made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives. There are 537 members, each of whom gets a salary of $22,500 a year. Each Senator is elected for six years and each Representative for two years and both may be re-elected as often as they wish to be candidates.

There are two Senators from each of the fifty States. One-third of the Senate is elected every two years. A Senator must be over thirty years old

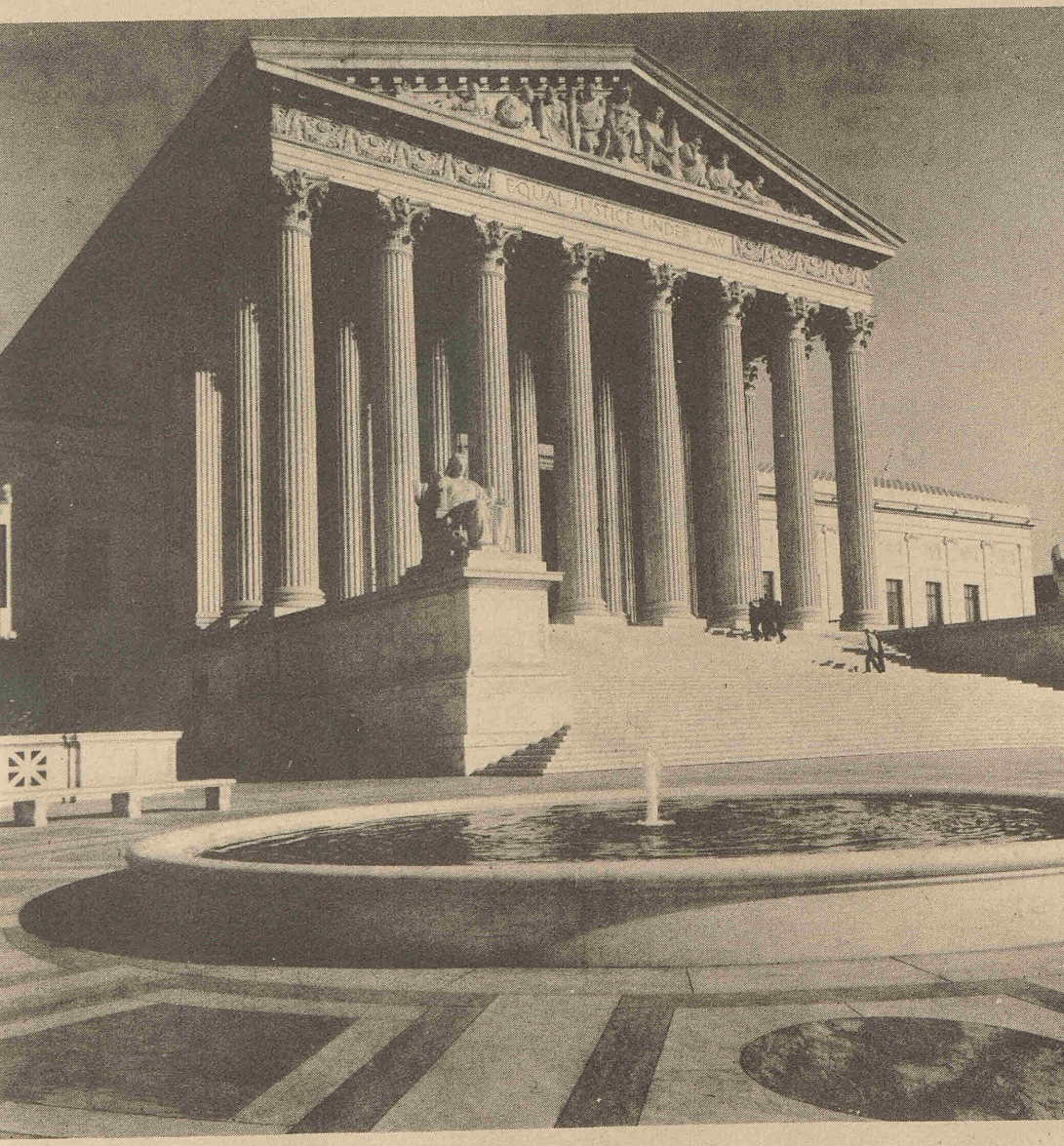


The White House, home of the President, with the Washington Monument and the Potomac River in the background.

and have been an American citizen for at least nine years.

The House of Representatives has 437 members. A member must be at least twenty-five years of age and have been an American citizen for no less than seven years. The States are divided into congressional districts and the voters of each district elect one Representative to Congress. The number from each State depends on the State's population. The State of New York has the largest number of Representatives — forty-three — in the Congress.

Both branches of Congress must approve bills before they become law. The Senate alone must approve appointment of officials by the President and treaties with other nations.



The United States Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C. The court decides on the constitutionality of laws.

The judicial branch of the Government is headed by the Supreme Court, made up of the Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices. The Court decides on questions of the constitutionality of laws when such questions are raised in appeals from lower courts. It acts on disputes involving the national Government, or two or more States, or citizens of different States.

The lower Federal courts are the circuit courts of appeal and district courts. The judges of all the Federal courts are appointed for life. They can be removed from office only for misconduct and after trial by the Senate.

Cost of Government

The average cost of all Government — Federal, State and local — to each man, woman and child in the United States is $700 a year. About three-fourths of all taxes collected go to the Federal Government.

The income tax provides the Federal Government about one half its revenues. A person with an average income pays about 20 percent of it to the Government; those with very large incomes must pay up to 91 percent. Many States also have their own income tax. Many other taxes — on property, amusements, automobiles, etc. — are levied to provide funds for National, State and local governments.

Since 1955 about two-thirds of the Federal Government's spending has gone for defense purposes, including military help to other nations. The remainder has gone into public welfare programs, development of water and land resources, public health and education. The national debt has increased greatly since World War II because of great sums spent by the Government for defense and for aid to other nations.

Foreign Policy

In foreign policy matters the President's chief advisor is the Secretary of State. He also gets advice from the National Security Council, made up of representatives of Government agencies involved in foreign relations. The principle has been historically established that the President is the principal voice of the United States in the conduct of foreign policy. However, his powers are not unlimited — commitments which he makes are subject to review by the U.S. Congress, which also controls funds that must be spent.

American foreign policy and public opinion are closely related, with foreign policy sometimes following and sometimes leading public opinion. It is based chiefly on the desire of the people for peace and freedom, and the knowledge that these cannot be assured unless other nations also enjoy these benefits. The President, the Vice President and the Secretary of State are frequently hosts to notable visitors from other countries, and they themselves make trips out of the country when necessary in an effort to solve world problems which endanger peace.



The United States Congress hears President Kennedy deliver his first State of the Union Message after taking office in January 1961.

The United States fully supports the United Nations as the world's best hope for peace, and has proposed and supported programs which aim to bring about effective disarmament with controls. It also has joined in several regional defense groups permitted under the Charter of the U.N., such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organization of American States (OAS) and others, in an effort to assure world peace.

The United States has worked with other nations in creating the new Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, one of the principal aims of which is to assist the economic growth of newly developing countries. The United States is a major supporter of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank), the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank.

In an effort to help the economic stability of other countries, the United



Visitors to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington are awed by Daniel Chester French's statue of the Great Emancipator.

States has financed large aid programs of its own and supported United Nations programs.

Seeking better understanding among peoples, the United States takes an active part in a worldwide educational exchange program.

Territories and other Areas

Puerto Rico, an island of about 9,000 square kilometers in the Carribbean Sea, is linked to the United States as a commonwealth. Its 2,350,000 people are citizens of the United States. They elect their own governor and legislature. Puerto Rico's economic growth program in the past 20 years has brought the island prosperity and has drawn many visitors and students from underdeveloped countries. Over 600 new factories have been built to provide jobs for more than 100,000 Puerto Ricans.

The Virgin Islands, also in the Caribbean, were bought from Denmark in 1917. The governor is appointed by the United States, but the Islands

Senate is elected by its 30,000 inhabitants, who are also U. S. citizens. The area is made up of fifty small islands that cover 346 kilometers.

The Panama Canal Zone is under United States control by treaty with the Republic of Panama, and its governor is appointed by the United States. Under the treaty, the United States pays Panama yearly for the use of the strip of land through which the Canal passes. Some 42,000 people live in the Canal Zone, which extends for eight kilometers on either side of the Canal.

A number of Pacific islands also are under American control. The largest is Guam, which covers 536 square kilometers and has a population of about 67,000. Its Congress is elected by the people of Guam. The government is under the administration of the United States Department of the Interior, as is the government of American Samoa (197 square kilometers, population 20,000). Wake and Midway Islands are governed by the United States Navy. The United Nations has given the United States responsibility for the island groups of the Carolines, Marianas, the Marshalls, in the Pacific.

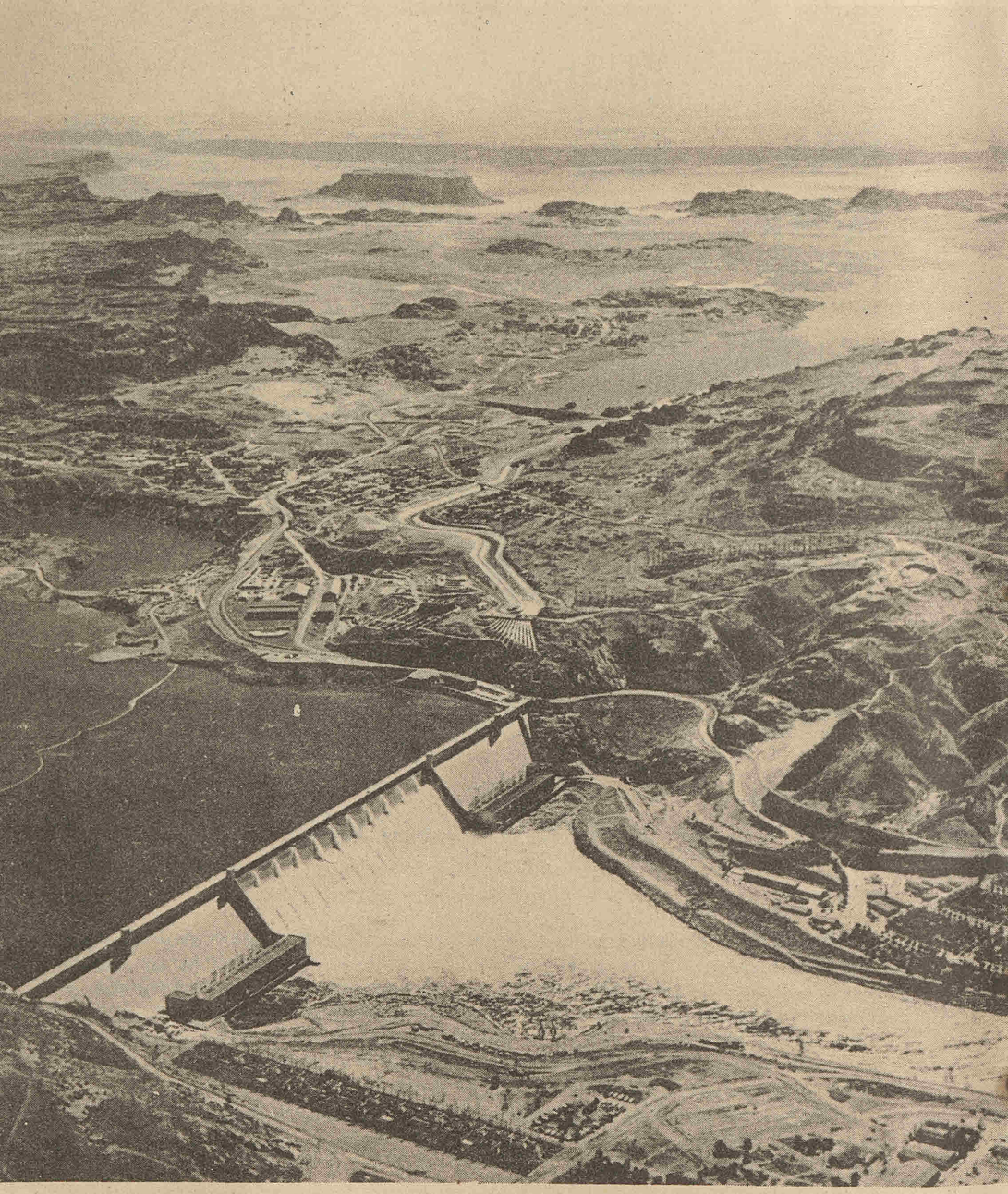
The Republic of the Philippines, once a United States possession, was given full independence in 1946.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Water

Water has played a highly important part in America's growth. The nation is blessed with large supplies of fresh water except in the dry desert regions of the West, but the growing population poses a threat for the future. There are numerous fertile valleys through which flow such mighty bodies of water as the Mississippi, the Ohio, the Hudson and the Colorado Rivers. The early development of a prosperous agricultural system and the later development of an industrial base were largely made possible by water resources.

Today the rivers and streams of America furnish 75 percent of the fresh water used daily by cities and by farmers for irrigation, 90 percent of the fresh water used by industry, and almost all of the water used to create electric power. Since the earliest days, the rivers have also been an important means of transportation. Within ten years the demand for water is expected to exceed the present supply. Planning for the future, the United States Department of the Interior has established the Office of Saline Water to develop practical ways for converting ocean water into fresh water. Five experimental plants to do this are being built.



More than a hundred dams provide flood control, irrigation, and electricity. The Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia River is one of the nation's largest.

MUNAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

Forests

More than one-fifth of the land area in the United States is forest land, of which 500,000,000 acres (200 million hectares) is commercial forest land. Forests not only prevent the wearing away of soil and flooding, but support one of the nation's largest industries — forest products. This includes the manufacture of lumber for building, and wood for paper, paperboard and other products.

Despite the heavy use of forest products the nation now grows annually more timber than it uses. Federal and State Governments and industries have joined in a great tree planting program.

The nation's 149 National Forests cover 172,800,000 acres (72,400,000 hectares). These forests provide Americans with large areas for recreation, but they also serve as essential watersheds and protection for wildlife. In the Great Plains of the West alone, more than 1,100,000 cattle and 2,700,000 sheep graze on the open lands of the National Forests.

Metal and Minerals

The United States is rich in metals and minerals but must import some to supply its basic industries. The nation produces about 70,000,000 tons of iron a year for its manufacturing industries. The end product — steel — figures in the manufacture of some 200,000 products. Four-fifths of the ore comes from the Lake Superior region of the Great Lakes. Although much of the high-grade ores has been used, there remains enough low-grade ore to last for hundreds of years. Industry already has developed practical methods for getting iron from taconite — a hard, ore-bearing rock found in virtually unlimited quantities in the Lake Superior region. The iron ore reserves in America have been placed at about 63,000 million tons.

Coal is the second major natural resource found in large quantities in the United States. There are sufficient reserves to last hundreds of years. Most of the coal is used by steam plants to produce electricity, with about four-fifths of the nation's electric power coming from such plants. Much coal also is used in chemical industries for the manufacture of hundreds of plastics and other synthetics.

Oil wells in the United States produce nearly 4,000 million hectoliters of petroleum a year. The production, processing and marketing of such petroleum products as gasoline and oil make up one of America's largest industries. Since 1957, some gasoline has been made from a rock known as gilsonite. The oil is removed by strong streams of water and carried by pipeline to a processing plant. It is believed that enough oil can be taken from these rocks to take care of the nation's needs for many years.

Natural and manufactured gas supplies more than 30 percent of the

nation's power. Natural gas is carried by huge pipelines from oil or gas fields thousands of kilometers to cities and towns to heat homes and to service industries.

Other basic metals and minerals mined on a large scale in the United States include zinc, copper, silver and phosphate rock which is used for fertilizers.

FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

Agriculture

Nature was generous in giving the United States plenty of fertile soil, along with a climate that is mostly moderate. Three-fifths of the land area of the continental United States is farmland. One-fourth of it – about 400 million acres (160 million hectares) – is harvested cropland and a half is permanent pasture land.

There are about 4,750,000 farms. The average size is 242 acres (97 hectares), but in the eastern part of the country many farms are much smaller. Much of the farm produce is grown on small farms where family members do most of the work.

Over the past forty years farm population has decreased 35 percent, so that today only about 22,250,000 persons live on farms. Nevertheless, there has been a tremendous increase in production. In 1930 one worker produced enough to feed ten persons. Now he produces enough to feed twenty-three. Besides providing ample foods for its own people, each year the United States sends about 900 million kilograms of food to other countries.

Some of the main crops grown are corn (maize), wheat, cotton, tobacco and fruit. Over the last thirty years crop yields have increased sharply. For example, the maize yield has gone up more than 40 percent in that period. The State of Iowa in the Middle West is the leading maize State. Nearly all of it is hybrid maize, developed by crossing different varieties.

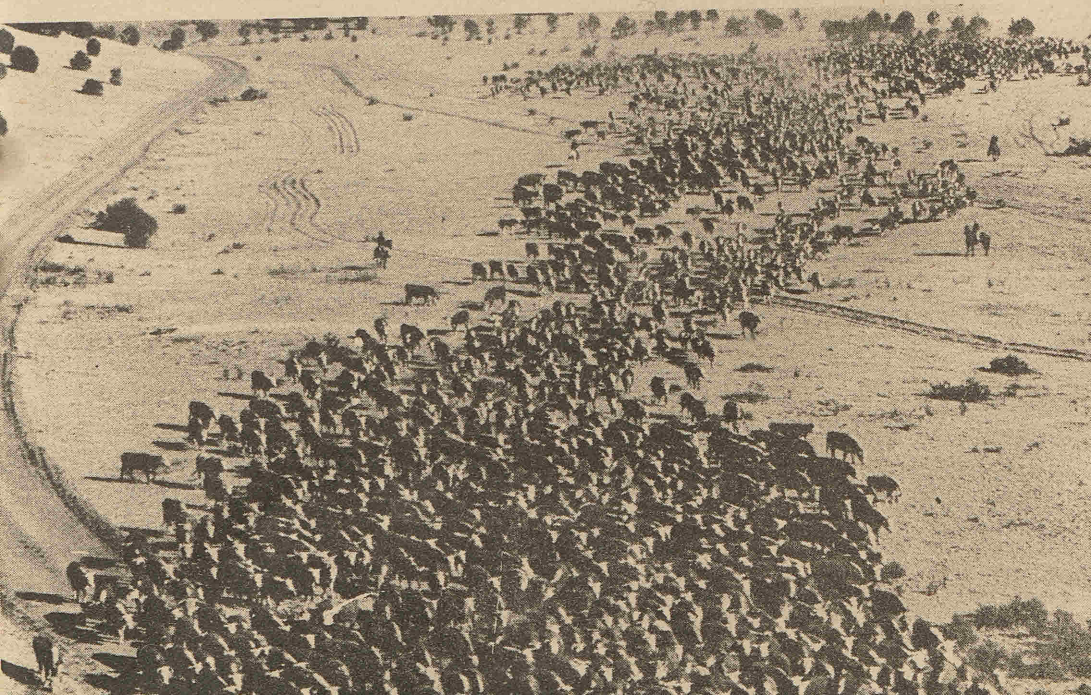
Scientific methods of farming and the use of machines are responsible for the production increase. Over a million machines (combines) for harvesting grain are in use, and some 4,750,000 tractors. In fact, tractors have cut down the use of work animals so much that 80,000,000 acres (32,000,000 hectares) once needed to grow and feed for them is now used for other purposes. However, there still are about 3,500,000 work animals on American farms. Irrigating dry land has given farmers some 6,000,000 acres (2,400,000 hectares) that were once considered useless. There are now almost 30,000,000 acres (12,000,000 hectares) of irrigated land in continental United States.

Science has developed new strains of animals and plants. Fertilizers, chemicals to control or destroy weeds and harmful insects, and methods to



Record crops are produced in the great farm belt of western United States. Here, combines are shown harvesting wheat.

Cattle raising is a major industry in the west and southwest. Here, cowboys round up 2,000 head of cattle for the spring market.



control plant and animal diseases have boosted farm production. Also, modern methods of freezing, canning, packaging and marketing farm products make the farmer's work more productive.

Fishing

Each year an estimated 145,000 commercial fishermen in the United States catch about $351 million worth of fish from 84,000 fishing boats. After the catch is processed the value rises to $592 million, and when marketed the value reaches $1,000 million. There are about 100,000 shore workers in 4,225 fish processing plants.

More than half of the fish caught in the United States are used for human food. The remainder is made into meal for animals, fish oil for industrial use and export or canned food for pets.

About 57 percent of the fish for human use is marketed fresh or frozen, 40 percent is canned, and 3 percent is salted or smoked. The average American eats nearly five kilograms of fish each year.

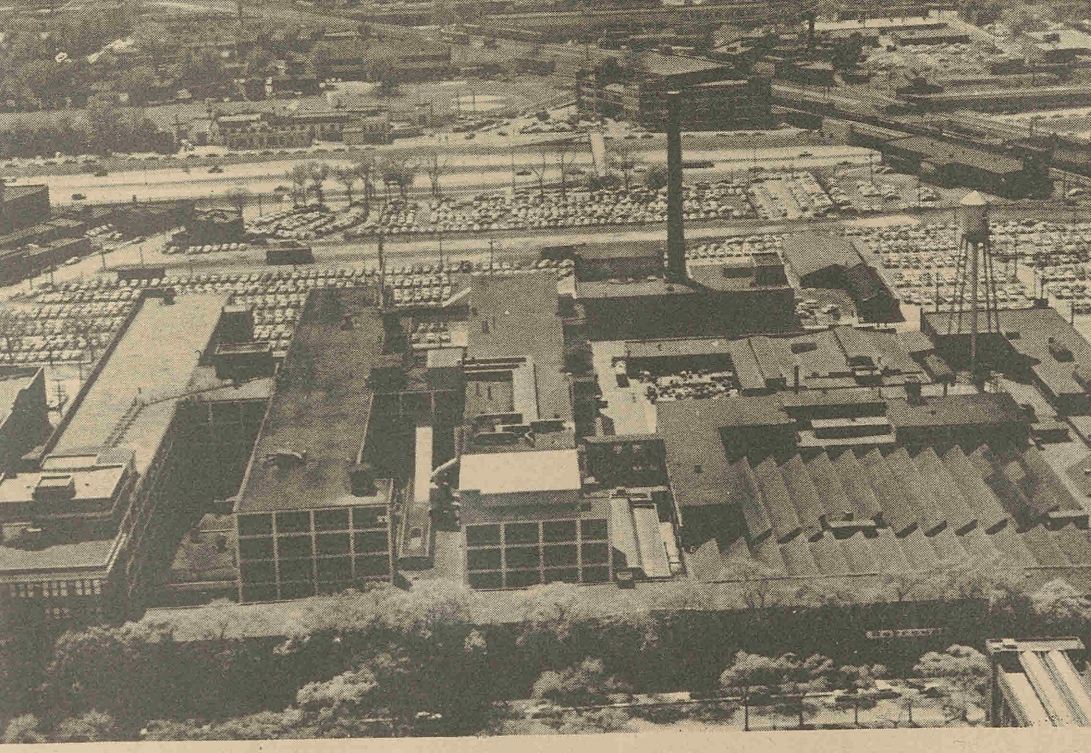
Electric Power

The production of electric power in the United States has doubled every ten years for the past fifty years. Today, nearly every home has electric lights. Nineteen out of twenty farms have electricity, compared with only 11 percent in 1935.

Total annual production of electrical energy used for light, power, heat and air-conditioning is about 800,000 million kilowatt hours. About half of it is used by industry. American homes have many kinds of electrical equipment that make the housewife's work easier.

Most of the electric power is produced and sold by privately owned companies. A Government project, the Tennessee Valley Authority, produces a large amount of electricity used in several southern States. In 1957, atomic energy was used for the first time to produce electric power for industry. A dozen nuclear plants for making electricity were completed by 1961. Their combined output is about one-half of 1 percent of the nation's total supply.

Fuel energy, mostly from coal, but also from oil and gas, creates about 80 percent of the nation's electricity, and water power accounts for 20 percent. Water power is created by huge dams which are used also for irrigation and flood control. Hoover Dam on the Colorado River is the largest in the United States.

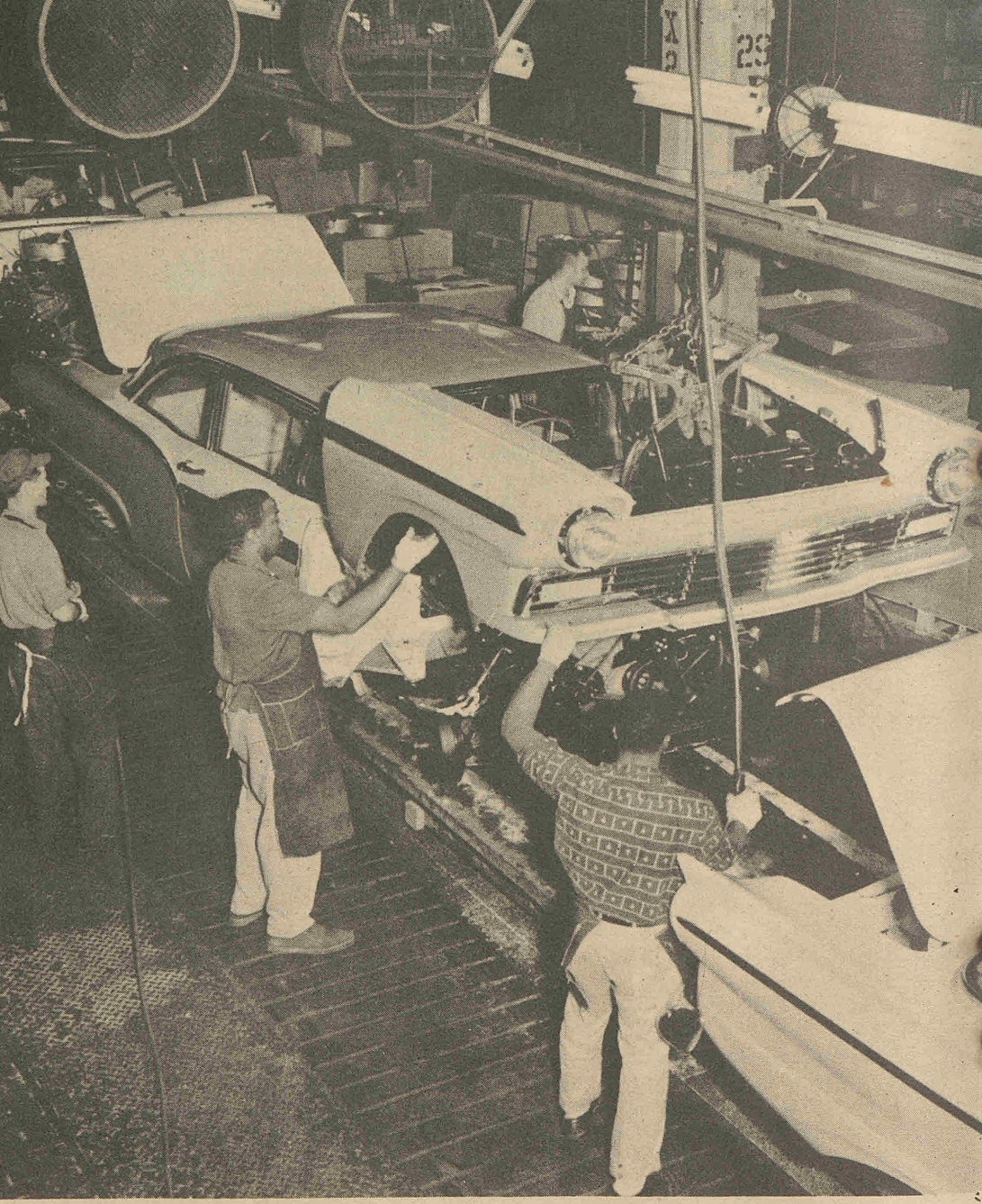


Hundreds of workers' cars parked outside a typical industrial plant.

Manufacturing Industries

Nearly 17,000,000 Americans are in manufacturing work. About 1,700,000 make transportation equipment and 1,600,000 make machinery (not electrical). Other industries with more than a million workers each include those engaged in production of food and related products, clothing, metal goods, electrical machinery, wood products and furniture, textiles, and printing, publishing and paper products. Canned fish and lumber are the chief manufactured products of the new State of Alaska, and those of Hawaii are sugar and canned pineapples.

In the past ten years there has been a big change in manufacturing employment. The number of workers increased only 5 percent, while scientists and engineers in the plants increased over 50 percent. There is new emphasis on research in American industry and a great increase in the use of labor-saving machines. For example, electronic "brains" now do mathematical problems in a few hours that once took weeks of human effort. More than 10,000 such machines are in use in the United States. Some of the oil and chemical industries are built almost entirely around self-acting controls. Machines are doing more and more of the work of processing, assembling,



Millions of cars are produced each year on assembly lines of the great automobile plants in the Middle West.

Modern gasoline stations, spreading rapidly as automobile production soared, have become major factors in the American economy.

Large food markets, where all goods are clearly displayed and customers serve themselves, have become standard in the post-war period.



packaging and distributing products. Industry today turns out more products at a greater speed, and with less manpower than ever before, to meet the demands of the rapidly increasing population.

For the American economy as a whole, the total yearly output of goods and services is more than $500,000 million.

Increasing use of machines to replace workers in some industries is causing a shift of workers to new industries. It is estimated that machines will do away with some 4,000,000 office and clerical jobs within the next five years. In New York City alone, automatic elevators have replaced 40,000 operators in the last fifteen years, and in the past 20 years a half million railroad jobs have been cut out through use of machines. At the same time new industries have created many new jobs, and service trades employing many more workers than ever before.

Other changes have taken place. Today industry puts back 60 percent of its profits into development and upkeep as compared to 30 percent forty years ago. New industries are formed as new discoveries are made. Atomic energy, for example, has created a wide range of new activities. So has the field of plastics with its many products. Electronics has become a major industry, employing nearly 20 percent of the nation's engineers. About 80 percent of the products of one leading firm did not exist two years ago. There are many small electronics companies headed by scientists.

Throughout American industry greater emphasis is being placed on management training. Graduate schools, such as the Harvard School of Business Administration, are training young people to become industrial leaders.

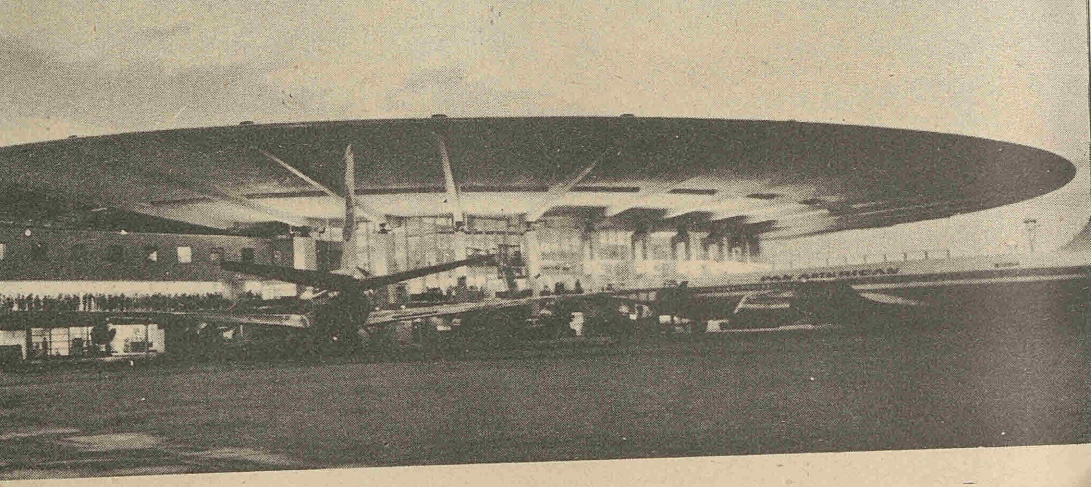
Most American industry is located in the eastern part of the country, but the West and South are now turning more and more from dependence on agriculture. And industry itself is spreading out, building modern factories far removed from the home plant and closer to natural resources and markets. Many of these plants have garden-like surroundings and large parking areas for the workers' automobiles. Industry has been able to scatter its factories because power sources are now widely available, transportation facilities are plentiful, and rapid communications systems make it possible for main plants to keep constantly in touch with branch factories.

Communications

Radio and television have become important means of communication. Almost all domestic broadcasting is done by private organizations. The Government does no domestic broadcasting and has no control over the contents of programs. Some 159 million radios are in use and 88 percent of American homes have television. More than 4,000 radio and 562 television stations now bring entertainment, news, educational and cultural programs to



Electronics speeds the mail as clerk codes addresses on fifty letters a minute. Each letter automatically drops into proper routing channel.



Huge umbrella shields passengers and planes at New York's International Airport. There is room for six jet-liners under overhang.

The Golden Gate Bridge in California is a marvel of engineering and one of the most beautiful structures of its kind.

the people. Hundreds of stations broadcast in languages other than English. Also, there are more than 471,000 special-purpose radio operations that serve the needs of public safety, aviation, industry, sea and land transportation and 200,000 amateur radio stations.

The postal system, operated by the Federal Government, employs about 550,000 workers and has some 36,000 branch post offices that handle about 61,400 million pieces of mail a year. The mail is delivered once a day to farm and city homes. There are 31,000 free rural mail delivery routes.

The nation has more than 70,000,000 telephones. One can now call telephone numbers in other major cities directly without placing the call through an operator.

The nation's telegraph systems are owned and operated by private companies under the general supervision of the Federal Communications Commission, a Government agency which issues permits to radio and television stations and operators.

Americans can communicate quickly with people in other countries by ocean cable, radiotelegraph and radiotelephone. Within the nation, radiotelephones are widely used by police and firemen in emergencies. Some business men use radiotelephones in their automobiles to keep in touch with their offices.

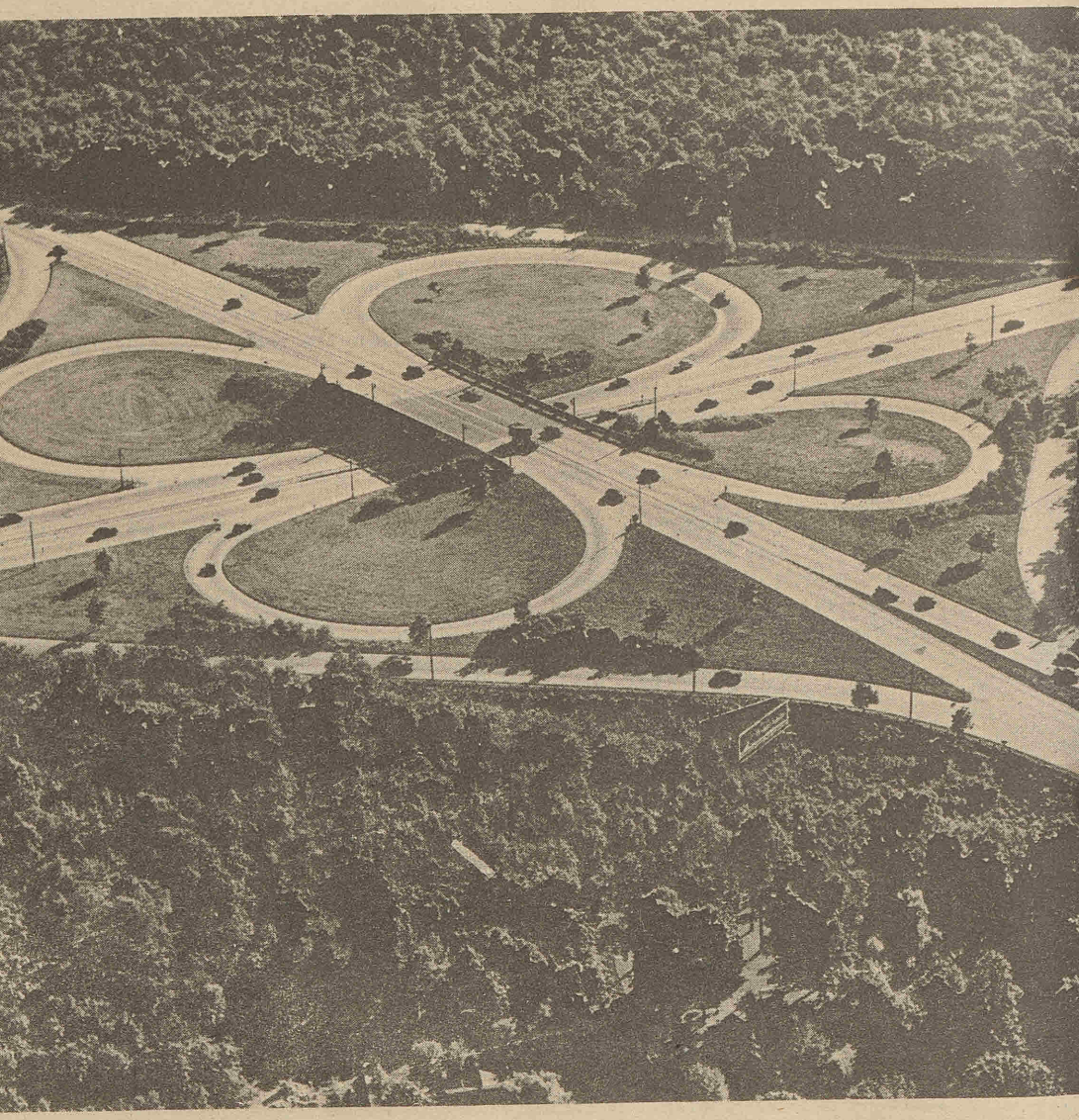
More than 58,000,000 copies of daily newspapers and nearly 48,000,000 copies of Sunday newspapers are printed. There are about 1,800 daily and 9,000 weekly newspapers, all privately owned. In the United States newspapers may support political parties but they are not owned or controlled by the parties, or the Government. More than 600 foreign language newspapers and magazines, including nearly eighty daily papers, are printed in about forty languages; some 200 newspapers and magazines are published by and for Negroes. There are about 125 leading magazines, 76 of which produce more than a million copies of each issue. The three major news magazines combined sell over 4,500,000 copies a week. "Readers' Digest" prints more than 12,000,000 copies a month.

Transportation

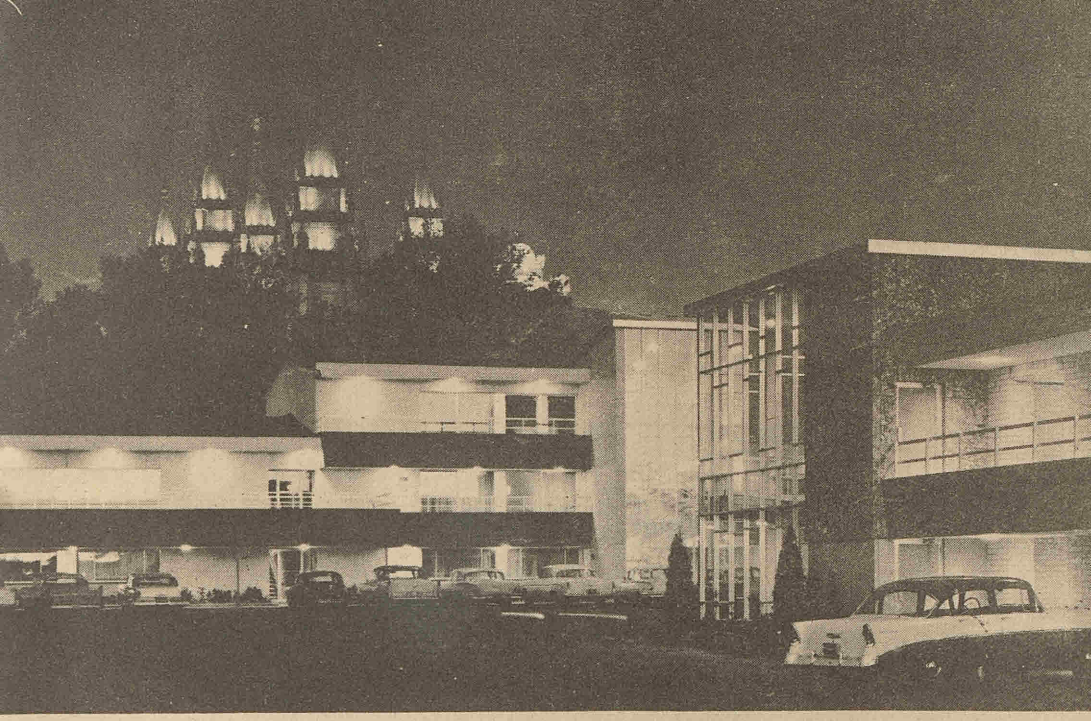
The automobile is the most popular means of transportation. More than 60,000,000 passenger cars are in operation and gasoline use amounts to over 220,000 million liters yearly.

The automobile has brought many changes in American life – for example, the remarkable growth of the suburbs in the past 20 years. Many persons who work in the cities now enjoy country living because of good roads and the use of the automobile.

Heavy use of the nation's highways has created a demand for roadside



A network of broad highways connects American cities. Intersections like this one help to speed traffic safely on its way.

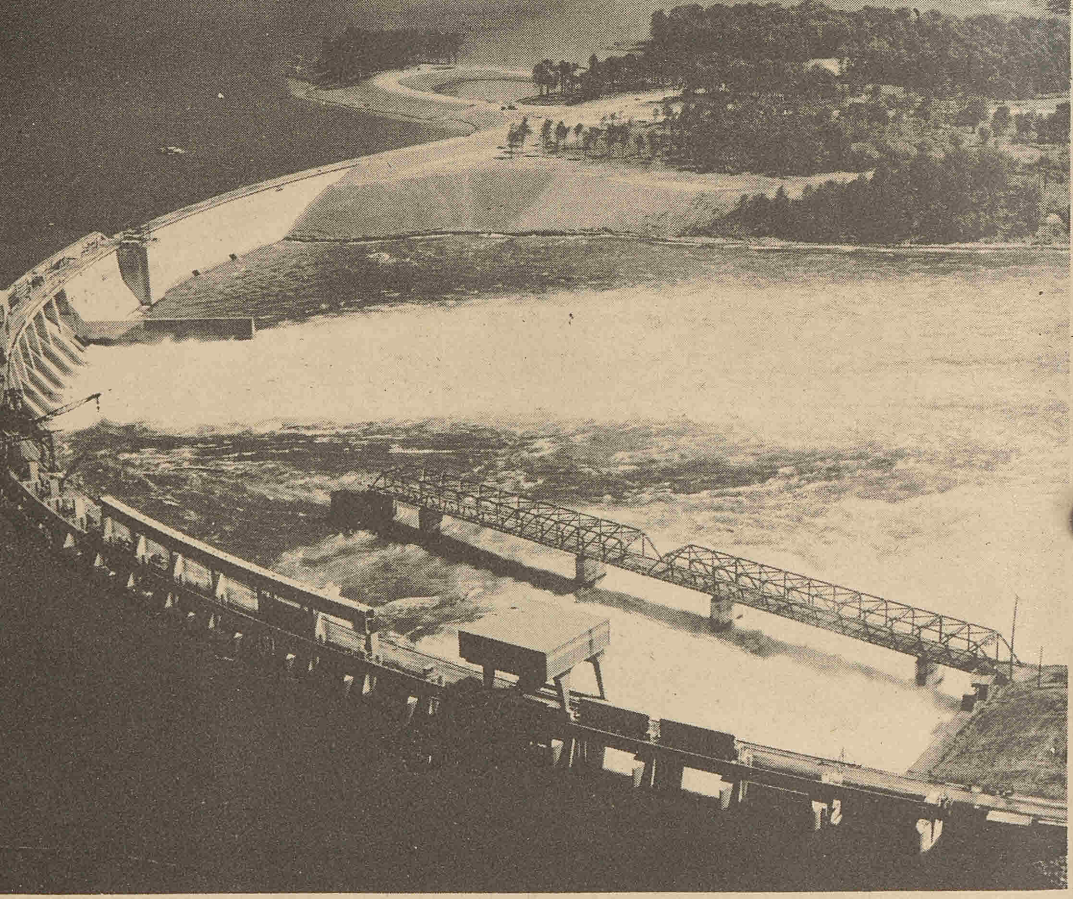


Motor lodges, or motels, are found on principal highways and in most cities. The spires behind this motel in Salt Lake City are those of Mormon Temple.

businesses of various kinds—including outdoor movie theaters where audiences watch films from their automobiles, and convenient roadside hotels known as "motels." Motels are usually located on main roads near cities and at seaside and other resorts. They are made up of a series of units and have a parking space for the traveler's automobile in front of his quarters. Each unit is made up of a large, comfortable bedroom and a bathroom; many are equipped with television and air-conditioning. Restaurants and swimming pools are available at many of the large motels. The number of motels has grown so rapidly in recent years that they now have passed American hotels in total annual income.

Throughout the United States there are almost 2,000,000 kilometers of smooth, surfaced roads, and more than a million kilometers of other roads. A huge 65,000 kilometer highway construction project is now in progress, which when completed, will connect 90 percent of the major American cities with wide, modern highways.

Buses are replacing streetcars for public transportation in many cities and towns. The suburban areas usually have railroad or bus transportation to neighboring towns. Buses are often used by travelers for long trips. Fares



The Long Sault Dam controls waters of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The Seaway enables ships to sail directly to the heart of the country.

are less than on the railroads or airlines, and many of the large, modern buses provide restrooms and meals.

The airplane is a popular means of travel — there were 58,400,000 airline passengers in 1960. The country has 7,000 civil airports and about 1,900 airplanes operated by 56 scheduled airlines. Thirty-five control centers direct air traffic between cities.

Railroads carry as much freight as all motor trucks, oil pipelines and waterways combined. The railroads are privately owned, but they operate under rules of the Interstate Commerce Commission, a Government agency.

Piggybacking — transporting truck trailers on railroad flat cars — has increased greatly in recent years. The railroads hauled 500,000 piggyback carloads in 1960 — three times as many as in 1955.

Transportation by water to the interior of the country was helped greatly when the St. Lawrence Seaway was opened by the United States and Canada in 1959. Large ocean vessels can now sail directly to cities on the Great Lakes. More than two-thirds of all water transportation in the nation's interior is carried on the Great Lakes.

Foreign Trade

The United States trades with most nations. In 1960, exports were valued at $19,550 million and imports at $14,650 million.

The leading exports are industrial and electrical machinery, textiles, grain, iron, coal, petroleum products and chemicals. Canada and Mexico are the largest single country customers and buy about one-fifth of the total.

Some of the principal imports are coffee, petroleum and fuel oil, metals, paper and paper products, from Europe, Latin America, Asia and Canada.

The United States has followed a policy of promoting world trade by lowering tariffs. This has gradually reduced United States duties on imports so much that today 40 percent of goods enter the country duty-free. The policy is set forth in the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, renewed periodically since 1934, which gives the President the right to lower tariffs by as much as 50 percent in return for similar treatment by the country involved.

Under the Act the average tariff rates have been cut about 11 percent on items that require duty payment. If the duty-free imports are included, the average tariff on all imports now stands at about 6.5 percent.

In 1947, nearly two dozen nations, including the United States, met in Geneva to form the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT). This provided for reducing tariffs on more than 45,000 items representing two-thirds of the imports of these countries. Since the forming of GATT, a large number of other nations have joined in this effort to increase world trade.

Science

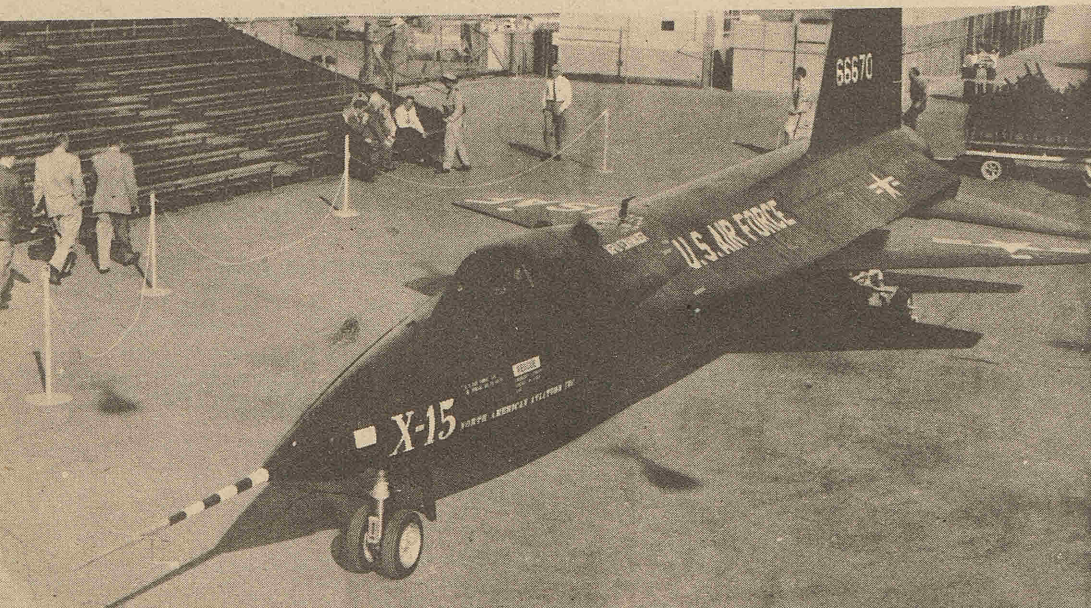
The United States has long held a leading position in science and invention. Today more than 230,000 men and women are engaged in scientific research and development, and $12,000 million or more is being spent each year by Government and industry for these purposes.

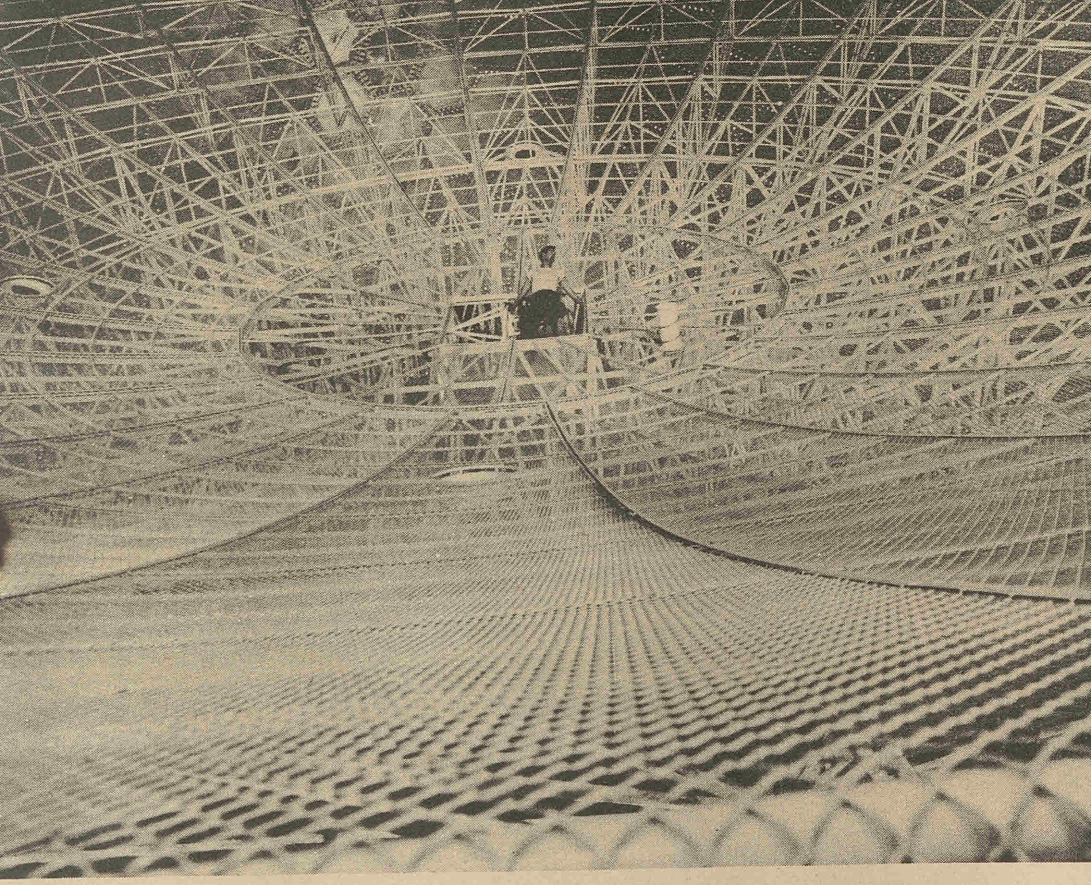
Perhaps the greatest challenge lies in exploring space. President Kennedy has invited all nations to join the United States in developing a weather prediction program, a new communications satellite program, and in "probes which may some day unlock the deepest secrets of the universe."

New metals developed for use in space satellites may bring new industries and new products in the future.

Nuclear reactor is so safe that it is enclosed in glass and located in the heart of a large college campus, the University of Washington in Seattle.

The X-15 rocket airplane, which has flown higher and faster than any other plane, reaching speeds of 5,300 kilometers an hour.





This giant "spider web" is a tracking radar, one of the devices developed in the United States to follow the path of spacecraft.

By early 1961, the United States had sent into the sky a total of thirty-seven of the man-made "moons" known as earth satellites, of which a score were still circling the earth and two were going around the sun.

Tiros I and Tiros II, equipped with television, sent up in 1960, took many thousands of pictures of cloud formations. The weather satellites help in making long-range weather predictions and can give advance warnings of storms.

In many parts of the world people have seen the 30-meter silver-colored Echo I circling the earth 1,600 kilometers out in space. Like a glowing star, it can be seen with the naked eye. It reflects radio signals from one earth point to another. Echo is the first in a series of satellites launched by the United States that are expected to bring great advances in communications.


L.E. SHEPARD

Through them worldwide television promises to be a reality. Scientists of other nations were invited to use Echo for experiments of their own. Another communications satellite, the Courier, receives and stores messages until it is commanded by radio to release them.

Pioneer V has radioed back important data. At about 40,000 kilometers it discovered an electric current flowing around the earth. It learned, also, that the earth's magnetic field ends at about 89,000 kilometers — almost twice as far as it was thought to be.

Instrument containers from Discoverer satellites in outer space have been successfully recovered — from the ocean or from the air far above the Pacific. Small animals have been shot into space and have been brought back alive. A test airplane, the X-15 reached a height of nearly 50,000 meters and traveled at a speed of more than 4,600 kilometers an hour.

During the next ten years the United States plans to send up more than 250 satellites and will attempt to land a spaceship on the moon. In May 1961, Commander Alan Shepard made a sub-orbital space flight, the first American astronaut to accomplish this feat.

The development of the powerful rockets that send up the satellites owes much to the pioneering work of the late Robert H. Goddard, American scientist known as the father of modern rocketry.

New discoveries in electronics have aided space exploration. Tiny transistors are used in satellites to provide a long lasting power source. The principle of the transistor was announced in 1948 by three American scientists, William Shockley, Walter H. Brattain and John Bardeen, who later shared the Nobel Prize. A battery powered by sunlight also was developed for use in satellites.

Transistors are now being put to many uses — for hearing aids so tiny that they can be mounted on eyeglasses, and for use in radios smaller than a cigarette package. Engineers are experimenting with placing sunlight batteries into the roofs of homes. Five days of sunlight, it is believed, can create enough power to operate a home's lights and electrical equipment for a year.

Oceanography

Electronics also is making it possible for scientists to make remarkable progress in research into ocean waters. The United States Navy's bathyscaph Trieste has descended eleven kilometers to the bottom of the Marianas Trench in the Pacific.

American scientists are working closely with those of other nations in ocean studies. One of their most startling discoveries is that there are strong currents far beneath the surface currents flowing in the opposite

Navy Commander Alan B. Shepard Jr., America's first astronaut.


ALASKA
Juneau
WASHINGTON
Seattle
Spokane
Olympia
Columbia River
Portland
Salem
OREGON
MONTANA
Great Falls
Helena
IDAHO
Boise
Pocatello
WYOMING
Casper
Cheyenne
CALIFORNIA
NEVADA
Reno
Carson City
Sacramento
San Francisco
Las Vegas
Great Salt Lake
Salt Lake City
UTAH
Denver
Colorado Springs
Pueblo
COLORADO
Colorado River
NEW MEXICO
Santa Fe
ARIZONA
Phoenix
Tucson
Los Angeles
San Diego
El Paso
Rio Grande
Mexico
Honolulu
HAWAII
Capitals
Large Cities

THE UNITED

MUNAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

a d a

D STATES OF AMERICA



direction. Scientists think these lower currents have an influence on weather and climate. They have learned, too, that there are mountains, valleys and broad, flat plains on the ocean floor. They are learning of ways to farm the sea, to increase the ocean's yield of food, and to remove the salt from the water.

In a project of the National Academy of Sciences, scientists are planning to bore a hole five or six kilometers deep in the ocean floor under about five kilometers of water. They expect to find there the remains of animals that lived millions of years ago.

Another important area for scientific research is the Antarctic. The United States was one of twelve nations which in 1959 signed a treaty that made the Antarctic an area for scientific research. Three of the six United States research stations there are operated jointly with Australia, New Zealand and Argentina. It is believed that in ten years the Antarctic will have permanent settlements. Atomic power will supply heat and light, and airplanes will service the area regularly.

Atomic Energy

After the close of World War II, a long-range effort was begun to put the atom to peaceful uses. The United States Atomic Energy Commission, established in 1947, has supported a broad research and development program in medicine, agriculture and industrial uses, and in power production. Much of the work is carried on with the cooperation of private organizations.

Atomic radioisotopes are used in the study of diseases. In agriculture they are used to help produce more and better crops and healthier animals; in industry they help turn out better products. The United States has shared these radioisotopes with other nations sending 20,000 shipments to research laboratories and hospitals in 70 nations since 1946.

A training program of the Atomic Energy Commission has brought hundreds of foreign scientists to the United States to receive instruction in building atomic reactors and in the use of radioisotopes. The United States has agreements with forty countries to furnish information about the construction of reactors and to provide fuel for them.

In 1953, President Eisenhower proposed before the United Nations that a worldwide organization be formed to further the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The International Atomic Energy Agency was formed in 1957. It provides for the sharing of materials, information and training so that the benefits of atomic energy may be spread around the world.

Medical Progress

Medical science has taken a great leap forward since the war. There is a growing list of "wonder" drugs to fight diseases. There are new methods of performing operations, and new kinds of equipment, such as machines that can circulate blood during heart operations, and the artificial kidney which corrects blood chemistry. Vaccines, such as the polio vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk, have proved effective in preventing the spread of serious diseases.

Professions

Technological progress in recent years has brought about a sizeable increase in the number of persons engaged in the professions. Today 11 percent of employed persons are in the professions, compared with 8 percent in 1950 and 4 percent in 1900.

In 1870, nearly 75 percent of those in the professions were in medicine, the ministry, law or teaching, compared with only 40 percent at present. These professions have grown over the years, but at a slower rate than some of the newer professions. For example, there are three times as many doctors today as in 1870, while the number of persons in scientific, engineering and related fields has increased a hundred times.

Women fill about 37 percent of positions in the professions. Most of them are teachers or nurses, but the pressing need for engineers, doctors and scientists has provided them with greater opportunities in these areas.

There are more than 1,500,000 full-time teachers — a 50 percent increase in ten years.

A major emphasis in the 1960's is on training more and better teachers. The nation's public elementary schools have 800,000 teachers — 87 percent of them women — and several thousand principals and supervisors. Some 100,000 teachers are employed by private elementary schools. High schools employ 500,000 teachers, principals and supervisors. The colleges have 100,000 teachers. In the next ten years at least 100,000 new teachers a year will be needed for the elementary and secondary schools.

There are about 900,000 physicians, pharmacists, dentists and nurses. The educational requirements for these professions are high, ranging from at least two years of college level training for nurses to at least eight years of college study and hospital experience for physicians. Ninety-eight percent of the nation's 460,000 nurses are women.

American physicians must meet exacting educational and training standards. There are 230,000 doctors, or one for every 758 persons. Medical schools expect to increase the number of graduates from 7,000 to 10,000 a year to meet the demand in the 1960's. A physician must complete seven or eight years of study and two years more if he specializes in a particular field. He works two or three years in a hospital before entering private practice.

Dentists must complete at least six years of college training before they are admitted to practice. Ninety percent of the nation's 91,000 dentists are in private practice.

There are 112,000 registered pharmacists in the United States, of whom about 50,000 operate their own drug stores. Some 10 percent are employed by drug manufacturers, and about 600 work for the Federal Government, mainly testing new drugs to be sure they are safe for use.

The nation has 850,000 graduate engineers. They design and develop everything from household goods to space satellites. In addition to a bachelor's degree from an engineering school, many engineers obtain advanced degrees. Three-fourths of the nation's engineers work for private industry. By the late 1960's colleges are expected to confer twice the present number of 35,000 engineering degrees a year.

This age of science has created a heavy demand for persons trained in chemistry, physics, biology and mathematics. About 300,000 men and women are in this field — a 500 percent increase since 1930. Some 120,000 are chemists, about 10 percent of them are women. Half of the nation's 30,000 physicists work for private companies, and 20 percent teach physics. The science professions require at least four years of college training.

There are 400,000 professional accountants and auditors, including 60,000 certified public accountants (CPA's). To qualify as a CPA one must pass examinations and meet educational and experience requirements established by State laws.

There are about 225,000 lawyers, nearly 80 percent of whom are in private practice. The Federal Government employs about 12,000 and a similar number work for State and local governments. A lawyer must have three years of college and three years of professional training in a law school. Before he can practice in his State he must pass a written examination.

Services

More people in the United States today are engaged in services than in producing goods. This is expected to continue over the next ten years, especially in such rapidly growing fields as finance and banking, and insurance. Automobile and other repair services, hotels, theaters, cleaning establishments, employ some 6,000,000 persons.

Another 6,000,000 are in service jobs in State and local governments, engaged in police and fire protection, and office duties. Some 2,200,000 work for the Federal Government.

Clerks form the largest single group of service workers. About one in every seven persons is a clerk or engaged in related work.

Americans today are spending for services (the things people need or want which are not tangible products) more than 40 percent of their incomes.

Banking and Finance

The Federal Reserve System was established in 1913 to give stability and centralization to the nation's financial affairs. About half of the nation's 14,000 banks belong to the system, which operates through a Federal Reserve Bank in each of twelve districts. Member banks handle more than three-quarters of the nation's total bank deposits of $250,000 million.

The Federal Reserve can decrease or increase the reserves held by member banks, and in this way control the availability of loans. It lends money to member banks for reserves, issues paper money, and raises or lowers banks' interest rates to check inflationary trends in the economy.

Money on deposit in the nation's banks, much of it belonging to individuals as well as businesses, is channeled into various economic activities through loans. It is used to finance commercial enterprises and the building of private homes. Outstanding loans made by the nation's banks in a year amount to $136,000 million or more.

Savings up to $10,000 in banks and in most of the 7,000 building and loan associations are insured by the Federal Government. Much of this money is used for loans to build or repair homes, and for the purchase of interest-bearing stocks and bonds.

Insurance companies finance economic activities by underwriting construction of large building projects. Their total capital is estimated at $110,000 million. Most of this capital comes from the millions of individuals who have bought insurance protection against death, sickness and accidents, and for retirement benefits in their old age.

THE ARTS

Interest in art has increased greatly among Americans in recent years. One hundred new art museums opened in 1959 alone and art festivals are held in many parts of the country each year. In the big cities and in university towns throughout the nation, arts centers are being built. When finished in





Summer concert at the Hollywood Bowl in California, one of the nation's hundreds of outdoor theaters.

1963, the great $75,000,000 Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, under construction in New York, will house the Metropolitan Opera Company, the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, the Juilliard School of Music, a repertory theater and a library-museum.

Music

Music of all kinds is extremely popular. More than twice as much money is spent on concert and opera tickets and on recordings as for all sports events. About $300,000,000 is spent annually on plays, operas, musicals and concerts, and an additional $85,000,000 on classical records. Radio stations broadcast about 9,000 hours of musical programs weekly. Many programs are made up almost entirely of classical music. Symphony and opera are heard often on radio and television programs.

New galleries spur increasing interest in art. Shown is the Guggenheim Museum in New York, designed by the late Frank Lloyd Wright.

There are 1,100 symphony orchestras in the United States — the city of Los Angeles alone supports twenty. The New York Philharmonic and the great orchestras of Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Chicago, are known throughout the world. Summer music festivals feature leading orchestras, soloists and opera companies. Two of the best known festivals are held at Tanglewood, Massachusetts in the East, and at Aspen, Colorado in the West. Free outdoor public concerts are held during summer months in many cities. There are numerous schools of music and music departments in many universities. Noted performers developed by the schools include pianists Van Cliburn, Eugene Istomin and Grant Johannesen and violinists Yehudi Menuhin and Isaac Stern.

Veteran American composers making important contributions to present-day serious music include Roy Harris, Howard Hanson, Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomson, Walter Piston, Roger Sessions, and Wallingford Riegger. A younger group includes Walter Schuman, David Diamon, Samuel Barber, Gian-Carlo Menotti, Peter Mennin, Ulysses Kay and Leonard Bernstein.

Opera

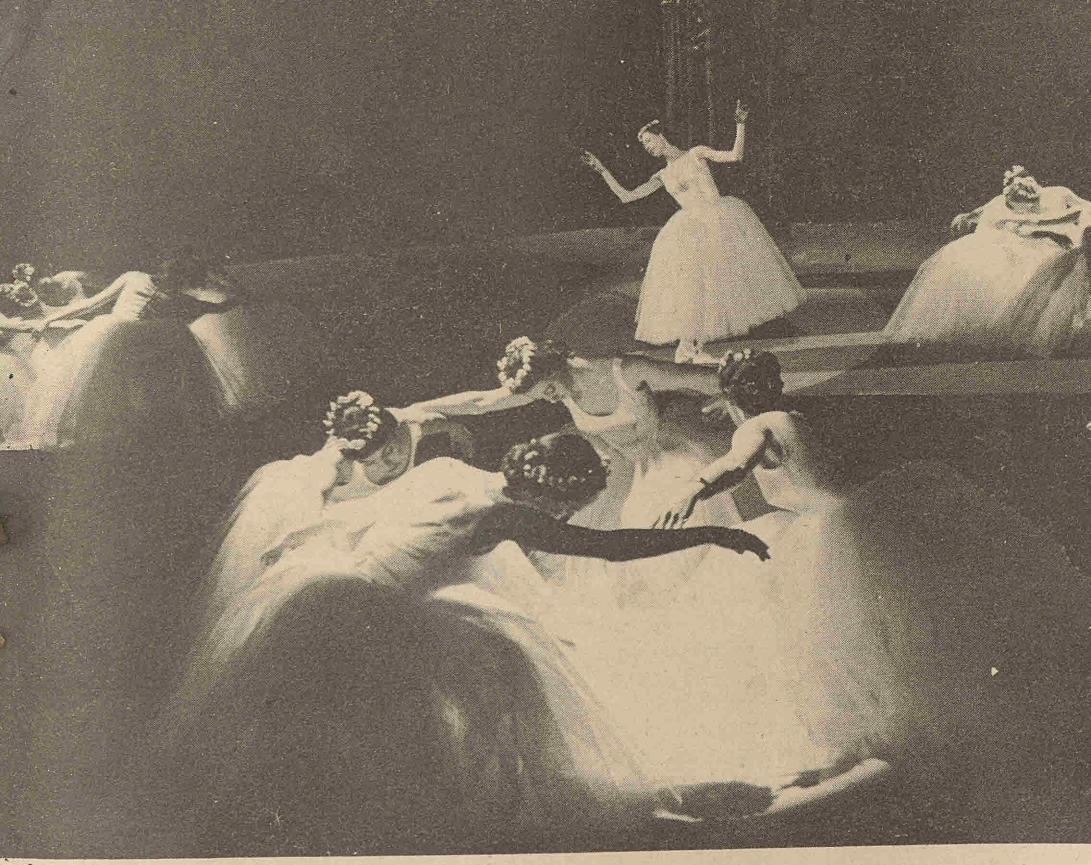
There are 728 opera companies in America. For more than twenty years the famous Metropolitan in New York has broadcast a performance every Saturday afternoon during the opera season, bringing music of the highest quality to millions of American listeners and to a vast audience abroad.

Some of the best known opera and concert singers are Rise Stevens, Eileen Farrell, Marian Anderson, Patrice Munsel, Richard Tucker and Robert Merrill. Amateur groups bring opera productions to people living in the smaller cities.

Musicals

The American theater has perfected an unusual art form in the modern musical play. These "musicals" combine traditional and modern dancing with original music in a story of dramatic interest. Examples are "Porgy and Bess," "Oklahoma!," "South Pacific," "The King and I," and "My Fair Lady." Well-known composers of musicals include Frederick Loewe, Cole Porter, Frank Loesser, Richard Rodgers, and the late George Gershwin.

Jazz music continues to have an appeal for millions. Jazz bands, or even two or three-man combinations, are heard in restaurants, night clubs, theaters and dance halls, and on radio and television.



The New York City ballet in a scene from "Les Sylphides" performed on television. This professional company enjoys great popularity.

The Dance

Traditional and modern dancing have many admirers, and interest in the ballet has increased enormously in the past 20 years. Nearly every city has at least one school for teaching ballet to children. Three professional ballet companies are now well established – the New York City Ballet, the American Ballet Theater and the Ballet Russe of Monte Carlo. Jerome Robbins, George Balanchine and Agnes DeMille are the best known creators of dance forms. Among the well-known dancers are Lucia Chase, Nora Kaye, Igor Yousevitch, John Kriza, Eric Braun, and Maria Tallchief. A number of excellent original American ballets have been created but the classical French and Russian works continue to have great appeal. Nationwide television programs help make all forms of dancing popular.

Literature

Many promising young writers are becoming known, but long established novelists and playwrights are still popular. The Nobel Prize for literature has been given to five Americans, Sinclair Lewis, Eugene O'Neill, Pearl Buck, William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway. Leading poets include Robert Frost and Carl Sandburg. Among the distinguished writers of plays are Arthur Miller, William Saroyan, Tennessee Williams and William Inge. Plays by the late Eugene O'Neill are frequently performed, particularly by repertory theaters.

More than 15,000 books are published each year. Low cost books in paper covers make available some of the world's best literature to American readers. Each day an average of nearly one million paperback books are sold in the United States. About 950,000,000 copies of all books, including textbooks, are sold during the year. Publishers find growing interest in serious works – biography, history, economics, philosophy, religion and science. Ten million Americans belong to book clubs and receive books regularly at reduced prices.

There are more than 12,800 libraries in the United States. Of these over 10,000 are free public libraries which lend about 400 million books a year. There are more than 1,400 university libraries – Harvard University has the largest. There are at least 400 medical and nearly 300 governmental libraries. The Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., is the nation's largest.

Art and Sculpture

Many Americans study art for the sake of creative expression, and there are several million amateur painters and sculptors; others are serious artists who make art their life work. The nation has more than 500 art schools.

Some of the best known painters of recent years are Ben Shahn, Thomas Hart Benton, Georgia O'Keefe, the late John Marin and the late Grant Wood. In folk art, the 100-year-old Grandma Moses is known in many parts of the world for her primitive paintings of rural American scenes of her girlhood. Well-known sculptors include Malvina Hoffman and the late Jo Davidson. In architecture, the works of Walter Gropius, Edward D. Stone and the late Frank Lloyd Wright are widely known.

Nearly every town of any size has an art gallery, a museum, or both. Noted art museums include the National Gallery in Washington, D.C.; the Metropolitan Museum (the nation's largest), the Museum of Modern Art, and the new Guggenheim Museum, all in New York; the Art Institute of Chicago; and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Each year over 100 million persons visit the nation's 2,500 art galleries.



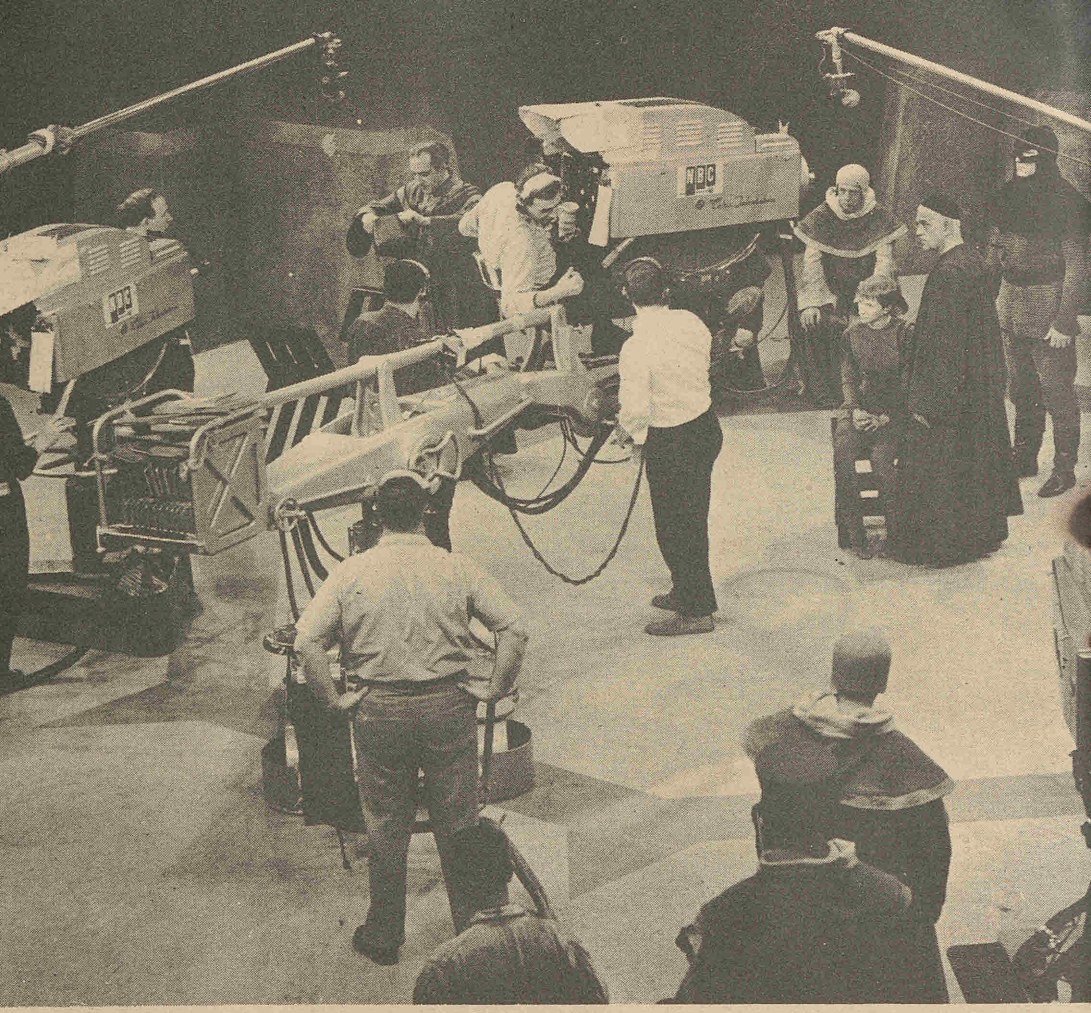
There are several million amateur painters and sculptors in America, and for the more serious the nation has more than 500 schools of art.



Poet Robert Frost with members of the Sarah Lawrence College choral group.



Community theaters in many cities and towns present a wide variety of dance and theatrical productions.



Color television cameras cluster around stars at a special performance of a Broadway play being given for TV viewers.

Stage and Screen

Most new plays are presented first on Broadway, the theater district of New York. If they are successful they later go "on the road" to scores of cities throughout the country. More than fifty productions are presented each season on Broadway. To many Americans, seeing a Broadway show is a high point in their visit to the nation's largest city.

In recent years another side of the New York theater has developed, known as "off-Broadway." These plays are modestly staged in small play-

houses, but some rank with the best Broadway performances in professional skill and many enjoy long runs.

After the regular theater season has closed, more than 400 summer theaters go into action, in rural areas, in suburbs and at seashore and mountain resorts. Sometimes the theater is only a made-over barn or even a tent. Well-known actors often appear in these plays. At the same time, ambitious young students of the theater have an opportunity to work under experienced actors and directors.

Pageant-like plays staged outdoors are growing in popularity. One of the best known "The Common Glory," a story of America's early history is performed every summer at Williamsburg, Virginia.

There are more than 5,000 community theaters scattered throughout the country. Among those which have become famous are the Pasadena Playhouse in California, the Cleveland Playhouse in Ohio, the Margo Jones Playhouse in Dallas, Texas and the Arena Theater in Washington, D. C. There are about 250,000 amateur theater groups in cities and small towns, at universities, in churches, trade union halls and in community centers. During the season some 125 million persons attend their performances.

Motion pictures remain a favorite form of entertainment despite the popularity of television. There are 13,200 motion picture theaters and about 5,000 outdoor "drive-ins." The best domestic and foreign films available may be seen at neighborhood theaters.

Not as many feature films are being made today as 10 years ago, but the quality of the films has improved. Many movies are now made by independent producers with fresh ideas and approaches. They select their own stories and treat the subjects in any way they think will appeal to adult audiences. Many films made abroad enrich the American screen with new faces and new ideas. Modern methods of movie-making, such as the wide screen, glowing color and improved sound, have brought more realism and more satisfactory entertainment appeal.

The educational or documentary film has wide appeal also. Educational films are shown in schools, churches and clubs, as well as theaters.

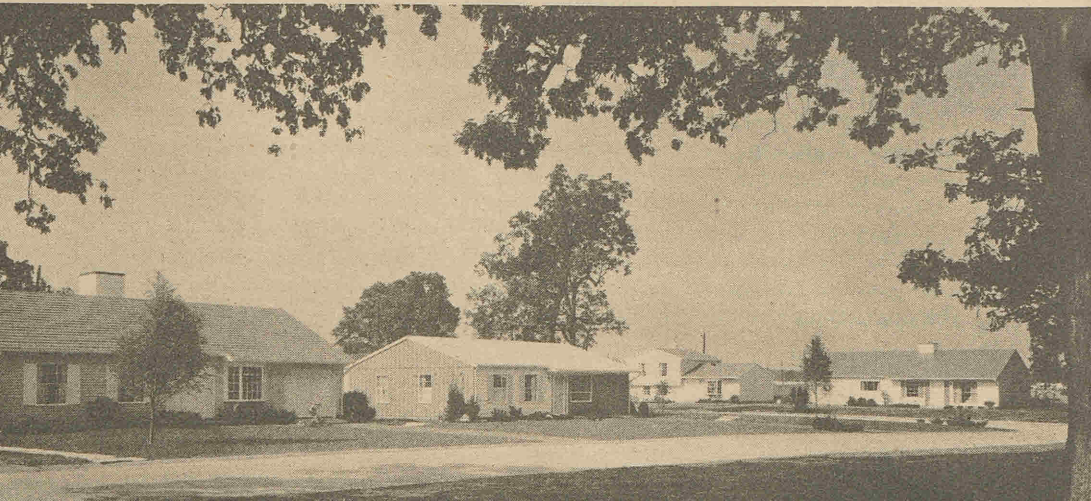
Television, on 52,000,000 receiving sets, gives the American people a wide variety of programs from early morning until late at night. Many of the programs are excellent and have brought unusual talent into millions of homes. Television has featured great entertainers like Danny Kaye and Louis Armstrong, and brilliant singers like Renata Tebaldi. Television has given viewers new insight into history, art, music, literature, the ballet, the theater, the discoveries of modern science and the wonders of the universe.

Some television programs are designed specifically for children.

The television viewer pays no tax or charge for the use of his receiving set. The cost of the programs is borne chiefly by "sponsors" who are given the opportunity to advertise their goods or services during the programs.

A typical Florida community. The year-round warm climate of this southern State makes it popular with winter vacationers and with retired workers.

These easy-to-care-for new homes in the American Midwest are made of aluminum coated with a long-lasting hard finish of bright colored plastic enamel.



MUNAVIRVL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM

WAY OF LIFE

Living Standards

In a population of 182 million more than 70,000,000 were in the civilian labor supply in 1961.

The average yearly income for each person in the United States is about $2,300; the average family income $6,400. Family incomes increased at a rate twice as fast as living costs between 1947 and 1961. At retirement age most workers can leave their regular jobs and live on social security payments or other pensions. The needy aged are given aid under Federal-State assistance programs.

Three-fifths of all families and individuals are in the middle or high-income ranks. They are able to afford not only the basic needs — food, shelter, and clothing — but also many of the comforts of modern living. The worker has become a major consumer of the goods he produces.

Americans spend money freely and go into debt temporarily when necessary to buy things they require. These debts are paid off on a regular monthly basis. The buying habits of Americans have changed in recent years: the postwar demand for household goods has slowed down. More money is being spent for education, medical care, services, travel and recreation and a smaller percentage of incomes for food, clothing, and automobiles. In recent years small cars with low maintenance costs have become popular.

Gifts to churches, charitable and educational organizations have greatly increased.

But most families manage to save some money (the average saved is 5 to 7 percent of income) either as bank deposits, Government bonds, or as insurance. Americans now have more than $80 thousand million in savings. About 86 percent of families own some life insurance.

Foods and Housing

Most people eat a balanced and varied diet of meats, fish, vegetables and dairy foods. Although prices of food and other commodities have risen, one hour's take-home pay buys twice as much as it did thirty years ago. Today the average man needs to work but six minutes to earn enough to buy a loaf (one-half kilogram) of bread, four minutes to buy a kilogram of potatoes, 45 minutes to buy a kilogram of beef or butter, eight minutes to buy a liter of milk, 23 hours to buy a wool suit, and seven hours to buy a pair of leather shoes.

A package of 20 cigarettes costs about six minutes of worktime. The average workman can afford to buy an automobile every four or five years.



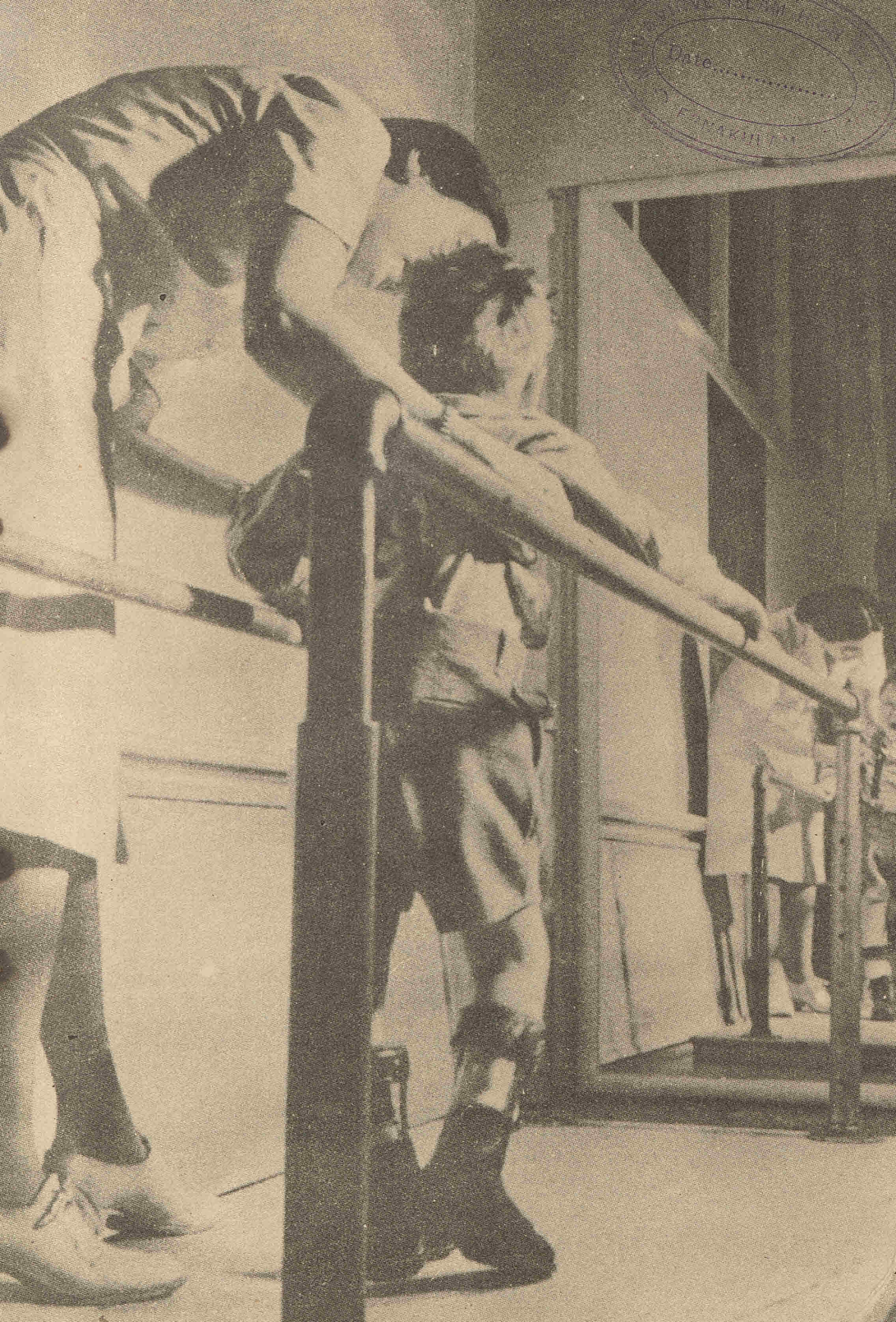
This housing development near Washington, D.C., is typical of many similar projects springing up all over the United States.

Most workers have modern labor-saving equipment such as electric washing machines and refrigerators in their homes.

The majority of Americans live in apartments or individual houses which have electric lights, central heating, hot and cold running water and inside toilets. In 1960 there were nearly 59 million housing units — up from 46 million in 1950. In many large cities old sections are being torn down and replaced by modern housing. Many housing projects are built with public funds and are designed for people with low incomes.

Because of the general rise in family incomes one finds living together in the same suburban communities, in homes very much alike, the factory worker and the small businessman, the school teacher and the salesman.

Crippled children learn to walk with the helping hand of a nurse and a full-sized mirror to show their progress.


Date.....
F. MAKIN

HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE

Sixty years ago the average American could expect to live to be forty-seven; today he should reach seventy. The death rate of babies has gone down steadily, and now fewer than 3 percent of infants die in their first year.

One reason for better health is the continuous battle waged against diseases that spread through bodily contact. Sixty years ago these diseases accounted for about four in every ten deaths; today they account for only one in twelve. A major health problem in the United States is the care of the aged who suffer from lingering illnesses that go along with advancing years.

Good medical care, numerous hospitals and public health services are widely available but the need to increase and improve them is recognized. An established $21,000 million is spent yearly to finance public health services, medical and related research, education for the medical profession, and medical services for individuals. Over 127 million persons have some kind of insurance to help cover medical and hospital expenses. The American people spend over $17,000 million yearly for their medical care.

The Government helps care for those who cannot pay for health benefits. It also contributes to construction costs of some public hospitals. There are nearly 7,000 hospitals in the United States. Many provide some free or low-cost care to those who cannot pay. Some 400 are operated by the Federal Government; others are operated by State and local governments, by churches and various organizations, by individuals, or by corporations.

About five out of six factory and office workers, along with their families, are covered by group health plans paid for by employers or by workers and employers. Many industrial organizations provide medical services for their workers. "Health rooms," with hospital equipment and a trained nurse, are found in many factories and office buildings.

EDUCATION

Americans take great pride in their schools, and they want all their children to have the best education possible. Only 2 percent of the population cannot read or write, compared to 20 percent a century ago. There are nearly 46,000,000 students enrolled in schools and colleges. New methods of instruction are being developed in the schools and children are encouraged to develop their creative abilities. There is greater emphasis on science, mathematics and foreign languages, and an effort is being made to broaden the student's knowledge of other peoples and cultures. Television and motion pictures are widely used in teaching. More effort is being made to guide young people



From the American university come the men and women who help to advance the cultural and technical standards of living in the United States.

Many older Americans continue their education in a variety of special adult education classes conducted in the evening.



into careers suited to their natural talents and abilities. This is in keeping with the American belief that every child should have the opportunity to develop along whatever path he chooses.

Free public schools supported by taxes were established in the early days of the nation with each State responsible for organizing its own education system. Most States require that children go to school until they are of a certain age, which varies from 16 to 18 years. Educational requirements vary and are set by the State legislatures with management of the schools by the local communities. Community school boards — there are about 48,000 — are free to establish educational programs that exceed the basic requirements set by State law, and they usually do.

Today almost half of the young people who graduate from secondary school go on to college. Some 3,600,000 students attend more than 2,000 institutions of higher education. The University of California, with its branch colleges, alone has more than 44,000 students.

Most colleges admit students on the basis of their high school records. The cost of a college education is substantial in private universities, but is much less in those supported by State and cities. More than 50 percent of college students work to help pay their expenses. Scholarships are given to many deserving students. Some cover almost the entire expenses of attending college.

The National Defense Education Act provides Federal funds to help the States build more schools. It also promotes education in science, mathematics and modern foreign languages, and provides loans to college students. More than 100,000 have been aided by loans under the Act, some of which need not be repaid under certain conditions.

Ending Segregation

In most States Negroes and white students attend the same schools. A ruling by the Supreme Court in 1954 ordered an end to a system of separate schools which had been maintained in seventeen of the States. Gradually all States are carrying out the court's order. Of the 3,200,000 students in colleges and universities more than 200,000 are Negroes.

In general, almost twice as many men as women attend American colleges. Women earn one-third of all college degrees (bachelor's, master's, and higher). Each year about 385,000 students receive their first college degree, some 70,000 get master's degrees, and nearly 9,500 get doctor's degrees.

Every year between 30 and 35 million adults take adult education courses in everything from engineering to poetry writing. They may be housewives, businessmen, clerks, mechanics or laborers. Many courses in adult education are given at night in public schools, town halls and community centers.



This bookstore is typical of thousands of such shops all over the nation.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Most Americans today have some kind of insurance against old age, unemployment, long-term illness or injury, and the death of the family wage-earner. Nearly all who work, including the self-employed, are covered by retirement programs. And four out of five, except the self-employed, now have unemployment insurance.

The Social Security law provides a national system of old-age, survivors and disability insurance, and State-Federal programs of unemployment insurance and public help to the needy aged, to the blind and disabled and to dependent children. Over the years the law has been broadened to give greater protection for workers and their dependents and survivors — for the aged and retired, for widows, fatherless children and for the disabled.

About 90 percent of workers are covered by the Federal old-age, survivors and disability insurance. The program is financed by a tax contribution paid over a period of years by employers and workers. Self-employed persons with net earnings of $400 or more per year are also covered. Monthly payments are made to male workers when they retire upon reaching sixty-five; women may retire at sixty-two. Benefits also are paid to widows, children under eighteen and dependent parents. More than 15,000,000 persons are receiving monthly payments from the old-age, survivors and disability insurance program. Newly retired workers get an average of $82 a month.

Unemployment insurance is financed by a payroll tax paid by the employer. The Federal Government provides money to the State to pay the cost of operating this program. The States determine the conditions under which benefits are paid. The average weekly payment was about $33 in 1960. In some industries wage contracts with labor unions raise the payments to double this amount.

Civilians who work for the Federal Government are covered by insurance systems that in general provide cash payments for unemployment, retirement, medical costs, disability and death. Most State and city government workers have similar protection. The Federal Government also has programs to protect railroad workers and members of the armed forces. All of the States have laws which provide payments to workers or their families for work-connected injury or death.

The Federal Government makes grants to the States to help them provide financial assistance, medical care and other social services to the needy aged, blind, and disabled, and to dependent children in broken families. Average payments under State-Federal public aid programs in January 1961 were $69 monthly per person for the aged, $74 for the blind, $67 for the disabled and $115 for broken families with dependent children. The Federal Government also helps the States to meet the costs of medical care for aged persons who can provide for their maintenance but not for medical attention.

MUNAVIRVL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....

Millions of workers in industry get extra protection through private plans. These usually provide sickness and accident benefits, hospital and medical operation costs, disability and retirement pensions, and life insurance, amounting to a year's wages.

In the last ten years there has been a steady rise in profit-sharing plans, many of which provide pensions for workers. In 1960, nearly 4,000 new profit-sharing plans were adopted.

More than 23,000 business organizations have retirement plans that cover more than 19,000,000 workers. Many labor unions aim to increase retirement payments beyond what the worker will be paid under the social security law. Retired coal miners receive $100 a month, paid entirely by the coal companies, under terms of collective bargaining agreements with the United Mine Workers union.

LABOR AND LABOR UNIONS

Most American workers today get vacations and holidays with pay, are protected against discharge without just cause, receive unemployment insurance, retirement pay, and are protected against sickness and injury while on the job. They also earn far more money than they did in the past. Much of this is due to their own efforts through their free trade unions.

Attempts were made to form trade unions soon after the United States became a nation. But the first major labor organization was not started until 1869. What had been a secret society of Philadelphia garment workers grew into the Knights of Labor that by 1886 had a membership of nearly one million. However, it grew too fast, and its social and political aims became so confused that it ended up doing very little to help the worker.

The situation changed in 1881 when the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions was begun under the leadership of Samuel Gompers, president of the cigar makers' union. By 1886 it had become the American Federation of Labor (AFL). Gompers fought for economic trade unionism free from political and other outside influences, and built the AFL into America's major labor organization.

In 1935, a dispute arose among the AFL leaders over whether to organize workers in mass industries through separate occupation unions or through broad industrial unions. This led to the formation of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) with representatives from the United Mine Workers and other international unions. Auto, steel, radio and rubber workers were organized under industrial unionism. Twenty years later, the CIO had nearly 5,000,000 members in its thirty-four unions.

An important step was taken in 1955 when the AFL and CIO were united as the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

(AFL-CIO). The combined groups gave a single voice to a labor movement of about 15,000,000 workers. The AFL-CIO is associated with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, which has a total membership of more than 55,000,000 throughout the world.

United States laws support the right of workers to organize unions of their own choice. Today there are 184 nationwide American labor unions that operate through about 78,000 local unions. The membership is divided about evenly between manufacturing and other industries. More than 18,000,000 American workers belong to labor unions; of these, some 3,300,000 are women.

AMERICAN WOMEN

The advances of American women in the last generation have been outstanding. Having the same opportunities as men for education, they are now engaged in almost every occupation. An American girl can choose a career in any profession — teaching, law, medicine, science.

Sixty-seven women have served in the U.S. Congress since the first woman was elected in 1916. Two women have been State governors, and two have been members of the President's Cabinet.

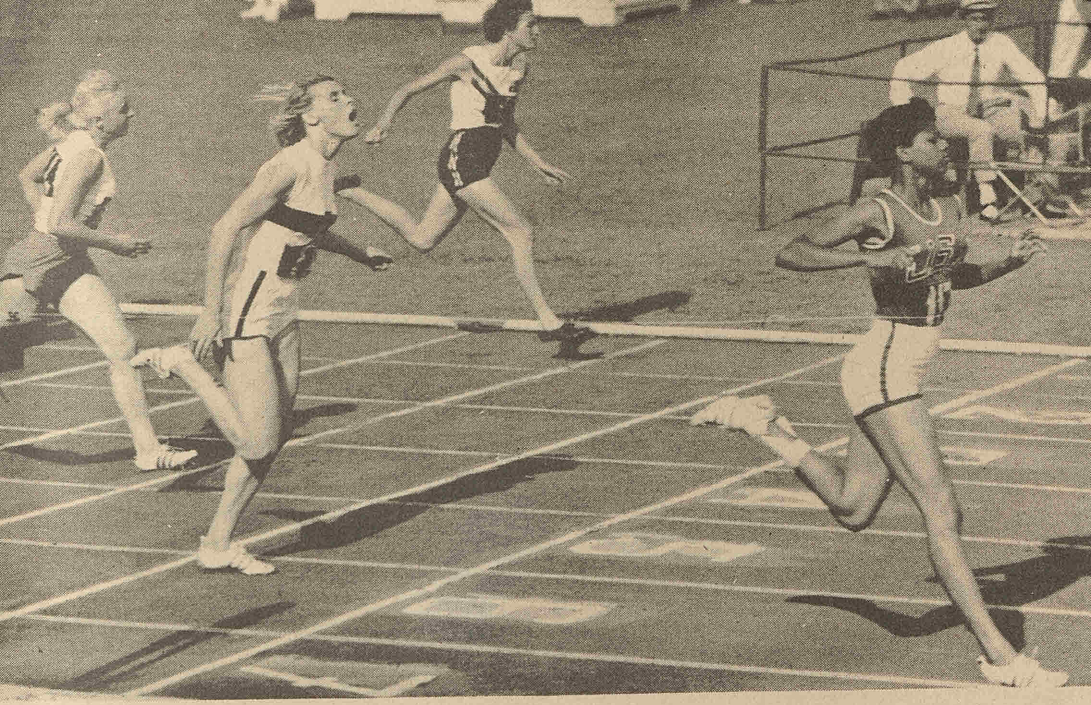
Fifteen are now serving in the House of Representatives, and two in the Senate. Some 344 are in the State legislatures, and many hold important positions in the National, State and local governments. A woman is serving as official physician for President Kennedy.

About 35 percent of the total labor force are women. The largest group — about 6,400,000 are employed in offices as clerks and secretaries; about half as many work in industrial plants. Sixty percent of medical and other health workers are women; they make up 74 percent of all teachers in elementary and secondary schools, and 97 percent of all stenographers, typists and secretaries. Some American women are top business executives, and many own their own businesses. The science professions are attracting more women than ever before.

Since 1940 the percentage of working wives has doubled, and 42 percent of the working wives have children of school age.

Although more than one-third of all women of working age are in the labor force, to most American women, homemaking remains the chief interest. Most girls marry when they are twenty or twenty-one and rear families of two or three children. The vast majority of housewives do their own housework.

Whether they are in jobs or stay at home, many American women are keenly aware of their duties as citizens. They take an active part in advancing public welfare, especlally as it concerns home and family. There are few who



Women are active in sports. Here, Wilma Rudolph, winner of three gold medals in the 1960 Olympics, breaks tape in 200-meter dash.

do not belong to at least one organization. Today they have created large organizations — many associated with international groups—that aim to make women more aware of their social and political duties. Among these are the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, and the Young Women's Christian Association. Women in business and the professions have formed organizations which help to advance their economic position.

YOUTH

Young people in the United States have a wide variety of interests apart from their school work. As children, both boys and girls play many of the same games. They swim, play baseball and basketball, go boating and camping, and have fun in many kinds of sports and outdoor activities.

There are numerous character building youth organizations that give young people a chance to develop and broaden their interests, and to gain experience in working with others.

Among these organizations are the Boy Scouts, which has more than 4,000,000 members, the Girl Scouts with 3,500,000, and the Boy's Clubs





Baseball is a favorite sport of young and old. The professional games attract great numbers of fans.

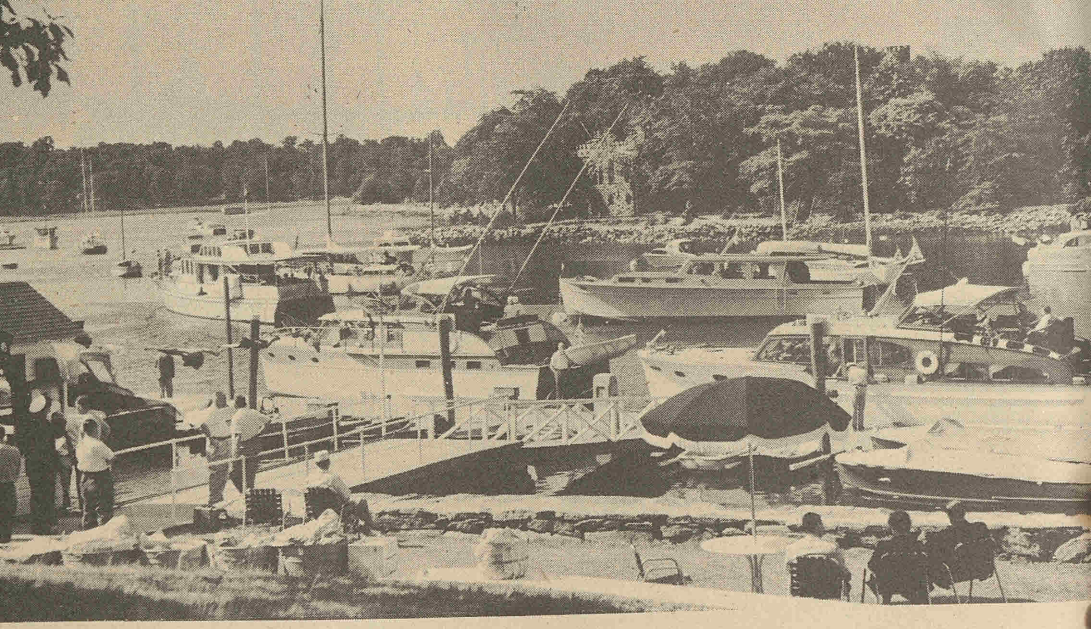
of America with 600,000. These, and other groups, are guided by adults who volunteer their services.

The Young Men's Christian Association and the Young Women's Christian Association operate neighborhood sports and social centers. There are more than 4,000,000 members. Churches also provide cultural organizations for their young people.

In farm areas, boys and girls learn to work together in agriculture, homemaking and citizenship activities through more than 90,000 4-H Clubs which have about 2,300,000 members. In these clubs, boys and girls compete for national prizes in raising farm animals and growing crops.

High schools offer students a wide variety of activities to develop talents and skills. There are clubs for photography, music, theater, art, stamp collecting, natural science and debating. Often there are school orchestras, bands and group-singing clubs.

Talented children are given every encouragement in American schools. A group of youngsters playing chess.



With the increase in leisure time in America, boating, among many other outdoor recreations, is a sport becoming increasingly available to all.

Thousands of fresh and salt-water beaches provide healthful summer recreation for American families.



Most schools and colleges have some form of student government. Almost every school holds elections to choose class representatives. These elected officers speak for their fellow students at student council meetings with teachers and school officials. They also organize social activities and take part in such community projects as raising money for public welfare.

Many young people hold part-time jobs after school hours. Thousands of them earn money by delivering newspapers. Later, when they go to college, many youths continue to work part-time at a variety of jobs to help pay their expenses.

For several weeks during the summer vacation, about 5,000,000 school-age children go to camps where they get plenty of recreational activity and learn various skills. There are more than 12,000 camps operated by private citizens and organizations. College students often work as counselors at these camps.

RECREATION

The general work week in the United States is forty hours. This gives the worker ample time for recreation and for furthering his education.

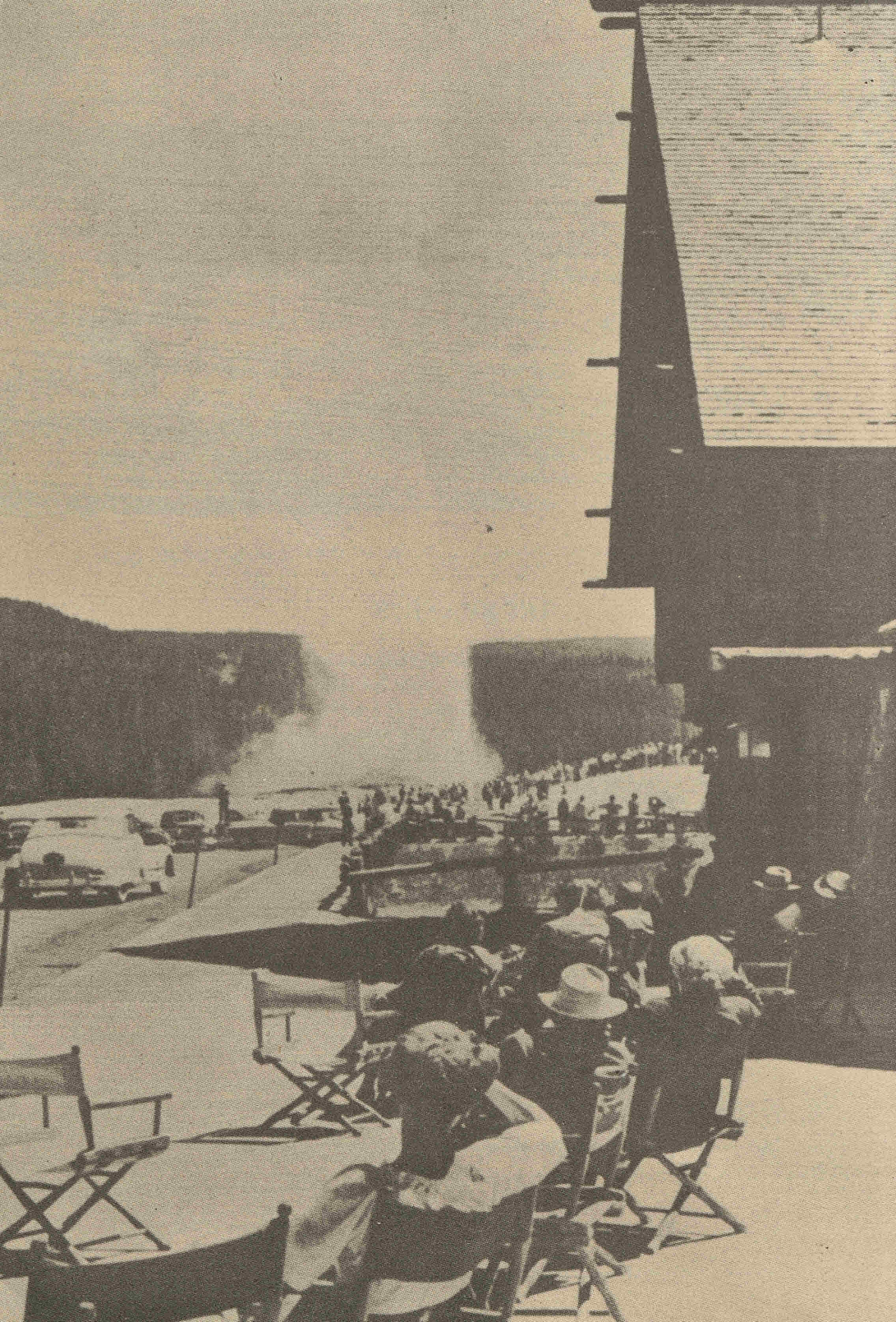
Many Americans take part in some kind of sports. In recent years boating has become the favorite recreation for millions.

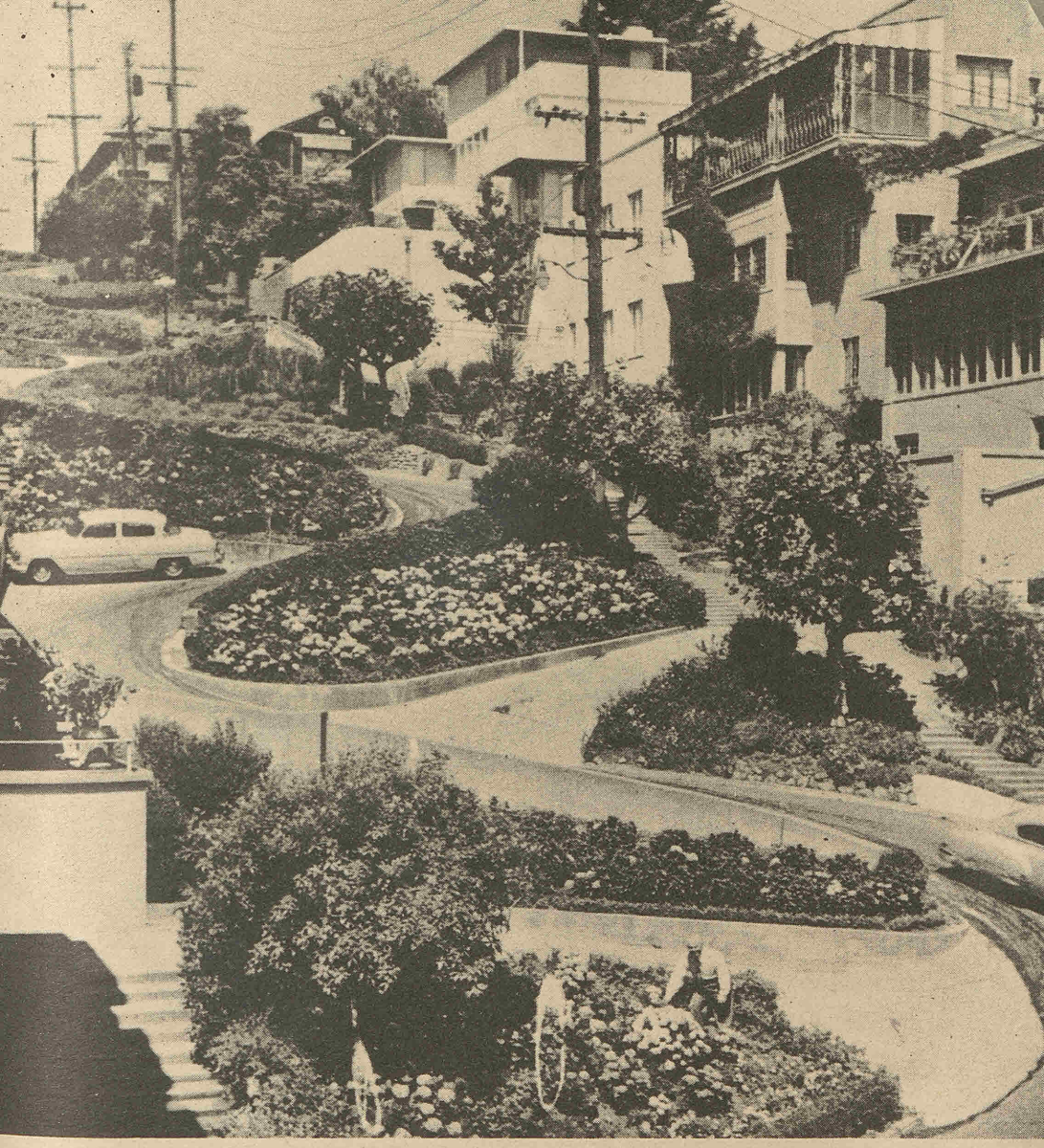
Many Americans like to hunt and fish. Nearly 40,000,000 fishing and hunting permits are issued each year. There are 20,000,000 bowlers. Other popular sports include swimming, bicycling, skating and all kinds of ball games. In communities throughout the nation, playgrounds, swimming pools and recreation centers are provided. Many cities have ice-skating areas, baseball fields, swimming pools and playgrounds lighted at night.

Even parachute jumping has its followers. Some 15,000 persons engaged in this hazardous sport today compared to 100 in 1955.

In the autumn, college football games attract millions, many of whom are graduates of the schools and come to cheer for their school teams. Sports organizations send their best players and teams to compete in regional and worldwide events such as the Pan American Games and the Olympic Games.

About 143 million persons attend basketball games each year. The major league baseball games attract more than 32,000,000 yearly, and enthusiasm reaches a high pitch during the World Series games in the fall. College football draws 25,000,000 spectators. At home, millions watch all kinds of sports events on television, or listen to sports broadcasts on the radio. There are also countless numbers who attend baseball, football, and other team contests played in small towns on neighborhood playgrounds and school sports areas.



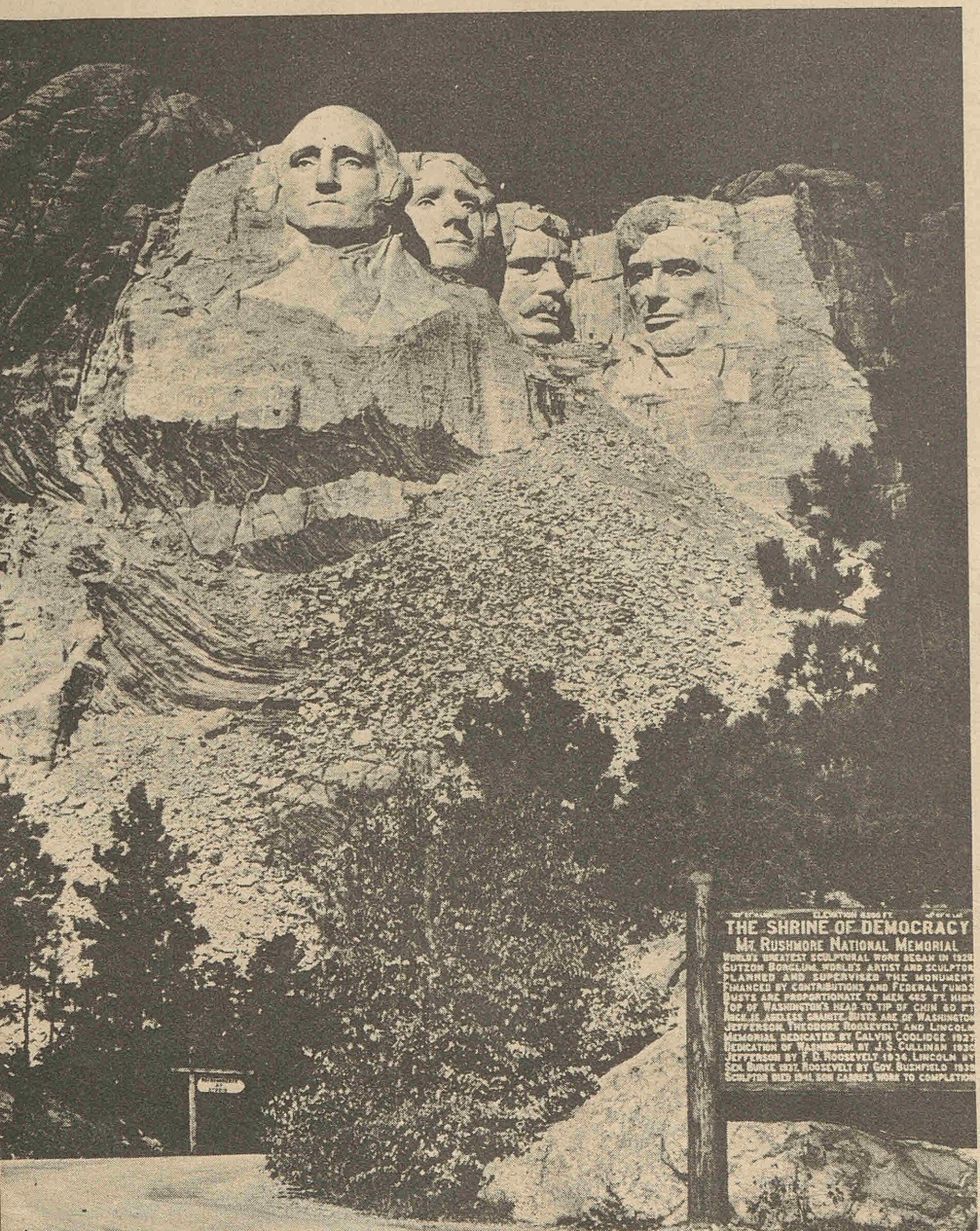


Lombard Street, called the "crookedest street in the world," is one of the many tourist attractions in the city of San Francisco.

Vacationers in Yellowstone National Park watch the hourly performance of "Old Faithful," one of the Park's 3,000 geysers and hot springs.

MUNAVIRVL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM

The sixty-foot-high busts of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Lincoln were carved from solid granite in South Dakota.

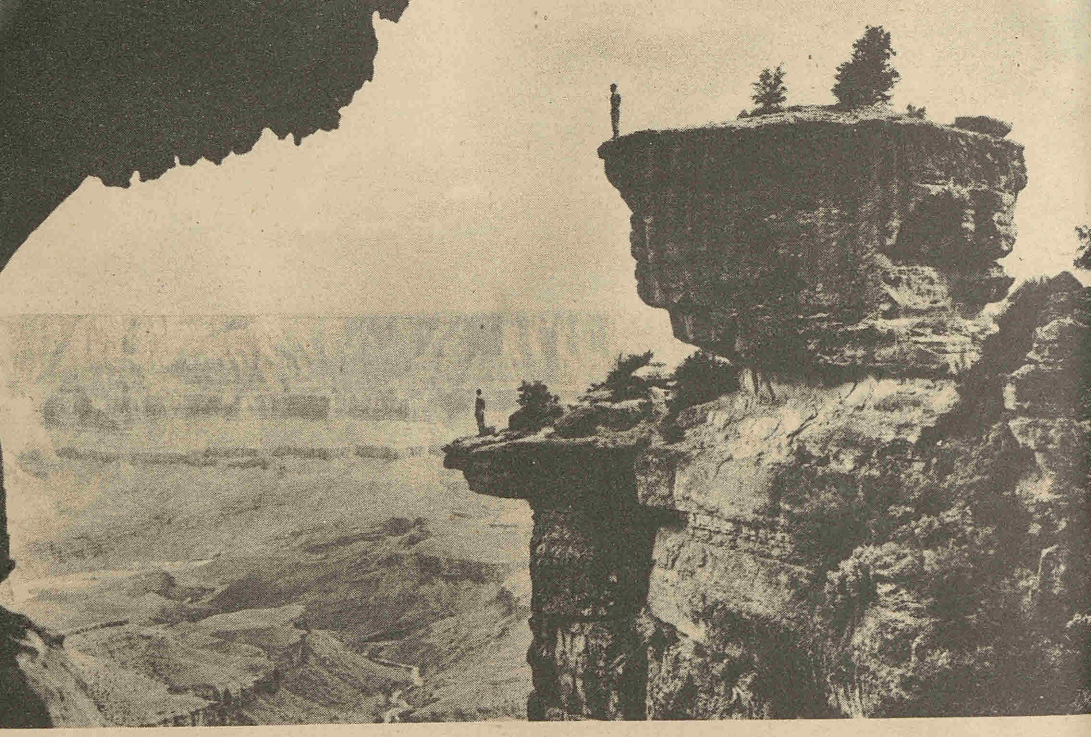




Niagara Falls, long a major scenic attraction, draws 3,500,000 visitors a year. The Falls are lighted at night in color.

Photography, stamp-collecting, needlework, and gardening are only a few of the favorite interest. Other hobbies include painting, sculpture, wood and metal working. Many people like to improve or enlarge their homes and to do the work themselves. Others use some of their spare time to take courses in night schools. The cinema is still very popular, despite the growing competition of television.

A two-week or longer vacation with pay is a widespread practice in industry. Many Americans use this time to travel, especially to see the magnificent scenery and natural wonders and points of historic interest to be found in so many parts of the country. Each year over 64,000,000 visit the national parks. There are twenty-seven of these in the continental United States and one each in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands. Many of the parks have public camping areas (the number of campers in public parks has doubled in the last ten years) as well as hotels and restaurants. In many parks visitors can swim, go fishing, attend lectures, and take advantage of a variety of sports and outdoor activities. Some of the nation's most impressive natural wonders are Niagara Falls, the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks.



The magnificent Grand Canyon, carved over the ages by the mighty Colorado River, is one of the world's most impressive sights.

There are more than 22,000 State parks. An estimated 100,000 Americans go mountain climbing on week-ends.

Many tourists visit Washington, D.C., and see the White House, the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, the Capitol Building, and George Washington's home at Mount Vernon in nearby Virginia. Many go to the Civil War Battlefield at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and to Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, where huge sculptures of the heads of four famous Presidents are carved on the mountainside. Other popular attractions are the Statue of Liberty, the United Nations Buildings and the Empire State Building in New York, and the attractions of the city of San Francisco on the West Coast.

But Americans like to see other countries as well as their own. Each year over 600,000 go to Europe and about 50,000 to South America, while 600,000 or more travel to Bermuda, the West Indies and Central America. Asian and African countries are also attracting more tourists each year.

There is full freedom of religion in America. Here worshipers attend an Easter morning "sunrise service" at Yosemite National Park.



RELIGION

The freedom to choose his own church and faith and to worship according to his own conscience is the right of every American. The first Amendment to the Constitution of the United States says: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Americans in every State have the same freedom of worship.

Between 1940 and 1960 church membership in the United States increased almost 70 percent. Today about sixty-three in every hundred Americans are members of a church or temple. Most of the others who do not belong to a church have some kind of religious faith, and less than 3 percent say they have no religion.

Throughout the country there are more than 300,000 local church groups within 258 religious sects. Protestants outnumber other religious groups; 62,500,000 list themselves as Protestants, while 40,000,000 are Roman Catholics, 5,500,000 members of the Jewish faith, and 2,800,000 in the Eastern Orthodox church. Every major religion known to the world is represented in America, including the Islamic, Buddhist, Russian and Greek Orthodox faiths.

Both children and adults attend classes in religious study provided by the various religious groups. More than 41,000,000 children attend these classes. Nearly all colleges and universities give courses of religious study, but public elementary and secondary schools do not, for the separation of church and state is a basic American principle. Each week, too, radio and television programs of a religious nature are given by the various faiths. And throughout America the Bible continues to be the best-seller of all books — about 7,000,000 copies a year.

Support of the churches comes from the people. The Government gives no direct subsidy to any church, but exempts churches from paying taxes on income and property.

Voluntary Aid

Each year Americans make voluntary contributions of more than $7,000 million to churches, hospitals, the Red Cross, Community health and welfare organizations, and foreign relief agencies. Also, there are more than 1,000 foundations in the United States, established mainly by wealthy individuals or groups, which spend more than $700 million a year to promote educational, medical and welfare projects at home and abroad.

Date
ERNAKULAM.

OUTSTANDING DATES

1000 — Leif Ericson sails into waters of America.
1492 — Christopher Columbus lands in America, October 12.
1607 — First permanent English settlement founded in what is now State of Virginia.
1647 — Massachusetts School law lays foundation for free public education.
1731 — Free public library service begins in the United States.
1775 — Start of American Revolutionary War.
1776 — Declaration of Independence of 13 American colonies adopted in Philadelphia, July 4.
1783 — Great Britain and the United States sign a peace treaty at Paris.
1787 — Convention meets in Philadelphia to draft Constitution.
1789 — George Washington takes office as first President.
1791 — First ten amendments, the Bill of Rights, added to Constitution.
1794 — Congress passes first postal service law.
Eli Whitney patents machine for ginning cotton.
1803 — Purchase of Louisiana Territory from France doubles U.S. land area.
Lewis and Clarke expedition explores northwest America.
1807 — Robert Fulton makes the first practical steamboat trip.
1818 — United States and Great Britain agree on unfortified border between Canada and United States.
1819 — United States buys Florida from Spain.
1823 — Monroe Doctrine bars American republics from future colonization by European nations
1828 — First railroad is begun.
1844 — First Morse telegraph message is sent on May 24.
1848 — Discovery of gold in California opens West for settlement.
1860 — Abraham Lincoln is elected President.
Eleven southern States secede from Union, in dispute over slavery.
1861 -- Start of Civil War between northern and southern States over slavery and States' rights. War lasts four years.
1862 — Law passed establishing Land-Grant colleges in each State for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanical arts.
1863 — President Lincoln proclaims freedom of slaves.
1865 — Civil War ends with the surrender of Confederates.
Lincoln is assassinated.
1867 — Territory of Alaska is purchased from Russia.
1869 — First transcontinental railroad completed.
1870 — Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution gives former slaves right to vote. Suffrage not to be denied by any State because of race or color.
1878 — First telephone exchange opened.
1881 — American National Red Cross is founded.

1889 – Pan-American Union formed to seek unity of action in international relations of the twenty-one American Republics.

1898 – Ten-month war between Spain and the United States ends. Treaty of peace, signed at Paris, December 10, provides for establishment of a free Cuban republic. Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines are turned over to the United States by Spain in exchange for $20,000,000.

1903 – Wilbur and Orville Wright make the first successful flight in a motor-driven airplane at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

1914 – Panama Canal, built by the United States across Central America, is opened, making ship travel between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans possible without going around South America.

1917 – United States enters World War I, April 6 – declares war on Germany after repeated violations of American neutrality.

1918 – Armistice to end fighting signed November 11.

1920 – Nineteenth Amendment to Constitution gives women the right to vote.

1927 – Charles Lindbergh makes first solo flight across the Atlantic, from New York to Paris.

1933 – United States Government begins major program to provide work for the unemployed, raise farm prices, and make banks stable following severe economic depression.

United States proposes disarmament plan to Geneva Conference, but Germany insists on rearming.

1934 – Trade Agreement program authorizes the President to lower taxes on imported goods to increase world trade.

1935 – Congress passes Social Security Act, providing old-age and unemployment insurance, and aid to needy elderly persons, the blind, and children.

1941 – President Roosevelt signs the Lend-Lease Bill to aid foes of Nazi Germany.

United States enters World War II after Japanese attack December 7 on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

1942 – United States and twenty-five other nations agree to employ full economic and military resources to win the war.

1944 – American, British and Canadian armed forces land in France, June 8.

1945 – United States joins forty-nine other nations in signing the United Nations Charter, at San Francisco.

Fighting ends in Europe. Germany surrenders on May 7. Fighting ends in Asia. Japan surrenders, August 14.

1946 – U. S. grants independence to Philippines.

1947 – The twenty-one American Republics sign Inter-American treaty to help each other in case of threatened or actual armed attack.

1948 – Marshall Plan adopted, providing more than $6,000 million to be spent in the first year for economic recovery of war stricken nations.

United States and Great Britain airlift supplies to people of Berlin, cut off by the Soviets.

1949 – United States, Canada and Western European nations form North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), to help each other if attacked.

Date.....

1950 — United States answers the United Nations call to resist communist attack against the Republic of Korea.

1951 — Japanese Peace Treaty is signed in San Francisco by 49 nations.

1953 — United Nations and communist delegates agree to end fighting in Korea.
President Eisenhower proposes before the United Nations an international agency to advance peaceful uses of atomic energy.

1954 — United States and seven other nations form the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO).
Inter-American conference at Caracas, Venezuela, adopts a United States resolution for collective action to prevent international communism from gaining a foothold in the Western Hemisphere.
Supreme Court rules unconstitutional the separation of races in the public schools of the United States.

1955 — Big Four Conference (France, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Soviet Union) held at Geneva, followed by a meeting of the four foreign ministers in an effort to end the "cold war."
Scientists meet at Geneva for world conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy — a result of President Eisenhower's "atoms-for-peace" proposal in 1953.
The President proposes at Geneva an international program to reduce armaments.

1956 — First international police force, the United Nations Emergency Force, is organized with backing of the United States and eighteen other nations to keep peace in Near East.
Charter of International Atomic Energy Agency is approved by eighty-two nations.

1957 — President Eisenhower is authorized to give military aid to nations of Middle East.

1958 — United States sends up its first space satellite, Explorer I, January 31.

1959 — Alaska becomes the forty-ninth State and Hawaii the fiftieth State of the Union.
St. Lawrence Seaway is opened by the United States and Canada.

1960 — United States makes important advances in space program. Earth satellites equipped with television takes thousands of cloud formation pictures; Echo I reflects radio signals from one earth point to another. Small animals are shot into space and brought back alive.

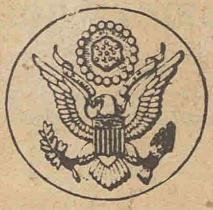
1960 — John F. Kennedy elected thirty-fifth President of the United States, defeats Republican nominee Richard M. Nixon in one of closest elections in nation's history. Youngest man and the first Catholic ever elected to the nation's highest office.

1961 — U.S. Navy Commander Alan B. Shepard Jr. makes first controlled sub-orbital space flight on May 5. Rides a Project Mercury capsule from Cape Canaveral, Florida, to an altitude of 115 miles and lands safely 302 miles away in the Atlantic Ocean.

AMERICAN HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day	January 1
George Washington's Birthday	February 22
Memorial Day (in honor of nation's war dead)	May 30
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving	Fourth Thursday in November
Christmas	December 25

Election Day in November, *Lincoln's Birthday* February 12 and *Columbus Day* October 12 are observed as holidays in many States.



JAMIA MILIA ISLAMIA HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
NEW DELHI

Printed and published by the United States Information Service.

Printed at Tej Press. Delhi.