In Jerusalem, the government has responded with outrage but no alarm. Though the Israeli Air Force planes are mostly French-made, officials say they have parts in stock and can manufacture more. Like other banned military hardware that finds its way around embargoes to customers willing to pay, Mirage and Mystere fighter parts doubtless will show up in Israel. Besides, Israel is due to buy 50 U. S.-made F-4 fighter-bombers as the new backbone of its air force.

What aroused General de Gaulle's ire, a spokesman said, was the recent Israeli attack on Beirut airport in Lebanon (an ex-French holding) in retaliation for an Arab guerrilla attack on an Israeli airliner in Athens. More than that, De Gaulle sees no good coming from Israel's policy of hanging onto territories occupied in the June 1967 war, the annexation of Jerusalem and the massive retaliation against Arab guerrilla attacks.

national solution of the Middle East crisis, including "evacuating the territories conquered by force, guaranteeing each camp just frontiers and security, giving freedom of navigation everywhere and to all, assuring the refugees an acceptable fate."

These are essentially the elements stated by the unanimous United Nations Security Council resolution on Nov. 22, 1967, and the format laid down by the U. S. Government and, of late, by Moscow.

In the light of Israeli-Arab inability to progress toward a settlement and the increasing violence of Israeli-Arab clashes—with the danger they hold for a new war—let's see if the U. S., the USSR and Britain and France too can draft timetables, maps and other provisions of a settlement to offer to the reluctant Middle East adversaries. Somebody has to take some initiative for peace in that area soon.

Wild West in Guyana

Just two years after gaining independence from Britain, the Latin American country of Guyana seems to have been hit by a bad case of Americanization.

The government in Georgetown announced it crushed a rebellion that has all the earmarks of being inspired by watching too many cowboy movies or TV Wild West shows. A band of big cattle ranching families (including one of U. S. citizenship) opposed the government's plan to settle nearby lands and allegedly stirred up the local Indians to take up arms. The government accuses Venezuela, next door, of aiding the rebels with training and arms.

Sounds like a bad show all around. We hope it was just a special, and doesn't turn into a full-blown series.

Page From A Diary

A Rekindling Of The Spirit

BY NELL BRASHER

Winter sunshine filters through stained glass windows and diffuses into a muted glow that is like a benediction upon those who have assembled to worship.

I have come away from the Sunday School classroom with a lighted candle of blessing in me. Now the flame brightens. I feel a nearness to Jehovah Sabaoth — an adoring — a desiring that has no words. Is this worship? It is, I think.

Linda stands. Rebecca strikes an opening cord. The song service commences. By the time we reach the announcements my fitful mind has begun to lend itself to irrelevant matters. I endeaver to bring it into line.

"Let others see Jesus" (we'll take the baked ham and go over to Freya and Johnny's to eat lunch) "in you." (Yes, the coconut cake too.) "Your life's a book before their eyes, they're reading it" (wonder how mine reads?) "through and through." (Never mind, Lord, I don't really want to know.) "Keep telling the story" (that new suit looks tuff on hubby. I'm a good chooser.) "be faithful and true." (Lord, you're good to us.)

* * *

THE MINISTER, my husband, comes to the podium and after prayer begins to read. "Peter went out and wept bitterly." When the reading is finished he begins to expound his text — repentance. "Repent ye," is the exortation to the believer and to the unbeliever.

All my vacillations and my defalcations come buzzing at me like a swarm of mad hornets. They sting and do not spare me. Lord, I repent! I will lay me upon the faggots and burn me to a cinder. Now I feel a rushing freshness. I feel a cleansing.

Why can I not feel this love to my neighbor all the days of all the months of all the years?

They Say

The United States has very little freedom of action. It's one of the two main pillars of the balance of power in the world. This difficult dual position requires it to be in dialogue with the Soviet Union for its own safety, and also with its allies.

—Alastair Buchan, director of the Institute of Strategic Studies in London.

consequence to us than getting to the moon, and then Mars, and then on and on and on into space while the direst of poverty imprisons men at home.

* * *

WITH EVERY REASON this has been called the affluent age, with more Americans having more money and more things—often more junk—than any other people in the world's history.

We have been on a spenders' bender for a decade. Mink is truly for football. Leopard—and never mind that the species is endangered — is the status symbol for the jet set or, as the late Louis Bromfield once labeled it, the international White Trash.

It does not take a long memory to recall that the Cadillac limousine with chauffeur was once the ne plus ultra in transportation on Fifth and Park Avenues in New York. Today, it is the Rolls Royce, with the Cadillac consigned to the lower middle class.

* * *

THIS NATION HAS COME to accept with complacency—no, with indifference —the fact that one-fifth of its people, or approximately 40 million, are ill-housed, ill-fed and ill-clothed. Who really gives a damn, except the victim himself?

That indifference is the heart of the problem. We affluent Americans from the lower middle to the upper upper class have grown tired of the poor and their problems. There is less and less sympathy for the poor and the disadvantaged. And more and more of the hardnosed attitude of "I made it big. Why didn't that bum?"

People are tired and bored with the war on poverty and willing to snap at the rural and urban ghettos: "Let 'em eat cake." Granted, the war on poverty has won few battles. It has been a disappointment because it has been unable in less than a decade to work a miracle and abolish the built-in educa-

Side Glances

BY GILL FOX

"Kids get their education early these days. I was half grown before Mama stopped tearing the ladies' underwear pages out of the mail order catalogues!"

Morning Mail

News and Views from the Editor's Mail Box

Let APSC Alone

Alabama's Public Service Commission, probably the best in the nation in protecting the state's consumers against public service monopoly demands for high or higher rates, is about to be taken from control by the people and put into the control of politicians: i.e. making it the object of wheeling and dealing to the vast detriment of the public's pocketbook interests. All this, say the spokesmen for change, because there is "dissension" in the commission, as though the Legislature itself is not often embroiled in even more bitter dissension.

Alabama's PSC is immune to control or influence by the service monopolies precisely because the commissioners are elected by the people. In most states where the commissioners are appointed, the commissioners are completely remote from the people they exist to protect; and the service rates in such states run as much as 20 per cent higher than similar services in Alabama. Frequently, even generally, the appointed commissions vote for the monopolies' interests, rather than the public's. Thus at issue here are millions of dollars in higher annual rates, and vast public rights and interests beyond measuring.

Will the legislative report explain that from the beginnings of publicly granted monopolies, these monopolies have sought to influence Congress and every state legislature for somewhere between 51 per cent and 100 per cent of the breaks? Will the report say that today these service monopolies maintain powerful lobbies in Washington and in every state capital to continue this influence? Will it say that the monopolies opposed the creation of PSCs in every state, and, when the commissions were created, fought successfully in most states to have them appointed rather than elected?

Will it say that California could not progress until a courageous governor, Hiram Johnson, cut the railroad tentacles that had long held the state capital in their embrace; or that Gov. Al Smith won the acclaim of New Yorkers by driving from the state legislature the representatives on the utility companies' payrolls? Will it say that after the Alabama service monopolies won their fight to prevent the creation of an Alabama PSC in the 1900 constitutional convention, the people here were unmercifully gouged by unconscionably high service rates for many years?

I mean no disrespect to anyone. I have high regard for the service companies. I have no blame for their efforts to improve their balance sheet interests. But we are still engaged in the same conflict of interest typified by Jefferson, champion of the common people, versus Hamilton, champion of privilege. But where are the public's champions right now when the people's interests are threatened?

Inquiring reporters ask no embarassing questions. Editors shed no light on dark places. Politicians are discreetly mum. The only editorial I have read on this issue was either naively or intentionally a perfect example of editorial obfuscation, muddying, not clarifying, the waters.

Of course the PSC is not perfect. It could use more funds to hire experts who can match wits with the highly skilled experts the companies employ. It may even have made minor concessions which irritate occasional consumers. It may be subject to the same frailties as legislators, preachers, editors and writers of letters to the newspapers. Nor is it important whether this attack upon the public interest is brazen or innocent: the results will be the same. The public will pay, and pay, and pay, ad infinitum.

The truth, baldly put, is that most national and state commissions whose members are appointed fall under the influence of those they are designed to control: the controlled control the controllers. It will happen here if the public fails to protest. Accordingly, one vehement protest. Let the PSC alone.

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* * *

Not Surprised

Pope Paul's message of sympathy to the Lebanese government in the loss of 13 passenger jets to Israeli retaliatory raiders was predictable. The Soviets have had a foot in the Vatican door for many years and its not surprising that the Pope never overlooks a chance to criticize nations and individuals opposing Communist aggression.

It is interesting and distressing, to note that His Reverence is silent every time the Soviet instigated Arabs lob death dealing bombs into Israeli border communities—killing and maiming unoffending Jews, and destroying property. No pontifical tears are shed for Israeli's school age boys and girls and aged men and women who must take turns patrolling their nation's border day and night to turn back sadistic Arab marauders and safeguard Israeli lives and property.

And who else but driveling idiots, would expect the UN Security Council not to always take a stand on the side of the Communist aggressor? Are we such fools that we cannot see the hand of Soviet Russia and Red China guiding extreme leftist Prime Minister Harold Wilson, in giving instant help to Communist nations suffering reverses of fortune?

Because of the UN Security Council and the full collaboration of the liberal Washington government, the Suez Canal is closed and filling with sand and silt. This outrageous insanity is costing already bankrupt nations, countless millions for ocean shipping and not a single free world power has the courage to make a move to re-open the strategic and economically vital waterway.

Every American who is not thoroughly brainwashed and lost all interest in what is right and safe for America, is thanking his lucky star that Lyndon Johnson and his Communist sympathizing Dean Rusk, Ramsey Clark, Earl Warren and their kind, are ending up their treasonable reign in Washington.

A. P. STREETY
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* * *

Recognize China

The U. S. is not wrong on the China-Soviet split, as land is involved. China, overpopulated, wants back the provinces she lost to Russia. This is a permanent friction and a similar ideology between China and Russia will not clear this up.

It is because of China's lost provinces that the U. S. should recognize China, for this will clip Russia's wings in a military way. If U. S.-China relations had been friendly, I doubt that Russia would have dared to invade Czechoslovakia, for she would not have dared to risk a conflict on two fronts with NATO in the West and with China in Siberia.

Communism today is no longer monolithic. As U Thant of the U. N. has stated, it has become nationalistic. It is very difficult for President-elect Nixon and others like him to shed their communistic phobia. Those afflicted by such a phobia are still thinking as in the Stalin area; they are not able to adjust their thinking to changed condition.

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The Almanac

BY UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Today is Friday, Jan. 10, the 10th day of 1969 with 355 to follow.

On this day in history:

In 1870 John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil Co. in Cleveland with a capital of $1 million.

In 1916 Mexican revolutionary leader Panch Villa killed 18 American mining engineers after forcing them from a train in Santa Ysabel, Mexico.

In 1946 delegates from 51 nations convened in London for the first session of the U. N. General Assembly.

In 1966 Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri died at the age of 61, just hours after he signed a peace treaty with Pakistan over a border dispute.