

Moral perspectives

Humanity needs new world view

Honduras charged the United States with stealing its rain and causing drought last year. Denying the charge, made in connection with efforts to modify hurricanes, didn't diminish this as dramatic evidence that we live in one world.

There are no secure barriers at the edge of any country or even any person. We influence others and their response has an impact on us: the human family is a family and we live with our relatives.

The United States consumes one third more calories per capita per day than India. We eat three times as much animal protein as people in most nations and up to eight times as much as those in several nations. Yet, 100 calories fed to an animal produces only five calories on our table.

Some 400 million children are severely malnourished. In our country 12 million children are not

getting health care. In Detroit 70,000 children and pregnant women are malnourished.

In 1949 we used 11 percent of our federal budget to aid poor nations and last year only 1.5 percent. Brain and psychological damage to the young now means in 20 years a citizenry with little promise of living in peace.

THE ENERGY crisis shocked us into seeing ourselves as a have-not nation dependent on others. Some claim we could be using solar power widely as quickly as two years from the time we fund efforts to develop the technology. But we first have to learn to think in new ways so we can start.

Self sufficiency is a mockery in an interdependent world. Calories for food or fuel or health are matters of broad policy. We need decisions by statesmen. Private citizens are also in-

involved. Voluntary organizations such as the Red Cross or local aid programs suffer from inadequate contributions. We need a new view.

We have thought of being self sufficient and viewed our nation as the home of rugged individualists. But there is no self sufficient community and no autonomous individual.

When we think of mutual responsibility we become persons in community. A person is a self in relations. When we realize the fact that humanity is one family we will work for a world where no-

Rape center needs hotline operators

The Oakland Crisis Center for Rape and Sexual Abuse is currently recruiting volunteers needed to operate hotlines. Training for such volunteers will include three orientation sessions involv-



By REV. CHARLES ERICKSON Congregational Church of Birmingham

ing values of clarification, role playing and minimal empathy training.

For further information call Marsha McDaniel, 334-0973 or Jude Booth, 858-5180.

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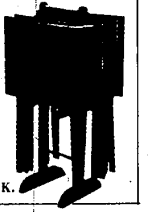
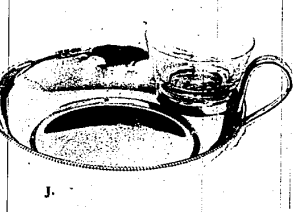
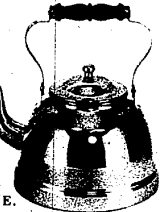
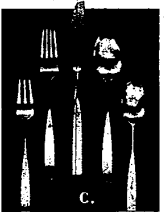


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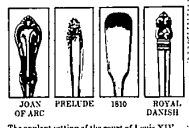


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