

the nightly show at a highly-touted & expensive supper club.

MIRAMAR

45 KM. TOWARDS THE WEST IS THE HOMEY SUMMER RESORT TOWN OF MIRAMAR, a family-oriented community zealously devoted to its children & pleasantly devoid of most of the glitter & honky-tonk ambience of, say, Mar del Plata. Unfortunately, it becomes a virtual ghost town from April to December, beset by strong cold winds from the South. During the summer it is quite amiable & an ideal place to witness with children. Incidentally, the countryside flanking Route 88 which connects Mar del Plata & Miramar was the most beautiful we saw in the province. The relatively rainy climate there makes it very fertile & expensive.

CORDOBA

THE ONLY OTHER AREA WE VISITED LONG ENOUGH

to form an opinion of is one which centers in the industrial city of Cordoba, capital of the province of Cordoba, which in spite of its million people, its huge automobile plants & its direct flights to Europe & the U.S., retains a pleasing country atmosphere clearly reflected in the hospitality of its people. Its weather, however, is not anything to write home about, but one doesn't need to go far to reach the Sierra de Cordoba whose full length we travelled.

THIS LONG NORTH-SOUTH RANGE OF LOW MOUNTAINS has something for everyone & is sprinkled with many friendly towns, from the arid northern end at Las Tres Cruces to the German-accented village of Villa General Belgrano at the southern end of the Sierra. V.G. Belgrano's many Teutonic names & modalities are but a hint of the heavy Germanic tones & air of nearby La Cumbre, kept safely remote by being accessible only via a 40-km. dirt road! The

number of established & newly-arrived German families here—& elsewhere in Argentina—will amaze you!

ALTHO' WE NEVER GOT TO VISIT THE ALPS-LIKE AREA OF BARILOCHE in the southern Andes, nor the equally spectacular & torrid Tierra del Fuego in the Antarctic region, we believe we saw in the areas described above the best of the suitable, inhabitable Argentine areas fit for families with children wanting safe distance from the inevitable perils of big blobs but still with the faith to witness regularly in a developed, friendly, lively city. The combination of good fresh abundant & reasonably-priced food, the hospitable people & beautiful scenery make this Argentine region an ideal one.

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WARNINGS which should be kept in mind by anyone going to Argentina:

1. **THE COST OF LIVING IS QUITE HIGH.** The city of Buenos Aires may easily be near the top of the list of the world's most expensive cities by the middle of this year. It would thus be essential to ensure some home support before going there, unless you have some special skill that can readily be turned into sufficient income in Argentina (for example: good translator or musician).

2. **THE SOCIETY IS PREDOMINANTLY A MIDDLE-CLASS OR BOURGEOIS** society. This means, as it does in the U.S. & parts of Western Europe, a high regard for appearances & public opinion, a superficiality about some things & a deep concern for material well-being. Becoming one is essential there, insofar as your outward appearance is concerned.

3. **VIDEOS:** Altho' we've seen some reports to the contrary in a couple FNs, Argentina's TV system is not the same variation

of PAL which has become standard for the Family. Our set received only the image from local TV & in black-&white only. More important, none of the videos sold or rented locally are of any use to you if you bring in Family-standard equipment, & VCRs & sets sold in Argentina will not play Family videos. So beware, & take your own equipment bought in Europe. Argentina's PAL system is the same as that of Paraguay, Uruguay & Brasil, where many Argentinians go to buy their sets at reduced prices.

4. **CAMPING:** The Automobile Club Argentino owns & efficiently operates a considerable number of good campsites all over the country, but none within a 100-km. radius of Buenos Aires. So if you enter your camping vehicle by ship thru' B.A., be ready to drive out at once if you want to camp out right away. The Auto Club also owns & operates gas stations, inns & vacation resorts at the seaside & the mountains. And their emergency road service is excellent. A valid card from your own club will give you a month's membership free of charge in the Argentine Club. Yearly dues are running at about \$40.

THE FAMILY IN ARGENTINA, which is of course the best part of Argentina, is numerous, multi-national, growing & counts with two musical groups which may easily make Argentina a spearhead of MWM-Spanish from the point of view of recorded musical contributions. It is an exciting field, hardly tapped & very potential. We pray that this information will help you if you're at the moment of decision about going to Latin America & are following Dad's wise advice to "Look Before You Leap!"
—Con mucho amor,—Carlos & Rosa.

Easy Entry For Teachers!

NEW COUPLE ARRIVES; SCHOOLS PAY PLANE FARES FOR TEACHERS!

From Reuben Woodsman;

Central America: **WE HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL LETTERS FROM PEOPLE WANTING INFORMATION** about our field, but so far only one family, Nathan & Sharon & their children, have come.

NATHAN & HIS FAMILY TOOK A REAL STEP OF FAITH IN COMING HERE, & God has really blessed them for it. When they got here we went to an influential Arab friend of ours & asked him if he had any contacts at customs. And he sure did!

THE CUSTOMS OFFICERS TREATED US LIKE KINGS! They didn't even inspect their vehicles, but just wrote them down as being of minimum value & only charged them 10% of that value to import them. So, it only cost them \$362 to import their 1963 Chevy pick-up camper & their 1967 21-foot caravan!

ANOTHER EXCITING THING that happened to us was when Sharon met a woman who owns an American school here. She said that she really needed a teacher; so, Sharon responded with, "Oh, my husband is a teacher."

NATHAN THEN APPLIED FOR THE JOB & GOT IT, working only about 6 hours a day. He is getting a decent salary for this country plus free schooling for their 3 oldest children.

AND WE'VE GOT NEWS FOR ANY OF YOU WHO ARE TEACHERS OR JUST HAVE A BURDEN to come here & learn how to become a teacher. Anyone with a teaching certificate &/or a Bachelors Degree has a wide range of job opportunities to choose from here.

BUT, THANK GOD, EVEN IF YOU ONLY HAVE A COUPLE OF YEARS OF COLLEGE or none at all, you can still get a fairly good job here. I only have a year & a half of



Abraham(8) & Hosanna(7) show that love is the key to your heart. They love to do this skit for our visitors.

junior college, & I still got a good job teaching arts & crafts during the day & private English lessons in the afternoons.

THAT, ALONG WITH DONATIONS FROM KINGS & FRIENDS from litnessing, supports us very well. Teaching here not only supports you, but also allows you to become a legal resident. TYJ!

WE ALSO HAVE A VERY INFLUENTIAL KING HERE WHO IS ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A MUSIC SCHOOL. When I visited him a couple of months ago, he asked me if there was anyone in the Family who could come here to teach the violin, cello, or the piano. **YOU MUST HAVE A COLLEGE**

INDONESIANS BEGGING FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS!

From Jonathon; Indonesia: **GBY, I'M WRITING IN RESPONSE TO THE FN ARTICLE** asking for teachers to write in. Here in Indonesia there is a big demand for English teachers, & also one brother in our home has gotten a visa thru teaching French. **HERE IN INDONESIA, AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER MAYBE 50%** of the population want to learn English, so there is always someone who wants to learn. Usually people will ask you if you can teach them Eng-

lish. PTL!

I USUALLY TRY TO WITNESS TO MY STUDENTS when I can with the Letters & sometimes just in conversation. And in almost every lesson I am able to get in some kind of a witness.

THE LORD BLESSED ME BY PROVIDING A SPONSOR WHO I ONLY NEED TO TEACH OCCASIONALLY, thus giving me a visa without tying me down. And the pay is good too, from \$5 to \$10 an hour. TYJ!

(PTL! Paid for loving! GBY!—D.)

Escape From The "Green Hell"!

"LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP" TO AVOID A TROPICAL NIGHTMARE!

From Z. in the Caribbean: **GOD BLESS YOU! WE WANTED TO SEND YOU THIS INFO ON SURINAME** as was requested by both some brethren & the FN itself. Last year we spent several months in Suriname & went thru quite a few harrowing experiences, & we wanted to write about some of these for the benefit of others, so they may beware.

SURINAME IS SITUATED ON THE NORTHEAST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA & was formerly called Dutch Guyana until independence in 1975. It is sandwiched between French Guyana on one side & on the other side by what was formerly called British Guyana until about 1964, & is now known simply as Guyana.

WE WENT THERE WITH OUR FAMILY OF 3 ADULTS & 4 CHILDREN, & another precious couple. When we arrived there it was dawn, and, as Dad says, you get hit in the face with the spirit of a place or country. And we sure didn't like the spirit that we felt when we stepped off the plane, altho' we had nothing but high expectations & good feelings for the country before we arrived.

A BROTHER ALREADY THERE HAD MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR US TO STAY IN A LITTLE TOWN BESIDE THE MAIN TOWN. Our house was situated literally on the very river that separates French Guyana from Suriname.

FRENCH GUYANA WAS 1ST SETTLED BY PRISONERS & THEIR FAMILIES AS A PENAL COLONY where the French sent these people to get rid of them. In fact, Devil's Island, that notorious French Island where they inhumanely kept so many prisoners, was also off French Guyana & connected to the same penal system.

WE NOTICED RIGHT OFF THE BAT WHILE WALKING THRU THE TOWN OF PARAMARIBO THAT NOBODY SEEMED TO SMILE; neither did they warmly greet each other as they passed on the streets. And when walking down the dirt roads of the smaller town, they never smiled or said any greeting whatsoever. It was really incredible!

SOME OF THE THINGS THAT MAKE THE 3RD WORLD SO APPALLING ARE THE HUNGRY HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE, THEIR WARM HOSPITALITY & THEIR GORGEOUS SMILES as they go about their simple way of life. But in Suriname, this was strikingly absent, & we noticed this in French Guyana also. It was almost spooky!

IN FACT, THE PEOPLE WERE SO UNFRIENDLY & SO INHOSPITABLE that we frequently used the term "Surinamese hospitality". A foreign friend of ours there once brought out a book called "The Book of Lists", & we found it amusing to read that Paramaribo, Suriname is officially listed as one of the 10 most unfriendly places of the world.

ANYWAY, 6 WEEKS AFTER OUR ARRIVAL THERE WAS A MILITARY COUP, & a curfew was imposed. At this same time, the owner of the house where we lived decided to throw us out since she found out what "organization" we belonged to after she talked to some 7th Day Adventist people, who seem to have an iron-grip on the country.

WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT DAD WAS SO RIGHT-ON IN HIS LETTER "GO TO THE CITIES", as this is the exact situation we were in. These small towns in these small countries are usually ruled by a religious clique, & you live or die at their whim—at least they can cause a

great deal of persecution or severe trouble for you if they feel you are a threat.

ANYWAY, ALTHO' WE HAD RECENTED THE WOMAN'S FLOOR, painted most of the inside of the house, screened the windows & doors, & did a lot of other little repair work on her house, she didn't even consider it. She threw us out, men, women & children, right in the middle of this revolution, & it was rough!

SURINAME WAS ORIGINALLY POPULATED BY SOME IBERIAN JEWS who left the Iberian Peninsula & founded very profitable plantations in this part of the world. They imported Negroes from Africa, Javanese from Indonesia, & Chinese & Indians from Asia. The Europeans ran the plantations & the others were either indentured servants or outright slaves.

THE DIVERSE POPULATION MADE FOR A VERY SAD MULTITUDE OF DIVISIONS that could never get it together, and for any problems in the country each of those groups of people blamed the others.

MOST OF THE COUNTRY IS BLACK, & their culture is also perfectly intact. We learned that the "bush-negroes" of Suriname who live in the jungles have their culture so perfectly intact that they resemble exactly the African tribes from which they came. Many of their ancestors had escaped from slave ships that had stopped off the "Wild Coast", as the Guyanas were called back then.

THE SURINAMESE ARE A VERY WILD PEOPLE WITH VERY LITTLE DISCIPLINE. In fact, when we originally arrived there, we were shocked to find out that over half the entire population had left & gone to Holland when the country became independent from the Dutch.

Suriname is in a very chaotic state of affairs, & from what we understand, it always has been since independence.

WE WOULD LIKE TO MENTION HERE ONE EXAMPLE of the many things we went thru, so that you will have an idea of the people we were dealing with: After being kicked out of our first house, we were invited to stay with a young man who lived with his brother. He was typically Surinamese, although he was a bit wealthier than most. He said that we could stay at his house until we found something better.

WHEN WE GOT TO HIS HOUSE WE POINTED TO THE FLOOR & SAID THAT WE COULD SLEEP THERE, although he had two empty bedrooms in his 3-bedroom house. The next morning, as every morning whether we were sleeping or not, he turned on & blasted disco music—which is typical there. He wouldn't feed us nor the children, & never even thought about it, although he ate well himself.

HE TREATED US LIKE SERVANTS & SAID: "HERE, MAKE ME THESE CURTAINS...you come up here & iron these clothes... & you need out this section of the garden." This, we found out, was typical Surinamese hospitality—the rule rather than the exception!

LATER, WE WERE INVITED BY ANOTHER MAN TO LIVE IN A SMALL WOODEN HOUSE which belonged to his father. It was kind of a shack, but we were thankful for it. This man had been to Europe & the States, as was the case of most of the people with whom we made friends. It seemed that the only people that were respectable or rational were either the foreigners or the Surinamese who had lived many years outside of Suriname.

IT IS TOTALLY UNLIKE ANY COUNTRY WE HAVE EVER BEEN TO in the Caribbean or Central America or anywhere. For 6 months we couldn't believe

that people lived like that, or what motivated them.

WHILE IN PARAMARIBO, WE USED TO GO EVERY DAY FOR MONTHS DOWN TO THE DOCKS TO TRY TO FIND A BOAT OUT. We had made the very serious mistake of not coming in with return tickets, but rather merely on-going tickets for a plane over to the next country. Of course, you couldn't use those because you needed other on-going tickets or money to be able to land in that country too.

WE BELIEVE THAT WAS THE MOST SERIOUS MISTAKE WE MADE.

Hence, when we did discover what kind of country it was, we were unable to get out without much pain.

WE BEG ALL OUR PRECIOUS BROTHERS, whether they feel they need it or not, that they travel with return tickets, or tickets to some place to be able to start over again if necessary. We didn't suffer a great deal of persecution, as well as hunger, going for months with sometimes nothing more than white rice to eat.

FINALLY, ON ONE OF OUR TRIPS TO THE DOCKS WE MET A VERY SWEET SURINAMESE MAN who had travelled a great deal & was married to a European. He was very moved by our story & by the fact that my wife was pregnant, & he offered to help.

AS IT TURNED OUT, HE OWNED TWO OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, & he put us on one bound for the Caribbean, out of that "Black-Hole". Suriname. A friend from one of the boats that had visited Suriname just recently wrote us & said: "I'm so glad to hear you are out of the 'green Hell'!"

AND WE GOT OUT JUST IN TIME. Before we left, they were having huge mass rallies in support of the military regime, & there was a great deal of anti-white sentiment in the area. The government was whipping up some real

anti-European sentiment & the country right now is in a chaotic state.

WE ALWAYS KNEW THAT HOW THE LORD WAS GOING TO DELIVER US & make it a testimony on top of it all, & sure enough, He did! It just made us better vessels, more inspired & more aware of what we are up against, & perhaps wiser & more patient.

WE ARE STILL TAKING THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE BY FAITH, as we don't know exactly why it was even the Lord's will to go there in the first place considering how things turned out, except that we believe that He told us to. And we believe that we were going in obedience to Him, & perhaps to break us & make us more yielded vessels, & perhaps to tell the world what we know about that particular country in that section of the world—the Guyanas, that is.

IT ALSO MADE US A MUCH CLOSER FAMILY UNIT, as well as getting us very close to our other brothers & sisters. For whatever reason, "His ways are above our ways," & we look back at it as a real genuine learning experience & one from which we have grown & become more mature in the Spirit. It helped us to look at the world for what it really is— one hell of a mess without the Love of Jesus!

WE HOPE THAT THIS LITTLE TESTIMONY REALLY HELPS OTHERS TO TAKE TIME & "LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP", to consider the many doors open to you, & to really pray & see where you would be best suited, before embarking on a journey such as the one we went on.

(AMEN!! Not all the Tropics are paradise! Some are "Green Hell"— Especially the "Black Homes!" Beware!—Read "Black Holes!" "Look Before You Leap!" & "The Trouble with the Tropics!"—D.)