

(From the "Int'l. Herald Tribune"—  
Feb. 10-11, 1979.)

## Drinking and Birth Defects Linked!

by Victor Cohn

(U.S.) FEDERAL OFFICIALS WARNED that even mild drinking during pregnancy may be a cause of birth defects. There is overwhelming evidence, said Dr. Judith Hall, a Seattle medical geneticist, that heavy drinking causes a severe "fetal alcohol syndrome" in one newborn in every 2,000 in the United States. Although firm evidence is lacking, she said, even light drinking probably causes adverse effects in as many as one or two infants in 1,000.

THESE COULD INCLUDE STILLBIRTHS & LOWER BIRTH WEIGHT

as well as hyperactivity & behavioral effects, according to some research. Dr. Sergio Fabro, head of fetal-maternal medicine at George Washington University, agreed that heavy drinking may cause problems in the central nervous system that could produce mental retardation & a "cluster" of facial abnormalities.

OF LIGHTER DRINKING, he said only that "some toxicity suspicious of or compatible with alcohol toxicity...has been observed" after consumption of an ounce of pure alcohol daily—the amount in two ounces of 100-proof liquor or two four-ounce glasses of wine. "As an intelligent guess," he said, "substantial & serious risk" may begin when a woman drinks three or more ounces of pure alcohol, about three stiff drinks daily. (Sent in by Dad.)

(Ed.:—Better safe than sorry! "Love prefers the happiness of others...")

## UN's Survey of Costs of Living!

(From the "Int'l. Herald Tribune"—25/1/79.)

**TOKYO & KINSHASA, ZAIRE ARE THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE CITIES** while living costs are lowest in Colombo, Sri Lanka, the United Nations said in a survey based on living costs of its officials in cities around the world.

**USING NEW YORK CITY AS A BASE OF 100,** Tokyo was rated at 162 & Kinshasa at 161. The survey rated Colombo at 53, or slightly more than half as expensive as New York.

**OTHER HIGH-COST CITIES:** The

Hague, 153; Geneva, 151; Bonn, 138; Brussels, 138; Copenhagen, 135; Vienna, 130; Paris, 127; Tehran, 125; Tripoli, Libya, 124; Tunis, 121 & Amman, Jordan, 115.

**LOW-COST CITIES:** Belmopan, Belize, Central America, 62; Lima, 69; Valletta, Malta, 69; Warsaw, 73; New Delhi, 74; Katmandu, Nepal, 75; Mexico City, 75; Bangkok, 76; Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, 76; Cairo, 76; Kingston, Jamaica, 76; Rangoon, Burma, 78.

## Who is Traven?

**BBC SAYS  
MYSTERY IS SOLVED**

(From an article in the "Int'l. Herald Tribune"—26/12/78.)

(DAD: Very interesting!—Relative  
A significant similarity...)

**LONDON: THE HUNT FOR THE IDENTITY OF B. TRAVEN, THE MYSTERIOUS AUTHOR** of "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "The Death Ship," "The Rebellion of the Hanged" and other novels, is over, British broadcasters say.

AFTER A SEARCH IN MEXICO

the United States and Europe they identified him as Herman Albert Otto Makysmilian Feige, the son of a brickburner in the Polish village of Swiebodzin, 60 miles west of Poznan. They say he was born in 1882 when the village was part of Germany.

**A BBC RESEARCH TEAM CONFIRMED EARLIER REPORTS** that Traven was the man who called himself Ret Marut, editor of a German anarchist paper. Marut fled Germany to escape a death sentence imposed after the crushing of a revolutionary workers' soviet there in 1919. The paper he edited in Munich was called Der Ziegelbrenner, which means "The Brickburner."

**TRAVEN, WHO ASSUMED MANY ALIASES,** concealed his real identity for the rest of his life. He died in Mexico March 16, 1969, telling his wife on his deathbed that he was Ret Marut. Not even his widow knew who he really was, she told interviewer Robert Robinson in the BBC television program, "B. Traven: A Mystery Solved."

**TRAVEN ALWAYS MAILED HIS MANUSCRIPTS FROM MEXICO.**

He lived for a time in a roadside cafe he owned in Acapulco. Marut was arrested in London for failing to register as an alien, which he could not do since he had no papers. Police court records show he was recommended for deportation and held in Brixton Prison for two months.

**BRITISH FRIENDS, INCLUDING WOMENS RIGHTS CAMPAIGNER SYLVIA PANKHURST,** were active in trying to obtain a passport for him to avoid deportation to Germany and death. He did not get a U.S. passport, but he did manage to leave

England safely as a fireman on a Norwegian ship in April, 1924. The hero in "The Death Ship" is a fireman.

**THE FINAL CLUE** was in the London police file. For the only time in his life, Marut gave his real name and birthplace. The records yielded other names, for the wandering boy was one of seven children, and the BBC team—working against long odds—found brother Ernst, 83, and sister Margareta, 86, still alive.

**YES, THEY SAID, THIS WAS THEIR ELDER BROTHER,** whom they always called Otto and who had angered his mother by planning to make socialist speeches in the village. He was to have been a priest, but his parents could not afford the fees so he was apprenticed to a locksmith for four years. Then he joined the army and after that he disappeared. They never saw him again.

**"MY WORK IS IMPORTANT,"** Traven once said. "I am not a writer. I shout. I want to be nothing but the word." Most of his novels harp on the theme of injustice. All are grimly realistic, stressing human suffering and rejecting political and religious institutions.

**INTERVIEWER ROBINSON CONCLUDED:** "All that matters about him at last is his work. He hid behind it, he vanished into it. He achieved his ambition. He became the word."

**TRAVEN ONCE WROTE:** "If you do not wish to be lied to, do not ask questions. The only real defense civilized man has against anybody who bothers him is to lie. There would be no lies if there were no questions."

## Planets on Parade

(Reprint from "The Vineyard")

by K. Christensen

**A STATEMENT WAS ISSUED ON SEPT. 16, 1974** by the reputable Newsweek magazine in its science section and an extensive statement was issued by two leading scientists. The article stated what might happen in the year 1982 when our nine major planets all line up on the one side of the sun.

**THIS ALIGNMENT TAKES PLACE ONCE EVERY 179 YEARS,** and on every occasion when that alignment has taken place there has been a graphic reaction on the cosmos of our world. The difference, however, between the previous alignments and the one projected for 1982 will be, where the previous ones have been as close to a line-up as was possible under the conditions, in 1982 they will be in perfect line-up for the first time in all creation.

**AND THOSE NINE PLANETS WILL LINE UP PERFECTLY** on the one side of our sun. This was the statement that led to the investigation studies as to what will happen, because there have been unusual reactions in the world on previous alignments.

**NEWSWEEK REFERRED TO THE ASTRONOMICAL PROJEC-**

**TION FOR 1982 AS AN APOCALYPTIC PREDICTION;** in other words, it is a prediction of the end. In the late 1960's John Gribbin, a physical science editor of the British magazine, Nature, and Stephen Plagemann, researcher at NASA's Goddard Space Centre in Maryland, began to study the possible effects of the planetary alignment due in 1982.

**AND THE RESULTS OF THEIR INVESTIGATIONS ARE NOW MADE PUBLIC IN A BOOK** which they co-authored called "The Jupiter Effects". They have published their scientific conclusions in a book called "The Parade of the Planets". On the previous occasions it has been a zig-zag alignment, one planet has been in front of the other, one has been back a bit, but this time it's going to be 'spot-on'.

**THE RESULT OF THE LINE-UP WILL MEAN firstly** that there will be a great increase in the magnetic activity on the surface of the sun, bringing forth huge storms, sun spots, and great solar flares will appear.

**SECONDLY, THE IONOSPHERE MAY BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED** and great changes will occur in the earth's entire atmosphere. **Thirdly,** radio and television communications will be seriously disrupted. **Fourthly,** there will be weird lighting effects from the northern lights as

they burst thru' the sky repeatedly. **FIFTHLY, AND ONE OF THE GREAT EFFECTS IN OUR ATMOSPHERE WILL BE THAT THE WIND DIRECTION WILL COMPLETELY CHANGE.** **Sixthly,** rain-fall and temperature patterns will be greatly altered. **Seventh,** the

earth's rotation will be graphically affected and the length of our days will be changed. Furthermore, there will be many earthquakes, both large and small. That's just a precis of their statement.

(Sent in by Dad.)

## Tenderly Gather Them In!

*The exciting news  
of a drop-in nur-  
sery school in a  
closed country!*

**IT'S A REAL ENCOURAGEMENT WHAT GOD HAS DONE** since our little school opened last Sept. 7th. It's a very modest school compared with others here (we have 26 children), but the parents are thrilled because of the spirit of it! TYLI! Real love never fails & has really made our school stand out amongst other schools here.

**WE OPENED WITHOUT ANY FORMAL REGISTRATION** and after pursuing it further we found that we could not be registered due to size (we were too small!). After meeting with the Secretary of Education, we were told just to carry on & not to worry about it, as every foreign school here is not registered with the Authorities! PTL!

**WE HAVE RECEIVED SUCH A GOOD RESPONSE** from the parents & they are so thankful! At Christmas, many gave us gifts & when Eve had our fifth baby all the mothers got together & had a baby shower for her. What a blessing that was, as there were so many things we needed! Phil. 4:19! PG!!

**HERE'S OUR SCHOOL SCHEDULE:** 8:30-Group story or science experiment or a group participation project. 9:00-Reading, writing & language exercises for the older ones. Teach Your Baby to Read games for

the younger ones. Free play with school equipment & educational toys. 10:00-Snack & clean-up. 10:15-Project time involving social studies, geography, science & nature, sewing, etc. 11:00-Singing & Art; varies every day; followed by outside or free play.

**AT CHRISTMAS WE HAD THE CHILDREN PUT TOGETHER THEIR VERY OWN NATIVITY PLAY!** Thus, we were able to teach them the meaning of Christmas & led all of them to the Lord. PHN! The parents came over with their friends for an afternoon & all the children did the play & sang Christmas carols & it had such an impact! This sample brought along more interested parents with children to enroll in the school!

**OVER CHRISTMAS, WE ALSO TOOK SOME CHILDREN** to orphanages here & they did skits & the Lord gave us another 600 souls! When we first prayed about opening a school, we had prayed for sheepy children & the first verse we got was: "My children shall have a place of refuge" (His children)! Please keep our work in your prayers as we continue to "Open the door for the children, tenderly gather them in"! Love, Barak, Eve & team.