



Is This...

Engineers of the SFM Corp. have developed a revolutionary unit called the Mil-Pac System. Completely automatic, it pulverizes the refuse, presses out the moisture, and compacts everything into neat, odorless briquettes — making air-polluting incineration obsolete.



... the Answer to This?

Building superintendent tries to sweep up rubbish dumped in street during strike of New York City Sanitation workers. Piles of uncollected garbage rising on every block underscored the need for a modern, efficient means of refuse disposal.

GARBAGE! It's Piling Up at Ever-Increasing Rate

New York—In 1920, Americans produced 50 million tons of garbage annually; in 1950, the figure was 100 million tons; by 1980, it's estimated that we'll produce 300 million tons of garbage each year.

Unfortunately, America's ability to produce garbage is not matched by its capacity to get rid of it. We are faced with a monumental disposal problem that threatens to bury the nation.

Smog-choked air, polluted rivers and littered streets are not only a blight on the landscape, they are also poisonous to plants and animals and a very real threat to the continuance of life on earth. When man first started disposing of garbage through

burning and dumping in rivers, there was plenty of pure air and water to dilute the pollutants. But these reserves are fast being used up.

The disposal problem is aggravated by the fact that most of us live in big cities. Today, 70 per cent of all Americans live on 10 per cent of the country's land, and by the year 2000 the percentage of urban dwellers is expected to reach 90 per cent.

New York City, with the largest metropolitan population, comes up with some of the most staggering statistics. Each square mile of Manhattan produces 375,000 pounds of waste to be incinerated daily — and much of the ash from this incineration just

settles back down on the people below!

The air pollution menace has grown even worse because the size of our cities actually slows down the movement of winds which would normally cleanse the air. At the same time, rising city heat creates thermal inversions of warm air over cold that hold, poisonous smog hanging over the same area for days. A blanket of low-hanging air pollution has often led to public health crises, and a sharp rise in the death rate for infants, the elderly, and persons with chronic respiratory or cardiac conditions.

On the ground, we are proceeding with the same disre-

gard for the balance of nature on which all of life is dependent. We continue to dump sewage into rivers and streams, thus destroying the micro-organisms that would normally cleanse the water.

A major obstacle in finding a solution to environmental pollution is our antiquated method of garbage disposal — a method that's remained essentially unchanged since the days of the Roman Empire. Incinerating garbage or taking it out to sea to dump were already old-fashioned methods back in the days of Caesar.

By the Middle Ages, the problem was especially acute because of the severe overcrowding of cities. Most people disposed of their trash by

throwing it out the window, and this practice grew worse as the years went on. City fathers then tried letting pigs roam the street to consume the garbage; wealthy citizens carried perfumed handkerchiefs to ward off the stench.

As late as the turn of the century, American cities suffered widespread epidemics that were caused by poor sanitation practices. Cholera could devastate an entire community because of a polluted water source.

In response to this crisis, engineers of the SFM Corporation in Union, N.J., have finally the first real innovation in garbage disposal in more than 10 centuries — a revolutionary unit called the Mil-Pac system. It's considered a vital tool in the fight against pollution because it completely does away with the need for incineration.

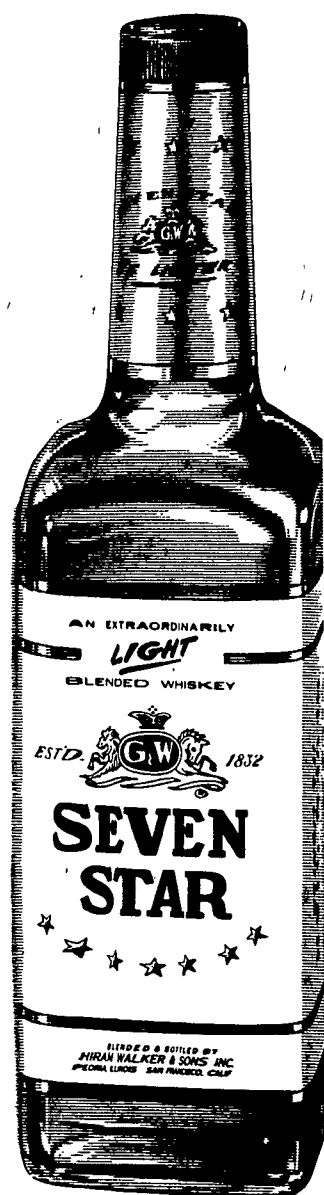
The two basic sections of the Mil-Pac System are a grinder and a compactor. These pulverize the refuse, squeeze out the liquid, and compress everything into neat, relatively odorless briquettes that are up to 15 times smaller than the original material. There is little odor because the removal of moisture virtually halts the putrefaction process. And since the bulk of the garbage has been greatly reduced, the amount of labor required for handling is also cut down.

Completely automatic, the Mil-Pac System holds promise for a new way of life in which processed garbage will be used for land fill, ferti-

lizer, and clean-burning fuel. Metals, too, will be easily salvaged from the briquettes for further industrial use — instead of being lost as they are now.

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INDIA: A Prize for Each Sterilization

By ETHEL GINTOFT
(NC News Service)

Milwaukee — In India not only is sterilization free, but the government gives a prize — a portable radio, or the equivalent to \$10 in U.S. currency — for each sterilization.

Signs on the streets urge: "Every Family, Only Two or Three Children!" Nurses in training are pressured to bring people to hospitals for contraceptive purposes.

"The government in India is dedicated to such anti-population practices," Archbishop Dominic R. B. Athaide, O.F.M. Cap., of Agra, India, related in an interview here.

Archbishop Athaide, as head of the commission on social action and the family of the Indian Catholic Bishops' Conference, coordinates the Church's efforts to check the escalation of such practices, and works in other areas to alleviate conditions among the poor.

The 59-year-old, bearded prelate said the government's

stated purpose for sterilization and birth control is to check population expansion.

"India does suffer from a food shortage," he conceded, and listed several reasons why — antiquated methods of agricultural production; a dependence on seasonal rains; ("If there is no rain for two years in succession, there is misery"); and finally, deluge.

"The Church, while it sympathizes with this problem," the archbishop said, "nevertheless, takes the stance of the Pope and his encyclical, Humanae Vitae. We say the problem is primarily economic — a matter of improved production and distribution of food."

His commission, he said, is definitely working along the lines of education in various aspects of self-help, such as farm cooperatives, better techniques, boring of wells, digging of canals, health. The commission also, by publishing books and holding seminars on the family, tries to

encourage the full and positive idea of marriage.

Of the 520 million inhabitants, about 400 million are Hindus, he said. About 60 million are Mohammedans, 12 million are Christians (1 million Catholic). The rest are Buddhists and animists.

The normal Hindu position, Archbishop Athaide said, is against birth control and sterilization. Thus the government is going against public opinion.

Archbishop Athaide said the people generally accepted the Pope's position on birth

control without difficulty.

"In India five or more children is normal. Among the poorer classes it is useful to have children because at the age of 10 or 12 the child becomes a breadwinner." (There is no compulsory elementary education.)

The people of India were "frankly shocked," he said, that in the United States the dissenters against the encyclical were so vociferous, though they realized that the notion of democracy and freedom of speech characteristics of the U.S. would apply to every facet of life.

CICOP Schedules 'Action' Workshops

Washington — (NC) — The Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program (CICOP) has announced that workshops at the Sixth Annual CICOP conference will be devoted to "creating plans of action" affecting all of Latin America. The conference will be at the New Yorker Hotel in New York, Jan. 24-28.

The purpose of the annual CICOP conference is to promote inter-American friendship and cooperation through increased understanding and mutual respect. Some 2,000 delegates and guests from Europe, Canada, Latin America, and the U.S. are expected to attend.

VATICAN RADIO AIRS CATECHISM CRITIQUE

Vatican City — (RNS) — Vatican Radio has been devoting much time to the full text of a Vatican document calling for changes in the controversial Dutch Catechism.

The text, prepared by a papal commission of six cardinals, has been broadcast in installments in various languages. This treatment generally is reserved for subjects to which the Vatican attaches exceptional importance.

AWARD FOR CRS

Hong Kong — (NC) — U.S. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has received the Golden Rice Bowl award of Hong Kong Caritas for the aid CRS has given to the Catholic charities organization through the years.

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Minister Claim

The Q

New York — (RNS) — Questions about the identity of Jesus are as old as the New Testament in which Christ asked his disciples: "Who do men say that I am?"

But today the speculation about the humanity of Jesus involves His physical characteristics, including His color, and the role He would take in today's social crises were He again on earth.

Sheed and Ward have recently published a book, "The Black Messiah," by the Rev. Mr. Albert Cleage, a study of the religious roots of Black Power. The minister asserts that Jesus was a black man.

There is little novelty in linking the identity of Jesus to social concerns. Appeals for peace and justice cite Jesus as model. Some defenses of the "hippie" movement and student activism have used the itinerancy of Jesus and his "cleansing of the Temple" as justifications.

On the other side, presentations of a "meek and mild" Jesus have tended to repress minority groups or activists whether that repression is conscious or unconscious.

Mr. Cleage, militant clergyman of Detroit's Shrine of the Black Madonna (United Church of Christ), is not the first to depart from the tradition of a fair-skinned Jesus. Also in Detroit, St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic church has replaced a blond Jesus in a mural with a black one.

A prize-winning African art work chosen for a 1968 Lit-Lit Christmas card depicts a nativity scene with black people. (Lit-Lit is the

Respons

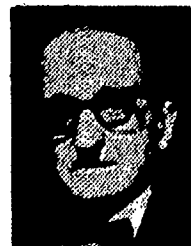
Philadelphia — (NC) — The layman is capable and willing to take a responsible role in the Church, the executive director of the National Council of Catholic Men told participants in an archdiocesan pastoral study program here.

The basic problem for the Church, Martin H. Work said, is how it should function in a society which has set it free but has also cast it aside.

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