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Probing below the earth's surface for good water is as fascinating as it is exasperating. Only rarely is an adequate supply of high quality found, like New Bern's discovery near Cove City not so long ago.

Naturally, the folks hired to locate such a stream were elated, as were officials of our town who had invested the public's money in the survey and exploratory wells.

Their joy could hardly compare, however, with the jubilant atmosphere now existing along the eastern shore of Maryland. In that area the United States Geological Survey has found a vast river, 200 feet down.

Test drillings revealed a channel two miles long and half a mile wide, and there are indications the river extends 35 miles. It is estimated that it will provide sufficient water for a million people.

According to government scientists, they have felt for quite some time that this great amount of untapped water was flowing underneath the ground. What they found at Salisbury, Maryland, they believe, also prevails along the coast from Long Island to Georgia.

New Bern, all but surrounded by its Neuse and Trent rivers, may for all we know be on top of still another river. Down there somewhere, deeper than anyone has drilled up to now, a subterranean stream could be flowing serenely.

It just goes to show you that in our eagerness to explore outer space we may be overlooking wondrous things beneath our feet. But for the prolonged droughts in northern states that made costly research a necessity, the large Maryland river would still be one of Dame Nature's best kept secrets.

Notwithstanding man's ingenuity and curiosity, he isn't apt to determine all of the treasures below the earth. If he could accomplish the impossible, the ocean depths would still be waiting with untold mysteries to defy his adventurous spirit.

As for outer space, a million years of exploration will reveal hardly more than a microscopic speck of God's great Creation. Mortal minds can't calculate the immensity of His handiwork.

How worried is the average New Bernian about the war in Viet Nam? Not the families with sons fighting there, or those with sons who must go eventually, but those who won't be called upon to face this ordeal.

You can answer the question yourself. Most citizens, whether they care to admit it or not, are taking the tragedy pretty much in stride. They are resigned to the likelihood that the carnage will last for years, but firm in the belief that the Viet Cong can't win this thing.

Based upon the best information available, it does appear probable that the Cong will fail in its objective. Failure won't necessarily result in outright victory for our side. A negotiated peace, preserving South Viet Nam's right to self government is a stronger prospect.

Despite the apparent apathy, here in New Bern, a sample survey reveals overwhelming agreement that the United States must pursue its present course

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HERE'S THE FACTORY—Seen here are the 250 gallon and 50 gallon stills that produced the white lightning shown in our other photograph. The large and small barrels in the center of the picture are the

stills. The two barrels on the left are for run over or waste. The boiler is at the right. The gent inspecting the vat is an A.T.U. agent. Such a still pays for itself in less than two weeks.



NAME BRANDS—Familiar labels, indicating the original contents, are prominently displayed on these jugs and jars. Don't let that fool you. Inside the glass containers, when Craven and Carteret A.T.U. officers made a raid on a North River still the other day, was

enough moonshine to make hundreds of dry throats sizzle. A swig of this stuff would make a rabbit chase a pack of hounds out of the woods, clear to the Blue Ridge Parkway.