

greatly by the huge steps taken in medicine from that of our forefathers. Several diseases that, in the past, were thought of as "killers" are almost never heard of in this day and age. I guess my one wish in the field of medicine is that, if not in my lifetime, at least in my children's lifetime, cancer is another of these diseases that will become a thing of the past.

I know we sometimes feel that our country is far from perfect, and maybe it is, but I am sure that it is far better than any other place in the world. I feel very fortunate that I am an American. I hope that our children will look back on the mistakes that we have made and improve on these. It is very nice to know that in this country we do have the right to change things, and I hope we never lose this privilege.

LELAND HUMRICHOUS  
Covington

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As I look beyond the Bicentennial, I feel continued optimism about our country's future. It is easy for me, however, and I'm certain for others also, to often become discouraged and disheartened by what we see about us. Every day we are exposed to negativism — from the news media to the neighbor next door.

Indeed our country does have problems and we individually and collectively should be concerned. As we look about, the stark reality of the ills of mis-managed ecology, crime, moral decay, hunger, the cold war, a potential hot war, and the general disruption of our way of life confront us. Many of the problems appear unsolvable.

However, rather than be discouraged let's view our situation in a positive way and be encouraged by that which has gone before us. In any difficult situation, the recognition of a problem and the desire to solve it go a long way in conquering it. Who, indeed just a



short time ago would have believed that in this lifetime, he or she could actually see man walking on the moon. How can we explain this event? How did it happen? As we all know, it occurred because of the desire, the diligence and a lot of very hard work on the part of a large number of dedicated people.

The conquering of space is glamorous, however, it is just one of the difficult problems and trying situations our nation has successfully faced starting with our beginnings 200 years ago.

Our future is what we make it. Certainly if you and I sit on our hands and cry alas, alas, we will help prove some of the present prophecies of doom correct. If, however, we sincerely face our problems in a diligent way, and as a Christian nation should, the future can be bright for each of us and our country continue to be the modern day "land of promise."

Yes, I'm optimistic. My only regret is that I'll miss the Tricentennial celebrating that time in history when we successfully overcome some of our most difficult problems.

C. N. BRUNER  
Pisgah Forest

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The celebration of our Bicentennial has given us the opportunity to reflect on how our country was built. It was built by people with great vision of the future and the willingness to sacrifice, adapt, and risk everything including their lives



to attain that future. That willingness to sacrifice, adapt, and risk has been apparent these last 200 years as people have taken the resources of this country and made it into the best place to live in the world. The people of the United States are justifiably proud of this record. But we cannot sit on this record. Much remains to be done in such areas as disease, energy, discrimination, pollution, and economic imbalance.

We cannot afford to become self satisfied and lethargic with problems of this magnitude to be resolved. Rather, all of us must dig back into the heritage that has made us great and find the willingness to sacrifice, adapt, and risk what is necessary to solve the problems that will keep this country great and to make it on to new heights.

A. R. WINTERHALTER  
Covington

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## FILM PLANT IS IN FOURTH YEAR OF INJURY-FREE OPERATIONS

The Film plant at Pisgah Forest celebrated its third anniversary November 3 of operating without a loss-time injury.

In a letter to J. Donald Parker, plant manager, Group President Garza Baldwin wrote:

"This is indeed a lofty achievement and one of which you should be very proud. I want to give you my sincere congratulations. Keep up the good work!"

As of January 1, 1977, the Film plant at Pisgah Forest had operated 1,155 days and 4,558,028 worker hours. without a loss-time injury.

Chosen the operation with the best on-going safety program in the corporation in 1976, the plant has the best statistical performance in the corporation.

Also in November, the Ecusta Paper plant at Pisgah Forest passed the 1,000,000 injury-free worker hour mark for the first time since May 1976, and ended the year with 1,647,096 injury-free hours.

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