

**CHURCH TO RUN HOSPITAL**  
OAK RIDGE, Tenn. (AP)—A 3-million-dollar hospital, now under construction by the government, will be operated by the Methodist Church. By referendum, the people of Oak Ridge voted to have the church run the 175-bed hospital rather than a community association.

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## Earth Is Pear-Shaped, But Globe Stays Round

By LEE KISSEL  
United Press International  
CHICAGO (UPI)—You can still be up-to-the-missile with the old, round family globe.  
Despite the satellite Vanguard's findings that mother earth is a trifle pear-shaped, Rand McNally, Inc., map-makers, are not dis-

turbed.  
"We certainly do not intend to put out a pear-shaped globe," said Carl Mapes, the firm's chief map editor.

He conceded that scientists from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, who revealed our

planet's tendency to bulge a bit at the bottom, have a point.  
But it's a pretty small point, in Mapes' opinion. Not more than 100 feet variation in 8,000 miles.

"Why, the thickness of paper that we mount on our globes wouldn't represent the difference,"

he said.

Although Vanguard's discovery that the world is slightly pear-shaped hasn't made much of an impression on Rand-McNally, the firm is officially keeping abreast with space.

"We now have swinging ring mountings for globes which can be adjusted to plot satellite orbits," Mapes said. "And maps of the moon, outer space and the various planets are hot items."

But he returned quickly to the subject of the earth's figure. The geophysicist weren't the first to think the world is pear-shaped, said Mapes. Christopher Columbus had the same idea.

Mapes quoted from a letter Columbus wrote to the King of Spain on his third voyage to the New World:

"I find the world is not round as they (ancient geographers) describe, but that it is shaped like a pear, which is everywhere very round except where the stalk is—for there it is very prominent..."

Columbus is thought to have arrived at this conclusion by making a faulty observation of the North Star, Mapes said. But he was right after all.

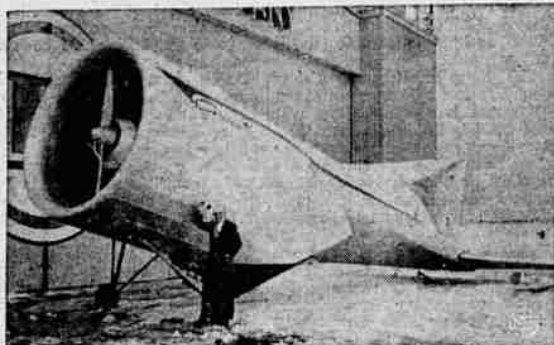
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## First Space Travelers Receive Instructions

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (UPI)—If it's true that you can't teach an old dog new tricks, it's only because Dr. Robert T. Clark hasn't tackled the problem.

Dr. Clark, a short, wavy-haired man of 42, is the project director for the bio-satellite program at the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex.

As such, he is preparing black mice and rhesus monkeys for the honor of being the first space trav-

elers to orbit the earth in an American-made satellite.

Clark has taught the animals how to live under great stresses of gravitational force and weightlessness. But perhaps his most interesting accomplishment is that of training the monkeys to operate instruments while zipping around in outer space, reclining on a special couch.

The monkeys are taught to pull a lever when a light goes on in their cramped spaceships. By pulling the lever, they send back to earth recorded scientific data. The monkeys also know they must not tinker with nuts and bolts, wires and equipment, and to eat sparingly while in flight.

Now, Clark and his especially-trained space animals are awaiting the word from the Air Force to "blast off." If a 15-pound payload is advised, the mice will go. If the payload is 50 pounds, it will be the monkeys' turn.

A civilian, Clark directs the work of more than 20 military and civilian scientists and electronic engineers. While his job requires an ability to coordinate projects, perhaps his greatest problem is in getting highly-specialized, intricate instruments redesigned to fit and function in the small nose-cones.

In August, Dr. Clark will visit Buenos Aires for a "Life in Space" meeting with Soviet scientists. "I hope to discuss the results of our animal trips then," said the former athlete.

A muscular 150-pounder, Clark was a track star in his youth and still runs every day, sometimes as much as six miles, never less than one. He sees to it that his associates do some running, too. The calves on Clark's legs show the effects of his legwork. They give the appearance of having grapefruits tucked beneath the knees.

In 1939, he set an intercollegiate record of 9.6 seconds in the 100-yard dash and two years later, he became the spring coach at the University of Tennessee. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Rochester.

Talkative and nearly always smiling, Clark now is preparing chimpanzees for space flight in 100-150 pound payloads. But he doesn't think man will start orbiting for some time.

"This country," he said recently will never send a man into orbit until after many animal shots, and until we are as sure as we can be that man will be safe. We've got to check and re-check the animal reactions first."

Clark is a native of Union City, Tenn. He and his wife Charlene have three children: Robert, 15; Anne, 13, and Nancy, 8.

## Tilted Tower Gone Too Far?

PISA, Italy (UPI)—Is the leaning Tower of Pisa going to topple? And if so, what can be done about it?

Many experts predict that the 179-foot tower, built almost 800 years ago, will fall over anywhere from 50 to 300 years from now unless something is done.

Their predictions are based on the fact that the white marble structure has been leaning at an alarming rate in recent years. Now 17 feet, 2½ inches out of plumb, it has tilted 8½ inches since 1910 — about twice the rate of the preceding 80 years. In 1958 it leaned .046 of an inch, greatest in any recorded year.

All agree that the lean is due to the soft water permeated ground under its base in the Piazza dei Miracoli. In fact, the tower started leaning right at the start—back in 1174 A.D. After building the first three stories, the co-architects, Bonanno and Guglielmo, gave up in disgust. Two hundred years later, another architect finished the job. He tried to correct the slant by angling the last five floors perpendicular to the base, but they leaned too.

Prof. Giovanni Boaga, a Rome engineer, is one of advocating drastic action—and right away. He proposes that the tower be dismantled and that a thick concrete slab be sunk 40 feet into the ground, over which the structure would be reassembled. He estimates that it would take five years and cost about \$9,000,000.

Another proposal is for pumping out some of the sand about the base on the far side of the lean, thus enabling the tower to shift back to a vertical position by itself.

But the "Pisanos," the town folk who depend for their daily bread on the great curiosity of tourists in the leaning tower, are fearful of any meddling. They point out that injections of concrete to stiffen the soil and all the other measures taken to date, have not helped one bit. Further, they say accurate records have only been kept since 1910—not long enough to establish a basis for alarming predictions.

They believe the tower has now attained a kind of "suspended balance" which will last indefinitely and that any kind of tampering will only mean its doom.

### IN THE 'BOOK'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Telephone, Tex., is about to get telephone service for the first time. The Rural Electrification Administration recently approved a loan of \$358,000 to the Win-Tel Telephone Co. Inc., of Windom, Tex., to improve and expand service in rural areas of Fannin County. Among the expanded services will be a new dial exchange at Telephone—(pop. 250 in 1950).

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