

Speaking Out

From The
New South

By ROBERT DURR

AMERICA LEADS

IT has been decreed that America shall lead the world spiritually; that the light it will reflect shall come out of Palestine—the interpretive and administrative headquarters of the world's greatest religion.

In a little town called Haifa in Palestine is located the headquarters of the Baha'i World Faith, which in my opinion, is the way of life which must be reflected by America if she is to lead the world forward. Its Guardian Shoghi Effendi has this to say on "A Pattern For Future Society":

"The unity of the human race, as envisaged by Baha'u'llah, (founder of the unifying World Faith) implies the establishment of a world commonwealth in which all nations, races, creeds and classes are closely and permanently united, and in which the autonomy of its state members and the personal freedom and initiative of the individuals that compose them are definitely and completely safeguarded.

SEES WORLD STATE

This commonwealth must, as far as we can visualize it, consist of a world legislature, whose members will, as the trustees of the whole of mankind, ultimately control the entire sources of all the component nations, and will enact such laws as shall be required to regulate the life, satisfy the needs and adjust the relationships of all races and peoples.

A world executive, backed by an international Force, will carry out the decisions arrived at, and apply the laws enacted by, this world legislature and will safeguard the organic unity of the whole commonwealth. A world tribunal will adjudicate and deliver its compulsory and final verdict in all and any disputes that may arise between the various elements constituting this universal system.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

A mechanism of world inter-communication will be devised, embracing the whole planet, freed from national hindrances and restrictions, and functioning with marvelous swiftness and perfect regularity.

A world metropolis will act as the nerve center of a world civilization, the focus toward which the unifying forces of life will converge and from

which its energizing influences will radiate. A world language will either be invented or chosen from among the existing languages and will be taught in the schools of the federated nations and races as an auxiliary to their mother tongue.

A world script, a world literature, a uniform and universal system of currency, of weights and measures, will simplify and facilitate intercourse and understanding among the nations and races of mankind. In such a world society, science and religion, the two most potent forces in human life, will be reconciled, will cooperate, and will harmoniously develop.

The press will, under such a system, while giving full scope to the expression of the diversified views and convictions of mankind, cease to be mischievously manipulated by vested interests, whether private or public, and will be liberated from the influence of contending governments and peoples. The economic resources of the world will be organized, its sources of raw materials will be tapped and fully utilized, its markets will be coordinated and developed, and the distribution of its products will be equitably regulated.

RACIAL AMITY A REALITY

National rivalries, hatreds, and intrigues will cease, and racial animosity and prejudice will be replaced by racial amity, understanding and cooperation. The causes of religious strife will be permanently removed, economic barriers and restrictions will be completely abolished, and the inordinate distinction between classes will be obliterated. Destitution on the one hand, and gross accumulation of ownership on the other, will disappear.

The enormous energy dissipated and wasted on war, whether economic or political, will be consecrated to such ends as will extend the range of human inventions and technical development, to the increase of the productivity of mankind, to the extermination of disease, to the extension of scientific research, to the raising of the standard of physical health, to the sharpening and refinement of the human brain, to the exploitation of the unused and unsuspected resources of the planet, to the prolongation of human life, to the furtherance of any other agency that can stimulate the intellectual, the moral, and spiritual life of the entire human race.