

# Domestic Crisis Seen by Warren

By Jane Eshleman Conant

American domestic affairs are "reaching the crisis stage," retired U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren said here today.

"We see not only deterioration of our physical plant, but, even worse, deterioration of human relations," he declared.

"It could become catastrophic — and the forms of potential catastrophe are varied and horrible to contemplate."

And, he declared, it's up to the government — "it should be the job of everyone in government" — to give the highest of priorities to solving the problems of poverty, slums, education, air and water pollution and the alienation of youth.

Warren is here for a brief visit to his home state before a trip to Washington next month. (He retains his chambers in the Supreme Court building, as he retains the title of Chief Justice, retired.)

He elaborated, in an exclusive interview with The Examiner, on the remarks he made last week at the Grace Cathedral services of thanksgiving for the successful moon flight.

He emphasized his great pride in the Apollo 11 astronauts and the great scientific team effort that made their feat possible.

But he said that it happened "because of Sputnik — our pride was hurt because Russia had done it first, and we were frightened."

"The Congress and the executive branch responded," he continued. "With the mandate of the executive and legislative leaders, we marshalled the whole scientific fraternity into a magnificent team.

"I'm so proud of them for what they have done . . ."

Now, he said, the initiative for a similar effort to solve

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# Warren Fears U.S. Catastrophe

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the problems of our own world must come from the government.

"It must, because the government fixes the priorities and finances the things it regards as important. The government activates the people.

"The initiative can't come from any other source, unless the people are stirred by some great tragedy or frightening event, as they were stirred by Sputnik.

## No Abandonment

"Then, if the government responds only then, that isn't leadership."

Warren said he does not urge abandonment of the space program; in fact, he is willing to accept Mars as a new target — but "only if we can tackle these other problems as well."

"But if we can only do one or another, I say we've got to compare the urgency of the two.

"There is a compelling need for very urgent attention to many of our domestic problems which have been submerged because of the great expenditures of the war and space programs.

## Great Problems

"We have 20 million poverty stricken people in the

most affluent society the world has ever seen. The population explosion, the movement of people into the cities, have created great problems we haven't caught up with.

"The pollution of our environment is a tremendous problem."

Warren said the moon triumph proves "we can do anything . . . but it takes dedication and national commitment."

"No rational person can look at our cities and say they're not deteriorating. What can we expect of our children and grandchildren unless we give very high priority to conditions in the cities, to the environment of our children, to their education — all of which are worsening day by day.

## Deterioration

"Any time we allow bad conditions to exist, human relations are deteriorating.

"That's what government is for — improving our human relations so that we can have harmony in our lives instead of conflict, and, in the world order, peace instead of war."

We could do all this, Warren said: "It's humanly possible, if we would commit ourselves. We could have a lovely world to live in."