

# Man In The Deep Senses One On High

By JAMIE BUCKINGHAM

Dr. Jacques Piccard is one of the world's greatest oceanographers. In scientific circles he's known for designing and building the deep sea bathyscaph, "Trieste." He holds the record for deep sea diving for taking the sub down to 35,800 in 1960.

Now he's finishing his work on the "Ben Franklin," a mescoaph middle boat) which is one of the most sophisticated underwater laboratories ever developed. This coming spring it will be lowered into the water off Palm Beach and will drift northward, exploring and charting the gulf Stream. Piccard and five other oceanographers will remain underwater six weeks, surfacing somewhere off Cape Cod.

**THE 6'7" SWISS** scientist, son of Europe's most famous physicist and balloonist, is now living in West Palm Beach. Grumman Aircraft, wanting to break into the oceanography field, brought him and his huge

mesocaph from Luasanne especially for the drift mission.

I was interviewing him for a national magazine when the subject turned to science and religion. I was impressed with what I felt was one of the most incisive and logical statements I'd ever heard on the matter.

**"AT THE END** of the last century," Piccard said, "many scientists felt that science and religion were completely opposed (as did many religionists). The scientist theorized that atomic behaviour was always

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## Perspective

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predictable. They knew that two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen would always unite to form water. Therefore, they theorized, even though we do not know where all the atoms are, we do know they will always react the same way under set conditions.

"Using this theory they concluded that all behaviour was predetermined. Thus they ruled out any need for God, saying that eventually all the universe would be under the control of the scientist.

**"HOWEVER,"** Piccard continued thoughtfully, "as I continued my study of atomic behaviour in the great universities and in my own laboratory, I began to sense another force at work — a force which was ncontrolable and unpredictable. Jeans, Eddington and Einstein had also discovered this. All of them called the force God.

"Many of my fellow scientists are unwilling to concede that this Force is a personal God. But those of us who work most closely with His creations have no alternative than to acknowledge His presence in every atom."

Driving back home I began to think. If He is, as Piccard says, the God of the atoms, then shouldn't all mankind be serving Him? It really makes you wonder.