

STUPID ARGUMENT

By Charles V. Stanton

My wife says I'm stupid. Being my wife, and having lived with me so many years, I suppose she should know. But I insist there is a certain inconsistency in her argument. In fact, I am convinced that a woman's argument is nearly always inconsistent. That's one reason, says friend wife, that I'm stupid.

The whole argument is occasioned by stupid television programming. Just why the missus and I should argue about television, which we seldom watch, isn't exactly understandable. But you know how married folk are! They'll argue even if the reason isn't always the soundest in the world.

Anyhow, I insist that television is absolutely stupid about the time of its broadcasts of baseball and football games.

TV starts its sports programs on Saturday and Sunday mornings somewhere around 10 or 11 o'clock.

Now, a large proportion of men are sports fans. They'd enjoy watching those games. But, too, some men must work. They can't enjoy the broadcasts.

Stupidity Evident

Not many women are sports fans. Besides, they're busy doing housework (or should be) at the time the games are in progress, or else they have something else to occupy their time. So why should television broadcast to a non-viewing audience? And besides, why should women waste their good time sitting in a TV chair, lying on the davenport, or otherwise doing nothing other than cussing the umpire, quarterbacking the team, and criticizing the play? The fact that men do those things makes stupidity evident, the women assert.

But my work is such that I can't see the games on television Saturday. By the time I get home for a late lunch hour, the game is either just ending or has ended. I think that during the whole summer I managed to get in about six innings of major league baseball watching on my television set.

My wife says I'm stupid for working on Saturdays. Some men have Saturdays off, she tells me.

One of my neighbors has Saturday off. I notice that his wife has him out mowing the grass, washing windows, putting up screens or doing something else. He doesn't see the ball game. But maybe he isn't a sports fan.

Be that as it may, my wife says I'm stupid because I work each Saturday when the game is in progress.

Not Stupid On Sunday

The television station also shows a ball game each Sunday. During the summer months it has been baseball. Now football is taking over.

I love football. They say we're growing soft because we're becoming a nation of spectators rather than participants. But if everyone played a football game as hard from his easy chair as I do, they'd get their exercise. I'm nearly as sore the day after watching a game locally or on television as if I had been playing. I find myself tightening on every play, feeling the shock of a good tackle or a good block almost as much as if I were on the field.

Then, too, I keep telling the quarterback the signals he should be calling. When he loses the game because he didn't do as I told him, I'm mad all over.

But I go to church Sunday mornings. Some sports fans perhaps don't go to church. But my conscience hurts me if I stay home.

Now, if I'm stupid because I don't stay home and watch ball games on Saturday, why am I not equally stupid if I don't stay home from church and watch the ball game on Sunday? But my wife says I'm not stupid if I prefer going to church.

That's a woman for you! Who says that isn't inconsistent? In any event, I maintain that the choice of time for television broadcasting of ball games is just plain, downright stupid. Why can't games be broadcast at hours when we sports fans can enjoy them?

For example, what's wrong with games played on the Pacific Coast. Our coast teams play in the afternoon. I don't work Saturday afternoon. I'd be home from church Sunday by the time a Pacific Coast game started.

If I could be watching a ball game, my wife maybe (?) wouldn't be so insistent that I mow the grass, clean the yard, dig bulbs, paint bare spots, or do other chores.

Is that any sign I'm stupid?

Hal Boyle

Remarks That Get Under The Skin Of Young Poets

NEW YORK (AP)—Remarks a young poet gets tired of hearing: "If you ask me, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said it all." "How do you guys get paid—by the line or by the rhyme?" "Could you knock off a couple of funny stanzas about my cousin and his wife? They're celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary next week and, just for laughs, I'd like to have something come to surprise them on the occasion." "There's nothing in the mail, dear, except three more rejection slips."

"In a way he's like Western Union—full of messages for mankind. The difference is that Western Union knows where to deliver them." "I understand he's a stand-in writer for the fellow who writes those highway shave jingles." "You couldn't exactly call Algernon a mute, inglorious Milton. For one thing he isn't mute—unfortunately."

"They tell me you're a poet, young fellow. That's nice. What do you do for a living?" "I'm leaving you, Algernon, and going home to mother. No, it's not because I'm mad at you. But at mother's I can at least be sure of eating."

"Algernon kind of reminds me of Alfred Tennyson, particularly when he runs out of razor blades and doesn't shave for a month or two."

"I didn't actually say he doesn't have ability. All I said was his lack of inspiration barely rises above his lack of perspiration." "He really hasn't published anything noteworthy ever since that mimeograph machine broke down in the office where his sister works."

"Algernon isn't proud. He'd be glad to write for the little magazines. The trouble is that so far he hasn't found one small enough for his kind of verse."

Glendale and Azalea Churches Have Activities

At a recent teachers' meeting of the Glendale Christian Kindergarten reported a total registration of 17, when it opened the day after Labor Day. Of this number, most are now 3 and will be entering school next fall. The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Manning of the Glendale Assembly of God Church are conducting the kindergarten in the church building on a fee basis.

The Rev. Herman Englewood, missionary from Upper Volta region of Africa, was the speaker at a recent week-day evening meeting at the Glendale Assembly of God Church.

DEAR ABBY

Abigail Van Buren

Reverse Twist!

DEAR ABBY: Please don't think I am small, but I have a question to ask. Don't you think a woman who claims to be a good friend should entertain her "good friends" in her living room? Whenever I visit this person she leads me right to the kitchen!

She puts the coffee pot on and we sit there all during my stay. She has a lovely home, a beautiful coffee service and gorgeous dishes, but all I ever see is her kitchen and her everyday dishes. Am I wrong?

INSULTED
DEAR INSULTED: No. Your friend was wrong to assume that you were a person with whom she could be herself without fuss or frills. You should feel flattered, not insulted.

DEAR ABBY: I would like to point out to MRS. CITIZEN, who thinks our country is going to the dogs because our teen-age girls try to look older, that this is not nearly so offensive as some of our big, fat, grey-haired old women who appear in public with bare backs, skin-tight Capri pants, and shorts so short they disappear when the women sit down. When mothers (and grandmothers) start dressing their age, perhaps our teen-agers will have an example worth following.

DEAR ABBY: What's wrong

James Marlow

JFK's Lived With Trouble From First Day In Office

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Kennedy has had to live with trouble from the day he took office. He has had some successes, suffered some major setbacks, and much of the time has been on the defensive.

After almost eight months, although he has remained outwardly calm through it all, the central question of his presidency is would he have done better if he had tried to assert more leadership?

Abroad, his main dilemma is premier Khrushchev who from the beginning threatened a showdown on Berlin and has never stopped jabbing him. The great bulk of Kennedy's actions have been simply reactions to Khrushchev's actions.

At home, from the start, con-

Reader Opinions

Time To Quit Selling U. S. Short Says Reader

To The Editor: In his column, "In The Day's News," appearing regularly in The News-Review, Mr. Frank Jenkins stated that the per capita debt of the people in the United States is \$1,600. The information was used in connection with a bond issue for construction at Albany Union High School.

Allowing that Mr. Jenkins is correct in the amount listed, he failed to mention that the major part of that debt has been because there would be no right to float a bond issue at Albany if the money had not been spent.

We have twice been forced to defend the rights of free people. That defense has cost a great amount of money.

That the U. S. was in a position to help her allies has been fortunate for us, as well as for those allies.

Both the Germans and the Japanese demonstrated, in an unforgettable way, the treatment the people of an occupied country could expect.

Would Mr. Jenkins rather face that treatment than owe \$1,600 to himself?

Rather than finance the defenses the action of the rulers of the Soviet Union has made necessary, would Mr. Jenkins rather live under the Soviets?

Do you not think it time all of us quit selling the U. S. short? While our form of government is not perfect, it is the best in the world today, and if we can get the Soviets off our back, we can work out our own destiny.

Even Mr. Jenkins will admit the federal government's desire to intrude in our system of education has made us more conscious of a very real problem.

It seems to me that in our constant search for an ideal way to live together, education gets the seat next to the teacher.

Joseph B. Hulse
Star B1, Box 14
Winston, Ore.

Glids Shufflers Extend Thanks To Dancers

To The Editor: The Glids Shufflers wish to thank all the square dance clubs in the Umpqua area for participating in decorating the dance pavilion at the County Fair.

The help was very much appreciated. The result was good. We had many compliments we would like to share from the many square dancers and spectators.

Joan Kennaday
Publicity Chairman
General Delivery
Glids, Ore.



Editorial Comment

FIGHT MUST BE Pendleton East Oregonian

If you can't say for sure what the Democratic Party in Oregon stands for you will be pardoned. Editorial writers, who are supposed to know, can't tell you.

Things are about as mixed up within the Democratic Party in Oregon as you'll ever see. The extent of this was never so apparent as during this year's session of the Oregon Legislature.

The President of the Senate, Harry Boivin, a Democrat, attained that high position by getting the votes of Republicans while most of the Democrats opposed him. He rewarded one of his supporters, Walter Pearson, a Democrat, by placing him in the chairmanship of a committee that thwarted Democrats more often than Republicans.

Over on the House side of the Legislature the liberals of the Democratic Party were in control and they bloodied the noses of Messrs. Boivin and Pearson repeatedly when legislation came to the House from the Senate with the Boivin-Pearson label on it.

Mr. Boivin and Mr. Pearson are conservatives. Their image of the Democratic Party is so unlike that of such prominent Democrats as Reps. Bob Duncan and Clarence Barton and Sens. Alfred Corbett and Robert Straub that one concludes they can't be speaking of the same party.

All of this is going to come out in the wash next year when Sen. Pearson makes a bid for the Democratic Party's nomination for governor. He is sure to be opposed by a liberal, possibly Attorney General Robert Thornton. And if Sen. Boivin does what some of his friends are urging, he will seek the Democratic Party's nomination for congressman in this district and that will put him up against a liberal, Al Ullman.

There will be other ways by which the snarl will be untangled. The party will have a convention next year and there is sure to be a bloody battle between the liberals and conservatives.

We won't predict how the fighting will come out but we do think it absolutely necessary that the fight be fought. Voters have got to know what the Democratic Party in Oregon stands for. It either stands for those principles that not so long ago placed Democrats in both seats in the United States Senate, in all but one seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, in the Governor's office and in control of both houses of the Legislature, or it stands for principles that are entirely different. It can't

stand for both. The two sets of principles are diametrically opposed.

This fight within the Democratic Party in this state has to be. It must not be avoided. If it is the Democratic Party in this state will fall apart.

HELP COAST GUARD Salem Capital Journal

Coast Guardsmen don't always have an easy time of it as they patrol the nation's coast lines and harbors trying to keep people safe from fickle changes of the ocean. They simply aren't given enough authority to regulate the actions of Sunday boaters who are determined to roam the ocean even if it kills them.

Tragically, it sometimes does. Unlike their policeman counterparts who guard the nation's highways, these men who patrol the high seas aren't allowed to tell boaters exactly what equipment they must have to go into the ocean. Nor are they given the discretion to force boats to stay in port when fog, wind and rough water make the ocean dangerous.

Thus, the Coast Guard's main forte has to be persuasion. It can and does warn boaters of expected dangers, but if the pleasure seeker chooses to continue on, the Coast Guard normally can't prevent him from going.

However, when the pleasure craft capsize, the CG crew is expected to race right through the angry seas and pull its occupants back to safety.

Another Coast Guard service, at least at Yaquina Bay, is a small handbook that gives boaters technical tips on how to avoid the bay's danger spots, how to go about selecting boats and other equipment and what to do if trouble strikes.

Again, however, the Coast Guard lacks the authority to check boaters on the adequacy of equipment or their skill in operating a craft.

It seems obvious that the Congress needs to take a new look at this situation with an eye toward giving the Coast Guard enough authority to save us from our own recklessness.

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543 S. E. Jackson Roseburg, Ore.

Pacifist Draws Seven-Day Term

LONDON (AP)—Earl Bertrand Russell, 89, British mathematician and philosopher, was sentenced Tuesday to seven days in jail for declining to promise to keep the peace in his civil disobedience campaign against nuclear weapons.

A judge sentenced him to two months at the end of a hearing in the Bow Street Magistrates Court, but reduced the sentence to a week when shown a medical report indicating that the longer term would be too much of a hardship for his frail peer.

Twenty-seven of his fellow campaigners were sentenced to a month in jail and three others to two months. Five others promised to keep the peace and were freed.

All were members of an anti-nuclear organization called the "Committee of 100." Russell, his wife and 35 others were charged with "inciting members of the public to commit a breach of the peace next Sunday."

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