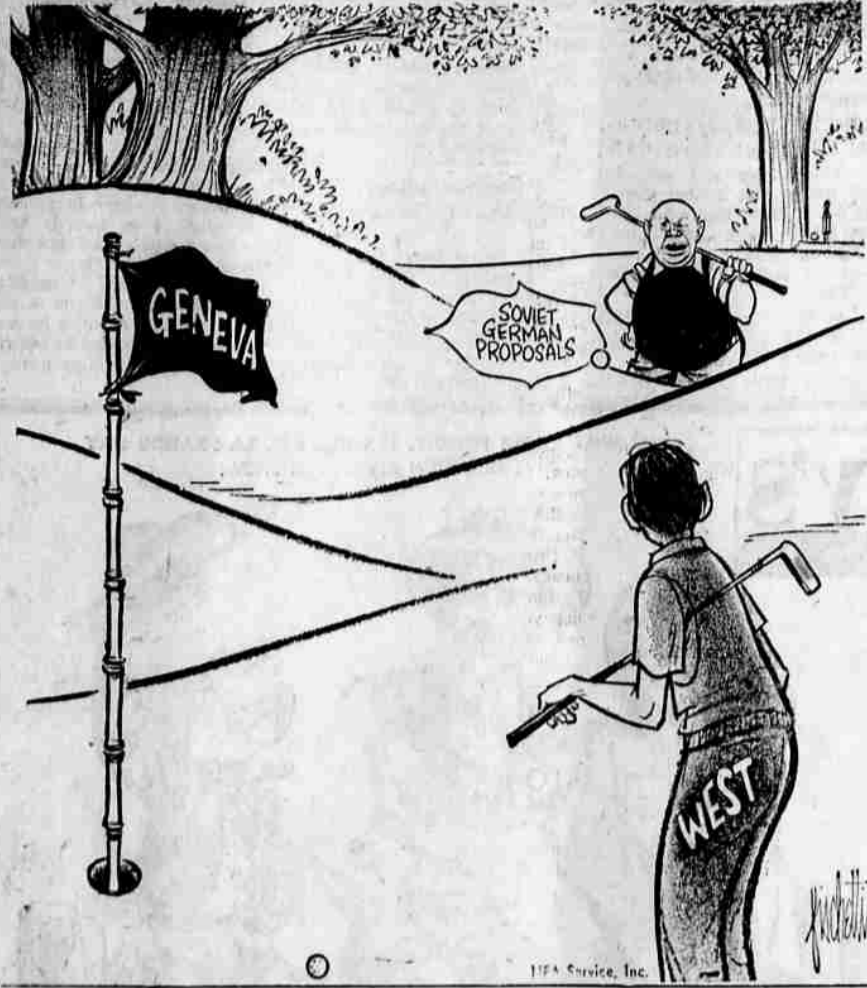


"Concede This Putt or I Won't Play"



EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Observer

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"A Modern Newspaper With The Pioneer Spirit"

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Playing For A Bag Of Marbles

Are we in danger of being embarrassed again at the summit? This is another way of asking: are we so short-witted we don't know how to make propaganda or how to combat the efforts of the Communists in this field?

"If we are," an influential senator has stated, "we had better learn (how to make propaganda). I think it is that kind of world and we have to accept it." The speaker: Sen. James William Fulbright (D-Ark.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In a recent interview with a reporter of The Christian Science Monitor, Sen. Fulbright said he has grave doubts whether the Russians really want to compose solutions for such problems as Berlin or the Middle East.

"But those doubts, in my opinion, do

not justify refusing to enter into summit discussions," he said. "Now it may be (the Russians) only want to make propaganda, but I don't know why we cannot make propaganda the same as they do. . . . All I am saying is that we ought to find out what they are doing and pursue opportunities to find out."

By exhibiting our willingness to sit down and talk with the Russians, Sen. Fulbright believes we will help dispel the impression we are afraid of the Communists and that we have no ideas and no policies.

What the senator might have said is that we are playing for a big bag of marbles and the other fellow has a pretty effective law. Unless we attempt to learn how he operates in the ring we stand a good chance of losing all our marbles.

All That They're Willing To Pay

Is the head of a large union as much entitled to a large salary as the head of a large corporation?

Any negative answer to this question is sure to result in an indignant protest from some labor leaders. This was proved when the monthly letter of the First National City Bank of New York last summer included some comment on union leaders' salaries in an analysis titled, "Union Power and the Public Interest."

After reporting that unions collect a minimum of 620 million dollars a year in dues, and that employees' pensions funds run into billions, the bank letter stated: "Union leaders have learned to know and enjoy superior living standards formerly reserved to successful men in business, the arts, science and politics. In fact union operation has become a relatively unregulated type of big business."

George Meany, president of AFL-CIO took violent issue with the whole article, and his reply to it was published in the April issue of the City Bank's monthly letter. Meany commented that the bank seemed uncomfortable about the fact that workers and union officials had managed to achieve some decent status. Commenting on the statement about living standards quoted above Meany wrote: "I find such a statement appalling because I had hoped this kind of barren-feudalistic prejudice, at least, had disappeared from the thinking of American finance."

Then the top labor leader of the nation went on to say in effect that a union president had as much right to the finer things in life as a corporation president.

Obviously the rank and file of union members agree, since so many of them approve generous compensation for their top leaders. One union was even too generous. The AFL-CIO Brotherhood of Railway Clerks paid its president so much money that he returned part of it. His refund to the union last week came to \$127,313. His salary has been \$76,000

a year since 1951, but he thought that was too much and accepted only \$60,000. The delegates to the union convention thereupon reduced his salary to \$60,000 a year, but raised from \$23,333 to \$30,000 a year the annual pension he will receive when he retires, and set up an annuity of \$15,000 for his wife if she outlives her husband.

There are those, of course, who will argue that any union man ought to dress, act and live the part of someone who is having the struggle to get ahead that he often claims for his members. And some union leaders do act this part. In one city in Michigan, the standard uniform of the United Automobile Workers is a sports shirt with an open collar. They will come dressed that way to any public occasion, no matter how formal. Other union leaders believe it is unseemly for them to wear expensive suits, drive expensive cars, and live in big houses when those who pay their salaries are not able to live on a comparable scale.

To be perfectly fair about it, it must be admitted that a person should be compensated according to the size and importance of the job that he does. Unionism is big business, as is frequently pointed out. Unions own office buildings, vast amounts of stock and bonds, and even a few banks. Men who handle the affairs of such unions certainly deserve to be paid more than if they were working at the trade their union represents.

We would say that a union leader is entitled to make all the money the union is willing to pay him, but that would apply only to a union where democratic principles are followed to the point where approval of a high salary actually represents the feelings of a majority of those who pay the bills. The union official who fixes his own salary is the one to look out for.

Barbs

It takes a lot longer to grow old if you just take your time doing it.

DREW PEARSON

King Of The Belgians Taught Us Some Lessons

WASHINGTON—Being a king in this modern day of democracies, press conferences, and Rotary club luncheons is no easy job. Especially it's not easy when you're only 29 years old and have never taken an official trip outside your country.

However, the coast-to-coast tour of the young king of the Belgians, just terminated, held both lessons and highlights for the U.S.A. King Baudouin's visit was a bit different from that of his famous grandfather, King Albert, who with his consort came to New York during the distressing days of World War I. Chiefly remembered from that visit is Mayor John Hylan's famous remark: "You said a mouthful, Queen!"

King Baudouin's visit began in Washington in the Belgian embassy where he stood tall, handsome, and very much alone. One by one, benedicted diplomats, full-uniformed officers, and jeweled dowagers stepped up to shake hands. Shyly he greeted them.

There was something a bit incongruous in the scene. Here was a scion of European royalty which through the years had become more democratic, surrounded by representatives of American democracy wanting to become more aristocratic.

There was a day when Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, appearing in the royal courts of Europe, refused to wear uniforms, inserted a provision in the U.S. Constitution that medals could not be accepted. But at the Belgian embassy the other evening medals glittered on almost every bosom.

Even the embassy in which the king stood was symbolic of what can happen when Americans yearn for aristocracy and wealth. It was built by the director of the mint under Woodrow Wilson, Ray Baker, who married Delphine Dodge, the copper heiress. It passed on to the Belgian government when inheritance taxes ate up family fortunes.

The King's Sadness
King Baudouin of the Belgians didn't know this as he stood shaking hands. Nor did the crowd milling in the embassy know why he looked shy, almost a little sad. Most of them did not realize that his mother, the

beautiful Queen Astrid, had been killed in an auto accident when he was five; that his father had been taken to Germany by Hitler when he was 10; and that after the war his father was subjected to bitter criticism from the people he was supposed to rule—first, because he had surrendered to Hitler; second, because he took a commoner as his second wife.

When the criticism became too intense, his father abdicated. Baudouin became king of the Belgians. He was only 21. He had grown up in a crucible of suffering.

Even as he toured the U.S., inspecting everything from atomic testing grounds to the Grand Canyon, word came that critical subjects back in Belgium demanded that his father move from the Royal Palace because of his influence over his son, the king.

Such is the power of subjects in these days of modern European royalty.

American Aristocracy
For the first time in his life he held press conferences, addressed huge crowds of people. Most kings don't do this. In Washington, accepting honorary membership in the Boy Scouts of America, he told nervous Scout Robert Singleton: "Give me your left hand. I'm a boy scout too and I know the proper shake."

"Your honor," asked the American scout, pulling some coins from his pocket. "Are these real Belgian coins?"

The king examined them, said one was from the Belgian Congo, the other from Belgium. He accepted a flag from the Boy Scouts and their benefactor, Garfield Koss, the supermarket builder, but wanted to be sure it was a new flag with the 49th star for Alaska. It was.

In Detroit, King Baudouin not only inspected auto assembly lines but dined with the first motor family of America—the Henry Fords. Henry Ford II was host, grandson of the strait-laced, abstemious old mechanic who had built a back-yard machine shop into one of the industrial wonders of the world.

Young Ford, unlike his grandfather, was so ebullient later in the evening that one Belgian lady left him on the dance floor.

Next morning, however, Ford took the king on a personal tour of his plant, gave him one of the first rides in the new Ford small car, the Falcon, and showed him the miracle of modern motor production.

If modern-day royalty has as much strength and democracy as the young king of the Belgians, it has learned a lesson from which Americans can profit.

LETTERS

Maximum length 300 words. No anonymous letters but true name will be withheld on request.

To the Editor:
At Tuesday's meeting of the Boise Kiwanis Club our good member Rev. C. Keith Mill's announced that he was moving to your city to be associated with a Methodist Church.

In the Mills family your city is acquiring folks who will be a great asset. They will be workers in every worthy civic undertaking. Keith has served our Kiwanis Club as a director and the head of several committees. He has been active in many other community organizations. He has been a builder of his church and we know your church will feel the quickening drive of this man.

Keith understands the problems of business people and your chamber of commerce will find in him one who wants to help on its community building programs.

As a former Oregonian with many friends in La Grande, I congratulate your community and I know that the Mills people will appreciate everything you do to help them get acquainted and established in their new home.

Their wide circle of friends in Boise wish them well in their new home and our blessings go with them.

Cordially yours,
Ned Harlan
1627 Ridgeway Lane
Boise, Idaho

To the Editor:
The undersigned committee of the Mt. Emily District Scout Circus wish to sincerely thank you for your splendid cooperation in advertising our event held at Ackerman gym on May 2, 1959.

The success of the event was due in no small measure to your efforts.

Sincerely,
Mt. Emily Circus Committee
James R. Sherrick, General Chairman



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THEY THOUGHT 'LIGHT YEAR' WAS GOOD TIME FOR JUNKETS

By FRANK ELEAZER
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI) — When the House Space Committee was getting into orbit last year some of its members were said to believe a "light year" was one in which they didn't have to run for election and could take a few weeks off for a junket.

The committee now is able to advise, however, that the term actually refers to "the distance light travels in one year at 186,300 miles per second."

"So you can see that the Space Committee, although moving at something less than the speed of light, has come a long way. In fact, after a year's exposure to the experts in the space business it now speaks of space matters in such learned fashion it is impelled to include glossaries in its reports to the House."

A year ago the average space member, pressed for a definition of "deceleration," would have said it means slowing down. Not any more, though. The committee now defines it as "negative acceleration."

Familiar With Parameters
Last year at this time the space men thought a nozzle was a gizmo on the end of a hose. Now they would as soon be caught with their parameters down as make that kind of a slip.

A nozzle, they told the House last week, is "a duct, tube, pipe, spout or the like through which a fluid is directed and from the open end of which the fluid is discharged, designed to meter the fluid or to produce a desired direction and type of discharge."

Of course any House member knows what a parameter is. But for the possible benefit of congressional pages, newspapermen, and others who don't, the committee defined it as an "arbitrary constant," obviously the very worst kind.

Degrees Of Deviation
Eccentricity is defined as "the degree of deviation from a circular orbit." In other words, just as the House already suspected, an eccentric is a fellow going around in circles, only not quite, and the senators can put the shoe on if it fits.

The committee, helpfully, defines lunar as pertaining to the moon. It says a liquid propellant is a propellant that is liquid.

Interplanetary means between planets, the committee discloses, whereas interstellar—don't try to guess—means between stars.

"Interface," according to the Space Committee's advice to the

House, is a word for "the boundary between two media, especially as transited by a propagated wave." I learned as a boy though not to use words like that unless I was sure.

Fulton Plans Space Bill
For the first couple of months last year committee members kept hounding the experts on where space started and ended. Now it develops they at least know what space is, if not exactly where. It's "that part of the universe between celestial bodies."

For the latter, no definition is given.

Rep. James G. Fulton (R-Pa.), a committee member, meantime has disclosed he will put in a bill to erect, as I get it, some kind of milestones in space.

"We can then move from an exact point in time and location on earth to time, points and distances in space," Fulton said in a letter to the Bureau of Standards, suggesting that the bureau get on the ball.

QUOTES FROM THE NEWS

NEW YORK — AFL-CIO President George Meany, on "unfriendly actions" by the federal government against labor:
"You should think that we had come to a day of sanity, when there would be cooperation between Americans, if you please, Americans in overalls and Americans behind a desk. Well, that doesn't seem to be in the cards. A declaration of war seems to be the answer, and if that's it I guess we will have to take it."

GALVESTON, Tex.—Sen. Russell Long (D-La.), on his uncle, Gov. Earl K. Long of Louisiana, undergoing psychiatric treatment:
"I think most of the people are now in sympathy with the governor. He became sick fighting for the common man."

LOS ANGELES — Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), on whether he would accept the Democratic nomination for president in 1960:
"Of course I would! Politics is my business, and the presidency is the highest honor the people can bestow."

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower, on receiving the credentials of Thailand's new ambassador:
"The historic friendship which has developed between Thailand and the United States forms a lasting foundation for our common endeavors to preserve freedom and security in Southeast Asia and the world at large."

Army Recruit Courtmartialed

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (UPI) — Army recruit Lou A. Lennear, 29, faced a general court martial today for refusing to salute an officer.

He said he had religious objections against saluting officers.

Lennear, from Oakland, Calif., is a member of the Jehovah Witnesses religious sect.

The alleged offense occurred March 12 when he failed to salute Capt. Henry H. Gaskins. The following day, he was on his way to explain why he hadn't saluted the captain, and failed to salute Gaskins a second time.

Army authorities put him in the Fort Sam Houston stockade where prisoners aren't permitted to salute.

Lennear enlisted in the Army last Nov. 25.

GALE UNDERGOES SURGERY
HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — Actress Gale Storm was reported in satisfactory condition today at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital where she underwent surgery for removal of a disc in her back. Miss Storm, operated on Monday, will be hospitalized for about two weeks, doctors said.

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