

Letters

Bin & Bang

M. McCusker's "So Long to the 20th Century" (Times Eagle, 4 Jan., 1980) tells more real truth than most popular periodicals and editorials. How often we hear "Learn to live with inflation;" in other words, pet the devouring lion! The accompanying cartoon helps to illuminate Mr. McCusker's article by showing people saying "It's been downhill since 1947 . . ." and right on down to the present.

This raises the much argued question — Are things getting better or worse, or both? Three main views in answer to this are: first the ancient Greek idea that history is cyclic or merely repetitive; secondly, the Oriental idea that all history is mere illusion; and the third view, the modern, chiefly American premise that history is the progress of good over evil until Utopia or Great American Dream is realized, and that progress is growth in size — the bigger the better, etc.

All of these dreams are erroneous and are causing a lot of grief. The honest truth about history from the first to the present century is found in the most unknown yet best known book called the Bible, which teaches that progress sees the growth of both good and evil. Evil is not what most people think, namely the absence of good; ratg evil is the corruption of good and the more good there is, the more corruption is possible and evident everywhere today. Therefore, both too easy optimism and too gloomy pessimism are misleading.

PAUL BRINKMAN JR.
Cannon Beach

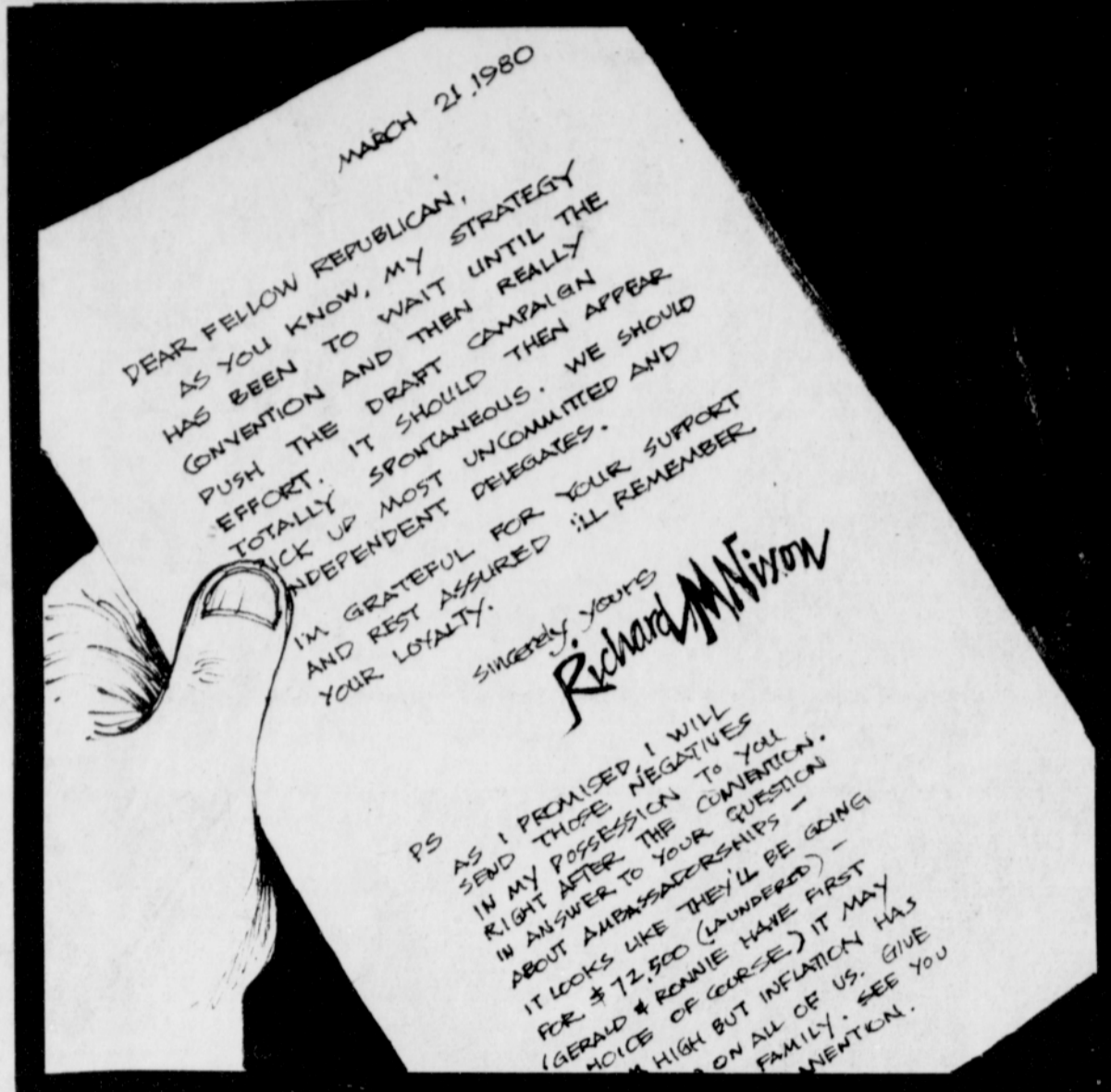


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CARTOON BY OZ



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