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An Act of Mercy

What should be a doctor's course of action after he has determined, to the best of his ability, that a patient of his is incurably ill and has only a short time to live?

This is probably as serious a decision as that of a physician is called upon to make in his daily practice, and it is an unenviable position to be in.

Traditionally, his duty has been thought to be that he should expend every effort to keep the patient alive as long as his skill and medical science will permit.

A fractional segment of the profession, however, has argued with growing insistence in recent years that euthanasia should be performed, that the patient, upon his considered and rational request, should be painlessly put to death, much as any other organism is extended coup de grace to end its suffering.

Now, a prominent doctor, with indisputable credentials to make his statement, has told his colleagues that consideration should be given to an alternative between the two extremes.

Dr. Edward H. Rynearson, chairman of the endocrinology and metabolic section of the Mayo clinic (Rochester, Minn.), wrote in a recently published article that in the event of a hopeless situation, "the kindest thing to do" is simply to let the patient die naturally.

This step should be allowed to happen, the doctor stipulates, only when all curative treatment has been exhausted, when the patient is suffering great pain, and when the patient and his family know that no human remedy is available.

Dr. Rynearson hastened to explain that he was not "trying to play God." Rather, he said, "It's the others who would prolong the inevitable who are playing God."

According to wire service accounts, Dr. Rynearson's rather bold pronouncement is gathering support from spokesmen from his profession.

Dr. George F. Lull, president of the Illinois State Medical society, for one, said in response: "Personally, I believe often we keep cases alive too long when it doesn't do any good."

"I don't believe in hastening the end of terminal cancer patients, but if they were allowed to die in peace everybody would be better off."

Another, Dr. John R. Hogle, president of the Vermont Medical society, said, "I've always been very frank with my patients. If you have a hopelessly ill patient and everything has been done, do you just let him coast?"

"I, personally, am inclined to do just that—and I have to make the decision."

Understandably, the doctor's statement has elicited comment from religious leaders.

A Protestant spokesman, Dr. Edgar S. Chandler, executive vice president of the Church Federation of Greater Chicago, said:

"Allowing a terminal cancer patient to die would be justified with the consent of the patient or his family. The doctor is doing something abnormal in trying to keep the patient alive."

A Roman Catholic bishop from Boston also supported the position. He said:

"We must take the ordinary means to preserve life, but not the extraordinary means. The ordinary means of saving a patient's life should be exhausted."

The only negative church response came from a Jewish rabbi, who said, "... Jewish tradition says that we must attempt prolongation of life if it is at all possible, even under the most difficult circumstances."

One's nearly instinctive reaction to Dr. Rynearson's proposal, particularly if some one near and dear were involved, would be to shout, "No, no, fight to keep him alive. Do everything you can."

But that statement would come from a healthy person to whom life, for all its hazards and pitfalls, is still indescribably precious. It would not truly reflect the point of view of someone lying in pain in the shadow of death.

And in this instance, it is the latter point of view that should have precedence.

Isn't it clear that the wishes of the afflicted one should be respected? For to him life might have become an intolerable burden that it would be no kindness to keep him alive.

But if one grants that point, he is logically bound, it would seem, to go one step further and support the concept of euthanasia as well.

Dr. Rynearson has had courage to move in that direction, but perhaps he has not gone far enough. If he is now emotionally and intellectually committed to letting terminal patients die as soon as they can, the doctor is actually closer to the concept of mercy-killing than he is to the traditional position of keeping all patients alive at all costs.

Does it not seem more humane, somehow, that rather than withholding his skill so that a patient may die, a doctor should—at the request of the patient and with the consent of the family—summon all his knowledge and ability to perform one final, merciful act of compassion? —G. H. B.

"You're Getting To Be As Bad As Those Democrats"



Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

(The New York Herald Tribune Syndicate)

THE THREE NEW AFRICAN STATES

Three more African states have just achieved independence—Algeria from France, Rwanda and Burundi from Belgium.

There are great differences among them. Algeria is in North Africa and has been part of the Mediterranean civilization for centuries. Rwanda and Burundi are primitive central African territory which, except as part of German East Africa before the first World War and then as a Belgian trust territory, has had no important contact with the advance of civilization.

Yet the three states have one thing in common. Their future prospects of progress and prosperity are intimately bound up with their success in working out a new relationship of cooperation with their former overlords.

Algeria cannot hope to prosper without France. Rwanda and Burundi can hardly hope to survive without Belgium.

If we pause to think about this, it is a remarkable thing to be saying. Only two years ago almost everyone would have supposed that the liberation of a colony meant an irreparable 'reak between the new state and the old imperial power. What is more, it seemed probable that the new state would try to make a decision between the Soviet Union and the United States and that this would cause a world tension and disturbance.

NONE of this has happened. Why? Because, I would say, we have had the experience of the Congo, and we have seen it demonstrated by the UN intervention that, unbelievable as it once seemed to so many, a rich, disorderly, newly liberated territory can be insulated from the cold war.

Two years after Dag Hammarskjöld's daring intervention in the Congo, there are no Russian forces and no American forces there, and the Belgians who fled from the disorders are returning in large numbers. They are returning because there is no other nation which is qualified as are the Belgians to provide the know-how for running the Congo.

The troubles in the Congo are not over and there are signs that the troubles may break down into civil and tribal war. Yet two years of experience with independence have been showing in practice that a new relationship between the Congolese and the Belgians is necessary, and that it is possible. By losing their privileges as the ruling class, the irreplaceability of the Belgians has emerged from the old resentments and has been made evident.

IN THE liberation of Rwanda and Burundi the lessons of the Congo are being applied. The Belgian security forces are not compelled to leave immediately. It is believed that the kingdom of Burundi may ask them to leave rather soon. The king will do well to go slowly lest he drive out with the few hundred Belgian troops the Belgian specialists and technicians who are indispensable. The republic of Rwanda will, it is said, ask the Belgians to stay on.

Moreover, unlike the Congo in 1960, the UN is in the territory from the start. A representative of the Secretary General will ten expert advisers are already there. There is not going to be, one day hope a power vacuum as

in the Congo. If so, the technical assistance of the Belgians should avert an administrative collapse. Furthermore, the Belgian government has offered to continue to support the two budgets which have a combined deficit of 50 per cent, and also to continue to support (\$9 million) the extraordinary budget for economic development.

No one can predict a brilliant future for these very poor and very backward states. But it is some comfort to be able to feel that everybody concerned, the great powers and the Belgians and many of the other African governments, have learned from experience, and are not making the same mistakes in 1962 which were made in 1960.

IN ALGERIA after the vote for independence there is the possibility of a conflict between two factions of the Moslems. This would not be unusual at the end of a successful war of independence. But it would be an embarrassing nuisance for everybody. The Algerians have won the respect of the whole world by the discipline and fortitude in face of hideous provocation which they have displayed. They should not allow themselves to break down now no matter how strained their nerves. They should not let themselves break down just when they have reached their goal.

The pressure of circumstances will be against a breakdown into an Algerian civil war. The Algerians themselves are war-weary. An Algerian civil war is against the interests of Tunisia and Morocco, which must look forward now to an alliance with an independent Algeria of the Magreb, that is, of the western Arabs. It is also against the interests of Egypt. For the disident Algerians could get no support anywhere, except possibly through not certainly from Russia and of course, just for the hell of it but not much of it, from Red China.

It is hardly necessary to say that France and the whole Western alliance will support and give a warm welcome to the legitimate provisional government of Algeria.

Medical Hypnosis Seminar Planned

Seattle — Doctors, dentists and trial lawyers will attend a five-day seminar here Aug. 12 on hypnosis, truth serum and lie detection.

Experts on the subjects from California, Chicago and Washington will teach the visiting professional men and women about the latest findings in medical hypnosis, under which 35,000 operations were performed last year without an anesthetic fatality. This part of the seminar will be conducted by Dr. William J. Bryan Jr., Los Angeles, founder of the American Institute of Hypnosis.

Medical hypnosis was approved by the American Medical Association in 1958.

Medford Youth Wins College Scholarship

Robert G. Wright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Wright, 20 North Orange st., Medford, has been awarded a non-competitive scholarship to the University of San Francisco for the coming year.

Wright is a graduate of St. Mary's High school.

Only one other Oregon youth received a scholarship, James F. Novak, a graduate of Sacred Heart Academy in Klamath Falls.

Washington Report

By William S. White

(The Union Feature Syndicate)

SEIZING HIS OWN

Washington — In his search for the 1964 Republican presidential nomination Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York is now openly seizing for his own what has been the most basic of all national Democratic campaign strategy since Franklin D. Roosevelt.

This is an insistent demand, overriding all other considerations, to minority groups and to the big cities which so strongly influence both the nomination and election of any presidential contender.

ROCKEFELLER'S whole effort at the 1962 Governors' conference — a traditional place for high politicking — has been in three related directions:

1. To become the special champion of the urban centers — and more as a bipartisan friend of the city fellow than as a partisan leader. This he has done by charging the Kennedy administration with federal aid policies which "short-change the heavily urbanized regions."

2. To become an unrivaled pleader for civil rights. Here he has demanded programs so extreme as almost automatically to write off not only the south but also, in all probability, most of the border states as well. (The orthodox Republicans actually don't like this program, either; though they rarely say as much in public.)

3. To go far beyond the general Republican position on medical care for the aged. Here he has accepted the Democratic principle, so long resisted by the congressional Republicans, of health insurance based on the compulsory tax system.

WHAT Rockefeller is doing, assuming he is able to win the GOP nomination, is to challenge President Kennedy head-on to a 1964 presidential campaign which would amount to a contest as to who could be more "liberal" among the urban voting blocs. All political conservatism, and indeed all moderation, would be left on a pretty thin diet unless — as odd as this may now sound — Mr. Kennedy should run in fact if not by admission as the relatively conservative candidate. It is not inconceivable that he might, should the GOP nomination turn out to be Rockefeller.

For a Democrat takes a far greater risk than a Republican in deliberately saying goodbye to the south. Though the old predictably Democratic "Solid South" is only a memory, Republican tactics still by and large assume that anything gained in the south in a presidential year is only a windfall. Democratic tactics by and large still must and do assume that anything lost in the south is something of a disaster.

More over, a Democratic president must deal with congressional committees which, when the Democrats control Congress, are in the hands of powerful southern chairmen. A Democrat, in short, usually must have the consent of at least part of the south to win.

And always he must have the tacit consent of most of the south really to be able to govern. For a Republican neither precondition necessarily prevails.

OF THIS central fact Rockefeller is clearly aware. But the more his hand has been disclosed the more one sees the orthodox Republicans stirring in unhappiness and — already — in anger. Far more than they fear Kennedy they fear what they call "me-too" Republicanism — the adoption of Republican candidates of essentially Democratic attitudes.

Mr. Rockefeller's pre-convention campaign to date has been professionally brilliant. First he secured his right flank as far as possible by gestures to conservative Republicans. Now he reaches out to the left for the city crowds which, in both parties, form the hard core of American liberalism.

Brilliant as his maneuvers may have been, however, one thing is certain. If he continues to identify himself primarily with urban liberalism, the orthodox Republicans will do their best to try to build an unbreachable wall of separation between him and the presidential nomination.

At Independence Hall in Philadelphia, where our Declaration of Independence was adopted and signed 186 years ago, President Kennedy made a great speech last week in which he called for an INTERNATIONAL Declaration of INTER-dependence with a united Europe.

HE TOLD his hearers: "For 186 years this doctrine of NATIONAL independence has shaken the globe — and it remains the most powerful force anywhere in the world today. If there is a single issue that DIVIDES the world today, it is INDEPENDENCE — independence of Berlin, of Laos, of Viet Nam ... the longing for independence behind the Iron Curtain ... the peaceful transition to independence in those newly emerging areas whose troubles some people hope to exploit."

Africa, for example — where everybody wants to be independent and able to thumb his nose at everybody else.

WHICH is to say: Independence is a great thing. But — In this modern world — If we're to have INDEPENDENCE of thought and action among individuals who have a common concept of liberty, we must first have INTERDEPENDENCE among nations and peoples whose ideals are similar.

IN UNION, President Kennedy was suggesting yesterday, there is STRENGTH — but in LACK of union there is weakness. He was further suggesting that unless nations with like ideals can learn to work together there can be no such thing as individual liberty.

IN HIS call for an international declaration of interdependence, JFK was speaking directly to the nations included in Western Europe's much-talked-of Common Market. The Common Market is an example

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Dear Potluck Editor:

You asked to be kept posted on the progress of my campaign to win the heart of Poppy LaTour, so I thought I'd drop you a few lines and bring you up to date.

She's a wonderful girl and if anything, I'm more smitten than ever, but I can't in all honesty say that we make a perfectly matched pair. Our interests, unhappily, seem to diverge a bit.

I asked her at dinner one night last week, for example, if she liked music.

She said, "Why sure, honey, watcha think I am?"

So the next night I called for her and took her to a concert of the San Francisco symphony orchestra. It was really a splendid affair and I guess all the elite of the city were there. Anyway, I've never seen so many diamonds and furs.

Well, when the music began I noticed that Poppy was sitting there with a frown on her face as though she wasn't really sure what was coming off.

But after the orchestra was about half way through the program, they began to play a Beethoven symphony, and Poppy, to my acute embarrassment, really came alive.

She began to pop her gum and snap her fingers in time with the music. On top of that, she began to wiggle in her seat in an absolutely scandalous manner.

Gosh, I didn't know what to do. People were craning their necks to stare at her, and even the conductor turned around to look searchingly in our direction a couple of times.

I just slunk down in my seat, closed my eyes and held on. It was the longest — 20 minutes of my life.

When the conductor finally lowered his baton at the end of the symphony, there was a little space of silence before the audience began to applaud.

Right in the middle of it — you could have heard a pin drop — Poppy spun around to me ecstatically and burst out, "Man, wasn't that the craziest thing you've ever heard?"

I could have died!

I had sufficient recovered a few nights later so that when I discovered there was a new art exhibit uptown in one of the galleries I asked her if she would like to go.

She got kind of a wary look in her eye, but she finally said she would.

It was an absolute catastrophe. The exhibit was a collection of abstract and expressionistic modern paintings done by a group of artists in the Bay area.

There wasn't a representational picture in the whole bunch.

I could see that Poppy was getting more and more confused as we walked through the gallery looking at the paintings.

She didn't say anything, but she kept tilting her head from side to side as though she were sure there was something there to see if she could only get the right perspective on it.

Once I thought that she was going to throw her neck out of joint when she tried to look at a particular painting upside down.

There was a little crowd gathered in front of the last painting in the show when we walked up to it.

It was a big gaudy thing, done in darn near every color in the rainbow.

People were all standing there with various expressions of deep concentration on their faces looking at it.

Suddenly, after she had puzzled over it for a minute, Poppy began to giggle.

I tried to shush her up, but I couldn't. The giggle got louder and louder until finally she couldn't control herself any longer and she burst out laughing as hard as she could.

Everyone was looking at her with open mouths.

She clutched my arm for support, she was laughing so hard.

"You know what?" she said, choking on every syllable. "No, what Poppy?" I said weakly.

"That thing looks just like you did the day I spilled the blue-plate special on you ... only ... only ... you looked better!" she gasped out. Then she just screamed with laughter louder than before.

Somehow I managed to get us out of the gallery before the lynch mob formed.

One thing about it, Mr. Editor, I certainly am enjoying more things since I met Poppy. But at times I still think I should have gone to sea.

Sincerely, Earnest M. Cantwright

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

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Crater Inn Motel Sale Is Announced

Sale of the Crater Inn motel, 841 South Riverside ave., Medford, was announced last week by Mr. and Mrs. William Schei, owners.

The 45-unit motel has been purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schmall of Madera, Calif. The sale was effective July 3. The Schmall's will move here this month. They plan to operate the motel themselves.

The new owners do not plan any major changes in the motel at this time, Schei said. The personnel will remain the same.

Mr. and Mrs. Schei, who plan to continue living in the valley, will remain at the motel a few more weeks, Schei, in announcing the sale, expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the support local residents have given him and his wife since they built the motel in 1948.

The Schmall's have been fruit growers in the Madera and Fresno areas in California for many years. They have two sons, Dennis, who will enter Medford High school this fall as a senior, and Darryl, a senior in sociology and public administration at Pepperdine college in Los Angeles.

Juggernaut 'Progress' Destroys Cities

By ERIC SEVAREID

One way to go quietly insane is to think hard about the concept of eternity. Another way, for anyone living in a megalopolis like New York, is to think hard about "progress."

The eerie sensation comes over one that reached the end of its cable some years ago and is now receding upon us, an unstoppable juggernaut, smashing masses of human beings back toward medieval conditions of life.

The streets are littered with cigarette and cigar butts, paper wrappings, particles of food and dog droppings. How long before they become indistinguishable from the gutters of medieval towns when sloop pails were emptied from second story windows?

Thousands of New York women no longer attend evening services in their churches. They fear assault as they walk the few steps from bus or subway station to their apartment houses. The era of

the medieval footpad has returned, and, as in the dark ages, the cry for help brings no assistance, for even grown men know they would be cut down before the police could arrive.

A thousand years ago in Europe acres of houses and shops were demolished and their inhabitants forced elsewhere so that great cathedrals could be built. For decades the building process soaked up all available skilled labor; for decades the townspeople stepped around pits in the streets, clambered over ropes and piles of timber, breathed miasma dust and slept and woke to the crashing noise of construction. The cathedrals, when finished, stood half — empty six days a week, but most of them at least had beauty. Today, the ugly office skyscrapers go up, shops and graceful homes are obliterated, their inhabitants forced away, and year after year New Yorkers step around the pits, stumble through the wooden catwalks, breathe the fine mist of dust, absorb the hammering noise night and day, and telephone in vain for carpenter or plumber. And the skyscrapers stand empty two days and

seven nights a week. This is progress.

At the rush hour, men outrun old women for the available cab; the strong bodily crush back the weak for a place to stand in suffocating bus or subway car, no less destructive of human dignity than a cattle wagon in the time of Peter the Great. When the buses and subway cars began, they represented progress.

Great parking garages are built, immediately filled with cars; the traffic remains as before, and that is progress. The renowned New York constructionist, Robert Moses, builds hundreds of miles of access highways, and they are at once crammed bumper to bumper with automobiles as long as locomotives carrying an average of about two human beings apiece. Parking for vehicles will always increase in direct proportion to the increase in spaces in hold them. So skyscrapers and boxlike apartment houses will increase as the money to build them increases. So footpads will increase as the number of possible victims increases. But it's progress.

I am not surprised that I

English writer, Mervyn Jones, concludes after traveling throughout Russia and the United States that ordinary Americans and ordinary Russians are remarkably alike in at least two respects — in the sheer physical misery they are forced to endure in their cities and in the sheer ugliness of jumbled signs and billboards being spread across their once fair countryside.

They are alike in a third respect. As Jones writes in "Horizon" magazine, both peoples complain remarkably little. Russians don't complain because they don't expect government authorities to listen. American dwellers in our megalopolises don't complain because they have long since abandoned hope. Their authorities may listen, but they know their authorities are helpless. A city like New York is ungovernable.

The secret, terrible fact is that progress, in all measurable terms of human effort, grace and self-respect ended some years ago in the great anti-bill cities. The juggernaut of time and effort has turned around and is now destroying the recent progressive past.

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO July 8, 1952 (Tuesday) More than 15,500 troops have been flown to and from Tokyo by United Air Lines since the start of Korean hostilities, according to local UAL officials.

Tryouts for the Footlighter's melodrama, "Only an Orphan Girl" continues; director is Ruth Kilbourn.

20 YEARS AGO July 8, 1942 (Wednesday) Maj. Gen. Charles H. Gerhardt arrives to assume command of 91st Infantry division at Camp White; after inspection of the Army camp, he declares that the "site is perfect."

A. Z. (Tubby) Dean has a new answer for the old question upon being greeted, "What cha know?" He replies "It's a government secret."

30 YEARS AGO July 8, 1932 (Friday) Fifty members of the Christian Endeavor stop in Medford on route to Crater Lake and Oregon Caves on a special Southern Pacific train from California.

Approximately 150 delegates expected here this week for the annual state convention of rural mail carriers.

40 YEARS AGO July 8, 1922 (Saturday) From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column, "In another five years there will be nothing left on earth to regulate and reform, and then the solar system will get a long-needed going over so it will run as it should run."

Local merchants plan to erect a \$7,000 home for display at Jackson county fair; more carpenters needed at fair grounds.

50 YEARS AGO July 8, 1912 (Monday) Distribution of patent medicine samples has resulted in another narrow escape from death in Medford; small girl picked up some medicine samples and, thinking them candy because of their sugar coating, ate most of them.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. Is the diameter of the sun approximately 8641, 86,410, or 864,000 miles?

2. The saying "Beware the Ides of March" is from which of Shakespeare's plays?

3. What was the name of the sword received by King Arthur from the Lady of the Lake?

4. Do you associate the word "gerrymander" with fishing, politics, hunting or astronomy?

5. With what person from the Bible do you connect "a coat of many colors"?

6. Who were the two daughters of King Henry VIII of England?

7. From what country did the United States acquire Florida?

8. What President, in his young manhood, followed the profession of surveying?

9. From what animal does the fur called broadtail come?

10. For what is a nephoscope used?

Answers: 1. 864,000 miles. 2. The Tragedy of Julius Caesar. 3. Esau. 4. Politics. 5. Joseph. 6. Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth. 7. Spain. 8. George Washington. 9. Baby lamb. 10. To measure velocity of cloud movement.