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Equality of What?

One of our regular writers of letters to the editor, and one of our regular critics, is hipped on the inequality of individuals.

He maintains that people are different, due to heredity, from birth — some excelling in one field, some in another, still others exemplifying inferiority in various ways.

Any person with half an eye can see that he's right. There are some superior individuals; some inferior ones. There are some individuals who excel in a specific talent and are deficient in others.

All men are (or should be) equal in the eyes of the law.

All men are (or should be) entitled to equality of opportunity.

Otherwise a massive joke is being played on all Americans and on all who believe that the Fatherhood of God implies the Brotherhood of Man.

WE do not see how anyone can dispute that heredity has much to do with what a man becomes. Abraham Lincoln, born poor and in circumstances hardly designed to lift him above his backwoods neighbors, must have had the right combination of genes to permit him to grow into one of the giant figures of history.

The same is true with all truly great men and women. If they do not have the elemental stuff of greatness within them, the potential for growth, they do not have what greatness needs to build upon.

On the other hand, however, how many potentially great figures in the human drama have been lost simply because the conditions were not right for their development?

THE two must coincide, or greatness cannot emerge. Those of us who believe in the humanistic ideal of the improvability of mankind, therefore, insist that we must never cease in our efforts to improve the environment into which we all are born, and to provide an equality of opportunity so that latent genius, potential greatness, will have a chance to make itself known.

It is true that only a very small percentage of the human race is equipped for greatness. It is also true that only a very small percentage of the human race is inevitably doomed to utter failure.

AS FOR those who maintain that the obvious inherent differences among men — some big, some little, some great, some small — can be applied to whole groups, whether they be ethnic or social or religious or whatever — this is the sheerest balderdash.

There is not a race on the face of the globe which has not produced men and women of true greatness, in one field or another. The percentage of those achieving greatness has, of course, varied from time to time, and we are convinced that this variation is a result of environmental factors; that latent greatness and the necessary ambience of opportunity did not exist together, that the potency of one was crushed by the absence of the other.

That each individual, no matter what his color or his background, has an equal opportunity to develop his talents to the full, is that for which America has, with some short-sighted exceptions, chosen to stand. It is a good and necessary thing to stand for, and is the sole hope of the race of man to grow to maturity.—E.A.

Washington Report

By William S. White (c) United Features Syndicate

Washington — A political problem of extraordinary subtlety confronts President Kennedy in the aftermath of last week's congressional and state elections. In order to seek reasonable safety against the now highly probable presidential challenge in 1964 of Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York, Mr. Kennedy needs to find a means of reconciliation with the insurgent South, Southwest and mountain states.

Those areas were difficult enough for the president in his own election in 1960. Indeed, they probably would have been hopeless for him but for the presence on his ticket of the Texas, Vice President Lyndon Johnson. In last week's voting tests, they were more difficult still.

OKLAHOMA elected the first Republican governor in 33 years. Texas Republicans made the most formidable challenge for the governorship since the reconstruction era at the end of the Civil War. One of the ablest Democrats to sit in the Senate in half a century, Lister Hill of Alabama, was pursued down to a photo finish to win over his Republican adversary, Colorado and Wyoming lost sitting Democratic senators.

Nearly everywhere from the Gulf of Mexico to the approaches of the Far West there was compelling evidence of a rise of conservative and/or Republican sentiment.

THE SAME was largely true in California. Two John Birch Society congressmen were defeated. Gov. Pat Brown is a moderate. So is Republican Senator Tom Kuchel.

About the only exception was the election of Dr. Max Rafferty as superintendent of public instruction. The office is non-partisan, but during the slam-bang campaign, unusual for this type of office, Dr. Rafferty was frequently identified with right wing causes.

His opponent, Dr. Ralph Richardson, was a moderate. It will be interesting to see what happens in California school systems in the coming few years. Rafferty has espoused a return to the "basics," indoctrination against Communism, and an end to "progressivism" in education.—E.A.

"Indeed, Suh! Some Of Mah Kinfolk Are Yankees"



... Communications ...

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Letter Quoted To the Editor: The following letter appeared in the morning Oregonian and I think it should be printed in our paper too, for more people to read and ponder its message.

I have been listening to a writer—Ruby N. Retherford—for years and think her ideas the best and that she is the greatest. She is my mother.

Virginia Vaughan 21 South Groveland ave. Medford.

'Peace on Earth' To the Editor: I was shocked at the remark I heard on the radio of "Nikita's back-down."

Why do we not accept with deep gratitude the fact that negotiations toward peace are being made and not make it appear that someone is "yellow"? Such accusations as this lead only to more hard feelings and strife. Witness the small boys playing in the backyard. If one is called a coward, it only riles him until he can find a way to get even. Nations consist of small boys grown up.

We have had "Prayer for Peace" days or weeks. Our Christian nation has spent many prayerful hours. We believe in the power of prayer. Now, when we see it being answered in God's own way, we tear the other fellow apart, thinking he is afraid.

Dear fellow Americans, let's just get down on our knees at this Thanksgiving time and thank the God of all (Russians, Cubans, Catholics, Jews or Protestants) that He is still governing all His creation. I, with thousands of other believers, study the inspired messages in the 23rd, 91st and 121st Psalms daily. That, in my thinking, is the great panacea for all this world's ailments, no matter what race or creed. In so doing, we shall all come into the full understanding of the brotherhood of man, and, as is promised, "all shall sit under his own fig tree" and the "lion shall lie down with the lamb."

Let us now go into our holiday season, the Thanksgiving time, with gratitude to the old God of the far-flung battle-line for being "with us yet."

Then into the Christmas season, acknowledging the Prince of Peace and His glorious message which is for all generations.

Ruby W. Retherford 9554 SW 62nd dr. Portland, Ore.

Dear Mr. Corey: We wish to acknowledge your letter and clipping protesting the antlerless deer seasons.

Due to the many requests for a general either sex opening, the popular Silver Lake unit was opened to both bucks and does at the beginning of the general deer season in 1959. After the hunt, it was found that a higher percentage of antlerless deer had been shot and left in the woods than during a split season. This seemed to indicate that many hunters who were successful in killing an antlerless deer on the opening morning left it to take a larger animal.

We appreciate your comments and interest. Your letter will be considered by the commission prior to the setting of the 1963 big game regulations.

Ira D. Luman, Chief Big Game Oregon State Game Commission Portland, Ore.

Note: Antlerless hunters should write the game commission protesting this special doe season.

C. W. Corey Phoenix, Ore.

Post Mortem To the Editor: A great deal has been written within the past few days as to why Senator Morse won re-election and Sig Ulander lost.

As Sig Ulander's campaign director and with access to the highly accurate Waterhouse Poll, I am in a position to analyze the results of the election on a scientific basis. For the record, Senator Morse was no longer Sig Ulander's opponent after the Cuban declaration on Oct. 22 by John F. Kennedy. The Senate neither was nor lost an election, he was merely an interested spectator on the side-lines.

The Waterhouse Poll showed that between Oct. 1 and Oct. 22, Sig Ulander gained 2 of a point and had led Senator Morse's lead to 11 per cent. For all practical purposes, this was a fast horse race which Senator Morse would have been hard-pressed to win. However, after the President's strong action on Cuba, which was long overdue, the Waterhouse Poll completely reversed itself and by Nov. 5, Sig was trailing by almost 5 full points.

Although Sig had long advocated exactly the same actions that the President eventually took on Cuba it was impossible due to lack of campaign funds to project Sig's viewpoints before the President. Therefore, the voters found it easier in this state to identify Cuban action with a Democratic leader than a Republican, and as a consequence Senator Morse was re-elected. In effect, we were "Cubanized."

Was Phillips, Failing Building, Portland, Ore.

U of O Economics Head Dies of Cancer Eugene—E. C. Ward Macy, head of the University of Oregon economics department since 1950, died of cancer here Sunday night. He was 63.

Effect of Momentous October Days Still Unknown; Split in Red Ranks Possibility

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst Just what effect the closing days of October will have had on history must be left to future historians to decide.

But they were epic days and from this close range it is difficult to think of any comparable surge of events since the explosion of the first atomic bomb over Hiroshima or of events which so affected the interwoven pattern of world relationships.

On Oct. 20, the Red Chinese launched the first of massive attacks against the Indian border, slicing into the mountainous line all the way from Ladakh adjoining Kashmir in the west to the north-east territories adjoining Burma.

In a broadcast on Monday night, Oct. 22, President Kennedy announced the quarantine of Communist Cuba.

Half a world apart, the two nonetheless were interlocking. Overlooking for the moment the profound effect the Cuban action had on U. S. prestige among its allies and sympathizers, let us look at the Communist world.

Soviet Premier Khrushchev's quick move to withdraw his rockets from Cuba in the face of the U. S. ultimatum not only was a clear demonstration of Kremlin contempt for the bearded Fidel Castro.

Far from being a Kremlin darling when the chips were down, Soviet failure even to consult Castro on withdrawal of the missiles gave him a standing even lower than the puppets who follow Kremlin orders in the East European satellites.

Together, the Cuban and the Indian crises widened rather than healed the already existing breach in the Communist world.

Red China assailed Khrushchev as an appeaser and promised Castro all the moral and material help it could muster.

From Roger Hillsman Jr., director of the U. S. State Department's bureau of intelligence and research, came the hint that U. S. policy now would take into greater consideration the undeniable

proof of the deterioration of relations between the two big Communist allies.

There was a growing conviction that the diametrically opposed positions taken by the two on the issues of Cuba and India, had made the split irreparable so long as Khrushchev and Red China's Mao Tse-Tung remain in power.

There are even those bold enough to predict that the world now has seen communism reach its peak, and that the future course only can be downward.

consumed on the road is also astronomically larger than the tonnage of combat supplies used by the troops. And in China, petroleum products are even scarcer than food.

The shortage is so great, in fact, that the Soviets, who are the only major Chinese supplier of petroleum products, are able to force their dear brothers to pay twice for gasoline.

First, the Chinese pay in the normal way. And second, they pay by continuing to service their heavy debts to the Soviet Union—on which Peking would surely declare a moratorium if Moscow did not hold the petroleum-product lever.

THIS great cost of the Chinese effort against India is the main factor to weigh, for a rather simple reason. The huge price the Chinese are paying is the only logical measure to use when one tries to determine the prizes the Chinese hope to win.

If you use this measuring stick, it quickly becomes clear that the Chinese aim is not to explode Nehru's hollow prestige, or to break up the Soviet-Indian mutual admiration society, or to take a few remote frontier posts.

All these prizes, already gained, no doubt give Peking much pleasure. Furthermore, the Chinese have a genuine, quite urgent strategic need for the road they have boldly built through Indian territory, across part of the Himalayan state of Ladakh.

Yet a bigger Chinese objective must still be sought. It may be, as some think, that the Chinese had to attack India in order to maintain their ruthless hold in Tibet. Much to Peking's displeasure, the Dalai Lama, has found refuge in India. Within Tibet, resistance to the Chinese reportedly continues brave and strong.

The best way to kill the resistance, by killing all hope, is to give a bloody nose to the Dalai Lama's Indian host.

The cost items begin with something like 100,000 troops in the units attacking India in Ladakh and the Northeast Frontier agency, and in the back-up and occupation units in Tibet. On the roof of the world, these units are sparing nothing to gain ground; and they are supported by tanks and by heavy artillery, or at least by very long-range, very heavy mortars.

The cost of supplying these troops is minuscule, however, compared to the cost of the supply line that carries the combat tonnage to the troops. The main road, from railroad in Kansu province, in north-west China, to the areas where the troops are operating, runs through 2,000 miles of cruelly difficult highland and mountain terrain, with not a pint of gasoline anywhere along the way.

IN these circumstances, trucks must be used to fuel trucks, which fuel trucks, which again fuel trucks, which actually carry troop supplies. Some 9,000 vehicles, or close to one-sixth of all the trucks in transport-short China, have had to be assigned to this taxing effort.

The tonnage of gasoline

YET even when this Tibetan factor is cranked into the equation, the answer still does not come out right. The plain truth seems to be that the Chinese have territorial ambitions of a major kind.

In this phase, if the Indians do not stop them, the Chinese may be content with gaining enough strong points in the Himalayas to dominate the border states of Ladakh, Sikkim, Bhutan, and Nepal.

"He who holds the Himalayan passes gains India in the end," an old rule runs. Or in this phase the Chinese may be even bolder, seeking to seize the Brahmaputra valley, where they will find the oil they need so badly.

In any case, if the Chinese are not stopped in this phase, it seems plain they intend to dig in and prepare for a further advance. The prospect of a further advance later on, possibly in India or more probably into rich Burma, which they will soon outflank, is the only reward that would justify the effort the Chinese are now making.

There are no slogans or easy answers given by the contributors to this book. There is, however, general agreement that old modes of thinking and calcified ways of feeling must be abandoned—that only a revolution in thought can avert terrible consequences of our physical revolution in the release of atomic energy.

And yet, such revolutionary thinking, as Father Merton reminds us, is traditional and humanistic in the deepest and most spiritual sense. It is "faithful to the Judeo-Christian tradition on which our civilization was built. There is no hope for us if we lose sight of these perspectives. There is no other human way out."

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Strictly Personal

By Floyd J. Harris (c) Field Enterprises Inc.

NO OTHER WAY OUT I picked up a paperback book at the airport last week that occupied my attention all the way to North Carolina and back. It is called "Breakthrough to Peace," and I recommend it to all Americans who are puzzled, confused and concerned about the present state of the world.

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