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The Great Declaration

We commend to all our readers a document, signed 187 years ago today, to which the signers pledged their support, and to each other their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

It is the Declaration of Independence. So important is it to patriotic Americans that the day on which we honor it, July 4, has become our most significant national holiday.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this remarkable document is its calm, even, reasoned tone. It has none of the violent, rabble-rousing phrases so often associated with revolutionary pronouncements.

These men were patriots — true patriots, and not merely mouthy flag-wavers. Not only were they willing to die for their new country; they were also willing to work for it, think for it, strive throughout busy and productive lifetimes to achieve the best for it.

A Comparison

It is an interesting exercise in imagination to compare the super-patriots of today with the brave, calm men who signed the Declaration of Independence.

THE NOISY, self-proclaimed patriot of today's ultra-right is a different breed. He is not a conservative, for a true conservative is a man who values tradition, custom and the institutions which have served us so well over the last century and a half.

SOME Congressmen who have felt the lash of the Birchers and the others who cry "Treason!" at anything with which they disagree, or do not understand, have started to talk back.

HE SAID: "The President, his Cabinet and members of Congress are patriotic Americans. There isn't a Socialist or Communist in the lot. The vast majority of them are overworked, underpaid, sincere and effective public servants."

Anyone who could believe the lies and slanders so well exposed by Congressman Udall is one or more of three things: (1) Wildly misinformed and appallingly glib; (2) incredibly stupid, or (3) nuts.—E.A.

"Now, Let's Not Carry That Independence Day Spirit Too Far"



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.

Of course, in order to adopt such a system we would have not only to maintain our political democracy, but also an industrial democracy. As an example of this system we have only to look at those things that are already socialized, such as our public schools, our public roads and streets, water works, canals for irrigation, etc.

As He Sees It: To the Editor: I would like to write a few words about books and murders. Is the Bible (King James) a good book? The first book of Moses, called Genesis, Moses was a murderer.

Firestorms: To the Editor: What is a firestorm? The overwhelming majority of Americans, including those who naively dig fallout shelters in metropolitan target areas, haven't the least inkling of what the word "firestorm" means.

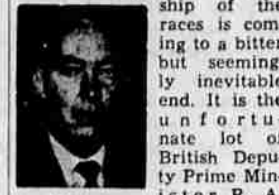
You Could Turn It Off: To the Editor: Most of the forced tunes used in radio commercials (tunes, did I say?) cause me to feel very sad.

A Currency Proposal: To the Editor: The only honest currency would be based on a labor unit, would be backed by the entire available labor capacity of the whole country.

Lydia Burnham, R14 Warne St., Prescott, Ariz.

Grim Economic Prospects Facing Southern Rhodesia Because of Racial Policies

By PHIL NEWSOM, UPI Foreign News Analyst



Within sound of the roar of majestic Victoria Falls, a noble experiment in partnership of the races is coming to a bitter but seemingly inevitable end.

where 233,000 whites rule 3,600,000 Africans, that is giving Britain its greatest headache of all the half a dozen former African possessions it has ceded to independence.

Published estimates have said that a loss of the Northern Rhodesian and Nyasaland markets would mean a drop of 30 to 40 per cent in Southern Rhodesia's output.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

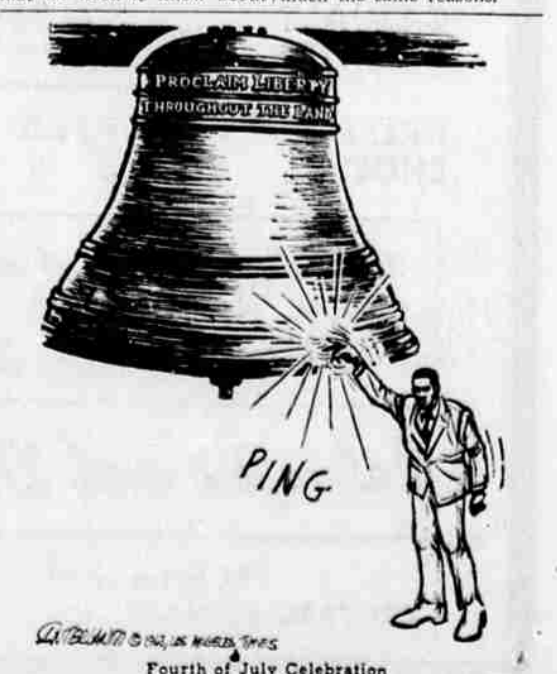
THE SECOND AMERICAN REVOLUTION: Washington — On July 4, 1776, when a number of the boldest leaders signed the Declaration of Independence, the American Revolution began in deadly earnest.

FOR the one American in every ten who is a Negro, the extreme peculiarity of the Negro revolution is the key point to weigh. This movement, for all its kinship to one of the anti-colonial risings, is also set apart by a profound difference.

THE symbolic figure, who stands, is the dead Medgar Evers. When Evers took the leadership of the NAACP in Mississippi, he cannot have acted from ambition, or in the hope of gain.

BEFORE they faced the truth, the British in India also talked about "agitators." As for the truth that the British in India finally had to face, it was weakly simple.

IN some other Negro leaders, like James Baldwin for example, it may be reasonable to suspect that the element of self-pity is stronger than the element of self-sacrifice.



Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris (c) Field Enterprises, Inc.

PERSONAL PREJUDICES: People who instruct others on how to achieve success are in the same embarrassing positions as fortune tellers—if they could really do what they pretend, would they be grubbing for a living like the rest of us?

THE reason that most parents are so fond of the youngest child is that their hopes have already begun to dim for the success of the older ones.

THE health reasons given by nudists are mostly nonsense, but a good psychological argument for a nudist world is that it would eliminate much of the pomposity and hypocrisy on the part of public leaders.

IF any generalization of this sort is true, it is that men largely live in the future, and women in the past; only children live in the present, which is why we become so impatient with them for neglecting our distorted adult sense of time.

IN quest of love, the unhappiest are those who, like the elderly spinster in Lillian Hellman's play, "Autumn Garden," reflect sadly that they are too good for the ones who want them, and not good enough for the ones they want.

Those who think that "world government" is a new idea ought to be told that it was proposed as the only solution for world peace by Dante in the 13th century; it takes that long for the human race to catch up with its great minds.

Rhubarb lovers of the world, like me, ought to unite to get this deliciously bracing desert put on more restaurant menus more often.

When it is considered that a very substantial proportion of the U. S. population lives in the urban and suburban areas that would almost certainly be devastated by blast and firestorm — not to mention drenched in deadly fallout — in the event of a thermonuclear war, we can see how criminally optimistic the advocates of shelters are.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FROM Salem as this is written: From all indications, the State of Oregon wound up its 1961-63 fiscal biennium Sunday about A MILLION DOLLARS in the black.

FROM Washington: The federal government headed today (Monday, July 1) into its fourth consecutive year of DEFICIT financing, and indications are the fiscal situation will get worse before it gets better.

THE federal government is expected to go MUCH DEEPER in the hole in the next 12 months, President Kennedy's \$98.8 billion budget for fiscal 1964 projects a deficit of \$11.9 billion—the second highest in peace time.

WHY the contrast? Well, here in Oregon government is CLOSE AT HOME. If it should go off the deep end in the way of deficit spending, it would feel the hot breath of the home town voter blowing down the back of its neck.

THE Washington government is so far from home that it can kid a majority of the voters into believing that a nation can spend itself rich.

THE big news today? It may have its grim aspects—but the big news a century ago was much grimmer.

A century ago was the second day of the battle of Gettysburg. At the end of the first day, General Lee was confident of victory. But, during the night, reinforcements arrived for General Meade, bringing his total up to about 93,000 as compared with Lee's 70,000.

Until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the two great armies faced each other, each seeming loath to begin the awful work of slaughter, which they knew was to follow. Then the Confederates advanced, General Longstreet leading their right wing up the slope of Round Top in an effort to dislodge Union General Sickles at the top.

For two hours the battle raged. Longstreet led the Confederate charge, waving his men on to follow as if he were courting death itself. Union General Sickles, his leg shot off by a cannon ball, still directed his men.

BUT—When fell the shades of night—The losses were counted up. They were heavy. Each side had lost about 10,000 men—one out of each seven for Lee and one out of about each nine for Meade.

THAT was 100 years ago. And another day was to follow.