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Watch for Me

Roscoe Fleming, poet, author, teacher, is one of those geniuses who have gone too long unthought. He is a frail man but he sings a big song. He sings the song of man. He finds man a most curious creature. And a most wonderful creature. And a most utterly self assured creature. He writes of man and the atom as one work and prays that man, the chemist, will not in the end blow himself through the roof of his own laboratory.

HE WRITES, in What Is Man That Thou Art Mindful Of Him:

I only hope the Lord will not find it necessary to post a flaming sign on the planet. Visible from a parsec out: 'Closed temporarily for repairs. Will be open, completely refinished and under entirely new management. In a comparatively short time, around 1,000,000,000 A.D. The owner regrets any inconvenience. To which you, the public, may have been subjected.'

Of man and his universe he says:

He lives, and can live, only in a tenuous film of vapor, relatively thinner than the skin of a soap bubble, on the surface of his planet. He can exist elsewhere only by enclosing himself in an air bubble like a water insect. Take him two miles up, he begins to pant. Fasten him a foot under water, he drowns. The night has a thousand eyes with which to stare him down. But he stands here and stares right back, and tells the stars: 'Watch for me; I'm coming!'

HE TELLS of man looking out his window into the night and counting nine planets, and asking: "Only Nine?"

And like the disappointed heir after the will is read, man says there must be some mistake—that any Creation which could make so marvelous a product as man surely must have given more than a miserly nine planets; is not man the only son and heir of the Universe? Here Fleming has touched upon the three characteristics of man which set him apart and most seriously endanger him: His frailty, his self assurance, his magnificent, but misplaced, confidence that he can go on forever, assured king of creation. He does look at the stars and he does say: "Watch out for me; I'm coming."

HIS limitations do not dull his curiosity and he fashions equipment which takes him outside that tenuous film of vapor and permits life, and the same goes for the depths of the oceans. He knows he has fashioned the chemicals which could destroy him but in his self assurance he says this will not happen and so he goes on creating even more deadly poisons.

Of man it once was said: "You can always tell a human being but you can't tell him much." Looking upon it all we have to ask: Was it a billionth of a second ago by the universe's clock or unimaginable eons when this peanut of a planet came into being? Will it be a billionth of a second or unimaginable eons before what is to be comes to pass?

And will that "what is to be" be man blowing himself through the roof of his laboratory, or an interstellar creature who has staked the entire Universe as his private domain?

—Sacramento Bee.

The Big News

Many newspapers cross this desk. One that doesn't often show up appeared in the stack the other day. It was the Worker, ragged descendant of the old Daily Worker of New York.

It's a frankly Communist sheet, and by no means a husky one these days. In a large Page 1 appeal, the Worker asks for handouts. Such are things in the capitalistic system that the Worker can't meet its capitalistic bills unless its friends kick in.

More impressive, however, was the "news." On Page 1 there is, besides the appeal for money, a nice story about the Russians' lady astronaut, and, the big story, about guns and police dogs in Mississippi. Inside the 12-page paper, in column after column, appear articles about the American racial crisis.

IT IS played up in an attempt to show what life is like in capitalistic America. As a propaganda job, it's not very good because it's too obvious. But it's a valiant try.

This racial strife plays directly into Communist hands. The way to lick the problem, however, is not to stop the demonstrations, but to eliminate the shameful causes of Negro discontent.

The Communists will always exploit strife, poverty, and injustice.—Eugene Register-Guard.

Zipped Again

The ZIP program may work into something worthwhile. But a happening of the other day makes us wonder if it's working out just the way Postmaster General Eddie Day envisioned it.

The editor of the Corvallis newspaper sent a letter to the editor of the Bend paper. He included the ZIP number. (Where he got it we don't know.) It was postmarked in Corvallis. A second postmark was in Coos Bay. Obviously someone in the Corvallis Post Office got Bend and North Bend mixed up.

Which is just the sort of thing the ZIP codes were supposed to make impossible. —The Bulletin, Bend.

"Courage, Men, Till the Clouds Come Back"



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.

Transportation Policy

To the Editor: The Kennedy Administration is accused of more than its share of tax-stuffed "pork barrel" legislation. It also deserves credit for an outstanding piece of proposed legislation announced in the President's repeated transportation messages. The proposal is unique because it involves no billion dollar appropriation from earnings of future generations. It requires only the introduction of justice and fair play into the unholy mixture of haywire economics and rotten politics known as "transportation policy." The over-regulated railroads as well as shipping and traveling taxpayers would benefit.

Well oiled pressure groups of subsidy-pampered non-rail transport by airway, waterway and highway are raising noisy objections. They refuse to give up their pound of taxpayers' flesh! Are our Congressmen's souls so dead that the voice of justice and fair play is drowned out by the political clamor to spend John Doe's taxes to buy Richard Roe's vote?

K. Fritz Schumacher, Former Stant Fe "Rail" 81 West Grand View Ave., Sierra Madre, Calif.

Petitions, Donations

To the Editor: and all citizens in the low income brackets, our Oregon Legislature has voted that a \$60 million tax grab is to come right out of your pockets. And even if your income is so low that you owe no tax at all, you'll still have to pay a \$5 filing fee just to file your return. Can you do anything about this tyrannical levy on your meager supply of dollars which you so desperately need for food and other necessities of life? You bet you can. At this moment an Oregon newspaper editor is making the fight of his life for you against the "big spenders" and selfish interests who are cramming this law down our throats.

And you can help him. Write immediately to Francyl Howard, Editor of "Greater Oregon," the Greater Oregon building, Albany, Ore., for a blank petition. Work fast and quickly; get this petition filled. Be sure each person who signs is a registered voter. When your petition is filled, follow instructions which I'm sure will tell you to take it to the county clerk's office to have the names checked (I haven't received my petitions, yet). Just as soon as you can get the petition back from the county clerk mail it back to Editor Francyl Howard, or such other person as your instructions may designate.

Each petition must contain 18 pages of the tax law plus cover and signature pages. Expensive? Yes. And our Editor is a poor man, even as you and I. Send him a small donation, if you can spare it, to help with printing costs. The Enemy has delayed us in every possible way, hoping that there will not be enough time left to get the 23,186 good signatures required to put this tax law on the ballot. Everything that can be done to cheat the voters out of their right to vote on this \$60 million tax grab will be done by the "big spenders." Let's show them that they can't keep the people of Oregon from exercising their Constitutional Rights. Now is the time to act. Send for your petition now. We must win, or our freedom along with our dollars will go down the drain.

Tony Gall 1720 SW Bridge St. Grants Pass, Ore.

Un-Americanism

To the Editor: What is "un-Americanism"? Is it deeply "un-American" to advocate the abolition of the right of private property — plutocracy — a government or state in which the wealthy class rules? If so, the American people made a mistake when they took the 13 colonies away from King George III. They erred a second time when they abolished chattel slavery in the South, thereby, in effect, destroying about two billion dollars' worth of slave property.

If the American people have twice overthrown species of property, they established a precedent for the socialist demand that private ownership of the socially operated means of production be abolished. American tradition rejects the theory that property, especially plutocratic property, is sacred.

There appear to be two kinds of "Americanism." One is spurious, being a reflection of property interests. The other has its roots deeply embedded in American tradition and is in harmony with the loftiest aspirations of the founders of our republic. The immortal document—the Declaration of Independence—specifically declares that whenever any form of government becomes destructive to the ends of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government, providing new guards for their future security.

Lydia Burnham 814 Warne St. Prescott, Ariz.

Britain's Conservative Government Changing Views on Nuclear Force

By K. C. THALER United Press International London—(UPI)—Britain's Conservative government is quietly switching around to President Kennedy's plan for a mixed-manned, Polaris-equipped nuclear surface force. The shift is prompted by a revised appraisal of the international situation and Germany's future role in the alliance.

British leaders who have been critical of Kennedy's multi-national force project now feel the idea may prove the best way of securing West

Germany's adherence to the Western Alliance. They are also coming around hesitantly to Kennedy's view that the project of a mixed-manned nuclear NATO force may be the best way of stopping the spread of nuclear weapons.

Maintains Cool Attitude The government intends for the time being to maintain publicly its cool attitude to the project, largely for inner-political reasons and to silence the Laborite opposition before an election.

But the Conservative government, if re-elected, will be inclined to take another look at the mixed-manned force project with a view to adopting it.

British reaction so far has been negative to the plan for both political and technical reasons. Some of Britain's top experts have said the idea is not practical and that running a nuclear force with mixed crews would lead to friction and trouble.

They also have argued that surface ships would be too exposed to enemy attacks and that at any rate the financing of the force would be too costly.

Labor Party Opposed The Laborite opposition, which is divided on the advisability of an independent British nuclear deterrent altogether, is strongly opposed to a mixed-manned force which would give Germany a finger on the nuclear trigger. It rules out British participation in it.

When Kennedy and Prime Minister Harold Macmillan met here earlier this month they agreed that "various possible ways" should be discussed with the allies on closer association of NATO members with the nuclear deterrent. The official communique specifically stated that discussions in the mixed-manned force would be "without prejudice to the question of British participation." Macmillan at the time insisted on the insertion of this clause, presumably to guard against Laborite insinuation that he had made any secret commitment to Kennedy.

The official British line will to all appearances continue to remain reserved or even critical of the project, but the present government's thinking is changing.

Jackson To Get \$147,496 From Highway Revenue

Salem—(UPI)—Oregon's counties will get \$3,122,409 as their share of state highway revenues for the quarter which ended June 30, Secretary of State Howell Applegate Jr. said Monday.

Under state law the counties get 19 per cent of the collections from motor vehicle registrations, gasoline taxes, motor carrier fees and fines for traffic violations.

Distribution is made on the basis of the number of vehicles registered in each county.

The shares include: Baker \$30,861; Benton \$60,319; Clackamas \$195,823; Clatsop \$42,433; Columbia \$38,935; Coos \$93,083; Crook \$17,922; Curry \$26,763; Deschutes \$47,407; Douglas \$116,413; Gilliam \$7,038; Grant \$15,054; Harney \$13,782; Hood River \$25,716; Jackson \$147,496; Jefferson \$18,223; Josephine \$60,885; Klamath \$92,221; Lake \$15,085; Lane \$307,271; Lincoln \$41,833; Linn \$107,836; Malheur \$43,243; Marion \$204,610; Morrow \$11,641; Multnomah \$857,811; Polk \$45,392; Sherman \$6,636; Tillamook \$31,442; Umatilla \$87,731; Union \$33,570; Wallowa \$13,937; Wasco \$37,711; Washington \$161,272; Wheeler \$4,088; Yamhill \$60,906.

Fred Meyer Chain Target of Order

Washington—(UPI)—The Federal Trade Commission has tentatively ordered Fred Meyer, Inc., Portland, Ore., to cease what the agency charged was the inducing of discriminatory price concessions and production allowances from suppliers.

The FTC charged in its order that the 13-store supermarket chain received money or special services from certain suppliers to promote their products rather than those of competitors.

Fred Meyer has 20 days in which to answer the charge.

Partake Discussed At Roundtable Event Of Medford C of C

The operation of a firm dedicated to seeing small businesses succeed was discussed at the Monday noon luncheon of the Medford Chamber of Commerce roundtable.

The national organization is called Partake and its area director, Hal Hardin, has recently opened a branch office in Medford at 1 King st. For the present, however, he will work mainly out of his Eugene office.

Hardin told the group that "3 out of 5 men who go into business for themselves fail within just a few years."

There are many excuses and reasons to explain the failures, Hardin said. "But the main question we should ask is, was the man suited in the first place for the business he entered?"

Concern of Company The concern of Partake, he said, is that a man take inventory of his aptitudes and abilities before he takes the initial step to open his own business.

Typically, Hardin said, a man will come to Partake who is "not moving ahead or fulfilling himself" in his present job. If the man decides to engage the services of the firm, the speaker said, Partake will compile a "profile" in notebook form on him.

The binder will include all vital statistics on the man, including such information as his educational background, his business experience, his extra-professional activities, and other personal data. Given Series of Tests Then Partake gives the applicant a series of test designed to ascertain his skills and preferences. He is also asked to complete a questionnaire to reveal his potentials,

which can be developed, and his shortcomings, which can be improved. Three references, who have known the applicant for some time, are also asked to complete the same questionnaire on the man.

After these, and other data about the applicant, are compiled and analyzed, the profile is "matched" with certain favorable job categories for which the applicant might be suited. He is asked to review the employment alternatives in light of his personal preferences.

Franchises Are Offered "We then offer him three business franchises," Hardin said, "but the applicant must be completely convinced about his choice before Partake will sell him a particular franchise."

The speaker said his firm had a wide variety of business franchises available for the applicant to choose from, ranging from full-time operations to side-line selling of small items.

After the choice of a franchise is made, Hardin said his firm conducts an "in depth" industrial survey in the area in which the man will be operating. Among other factors checked are the amount and nature of competing businesses. If the applicant is short of capital, Partake can often make arrangements for assistance from certain investors.

Even after the man is established in his business, the area director maintains a "continuing relationship" with him, serving as a kind of liaison agent between the businessman and the manufacturer of the product he sells, Hardin said.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

THE NEW NEGRO LEADER Philadelphia—At the tumultuous recent convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the able, veteran NAACP leader, Roy Wilkins, confided to a friend, perhaps a little wearily: "This is the year of the revolution. The Young Turks are taking over."

The most conspicuous of the Young Turks is almost certainly the new NAACP leader here in Philadelphia, Cecil Moore. Spend a few days here talking to people who know the civil rights story in this city, with its typical Northern Negro ghetto. Then spend a few hours talking to Cecil Moore. You will learn that a profound change has come over the greatest single problem facing the U. S. at home.

To begin with, the quite sudden emergence of Cecil Moore marks a sudden shift in style that speaks volumes in itself. The old style is typified by Roy Wilkins, whose quiet dignity, reasonableness in discussion, and personal trustworthiness could not be disputed by the most rabid Southern segregationist—if any such allowed himself to be exposed to Wilkins.

But whereas Wilkins is sober, unadramatic, and the very opposite of flashy, Cecil Moore is vivid, violent, intensely dramatic, almost too highly-colored in everything he wears and says and does. His aim, plainly, is not to inspire confidence in his white interlocutors. His aim, rather, is to excite and stir his own people.

To an extraordinary degree, he has done just that since he took over the NAACP leadership in Philadelphia just about a year ago. This vigorous ex-Marine was then a defeated congressional candidate, a busy but not enormously successful lawyer, a junior personage in the civil rights movement.

When he assumed the leadership here, the older established NAACP was on the verge of losing its popular support in Philadelphia to the more militant Congress of Racial Equality. And a contest in militancy was the essence of the decisive episode in Moore's rise to power.

CORE had picketed a city building project employing the rigidly segregated craft unions of the construction industry. The city had backed down. Whereupon Moore and the NAACP picketed a comparable project of the Philadelphia school board. The school board did not back down. And days of violence and actual bloodshed ensued before the school board was forced to accept most of Moore's terms.

Since that time, Moore has been waging an uninterrupted war on two fronts—against anti-Negro discrimination in all forms, but also against all older Negro leaders of Philadelphia who have not accepted him as the unchallenged and unique spokesman and strategist of the Negro people here. Some of the aspects of this second war have been pretty bizarre.

"You know how I deal with them," he said to me, with an enormous grin, when I asked him what he did about Communists trying to infiltrate his picket lines. "I just set the Amazons on them. If I used men, they'd yowl about

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris to Field Enterprises, Inc.

SUMMER READING Autobiography is the easiest literary form in which to write, and the hardest in which to write well.

Some of the most skilled and profound authors have written the worst autobiographies. It interested me, therefore, to receive a note this week announcing the publication next winter of Loren Eiseley's autobiography, "Acquainted With the Night." I have long been an admirer of his writing, his thinking, and his special blend of science of humanities.

If you are looking for summer reading that is both substantial and charming (in the deeper sense of the word), let me recommend any of Dr. Eiseley's books, and especially "The Immense Journey," and "The Firmament of Time."

We live in a literary age of specialists on the one hand, and popularizers on the other. The specialists write in a dehumanized jargon, and tend to think in rigid categories. The popularizers, on the other hand, tend to be too vivid in their writing and too sloppy in their thinking. Few men in our time are able to bridge the gap between precise knowledge and graceful expression.

C. P. Snow has made us aware of the chasm between what he calls the "two cultures"—the world of science and the world of the humanities. Whether his ultimate analysis is right or wrong, the fact remains that there is little communication between these two worlds: the scientist too often knows little about history and philosophy, and the humanist is either ignorant of, or actively hostile toward, scientific truths.

As an anthropologist and a professor of the history of science, Dr. Eiseley is admirably equipped to span this chasm. He offers us a world-view (what the Germans so untranslatably call a Weltanschauung) that is humane and flexible, neither blindly committed to tradition nor wildly infatuated with present and future achievements.

This double strain of "the visible and the invisible" parts of man runs through all his books; not only the two I have mentioned, but also "Darwin's Century," "Francis Bacon and the Modern Dilemma," and "The Mind of Nature." There are passages or beliefs we might quarrel with; but there are none that do not stimulate us to further thought, that do not open doors and windows we have too long locked.

Whether or not his autobiography fulfills the promise of his earlier work—and I strongly suspect that it will—contemporary America is heavily in his debt already; and the best way we can repay it is by preferring him over the specialists and the popularizers alike.



"That's right, our group is threatening you with a boycott. Take the girls' magazines off the rack, or we'll buy our booze elsewhere!"