Herald and News

Editorial Page

Living Symbol

Four years ago there seemed to be many signs that President Eisenhower was eager to lay down the burdens of his office. It was with some reluctance that he decided to stand for a second term.

Now, as he nears the final two months of his tenure, a close look at him suggests he may be viewing the prospect ahead with mixed feelings.

Undoubtedly his placid mood today, which could be observed in his campaign appearances for Vice President Nixon, reflects a certain sense of relief at the freedom that will soon be his. He is 70 and has spent 50 years almost continuously in the public service.

Those millions of Americans who admire and trust him would agree that he has earned rest from such duty.

Yet now and then the President drops a word or casts a glance which conveys a hint of sadness that his major service is almost over. He acts and sounds as if he hopes that somehow he may still be of further use to his country.

Speaking in New York's Herald Square after winning an affectionate, tumultuous greeting from the city in a ticker tape parade, Eisenhower said:

"When I leave my office, no matter what I may then be doing, my struggle to help bring the world a little closer to the goal of peace, my hope of helping the United States to be stronger in every possible way, will never flag.

"And wherever I can, by a word or a piece of writing, or by merely a handclasp with someone, help nurture and strengthen that feeling in any other person in the world, that I shall do."

In this poignant revelation the President has shown once more his deep dedication to the cause of peace.

Most Americans probably feel that, to the degree he wishes, he should be given the chance to go on serving that cause some way or another. Hardly a man on this earth has the reservoir of good will Eisenhower has developed among freedom-loving peoples everywhere. It should be tapped as long as it can be.

The Voters' Equation

The 1960 presidential election will stand as at least partly an answer by the voters to the two nominees' claims to superior experience in government.

During the campaign we heard much of these claims. Since neither man now holds the presidency, his experience seemed a legitimate topic for argument and inquiry.

Nevertheless it is a subject which must always be treated with great care. The most danger arises when an incumbent chief executive is involved.

Time and again through our history a president seeking re-election has asked the voters to consider his experience in office, the fact that he has met and solved problems, etc.

Often he will stress the unfinished work to be done in implementing his policies and programs. If some sort of crisis exists or impends, he may contend: "Don't change horses in mid-stream."

The argument exalting an incumbent's experience in office is reasonable enough but only up to a point.

If it were to be given supreme weight in every instance, then that would mean the people should make an automatic judgment for the re-election of the sitting president. For, obviously, the man on the outside looking in can never match his adversary's experience.

This would be reminiscent of the situation some types of job seekers are said to find themselves in. They cannot win a particular job without experience. But they cannot gain that experience until someone, somewhere, hires them.

Certainly experience in office is always a factor to be weighed heavily, especially in times of stress. Still it is almost destructive of the democratic process of choice to say that experience should be all-governing.

To be weighed also are the quality of performance in office, the relative capacity and character of the two men at issue, the programs they offer, the evident needs of the times.

All these considerations belong in the voters' equation whether his choice is between two newcomers or between one newcomer and a White House occupant.

Antique--But Maybe Necessary

There are many who think that after the votes are counted today, the election is over. Not quite so. We still have that quaint and (probably) needless electoral college procedure to go through next January.

This will come when the new Senate and the House of Representatives sit down together and count the electoral college votes. The Constitution says the president of the Senate shall, in the presence of the two Houses, "open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted."

It is this queer procedure that could mean that we will not know who is president of the United States until it has taken place.

On one occasion, at least, the public didn't know the result of the national election until after this joint session of Congress and the sequel to it. And so long as we maintain the electoral college the uncertainty could persist.

If the January 1961 joint session finds that one person has a majority of electoral college votes, then that man is declared president. But if he doesn't get that majority, then the House votes on the top three candidates, with each state getting one vote.

With this situation—50 votes—it is conceivable that there could be a tie for vice president. Now, it is up to the Senate to pick the man, and each senator gets one vote.

There have been three instances in history where the electoral college has decided the issue of the election. They came in 1876, 1884 and 1888 — and to a lesser degree in other elections—when the president actually received a minority of popular votes. The circumstances surrounding each instance are peculiar, and would require detailed explanation here. Let it suffice to say that they show that there is always a chance that the antique electoral college procedure is not as harmless as it seems to be.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—What famous fortress was originally a Catholic mission?

A—The Alamo, San Antonio, Texas.

Q—Who is credited with the idea of an Arbor Day?

A—J. Sterling Morton, a newspaper publisher of Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Q—What is the origin of the Aztec Indians?

A—Speculation exists that they were originally Asian.

BARBS

With all of the recent strong wind storms, we still haven't heard of a mortgage that was lifted.

Little kids always know the tricks of a trade and try to get the best of it.

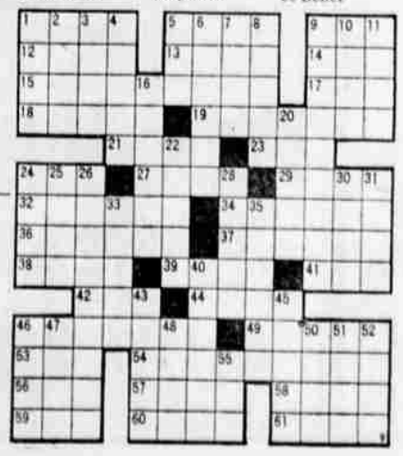
A fellow gets the right girl on the string and winds up on a leash.

Michigan

ACROSS
1 Product of this state
5 One of its borders is on —— Erie
9 Manufactured product of this state
12 Musical instrument
13 Dry
14 Chemical suffix
15 It is nicknamed "—— State"
17 Bow slightly
18 Slumber
19 Legislative bodies
21 Hemp fiber
23 Title of courtesy
24 Through
27 Puts on
29 Fathers
32 Kitchen tool
34 Feminine name
36 Rest
37 Lord and ——
38 Golf devices
39 Halt
41 Peculiar
42 Limb
44 Chest rattle
46 Abundant
49 British noblemen
53 Exist
54 Forgiveness
56 Lair
57 Love god
58 Volcano in Sicily
59 Posed
60 Skin (comb. form)
61 Ooze

DOWN
1 Animals of its farms
2 Greek coin
3 Part in a play
4 At no time
5 Household god
6 Ascended
7 Cattle
8 Paradises
9 Singing voice
10 Century plant
11 Communists
16 Aftersongs
20 Military assistants
22 Orifices
24 —— Huron
25 Fencing sword
26 Offensive
28 South Sea island group
30 Expired
31 Kind of onyx
33 Facial features
35 Trees
40 Quiver
43 Stabbed
45 Relaxes
46 Passing fancies
47 Plastic ingredient
48 Simple
50 Ceremony
51 Solitary
52 Crack
55 Belief

Answer to Previous Puzzle



OTHER EDITOR'S OPINIONS

Dedication To The Past

(THE WALL STREET JOURNAL)

The collapse of the strike against General Electric plainly shows that the union boss, Mr. Carey, misjudged the situation and especially the temper of the union membership. But there is possibly a somewhat broader lesson in this experience.

Most of the members of the union didn't want this strike. And it isn't just this union. The feeling among steelworkers about last year's strike against the steel industry was far from unanimously or enthusiastically favorable. In fact, thanks in part to a White House reluctance to take sides in labor disputes, the losses from strikes have been declining in recent years.

We aren't saying the strike weapon is about to disappear; only that it seems to be growing more unpopular among union members themselves. And it would be surprising if this were not so. The wage or other benefits enforced by a strike often do not look very impressive when balanced against the deprivations of a protracted walkout. In some cases it takes years to recover the strike losses.

That is not the whole of the matter, though. All kinds of changes have been taking place in our industrial society. We are becoming increasingly a one-class—that is, middle-class — nation, where almost everyone can enjoy the same kinds of amenities.

Management itself has been going through a revolution, one of the key features of which is the emphasis now placed on employes' welfare. This can mean, as in the GE case, that a company's contract offer may be so attractive that a strike for more seems irrational to employes. More generally, it means union members can no longer consider the union leader as the sole guardian of their interests.

In these changing circumstances, the strike device acquires a faintly anachronistic air. And in truth, it is a device more appropriate to an earlier stage of industrial development than it is to today's conditions.

It is the union leaders, rather than management or union members, who frequently seem incapable of keeping up with the times. They exhibit a reactionary, hide-bound dedication to the issues, problems and class warfare of an era long since past. Perhaps a few more fiascos like the GE strike will suggest to them what is going on.

Senseless Limitation

(MADISON, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL)

Over the years, millions of oldsters have complained about the arbitrary limits placed on the earnings of persons drawing Social Security benefits. Dozens of attempts have been made in Congress to liberalize the rule or abolish it entirely but with only slight success.

This year a Senate bill attempted to raise the limits on the earnings of Social Security beneficiaries from $1,200 to $1,800 a year. Certainly it seemed a modest enough proposal, less than justice but better than the old rule which would withhold one monthly Social Security check for each $80 earned in excess of $1,200 a year. But the House, for reasons of its own, rejected the Senate plan and came up with a new and complicated sliding-scale formula of its own. That is what finally passed, as a rider to the medical care bill signed into law by the President recently.

Here is how the new plan works:

As is the case now, no benefits are withheld on earnings of $1,200 or less a year. Between earnings of $1,200 and $1,500, a beneficiary loses 50 cents in benefits for each dollar of earnings. Above $1,500, the beneficiary will lose a dollar in benefits for each dollar in earnings. The effect, of course, is to make it pointless for a person on Social Security (and below age 72, when the earnings limit is removed) to earn more than $1,500 a year.

The formula is silly, complicated, and completely unfair. Continuation of the earnings limit on Social Security benefits makes one wonder whether Congress these days is really interested in helping the old people by letting them help themselves, or in keeping them completely dependent on politically inspired gifts from Congress.

HAPPY TIMES

More Localized Aid Urged For Patients

By MARIE DAERR

State and federal mental health programs must provide early diagnosis, treatment and care in a patient's home community, rather than in a distant hospital.

This is the warning of Sen. Pat McNamara, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged and Aging.

On any given day, the senator pointed out, one of three beds in public mental hospitals is filled by a person 65 or older. By 1970, it is estimated, the number of aged patients in mental hospitals will be up 34 per cent over 1959.

"If this trend is uncorrected, it will burden taxpayers in every state with almost prohibitive building and operating costs," McNamara said. "And it will mean a tragic, undeserved end for thousands of aged who gave their lives to build the American economy."

The subcommittee's report said "in-between" community facilities—between the state mental hospital itself and the family which is struggling with the problem of the older patient with a mental difficulty—are the weakest links in the chain of available care.

Mental hygiene specialists who testified at hearings urged that federal help, including grants, in setting up geriatric clinics be given states and local communities.

Older mental patients are by no means hopeless, experts reported. Dr. Maurice Linden, director of the division of mental health in Philadelphia's public health department, said that about 60 per cent of the aged people admitted to public mental institutions can be "vastly benefited." And one-third can be returned home.

"But," he warned, "there is not the widespread education among our professions and our medical colleges to provide sufficient scope to treatment programs for the aged."

Dr. Regis F. Downey, superintendent of Pennsylvania's Mayview State Hospital, said 40 to 60 per cent of about 500 patients over 65 admitted to the hospital in a two-year period were ready to go home three weeks after their admission.

"But," said Dr. Downey, "we could return less than 10 per cent to the community. Lack of facilities was the reason."

Brightening the picture for older people with mental difficulties has been development of numerous facilities to substitute for the mental hospital. These include skilled nursing homes, homes for the aged and psychiatric units in general hospitals.

Still another is "open hospitals," an arrangement which provides part-time treatment for the patients, permitting them to live at home.

Q—I am 46 and have not been able to work for the past three years. Can I get disability payments from social security? — A. L.

A—The new social security legislation removed the age-50 requirement on disability payments. I suggest you ask your local social security office if you meet the other requirements.

Dear reader: Marie Daerr is unable to answer questions except through the column. She appreciates your comments and questions but the volume of her mail makes personal replies impossible.

Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 9, the 314th day of the year with 52 more in 1960.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.

The morning star is Mars.

The evening stars are Jupiter, Venus and Saturn.

On this day in history:

In 1918, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany announced that he had agreed to abdicate his throne.

In 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt created the Civil Works Administration to provide jobs for more than 4 million unemployed persons.

In 1935, led by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, a group of labor leaders affiliated with the American Federation of Labor held a meeting to organize a committee for industrial organization within the framework of the parent organization.

In 1953, the Supreme Court ruled that big-league baseball did not come within the scope of the federal anti-trust laws.

Thought for today: German philosopher Emanuel Kant said: "Act as though thy rule of conduct could be adopted as a universal law."

EDSON IN WASHINGTON

Religious-Political Issues Recognized

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — After the shouting and passions of the political campaign have subsided a little, Americans in all walks of life may be called on to take a calm look at their religious prejudices, and to set in order their ideas on tolerance.

It will mean a soul-searching for Protestants and Catholics alike. They will have to make up their minds how they can live together peaceably in this troubled world, and how to co-operate in the battles they must fight against communism.

One principal accommodation to be reached is on the attitudes to be taken toward political movements in other countries.

Protestants cannot consistently cooperate with Catholic parties in foreign governments while opposing all Catholic movements in the United States.

Catholics cannot consistently have one rule of political behavior in the United States, but completely different standards of tolerance abroad.

And these points must be argued as political, not religious issues.

American foreign policy depends a great deal on cooperation with countries where Catholic political parties and leaders are dominant, though they could not exist in America.

The Christian Democratic Union of Germany is set up as an interdenominational political organization. But the bulk of Germany's Catholics control this party and its leader, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, is a Catholic.

Similarly the French MRP — Popular Republican Movement, in free translation—has a dominant Catholic membership, as does the Christian Democrat party of Italy.

In Netherlands it is the Catholic Peoples' party. In Belgium it is the Social Christian party—PSC—formerly the Catholic party. In Austria it is the Peoples' party—largely Catholic though not directly affiliated with the church.

The people of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary are still over 90 per cent Catholic, though their governments are Communist. About the only hope for liberation of those countries is through Catholic resistance.

The only remaining opposition to the Communist dominated regime of Fidel Castro in Cuba comes from the Catholics. Their most immediate problem is whether schools shall continue to be run by Catholic teachers under direction of the church, or under direction of the government.

If the government prevails in its intention to control the education of Cuban youth in the Communist pattern, there will be repercussions all over Latin America.

So, while the United States applauds Catholic political action against communism wherever the two come in conflict, similar disputes would have no standing in the United States where separation of church and state is already established.

Early in his campaign for the presidency, John F. Kennedy declared this question had been decided by the U.S. Constitution. He accepted this as final and pledged his support to it. And this stand is now officially supported by Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi, apostolic delegate to the United States.

He declares that Catholic bishops in this country have never taken any position similar to that expressed by the bishops of Puerto Rico, who recently issued a pastoral letter forbidding Catholics to vote for the Popular Democratic party.

"I am confident no such action will ever be taken by the Catholic heirarchy in this country," says the archbishop.

While that statement will be welcomed by all Americans dedicated to the principle of complete separation of church and state, it is not in accord with pronouncements of the church in other countries.

No less an authority than L'Osservatore Romano, the official Vatican daily newspaper, has now reported that the Catholic Church "has the right and duty to explain to the faithful the moral obligations which they must reflect as voters."

This is said to apply specifically to the bishopric of Rome alone, but that it will be studied carefully, if not copied entirely except in the United States, where it will not apply at the present time.

THE DOCTOR SAYS . . .

Give Doctor Early Look At Shingles

By HAROLD T. HYMAN, M.D.
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Herpes zoster or shingles is a much underrated and misunderstood affection. It is not a skin disease but a skin manifestation of a generalized virus infection.

The causative virus is not related to the virus of the common cold although the latter may cause a blister of similar appearance to develop on your nostrils or upper lip ("cold sore").

The virus of herpes zoster is closely related to, if not identical with, the virus of chickenpox.

In children, the virus causes the familiar body eruption almost exclusively. Rarely do youngsters under the age of 10 years suffer from zoster.

In the adult, it rarely produces chickenpox, usually manifesting itself as shingles. And, to establish the connection, many adults suffering from shingles have had recent contact with a child suffering from chickenpox.

In the adult, for reasons of which we are ignorant, the virus travels along nerve routes. For reasons of which we are also ignorant, it usually picks one particular nerve for its little jaunt.

If it happens to decide on the nerve that supplies the forehead, upper lid and eye, it may destroy vision. If it settles in brain tissue proper, it may cause a type of encephalitis resembling sleeping sickness.

Fortunately, the virus usually elects to travel along the nerves that supply an arm or one side of the chest or abdomen. But, before it arrives at its destination, as shown by the skin blister, it gives you a few days of feeling out of sorts and perhaps feverish. And just before the blisters appear, you're apt to suffer what you think are "neuralgic" pains along the path of the involved nerve.

None of our newly introduced miracle products has the slightest deterrent effect on this pesky virus. And there is no drug or injection or any other form of therapy that consistently influences the disease. Usually it goes away by itself after a week or so during which time your doctor may have to give you powerful painkillers, to afford you relief.

Again for reasons we don't know, the injured nerve may continue to pain unmercifully for weeks and months. Especially in older persons. Usually when this happens, the skin area becomes brown and even black. Applications to the skin, of course, are valueless.

Repeated administrations of increasing doses of habit-forming drugs carry the threat of addiction. Even destruction of the involved nerve with injections of chemicals, or severing of the nerve surgically, may fail to provide desired relief.

So don't underestimate the power of zoster virus. Try to protect yourself with face masks and hand scrubbings if you're caring for a child with chickenpox.

Let your doctor see what he can do for you early in the attack rather than later when his best efforts may prove futile.

And if you're one of the unfortunates whose involved nerve is paining like 40 devils, don't rebel if your doctor suggests consultation with a neuro-surgeon.

For a copy of Dr. Hyman's leaflet "Your Heart: angina pectoris," send 10 cents to Dr. Hyman, care Herald and News, Box 489, Dept. B, Radio City Station, New York 19, N.Y.

THEY SAY . . .

Far from being undefended, the US.-Canada border is the world's best guarded frontier. Canada and the United States guard their common frontier with the most powerful weapon of them all—common sense.

—John Fisher, executive director, Canadian Tourist Assn.

The United Nations is . . . a body in which the small nations have an influence such as they never before possessed in history . . . an influence, moreover, which will disappear if this organization should fail.

—Frank Aiken, minister of external affairs of Ireland.

We must counter the Russians with the weapons they do not use—calm analysis and scrutiny of the facts, the truth. We should not use Khrushchev's tactics.

—Adlai E. Stevenson.