

Herald and News

# Editorial Page

## Make Haste Slowly

There are serious pitfalls in the Afro-Asian proposal before the United Nations to free quickly all countries not yet independent.

We dare not say that anything and everything which the Soviet Union favors is automatically bad. But in this instance there is ground for suspicion in the fact that the Kremlin was the first to suggest an immediate end to all colonialism.

The truth is—and the events in the Congo offer sharp illustration—that independence is something which must be prepared for. No magic of sudden freedom endows a people with the capacity for governing themselves. It is reasonable to ask of any colonial power that it indicate its colonial possessions full willingness to extend freedom to them at the earliest practical moment. It is fair to expect also that such powers should now be engaged heavily in training colonial peoples for the job of governing.

The British and the French have for the most part been doing just this, in an enlightened manner. That they perhaps came to it belatedly is no longer of consequence. Even Red-leaning Ghana recognizes the good example they have set.

But to demand immediate steps toward freedom for all colonials, without any regard to their fitness for self-government, is to invite chaos, to ask for another Congo.

Thus it is clear enough why Moscow supports the idea.

The Russians don't really want colonialism to end. They simply wish to see the Western variety banished so they can install their own far more insidious version.

Working for them in this effort are the inexperience and naivete of African leaders in such new countries as Ghana and Guinea. They are so blinded by old colonial hatreds that they do not see the peril in the Soviet Union's crushing embrace.

We cannot expect that they, and perhaps others, will speedily recover from this blindness. So, whatever the fate of the current Afro-Asian proposal in the U.N., our problem is somehow to exhibit full sympathy with the aspirations of struggling peoples while resisting a headlong rush to a state of independence some are not yet ready to cope with.

This would be a difficult task in the best of circumstances. With the Kremlin screaming phony slogans at us, it is nearly insurmountable. Nevertheless we must try.

## Watch For Bogus Checks

Recent stories in area and state newspapers point up a surge in bogus check-passing. It's really too bad, but the holiday season is the time of the year when frauds and "con" men enjoy their best and most lucrative times. Check frauds generally rise by about 50 per cent in the period between Thanksgiving and New Year's as forgers take advantage of the prevailing spirit of holiday good will.

This is a matter of concern not only for the business manager or owner. Many of these clever operators (check-passers) use the name of a business house or well known individual in their activities.

Check crooks work hardest when stores are crowded and clerks are busiest. On a na-

tional basis, it is estimated that check fraud increases from a "normal" rate of about \$1 million daily to more than \$1.5 million daily during the annual shopping rush.

Experts claim that the main reason for this rise is the failure of clerks and salesmen and store owners to scan carefully the credentials of those trying to cash checks. They also point out that increases come in the practice of cashing pre-endorsed checks, or cashing checks for juveniles who are sometimes used as runners for phony check passers.

Some idea of the volume of checking transactions can be obtained from the information that more than 90 per cent of all U.S. monetary matters are handled by check. Some \$2 trillion changes hands in the form of checks every year. New York city banks alone clear checks totalling more than \$700 billion annually.

Criminals who specialize in forgery have at least half a dozen ways to attempt check frauds. In addition to the familiar practice of raising the amount on a check—say, from \$28.32 to \$78.32—these swindlers may change the payee's name, draw checks on a non-existent bank, alter dates and forge signatures, reproduce payroll checks of well known companies, or endorse checks made out to others.

The experts offer some suggestions for cutting down on the check crooks' holiday bonus: Be extra careful about cashing checks when banks are closed. Beware of out-of-town checks. Don't cash checks signed with a rubber stamp, written in pencil or showing signs of alteration. Put the presenter's address on the check before cashing it.

While these appear to be routine suggestions they are remedies for being swindled, and they apply not only to store clerks and owners but to individual citizens who are often hoodwinked into participating, or backing an accessory to some swindler's scheme.

And, customers and purchasers should not be offended if some careful clerk makes certain that a check he or she is presenting is legitimate. The cooperation of the buying public is important in setting and maintaining these safeguards for our own protection.

## As It Should Be

The Congressional Quarterly—which is an entirely impartial service, providing its subscribers with factual and statistical reports on a variety of political matters—has summarized the results of organized labor's efforts in the recent Congressional campaigns.

It makes an extremely interesting study. The candidates which the major labor political organization opposed for office were, in the aggregate, slightly more successful than those it supported. In other words, a few more candidates whom this organization considered "wrong" in their voting records were elected than those whom it endorsed as "right."

On top of that, the attempts of Mr. Hofa's Teamsters Union to purge members of Congress who voted for the Landrum-Griffin labor reform bill were spectacularly unsuccessful. Active Teamster campaigns were conducted against 40 of these Congressmen. Exactly one was defeated.

American voters—a category which includes the union rank-and-file as well as the rest of us—follow their own conscience, their own principles, their own private ideas of what is right and wrong. They can't be led around by the nose by any special interest groups—whether representing labor, business, agriculture or anything else.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—How many ex-presidents were living at the start of the Civil War?  
A—Van Buren, Tyler, Fillmore, Pierce and Buchanan.

Q—Between what points did the old Chisholm Trail run?  
A—This famous cattle trail began at Paris, Tex., and ended at Dodge City, Kan.

## BARBS

Folks with the most money are the ones who go south in the winter for a little change.

Write ideas on your cuff, men, and you'll always have something up your sleeve.

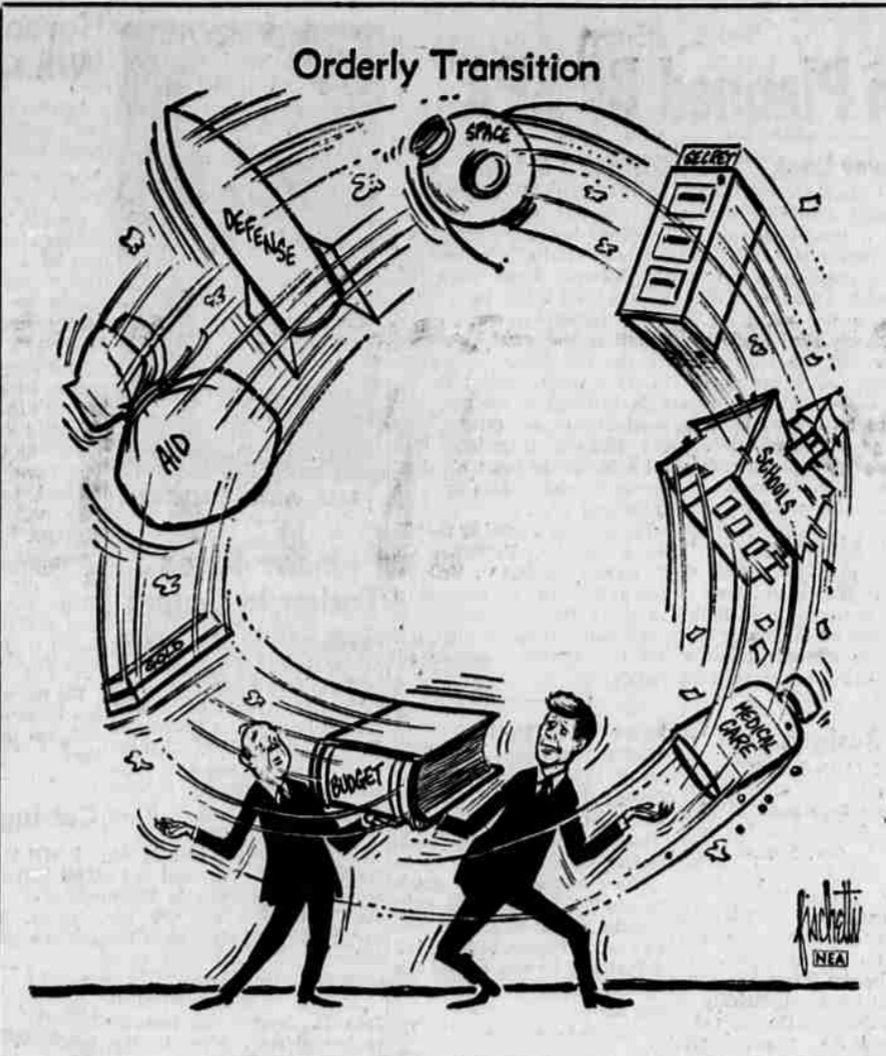
Youngsters get to do a lot more things by telling parents about them afterwards instead of asking permission in the first place.

### Illinois

- ACROSS
- 1 Farm animal of this state
- 4 Product of its stockyards
- 9 Musical group of Illinois
- 12 Exist
- 13 Italian river
- 14 Dancing girl
- 15 Damage
- 16 Convert to an ester
- 18 Damage another's reputation
- 20 Light
- 22 Spanish article
- 22 Consume
- 24 Sleeping places
- 28 Simple
- 32 Secret agent
- 30 Each
- 32 Hangs in folds
- 34 Fish
- 35 Whole
- 36 Watch
- 37 Downpour
- 39 Unique person or thing
- 40 Pellet
- 41 Individual
- 42 Donkeys
- 45 Package marker
- 49 Chess term
- 51 Girl's name
- 52 Diplomacy
- 53 Indians
- 54 Thus (Latin)
- 55 Annoys
- 56 Hereditarily unit
- 57 Furtive
- DOWN
- 1 Cured meat
- 2 Spoken
- 3 Songstress
- 4 Farrar
- 4 Musical group
- 6 Great Lake

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

FOKKER PLAINED  
 OLEATE LANATE  
 REPEAT AGGORT  
 FIAT TOST GEA  
 BELATERS  
 FIARA ANIMALS  
 ECLAT PIVOT  
 LEAGE ELOPE  
 ARRETS SLEWER  
 STRAITS  
 RAE ULT LIQ  
 INDLES ELAINE  
 MODIST MANNER  
 SNARED SATED



## GOALS FOR AMERICANS Whipping Farm Poverty Prime Objective Of US

By LAUREN K. SOTH  
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 Des Moines Register

One of a series of easy-to-read condensations from chapters written by eminent American authorities for book publication by Prentice-Hall with the Report from President Eisenhower's Commission on National Goals. Edited by Ray Cromley for Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

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We may assume that the American people want to maintain a strong, progressive agriculture producing abundantly. We may also assume that Americans want farm people to be able to earn real incomes on a par with the rest of the economy — for equal ability and effort.

### WASHINGTON WINDOW

## Showdown In GOP Leader Is Imminent

By LYLE C. WILSON  
 United Press International

WASHINGTON (UPI) — What Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller seems to be trying to tell Vice President Richard M. Nixon is that Nixon should go get himself a reputation. Perhaps Rockefeller thinks Nixon now should run for governor of California to prove his vote-appeal. Nixon is not going to do that.

Go get yourself a reputation! That is what a champ says to a preliminary fighter who is so impertinent as to ask for a title shot.

Rockefeller's announcement last week that he would be a 1962 candidate for re-election in New York was notable chiefly for what the governor said about Nixon. Rockefeller did not mention the vice president's name. It was not necessary.

What Rockefeller conveyed was that he did not recognize Nixon as the national leader of the Republican party.

### Nixon's Claim Strong

The governor, of course, is under no compulsion to recognize Nixon as his political leader nor as the national Republican leader. But the vice president's claim is substantial. Nixon has just emerged from an election in which he split the presidential vote right down the middle with his Democratic opponent.

To say that Nixon's associates were shocked if not surprised by Rockefeller's repudiation of their man's leadership probably would be to put it too mildly. The play of the Nixon camp, however, will be to play it cozy unless Rockefeller roughly forces the issue.

The showdown must come in time, of course, and it should be spectacular. Rockefeller is properly judged to be a statesman eager to be elected president. Nixon likewise. The Republican party may prove to be too small to contain two such lively ambitions.

### Won on Platform

Rockefeller bowed out of this year's contest for the presidential nomination with a statement which by implication tagged Nixon as the choice of the party bosses whereas Rockefeller, still by implication, was the choice of the rank and file. Later as the convention delegates milled around in Chicago, Rockefeller yanked Nixon into line on Republican platform principles.

Next day, Rockefeller flew into Chicago, emerged from his air-

here is a policy of land retirement. Probably 60 million acres of cropland would have to be retired immediately to reduce total farm output by 5 per cent in the next few years.

Retirement of farm land tends to facilitate the retirement of people from agriculture, especially if entire farms are retired. In a sense, it is a "homesteads in reverse" program.

The public agricultural research and educational machinery might be switched in part over to work more intensively on the agricultural development problems of the poor countries of the world. The problem there is not overproduction but underproduction and poor diets. Many of the state and federal experiment stations could well devote part of their efforts to finding improved methods, better crops and livestock for countries such as India, Pakistan, Peru and Chile.

The public facilities for research and education in agriculture also ought to be focused more sharply on the rural poverty here at home.

The main task is to facilitate movement of people out of farming to more productive jobs in factories, trade and services. Sometimes this means developing jobs in the areas of excess farm labor.

For those who stay in farming, technical assistance, capital and more land are needed to make them productive farmers.

Author of this article on the farmer's future in the Goals for Americans series is Lauren K. Soth, editorial page editor of the Des Moines, Ia., Register and Tribune. Awarded the Pulitzer Prize for editorials in 1955, he is the author of "Farm Trouble" (1957) and is chairman of the National Planning Association Committee on Agriculture. Soth also operates a small farm near Des Moines.

## Almanac

By United Press International:  
 Today is Wednesday, Dec. 7, the 342nd day of the year with 24 more in 1960.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.

The morning stars are Mercury and Mars.

The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

On this date in history:  
 In 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1917, the United States "Rainbow" Army division arrived in France to help fight World War I.

In 1931, President Hoover refused to receive a delegation of "hunger marchers." The marchers hoped to present a petition asking for employment with a guarantee of minimum wages.

In 1941, Pearl Harbor was bombed . . . while Japanese envoys negotiated in Washington, D.C. At 4 p.m. that day, Japan declared war against England and the United States.

Thought for today: English statesman Sir Winston Churchill said in 1939: "I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma."

## KNOW YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE . . . Several Types Make Good Yule Ornament

Each year from out of our American woodlands rolls a mighty flood of evergreens destined to be trimmed and lighted as the traditional Christmas trees. Pouring forth into all parts of the country, these evergreens — of many species — bring Yuletide color and cheer into the homes and lives of millions. And, no less, the resinous fragrance and freshness of our north woods, mountain forests, and southern pine-lands.

Yet for all the familiarity of these evergreens, how many Americans really know their Christmas trees? Know them as the distinctive and highly individual plants they are in their own right, apart from their trappings of lights, tinsel, and ornaments?

Have you, for instance, ever stopped to wonder what kind of tree yours is — fir, spruce, pine, cedar, Douglas fir? Or where it came from? Can you, in fact, correctly distinguish one species of evergreen tree from another?

Then there's that jantiest of all Yuletide greens, the holly, perennially a favorite with its bright-red berries and glossy, evergreen foliage. Yet to most Americans holly is hardly anything real. And no wonder. For the only acquaintance most people have with it is as an artificial, stylized symbol on Christmas seals and scenes.

Yet holly, the well known, red-berried, so-called "American" holly, is one of the most distinguished native products of our eastern woods and fields. Though not so plentiful as it was once, it still grows liberally from Massachusetts southward to Florida, and in the Mississippi Valley from Illinois and Indiana southward to the Gulf of Mexico.

Our exhibit of native American hollies, however, is by no means confined to this one species. There are, in all, 13 species native to eastern North America, and of these, six attain tree size.

In addition to the familiar American holly, and another red-berried but smaller tree, is the yaupon. Still another is the inkberry, or winterberry, with black berries. The latter two are indigenous to our woods from Virginia southward to Florida and Mississippi.

Finally, on the Pacific Coast, you'll find yet another kind of holly — the famous English holly. It's especially plentiful in Oregon and Washington, on lawns, in parks, often even as hedges. Bearing the musical name of Ilex aquifolium, it was introduced from the British Isles and western Europe, where it is native.

English holly is almost indistinguishable from the American holly, save for its larger size and larger clusters of red berries. Thousands of boxes of it are shipped each Christmas season by Pacific Coast residents to friends and relatives "back-East."

But to return to the Christmas-type trees: Those of our evergreens most popular for Christmas use are the true firs, the spruces, the pines, and the Douglas fir — the latter not a true fir. Here are the basic identification features of each:

Your tree is a fir if it has a conical or pyramidal shape, tapering to a spire tip; if the needles, from one-half inch to one inch long, are grass-green to bluish-green; are sprinkled singly over the branches; and are soft and flexible.

If you live in the eastern half of the United States your tree, if a fir, will almost certainly be the balsam fir. If in the western states, the white fir, or one of the silver firs. In California, Oregon, and Washington the much-prized red fir or Shasta fir is sometimes available as a Christmas tree. It has dense, lush, silvery-green foliage.

Your tree is a spruce if, like the firs, it has a conical or pyramidal shape, tapering to a spire tip; but, unlike the firs, has stiff, bristly, sharp-pointed needles. These will be scattered singly over the branches. Color range: from a dark grass-green to a medium green.

Most commonly used Christmas tree spruces are the white spruce and black spruce. In the West, however, the Colorado blue spruce, with lush, bushy, whitish-green foliage, is sometimes cut and sold as a Christmas tree. It is native to the central Rocky Mountain region. Improved horticultural varieties of it have been extensively planted over the United States. These are especially beautiful as lighted outdoor Christmas trees.

Note one further and major distinction between firs and spruces, which are often confused: Each spruce needle is attached to the branch by a tiny stem, just visible to the eye. Fir needles are attached directly to the branches with no stem.

Spruces and firs of Christmas-tree size seldom are mature enough to bear cones. But where cones are present, note this further distinction: Fir cones are a red-shaped like tiny barrels or casks and sit erect on the branches,

and are usually light green or reddish-green in color. Those of the balsam fir, however, are a beautiful violet-purple, with a greenish undertone. Spruce cones, by contrast, are pendant; that is, hang down from the branches.

Your tree is a Douglas fir, if, like the spruces and firs, its shape is pyramidal or conical and tapers to a spire tip, but with branches more drooping. (Fir and spruce branches usually extend out at right angles from the trunk, with little or no droop, save possibly at the very tips.) Douglas fir needles range from light green to medium green and are sprinkled singly over the branches. They, too, are attached with tiny stem, but differ from spruce needles by being soft and pliant. Cones, if present, will be pendant.

Douglas fir grows throughout the western states but is most abundant in the Pacific Northwest. From that region, each year, hundreds of thousands are shipped to all parts of the country for Christmas sale.

Your tree is a pine — "But just a moment," you cut in. "Surely everyone knows what a pine is!" The truth is, everyone doesn't. I have found that not one person in fifty, even in pine-planting areas, can cite the one feature which, above all, sets the pines apart from all other evergreens.

Your tree is a pine if it has needles in bundles, or groupings, of two, three or five. This is the one sure way to tell a pine from all other evergreen species. Pine needles vary greatly in length, from an inch or two in some types to twelve inches and more in the famous longleaf pine of the South.

The species most prized as a Christmas tree is, in the eastern half of the United States, the eastern white pine; and in the West, the western white, often called silver pine. As with all white pines, needles of both species are in bundles of fives; are fine and slender, almost silken, sometimes with the tips curving upward. Color range: medium green to light green.

Among our more plentiful two-needled pines are the Jack pine, Norway or red pine, and the Jersey or scrub pine. Familiar three-needled pines are the ponderosa pine (a western species only) and the pitch pine. These, however, are seldom used for Christmas trees.

But what of our other native evergreen trees and shrubs, such as the cypresses, junipers, arbovitae, the incense cedar, etc.? These rarely are suitable for Christmas trees. However, sprays of their aromatic, cone-laden foliage, especially of arbovitae, are often assembled into wreaths, table pieces, etc.

Adding to this great exhibit of native American evergreens are many handsome exotic or foreign ones, introduced into this country from far-off lands and now widely planted as ornamentals.

Perhaps the most famous of these in America is a giant cedar on the grounds of the Luther Burbank home in Santa Rosa, California. (This species of cedar, by the way, hails from the Himalaya Mountains and adjacent ranges in Asia.) Planted by Mr. Burbank before the turn of the century, this magnificent cedar, now more than 100 feet tall, is lighted each year as Santa Rosa's community Christmas tree.

## Other Editor's Opinions . . .

(THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR)

Having produced the world's first fully automatic post office last month, the United States Postal Service is now developing something called Speedmail.

It works this way: A machine at office A opens a letter and transmits a photograph of it electronically to office B where a facsimile print is made by another machine, which then seals the "instant letter" into a new envelope for delivery.

Least anyone start worrying about the privacy of his mail, we hasten to add that no human ever sees what the transmitting machine does, and that to date this experiment is being carried out on official government mail only. But the results are promising. And some day the public may benefit from same-day letter delivery across the nation.

This burgeoning of ingenuity might be classed as a kind of parting tribute to Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, who has run the tautest ship the postal department has seen in decades.

Mr. Summerfield deserves the public's warm thanks for bringing a really professional interest to this job, usually regarded as little more than a payoff for political services rendered. He has put new efficiency and alertness into a service that often had seemed to slog along out of touch with the public's politics.