

Herald and News
Editorial Page

Matter Of Clemency

Prominent legal authorities in this country would like to see some changes made in the use of a governor's power to grant clemency in cases involving capital punishment.

What they object to principally is the all too frequent tendency to exert this authority at the last possible moment.

As this applies to individuals under sentence of death, this is seen as extremely cruel. The dramatic open telephone line from the governor's mansion to the death house holds hope of reprieve. But it is also an instrument of torture.

As the belated use of the clemency power affects the general authority of both the courts and the executive, it is viewed as clearly damaging. For the delay in decision permits both these branches of government to be subjected to a wide range of outside pressures which have no rightful place in the determination of an individual's fate.

A governor does not grant or withhold clemency on the basis of the strict trial record. It is for the appeals courts to review the record, consider possible new evidence, seek out judicial error. A governor acts on the basis of the convicted individual's total life record, his character, and background.

In the opinion of some specialists, this picture is one he can start filling out the moment a man is convicted, long before his appeal is taken and heard. The careful amassing of the full personal facts can thus be carried forward at calm pace, free of all external pressures.

Then, if the appeal is denied, the executive will be ready promptly to grant or deny clemency.

He will not have to act in the white heat that affected California's Gov. Edmund (Pat) Brown in the Chessman case last year. Nor will the defendant sit on the edge of the abyss waiting for a telephone call that may or may not come.

Both our executive authorities and our judges have been bombarded in recent years with altogether too much outside pressure. The Chessman affair and the Rosenberg atom spy case were the worst examples.

Necessarily the courts must remain accessible as a last resort in any capital case. But much benefit to individual justice and to the status and effectiveness of free government would be had if the question of clemency were settled early and thoroughly, as certain top legal men sanely recommend.

Question For Castro

Cuba's Fidel Castro has not overlooked Puerto Rico in his effort to export to other Latin lands the only thing he knows well — revolution.

To this end, he is deliberately seeking to confuse the world as to the true status and sentiment of the Puerto Rican people. He tries to suggest they are held in colonial bondage by the United States.

As if to emphasize his sympathy for their alleged aspirations to independence, he actually has named two former Puerto Ricans to the Cuban U.N. delegation.

Responsible Puerto Rican officials in San Juan and in this country are alarmed and pained at this situation, and anxious that people both in the United States and abroad should understand the real circumstances.

To begin with, Puerto Rico today is a commonwealth, a self-governing state whose people chose freely a decade ago to remain in association with America. In last November's election, nearly 60 per cent supported the party which stands for commonwealth status. About 32 per cent wanted the even closer ties of statehood.

Only 3.6 per cent, some 24,000 of the 788,000 votes recorded, favored the so-called independence party. It is now legally dead as

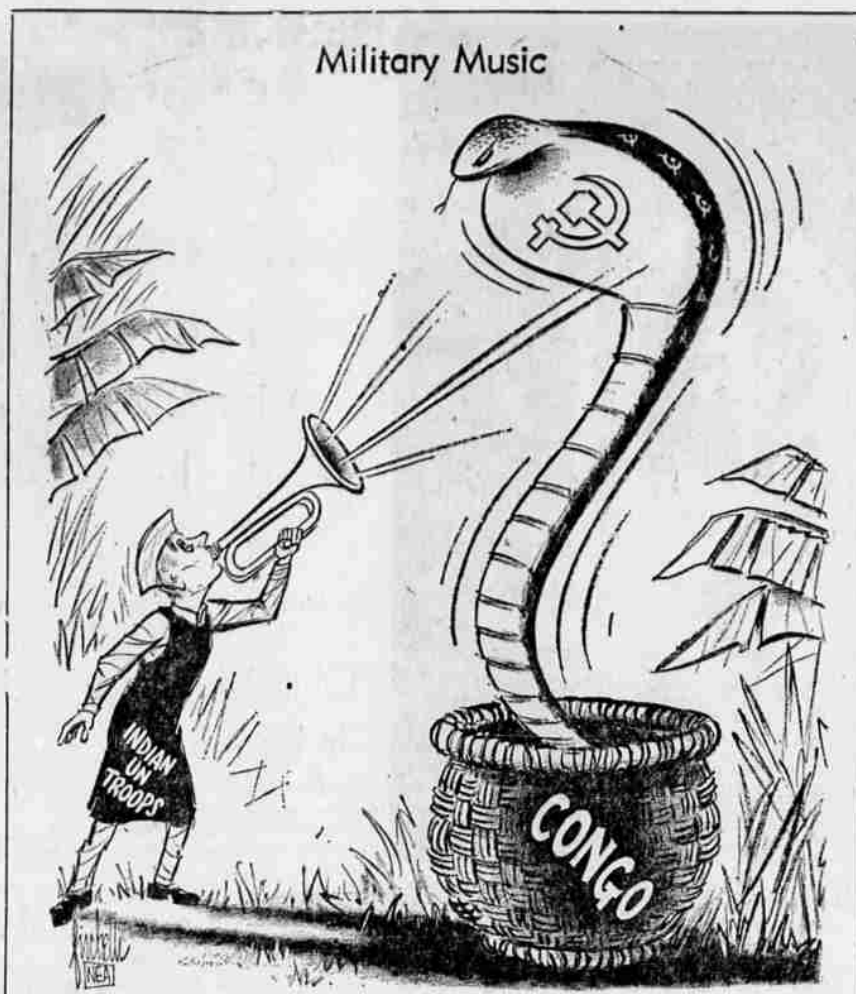
a party until it can muster 10 per cent of the registered voters on new petitions.

Thus beaten, the pro-independence advocates have nothing left but to demonstrate. What Puerto Rican leaders fear is that demonstrations helped along by Castro's agitators and coupled with Cuban antics in the U.N. may give outsiders a distorted picture. Some U.S. newspapers evidently unwittingly played the agitators' game last December by reporting their phony complaints as if they were broadly representative of Puerto Rican sentiment.

The truth is that the Independence group is today a frustrated fringe movement. Moreover, the earlier Nationalist party, now extinct and down to less than 300 sympathizers, is reduced to efforts at subversive violence. It was this group that once tried to kill former President Truman, and shot up Congress.

The really impressive fact, which all the world should be told again and again, is that —excepting elections years—the Puerto Ricans can have a new vote on their status, including independence, any time 10 per cent of the voters petition for it.

Let the world ask Castro when his people can vote on anything at all.



YOUR POCKETBOOK

Workmen's Comp Is Vital To Employee

By FAYE HENLE

Are you covered by the nation's workmen's compensation laws? Should you be covered? How does this insurance coverage work? What is the significance to workers?

That is what I asked J. M. Switzer, president of Employers Mutual of Wausau, Wis., whose company was the first ever to write a compensation policy in this country—back in 1911. He has all the answers.

About 80 per cent of all workers in every state are covered and so should you be unless you are self-employed or work in an industry that has its own coverage such as the railroad and maritime workers.

Check your coverage by asking your company's personnel officer. You should report to him any on-the-job injuries. The amount of compensation you will receive depends upon the type of injury sustained and the rate set for that industry. Different rates apply in different states.

If you are a new employer, perhaps a small businessman, and have overlooked getting such coverage for your workers, don't delay any longer for you could be sued in the event of an accident. You could be sued to the extent of losing your business and your personal wealth.

Your state industrial commissioner can tell you how to arrange coverage which is written by private insurance companies. The rate charged by any company writing workmen's compensation is the same. Because of greater efficiency, however, one company might offer better service than another.

Unlike social security the cost of workmen's compensation is borne solely by the employer, running about one per cent of his payroll.

The compensation he offers is adequate under the law, but not of such magnitude that you should feel you do not need extra insurance protection. Figure how much disability you would get via workmen's compensation for an imaginary injury that would prevent you from working for a stated period. Would this be enough?

"Actually the term 'compensation' insurance is confusing," Mr. Switzer told me. "It probably should be termed 'accident prevention' insurance since the main goal of the law as applied today is to reduce industrial accidents. Work accidents cost the nation more than \$4.5 billion a year, plus an approximately \$1.8 million for temporary disability."

The laws help prevent accidents because a high accident rate forces the employer's insurance costs up. Therefore, it becomes good business to promote safety and eliminate possibly unsafe work situations.

In outlining our duties as nominators, the association observed that the House and Senate "have many hard-working and distinguished members, whose services to their country often are not reflected in the daily press."

"The award program will seek to call attention to distinguished service, whether or not it is of the kind likely to come to the public's attention," it said.

I have tried to keep this point in mind in weighing the qualifications of prospective nominees, and I find that it rather adds to the burden. I mean, distinguished service is a hard thing to measure.

"It's true that some of the things our congressmen do are not called to the public's attention. But on the whole, this probably is a good thing for both the congressmen and the public."

Nevertheless, by dint of exhaustive research I have been able to find two relatively unpublicized actions that I regard as worthy of the association's consideration.

One of my nominees, therefore, will be Rep. W. R. Poage, a Texas Democrat who last month took a firm stand against chanting by livestock auctioneers.

Poage said he attended an auction and found he could not tell what cattle were sold, who bought them, or what the price was. Furthermore, he said, "One of the largest cowmen in Texas confided to me that he did not know when he was raising his own bid."

If cattle buyers have been raising bids without knowing it, that probably accounts for the current price of beef steaks. Therefore, I credit Poage with a truly distinguished service in demanding that auctioneers "go back to the use of the English language."

My other nominee will be Rep. Seymour Halpern (R-N.Y.), who called last week for an embargo on imports from Cuba. Buying Cuban tobacco, he said, puts money in Castro's pocket and "dangerously increases the menace of this Communist satellite."

Halpern contended that cigar smokers in the United States could switch from Havana to Jamaican cigars without undue hardship. He pointed out that Sir Winston Churchill has been smoking Jamaican cigars for years.

As a cigar smoker myself, I appreciate Halpern's proposal. It pains me to think that I might be aiding communism every time I light up a cheroot.

Yea, he shall see that even the wise die, the fool and the stupid alike must perish and leave their wealth to others.—Ezra 9:10.

THE LIGHTER SIDE . . .

Cattlemen To Herald His Fight

By DICK WEST

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL WASHINGTON (UPI) — I recently received a billet-doux from the American Political Science Association inviting me to nominate candidates for "congressional distinguished service awards."

This is a heavy responsibility to have placed on one's shoulders, and I have been giving the matter a lot of careful thought.

The fact that the same responsibility has been placed on the shoulders of about five thousand other newspapermen does not, as I see it, lighten my own load one bit.

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Mokey is not required to buy one necessity of the soul.—Henry David Thoreau.

U.S. Initiative Wins Some Cold War Battles

By LEON DENNEN

Newspaper Enterprise Analyst UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (NEA) —It is still far too short a time to permit judgments on the real effectiveness of the new American initiative in international affairs. Yet it is increasingly clear that the U.S. already has scored some diplomatic victories, however minor, in the cold war.

They are uneasy victories, to be sure.

In the Congo, for example, there is reliable information that ex-Nazi officers from Russian-controlled East Germany are commanding the troops seeking to destroy President Kasavubu's regime, the only government recognized by the U.N. The troops are armed with Czechoslovakian weapons.

In the Red - controlled Laos areas, Russia, China and North Vietnam are pushing their arms buildup to attack the pro-Western government of Prince Boun Oum.

And in the General Assembly, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko continues his assaults on Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold in Moscow's attempt to reduce the U.N. to political impotence.

Nevertheless, what were "immediate dangers" at the time President Kennedy took office in January have now been reduced to something which could be classified perhaps as "serious threats."

For the present at least the cold war fronts, West Berlin included, are frozen. Moscow's aggressive moves have been checked temporarily.

Since the Communists obviously consider the cold war as a permanent war against the non-Communist world, these are no mean diplomatic achievements.

More important is the fact that despite Russia's disruptive acts, the mood of the Asian and African delegates at the U.N. is different from what it was last September during the first half of the current General Assembly session.

Then all attention was turned on Soviet Premier Khrushchev and his shoe-pounding act. Today, the majority of the delegates—in their discussions in the U.N. lobbies or at diplomatic gatherings—are more concerned with what President Kennedy or his representative, Adlai E. Stevenson, will say or do.

Negotiations are even going on behind the scenes for the formation of a bloc of the United States and Afro-Asian nations to counteract the pro-Soviet block consisting of the United Arab Republic, Ghana, Mali and Guinea.

Indeed, it is the consensus of African and Asian diplomats that Premier Khrushchev badly misjudged the temper of most neutral countries in his unbridled attacks on Hammarskjold.

But he suffered his greatest setback when India's Prime Minister Nehru, to whom the neutrals look for leadership, flatly and publicly refused to support Russia's plan for the withdrawal of U.N. forces from the Congo.

There is evidence, in fact, that Nehru himself drafted the resolution which gave Security Council backing to Hammarskjold in the Congo.

This apparently was the main reason why Soviet representative Valerian Zorin did not veto the resolution but merely abstained. The Russians, it seems, did not want an open rift with India's leader.

An Asian diplomat told me in the U.N. corridors: "The United Nations has many shortcomings. But consider the chaos and bloody strife that would result in the former colonial countries if we would permit the U.N. to collapse."

He emphasized that "the future of the world" and particularly of Africa and Asia "cannot be decided away from the United Nations."



THE DOCTOR SAYS . . .

Faith Victorious Over Some Drugs

By HAROLD T. HYMAN, M.D.

Written for Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

I hate to admit it but faith healers got a big shot in the arm and we doctors took a licking in a recent pair of encounters.

To the surprise of few experienced practitioners, who have been viewing with alarm the current tendency to overmedicate hypertensives with powerful drugs, Dr. Raymond Grenfell and his associates have reported studies that demonstrated a sustained lowering of blood pressure following injections of sterile water. That's right, sterile water!

Here are some of the details as reported to the 14th Clinical Meeting of the American Medical Association:

—Over three years, one group of hypertensive patients was given injections of a recognized pressure-reducing drug while another group received injections of sterile water. As nearly as possible, the groups were matched. Neither knew what was being injected.

—Over periods varying between 59 and 143 weeks, significant reductions in blood pressure were noted in both groups. Those in the sterile water group were just as satisfactory as those in the group that received drugs, both as to systolic and the more important diastolic pressures.

A second blow to overenthusiastic "drug-healers" was delivered by the psychiatrists of the University of North Carolina. Using three different tranquilizers, a pep pill and a placebo (sugar pill), they treated a group of 80 oldsters suffering from various mental disturbances such as depressions (the blues), restlessness, confusion and ideas of persecution (paranoia).

After two months of a "blind study" in which neither patients nor doctors knew which product was which, they made tests to determine the effects of medication on the anxiety content and moods of their subjects.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—What is the relationship between the reigning monarch and the Church of England?

A—He is its temporal head.

Q—Can government civilian employees at military bases overseas be tried by courtmartial in peacetime?

A—No.

Q—Which is the oldest orphanage still in use in the U.S.?

A—Bethesda near Savannah, Ga. It was opened in 1740.

We hear the word on many tongues—A talisman to charm us. In hope that we'll more soon forget. The greater good—now gone—Eleanor Harvey



JIM BISHOP: REPORTER . . .

Getting Out Is First In Mind Of 'Insiders'

FORT PIERCE, Fla. — It is 10 p.m. The town is asleep. At the drive-in theater one big eye is open. A squad car moves up Orange Street past the dark store. No one is on the sidewalk. At Ann's Restaurant a man wipes the crumbs from the counter. The gas station across the street has a night light on.

In the drugstore, the woman behind the counter yawns and looks at the wall clock. The big trailer trucks roll up Route One from Miami to New York. At this point, they have covered 119 miles. They move fast and, when a green light changes to orange, they snort with impatience as they pull down. Fort Pierce is a light.

The county prison has three floors. There are two broken wicker chairs on the porch. No one ever uses them. No inmate is allowed on the front porch. The place is dark and whitewashed and somewhere inside a Negro with a bass voice sings "Come to Me My Melancholy Baby" and the clear notes feel their way through the bars to the dark freedom outside.

On the third floor rear, Joseph Peel—a judge accused of engineering the killing of a judge—sits on the edge of his bunk looking out at the parking lot below and the Australian pines across the street, and beyond to the beautiful Indian River and the twinkling stars. He is a bright man and he has been able to figure out everything in life except how to get on the other side of this window.

Diagonally across the street is the New Fort Pierce Hotel, which isn't new. It has broad marble flagstones running through a big lobby. A few elderly people sit before the television set. A stout woman fans herself with a newspaper. It is a hot night.

There were lights on, nice colored lights, a little while in the lot on the far side. The old men were playing shuffleboard and shouting taunts to each other. The lights are out now. The old men are in bed. A movie marquee spells it "The Great Imposter." In the Swiss Chalet, the slender cashier with the rich smile adds up the last of the checks and, in the kitchen, the neat waitresses stack the last of the dishes.

A Pan American billboard shows a beautiful Japanese girl kneeling before a tiny teak table. "Why Not Have Tea in Tokyo Tomorrow?" the sign asks. Well, why not? A female mongrel skips off a curb against the light and makes it between the cars. So do four warm suitors who pay no attention to the lights.

A big Florida East Coast diesel pours through the city southbound followed by 83 freight cars—a drunken awaying bus constrictor with a headlight. Over at Poor Bob's on Jensen's Beach, Ray Stone says: "Two beers and two liverwurst sandwiches—with onion, please. And mustard."

The big man with the briefcase—Phillip O'Connell, State Attorney—walks around the swimming pool of Quality Court's Southern

Aire to rooms occupied by his legal assistants. Mrs. O'Connell calls out: "They have lights on the putting green, Phil." She can tempt him from his work, which is the ceaseless fight against malefactors, putting them on the inside of barred windows and keeping them there.

Over at South 29th and Palm Boulevard a car backfires twice and dies in front of the First Freewill Baptist Church and the young man at the wheel dies a little too because he just bought it, and he just bragged about it, and now his girl sits in silence and stares at him. She says: "What Now, Big Shot?" He owes 23 more payments, that's what.

There is a scent of jasmine around the courthouse but the Negro woman who mops the floor smells only ammonia. She knows every stone in this floor and has known them for years. On the other side of town, Sally Latham, a writer, sits with two pillows propped behind her in bed. She is composing a poem and sometimes it hides and defies her.

It is 10:30 now, and the street lights stare down at empty macadam and concrete. In the dark, the oranges and grapefruit ripen on the trees and over at Indian Creek golf course, a wild duck sits on a nest of reeds and contemplates a little lake and the freight cars standing on a siding.

Fort Pierce is quiet. In the silence, I can hear an air conditioner stop . . .

At the Zoo

- ACROSS
- 1 Lions and tigers
 - 3 Chimpanzees
 - 5 Female
 - 7 Elephant
 - 9 Russian
 - 11 Mineral rock
 - 13 Unsettled
 - 15 Diminutive suffix
 - 17 Marx brother
 - 19 Ruled
 - 21 Emerald Isle
 - 23 Negative word
 - 25 Footlike part
 - 27 Soapy water
 - 29 Stagger
 - 31 Entertain
 - 33 Opposed
 - 35 Rest
 - 37 Places again
 - 39 Short
 - 41 Bridge
 - 43 Formerly
 - 45 Transmit
- DOWN
- 1 Money
 - 3 Square column
 - 5 Head
 - 7 Seal (coll.)
 - 9 Total
 - 11 Looked

Answer to Previous Puzzle

BALSAM ASTERS
LOBATE LOANER
TOILET TAMEST
ALE BARS MAR
BIN ARRS CEBAC
DECEASE DEKAC
UNIAIC MOBLIT
CEEB BLOW NEE
TEE FLAG OET
DEWARS NEARER
ELATED INSERT
ASSESS ATTIRE

