Herald and News

# Editorial Page

## The Nut At The Wheel

A common phrase today in news accounts of automobile accidents is "the car went out of control."

Newspapers resort to it partly because the exact circumstances are often far from clear, and partly because to say "the driver lost control" is to open the way for possible suit.

In one sense it is too bad this is deemed necessary. For the effect of the vague language is to suggest that automobiles have wills of their own and in certain situations just take over and cause accidents.

Sometimes, of course, this is true. Steering mechanisms break. Brakes fail. Blowouts occur. Hoods fly up, blocking the driver's view.

In relatively few serious accidents, however, is mechanical failure responsible. Where control is lost, the human factor is usually involved.

The Transportation Institute at the University of Michigan has studied driving behavior to cast light on this problem.

Bruce Greenshields, the institute's assistant director, reported on the latest of these studies in a paper for the Highway Research Board meeting in Washington.

Using a device called a "drivometer and traffic events recorder," researchers gauged driver actions, vehicle motions and traffic situations. A 15-mile course offering varied conditions, from business streets to expressways, was used.

Then the researchers sought out, with the aid of state officials and insurance companies, high-accident drivers and those with a long list of serious traffic violations.

The advance guess of the experimenters was that the behavior patterns of the violators and causes of accidents would show many similarities—but would contrast sharply with the performance of acknowledged trouble-free drivers (driver trainers were used).

The extensive tests bore this notion out. Comparisons indicated that high-accident drivers changed speed nearly twice as often as trainers, moved the steering wheel about twice as much, applied the brakes 50 per cent more frequently, altered direction roughly 25 per cent more often.

Altogether, it was found that driver actions (steering wheel, accelerator, brake) averaged 377 for the trainers but averaged 707 for the high-accident drivers.

Further comparisons showed that the latter group's patterns are most like those of high school or beginning drivers.

Researchers concluded, too, that steering wheel movement was the most sensitive measure of difference between good drivers and the accident-prone.

In this study the sample was small. It constitutes just a beginning. Many factors are involved in moving the wheel too often. Bad distance judgment, for instance, may require constant corrections of position. So may chronic inattention. Or that great summertime favorite — wrist or two finger "control" of the wheel.

The institute's experiments are an encouraging step forward. We are getting away from the idea that the steering wheel is a kind of automatic pilot that somehow must bear responsibility for much of the carnage which occurs on the streets and highways.

THESE DAYS . . .

## The Toothless Congress

By JOHN CHAMBERLAIN

Sen. Barry Goldwater has indicated that he may be willing to seek the Republican nomination for the Presidency if enough support materializes in the next year or so. But if he is actually making a pitch for the privilege of leading his party as a Presidential candidate in the effort to unseat the Kennedy Administration, he is doing it in a most paradoxical way, by knocking all the traditional implied powers of the Presidential office.

Senator Goldwater paid his disrespect to the doctrine of the "strong" executive in a little-noticed speech delivered recently before the Air War College at Maxwell Air Base, Montgomery, Ala. The speech was superficially noteworthy in that Goldwater, in criticizing President Kennedy for a series of "tiny coup d'etats" which are reshaping the federal system into a "lopsided monster" that is virtually "all executive," served notice that he himself would, if elected, endeavor to be a "constitutional" President. But of deeper import was Goldwater's implied accusation that the U.S. Senate cannot be an effective policy maker in an age that demands expertise as the basis for important political decision.

The real "legislators" for the nation, so Goldwater indicated to the air officers at Maxwell base, are the civilian research and consultative groups that work for the cabinet departments. What the technical "experts," who have never been elected to office, recommend to the Department of Defense or the State Department, to pick two examples, seldom even comes to the attention of the supposedly appropriate Senatorial committees. Yet the expertise becomes the basis for national policy. There is no Senatorial "advice," no "consent," before the civilian recommendations are transformed into the fait accompli of executive decision.

The Goldwater complaints were not only general; they were also specific. Item: no member of the Senate Armed Services Committee was apprised of the decision to scrap Skybolt and to offer the Polaris missile to NATO countries. Item: the most recent disarmament proposal offered at Geneva by the U.S. has never, to the Senator's knowledge, been discussed by the foreign affairs committee of either House. Item: the 87th Congress almost unanimously supported additional appropriations for the B-70 program, but the Department of Defense, relying on its own advisers, has "consistently refused to recognize the will of the people as expressed through the votes of the Congress" in making use of the money.

In the matter of medical care for the aged, said Goldwater, Congress has already spoken its wish on policy by passing the Kerr-Mills bill. But simply because this legislation has failed to please the executive, the "Department of Health, Education and Welfare is deliberately using its powers to stultify the Kerr-Mills procedures." As for Cuba, Senator Goldwater told the air officers that Congress is opposed not just to missiles in Cuba but to the toleration of a Communist base there at all. Yet the President, relying on his own "technicians," appears to be entirely complaisant about missiles in Cuba provided they are of a "defensive" nature.

The upshot of Goldwater's Maxwell Air Base remarks is that he is starting a crusade to vindicate the powers of the U.S. Senate. But he doesn't say how this is to be done, or even that it can be done. In every legislative body of the Western world the difficulty of assembling the necessary expertise to serve as the basis of effective foreign, military and even domestic policy is defeating the best efforts of elected officials. In England it is notorious that pressure groups, when they are interested in affecting policy, seldom bother with old-fashioned lobbying in the House of Commons corridors. Instead, they lobby the appropriate Whitehall bureaucrats. If Senator Goldwater can restore policy-making effectiveness to the U.S. Congress he will prove himself a genius. And, ironically, he will have made it more important to remain a Senator than to become President of the United States.

## Letters To The Editor

### Resolution

The Shasta-Cascade Chapter of the Columbia River Section of the Society of American Foresters is an organization of professional foresters whose members come from private industry and state and federal forest organizations. The geographical boundaries of the Shasta-Cascade Chapter extend and cover Chemult, Lakeview, Klamath Falls, and northern Modoc County in California.

"The current controversy over management of deer in Eastern Oregon caused this chapter to consider the problem in some detail. Many professional foresters have a major responsibility for management of wild lands; most, if not all of this land being deer habitat. As professional foresters, we manage our lands for a number of uses. Production of forage for both wild and domestic animals is a part of this wild land management. Therefore we feel an obligation to express ourselves regarding the deer problem.

The enclosed resolution was approved by the members present at our Jan. 11 meeting:

Whereas, big game management and forest management are related to the extent that each involves the utilization of wild land resources and, whereas, each field of endeavor is based upon the accumulation of factual data by means of recognized scientific techniques, the Shasta-Cascade Chapter of the Society of American Foresters goes on record endorsing the present organization of the Game Commission as being technically sound.

As foresters, we are concerned with the continued production of goods and services from forest land, whether it be in the form of wood, water, forage, wildlife or recreation. We recognize that under a multiple use concept, all of these things, in balance, can be provided by enlightened management, utilizing the training and experience of qualified personnel. This chapter opposes indiscriminate attacks on the policies of the Oregon State Game Commission, which attacks are based on individual opinion and emotion rather than accepted biological procedures.

In the area of transforming accumulated facts into game management policies and in an effort to improve communications between the commission and the public, it is urged that local advisory groups be established throughout the state, consisting of representatives from organizations that are concerned with game management practices. It is also felt that public hearings, outside of the Portland area, would encourage wider participation.

Robert B. Kennedy,
Chapter Chairman

### Orchids

How gratifying to read there are other odd-ball parents who have the courage to publicly be irritated and concerned about the sophisticated nonsense being pushed at our children.

There are excuses and justifications for owning such a doll, depending on the age (possibly 10 and up) of the child (my personal opinion is, they are grotesque, but some parents and children really do like them and they have filled a good need for the child who is (naturally) beginning to dream of junior high, clothes, dating, and having her own home).

The main objection to these dolls is the same as was published in the two previous letters: pushing, shoving, catapulting our small immature children into a world that is ours not theirs. With all the discussion, literature and hue and cry about taking childhood away from our children, and dragging them as fast as some parents can, into the sophisticated business of being grown-up, these dolls are a poor example of what the little 3 and 4-year-olds, and up, should play with.

Again, orchids to the thinking parents that have seen and heard what the publicity of these dolls is saying and what it is implanting in the minds of their small children who are no more ready for it than the beer and cigarette commercials and ads that are so very attractive.

Pat Amundson

"Never Mind What I Said, Jackie, You're Spending Too Much Money"

IN WASHINGTON . . .

## Art Boondoggle Pending?

By RALPH de TOLEDANO

Not satisfied with the biggest budget in history, New Frontiersmen are reviving pressure for government subsidy of the arts. The argument being offered to justify putting artists on the federal payroll is a hoary one: The public is too crass to support poor, misunderstood painters. People don't go to galleries or buy pictures. Therefore, the federal government should shove it down their throats.

Much of this talk comes from New Frontiersmen who are either esthetically illiterate or whose ideas on the subject have never passed the high school oh-and-ah level.

The simple fact is that federally-subsidized art would be the biggest boondoggle in history. Art in America has become a racket in which a small group now in control awards itself fancy prizes in an endless daisy chain. Recently in Chicago, an artist was handed $1,000 for a "painting" consisting of a solid black canvas. It could have been done with a housepainter's roller, but those who "judged" it exclaimed over its "subtlety."

Here in Washington, one of the nation's great competitions, the 28th Biennial Exhibition of Painting at the Corcoran Galleries, is such a demonstration of privileged phoniness and incompetence that the Sunday Star's art critic, Frank Getlein, suggested: "The best way to approach (it) is with your eyes closed." A painting called "Thursday," by one Jack Tworkov, won the $2,000 first prize and a gold medal. It is simply a roughly filled-in green background with a haphazard grid of red lines—the kind of thing a bored child does to keep his kindergarten teacher off his back. Mr. Getlein remarks that it "suggests only an artist painting nothing but paintings of nothing but paint."

The critic is too kind. Another painting in the show is decorated by a piece of bent pipe suspended by a rope. The end of the rope dangles down to a piece of metal and disappears through a hole in the canvas. These, and other prime examples of what the federal government should be paying for, remind Mr. Getlein of "the monsters at the gates of hell."

Obviously, the in-group which controls today's art world has nothing to say to the people who love art. The group, in fact, couldn't care less whether or not its work communicates or whether it has meaning. In fact, its members have nothing to say to each other. Even the old wild exhibitionism of earlier periods is lacking. It used to be said of the work by "abstractionists" and other "non - objective" artists that it would make good wallpaper patterns, but this is no longer true.

It would not be so bad if paintings which satisfy the real hunger for art in this country had a chance to be seen. But the Esthetic Establishment has a stranglehold on the art world. If you're not part of the group, you're dead.

It is harder to get non-Establishment work shown than it used to be to get a Hollywood screen test. Those who want to break through the Canvas Curtain of the art dictators have to become newsworthy nuts. They shoot paint pellets at a canvas with a shotgun, stand on stepladders and drip paint, or dip the cat's tail in oils and let the poor beast do the work.

What the New Frontiersmen want, however, is to legalize this esthetic barratry and to give it Civil Service status. The WPA art projects turned out much that was depressingly mediocre, but they were temporary. What the New Frontiersmen want would be permanent. It would support "artists" but destroy art. The group in power would have a tidy appropriation to play with, and the economic necessity of the most halfhearted effort at getting some public recognition and approval would disappear. The government would pay the artists and automatically hang their work—probably in Post Offices, among the FBI's "wanted for murder" posters where it belongs.

Washington is already having trouble over its proposed cultural center. Most people want it where it can be reached, where it will add to the capital's life. The Esthetic Establishment wants it at an inaccessible spot which has no public transportation, where it will merely create problems. The Establishment will win, just as certainly as it will take over any federally-subsidized arts. Perhaps the answer is to use that bent pipe in the Corcoran painting on some of the "critics" who make such arrogant flimflammery possible.

## STRICTLY PERSONAL

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

A foreigner who has been in this country several years approached me not long ago and said he had been amused and gratified to read a recent column of mine about the "mess of multiple tude" in the English language.

"It's hard for a foreigner to learn that sheep come in flocks and ships come in fleets," he said, "but even harder to master are the different tenses and moods of English verbs."

"It doesn't seem so to us," I answered. "What seems to perplex you about our verb forms? They're much easier to learn than the irregular verbs in French."

"Perhaps so," he said, "but I can find no rule or consistency about your verbs. For instance, the past tense of 'teach' is 'taught,' but the past tense of 'preach' isn't 'praught,' and the past tense of 'screech' isn't 'scraught'!"

"Does a stranger to our tongue find many like that?" I asked.

"Hundreds," he sighed. "I learn that the past of 'sink' is 'sunk,' but 'wink' isn't 'wunk,' and 'think' isn't 'thunk.' 'Speak' becomes 'spoke,' but 'seek' doesn't become 'soke,' and 'leak' doesn't become 'loke.'"

"Odd how we take such changes of tense for granted," I said. "Nobody who speaks English ever thinks about it. At least, I've never thonk about it before."

He smiled wanly. "The past of 'steal' is 'stole,'" he continued, "but the past of 'kneel' isn't 'knole,' and the past of 'feel' isn't 'fole.' Again, the past of 'cling' is 'clung,' but the verb 'sing' doesn't become 'sung,' and 'bring' doesn't turn into 'brung,' except for small children."

"I've got a couple," I said, getting into the spirit of the thing. "For example, 'catch' becomes 'caught,' but 'snatch' isn't 'snaught,' and 'scratch' isn't 'scraught.' Likewise 'freeze' becomes 'froze,' but 'seize' doesn't turn into 'sez,' and 'squeeze' doesn't become 'squoze.'"

"Excellent," he answered! "And the past of 'ride' is 'rode,' but the past of 'glide' isn't 'glode,' and the past of 'hide' isn't 'hode.' Also, 'grow' becomes 'grew,' but 'mow' doesn't become 'mew,' and 'flow' most certainly doesn't change into 'flew.' May I say that English has a great future, but a terrible past?"

"You may," I said. "And now it's time I drove away, because I arrove early, and controve to make another engagement."

## POTOMAC FEVER

Republicans say Gov. Rockefeller's ahead for the '64 nomination. In fact, weighing his alliances against Kennedy, Rocky hopes he's so far ahead, they won't be able to catch him until 68.

**JFK scores 78 per cent in a national popularity poll. Probable wire from Joe Kennedy: "Note your passing marks. Suggest next time you get Teddy to take the exam for you."**

The split in the Communist camp is highly exaggerated. In fact, the Red Chinese have such regard for Khrushchev, they're nominating him for Mr. Milk Toast of the Year.

**Question on the new cultural motifs in politics: If the Democratic donkey is now the Mona Lisa, will the elephant become the Leaning Tower of Pisa?**

Suggested John Birch Society motto: Nocturnal vigilantes are the price of liberty.

Bob Kennedy says there were several "major mistakes" in the Bay of Pigs invasion. First mistake, in light of how things turned out, was in not picking Jimmy Hoffa to lead the assault forces.

FLETCHER KNEBEL

EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

## Kennedy Programs To Set Demo Standards

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — A preview of 1964 presidential election campaign strategy was given to about 150 Democratic National Committee members and state chairmen at their Washington clambake to celebrate the second anniversary of the Kennedy inaugural.

"We have no acknowledged candidate for the top office," said White House political adviser P. Kenneth O'Donnell, in opening up four days of medicine - making with the party chiefs.

They all laughed politely.

But Minnesota Sen. Hubert Humphrey, majority whip and a candidate for chairman of the Senate Campaign Committee for the next two years, came right out with it:

"The spotlight for 1964 is on the President of the United States. Go back home and tell your '64 candidates for Congress they are the luckiest in the world," Humphrey advised the state Democratic leaders. "They will be standing shoulder to shoulder with the President of the United States."

That would make coattail riding the major issue for them.

"The President has presented a program to bring prosperity back to the United States," Humphrey continued.

"He tells us there's going to be deficit financing. He has taken the calculated risk of deficit financing to put the country on the road to recovery."

If that is indeed the Democratic policy line for the 1964 campaign—the glorification of deficit financing—it is probably the best news the GOP has had since 1956.

Ever since Treasury Secretary C. Douglas Dillon's news briefing on the 1964 budget message, political observers here have been wondering just what the Democratic record will look like then, even if the President gets everything he asks.

By Dillon's projections, the 1964 debt will be over $315 billion and still rising. It will continue to rise through 1966, which would still make it an issue for the mid-term congressional elections of that year.

The promised $10 billion tax cut, spread over the next three years, would not be fully effective before 1967. The prosperity and economic growth the tax cut is supposed to generate—with tax receipts higher than government expenditures and the budget balanced—won't be fully effective before 1967.

Dillon went even further in predicting that it might not be possible to get relatively full employment before 1967, with unemployment down to 4 per cent of the labor force.

Democratic leaders admit that if unemployment is still over 5 per cent in 1964 it will not be a help to the President's campaign for re-election.

Cynics in Washington already have observed that if the U.S. economy really develops along this line, it might make Kennedy a good candidate for the presidency in 1968 but not 1964.

And Dillon, who with his wife gave a total of $26,550 to Republican political organizations in the 1960 presidential election campaign, has been cast facetiously in the role of a GOP fifth columnist trying to sabotage the Democratic administration.

But all the speeches thrown at the Democratic state leaders in their Washington meeting made the No. 1 issue for 1964 Kennedy the man and the leader.

"For the next two years we must support the President," said Theodore C. Sorensen, his No. 1 aide and chief counsel in the White House. "He'll stir up controversy," Sorensen admitted. "He'll be criticized. He is easy to criticize on issues like Latin America, Berlin, nuclear weapons testing, selling farm products abroad, education, for moving too fast or too slow on transportation, conservation or tax reform.

"Everyone pays taxes and has his own ideas on what to do. But the President's tax bill is essential. The President stands for a program that will move the country ahead, and we must support him."

That seems to be the Democratic theme song for 1964.

WASHINGTON REPORT . . .

## Trouble Looms For Student Association

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

The brash kids who run the National Student Association are in trouble.

NSA, a confederation of student governments, has for years been controlled by a small clique of far-out liberals who issue policy statements in the name of more than one million college students.

In recent years NSA has defended the right of rioting Japanese students to demonstrate against President Eisenhower. It has praised Fidel Castro for "educational reforms" while condemning Spain's pro-American strongman, Francisco Franco, for "persecution."

NSA has protested the discharge of Communist teachers and opposed loyalty oaths for students receiving federal loans. It has denounced U.S. measures to achieve nuclear superiority and attacked the House UnAmerican Activities Committee.

But hard times are at hand for NSA leaders. Since the group's last convention, at Ohio State University in August, students across the country have dealt NSA big-wigs several withering blows.

Ohio State University led the parade. Members of the OSU Young Republicans and Young Americans for Freedom spearheaded the fight for a referendum that would terminate Ohio State's membership in NSA.

When students went pollward, on October 19, the results were not even close. More than 8,300 students voted 2-1 to get OSU out of NSA.

A similar campaign was conducted at Texas Christian University where students voted more than 3-1 against NSA. The vote at Tufts University, a Massachusetts institution thought to be liberally oriented, was decisive. Says a Tufts spokesman: "The turnout was very heavy, and the outcome a distinct surprise. The school newspaper had been lobbying hard for NSA."

One of the few schools at which NSA has emerged victorious in recent months is Ohio's Antioch College, long known for its liberal complexion. Even here, however, NSA partisans could win only a narrow victory.

Indiana University's Tom Huston, a national director of Young Americans for Freedom and a leader in the fight against NSA, says: "Ohio State, Tufts and TCU are only following the lead of other schools that have repudiated NSA: Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas State, Missouri, Ball State, Northwestern, the University of Virginia and Gettysburg."

"Schools across the country," he says, "are seriously re-evaluating their membership. I expect a large number of additional schools to get out of NSA by the end of this school year."

Note: A conspicuous figure at the last NSA conclave was Mortimer Daniel Rubin, who paid his $15 registration fee and received credentials as a "delegate-observer."

Rubin is National Youth Director of the Communist Party, according to J. Edgar Hoover. He received permission from NSA top brass to set up a display booth for "Communist Viewpoint," a party newspaper, at NSA headquarters.

Three other Communist front operations — the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, the Citizens Committee for Constitutional Liberties, and "New Horizons for Youth," another publication — also received permission for display booths.

Rubin moved freely at the NSA meeting. He addressed a meeting of the New Jersey caucus to blast "Red-baiting and professional anti-Communists," then worked on several resolutions. He was cheered by policy statements that attacked nuclear testing, the Internal Security Act of 1950, and foreign aid for Spain, Portugal, Paraguay and Iran, all staunch allies.

## Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 29, the 29th day of 1963 with 336 to follow.

The moon is approaching its first quarter.

The morning stars are Venus and Mars.

The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born on this day include William McKinley, the 25th President, in 1843.

On this day in history:

In 1845, Edgar Allen Poe's poem "The Raven" was published for the first time in the New York Evening Mirror.

In 1861, Kansas entered the Union as the 34th state.

A thought for the day—Poet Edgar Allen Poe said: "Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream by night."