

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Not Buried But Bored

It is astonishing how often the word "boredom" pops up in efforts to get at the ills of our scientific-industrial society.

Educators say the school dropouts are bored.

Specialists say boredom is a big factor in juveniles' search for "kicks," a quest that sometimes leads them into crime so vicious that it staggers veteran criminologists.

Scholar Erich Fromm comes along now and says it may be that 20th-century man has helped to construct a civilization whose crucial elements largely bore him to tears.

Countless factory and office workers find little interest in their work, which often is so beautifully organized and routinized that the juices are squeezed out of it.

Untold numbers of Americans are dulled, if not irritated, by tedious hours of commuting by rail, bus or bumper-to-bumper private car.

All this is not a new problem, except perhaps in magnitude. Many people feel they make no personal imprint on life. They are engulfed, bowled along like chips in a mill-race. There is little they can conquer.

The experts on life adjustment tell them, and their youngsters, to get busy beyond the school ground or the office. Develop a hobby, take a trip, engage in some enterprise, create something.

For some people this works. But for many

it does not. They cannot quite reconcile themselves to the tedium of working and getting to and from work. It takes too big a slice of their day.

Efforts to stir interest in active, creative sidelines seem to many a patch on life that does not stick.

So, as the kids seek "kicks," the adults chase excitement. They collect experiences, to offset the dullness and fill out the day. They move about just for the sake of moving. They congregate for dinners and parties, at which food and drink abound. They stare transfixed at a television screen rerunning last year's excitement.

It is no wonder some of the sturdier and more energetic plunge into politics. There a man conquers, gets a grip on something solid—power. He can make an imprint. Reward is personal.

The question is big. Have we gone far toward removing the drudgery from scratching a living on this earth, only to leave man without the hard stimulus, the test of soul, which that effort provided? Have we mechanized and automated ourselves into a condition of physical and mental freedom that we don't know how to use?

We'd better turn up some answers. The hobbies and vacation spins are not enough. It is work, with the hands and the brain, that must be creative—and fully challenging. Today too little of it is.

Path To Bondage

From the taxpayer's point of view, which agency collects his taxes, or what way it does it, is of comparatively small importance. The total tax bite is the big thing, for that determines what he has left in his pay envelope to spend or save or invest.

This pinpoints an aspect of proposed federal income tax reductions that deserve a great deal more attention than they have so far received.

This year, for instance, the social security tax was increased again. The tax has collected more than \$100 billion in the 26 years since the program began, according to Oregon Tax

Research. And in the next six years alone it will take in its second \$100 billion. Practically every state is looking for more revenue, to be gained from sales taxes, excise taxes, income taxes, property taxes, business taxes, hunting and fishing taxes, and so on ad infinitum. You name a tax—and someone, somewhere, is advocating it. The same thing is true of the other governmental entities—municipalities, counties, school districts, etc.

The moral, certainly, is plain. A cut in federal income taxes will do little or nothing to stimulate investment and consumption if it is largely offset by increases in taxes elsewhere. Compounding taxation is the path to bondage.

Legislature Wastes Money

(Gazette - Times, Corvallis)

There is a saying to the effect that war is too important to be left to the generals. More frequently this should be rewritten to the effect that government is too important to be left to the politicians.

The case in point this time is Oregon.

We wonder how many people realize that, when education at all levels in the State will suffer because of a lack of money and a lack of determination of the State Legislature to face the problem and do what should be done about it, the Legislature itself is one of the biggest boondoggles in the State.

There isn't any money shortage when it comes to running the Legislature. First they vote for themselves more salary for their services than the people of Oregon would have given them had they been permitted to set the pay scale. But that isn't all.

Because of promises and commitments of various legislators, the Senate in particular is so far overstaffed with clerks, doorkeepers (they now have one on each side of the door and other similar employees) they are almost stumbling over each other.

And how are these people paid? Strange as it may seem, they are paid by the day for seven days a week. Usually there are no sessions on Saturday afternoon or Sunday, but the pay goes on anyway. And, at the end of the session, if any of these people have worked during a night committee meeting, they can file a claim for extra pay.

We have no idea how much wasted money this amounts to, but it might be enough to hire an extra college professor or to add a few cents to basic school support.

Why is this practice permitted to go on? Because the legislators who are offended by it are apprehensive of objecting because it is the responsibility of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. The legislators think if they object their committee appointments might be affected or the bills they favor or are sponsoring might get lost in committee somewhere.

Another one of the handicaps of democratic government!

It probably wouldn't do much good for the voters to object but at least it might pinch a few consciences.

—And You Takes Your Choice



By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

"Hypocrisy," said La Rochefoucauld a long time ago, "is the homage that vice pays to virtue." And so it is with language—for those groups which are the most ruthless in their acts are also the most devious in their speech.

Totalitarian governments do not "kill" dissenters and heretics; they "liquidate" them. Goering did not speak of "gassing" the German Jews; he spoke of "the final solution" to the Jewish problem.

The fine art of double-talk has been raised to the ultimate degree by modern communist and fascist governments; and the more vicious their policies, the more they seem to feel the need to use the soft word.

If one carefully examines a speech by a totalitarian official, it will be filled with words like "truth," "peace," "liberty," and "the will of the people." And all these words, on further examination, turn out to mean something quite different, and much uglier, than their accepted definitions.

"Truth" means the dogma of the ruling clique; "peace" means acquiescence in the party line; "liberty" means the right to stir up sedition; "the will of the people" means exactly nothing.

In a sense, such euphemisms are customary in all diplomatic and political expressions; but the unconscious sense of guilt that seems to haunt the totalitarians compels them to find the most tortuous and abstract phrasing to conceal their grim and single-minded intent.

We find this same psychological

tendency among criminals: the more heinous the crime, the more reluctant they are to call it by its proper name. A thief will cheerfully admit he is a thief—a burglar, a pickpocket, a safe-cracker.

But a killer is never called a killer, by himself or by his confederates. There are a dozen euphemisms for this, the currently most popular being "hit." A man who is murdered is "hit" by a "hitter." Some nagging vestigial conscience prevents even the professional murderer from uttering the true name of his occupation.

The worse the deed, the more the need to dress it in taffeta phrases. An aggressor never goes to "war"; he "defends the boundaries of the fatherland," or he "takes preventive action." Likewise, it is the awful enemy who "brainwashes" our soldiers; what we do is "indoctrinate" theirs.

The more a person has to conceal and the more he is ashamed of—whether he is aware of his shame or not—the more pressing becomes his need to find another word for the right one, the plain one, the true one. Simplicity of speech is always the enemy of injustice.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Why is the city of Basra in Iraq famous in literature?

A—Because it was the scene of many of the adventures of Sinbad the Sailor, a hero of the Arabian Nights.

Miscellany

- ACROSS
- 1 Bus
- 5 Concludes
- 9 In place of
- 12 Hall
- 13 Goller's cry
- 14 Lincoln or
- 15 Burrows
- 18 Surgery
- 19 Unit of weight
- 19 Dandel
- 19 Wore
- 21 Partner of Faith
- 23 Sturgeon eggs
- 24 Edge
- 27 Max Bonheur
- 29 Preposition
- 32 Awaken
- 34 Military force
- 36 Musical
- 37 Vindicate
- 38 Node
- 39 Location
- 41 Fish
- 42 Ray Diaz de
- 44 Turn
- 46 Announce
- 49 Indian tent
- 53 Palm leaf
- 54 Tea containers
- 56 Cooking utensil
- 57 Achala and
- 58 Check
- 59 Abstract being
- 60 Denomination
- 61 British princess and charity
- DOWN
- 1 Dilation
- 2 Recording material
- 3 Prognostic
- 4 Fish
- 5 New
- 6 Clamor
- 7 Let fall
- 8 Mexican title of courtesy
- 9 Enriching
- 10 Music maker
- 11 Tear sunder
- 16 What Trigger is
- 20 Cosmetic
- 22 Bard
- 24 Engine of
- 25 Press
- 26 Casablanca
- 28 Winged
- 30 Roman garment
- 31 Heavy blow
- 33 To the time of
- 35 Occurrences
- 43 Peaceful
- 45 Four-parted
- 46 Opiate (slang)
- 47 Enthusiastic
- 48 Chest rattle
- 50 Hammer head
- 51 Ireland
- 52 Theow
- 55 Devotee



They could hardly get this image from the well-scrubbed American girls who go to Europe to study or from the hard-working women attached to U.S. embassies and other agencies abroad.

Are the harassed school teachers and tourists eager to catch all the sights of European "culture" in the shortest period of time likely candidates for lazy Americans?

If the Europeans questioned by the USA pollsters read the accounts of intellectuals throwing themselves fully dressed into swimming pools, they probably came to the conclusion that America is a nation of playboys and playgirls. The third-rate movies shown in Europe, are also not likely to brighten our national image.

But what has all this to do with the real America? Unfortunately, many USA employees seem to think that Paris is bounded by the Boulevard St. Germain and the Cafe Dome or that London is Piccadilly Circus and Rome the beat joints of Via Veneto.

They are generally shamefaced about America and manage to put the wrong foot forward when they try to reach the European mind.

This writer recalls a USA performance in Venice where be-wildered Venetians were shown film strips of endless cars coming off the American production lines. This in a city cut up by canals.

Such stupidity, alas, seems to be endemic and is not necessarily the responsibility of the Kennedy Administration. But the question thoughtful Americans must ask themselves is:

"Are these USA polls necessary?"



GLOBAL VIEW...

USIA Polls Necessary?

By LEON DENNEN

NEW YORK (NEA) — "Prestige" polls just released by the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) report among other things that many Europeans consider American women not only lazy and frivolous but also oversexed.

This will come as a surprise to ever hopeful but frustrated European males. For years they have complained to this writer that the "typical" American female invading their countries is too preoccupied with culture, too busy visiting ancient monuments and churches to devote much time to affairs of the heart.

No doubt the USIA pollsters encountered Europeans with a dim view to American womanhood. One can only wonder from whom these particular males get this particular image of the U.S. female.

They certainly did not get it from the American men who work in our steel mills, or from our farmers who produce the world's greatest food supply or from the automobile workers who are busy turning out cars at a rate never known before in history.

Surely the European cannot see a lazy, frivolous, domineering and oversexed woman in the American housewife trying to make ends meet—and with a great deal of ingenuity and dexterity.

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EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

Both Parties Push Civil Rights Aims

By PETER EDSON

Newspaper Enterprise Assn. WASHINGTON (NEA) — It will have to be shown whether President Kennedy's civil rights message and the civil rights legislation introduced by nine Republican congressmen are mere window dressing — just for the record — or whether they mean business.

What the two programs indicate, however, is that if the liberals in both parties really want some civil rights action, they should form a coalition of their own to buck the conservatives.

The least such a coalition could do is cause a few convulsions in the House Rules Committee and force the Senate into another dandy filibuster, now that limitation of debate is dead for two years.

Both the Republicans and Americans for Democratic Action have been needing Kennedy ever since he took office for not sending Congress a comprehensive civil rights program.

Now he has met this challenge with an eight-point legislative program in the most sweeping civil rights message since President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation 100 years ago.

Three bills covering new recommendations in the fields of voting rights, integrated education and a four-year extension for the Civil Rights Commission, with broadened powers, will be introduced in Congress in the near future. CRC will go out of business Nov. 30 unless given a new lease on life. But this last is believed to have the best chance for congressional approval.

Kennedy's program is far broader than the Republicans' although their plan would be administratively tougher. The GOP calls for making Civil Rights Commission a permanent agency and setting up a new commission on equality of employment opportunity, giving it broad enforcement powers to replace the voluntary compliance now sought by the President's Committee on Equal Employment.

Finally, the GOP would empower the Census Bureau to make a national registration of voting statistics in every state by race, color and national origins. There is nothing like this in the Kennedy program and it is doubtful if this proposal would pass.

Most affirmative declaration in the President's message is probably the first sentence in his section on "public accommodations." He declares that "no act is more

contrary to the spirit of our democracy and Constitution — or more rightfully resented by a Negro citizen who seeks only equal treatment — than the barring of that citizen from restaurants, hotels, theatres, recreational areas and other public accommodations and facilities."

If the Kennedy administration continues its efforts to obtain equal treatment for all citizens in public places, this could probably have more impact than any legislation Congress will pass.

The U.S. Supreme Court now has before it several test cases on "sit-in" demonstrations. Decisions upholding equal rights in this area could become as important as the school integration order.

Just as significant as the President's proposals for new courses of action to enforce civil rights is his message inventory of some 20 moves he has made in this field the last two years.

Though the voting referee procedure authorized by the 1960 Civil Rights Act was used in only one Louisiana parish for the 1962 elections, thousands of new voters were registered for the first time in many states.

Sixty school districts were desegregated last year. Teacher training institutes of the National Science Foundation and under the National Defense Education Act were held in integrated colleges.

Beginning next September, integrated schools will be opened on military reservations if such facilities are not available locally. Voluntary integration has been obtained, however, in many federally affected areas receiving government financial aid.

Over 17 million jobs have been voluntarily opened to American workers on a nondiscriminatory basis. All government contract jobs have been so opened. The President has directed National Labor Relations Board to take action against discrimination in labor unions.

Segregation in interstate transportation has virtually ceased. All federal recreation areas are open without regard to race. The armed forces and Coast Guard have been fully integrated.

Department of Justice has increased prosecution of police brutality cases. It is challenging "separate but equal" facilities in hospitals built with federal funds. It has intervened to open public schools in Prince Edward County, Va., the only county in the nation in which there are no public schools.

WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK . . .



Early Start In Election Gags

By WASHINGTON STAFF

WASHINGTON (NEA) — If the Republicans nominate New York's Gov. Nelson Rockefeller for the presidency in 1964, with Gov. James A. Rhodes of Ohio as his vice presidential running mate, the ticket would then read "Rocky-Rhodes."

There's a sign in one of the offices in the Pentagon that everybody can't help but see before entering a particular colonel's office. It reads:

DO YOU HAVE A SOLUTION? OR ARE YOU PART OF THE PROBLEM?

On the White House press room bulletin board recently was this tasty interchange:

First, a news item saying the Indiana Senate had passed a bill making it a misdemeanor knowingly to give false information to newspapers or broadcasting stations.

Beneath this was typed: "We the undersigned favor stiff punishment for those who knowingly or otherwise give out false news."

There followed the signatures of several prominent White House correspondents, with space for more.

Next, a handwritten note: "Impossible to carry this out. There would be no one left on the White House staff."

Then this final typed inscription: "If it also applied to false reporting, few would be left in the press room to complain."

James E. Webb, administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, has a thick green carpet in his office.

So the big stas symbol for people at NASA these days is green lint on your shoes. It proves you were up talking to the boss.

In the window of a Washington map store, there is a globe with an astronaut's capsule, attached to a steel rod, spinning around in orbit.

The other day a passer-by aud-

denly whipped open the door and shouted to a clerk:

"Hey, your astronaut's going the wrong way!"

"We know it," was the apologetic reply. After the man was gone the clerk added: "We can't figure out how to reverse it."

In observance of the Peace Corps' anniversary, this story has come out on how President Kennedy picked his brother-in-law, Sargent Shriver Jr., to father the husky infant corps.

Right after the 1960 election campaign, in which he had worked tirelessly, Shriver went home to Chicago. He had enjoyed a week's reunion with his family, whom he had scarcely seen for months, when the telephone started ringing.

It was the president-elect insisting. "You've got to come to Washington and run the Peace Corps."

Shriver stalled repeatedly. "I don't know anything about running a Peace Corps," he said.

"Neither does anybody else," said Kennedy.

"But how about all these political debts you have to pay?" asked Shriver. "Why don't you give this job to a politician you owe something to and square yourself with him?"

"Listen," replied Kennedy, "everybody thinks this Peace Corps is going to be the biggest fiasco that ever was. If it is, the director will get blamed for it, and it will be a lot easier to fire a relative than a politician."

Economist Prof. Paul Samuelson, onetime Kennedy adviser, lectured an American Bankers Assn. meeting here on way-out, ultra-liberal fiscal policies. He told his audience he was speaking only for himself, not for White House planners and insiders.

Young Professor Samuelson, father of six children, told a Congressional Economic Committee bearing not long ago that he spoke only "for myself and my wife."

When he got back to Cambridge, Mass., his wife told him, "Speak for yourself, John."

BERRY'S WORLD



"My husband claims that if you put an infinite number of Kennedys in an infinite number of political jobs—one of them, sooner or later, has to be a Goldwater Conservative."

Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Friday, March 15, the 74th day of 1963 with 291 to follow.

The morning star is Venus. The evening star is Mars.

Those born on this day include the seventh president of the United States, Andrew Jackson, in 1767.

On this day in history: In 1820, Maine was admitted as the 23rd state of the Union.

In 1882, New York became the first state to authorize voting machines.

In 1919, about 1,000 veterans of the American Expeditionary Force in World War I met in Paris to form the American Legion.

In 1962, a landslide in Peru killed 41 persons.

A thought for the day: Soviet Dictator Josef Stalin said: "History shows that there are no invincible armies."