Herald and News

Editorial Page

Our Unique Revolution

From the earliest days of our history as a free nation, we have felt a kinship for other peoples struggling for independence. More than that, we have believed we could serve as something of a model for them.

Consequently we have been puzzled that, in the last 15 years, so few among the many emerging nations of Asia and Africa have taken us for an example.

Now a Vassar history professor, Carl N. Degler, vigorously questions whether we can find useful parallels between our remarkable story and that of the new countries of the mid-20th century.

Writing in The American Scholar, he suggests that scrutiny of our past indicates "our experience is too special to be a guide to the life of other people."

He starts with the American Revolution itself, which he describes as stemming from a deeply conservative effort to redress grievances within the British colonial system, rather than a heart-felt wish to break away. It became a fight for freedom only when Americans reluctantly concluded redress could be had no other way.

"There was in America no long drawn-out underground independence movement, as in India under Ghandi or Ghana under Nkrumah," says Degler.

Acknowledging that we have always taken an interest in other people's revolutions, he notes, however, that where they did not take the American pattern and lead quickly to orderly democratic societies, we became disillusioned and sometimes openly hostile.

Certainly we have in fact exhibited some such disappointment in recent years as we watched the almost ungovernable chaos in the Congo and the leftward leanings of Ghana and Guinea—to mention just two among the newly independent.

We are perhaps inclined to forget that most of the new nations have had altogether too little experience, if any, at operating democratic institutions and practicing orderly government.

As for us, we had a century and a half of virtual self-government under colonial rule before the Revolution. Even at that, we went through a horrendous period of chaos under the Articles of Confederation before steady hands took hold under the new Constitution.

We could not name one nation on earth which had as much practice at self-government as we did before independence. We were able to build on our past. Most of today's new countries want to repudiate theirs.

The differences between our experience and theirs are many more, not the least of them our abundance of fertile, available land, holding rich resources and offering natural transportation routes.

Impatience unquestionably has led a good many people to seek independence before they were ready. We, on the other hand, have also been impatient in imagining that, once free, they could and should quickly follow our own very special example.

The Less A Man Works . . .

(The Tribune, Morris, Minn.)

The less a man works, the less he produces. The more a man works, the more he produces. Since our nation is made up of millions of people, the same generalization can be made. The more people work, the more a nation produces.

On the other side of the coin, the more that is produced, the more there is to consume. Or putting it another way, nothing can be consumed which has not first been produced. Accordingly, the way to more goods and services for more people, a higher standard of living, is through more production.

It is disturbing, therefore, to hear serious talk about cutting the work week in the United States from 40 to 35 hours. In essence this means a one-eighth cut in the goods and services available to the American people.

It makes little difference whether or not wages would be held at the same level for a 35-hour week as for a 40-hour week. The effect of reducing the work week is more easily seen if wages are likewise reduced accordingly. The individual has one-eighth less buying power, there is a one-eighth reduction in goods and services produced, and everyone gets along on one-eighth less. If wages are held at the same level for 35 hours as for 40 hours, after a period of dislocation, the result would be the same. The same number of dollars chasing fewer goods and services would drive prices up accordingly.

In light of the experience of West Germany in the years since the Second World War, serious consideration might well be given to increasing rather than decreasing the work week. It is obvious that such a move would make more goods and services available for consumption by individuals in this country. Whether or not people desire more goods and services in preference to additional leisure time may be a moot question.

At any rate, it would be a healthy situation if there were general realization that we can't have our cake and eat it too. Shorter work weeks produce more leisure time and less goods and services. Less production means less available for consumption. Basically it is as simple as that.

IN WASHINGTON . . .

Nixon Still Candidate

By RALPH de TOLEDANO

Richard Nixon has come out of seclusion, after his defeat in California's gubernatorial race. The timing of his sudden emergence, and his renewed interest in members of the Washington press corps, may not be significant. But it takes no crystal ball or ouija board to arrive at certain conclusions. For one thing, Mr. Nixon's remarks to me and to other Washington correspondents make it very clear that he intends to play an important role in the selection of a Republican Presidential candidate. He has, in fact, bluntly warned that no man will qualify for the nomination if he does not run in the California primary where Mr. Nixon can still exert political force.

By choosing his own bailiwick as the testing ground for Republican hopefuls, Mr. Nixon achieves two interim goals. (1) He makes the front-runner, whoever that may be, beholden to him, and (2) he leaves the door open for a "Nixon draft" which, given a California primary victory, would put him once more in contention. At this time, there is no Republican Presidential hopeful who could defeat Mr. Nixon in a California primary battle, and this includes Governor Nelson Rockefeller. Most of the party machinery is still loyal to the former vice president and would, moreover, be compelled to back a native son.

This is not to say that Mr. Nixon even hinted to those of us who spoke to him that he considered the possibility of attempting a second try in 1964. But the evidence that such a plan is not completely out of his mind can be found in his refusal to take important and lucrative posts outside of California and his declaration that, for the first time in many years, he feels free to speak out on national and international issues without the restraint of being an administration spokesman or defender. (Had he done so in 1960, he might today be President.) A third straw-in-the-wind is tht Mr. Nixon is continuing to maintain a special staff to handle the kind of chores which a man no longer needs if he has really eschewed public office.

At present Mr. Nixon is aware that Governor Rockefeller is out ahead as a candidate for the GOP Presidential nomination—if only because there is no opposition. But within the Republican Party are forces strongly determined to block the nomination of Mr. Rockefeller. Leaders of these forces believe that Mr. Rockefeller cannot carry the South or the Midwest and is therefore a "can't win" candidate.

Unless Senator Barry Goldwater declares himself a candidate, they will be left waiting at the church come convention time. Mr. Goldwater's strategy is to hold these forces together without giving them an outright promise that he will run.

If, at convention time, he decides to make the gamble, there is the possibility of a Goldwater-Rockefeller deadlock. If he steps down, the forces backing him will be compelled to find a new candidate. In either case, the lightning can strike Mr. Nixon. Most of the anti-Rockefeller forces are made up of former Nixon adherents—and there is no doubt that they would infinitely prefer him to Governor Rockefeller.

At this point, it is all very iffy. Mr. Nixon is enough of a politician to know that his best strategy is to speak out on the issues often enough to keep himself in the public eye and to establish a reputation as the unremitting foe of the Kennedy administration. Today's GOP dark horses may become somewhat lighter by the spring of 1964. The Republicans may decide that Rocky is their man—if only because President Kennedy seems unbeatable. As they used to say in the old movies, anything can happen—and usually does.

It is predictable that Mr. Nixon will seek public attention in the months to come, that he will make no long-range deals, that to the naked eye he will be above the battle. If the political situation shapes up his way, he can move. If not, he can come to the aid of the Republican candidate and eventually find himself boss of the State Department.

In any case, Mr. Nixon is back in politics. His success or failure will depend in part on sheer luck, in part on the number of those former friends alienated by his secretaries he can win back to the cause.

THEY SAY...

If it can be said that Nathan Leopold committed the crime of the century, certainly his rehabilitation is the rehabilitation of the century. . . A persuasive argument against capital punishment.

—Attorney Elmer Gertz, as his client received complete freedom after 33 years.

STRICTLY PERSONAL

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

Mentioning the man who wanted to suppress certain "dangerous" books, as I did the other day, reminded me of the curious way in which people live in intellectually air-tight compartments.

What I mean by that cumbersome phrase is easily seen in the people who want to "crack down" on what they consider to be offensive literature: they want the laws sharpened in this area.

But, in other areas, they complain that there are already too many laws. They are worried about expanding governmental power. They insist that citizens should be left alone to pursue their own pleasures and profits.

Thus, the word "government" to them exists in separate air-tight compartments. When they are for something, they want no government interference with it; when they are against something, they promptly demand that we pass another and stricter law to cope with it.

We can see the same process operating, on a broader scale, in the area of government spending. Those who protest most loudly about government expenditures in the civilian sector do not make a murmur of protest about the massive government spending in the military sector.

Yet it is the plain fact that spending goes to pay for past, present and future military needs. We could spend twice as much on the domestic front without feeling it, if the military budget were made up in a rational world.

Moreover, it is historically accurate to point out that if we are really worried about "government control," the way most governments take over is by maintaining a state of military emergency until it becomes an accepted way of life. Most of our extra taxes today are hangovers from World War II, which have never been repealed.

What we may or may not need for "defense" is a matter of speculation and controversy. But hardly any of the vocal opponents of government spending dare to question our military appropriations; the government has virtually a blank check on this, and its authority is unquestioned.

We cannot have more laws and fewer laws at the same time. We cannot impose restraints upon the government's domestic spending while at the same time acquiescing in its astronomical arms budget. We cannot do this and become ineffectual. To keep one's ideas in such air-tight compartments is eventually to die from psychic suffocation.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—What is the wettest spot on earth?

A — Cherrapunji, India, where for five consecutive days, 30 inches of rain have been known to pour from the sky each day. For a century the annual average has been 450 inches.

Q—Who wrote the Epistle to the Hebrews in the New Testament?

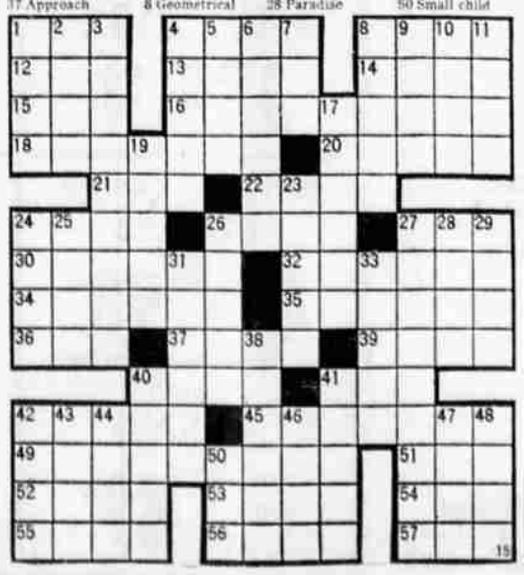
A—Definite authorship is unknown. It has been credited to Barnabas, Apollos and the Apostle Paul.

Farm and Garden

ACROSS
1 Garden implement
4 Farm or garden tool
8 Container for tomatoes
12 Sea eagle
13 Garden shrub genus
14 Leave out
15 Chemical suffix
16 Favor
18 Misinterpret
20 Natives of Media
21 Fish
22 Sediment
24 Biblical name
26 Cow ——
27 Footlike part
30 Unbranded
32 Decipher
34 Nullified
35 Storehouses
36 Twitching
37 Approach
39 Convent workers
40 Stitches
41 Be sick
42 Winged
45 Feel
49 Deviation
51 Crafty one (Scot.)
52 Asseverate
53 Seed covering
54 Age
55 Haze
56 Low sand hill
57 Cathedral church

DOWN
1 Pile
2 Trieste wine measures
3 Strenuous
4 Cowhand
5 Winged
6 Cooking utensil
7 Auricle
8 Geometrical solids
9 Among
10 Magnitude
11 Chevalier's summers
17 Egg dish
19 Sound
23 Senior
24 Dill
25 East Indian island
26 Moisten
27 Peopled
28 Paradise
29 Soap-making frame
31 Gloss over
33 Dog genus
36 Guarantee
40 Beginning
41 Ancint
42 First man
43 Biblical name
44 Mimics
46 Ireland
47 Bull (Sp.)
48 Type of cheese
50 Small child

Answer to Previous Puzzle



LETTERS

Ignored

The time is now, long and shamefully overdue, don't sit down and throw promiscuous accusations at each other over our failure to act at the proper time with regard to reorganizing the KUHS district. The proper time was when KU district anticipated an overcrowding of physical facilities by extension of the district boundaries to include the county or South Suburban area. If I remember correctly, a long time ago, perhaps 20 years more or less, someone made an attempt to bring this fact to public attention. It was first organized in 1926.

Typically of Klamath Falls, even though we are not unique in this respect, we chose to allow ourselves to forget that by extending KU boundaries there was no guarantee that the overcrowding and its inevitable problems would in some miraculous way be solved without any labor and increase in tax monies from you and you and me too.

Before you pick up your phone to blast me for this reminder, let me tell you now that my husband and I are paying school tax support to all three school districts presently embroiled. That is to say, we own real estate in city - elementary - KU district, South Suburban-KU district, and Henley school district. We have considered ourselves fortunate and not until this moment, think of ourselves as smug or overly virtuous because there are very many more like us. Not everyone has been as fortunate nor do we expect you to invest your money likewise. But we and others who believe in getting along peaceably with our neighbors, do expect a stop to the uninformed chin-music. I do refer to those people who are self-righteously stating that they don't know what is wrong but they don't like how things are being run. May I also add that we have one child, a sophomore in KUHS.

Our Constitution guarantees our freedom of speech. Our common sense tells us that if we don't like something why not find out how things are being run and then we will know why we don't like the operation. Maybe some of us will discover that some of the responsibility belongs on our own shoulders, and of course we don't like to think about that. Being taxpayers is not enough in the face of a crisis of the sort facing our school authorities. We were remiss in our responsibility a long time before most of the high school teachers were even out of their respective colleges and finished with teacher training, ready and willing to teach our kids or anyone else's.

We cannot expect any other attitude toward some of the problems engendered by too many normal youngsters crowded into a building too small to hold all of them and still expect the high caliber education we need for these students.

Voting spitefully against the next session budget will most certainly bring us a state board investigation. To say nothing of the moral and mental setback we will hand our youngsters just to satisfy our punctured ego. No wonder our teachers have literally thrown up their hands in complete exasperation and despair.

I earnestly agree diplomacy is an exalting virtue and the belligerence of our faculty and school board toward us is not diplomatic—but how about their side of the mess? We have said with our votes that they will therefore have to make do with what we have paid for and not talk back in such a fashion to their "elders" (us). The real issues have been ignored too long.

However, personalities must not be given the most attention, now in ascendance on both sides, as this is only further clouding of the genuine issues. Apparently too many personal and selfish interests are prevalent. This is the impression I believe in, from the many personal calls I have received since my first letter to the editor. Unless we are offered firm, but flexible, reorganization of the three school districts guaranteed by impartial geographical representation of county and city interests alike, we will find ourselves without a high school at all.

Within the next few days I am meeting with a number of members of the old Citizens Committee to get facts and figures to pass on to you. They cordially and eagerly extended the invitation so that a free agent viewpoint might be able to give the public the information we have asked for repeatedly and urgently need in order to cast our votes intelligently.

You will hear from me again, if Mr. Sweetland can find enough space to print these epistles. I thank him now for his courtesy and for any future privileges. I thank everyone for their calls due to the first letter. I hope I didn't crush too many toes, by expressing my own personal opinions.

Mrs. R. K. Ferrario,
Phone TU 2-1096
Class of 1957-KUHS.

EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

Buying Safeguards Up For Congress Review

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — Emphasis in the first part of the Securities and Exchange Commission's 12-pound report on its two-year investigation of the stock markets should be placed on what added protection will result for the consumer—the stock buyer—and not on the broker or salesman whose faulty practices are analyzed in detail.

There are 17 million shareholders in America. This is really less than a 10 per cent minority. But it is the top 10 per cent from an income standpoint and it is the foundation of the capitalistic system which free people want to preserve.

All the hullabaloo over getting a faster growth rate in the United States, granting tax credits to investors in new enterprises, and even cutting taxes so people will have more savings to invest, is dependent on convincing investors it's safe.

This puts responsibility for the survival of capitalism and the free enterprise system right where it belongs.

It is up to management to develop sound enterprises. And it is up to the securities salesmen who market the shares of private enterprise to safeguard the investments of their customers.

This would apply even to the extent of protecting people who have no knowledge of business and who have no business risking their savings in ventures they know nothing about.

For this the federal government has assumed for itself a regulatory role over the investment business through the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

In the additional regulations which SEC now proposes are approved by Congress, a stock purchaser would be given these principal new protections:

He would deal only with registered brokers, since all salesmen would be licensed.

New standards of character, competence and financial responsibility would be established for members of the associations of securities salesmen and stock exchanges. All firms and individuals would be required to come under the authority of these self-regulatory agencies.

SEC would be given disciplinary control over enforcement of these standards and would apply sanctions like temporary suspension of licenses after code abuses.

On new "hot stocks" — so attractive to many inexperienced investors—Congress will be asked to give SEC authority to require that a prospectus be issued within 90 days or less after the issue is registered and offered for sale.

Congress also will be asked to extend the present requirements on stocks listed on national exchanges to stocks sold "over-the-counter."

Filing of annual and periodic financial reports, compliance with proxy rules, and protection against insider trading would be extended gradually over the next five years to all companies with more than 300 stockholders.

This dissemination of full information is intended to lessen improper selling practices, misleading public relations in market letters and irresponsible investment advice.

SEC will issue a full analysis of over-the-counter markets in the second section of its special study report, which is expected in May. This is the area where many of the existing abuses to customers have been found in the long investigation.

Private agencies which supply over-the-counter stock quotations —like the National Quotations Bureau, which specializes in wholesale prices by underwriters to dealers—would be required to register with SEC and adopt rules of fair practices.

WASHINGTON REPORT . . .

Germ Warfare Still Constitutes Threat

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

Germ warfare, thought by most Americans to have been outlawed almost half a century ago, is a frightening reality to those who must protect the country from enemies foreign and domestic.

The fact is that germ warfare has yet to be banned, although official Washington has sometimes acted as if it were. Intelligence reports that reach Gen. Marshall Stubbs, chief of the Army Chemical Corps, show the Russians to be engaging in extensive research in the field of chemical-biological-radiological (CBR) warfare.

Stubbs is confident the Soviets would use germ warfare "as long as it were to their advantage." And there is little doubt but that it is right now.

Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public are sitting ducks for a CBR attack. If as few as ten Soviet planes or rockets got through U.S. defenses, they could rack up "at least 30 per cent casualties in the United States," according to General Stubbs.

He talks not of lethal agents, but newly developed materials that can stun people for 24 hours while an enemy force takes over. He points out that domestic saboteurs can rack up considerable damage as well.

Dr. Robert Goodlow, an army scientist, says all a saboteur would have to do "is to take an ordinary auto and disseminate the stuff from the tailpiece, right along the road, and get the job started, and it will take off by itself — very simple."

An official government report, drafted almost a decade ago, goes into considerable detail. This volume, the so-called Newton Report, was completed in 1955 after months of investigation by the Civil Defense Advisory Committee of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

The report, gathering dust in a downtown agency, has yet to be released to the public. It discloses, however, that one Communist agent could kill half a million Americans in a single day and get away scot - free. The 157-page report shows how poison, whipped up in private homes, could wipe out most of the U.S. population in 24 hours.

"During the past 15 years many new toxic chemical substances have been discovered. Some display such extreme toxic potency as to render them likely agents for sabotage usage.

"It must be considered possible for a saboteur to make enough of such poison in his home to do great damage in a food in which it is compatible."

So "possible" is this that the report tells how batches of such poisons can be readily whipped up, literally in the kitchen sink, and with easy-to-obtain materials. The report says:

"If a saboteur had access to a food plant with wide distribution, he could easily conceal a sufficient quantity of the toxic material on his person and poison enough food in one day to provide a lethal dose to 500,000 people.

"As few as 100 saboteurs established previously in food plants and acting in unison could so seriously demoralize the American people that confidence in our foods would be lost. Unless some proper organization is set up in advance to handle this type of emergency, the effect on morale could be devastating."

Dairy plants, meat packing houses, slaughterhouses, breweries, bakeries — all these are unguarded targets for the hypothetical hundred Communists agents. Eight years ago, those who wrote the Newton Report found that "very little work has been done nationally to set up a defense against the threat of CBR attack. We find that adequate plans for such a defense are lacking."

And they are today.