

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Wrong Slant On Civil Rights

According to two separate accounts, a young Negro is reported to have told Attorney General Robert Kennedy that he felt no obligation to help liberate Cubans — if it should ever come to that — so long as the United States failed to assure the Negro's full freedom.

It is said that the attorney general's reported shock at this statement produced an unbridgeable gap between him and a group of northern Negroes he was meeting in New York.

Though it is not an easy thing to do, we ought to try to take the young Negro's proposition out of its purely racial context and examine it for what it is.

He is saying that he will not support his country (a Cuban enterprise is only an example) so long as it deals imperfectly with rights and privileges the federal courts have said were his.

By that reasoning, any individual American could argue that, at any time when he feels deprived of rights and privileges, he is freed of duty to his nation. This might be so whether he was acting individually or as a member of a racial, religious, foreign-born minority or other group.

Let's put it more bluntly: This amounts to saying that a nation still flawed by imperfections is owed nothing by its citizens if they happen to be affected by those flaws.

In a highly imperfect world, this is a

seriously unreasonable proposition.

What if the argument were taken out of the realm of constitutional protections into, say, the economic sphere? What if millions of unemployed people said:

"This country won't provide us with work. Therefore we won't fight its wars, pay the taxes it demands, or respond to any other demands it may make."

Seldom if ever does any people or community or nation realize in full its purpose and ideals. But our community and national life would quickly disintegrate if we, as citizens, were to say we would not fulfill our obligations unless all was perfect.

There is another side to this. Along with rights and privileges go duties and responsibilities.

What if the government were to say: "You citizens who are not fulfilling your responsibilities hereby are formally deprived of your rights until you measure up?"

There are plenty of Americans of every creed and color who do not in fact measure up in 1963. Does the government of city, state or nation therefore strip them of their rights? Only when they are convicted criminals.

The young Negro offered a bad proposition. The attorney general was well advised to be shocked. Those who were said to have been "shocked" at his shock have much to learn about the nature of a responsible free society.

Making A Virtue Of Sloth

(The Wall Street Journal)

Certainly a good many parents of unemployed young people are going to take exception to a juvenile court judge's appraisal of them. He calls them generally overprotective, overindulgent, not only tolerating their children's unemployment but sometimes encouraging it. As a group, he says bluntly, these parents are "a generation of well-intentioned slobs who are rearing a generation of sloths."

It's also pretty certain that few working women will endorse the suggestion by Judge Robert Gardner of the Santa Ana, Calif., juvenile court that all but those who have no one to support them get out of industry and back into the home. Even Judge Gardner, writing in the Saturday Evening Post, concedes this is a "hopelessly fuddy-duddy" proposal although it would make more work available to youth.

But if not much can be done immediately about permissive parents or women who don't need to work, something can be done about the "obsolete and unduly restrictive laws" which help to "doom young people to idleness." For amid all the handwringing in and out of Government about youth unemployment, and all of the planning of make-work schemes, hardly any moves are being made to lift legal bars to hiring young people.

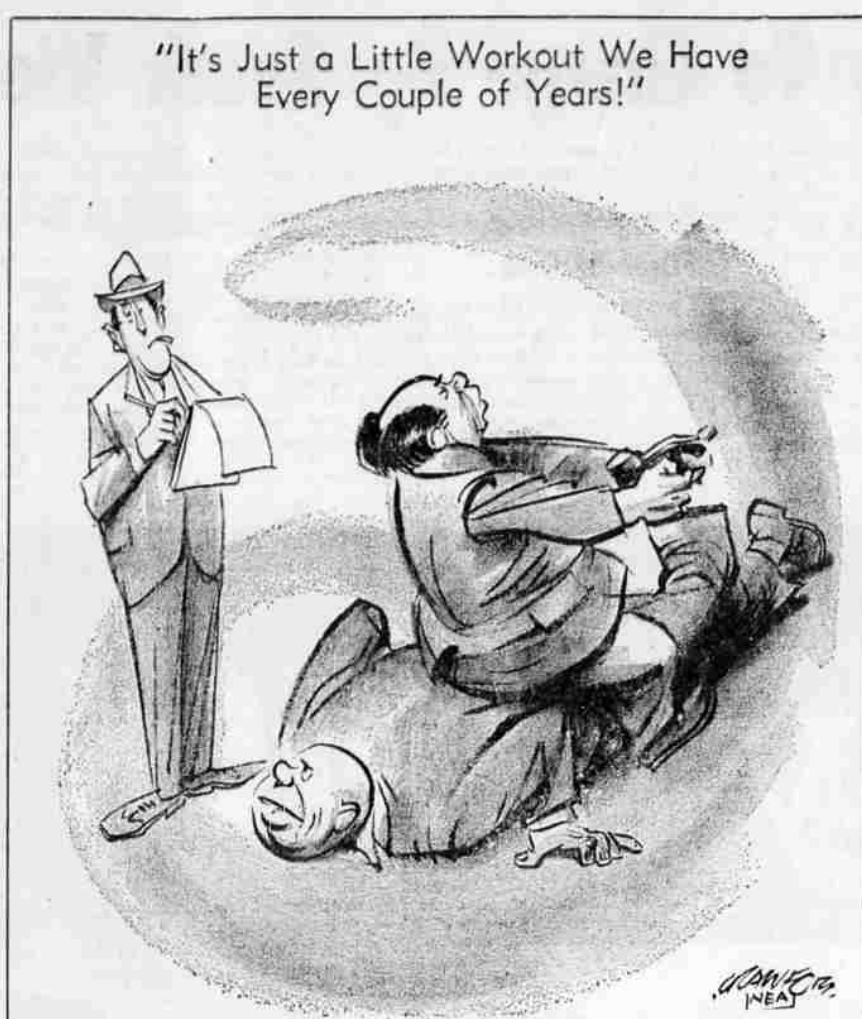
In California, for instance, the labor code has 72 sections of what Judge Gardner calls

"paternalistic legislation limiting hours and working conditions of young people." In the education code are 44 sections governing issuance of work permits. Other states have work rules scarcely less complex and forbidding.

Nor is the Federal Government itself very helpful or logical. The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act doesn't prohibit a firm supplying material to the Government under a contract of less than \$10,000 from hiring boys under 16 and girls under 18, where permitted by state laws to do so. But if the firm's contract is larger than \$10,000, the act forbids keeping boys and girls of those ages on the payroll.

It might be added that minimum wage laws, enforced by Federal, state and even local governments, often deter employers from taking on younger workers. Not to mention the unions, which push minimum pay scales for beginners still higher and often limit entry to apprenticeship programs.

Unless these and other obstacles to work for youth are reduced, the best intentions in the world are not going to broaden young people's job opportunities. Parents who encourage youthful idleness are doing enough damage to the social fabric. It should not be necessary to preserve restrictions that also help make a virtue of sloth.



IN WASHINGTON . . .

British Guiana Explosive

By RALPH de TOLEDANO

"I marvel," Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) has been telling his colleagues, "that our newspapers have paid so little attention to the situation in British Guiana." The Senator has a point. Not that there has been any censorship of news. The press has been just plain not interested in what can explode at any minute into a major international crisis.

Some of the facts are memorialized by a squib here or a short story there. But the whole picture and its connections with the mess in Cuba have not really been explored. Few people, for example, understand why this small bit of territory on the Caribbean is of such strategic importance. They do not realize that British Guiana, if Castroized, would be the lower jaw to Cuba's upper jaw, for chewing up shipping going to the Panama Canal.

British Guiana can be taken over by the Communists at any time. Prime Minister Cheddi Jagan ran for office denying that he was a Communist. He polled 43 per cent of the vote, but this gave him a razor thin majority

in the legislature. Then he admitted that he was a "Marxist-Leninist." His American-born wife patently shares his belief. (He has turned over to her his new secret police organization.)

In order to get full control of the little country, preparatory to handing Communism its first beachhead in South America, Jagan introduced a bill giving him the power to appoint all union leaders. This would have broken the back of the militantly anti-Communist organized labor movement in British Guiana. In protest, the unions called a highly successful general strike which has been going on for almost 10 weeks.

As Senator Dodd says, "Here, for the first time in history, the general strike, which according to Communist theory is a weapon of the working class against the capitalist class, is being used by the working class as a weapon of self-defense against an incipient Communist dictatorship." This, in political terms, certainly fulfills the man-bites-dog conditions.

Jagan was able to consolidate his power with the help of the British who frequently act as if

one can't be a pokka sahib unless he is tolerant about the Reds. Prime Minister Jagan has shown his gratitude by signing trade agreements with Communist East Germany and Red Cuba. A Soviet trade mission is on its way—and so are Soviet oil exploration and drilling teams.

Since the let-up in U.S. pressure on Castro, there has been a steady flow of arms from Cuba into British Guiana. Jagan, moreover, has at his disposal well over 2,000 Cuban "tourists"—men full of the milk of human kindness, and therefore anxious to pass on to the benighted Guianians what Spanish Civil War veteran Gen. Alberto Bayo taught them of sabotage methods and guerrilla warfare. General Bayo is also a humanitarian; he journeyed especially to Cuba to pass on his knowledge to earnest young idealists, for export to Latin America.

The AFL-CIO realizes the importance of preventing the general strike from failing. It has been sending substantial sums of money, though not the hundreds of thousands of dollars charged by Janet Jagan. This has been enough to prompt the Prime Minister to set up "a commission" to investigate AFL-CIO contributions—which should have been a page one story in itself. Of considerable and ironic newsworthiness is that the Soviets and the Red Cubans, both very vocal in defense of the embattled masses, have been engaging in strike-breaker activities by sending in their shipping with aid to Jagan.

Even the State Department drew the line. Usually too timid to offend an enemy, it nevertheless put its foot down when Jagan proposed that oil needed by British Guiana be stored in U.S. government-owned tanks.

Perhaps direct action by the Communist forces will stimulate more U.S. interest in the little country. As for Cheddi Jagan he could use some of the flattering pre-victory publicity certain U.S. reporters gave Castro. It is a little late to argue that he is not a Communist (he gave it away himself), but he could be painted by a fawning reporter as a humane agrarian reformer who wouldn't hurt a fly—like Mao Tse-tung.



STRICTLY PERSONAL

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

Purely Personal Prejudices: The kind of joke a person cannot take about himself is a sure index of his character than the kind of joke he relishes about others; what he does not find "funny" about himself is always the weakest part of his nature.

The man who has too high a respect for women is as despised by them as the man who has not enough.

One of the great unsolved riddles of restaurant eating is that the customer usually gets faster service when the restaurant is crowded than when it is half-empty; it seems that the less the staff has to do, the slower they do it.

Nowhere is it more important to "hate the sin, but love the sinner" than in rebuking or punishing a child; his action may be labeled "bad," but he himself must never be called "bad," and we must enable him to distinguish between behavior and character, so that his self-confidence is not broken down.

What we call "brute force" can be mental as well as physical. The person who tries to overwhelm another by assailing him with verbal arguments is just as much a bully as one who uses physical force.

Most criticism is a form of egoism. The more different kinds of people a man does not like, the more right we have to suspect that he wholly approves only of those who are precisely like him. (But the neurotic inconsistency in such a critical person is that, if we probe deeply enough, it will be found that he doesn't like himself very much at bottom.)

BERRY'S WORLD



"Something's up . . . comrade Khrushchev's mail is marked 'Occupied!'"



NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

Most of us have, probably more than once, had occasion to call upon the services and knowledge of members of the medical profession. Most of us, I'm afraid, are prone to regard those services and that knowledge as something due us, and as nothing more than what one should expect. And probably thinking that we have to pay too much for what we receive.

As a group, doctors are pretty careless about their public relations, and some individuals in the profession are even worse about creating and maintaining a favorable "public image." I've never discussed "why" with them, but I suppose it has something to do with lack of time, and, maybe they just don't care, or can't be bothered.

Discussions and controversies over medical care have varied facets. One is the status of the physician in the mind of the American people who trust their lives and their well-being to his hands. It is, beyond question, an image which has undergone great change in a comparatively brief span of years.

A recent story in a nationally-distributed magazine devotes a long feature article to the matter. The author approaches the subject without prejudice. His purpose is to describe this change in public attitude toward the doctor, to chart the reasons for it, and to sum up the gains and losses that have resulted.

The author states that never before in the history of American medicine has the physician been the subject of so much comment and criticism. Despite his astonishing success with diagnosis, drugs and techniques, there is an undercurrent of discontent about him, a mental malaise that shows itself in recurrent complaints. Beneath this, the author, goes on, lies a subcurrent of longing for the golden past—for the age of the horse and buggy doctor, friend of the family, who always seemed to have an infinity of time, who charged next to nothing for his services, and whose warm legend lives on in tale and memory.

Yet "Old Doc" had small con-

trol over a long list of diseases. Pneumonia, for instance, killed 20 per cent of those it attacked and almost all the elderly; the treatment was rest and waiting. "Young Doc," his successor, injects an antibiotic drug, and the job is done. There is small demand on the doctor's time. And this, strangely, seems to be a reason for the dissatisfaction.

The doctor of the present is, generally, a specialist—no one can be master of all, or even a large part, of the incredibly vast store of medical knowledge that exists. I suppose our general practitioners come as close as is humanly possible to resemble the old time doctors. Actually, it appears to me that physicians today, spend more time at their profession than did "Old Doc." Some of the fellows I know spend 16-18 hours a day. They must constantly read and study in order to keep up with the endless flood of new developments in the various medical fields.

I've no more idea than you about the income of doctors today, except the little bit I glean from reading the AMA News. But it is worth noting that doctors' fees rose much less in the 1940-1960 period than did the cost of food, shoes, transportation, haircuts and all manner of other goods and services. The doctor's share of the health-care dollar is less now than it was 20 years ago. And the cost of a medical education runs to an average of \$70,000. By the time most doctors go into practice—at the age, say, of 35—they are heavily in debt.

The point, I guess, is that the modern doctor works under great pressures. In modern America there is much less opportunity for a warm doctor-patient relationship than we experienced "back in those days" — moving "good old slowness."

I don't know that I have ever run into a bad doctor. I suppose there are some. But we have a pretty good bunch in Klamath Falls, and they've done much to assure the success of the hospital project.

Next time you've got your own doctor down, don't kick him.

WASHINGTON REPORT . . .



Reform Sought In Election Practices

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

A Florida Congressman is getting nowhere fast in his one-man campaign to enact legislation that would combat massive vote fraud.

Tampa's Bill Cramer, whose research shows that upwards of one million votes are stolen each Presidential year, has introduced legislation that would permit the Civil Rights Commission to investigate all vote fraud cases. Presently the commission is limited to investigation of minority group complaints only.

Cramer's bill was assigned to the House Judiciary Committee, where Chairman Emanuel Celler, Brooklyn Democrat, hopes to keep it bottled up. Other big city Democrats, often loud in their advocacy of civil rights, have indicated they hope to expect the bill to die in committee.

What could the Civil Rights Commission investigate if Cramer's bill were passed?

The peculiar situation in Baker County, Ga., for instance, where 152 per cent of eligible white voters are registered to vote.

Similar situations exist throughout the Peach State. In Union County official figures show there are 3,957 white residents of voting age. A grand total of 5,682 are carried on the voting rolls as registered, however.

It is not only Caucasians, however, who are over-registered in Georgia counties. Take White County, for instance, where 143 per cent of all Negroes over 18 (the state's minimum voting age) are registered.

In 41 Georgia counties there are more registered white — and in some cases Negro — voters than residents of voting age. Twenty-five Tennessee counties have more registered voters than is possible. So do 12 Alabama and 18 Florida counties.

The most blatant examples of vote fraud can probably be found in North Carolina where registered white voters outnumber white adults in 57 counties. Henderson County boasts 33,889 registered white voters although census figures show there are only 21,062 residents old enough to vote.

Johnston County has 43,553 registered white voters on its rolls. More than 13,000 of these, however, are obviously ghost voters.

The Charlotte (North Carolina) Observer earlier this year completed an exhaustive investigation into vote frauds in western counties of the state.

Reporters Joe Dexter and Dwayne Walls were blunt in their findings.

"The bedrock of democracy—the vaunted right of every elector to vote his convictions—has had a market price as low as one drink of hard liquor in some western North Carolina precincts."

"Depending on the heat of the campaign and the voter's bargaining power, the going rate also has gone as high as \$150 a ballot. In those counties with a thriving ballot trade the average price is probably about \$10, although last-minute holdouts can command a price of \$15 or \$20 a vote if they can deliver a family-sized bundle of ballots."

Votes were often cast several times in the name of one person, the Charlotte newsmen discovered. Dexter and Walls related the story of Mr. and Mrs. Honeycutt of Marion, N.C.

Honeycutt and his wife told the two they each voted once in November 1962. Three absentee ballots were cast in their names, however.

An absentee ballot was cast by "Dorothy Waldroup," of Yancey County, despite the fact she has never registered. She was 29 years old on Election Day.

Almanac

By United Press International. Today is Thursday, July 11, the 192nd day of 1963 with 173 to follow.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.

The morning stars are Venus, Jupiter and Saturn.

The evening star is Mars.

On this day in history:

In 1804, Vice President Aaron Burr challenged Alexander Hamilton to a duel.

In 1864, the Democratic convention in Chicago nominated Gov. Grover Cleveland for the presidency.

In 1938, German Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler signed a treaty with Austria and promised to recognize the Austrian frontier.



HOLMES ALEXANDER . . .

Hearings Affect Thinking

By HOLMES ALEXANDER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — It's a rare thing in this town, although not unheard of, when a Congressional inquiry leads not only to legislation, but to a major shift of Congressional and public opinion.

This happened in the early 1950s when constant discovery and exposure of facts about the Institute of Pacific Relations did establish an acceptance of belief that there were Reds in American policy making. It happened toward the end of the '50s when Senator McCarthy, starting with a host of supporters, unhappily frittered away a good many of them by his performance in committee rooms.

It can happen here in the '60s, I believe, as various segments of the President's omnibus CIVIL Rights package are presented for illumination and examination before various committees. This process has, very definitely, commenced in the hearings on the Public Accommodation Act, which has begun its long test before Chairman Magnuson's Commerce Committee.

Not to make any secret of the matter, I incline to be against segregated federal intervention into businesses that perform personal services to customers. It has seemed to me that a merchant of services, especially the intimate ones of feeding, housing and entertaining people, should have some option as to whom he allows into his house of business.

This is a matter of catering to his own, and his customers', taste for company. It is a personal as well as a business proposition. Moreover, experience tells us that prohibition, even when it pertains to selecting one's clientele, makes bad legislation, and that the appetite of federalism for meddling is insatiable.

And yet, since nobody's mind should be immoveable, I take it that mine and the minds of others are bound to be honestly swayed by developments of the early hearings, including:

1. The Performance of Attorney General Kennedy As Lead-off Witness: Kennedy-haters would hardly believe without beholding how much legal learning, how much skill in courteous repartee, how much reasonableness the 38-year-old Administration spokesman has displayed. Kennedy's winning ways, his sincerity, his stated willingness to have a bill which does not interfere "with anybody's social life" and which respects a certain amount of privacy in small boarding houses, eating places, bowling alleys and barber shops have already been persuasive to the committee and to the press.

2. Honest Doubts by Senator Monroney: This Oklahoma Democrat seems to be saying through his questioning that forced integration has limits not fully recognized by his party. If it is important to end discrimination, it is also important to protect the

meaning and purpose of the Constitution. Federal action taken for a good cause today can become the excuse for bad action in the future. The often-cited "commerce clause" of the Constitution (giving Congress power to regulate interstate commerce) has been stretched and strained till its integrity as a fundamental doctrine is all but gone. This worries Monroney. It should worry all Americans.

3. The Race Issue and The Republicans: Efforts by the opposition to tag the GOP as "the white man's party"—a damaging, indirect smear of the Goldwater conservatives because of their popularity in the South—may be largely frustrated before this committee. Its members are Beall (Md.), Prouty (Vt.), Scott (Pa.), Morton (Ky.), and Cotton (N.H.). All of them seem to be for the bill, given some clarifying amendments. Scott, a former GOP national chairman, has strong feelings about racial liberalism and has a strong Negro following at home. He has used the committee as a forum to denounce the "ily white" label for his party.

4. The Race Issue and The Southern Democrats: Thurmond of South Carolina is spokesman for white people (they deserve one, too) who object to having their lives and ways disrupted by the faddism of the equalizer. Thurmond's sincerity and tenacity have made themselves felt.