

Editorial Page

Good Luck, Gang!

Klamath Falls and Klamath County get their share (and sometimes, more) of unfavorable publicity.

Therefore, it is gratifying and heartwarming to wish well to our Nationals' Babe Ruth baseball team as they prepare for the World Championship playoffs in New Mexico this week.

The Nationals won their way to the international playoffs the hard way in Kellogg,

Idaho. Hardly any resident of the area, be he or she interested in baseball or not, would deny that the boys and their managers and coaches did the community proud in Kellogg.

We know the Nationals' roster is comprised of boys who will bring honor and pride to the community regardless of the won and lost statistics they compile in New Mexico.

Good luck boys—and to your coaches and managers. We're proud of you all.

Is It Indestructible?

A biologist at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, New York, says that a major nuclear attack likely would destroy all exposed plant and animal life except crab grass, pigweed and insects.

The two types of weeds showed no marked alteration after daily laboratory exposure to radiation many thousands of times more intense than in the fallout from nuclear tests, Dr. George Woodwell reports.

The findings support what we have known all along about crab grass — It has

proved practically indestructible in the long struggle against herbaceous pests. We would like to see one additional test applied to this bane of gardeners. Let Dr. Woodwell plant a plot of crab grass from seed, water and fertilize it with the energy and loving care we give the blue grass; destroy all competing plants. Make sure sunshine and warmth is just right.

Under these conditions, if our experience is any criterion, the crab grass would turn up its collective toes and something else we were trying not to grow would take over.

Too Much Depicted Violence

(Salt Lake Desert News)

Television and the movies—in fact all media of mass communications—are playing with social dynamite when they depict acts of violence.

This is no longer just an educated guess. It is a hard fact established by some recent scientific studies. The public can ignore these studies only at its own peril.

To get down to specifics, Dr. Leonard Berkowitz and Edna Rawlings of the University of Wisconsin recently conducted psychological tests on 80 young men and 80 young women. They found that witnessing even the kind of violence that supposedly is "justified"—for instance, the punishing of a villain—has harmful effects. Namely, it makes it more likely that an angry person will resort to violence himself.

This means that society should toss into the ash can the old idea that people "purge"

their pent-up anger harmlessly when they witness violence. Moreover, since the test subjects were normal young adults, it's easy to imagine what effects depictions of violence might have on children and on adults with serious emotional disturbances.

Nor is the Wisconsin report the only one that supports such conclusions. Dr. Frederic Wertham, a New York psychiatrist, has long decried the deleterious effects of TV and movie violence. Not all children, of course, are affected by it. But a good many are.

Surely it's significant that in the U.S. crimes of violence are being committed by younger and younger children. In no other country, Dr. Wertham notes, is this true.

The responsibility for dealing with this situation falls not only on TV and movie producers but also on those who patronize their productions. When it comes to depictions of violence, what you don't see can't hurt you.



HOLMES ALEXANDER . . .

Senators Are Skeptical

By HOLMES ALEXANDER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — "We have got to keep on with our testing program," says Sen. Clinton Anderson who expects to vote to ratify the Nuclear Treaty. "I would feel better about it if the treaty-signing were accompanied by a strong statement that we intend to return to the atmosphere in case of violation. That way we would have our test preparations ready—fast."

As past chairman of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee and presently chairman of the Space Committee, Anderson is as savvy as they come about the techniques of the atomic sciences. To understand his insistence that we stand poised to resume air-tests, let us hark back to a dialogue which took place behind closed doors last Feb. 20 in a meeting of the Armed Services Committee.

Secretary McNamara: "We are weaker today than we were 18 months ago because . . . in the fall of 1961 . . . the Soviets resumed nuclear testing, having prepared for it. We had not prepared for it."

Senator Jackson: "Some of us tried to suggest that we be prepared to go ahead and no one would listen. . . . I was convinced right along that the Soviets were going to do whatever they needed to do to get an advantage over the United States."

It is a repetition of this trustful, sleeping - sentry attitude on our part that Anderson and other powerful Senators want to avert. He himself will be satisfied with a pledge of vigilance on the part of the Secretary of State, but he concedes that some of his colleagues may demand that a reservation for automatic reactivation be written into the treaty.

Anderson looks for ratification with only 10 or 12 dissenting votes unless Sen. Richard Russell, the Armed Services chairman, comes out for rejection. Russell, in Anderson's opinion, is

the one single Senator whose disapproval could almost surely kill the treaty.

A non-expert on international politics, Anderson is unimpressed with the Sino-Soviet quarrel, but will take the judgment of colleagues whose evaluation he trusts. A non-lawyer, Anderson has spied a loophole in the treaty that needs plugging. Contrary to public misconception, the treaty does not fully authorize underground testing. It merely forbids testing in any environment which would pollute the air of another nation with radioactive fallout.

Fallout can accidentally happen, as it did in the Plowshare tests a while back, when a few atoms were inadvertently "vented" from the underground site. Thus any party to the treaty

could innocently violate it, and bring it to an unscheduled end. While Anderson doubts the scientific possibility of a missile-to-hit-a-missile, he regrets that the opportunity of anti-missile testing in space would be foreclosed by the treaty.

A mild skeptic, Anderson does not belong to the brotherhood of unbelievers who openly, or secretly, wish that the treaty had never come down the pike. But neither is he a rubber-stamp ratifier.

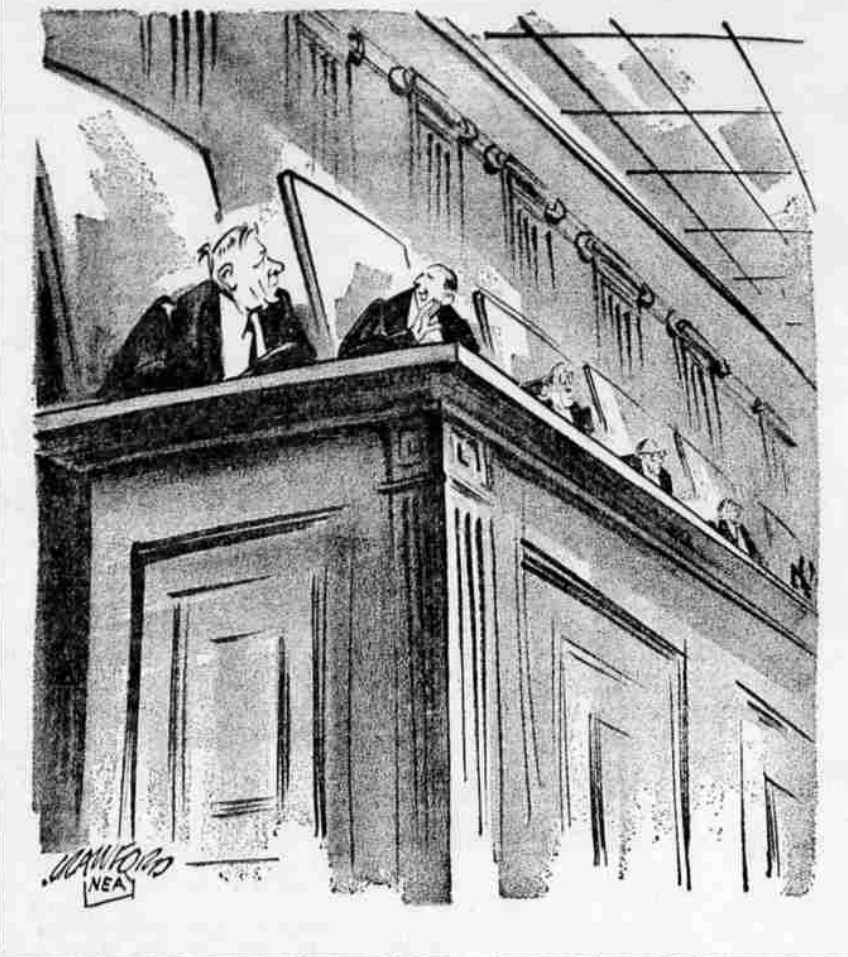
It may be that as Dick Russell goes in this matter, so goes the Senate. But it is also true that Anderson, an old inhabitant of what is known as the Inner Sanctum, will have a lot to do with decisions that are still in the making.

BERRY'S WORLD



"Now if you miss this one, you'll owe me five dollars!"

"It May Be Irrelevant and Immaterial But Congratulations Mr. Douglas!"



IN WASHINGTON . . .

An Unusual General

By RALPH de TOLEDANO

By the time this appears, Gen. Leon Cantave may be dead. But the chances are that he will still be one more guerrilla fighting against a repressive government. Or so the available evidence would indicate.

The news stories on General Cantave's efforts to overthrow the pernicious Duvalier dictatorship have brought to the fore of recollection a long meeting I had with him back in July of 1957. He was in the United States presumably for a check-up at Walter Reed Hospital—but actually to meet with American officials he knew personally and with newspapermen he felt might be friendly to his point of view.

I was included in the group because I could talk French. (General Cantave can speak no English.) In the past, I had met "di-

plomatic" Haitians—members of their country's delegation to the U.N., for the most part. General Cantave was different. For one thing, he spoke a softer, back-country French. He was tall and thin, with a Marine-type haircut, a scholarly look, and none of that military pomposity so common among officers of Latin American nations.

He was unusual, too, because his political ambitions, if they existed, were not showing. As Chief of Staff of the Haitian army, he had prevented the military from seizing power. He had also refused to lead a new dictatorial government. The solutions for his country's problems were economic and political. Substituting a military for a civilian dictatorship was hardly the answer for a country suffering from poverty, illiteracy, and hopelessness.

During our conversation, Gen-

eral Cantave pointed out that one of Haiti's troubles was the phony universal suffrage. In the past, the vote had been more or less responsibly held by about 10 per cent of the population. One of the reigning demagogues had given the vote to the entire population—and then proceeded to subvert the popular will by trading food for votes. At the same time, an American, Syrian, and Haitian financial group had been able to control the government and the people through its hold on the country's single bank. Whenever a Haitian leader came along who would not knuckle under, this group called a "strike" of shopkeepers which paralyzed the country.

At the time I spoke to General Cantave, he had no ambitions for any political organization. He was in a kind of exile, being out of favor with the current dictator. But he felt that the American people, who were aware of almost nothing that was going on in the Haitian half of the island of Hispaniola, should know of the terrible situation there.

The general warned that conditions would get steadily worse, with the possibility of trouble for the U.S. (Fidel Castro was not yet in power and the Caribbean threat seemed to come from General Trujillo's Dominican Republic.) "We need roads, railways, new industries, new farming techniques, the organization of agricultural cooperatives, tourism—and freedom," General Cantave said. Overpopulation plagued the country. The United States had helped Haiti lick the malaria problem, but as always this merely complicated the demographic problem.

What was most impressive about General Cantave was his sincerity. Clearly, he stood left-of-center, but not violently so. In some ways, he reminded me of Governor Luis Munoz Marin—not in manner or personality, but in his approach to political problems. By that I mean that his liberalism was tempered by a practical view of political and economic realities which made him sometimes espouse conservative positions.

When I heard of the fighting in Haiti, I thought of that long, quiet conversation here in Washington. General Cantave is an impressive man—and obviously a courageous soldier. It takes real guts to invade a dictatorial state with a handful of troops.

My first reaction was one of admiration. Why wasn't the United States, so ready to give a Fidel Castro help, not standing behind General Cantave? I doubt that the State Department has an answer. But it struck me suddenly that repeatedly Americans are drawn into the defense of individuals and movements without really understanding them.

I believe that General Cantave would have helped to stabilize conditions in the Caribbean—and that he would have been a friend of the United States. But I don't know. The Central Intelligence Agency should have the facts, however. And if General Cantave is the kind of leader I think him to be, then CIA's secret billions should be mobilized to help him.



NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

My Sidewalk Observer observed the other day: Statistics may be likened to Bikini bathing suits. What they reveal is enticing, but what they conceal is vital.

All this fussing about test ban treaties, etc., brings to mind the statement by Mr. McNamara that the U.S. has so many tens of thousands of nuclear weapons. Their purpose, I gather, is to assure that the U.S. will never have to go to war. In other words, we are spending billions on nuclear and other exotic weapons in order that we may never have to use them.

Well, it figures. Look around you. You'll see we're spending a lot of time and money producing things and performing acts so that these things should not be used, nor these acts as effective.

For instance, take the "background" music one hears in the lobbies of big buildings (or all over the building for that matter)—music NOT to listen to. In other words, it has been written deliberately so that it will not "intrude" upon the thoughts of a thinker or a worker. It is just there. Doesn't it seem strange that someone should devote his or her time to an occupation of composing music with the intent that it is not to be listened to?

Look at your car. It probably has bumpers. But are they for bumping? Of course not. They were originally designed to prevent bumps to the fenders of your car. Now the bumpers have bumper guards to prevent nicking up the chrome monsters called bumpers. What we really need now is a guard to protect the guard that protects the bumper that was originally designed to protect the fender.

And how about seat covers? Every seat in a car is covered (some car upholstery is much fancier and more ornate than anything we'll ever have in our homes) since seats are designed to be sat upon. But what happens? The proud owner promptly covers his beautiful seats with some foreign device. There is a

big industry in this country which has as its aim the design and manufacture of a seat cover to cover seat covers in automobiles.

And, how about food for not eating? Order a sandwich in a restaurant, or a plate lunch of some kind. What do you get? Well, with your order, it seems inevitable that there will accompany it a sprig of parsley. What's it for? Just for spite. I've gotten into the habit of eating the darn stuff because it's there, and it must be there for something. But my wife, who has better manners, insists the stuff is not there for eating—it's just there.

Really, though, parsley does have some use, in that I'm told it's symbolic. At Roman funerals during the dawn of the Christian era, the corpse was decorated with parsley or some such greenery, so when you get parsley with your fish or your sandwich or steak, it is merely an assurance to you that the entree is dead.

And what is more innocuous or unnecessary than talk-for-the-purpose-of-not-communicating? That is, we ask each other such things as how are you doing, and how's old-so-and-so, and how are things, and so on. If the guy would give an honest answer, we'd be shocked if we managed to remain attentive long enough to appreciate a good answer.

And in some of our homes (although I'll admit the age of plywood has done away with this practice a great deal) we'll put in the most precious hardwood floors. So what happens? We cover them with even more precious wall-to-wall carpeting with obvious success in covering the original beauty of our floor.

But then, I suppose if we did not go into the production and use of things we do not need, and use-less performances, we'd worry ourselves to death about such things as nuclear test ban treaties, civil rights promotion, taxes, being broke, women, and a host of related problems.

Just forget the whole thing.



WASHINGTON REPORT . . .

Mail Order Business Heavy In Firearms

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

A Los Angeles boy, suffering from mental illness, recently shot and killed his 14-year-old brother. His reason, given to police: "My brother was inferior."

Three thousand miles away, in Fairfax, Va., a youngster accidentally shot and killed a neighbor child. Investigation revealed the Virginia lad had obtained his weapon—a .38 snub-nosed pistol—from the same source as the boy in Los Angeles: a mail order gun house specializing in low-cost foreign-made pistols.

Investigators for the Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency told the California dealer of the tragedy that followed his sale. He was unmoved: "I didn't break the law, did I? If they've got the money, I sell them the gun. I'm not responsible for what they do with it."

For two years, investigators, working under Sen. Thomas Dodd, Subcommittee Chairman, have probed the mail order gun field. Their findings are shocking.

Twenty five per cent of those District of Columbia residents purchasing mail order guns have criminal records. Typical convictions: assault with a dangerous weapon, homicide, possession and use of narcotics, assault with intent to kill a police officer.

The five local police precincts with the highest crime rates are the highest number of mail order gun deliveries.

Police officers from coast to coast, from New York to Los Angeles, offered testimony to the Dodd Subcommittee. They submitted case histories of crimes—armed robberies, homicides, accidental shootings—committed by individuals totting mail order guns. Many were committed by teenagers and subteenagers, by hardened criminals and drug addicts to whom weapons cannot legally be sold.

Police in virtually every large city have repeatedly found weapons in hands of juveniles and juvenile gangs. The guns, all too often, are purchased by mail order.

Many mail order dealers, Sen. Dodd learned, conduct their business operations with calculated carelessness. The coupons in their advertisements may specify that no one under 18 or possessing a criminal record may purchase a gun. No effort is made, however, to check the identity of

a mail order buyer. Some dealers evade postal regulations by shipping guns by express, because only four states have regulations against gun shipments by this route.

All too often the packaged guns are unmarked, and the express company employees are unaware of the contents they must deliver to the youthful purchasers.

Under present Federal statutes, the trade in mail order guns to juveniles is, for all intents and purposes, virtually unrestrained. "Unless some effective action is taken to halt this highly dangerous trade," Senator Dodd says, "needless tragedies will be repeated time and time again."

The Connecticut Senator has urged passage of his carefully-drawn bill (S. 973) that would curtail the shipment in interstate commerce of mail order guns to children under 18. The Dodd bill would require any mail order gun purchaser to enclose with his order a sworn affidavit establishing his age and criminal record. It would require mail order dealers to give written notice to common carriers of pistols shipped in interstate commerce.

The Dodd bill has been endorsed by the gun industry and gun clubs, and by the National Rifle Association.

Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Sunday, Aug. 18, the 230th day of 1963 with 135 to follow.

The moon is approaching its new phase.

The morning stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

The evening stars are Mars and Saturn.

Those born today include the first child born of English parents in America, Virginia Dare, in 1587.

On this day in history: In 1856, the patent office doubted that the condensed milk it patented that date would be of much commercial value.

In 1916, Abraham Lincoln's birthplace at Hodginsville, Ky., was given to the U.S. as a national shrine.

In 1924, French troops followed up the Versailles Treaty by beginning the evacuation of the Ruhr Valley.