

'Let's Take Back The United States!'



EDITORIALS

*Never Forget That These Editorials Are The Opinion Of One Man
And He May Be Wrong*

The Experts Predict

The Experts Predict a bright future for this infant 1962.

They predict both peace and prosperity for the United States, and though no expert is so reckless that he will guess beyond 1962 it is comforting to a degree to have thusly assured even another year under such a happy star.

Predictions, of course, are nothing but educated guesses because the power to accurately forecast what lies ahead is a power that is fortunately denied to mortals, even expert mortals.

Beginning a New Year is a rather exhilarating exercise; one that involves a fresh

face to the problems that lie either real or imaginary just around the next bend in the road.

Of course, problems — even nice problems cannot read the calendar and have little respect for dates, but the psychology involved in one's being able to say to himself — This year will be better, or as good, or no worse than last. That's the lift, and generally it's a wholesome one.

Let each of us spend in this New Year a little more effort in doing those jobs — both personal and civic that lie clearly at hand, rather than frittering our energies on those problems that have not yet dented the horizon.

Oh, For Gilbert And Sullivan

Perhaps there may be a modern composer with the gift of the English team of Gilbert and Sullivan, but none has appeared that seems capable of handling the Laotian princes in the fashion they would best seem to fit — a musical comedy.

Their names, Souphanouvong, Boun Oum and Souvanna Phouma are enough comedy to fill one song, and their three-stooge act would be unbelievable if it were served up in simple stage fashion without music, pretty girls and simple court jesters.

It would seem that the United States might be able to get some of the millions it has wasted on these Three Princes by staging a musical, and perhaps even tearing them away from the Riviera long enough to play the leads, live — or semi-live.

Can't you just hear the kind of songs that could be written about "Boun Oum" — pronounced "boon oom" — sounds rather like Alley Oop in the funny papers. And Souvanna Phouma has a name almost as lyrical as Swanee River.

Congressional Chores

There will be no lack of congressional chores when the nation's lawmakers return to Washington this month for the second session of the 87th Congress, but two are likely to cause more worry than all the others.

These are the military budget, because of its size and the foreign aid budget because of its abuses that have accumulated to haunt its chance of any elaborate continuation.

Nothing really of significance can be done to the national budget without first concern to military spending, which eats up more than half of the total federal expenditure. That the military mind is capable of unimaginable wastefulness, and unbelievable miserliness is well known to the 20 million veterans of service in the armed forces.

Using such ready-made black mail tools as the "Berlin crisis," the space race, Castro, Viet Nam, Laos and the perhaps unintentional jingoism of our arch-conservatives it is not difficult for the defense department to stampede congress into unwise appropriations.

Boosting the military budget, as is proposed, by nearly 25 per cent will not make this country more safe, its military power more staggeringly powerful, or the international tensions any less frustrating.

Adding 10 billion dollars, however, to the military budget will burden the national treasury with more debt — despite promises of a balanced budget, and just as importantly, this lavish abuse of funds to the military will pyramid the pressures that keep infla-

Hope Abe Stays

This far from Connecticut we have no way of knowing whether Abraham Ribicoff is needed more badly as a senator from the Nutmeg State than in his present post as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

But we do know from hearing Ribicoff's ideas for improving the welfare program of the nation that he is a refreshing breath of common sense in that many-problemmed catch-all of governmental problems which he heads.

We hope that some other Connecticut patriot of Democratic persuasion can be found to "make the sacrifice" and run against Prescott Bush and leave Ribicoff where it appears to us he can assuredly do a good job — with some congressional cooperation. Stay where you are, Abe, Please.

Brother Rat

Indonesia's President, Sukarno (the Indonesians either care or know so little about their ancestry that they do not have family names) is sharpening his teeth and getting ready to gnaw away a chunk of land that he has no more right to than his fellow rodents, Nehru and Menon, had to the lands of Portugal.

Let one rat get in the granary and it's difficult to keep the others out. If the UN because of Russian obstruction cannot move against India for its cowardly greed, at least the United States could cut off the supply of charity that it has been shipping to Nehru for the past 15 years. India has already tapped the stupid American taxpayer out for \$2,800,000,000 and is scheduled to get another big chunk this year.

We may have to live in a world with characters such as Nehru and Menon but there is no law that says we have to feed them.

One Thing After The Other

A friend calls our attention to another of those instances when one problem leads to another.

Already plagued with a 100 million pound surplus of butter our government now is getting even more butter. Know why?

It's the fall out fright. People have been scared half out of their wits and out of eating dairy products because cows eat grass on which radioactive materials have fallen.

We'll add one more problem to his problem from another problem: The nut houses are filled to running over with people who are sitting around chewing their finger nails and waiting for Doomsday. And there are a lot more on the outside that ought to be on the inside.

A percentage of the people have been hiding in dark places ever since mankind began. Today it just happens that there are more people and its more difficult to find a private hiding place.

tion alive and threatening.

If congress can walk the narrow path between national security and national solvency, weeding out the gold-plating which is attached to such a large segment of the military budget then it will have served the nation and the world extremely well.

The total foreign aid budget is huge by personal standards but only four billion out of a proposed 91 billion dollar budget. But because of the politically explosive naivety of the State Department and those who have spent the foreign aid funds in the past this is a convenient whipping boy for congressional wrath, and justifiably so.

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PERSONAL

PARAGRAPHS

BY

JACK RIDER

I assume that anybody who has the time to read this page must also have time to read the daily papers and the so-called news magazines pretty carefully. Laboring with that assumption let us talk a few minutes about two current and ridiculous goings on in the world of manners and habits.

Some nut has suggested that the "Tarzan" books be banned from library shelves because Tarzan and Jane lived together without benefit of clergy. In Connecticut another full nut who is a part time judge has fined two people \$100 for instructing people in the principles of birth control.

Dirty people have dirty minds, and although it's been 30 years since I was in my Tarzan reading days — except for the funny papers now — if there ever was a wholesome series of books for kids it was, and is the Tarzan group. How any perverted collect of freaks could ever read pornography into the Tarzan books is a misery, as well as a mystery to me.

Nothing in the world is more revolting than professional rabbits who oppose birth control. Even the Catholic Church does not oppose birth control, as such. What the Catholics oppose is about as stupid, but it is not exactly opposition to birth control. But Connecticut is a state that is largely controlled by the Catholic Church, as are Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Unwanted, unneeded children are the most pitiful animals in the world. And, I might add, the most expensive children in the world. Not in what they cost at the welfare and human misery level, but in what they cost the world in lost productivity and creativity. Just to make the rule books wrong, children do come from crowded homes with few or no privileges and make good in the world. But they are the exceptions.

History has even had its great illegitimate children, but they are even a more rare exception. Getting back to Connecticut, home of Yale University and assorted other institutions of great repute, home of Margaret Sanger, producer of many great men and women. How the people of that state could elect a legislature over and over again that would tolerate such an imbecilic law is a study in mass ignorance.

Between the freaks that are not committed to institutions are such as theses: The banners of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn, because it says, "Nigger Joe," the banners of "Shortenin Bread" from TV and radio because it has a line about "Mammy", the banners of "Old Black Joe" because it is sympathetic to the negro, the anti-birth controllers for goodness knows what reason, the anti-beatniks for opposing beatniks and the beatniks for opposing the anti-beatniks.

America is a big, strong country that has survived despite its high percentage of nuts. Some might even argue that it has flourished because of this nuttiness. . . . At any given date in our history there has been a wild-eyed percentage among us who were beating the drums for some unbelievably weird project or principle.

The Puritans started off in New England with a communistic society that flopped because it stifled incentives. The South was settled by adventurers, fugitives from debtors jail and the poverty of second sonship.

And who went west in the covered wagons. You guessed it; the misfits, the ne'er do wells who couldn't or wouldn't make a go of it around the old home town. And that was the same thing that brought your kinfolk and my kinfolk to these shores — whenever they came whether it was last year or in the Mayflower.

With a nutty heritage, I suppose one cannot expect anything but nutty bunch of descendants. And we're doing all right in that respect.