

Eighth Astronaut



EDITORIALS

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

Frenchmen Can Be Wrong

Little noted and hardly mentioned in the American press is the fact that the 7-year war in Algeria and the horrible atrocities of the OAS are in their first instance a racial war.

In spite of the fact that white-negro relations are better in the Southern United States than anywhere in the world, the majority of the American press has filled the world with lies, half truths and damned lies about the South while hardly whispering a word about this terrible conflict which involves the ultra-civilized French.

Needless to say, a majority of Frenchmen deplore the horrors of this Algerian war, but there still remains a determined, desperate corps of Frenchmen — both in France and Algeria — who are willing to risk their lives,

their fortunes and their sacred honors rather than to bow to Arab rule over property which many of them have owned and loved longer than there have been white men in America.

Those ultra-civilized among us who wonder about the attitude of people in Warren or Northampton counties who refuse to accept total negro enfranchisement because it means total negro rule should analyze first, their own actions in a similar situation and second, reflect candidly upon the conflict that has split France so terribly for so long.

The Frenchmen of Algeria are the 20th Century parallel to the Confederacy, which threw reason and life itself away rather than to accept a social and political apparatus it could not tolerate.

Our Military Concern

We have only one concern about our military establishment: How did a nut such as Edwin Walker ever rise to the rank of major general?

The poor fellow is apparently suffering an advanced seizure of paranoia, but Hitler was judged insane and look at the harm he did the world.

Walker is the typical mama's boy who is in step while everybody else in the army, in government and a heck of a lot of just plain folks are all out of step.

He starts at the top with President Ken-

edy and works all the way down to such a lowly form of life as a newspaperman, who got a fist full of knuckles from Walker for asking a question that Walker thought improper.

Walker had just climbed down from the podium upon which he had blasted one and all for "muzzling him" and then he gives a newspaperman a fat lip for asking what might be classified as a "leading question."

Secrecy, is secrecy is secrecy whether a candidate for governor of Texas enforces it with a fist or a president of the United States enforces it by presidential order.

Of Primary Importance

Other than those directly concerned few people will read President Kennedy's message to congress on the railroad crisis, but every person, who is concerned with the safety and prosperity of our nation should make it his business to be directly concerned about this problem of primary importance.

Pearl Buck, who knows and loves China as few western people do, made a speech in the thirties that still rings clearly in our mind. She pointed out that China's dilemma was transportation. Her central provinces

produced great quantities of food and fiber, but lack of systematic transportation prevented the delivery of this plenty to the starved and naked masses who huddle around the great sea ports of that nation.

At that time China had less than 3,000 miles of railroad.

While China had a starving shortage of railways our country's way of life shifted suddenly and we now have a surplus of railroads.

But unimaginable stupidity festering around the open seats of federal rail

Baseball Resolutions

Next week professional baseball will return to Kinston, and the directors of the Kinston Eagles hope and believe that it will receive the support of local fans who have gotten tired of summer TV and old movies.

Every effort has been made by the Kinston organization, to provide a truly professional presentation of this sport to the local fans.

With the cooperation of League President Bill Jessup a continuing effort is going to be made to have the fans out of the park by 10 p.m. for every nine-inning ball game.

The park will be kept clean, the concession stand will be operated with the idea of service and wholesome products first and profit second.

This is truly a community effort, supported by the 1400 fans who have purchased season passes, by the cooperative merchants who have bought ads on the fence and in the scorecard.

Pittsburgh has promised to bend every effort to give Kinston at least a .500 ball team.

Beyond that we are in the hands of the weatherman and the fans, and we hope that both will be kind to us in this 1962 effort.

The Army Corps of Engineers recommendation that \$6 1/2 million be spent improving the Wilmington harbor and channel is still not enough to make that inland city a major seaport. This amount of money spent either at Morehead City or Southport would make far more sense to the economic future of North Carolina. Asking the federal government to make sense, however, may be asking just a little too much.

When the city hall, the court house parking lot and the post office are added to the area around Caswell, McLewean, King and Independent streets a very long stride will have been taken toward urban renewal in an area that has been suffering residential blight. Perhaps this area should be eliminated from further consideration by the Kinston Urban Renewal Commission.

Bobby Kennedy came off a poor second in debating with Senator Sam Ervin the merits of a bill to lower the literacy tests for voter registration. As usual Kennedy put votes ahead of the Constitution, which seems to be a major activity of New England politicians, whose first interest is in election and whose second interest is in the national welfare.

Local baseball fans who are irritated by the TV blackout of baseball should not criticize the Carolina League, but should rather aim their barbs at the major leagues who have put themselves in competition with every professional baseball team in the nation through television.

Now, the British and Italians have jumped on cigarettes as a cause of lung cancer. The major point that has yet to be established is: Do cigaret smokers get lung cancer, or do lung cancer types smoke cigarets?

has prevented, or dangerously slowed intelligent merger and improved techniques for so long that the entire American rail system is now very sick.

Drastic medicine is needed if it is to avoid state-control and operation, which might be a fate worse than death.

Saying now that the arrogance of the rail tycoons and the ignorance of their policies had a great deal to do with the dilemma on the tracks is locking the stable after the horse is stolen.

President Kennedy's recommendations are sound and pressing needed, so in our opinion congress should act immediately and favorably upon them.

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PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS BY JACK RIDER

A friend has a small sign in one of his "branch offices" that asks, "If you are so rich, why ain't you smart?" That was the first thing that popped into my mind when I heard that United States Steel had hiked the price of its product \$6 per ton.

This was rather like the bereaved widow leaving her husband's grave with a gigolo and a one-way ticket to "Gay Paree." Just last week after weeks of negotiation the steel union had signed what was called a non-inflationary contract with the steel industry. Now before the flowers are wilted on the grave on this pact the biggest segment of the steel industry has said, "To hell with inflation, we're gonna raise our prices so we can compete with foreign steel."

The steel union leaders, Labor Secretary Arthur Goldberg, President Kennedy and the American public have been dealt an exceedingly low blow by an industry that has tried to better its image for the past 25 years. The days when hordes of "human mules" were brought in steerage from Europe to labor in the mines and mills of the steel industry are not so distant, but the horrible image of that era has faded because of the all-out effort steel, and other major industries, have made in the past generation to atone for the sins of their fathers.

Now, the ulcer-riddled press agents of the steel industry must return to the drawing boards in a desperate effort to find some excuse for the public relations madness of their superiors. The union can, and will say, "We made the sacrifice in the nation's best interest although we knew all along the industry was skinning us."

All efforts at sarcasm aside, this is a deadly serious decision made by the nation's key industry; the industry that more than any other sets the tone of all other business. Despite their moanings about the danger of inflation the big boys of steel have plunged us into the most serious inflationary spiral since the end of the Korean War.

The boost of \$6 per ton in the cost of steel will come out at something like a \$200 boost in the price of the average car, and all the way through the spectrum of American business similar upward whirlwinds will blow. More serious than the direct monetary blow to the nation is the damage that labor-industry relations have suffered, not to mention the loss of confidence that industry has brought upon itself in government.

The only catch in this kind of reasoning is that somewhere along this inflationary trail the straw that breaks the camel's back will be applied and the public will bring the whole card, castle down by just simply refusing to go along. And just beyond that point is the corner where the public may be quite willing but not able to continue the ride on the inflationary merry-go-round.

Could it be that the "bears" are moving quietly into position to pick up the broken pieces of another economic earthquake? In finance as in physics matter is not destroyed; it merely changes form or ownership.

Spring has hardly burst into bloom and already Eastern Carolina has been hit by nearly a dozen accidental drownings. People who are unfamiliar with boats, the waters in which they are travelling and the power of a sudden squall in open water are flirting with this kind of sudden death.

Before you pack your bags and drive a hundred miles to look at lovely sights, spend an hour or so riding around Kinston and looking at the dogwood, azaleas and other garden beauties of April.

What happened to the Ram News?