

Same Old Story



EDITORIALS

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

Newark Cruelty

Now, again the most brutal kind of cruelty is loose in the nation; in Newark, where anarchy is given license and criminality is answered with feeble attempts at bribery.

There is a terrible, frightening parallel between these times and those of France after the revolution, when mobs mistook liberty for license and finally had to be brought to their senses by the cannon of Napoleon.

Today our country hungers, as never before in its brief history, for discipline because misguided humanitarianism has turned the torch of liberty into the torch of arson.

Today in nearly every major city in our nation peaceful people are afraid to leave their homes after dark unescorted.

Feeble effort, compounded by unbelievable stupidity and cowardice are encouraging, rather than containing the mob. Imagine: New Jersey National Guardsmen sent into combat with blank ammunition, a fact publicized so that every sniper and looter and arsonist knew

he had nothing to fear from that intervention.

This country is perilously near that point where that faceless man on horseback is not only a possibility, but is also a strong probability.

The processes of the law have been prostituted by politicians, whose contempt for the mob is only exceeded by their abuse of the mob. Leading officials have publicly proclaimed that discontented segments of the population even have a "right" to resist laws they feel unjust. Hubert Humphrey is among this criminal cabal who have issued this invitation to anarchy.

And anarchy has accepted the invitation, and will continue to march in when authority surrenders. And this cowardly surrender is surely the most cruel curse that can be wished upon any mob, because ultimately that mob will have to be curbed by the sternest force or the entire nation will be consumed. And that day is nearer than most of us suspect.

The Nation's Pride?

\* In the first 90 days of this year our national capital had 44 murders, 42 forcible rapes, 717 aggravated assaults (that is assault with a weapon and inflicting injury), 1,333 robberies, 3,636 burglaries or breakins, 1,497 thefts of more than \$50 and 1,688 automobile thefts.

Consider: murder at the rate of one every other day, rape at about the same rate; over 80 aggravated assaults a day, 150 robberies a day, over 400 burglaries and breakins per day, 160 thefts a day and about 195 cars stolen per day.

And this is the place where the learned elders sit solemnly trying to run the world, when on the record they cannot run even one city of a half-million people.

There is something sad, and frightening about this; and a little funny, if one has a fairly tough sense of humor. Up on Capitol Hill the world's great-

est deliberative body sits in expensive contemplation just across the street from the nation's highest court, both affecting a solemnity of purpose and pose of power although they and their aides cannot safely walk the streets day or night.

As the limousines and helicopters whirl about and above this ungoverned sea of people who are so thoroughly cowed by that small vicious criminal per cent of the city's population, those great makers of policy and politics must reflect from time to time that it is easier to send a man to the moon than to make man behave in the national capital.

And sitting in this sea of pomposity is a Texas moron as attorney general, who blubbers in true idiot style that the recent actions of the supreme court have not contributed to the anarchy on the streets of this "world capital"

Bookkeeping Question

Among the awesome figures of our times is the national debt, of terrifying proportion, but how few people have ever tried to put this national debt into a perspective that would reduce it to that point where it could be equated with personal finances?

Few, we suspect, so let's try.

The national debt is about \$330 billion.

The gross national product is near \$700 billion.

Which means the nation is less than one half year in debt.

Consider a man with an income of \$10,000 per year. He would only have to owe about \$4,000 if he were to be in the same relative position as the government. If he is buying a home, which a majority are; he has an outstanding balance on that purchase of about \$10,000. If buying a car there is likely a balance on that, too. And so is there on his furniture, appliances, possibly a boat, and then we come to children. The day a child is born the parent is automatically put in debt about \$32,000. This assumes \$1500 per year while the child is growing up and \$5,000 for a college education, and these are conservative figures as any parent will agree.

But the individual keeps books on a different basis from the government. The government has only two items in its system of bookkeeping: Cash or credit. It either has money or owes money.

Individuals, including private businesses set up assets against debt. A house, new office building, machinery, car, boat are all listed on the asset side of the ledger and pointed to with pride.

And so what do we have to show for governmental investment? Roads, schools, hospitals, fire trucks, planes, airports, ships, canals, harbors, universities, libraries, parks, dams.

If the bookkeeping of the government were put on the same basis as private books, and the government assets of today were compared with those of 40 years ago, those assets would offset the national debt to a far greater degree than comparable figures for General Motors for the same period.

Not Well Publicized

The daily press in most instances is so heavily burdened by its obsession with a misguided humanitarianism that it frequently sidetracks its objectivity.

Not the least of these sidetrackings has to do with the much slandered John Birch Society, whose principal sin has been its fierce Americanism; something that is apologized for by most of the pseudo-intellectuals of our time.

In California after a two-year investigation a committee of the state senate has found, "No evidence that the society is secret, Fascist, anti-Semitic or un-American." This was reported in the Los Angeles Times, which dignifies itself with the masthead claim that it is one of the world's great newspapers! Few of its great sister papers bothered to repeat its report, or the findings of the committee.

The worst thing the committee could find after two years of study to say about the John Birch Society is that it is a "right, anti-Communist, fundamentalist organization."

The committee reported that it has sent representatives to Birch Society chapter meetings and had obtained names of members without difficulty.

The committee further reported, "We have found the average member to have been concerned about the advances of world communism and the advances of communist subversion in this country."

It is a rather weird irony of this mixed up season in American affairs that a group fiercely dedicated to respect for the flag of our nation, its constitution and its protections of all the people has been so badly used in the press, while every leftist collection of traitors is extolled for their great contributions.

If there is anything this country badly needs today it is more "super-patriots" and fewer deceivers of our flag.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

There are times in the life of every columnist when a little polite plagiarism is good for his soul, since it helps to fill up space when press time is approaching. This is just such a time.

From the Pensacola Journal via "Trade Winds" of Saturday Review: "A sailor struggled up the shore ramp was stopped by a customs agent, who asked, 'You got any pornographic materials in that sea bag?' and the sweaty sailor replied, 'No sir, I ain't even got a pornograph.'"

Also from "Trade Winds" Eldon Barrett of Seattle is credited with, "Show me a clam without a bed and I'll show you a tramp steamer." That one takes a couple of seconds to sink in.

From New South Magazine via State Magazine, "New Attorney-General Ramsey Clark says he's against capital punishment. That's probably why he lives in a Virginia suburb."

Also from Saturday Review's "Top of My Head" by Goodman Ace, whose column this week has to do with paper clothing: "There was one department I wasn't able to find at this new (paper) dress shop. I think they have overlooked a good bet in a paper maternity dress. Certainly a gown not too often worn by a woman or for too long. Unless she happens to be Ethel Kennedy."

Via Tom Johnson from Montgomery, Alabama: "The Jewish beer baron, who gave The Pope a million bucks, and wanted one little favor: Two words added to the prayer... 'give us our daily bread, and beer'... Who was tossed out by the Pope's Swiss Guard, but not before the little one got in the last parting question: 'How much did the bread man pay you?'"

Laugh of the week: Mayor of Newark blaming the Negro riots on the lack of gun laws. Bitterest joke of the week: New Jersey governor sending National Guardsmen into combat with blank ammunition. Saddest journalistic scoop of the week: Negro reporter standing by and watching negro mob beat a white policeman's brains out with a grocery basket.

Best forgotten words, also from "Trade Winds", as unearthed by Herbert Mayes; quoting Lord Rothmere in 1928: "There can be no doubt as to the verdict of our age. Mussolini will probably dominate the Twentieth Century as Napoleon dominated the early nineteenth."

And finally, my own sentiments but expressed better about Dear Arthur by Bill Sharpe in "The State Magazine": "Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Harvard's contribution to the Kennedy Administration, gained some notoriety by declaring America was suffering from too much religion and too much patriotism."

"Now he confirms his repugnance to things American in a book review, in which he describes General Douglas MacArthur as "wearing his patriotism on his sleeve," charging him with "messianism and paranoia" and contemptuously refers to his "ham eloquence" and "overwritten Confederate prose."

"Mr. Schlesinger Jr., incidentally, saw World War Two far from the battlefields where the patriots he despises fought for his sorry hide. "Another example of Yankee irresponsibility, arrogance and superciliousness." Amen, Bill; I couldn't have said it without cuss words.

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