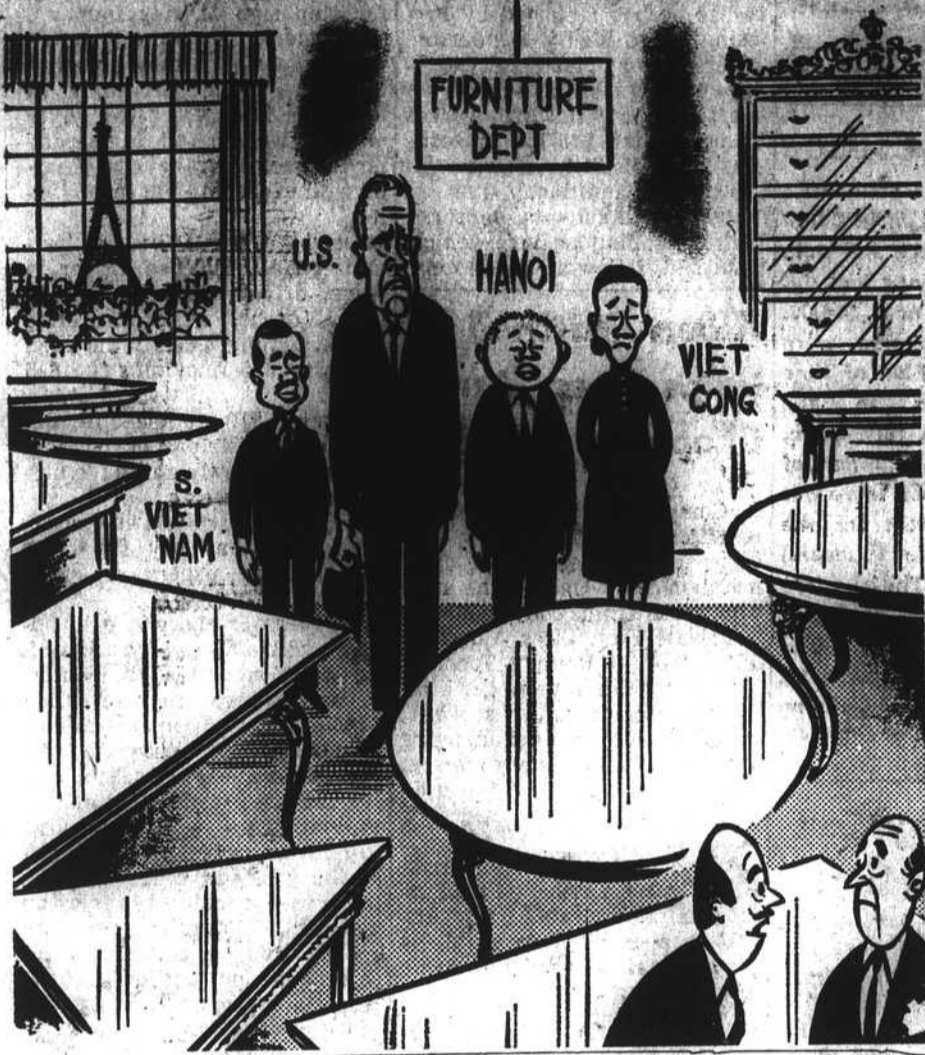


'They want a table for four that's neither square, round, rectangular nor triangular!'



EDITORIALS

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

More on Carcinogens

The United States Public Health Service and its adopted children in the American Cancer Society, The American Heart Society and the National Association for Tuberculosis, who are so busy attacking tobacco as the source of every problem confronting mortal man from dandruff to ingrown toenails, should consider some of the possible conjectures that they might leap to in an article in "Commentary" this month by Sheldon Novick, administrator of The Center for the Biology of Natural Systems at Washington University.

Novick's article is captioned: "The Menace of the Peaceful Atom", and in its few pages it casts a lot of questioning light into areas where nothing more than scientific ignorance and official unconcern very largely exist.

Novick says, "Radiation problems in the reactor industry, then, begin in the shafts of uranium mines. Uranium ore also contains radium and other radioactive substances. Radium, in the process of slow decomposition, releases a gas called radon. When the ore is mined, radon gas and its own decomposition products accumulate in the mine shaft and pose a hazard to miners. The first disastrous effects of this gas were observed in the 1930's in mining communities in the Erzberg Mountains (between Germany and Czechoslovakia). A study performed between 1935 and 1939 revealed that approximately half the deaths among miners were due to lung cancer, and that 80 per cent of the remaining deaths were due to other lung diseases."

Yet the Atomic Energy Commission is almost daily issuing more licenses for construction of atomic power plants, when the technology of controlling the radioactive fall-out, or flow-off, from such plants is far from perfected.

And the military arm of the federal establishment has also discharged more radioactive materials into the atmosphere since 1945 than any single organization while other branches of the federal establishment, such as the federal trade commission, the federal communications commission and the federal health service are aiming their heaviest and most vindictive artillery at one of civilization's oldest scapegoats: Tobacco.

Smoking, by any criteria, is a foolish wasteful habit, but no case has yet been made to support the terrible lies being made up against tobacco out of random statistical studies.

After The Ball

Back in the balmy days of October, and the earliest days of November, there was hardly a liberal periodical that crossed an editorial desk that didn't moan in purplest adjectives about the "constitutional crisis" that George Wallace had forced upon an unsuspecting public.

Generally accompanying these muted bleats was a stern recommendation for a direct-vote system for the election of presidents, since the "outmoded" Electoral College and the "ancient" constitution no longer served the best interests of the "best people."

But when the last hoorah was heard after November 5th these glib gliberals began to put Humpty-Dumpty back together again, and they found that what they had longed for in October would have completely put them out of business if they had enjoyed it in November.

The sacred two-party system which was so direly threatened in Late October has suddenly realized that it would not last very long except for the Electoral

Interesting Question

These little minds of small men in big places have completed a survey since the November 5th election which shows that in the States of the Confederacy there are now 378 Negroes holding elective offices, with Georgia leading the way with 72.

But with the same kind of careful attention to bigotry that they generally display they have not included with this look at the South any facts, or even any fancy on the number of Negroes outside the South who hold elective office.

In the last federal census these 11 States of the Confederacy had 9,883,367 of the nation's total 18,871,831 Negro population, which is slightly over half of the total.

Without sufficient resources to check on total Negro elective office holding, but with total confidence in the blind bigotry of the majority of the nation toward the South we are willing to bet our last Ku Klux Klan sheet that the ratio of elective Negro office holders is at least 50 per cent higher in the South than in the rest of the nation.

There are a handful of show-piece types such as the mayors of Gary and Cleveland, Adam Clayton Powell and Edward Brooke, but finding another \$74 to go with these in order to match the South's production in this department comes under the specific heading of improbable possibilities.

But one could not really expect it to be any other way. These same 11 states in which the Negro supposedly has been so badly abused include more Negro millionaires, more Negro college graduates, more Negro college presidents, more Negro homeowners, more Negro farm owners, more Negro tractor owners, more Negro automobile owners, more millions of Negro dollars in savings accounts and insurance coverage than all the other Negroes in the United States and the world combined.

This really has been a "terrible" exploitation the Negro has suffered for so long in the South. But it explains very easily and very positively why the finest elements of Negro society have remained in the South, building their homes, educating their children, and listening to demagogues tell how badly they are being treated.

College.

And so the tone of these liberal periodicals is suddenly reversed. Now they understand what kind of bloc-voting has made presidential shingles in the past 36 years.

They support this iniquitous big-state, big-city control of presidential elections by arguing, none too convincingly, that since congress is largely controlled by the rural, Protestant, white blocs it is only fair that the urban Catholic-Jewish-Negro blocs have tight control over the presidency.

This is the old impossibility of two wrongs making one right; or perhaps more properly; two rights making one wrong.

All of which, suffice it to say, is sufficient to support the premise that nothing is likely to happen in the reasonably near future to alter this situation.

Which is also sufficient reason why people with a sense of fairness should support improvements in the electoral college that are based on what's good for the country, rather than what's good for either political party or any voting bloc.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller last week came out for total federal operation of the nation's faltering welfare system. He had his own selfish reason for making this suggestion, and as usual managed to get in a few anti-South licks in making his statement.

In spite of Rockefeller's overall racist attitude toward the South and his using the wrong reasons to arrive at the correct conclusion I have to agree with him. Last year I did a lengthy study of welfare programs from the county to the national level, and reached the conclusion that many of our national domestic problems were rooted in the absurdities of the welfare system as it now operates, or tries to operate.

For a long time now the federal treasury has supplied the bulk of the money for all welfare programs, and as such has written the "guidelines" under which state and county systems had to operate. But the urban-oriented racists who were writing these national welfare guidelines vented their anger on the South by permitting programs that literally forced Negroes to migrate to the hostile cores of our major cities.

A person eligible for welfare aid had to be blind, deaf and stupid to stay in Mississippi for \$7 per month per family when New Jersey was paying \$57 per month per family member. And this was done with the consent, if not with the secret advice of these great brains in Washington. They made the perfectly natural mistake of believing that all they had to do to re-write all the books, including those on Negro history, was to lead all of these poor, exploited people out of the jungles of Southern exploitation and into the Promised Land of big city humanitarianism.

This same kind of illogic has convinced equally educated men of science that an animal is happier in a zoo than he is in his natural habitat. They have now found that the Negro, oriented since the beginning of time to the slow paced life of first the jungle and then the plantation, suffers unimaginable terrors when he is trapped and caged and hand fed in the concrete human zoos that corrupt the inner heart of all too many of our major cities today.

People coming from the ghettos of Europe and Asia to the cruel world of the American City found a true promised land, since the boundaries of the American ghetto were far more flexible, and much more easily breached than the true ghettos of Europe.

Now our country needs a complete reversal of the process that tore so many people from the land and the way of life they loved and pressed them into the cruel mold of big city conformity, to which they react with fear and hatred and panic. If a fraction of what has been spent in causing this calamity can now be invested in correcting this mistake one of our nation's most pressing problems can be solved, and far more quickly than most of us suspect.

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