

The pusher



EDITORIALS

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

A Possible Shift?

Politics is a fluid affair and anyone who begins to believe he knows what is going on in this Great American Game is just beginning to expose his ignorance because each election is a new ball game, and a ball game in which not only the players but sometimes the rules are changed.

But this spring there are a few straws in the political breeze that may indicate a possible shift. John Glenn in Ohio and George Wallace in Alabama, to name a pair of these straws.

Glenn was our first astronaut to circle Mother Earth, a chore that won him fame and fortune, but last week he was beaten by an unknown Ohio millionaire.

Wallace is too well known for further description, but he ran far behind the man he elected lieutenant governor four years ago when Wallace engineered the election of his wife as Governor of Alabama.

Wallace may still win in a second primary to be held June 2nd, but he will have to stoop very low if he does conquer and even after stooping there is no assurance that he will win.

The defeat of Glenn may mean the end of celebrity-elections because in the beginning 98 per cent of the voters of Ohio knew Glenn and surveys indicated that just 8 per cent knew his opponent. Yet his opponent won because he projected the image of a businessman, with a deep interest in public affairs, credentials Glenn may have also had, but credentials which were to a large degree obscured by Glenn's fame as an astronaut.

Friends, including this writer, tried to persuade Wallace that it would be a very serious mistake for him to run against Governor Brewer. Wallace was told that he had everything to lose and nothing to gain but other equally sincere friends told Wallace, and he no doubt convinced himself, that he need-

ed the governor's office as a podium from which he could exercise national political influence. Now it is unlikely, even if Wallace wins in the second primary, that he will ever again reach the national heights he enjoyed in 1968.

So the era of celebrities and segregationist Southerners may have sung their swan song in this spring's primaries.

Order Is Necessary

The laws of nature demand order and man cannot ignore this simple truth in his own affairs for very long because if he does not keep his own house, his own community and his own nation in order there will be others available to do for him what he refuses to do for himself.

Our nation is at that point in its affairs today where each of us has to decide whether we prefer locally made and locally enforced rules of conduct or rules made at a distance and enforced against our wishes.

Universities have reached that point where they have to decide which is preferable, enforced rules of their own or enforced rules from outside.

Any law — even martial law — is better than no law.

And unless we as individuals and as a nation bring our permissive ignorance to a sudden halt some kind of central government will do the job for us. Call it socialist, or fascist, or plain dictatorship. The name will mean very little as people in Russia and Italy and China and Germany and Spain and Cuba have recently learned.

As great as America is, it is not above the simple rules of logic. Politics as well as physics abhors a vacuum and if we confuse permissiveness with kindness, freedom with license, civil liberty with civil anarchy the rule that applies to every other country will apply to us, and far sooner than many people

On Reuther's Death

Walter Reuther is dead, and his death may have been accidental, but one cannot forget that once before an assassin blasted Reuther very nearly to death with a charge from a shotgun through the window of the Reuther home. One also cannot lose sight of the fact that one of those who died in the plane with Reuther was listed as Reuther's bodyguard.

This, coupled with the recent murder of the United Mine Workers' defeated presidential candidate and wife and daughter, at least serves to remind that organized labor in America is still a very bloody business . . . even though labor unions do include college bred leaders and kingly treasuries, stuffed with money plucked from the pockets of those they purport to represent.

Reuther was an openly admitted socialist. He got a major part of his higher education in Moscow and he worked during a busy and prominent adulthood to do everything in his power to shove America over the precipice of state socialism.

We naturally join all others in sympathy to his survivors, but we cannot mourn Reuther's death insofar as its larger meaning to our nation. He believed and preached that the workers should own the industries in which they worked, but he never made it equally clear that when and if those industries did pass from their legitimate stockholders that it would not be the workers who called the tune in those factories, but it would be highly placed individuals such as himself who would call the tune while the worker's paid the fiddlers.

It was Reuther and the other dictators of organized labor who very largely crucified Clement Haynesworth and Harold Carswell . . . not because of their views on race, but because of their views on labor unions. There is nothing in America today any more segregationist than the labor movement as the headlines will testify on nearly any given day.

But the stake for which Reuther and his associates were playing was for total control not only of the workers they represent, or misrepresent — depending on one's point of view — but also an equally tight control over every facet of our national life.

For a generation they have held almost total power over the federal government. We are sorry Reuther died under such circumstances but we are not sorry that his talents and his plans are taken from the American Scene. But we need to keep in mind that there are many more ready to take his place in the effort to push our country further down that primrose socialist path.

dare dream at this day and date in our history.

If people in many of our major cities today had the choice of martial law that would protect their lives and property in preference to the existing government which has so largely failed in these first duties of government there is little doubt how they would vote.

Parents who fail to discipline their children cannot logically complain when society is forced to do what they have failed or refused to do.

Communities, whether academic or industrial, that refuse to protect their property, their regulation and their law-abiding citizens will ultimately lose the authority, as well as the power, to control any aspect of their function.

Authority withers if not used, and we will have authority; whether we exercise it locally or whether it is exercised upon us from afar.

PERSONAL
PARAGRAPHSBY
JACK RIDER

To me it is a source of frightening and continuing amazement that our several levels of government are either so sympathetic to, or frightened by, the student revolt that they support this anarchy by inaction. Whatever the source of this paralysis of leadership may be the martyrdom of four students at Kent State University has crystallized this confrontation to that point where now the leadership must act or be replaced.

When the leadership on the campus and in the campus town permits repeated acts of violence and damage to life and property to go unpunished a vacuum is created that will not go for very long unfilled. The stakes are too high and there are far too many "patriots" available who would like nothing better than to step into that vacuum. Although this is hardly the era for "Men on Horseback" there are other modes of transportation available to carry the dictator from whatever his location and whatever his principles or lack of principles to the throne room.

And it is so strange that the leadership which had the most to lose from such a shift in the political winds is the leadership that seems to be most in league with anarchy. Wherever totalitarianism rears its ugly head the first and most severely restricted class is the intellectual. Yet it is the intellectual community in our nation today that lends the principal support to the crisis in which we find our nation today.

And it is also strange that people who should be the best informed about such things are among the worst informed. They either do know or do not care where the financing of their nihilism is found. They refuse to equate revolt on the home front with victory on the international front for the kind of total thought control so widely and so well known in that mass of mankind suffering under any of the several kinds of socialism; whether the original Russian variety or the more recent Chinese type.

To me it is both irritating and frightening that these people who should know best and who would lose most blindly join hands with the very forces that are directly contradictory to what they stand for.

It forces one to seriously consider the almost inevitable question: Are they victims of the conspiracy, or are they the conspirators themselves? This is a question that must be gnawing at the vitals of every board of trustees of nearly every college and university in the nation as they contemplate with understandable terror the events that transpire upon the campuses over which they theoretically have control. Fortunately when enough boards of trustees reach an answer to that question they still have the power to set their campuses back on the proper direction again.

The grinding issue is: Will too many such boards wait too long to do what is so urgently needed?

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