

EDITORIALS

Something New Was Added

When the Bill of Rights was included in our Constitution, something new was added to concepts of political science. If we look at a dollar bill we find a motto on the Great Seal of the United States: "Novus ordo seclorum," which means "A new order of the ages."

It was, indeed, a new order of the ages. It was a courageous thing in those days to proclaim that governments are intended for the benefit of the people. Up to then governments were intended for no such purpose. The establishment of government was to gratify the ambition of an individual who, by accident, force or fraud had become master of the people. In the history of nations, ancient and modern, every government had originated either in fraud or violence, or both.

And then came a small band of revolutionaries in Congress who impudently declared that the purpose of government is to serve and protect the people; that its powers are derived solely through the consent of the governed; that the individual, and not the State, is the source and basis of our social compact. For the first time in history a written constitution was given to a nation. A charter of freedom went ringing across the seas and shook every throne in the Old World.

When Washington's soldiers, with thin hope and fervent prayers, fought the army of a powerful empire, there were those who cherished the symbol of the Liberty Tree. The Constitution has become our Tree of Liberty. It was fixed into the earth by the hands of those who sought freedom. Its roots strike deeply into the lives of all Americans. Its leaves and limbs shelter the multitudes. It is the articulation of a dream and an ideal. It is a living thing, vibrant and sensitive to the people who created it. And, like a growing tree, it must be protected and nurtured, or it will wither and die. The warming sunlight for its leaves, the life-giving water for its roots, are the loyalty and unselfish attention of the people whom it protects.

Inspired by the burdened souls of millions, bred of the agony of human suffering, the abiding dream of our Bill of Rights became a reality. This simple idea about the dignity and worth of the individual encircled the earth and swept away the cobwebs of despotism. It was perpetuated by the faith of man in himself, and his faith in his children.

Mary Antin, a young immigrant girl who came to us from despotic Russia, sat one day on the steps of the Boston Public Library, and wrote these words: "This is my latest home, and it invites me to a glad new life. The endless ages have indeed throbbled through my blood, but a new rhythm dances in my veins. My spirit is not tied to the monumental past, any more than my feet were bound to my grandfather's house below the hill. The past was only my cradle, and now it cannot hold me, because I am grown too big. No! it is not I that belong to the past, but the past that belongs to me. America is the youngest of the nations, and inherits all that went before in history. And I am the youngest of America's children, and into my hands is given all her priceless heritage, to the last white star espied through the telescope, to the last great thought of the philosopher. Mine is the whole majestic past, and mine is the shining future."

—Wilfrid Dellquest

A Deep Struggle

We tend to think of communism as a menace to our material well-being and to our national security. But the danger goes even farther—as no less an authority than J. Edgar Hoover points out. The head of the FBI says: "Our struggle with communism is more than that of a differing political system. The struggle is essentially religious. Communism attacks all forms of religion that base themselves on belief in God. . . . Religious people must realize that communism is their great enemy."

Communism destroys and denies every spiritual value. No church and no church member can temporize with it.

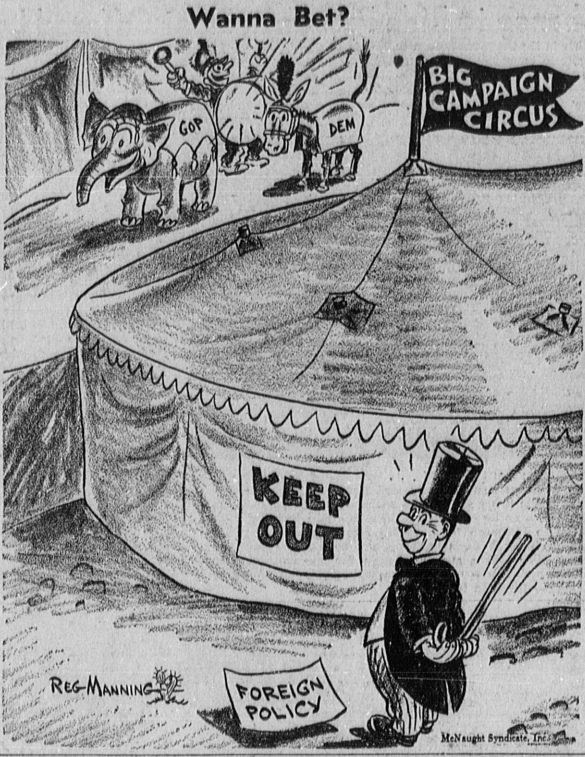
ITS A FACT by JERRY CAHILL

LONGS MAY SHE HAVE
MRS. DOROTHY LINGENGLA
Shendia, Calif.
KNITTED A PATRIOTIC
PLAID SWEATER OF
RED, WHITE AND
BLUE YARN
TO WEAR ON
HOLIDAYS...

NEXT ISSUE
THE GREATEST
WAR
CORRESPONDENT...

BORN NOWHERE ON EARTH!
A CHILD WAS BORN TO
MR. AND MRS. T. W. EVANS
IN A TRANSPORT PLANE FLYING
OVER MIAMI, FLA., OCT. 26, 1955—
THE FIRST EVER BORN
IN AN AIRPLANE!

**SWEDISH CIGARETTES—
ARE VS SHORTER**
THIS YEAR—
DUE TO A TOBACCO
SHORTAGE...



AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third of a series of five columns by John Morley, summarizing what he saw on his fourth trip around the world in the past five years. His conclusions on the Near East and Far East will follow in the next two issues.

Part III . . . The State of Europe and U. S. Relations. It's not possible to travel through Europe on one or two trips and draw accurate conclusions on conditions . . . on feelings toward the U. S. . . . on fears of Russia or war, etc., unless the traveler can make comparisons with many previous consecutive trips. This means that unless a person has traveled over the same ground year after year, his conclusions are based on superficial and limited information. Americans traveling abroad for the first time make the mistake of comparing conditions there with conditions at home, instead of comparing them with conditions in Europe over a period of time. Such a comparison of the past 10 years would prove conclusively that Europe is healthier, more prosperous, more optimistic, less fearful of Communism, or war . . . and much more friendly to the United States.

There has been a big gulf between the United States and Europe for some time and it had nothing to do with our tough attitude toward Russia. It is just that we are far better off and Europeans resent it. The airlines and ocean liners provide daily reminders that the American is more prosperous than any other citizen of the world. It is human envy pure and simple, but it's only the beginning.

The gulf between Europe

and the U. S. was increased by bad reporting from European correspondents in Washington and New York, and by some American correspondents in Europe.

There was a tendency until recently for correspondents of European newspapers in Washington and New York to be on the "left-wing" fringe, and go heavy on reporting the left-wing press in the U. S., or the international, liberal publications. Being citizens of countries with lower living standards, these reporters concentrated on left-wing news stories of "Wall Street capitalists and exploiters," which made good reading to the folks back home. It was apparent to this reporter that for the most part the European correspondents here and the American correspondents in Europe had been of the liberal, international wing and usually slanted their news stories in that direction. The conservative Democrat or Republican . . . the conservative American business man, were not in good graces of the average European or American reporter; hence they were not properly presented to the average European reader.

Europe wants America to share its wealth in more ways than one. We began doing it in a big scale in 1945 and up to now both Democrats and Republicans have contributed over \$50,000,000,000 to the cause. When the Republic began to curtail in 1953, the hate campaigns began in Europe. It is definitely tapering off now, for Europeans realize that Uncle Sam is facing a \$280,000,000,000 national debt and the U. S. budget is still out of balance. They recog-

nize, too, that our ten-year investment of \$50,000,000,000 has put them back on their feet, for Europe is more prosperous in 1955 than at any time in modern history.

Because the average European is better off, he is more optimistic. The state of mind seems to follow the state of the stomach. The popularity of President Eisenhower is reflected everywhere. Proof of that came on the day of his heart attack when the stock market dropped billions in value. We know now that European selling of U. S. securities greatly influenced the stock market slide. The frequent trips to Europe of Secretary Dulles, consolidating the unity of the West, have resulted in hope and optimism that America is working for peace. U. S. military strength, the greatest of any peace time period in history, and our willingness to put up the money, have reduced fears of Russia and Communism. With employment high, the Communist unions have lost considerable ground in France and Italy. The unprecedented American tourist trade has touched every hamlet and every home in Europe. This dollar volume of American tourists is the greatest single source of revenue in most European countries, and has helped to improve our relations.

The European is convinced that Russia has given up ground to the West. In recent months Russia agreed to free Austria . . . pulled out of Finland's Porkkala . . . recognized West Germany and returned German prisoners . . . gave up blockade of Berlin and turned control of corridor to East Germany . . . lost prestige by apologizing to Tito, etc. It is true that some of these moves were a part of the softening process of the Soviet "New Look," but nevertheless, the fact that Russia has given ground proves to Europe that all is not going according to plan inside and outside the Iron Curtain. Russia's penetration of the Near East, or Communist gains in Indonesia are too far removed for the average European to worry about.

A Swedish diplomat summed up Europe's optimism to me in Stockholm in this way: "Russia has been definitely stopped. There is a feeling of security for all of us, thanks to U. S. military superiority in atomic weapons. It could be the effect of President Eisenhower and maybe the Christian crusade of Billy Graham. This optimism has caught on even here in Sweden. Our government has used it as a reason for ending liquor-rationing after 40 years."

TODAY'S BEST BUY!

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The Freelancer

By TOM RISCHE, Herald Staff Writer

This is an apostrophe. It is a flea-sized symbol which can cause trouble far out of proportion to its size. It is one of the most commonly misused and misplaced symbols in the English language.

I was driving down the street the other day and noticed that somebody had painted a big sign, "The Smiths" on the garage door.

"Somebody ought to tell that guy that he has apostrophitis," I thought.

Glancing at some of the names on mailboxes, I noticed that about 90 per cent of the people who put their names on mailboxes use the apostrophe correctly.

I saw "The Johnsons," "The Millers," "The Grabowski's," and plenty of other similar signs. In fact, I even noticed a misuse of the apostrophe on a billboard advertising "The Jones Brother's Hat Shop."

Probably none of these sign painters realized that they have apostrophitis.

It was tempting to hang a sign reading, "Who's the Smiths' What?" under the big sign which reads, "The Smiths'." Since my business is working with words—apostrophes, commas, periods, and the like—I have to keep up with what the well-bred apostrophe is doing these days. No self-respecting apostrophe would be caught dead in a misusage like "The Smiths'."

The fact is, however, that nearly everybody uses the apostrophe wrong. Either a campaign to change the English rules or one to stamp out apostrophitis should be started at once.

Strictly speaking, "The Smiths'" indicates that something belongs to one Smith.

He is not called "John Smith," but just "The Smith." "The Smiths'" indicate that something belongs to both Smiths and would be technically correct.

The most correct thing to put on your mailbox would be "The Smiths." This indicates that two or more Smiths live in one house. If you are renting your home, this is the only correct form, since "The Smiths'" would indicate that you owned your house (or at least the mailbox).

There are several good reasons for not using "The Smiths'" on your mailbox, if you are inclined to put it there. These are:

1. It is incorrect usage, according to the rules of English.
2. It takes more paint, if it is painted on.
3. It requires an extra character, if you buy the letters.
4. Your name may not be Smith. You would be correct in putting "The Johnsons," "The Millers," "The Grabowski's," depending on what your particular name happens to be.

If your name is something like "Evans" or "Jones" your problem is nearly the same. You should put "The Evans" or "The Joneses" on your mailbox, not "The Evans'" or "The Jones'."

There are many other rules for other uses of the apostrophe, but this is concerned mainly with mailboxes.

At this point, if you are thoroughly confused, you may have concluded that it would be easier to put either "Mr. and Mrs. John Smith" or nothing at all on your mailbox.

That's one way to stamp out apostrophitis.

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

Did you know there are about 215 miles of streets in Torrance?

The mileage represents nearly 100 miles of new streets in the past five years, according to City Engineer Ronald Bishop. An indication of growth in the area can be determined from the annual mileage reports compiled by the engineer's department over at the City Hall. It goes like this:

1950	11.8
1951	6.1
1952	10.3
1953	15.3
1954	23.2
1955	7.2

Bishop says the 1955 figure should just about equal the 1954 total—or almost 25 miles of new streets for the street sweepers to clean each week. There are 25 miles of alleys in this town, too, in case you are an alley cat.

Irene, one of our favorite waitresses, tries her best to sell you a couple of pieces of pie each Saturday when you drop in for lunch or coffee. "We're closed tomorrow," she insists.

TODAY'S BEST BUY!

\$5.63 will buy one clinic visit for a child.

Your Community Chest needs your fair share!

Torrance Herald

ESTABLISHED JAN. 1, 1914
Published Semi-Weekly at Torrance, California, Thursday and Monday. Entered as second class matter Jan. 20, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

1619 Gramercy Ave. FA 8-4000

KING WILLIAMS, Publisher
GLENN W. PEEL, General Mgr.
REID L. BUNDY, Managing Editor

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicated, Decree No. 21870, March 23, 1927.

MEMBER CALIFORNIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
MEMBER NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER

Subscription Rates:
By Carrier, 30c a Month.
Mail Subscriptions \$3.60 per year. Circulation office FAIR-fax 8-4004.

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THE MANAGER

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LAW IN ACTION

EXCEPTIONS AND CONTRACTS

Now, what's all this about legal exceptions?

1. At first you hear, say, that the law won't let minors under 21 make certain contracts at all, like buying real estate, and it won't hold youngsters under 18 to other contracts. If 18 or older, they can "disaffirm" their contracts merely by handing back the goods, usually with some payment for use, deterioration, or abuse.

2. But what about young John? Some years ago he had to leave the home of his poor parents to work his way through school. How can he get board and room without binding contracts?

So an exception: Such a minor may make binding contracts for necessities, for which he will be required to pay the reasonable value.

3. After graduation, John got a job and met Mary, a bit younger than he. When she was eighteen, they married. Upon marriage, both became "emancipated" from their folks: They were on their own. Young as she was, Mary—but not John—in those days could buy and sell property, make binding contracts like older men and women. An adult.

4. But since September of this year our law makers have altered some eighteen-year-old husbands as well as eighteen-year-old wives, to make contracts "the same as if they were twenty-one."

5. Meantime, Mary and John's six-year-old girl, Susie, is a whiz with her fiddle. TV people bid for her. But as a minor could Susie "disaffirm" her contract? And where'd she get those who put up money to train and build her up?

So another exception: A California Superior Court can approve a contract, in the child performer's interest. No one could afford to employ her under an agreement which would not bind her. And so her talents might go down the drain. The court protects the child in this as well as other ways. Under the law, for example, it can put as much as half her earnings in trust until she grows up.

One good thing. Since future law makers can not foresee every thing, it is well that our laws leave room for exceptional cases.

Note: The State Bar of California offers this column for you to know more about our laws.