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A Glimmer of Hope

A contention we've long harbored — one shared by many others — is that the American people are often far ahead of their elected and appointed leaders on all fronts, ranging from the precinct to international affairs.

This has obviously been true in the case of education where the people have been disappointed with the end product of our school systems and have said so despite the protestations of the educationists that the laymen should leave the matter in the hands of the professional.

At long last, it appears that the professionals are coming around to the view held for years by the layman — that the school systems needed a beefing up in academic requirements and a relegation of "adjustment" stress to its proper position.

Assemblyman Charles Edward Chapel, known for speaking his mind on all subjects which concern him, has been particularly critical of modern school philosophy in his recent reports carried weekly in the HERALD. He recently criticized schools of education for stressing courses in teaching methods above courses in subjects to be taught. It is a criticism that has been heard for several years, and one which has been bringing changes in credential requirements for teachers.

More change is needed and with interested legislators like Chapel keeping an eye on schools, the changes will come.

A rebellion against "life adjustment" courses as a principal goal of education is making its mark and a more realistic philosophy of the purposes of education appears to be gaining important support.

Locally, the board elected by the people last spring has inaugurated a series of changes in district philosophy — changes sought by parents for several years. It takes time, but it appears that there is a glimmer of hope for education yet.

Garden Checklist

1. Camellias should be bought during their bloom season so you can see what you're getting. Check nurseries for the different varieties as they come to bloom.
2. Spring blooming bulbs are still to be found, but you should plant them without further delay.
3. Snails and slugs are active during cool weather. Scatter snail bait around your garden and keep a fresh supply on hand. Rain will wash out the pellet's effectiveness.
4. Crabgrass control can start now. Ask your CAN nurseryman about commercially prepared controls for use on areas where the pesky invader caused trouble last summer.
5. Make sure tuberous begonias have been lifted and stored. They will rot when left to winter over in a wet soil.

Morning Report:

Abe Mellinkoff

The Russians are often accused of double-talk. But the other day when they were asked to pungle up for the United Nations they were completely frank. "No got the dough; can't make the scratch; short on the long green; and you should see how tough things are at home" — all in diplomatic language, of course.

All of this to meet a small share of the U. N. budget, which is still running behind what New York city puts out just for its police and welfare departments.

Sort of reminds me of the big spender who reaches for the restaurant check when everybody is looking, but haggles for days over the butcher's bill.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1-Lance
- 6-Crime
- 11-Great
- 12-bustard
- 13-European
- 14-A state
- 15-James fish
- 17-Jehoid
- 18-African
- 20-Laughing
- 21-Solemn oath
- 22-Soliman
- 24-Cover
- 25-Household
- 26-Harbinger
- 28-Girl's name
- 29-Ventilates
- 30-Male sheep
- 31-Bluff
- 32-Headlike
- 33-Animal
- 34-Academic
- 35-Evil
- 36-Calumny
- 37-Cheer
- 38-Bundled
- 41-Vessel's
- 42-Curved
- 43-Cyphoid
- 44-Seamen
- 45-Negative
- 46-Oleat
- 48-Signal call
- 49-On trumpet
- 50-Profile
- 51-Bemoans

DOWN

- 1-Kind of
- 2-Architectural
- 3-Base
- 4-Babylonian
- 5-Deity
- 6-Emmet
- 7-Raise
- 8-Departed
- 9-Abstract
- 10-Being
- 11-Printer's
- 12-Basque court
- 13-Quavers
- 14-Loving
- 15-Hemorrhaged
- 16-Uncover
- 17-Servant
- 18-Sole
- 19-Toothed
- 20-Instruments
- 21-Jim
- 22-Male sheep
- 23-Cowboy
- 24-Competition
- 25-Baby's bed
- 26-Solid fence
- 27-Subterranean
- 28-Passageway
- 29-Sign of
- 30-Sodium
- 31-Lure
- 32-Hindu
- 33-Edible fish
- 34-Delineated
- 35-Weight of
- 36-India
- 37-Nahoor
- 38-Sheep
- 39-Prefix: down
- 40-Symbol for
- 41-Nickel

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Civilization Is Fun!



Cranberries Given Clean Bill of Health This Year

By JAMES DORAIS

Thanksgiving is just behind us and Christmas is fast approaching, but so far there hasn't been a peep out of Uncle Sam's watchdogs about the perils of eating cranberries.

It was just two years ago that the great cranberry scare swept the traditional holiday dinner item off grocers' shelves and caused any number of growers of the commodity to go broke. Part of the crop that year had been sprayed by chemical containing goitrogen, and goitrogen, Federal authorities suddenly decreed, could do dire things to the human system.

In a recent address to the Animal Industry Conference in Fresno, agricultural chemist Robert White-Stevens pointed out that the amount of the dangerous chemical found on the sprayed cranberries would require the consumption of 15,000 pounds of berries each day for 10 years to give any-

body a case of goitrogenic poisoning. So far, no one has been discovered who likes cranberries that much.

Mr. White-Stevens also cited the fact that people who don't eat sprayed cranberries consume goitrogen all the time anyway. It is found in its natural state in a variety of foods, including turnips, cauliflower, peanuts, soybeans, mustard, beets, peas, beans, spinach lettuce, carrots, celery, pears, strawberries, peaches, raisins, milk, oysters and raw liver.

The main point of White-Stevens' address was that people, including those who work for government agencies, who believe that only "natural" foods are safe and who oppose chemical additives, synthetics and chemical pesticides, would have us starving to death in a few decades if their views prevailed.

The statistics are startling. To sustain one human in what is considered the requisite level of 2,200 calories

of food requires 2.5 acres of arable land. In the United States today there are only 2.8 acres of arable land per person; the world average is only 1.25 acres, providing for a gross intake of less than 1,800 calories per day.

Even more alarming, the well advertised population explosion is steadily reducing the average acreage of land per person the world over year by year, particularly in countries already near starvation levels. Some scientists refer to Domsday as the day when the world population arrives at 50 billion, or 10,000 people per square mile of land. According to one study, Domsday, at present population projections, is set for Nov. 13, 2026. In painting this gloomy picture, the agricultural chemists claim that the only hope of feeding the mushrooming world population lies in greater agricultural research and expanded use of chemicals in the production of foodstuffs.

William Hogan

About Super Americans --The Branch in Texas

Earlier this year The New Yorker presented an exhaustive and devastating series of articles on life in Texas by its veteran reporter - at - large, John Bainbridge. This focused on an optimism, ebullience and swaggering self-confidence that would put George F. Babbitt to shame. Yet these are among the everyday attitudes in this curious, highly successful, vulgar society which, as Bainbridge sees it, is an extension of the American dream of materialistic grandeur brought to super-reality.

The Texas life, if we survive, may be the pattern for all of us in some cluttered, tinsel-bedecked and overly affluent future. It's a long way, in any event, from the findings of Erskine Caldwell and Margaret Bourke-White in their documentary on the depression '30s entitled "Say, Is This the U.S.A.?"

An expanded version of Bainbridge's meticulously researched and withering series published now as "The Super-Americans."

If copies are allowed past the borders of our 28th State, it may be the greatest blow to the Texas spirit since Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna slaughtered the defenders of the Alamo.

For Bainbridge is merciless in his dissection of this oil, land, agriculture-rich section of the Republic where a razzle-dazzle, wheeler-dealer society has brought to its finest flower, like architecture and painting in 15th Century Florence.

Bainbridge sees Texas as a new boy, "standing in relation to the rest of the United States as the United States stands to Europe, or, for that matter, as Rome stood to Athens."

Though his findings are superbly ironic, this is a terrifying document on a Super-America laid waste by gross exaggeration, prejudice, a gold-rush morality and indeed an incipient fascist state of mind.

It is a branch of our culture dominated by powerful super-millionaires, many of them illiterate, and their tasteless over-dressed, culture-happy wives, many of them political and religious nuts.

"Dallas has beautiful skyscrapers — and dirty feet," Bainbridge quotes one critic. It also bulges with Toulouse-Lautrecs, first-rate opera, Neiman-Marcus labels, social functions the equal of any in Hollywood or Rome — if not Ferrari motor cars, for "Texans don't like to be unique."

All of it, in this analysis, suggests the philosophy of Toots Shor, the New York restaurateur: "I don't want to be a millionaire—I just want to live like one."

Bainbridge's original series was, I found, too long. This even more heavily documented critique tends to over-

state its case, although one cannot help but admire the prodigious research and Bainbridge's writing, which reverberates with a kind of hollow laughter.

The cry from Texas, of course, will be that this is a classic example of effete and prejudiced Eastern journalism. Perhaps. It is also a mag-

nificantly intricate reworking of the old Southwestern joke in which the booster observes:

"All Texas needs to become a paradise is more water and a better class of people." "Man," replies his companion, "that's what Hell needs."

The Super-Americans. By John Bainbridge. Doubleday: 380 pp., \$5.95.

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"Where can I get Austrian ski information?"

The Austrian State Tourist Department has a new book on this. It looks good to me. Write to them at 443 S. Hill St., Los Angeles 13, Calif.

★ ★ ★

THE WAY THEY GO: Varig Airlines, the Brazilian carrier began a new service Nov. 20. Los Angeles-Mexico City-Bogota-Lima-Rio. It's jet all the way. The only direct service from the West Coast to Bogota and Lima.

★ ★ ★

"I have a number of questions for my European trip: 1 — If I buy a guitar in Spain, can I be sure they will ship it to the U. S. safely?" I shipped a delicate ship model from Madrid and it arrived safely.

★ ★ ★

"2 — Can I get my mail through some central agency?"

Have it addressed care of American Express—there are offices in every major city and tourist center. When you leave that town, leave a forwarding address with American Express. They are very efficient about this.

★ ★ ★

"3 — Please suggest a place to buy a not-too-expensive chess set."

The best ones I have seen were in Italy and Spain

★ ★ ★

"4—Where would I find most available earrings for pierced ears?"

Again Italy and Spain. But jewelers in those countries will change the screw-type earrings for a very small charge.

★ ★ ★

"5 — At which beaches in Europe would you suggest I beachcomb for shells and driftwood?"

The Atlantic beaches—Portugal is probably the best.

★ ★ ★

"6 — Where do you get prescriptions filled?"

There are drug stores everywhere. No problem.

★ ★ ★

"7 — Where is the best place to buy silk clothing?"

Italy is a good place.

★ ★ ★

"I am planning a trip to Mexico and would like to shop for wrought-iron furniture and an iron gate."

Leon is the iron-work town. If you enter through El Paso, you pass through it en route to Mexico City.

★ ★ ★

"I find tap water disagrees with me. Can you suggest bottled water in Europe?"

All countries have bottled water—I don't think there is any international brand. In France you buy Evian. In Spain, Solares. In Italy, Fuggi. In the northern countries—Britain, Switzerland, Germany—I drink it from the tap. Stan Delaplane finds it impossible to answer all his travel mail.

For his intimate tips on Japan, Italy, England, France, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Spain (10 cents each), send coins and stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to Chronicle Features, 821 Market St., San Francisco.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By FRED NEHER



"You wouldn't exactly call it a blind date . . . he got my phone number on the wall of the phone booth at Sanderson's Drugstore!"

Law in Action

Buying a Home

The law protects the buyer of goods such as food, appliances, drugs, or almost anything else. The law gives you a warranty, written or not, that the thing is fit for its intended use. If it is not, the law makes the seller liable for any flaws, or any harm they cause.

A home is the biggest purchase most of us ever make. Yet you do get no such protection when you buy a home as when you buy food, an aspirin, or a hair do.

"Let the buyer beware" still holds pretty much when you buy real estate.

As a rule, the real estate seller has the legal duty not to hide such things as dangerous wiring or holes in the floor. But aside from this, the law imposes few other duties on him. As the buyer you make your own inspection.

As a rule, the law makes no implied (unwritten) guarantees, but a recent case did impose implied warranties on a contractor. He had put in a defective heating system. When it failed, the court held him at fault for breaching his unwritten warranty. The heating system was defective "personal property" to which implied warranties applied. No such warranty applied to the house itself.

Courts have held contractors liable for structural defects in a new building.

Since 1950, FHA and veteran's housing laws have set minimum standards and thereby imposed new duties on builder-sellers of homes. The government does not guarantee construction, but as a rule, the buyer can hold

the seller for any defects not meeting the standards, usually if the buyer call the defect to the seller's attention within a year.

But the law imposes little liability on a seller of a "used home." While it is not the usual thing to do, there is no reason why you should rely solely on the general law of

warranties. You can have guarantees written in on your purchase contract if the seller will agree to them.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

In the first of a series of six monthly meetings preparatory to a proposed contest when the Tenth Olympiad is held in Los Angeles next summer, Guy Rowell of Torrance took blue ribbons Sunday for spot landing and balloon busting events held at Riviera field. The 15-year-old youth is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Rowell, 1348 Car-

Quote

"There's many a man of letters who wishes he had 'em back." — John L. Teets, Richwood (W. Va.) Nicholas Republican.

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Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

30 Years Ago

Three men were arrested last weekend by local police, charged with the possession of liquor. They were given the choice, at a justice hearing, of paying a \$50 fine or spending 27 days in the county jail.

Henry F. Ulbright, known to his many friends as "The Old Master," grid fan extraordinary and "Hank" the printer, was elected president of the Torrance Kiwanis club Monday night to succeed Sam Rappaport, president during the past year.

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20 Years Ago

son St. Sunday he was competing against many adult veterans.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Dalton were hosts at a delightfully planned party at their home on Gramercy Avenue last week when they entertained members of the Tuesday Bridge Club and their husbands at a potluck supper.

Tonight the police and fire departments will hold their annual dance at Torrance Penny hall. All proceeds of the event will be given to the Torrance Relief Society.

location is a 100-acre tract at Western Avenue and 190th Street.

Promptly at 6 p.m. tomorrow the Christmas lights, officially opening the Christmas season in Torrance, will be turned on in El Prado Park from Cravens Avenue to the high school building on the south end of the rectangle. First of the programs will be the first of the "Carol Pilgrimages" from the school participated in by the glee clubs. Focal point for future programs will be the miniature Swiss village of eight buildings constructed for the Yule season at Cravens.

State real estate officials say the business has been more active during 1941 than at any time since 1929. Real estate sales licenses are being issued at the rate of 1,500 per month, an all time high.