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Welcome News, Indeed

The news this week that the Torrance Unified School District will probably be able to cut its tax rate by as much as 16 cents under last year's level is welcome news, indeed.

And it proves, to use the vernacular, that there are several ways to skin the cat.

In this case, school officials reported that the tax cut was made possible through changes in state and federal control over bonds which is reflected in a reduction of bond rates. A tax rate of more than \$1 was required to retire bonds during the past school year and only 85 cents will be required in the new budget.

At the same time, the announced reduction shows that a spiraling school budget can be contained with a hard-nosed look at costs on all fronts. The reduction in bond retirement needs this year is going back into the pockets of the taxpayers primarily because local school officials have been exercising a rigid control on the expenditures of the district.

We can only hope that the example set by the school district can be followed by other segments of our government.

'A Happy 88th Birthday!

Two presidential elections ago, Herbert Hoover told an adoring throng of Republicans that "this will be my last appearance before you." He implied that the years were scooting along rather fast. Prophetically, the crowd shouted, "No!"

Every year since, it has been the nation's pleasant privilege to wish Mr. Hoover a happy birthday. And every one of those birthdays has been a happy one for the nation, because Herbert Hoover uses the years in the service of this country and his countrymen, in the warmly human task of teaching by gentle example how a deep and abiding faith in God and the children He has created; an earnest sense of responsibility to his fellow men and his nation; a warm and wise sense of humor—how all of these and many other assets can bring rich rewards in friendship, achievement, and contentment if only they are lavished generously enough upon others.

The only gift the nation can give Mr. Hoover on his 88th birthday, Friday, is warm respect and thanks. It is a gift he will cherish.

Opinions of Others

"One of the mysteries of the times in the U. S. is why such a large percentage of butchers, bakers and candlestick makers, figuratively speaking, turn socialistic when elected to public office."—Robert W. Graves, *Rocca (Ga.) Record*.

"The Kennedy Administration plans to feed 1,500,000 hungry people in all parts of the world. A most worthy undertaking if only the hungry nations would stop pointing their guns at us while eating our food."—T. R. White, *Pittsburgh (Tex.) Gazette*.

"What business needs, particularly now, is more orders from customers and fewer from the government."—E. M. Remsburg, *Vista (Calif.) Press*.

"Most of the world thinks Uncle Sam is the loan ringer."—Frieda J. Monger, *Duluth (Minn.) Publicity*.

"The federal government now spends more than 90 times as much as it did when the income tax law first went into effect. Question: Are the people 90 times as well governed as they were then?"—W. H. Plourd, *Fullerton (Neb.) Nance County Journal*.

Tokyo Professors Wail Over Marriage Degrees

TOKYO — Only 15 years after the coeducational system was introduced to Japan by the United States Occupation Forces, a host of Tokyo college professors are up in arms because they claim that the female invasion of the nation's leading universities is turning them into "schools for brides."

Husband-hunting coeds are threatening the "academic authority" of the Japanese universities by crowding out the male student in their frantic quest for "marriage degrees" instead of college diplomas, according to one indignant professor.

Professor Yasutaka Teruoka of Waseda University, one of Tokyo's outstanding institutions (where Robert Kennedy was heckled by leftwingers), said that the enrollment of women students in the Japanese literature department increased from 45 to 65 per cent over the past two years. A few years from now and they'll drive out the rest of the men, he added.

Teruoka said that one of his coed students told him at last spring's commencement

exercises that she hadn't learned anything during her four years at Waseda but that she had found a wonderful husband from among her classmates.

Professor Shintaro Okuno of Keio University pointed out that the number of women in the literature department had doubled from 219 four years ago to 429 this year. He admitted, however, that most coeds note down almost every word of their professor's lecture and are quite good at examinations.

"But they show no real enthusiasm for pursuing the subjects of their major. They choose courses in the same way they shop for purses at a department store because their schooling ends with marriage. Male students, on the other hand, must utilize what they learn in earning a livelihood after graduation."

The literature departments of other Tokyo universities are pretty much the same sad story to tell. At Gakushuin University, 917 out of 1036 students, or 89 per cent, are women. In the school's sophomore English literature

class there is only one male student and 75 females.

To make matters worse, male literature majors are sharply decreasing, from 38 among 192 four years ago to 27 among 352 this year. At Aoyama Gakuin, 86 per cent of the literature department is composed of women, 78 per cent at Seijo, 64 per cent at Rikkyo, and 44 per cent at International Christian University.

Even in the long-predominantly male universities, Japan's "Ivy League," coeds are making gradual inroads. At Keio, literature-seeking women constitute 44 per cent of the total, at Waseda — 33 per cent and at Tokyo University — the "Harvard of Japan" — coeds have infiltrated to the tune of 11 per cent.

Even the coeds themselves are complaining about the "excessive competition" and the consequent decline in the number of male classmates.

Besides, 26 private women's universities, 72 state universities, 32 municipal or prefectural institutions and 109 private universities accept

Could I Interest You—



THIS WILD WEST by Lucius Beebe

Pecos May Erect Huge Statue to Billie Sol

Not the least preposterous chapter in the saga of sanctimonious fraudulence of Texas' first citizen Billy Sol Estes comes now to hand. His home town of Pecos has publicly acclaimed him for his benefactions to the motel and drive-in industries, which have prospered greatly since his exposure as a bogus anhydrous ammonia miracle worker, and Pecos has stated for the record that it is grateful to Billy Sol for having selected the Athens of the dust bowl as the setting for his larcenous operations.

The splendid eminence of Pecos is not entirely unchallenged, for, as all the cities of ancient Greece are reported to have competed with claims to being the birthplace of Homer, so Clyde, Texas, an ash-pit on the Texas & Pacific Railroad, is loud in protestations that the major honor devolves on Clyde.

But it is clear that most Texans regard Clyde's claim as of only secondary validity and that the enviable radiance of Pecos is secure. The Chamber of Commerce says that Estes' celebrity has been a bonanza to the hamburger and hot dog stands which are the abodes of gastronomy in Pecos and that the funeral home where he planned to bury free of charge those he had impoverished beyond mortuary solvency was be-

coming a tourist attraction of the first crop.

"Billy Sol has been the greatest asset Pecos has ever had," proclaimed a spokesman for the grateful rednecks. "We are considering some sort of permanent memorial to him as a dedicated public benefactor."

This singular capacity for making a virtue of adversity is undoubtedly one of the greatest characteristics of the Lone Star States and may well be one of the reasons why a great majority of Americans simply refuse to take Texans seriously and regard their commonwealth as an adobe of comedy on a scale in keeping with its geographic magnitude.

The only place Texas gets a break of any sort or even a modicum of respect is in *Fortune* magazine, which views with awe its industrial dimension and bows reverently in the direction of its clodhopper millionaires and dunghill Midases. To the rest of the world, which usually shares *Fortune's* appropriate obeisances in the direction of massive wealth, Texas is a joke and even Texas money is funny.

This is quite an achievement.

Nobody lags behind Americans for the respect in which they hold tangible property, especially if there seems to be some chance of themselves acquiring it, larcenously or honestly according to their lights. To the American mind the rich man has always been the noblest of God's handiworks, as indeed he is.

It's a pity that the tycoon of the silk hat and sidewhiskers generation has abdicated in favor of the corporate

anonymity, but when identified as such the rich man in America is still an object of veneration and envy.

Name Clint Murchison or any of the other plain-as-an-old-shoe arch-billionaires in Texas oil and you get a horse laugh. Their sanctimonious attitudes of hard shell piety and penchant for endowing universities not with faculties of learned men but with football teams and drum major-ettes inspires a more sophisticated world to mirth.

I who have been there, "moi qui vous parle," can swear under oath that in Houston and Dallas there are people of refined sensibilities and cultivated tastes even though enjoying a million after taxes, but to say so out loud is to cultivate disbelief.

The Pecos philosophy which plans a memorial to Billy Sol Estes and staunchly affirms that he was a man of deep religious instincts who never used profanity or appeared stoned in public, is the hallmark of Texas so far as the rest of the world is concerned, a combination of religious fraudulence, groveling democracy and smirking self-satisfaction.

Probably at Judgment Day when, so we are told, all will be tried in the balance, Texas will stand out for one major contribution and it won't be the magnitude of its wealth, the incredible dimension of its basic vulgarity or its deafening proclamations of its own importance. It will be the seemingly insuperable feat of making money ridiculous. In the long history of human achievement and aspirations, nobody else has ever been able to make a millionaire totally preposterous.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By FRED NEHER



AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Paternal Government Subdues Individualism

Government paternalism, simply speaking, is a kind of relation between government and the governed, involving care and control, such as a father to his children.

However, when children grow up, they are expected to also grow up as thinking individuals, capable of carving out a life of their own. They can now choose asparagus or spinach, coffee or milk, and put their own key in their own keyhole.

The desires change, the habits change, the intelligence and the initiative change.

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The newly acquired responsibility of the adult has left the child in the distant past. The affection now centers around ham and eggs, pipes and pubs, cars, houses, kisses, the morning paper, stocks and the Berlin crisis... not what papa and mama think. The father and mother complexes were buried with the first formal and the first shave under the chin. Government paternalism attempts to revive in the adult the idea that he again needs a father. Only this time the child has grown up and has become a father.

And as a father he wants to hitch his goal to the heights of his potential... not to Washington bureaucrats.

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Government paternalism is socialism and socialism is stealing. Stealing was the first labor-saving device invented by corrupt men.

Unless we wake up soon, stealing may become a national institution.

Not the penny-ante stealing of a hop-head who picks your pocket, but politically organized robbery on the grandest scale the world has ever seen.

It's happening in Communist and Socialist countries now. For socialism and communism are founded on the taking of the property of some, without their consent, for the alleged benefit of others.

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Socialist governments take property legally, but legality is not all-inclusive.

It is not the same as morality within the legal process. Legalization of government "theft" simply nullified the legal penalties against theft. It does not nullify the immorality of the act.

Even some clergymen who know the commandment... "Thou shalt not steal"... say that it is perfectly proper for the fruits of honest labor of

Quote

"Some people's idea of celebrating the holidays is to have a Christmas they'll never forget and a New Year's Eve they can't remember." — Maurice Seitter.

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"A cold is both positive and negative: sometimes the eyes have it and sometimes the nose." — William Lyons Phelps.

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"If you want to know why some hometown boys go far, look at their home towns." — Harold Coffin.

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"About the only two things a child will share willingly are communicable diseases and his mother's age." — The Wall Street Journal.



some to be forcibly taken for the benefit of others.

We could not disagree more.

We believe the commandment to be absolutely correct.

Earning a living by one's self is a form of maintaining and extending one's life by the nourishment of the body and the soul. Without work this is impossible.

The taking of a person's livelihood, in the absence of consent, encroaches upon a person's life... and the more you take from him, the more you deprive him of his life.

To legalize the act does not alter its immorality.

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Government paternalism, in our opinion, is wrong because it forces transfer of individual responsibility.

Instead of each individual being responsible for himself, the government becomes responsible for him. It assumes the responsibility for his wages and salary, his hours of work, the prices he may pay, how much he should produce, how he should live, how much he should have, about his old age, medical care and finally, burial.

In short, government paternalism assumes to regulate the conduct of life itself, from the cradle to the grave.

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From an economic point of view, paternalism hasn't a leg to stand on. It has paralyzed initiative and prosperity wherever it has been tried. But morally... it's a lie... a misrepresentation of fact.

According to our Constitution of "certain inalienable rights"... like responsibility for one's self... one can no more transfer it than to transfer breathing.

And no group of citizens... no government, labor union, private welfare agency... can any more assume the responsibility of an individual than a flock of baboons.

What often happens in this politically brainwashed society is that naive or misinformed persons have been sold the idea that government can exercise their responsibility cheaper, better and easier than they can.

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We must assume that life is the gift of a Creator... for there is proof that man cannot create life.

Man is the highest form of earthly life because he is endowed with faculties with which to think... to make decisions... to feel as free as a breeze... to take the high road or the low one... to build, rent, lease, or sleep in the woods.

A man is endowed free. He cannot transfer this freedom except by fear, frustration and falsehoods.

Government paternalism is wrong, coming and going. It is wrong to play "pater" to adult people... and it is wrong to allow it to play "pater."

"Use or lose" is a basic law of life. Government paternalism breaks the circuit of the purpose of life itself... and is sapping not only the individual life of its followers, but of the nation as a whole.

Our Man Hoppe

Rules of War to Get a New Look

—Art Hoppe

Grand news from Washington! The experts, while cautioning us against overoptimism, now discern a faint ray of hope—nay, even a distinct possibility—that we and the Russians might now perhaps be able to work out, through ticklish negotiations, an agreement on how to kill each other.

It will require updating the Rules of War, which is always difficult. These Rules of War are terribly important. As you know, you cannot kill soldiers with poison gas. That's immoral. And you cannot kill women and children, except with bombs. It's a question of being civilized. And one of the gravest problems we face today is that these Rules of War haven't been revised for the Atomic Age.

This has been a source of unending frustration to the military planners in Washington and, I assume Moscow. "Let's see," they say, fiddling happily with their slide rules. "We'd wipe out 92.6 per cent of them in a first strike, but we'd only get 87.2 per cent of us in retaliation. So we'd be well ahead."

"But," they say, frowning something awful, "is it legal?"

This explains the jubilation of the experts when our defense secretary, Mr. McNamara, came right out and implied that perhaps we and the Russians could agree our joint goals in a nuclear war "should be the destruction of the enemy's forces, not his civilian population... to the extent feasible."

"An extraordinary proposal," cried the New York Times with wild abandon. It said it couldn't wait "to see whether and how Moscow reacts." And you could see mankind on the brink of a new Golden Era.

Of course, attempts have been made before to update the Rules of War. Last November the U. N. General Assembly overwhelmingly passed a resolution suggesting a little revising. Just like poison gas. The Russians, who don't have as many H-bombs as we, were for it. But we, naturally, were against it. So it never did catch on.

But it was too radical an idea anyway. It would be like making a Rule of War outlawing war. And the purpose of the Rules of War, of course, is not to make people stop killing each other. But to make them kill each other in a decent, civilized fashion.

So if the Russians will only co-operate this time, it will be a mighty stride forward. We will promise to drop our H-bombs only on their military targets and they will do the same for us. With demerits and five-yard penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct. Then we can have a nice, civilized, moral, thermonuclear war.

And, best, the new rule won't affect the outcome. Because any respectable community these days has a railroad station, a shipyard, and industrial plant or some other military target. Just as Hiroshima and Nagasaki had.

But when the 100-megaton H-bomb lands on the railroad depot down the street, just think how much better you'll feel knowing the bomb was legal and the enemy's intentions honorable. However, as the experts caution, this is only a feeler by Mr. McNamara. So don't get your hopes up yet.