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A Sorry Record

Another record has been set of a nature entirely unwelcome in this era when so much emphasis is given statistics. The final three day holiday of the summer saw more people killed and maimed on the highways of California and the nation than during any similar period in history.

Some of the accidents were so utterly uncalled for that they amaze anyone in this automobile age almost accustomed to giving scant consideration to columns of newspaper space reporting death on the highways built for the safety, convenience and enjoyment of the public.

The spectacular accidents of teen-age drivers always attract attention because speed usually is involved. Yet, the greater number of accidents participated in by adults, who are expected to practice more precaution, continues to confound traffic safety authorities.

Aside from the danger to life and limb, the material aspects of all accidents, in terms of inconvenience and monetary expense, ought to cause any adult to exercise precaution. Yet, otherwise apparently responsible people act like demons and reckless wastrels when they get behind a steering wheel.

A participant on a recent TV panel suggested one way of discouraging traffic violators and those proved at fault in accidents would be to place a sticker on the windshield of his car listing previous violations. Then other drivers could be forewarned and traffic officers wouldn't have to waste time looking up the record.

Wonder what the bleeding hearts and avid advocates of civil rights would do about such a regulation?

Talk of the Times

What are the American people thinking about? What problems and concerns are foremost in their minds? What, in sum, is the nation's present mood?

U.S. News and World Report decided to seek the answers to such questions as these. A staff team made a grass roots survey throughout the country, testing the public view on the whole range of national affairs. The findings - which will come as something of a surprise to many - are presented in a lengthy article in the magazine's issue of July 29.

The substance of it is found in the opening sentence: "The mood of the American people at this time is undergoing a sharp change." The matters that dominated our thinking not long ago - the danger of war, the Cuban problem, Russia and Khrushchev - have lost at least some of their urgency. In their place are problems that are closer to home.

Foremost among them is the race issue, with all its tragic overtones and undertones, and the fear it brings of a racial conflict. Other concerns involve taxes (primarily state and local — comparatively few expect federal tax reduction) and the problem of Big Government, with all the controls and regulations involved. As U.S. News puts it, "In general, it is local problems, not world affairs, that are concerning Americans most today.'

The body of this most informative article consists of quotations from citizens the country over on the subjects that are now uppermost in their minds. Here are some

typical findings and excerpts:

There is much sympathy for the drive of Negroes to achieve equal rights. But this brings with it fears. A house painter says, "I think there's going to be a race war." Many think the Negroes, in their campaigns and demonstrations, are pushing too hard. A college student says, ... these demonstrations just build up resentment." On specific civil-rights legislation, as proposed by the President, there is a sharp difference as to wheather it is the

On the subject of Presidential popularity, the survey finds that it has slipped somewhat but is still high. Politically, President Kennedy is still out in front, but there is disappointment in his performance as Chief Magistrate. So far, there has been no big popular trend in favor of any particular Republican candidate for 1964.

Most people find that business is good. But there is worry over the effects of automation and unemployment. A Cleveland banker said this: "It's not unemployment that's bugging us, it's 'disemployment'—the disappearance of jobs. There is increasing capital investment . . . but the total number of jobs is falling off."

The federal government, many think, has become too big, too powerful, too costly. It is doing too much policing, and demanding an excessive amount of record keeping. A tax consultant said, "We're learning that federal aid and federal control go together just like ham and eggs." And there is more and more questioning of the virtues of the federal foreign aid program.

On close-to-home problems, there is a wide range of concern. Taxes constitute one - particularly property taxes. Others are local transportation, the cost and the quality of the schools, juvenile delinquency. Of the last, a small-town newspaper editor suggested a need ". a sort of moral rearmament program among teen-agers."

Finally, there is the question of whether people, as a whole, are really deeply concerned with the great issues of the day. An oil company executive was a doubter: "They seem to be seeking an escape from their concerns by concentrating on everyday living. My friends seem to be buying more cars, enjoying themselves at picnics and parties more than ever before.

Yes, the mood of America apparently is changing. It is as yet an unsettled mood. The profound differences over every issue of consequence before Congress are no doubt, a reflection of that fact.

"Either America begins now to move forward toward freedom and private ownership - or else we go back to the dark ages where government will tell us what we can and can't do, and we will all live in slavery and poverty." -Glen Riddle, (Pa.) Rockdale Herald

Geronimo!



ROYCE BRIER

Standstill in Alliance For Progress is Noted

Venezuela a year and a half ago the Alliance for Progress was in the talk stage, and not much money has been spent. But Venezuela, rich in oil, was zealous, and all Latin Amer-

ica was hopeful.

The Alliance had a second anniversary last month, and Latin America is not so hopeful. About \$2.18 billion has been disbursed. The commit-ment will touch \$3 billion in the coming year, but it is spread over 210 million peo-

Latin Americans first thought the Alliance was straight American aid, but they did not read the agree-ment. It was a mutual enter-prise, the receiving country to match American money. The ruling classes who con-trol most Latin American nations have not taken well to this arrangement when the chips are down.

It is conceded in Washing-

When the writer was in ton that the President, his advisors and many Latin American leaders underestimated the problem in 1961.

the problem in 1961.

Curiously, Washington almost forgot the explosion which is adding 3 per cent a year to Latin American populations. This tends to eat up aid disbursements, leaving a given country at the end of the year about where it was in housing, schools, employ-ment and welfare activities.

Moreover, sales depressions in one-crop countries like Brazil and Colombia (coffee) offer serious obstacles to progress. A world coffee agreement — next to oil, coffee is the most important product in world trade — is about to be ratified but it is questionable if this will ameliorate Brazil's grave politico-economic troubles.

Alliance officials have offered some anniversary statis-tics: 140,000 homes built, 8,200 classrooms, 160,000

farm loans. But consider the housing deficit: it is estimated to run about 1 million units annually.

The Alliance is grounded in land reform, that is, distri-bution of self-supporting soil to an ever-widening circle of peasants. Yet if landowners with big holdings will not consent to expropriations with compensation, half the potential of the Alliance is unreal-ized. Industry is the other half, for it must attack unemployment, which is geared to the population explosion.

Along the Orinoco in Venezuela, a few miles apart,, are two iron mountains. One is being intensively mined by an American steel company un-der a license. The other, owned by Venezuela, has not yet been touched, though drillings showing rich ore deposits were made years ago.

As an Alliance official has said: "People cannot be saved -they must save themselves.'

James Dorais

Is California Heading For Political Bossism?

great reform governor, must

be writhing in his grave. Cross-filing, the Johnson in-novation that broke the control of political party bossism in California, is long gone. Leaders of the dominant Democratic party are pushing for the election of city and county officials on a party county officials on a party basis. Big Daddy Unruh, the nearest thing to an oldline political boss that Californi-ans under 50 years of age have ever experienced, has reorganized the state lower house on a blatant, no-holdsbarred party basis.

How long will it be before faithful party workers begin rolling out the cemetery vote in California elections?

To Californians who have been used to honest elections for so long it is almost like hearing about life on Mars to read of the callous disregard of voting rights that are commonplace in many Eastern and Southern boss-ridden

states. In Pennsylvania, for example, Senator Hugh Scott turned over documentation of widespread voting frauds to the Department of Justice three years ago, demanding a federal investigation. Nothing has been done, even though census reports in various cities and counties in the state show that there are fewer residents than registered

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, in a city-wide survey of election irregularities, dis-

listed at addresses of parking lots, parks, condemned build-ings, street intersections and vacant lots.

In Indiana, the Indianapolis, Star conducted a house-to-house survey of 240 regis-tered voters in one precinct of Gary. Twenty-five per cent were shown to be illegally registered.
Following the 1960 presi-

dential election, widespread charges of vote fraud rever-berated throughout Illinois, where Kennedy defeated Nixon by fewer than 9,000 votes. In Chicago, the law provides the ballot boxes in precincts not using voting machines must be sealed with wax and tied with rope. When the boxes were brought in for recount, more than 60 per cent were unsealed and untied.

Official figures in Union County, Georgia, show 3,957 residents of voting age, but 5,662 registered voters. Harrison County, North Carolina has 33,889 registered white voters, although according to census figures, only 21,062 residents are old enough to

Representative William Craer of Florida has been try-ing for two years to gain ap proval for a measure that would extend jurisdiction of the Civil Rights Commission—now empowered to investigate complaints of denial of voting rights by minority groups—to include complaints of other forms of vote frands. So, for his proposal. frauds. So far, his proposal has been steadfastly blocked by Representative Emanuel

Celler of New York, one of the nation's most vocal advo-cates of civil rights for all,

mess. But reforms, unfortun-ately, have a way of crum-bling under the impact of

including, apparently, people who are still voting after having passed on to their reward.

It's nice to have lived in a state that has been free—for 50 years—from the vote fraud

We Quote...

"There's one Government surplus we ought to sell to the Communists—Red tape." -Ron L. Coffman, Grove City

"The common law of busi ness balance prohibits pay-ing a little and getting a lot —it can't be done. Passage of the proposed Federal Aid to Education will provide a law that does not prohibit paying a lot and getting a little."

—Corey Van Koevering, Zee-land (Mich.) Record.

"Women can keep a secret just as well as men, but it generally takes more of them to do it."—E. Russell Innes, American Fork (Utah) Citi-

"A picture which our aging TV set reproduces most convincingly is a snow scene."— Louis Nelson Bowman, King City (Mo.) Tri-County News.

"Don't worry if Washing-ton takes the shirt off your back—they've got a bureau of some kind to keep it in!" — Hortense Loper, Chatom (Ala.) Call-News Dispatch.

"Capital punishment is when the Government taxes you in order to get capital you, and then taxes the profits on your business to pay for its losses." Ellis W. Ramsey, Beebe (Ark.) News.

"High noon means a four-martini lunch." — Fred W. Grown, Edgewater (N.J.) Bergen Citizen.

"The Kennedy boys at one time had to run to Daddy when they wanted so me spending money, but things have changed they now call the U.S. Treasurer."—George B. Bowra, Aztec (N.M.) Inde-

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Columnist Tells His Beliefs

material things, all you'd need is a Sears Roebuck cata-

log, not a Bible. • In grandfaher's time convenience meant riding a bicycle to work.

• There is too much emphasis

on self-expression and not enough on self-discipline.

• In lecturing to school I find too much "adjustment" to animals — and not enough to individual talents.

• The innovators of ideas, the

social critic, is essential to the progress of any society.

• Principles do not become

obsolete with the advance-ment of technology: Princi-ples deal with our inner resources; technology deals with

outer things.

Show me a thoroughly satisifed man and I'll show you a failure on the way to

happen.
• I never heard anybody attack a "pygmy.

To be a "big wheel" you need a big grease gun.

There is often a wide divergence between the truths of life... and the fact of

• The more I talk with col-

lege students . . . the more I realize I am not young enough to know everything. We writers in a real sense write in order to teach ourselves, . . to better understand ourselves, and to satisfy stand ourselves, and to satisfy ourselves. The publishing of our thoughts, although it brings gratification and money, is a kind of anti-cli-

If I were a woman, I would wear the fragrance of a siz-zling steak and coffee for per-

fume.
• Good breeding is concealing how much we think of our-selves and how little we think

of some other person.

I always wanted to succeed in everything I tackled. When I moved ahead, it was half be-cause I was willing to take a lot of punishment along the way . . . and half because there were a lot of people who realized my ambition and

cared enough to help me.

• When I come in contact with a single person, I do not attempt to appraise him in accordance with his net worth, dress or 'savoir faire' ... not even if he showed bad

manners or perverse ideas, for both could easily lead to an unfair hasty impression. I try to fix my attention on his anxieties, interests, pains, hopes, and search for truth. It is in this area that a usually is in this area that a usually find kinship with him.

· Regardless of the legal or technical reasons, it is better that the Bible be discussed in the schools than in the

• A truly liberal man is too broadminded to take his own side in a discussion.

• The genuine sportsman never kills anything, except

for immediate survival. What's past should be past grief.

No person is old who

constantly saturated with the changing world around him; to mingle with fresh perceptions is to be fresh and youthful.

• It is not possible to live

with nature without Chris-tianity. You can call it by some other secular or spirit-ual title, but it's the same thing. Christianity is a code of behavior through which man becomes a better human being than his nature and his

If happiness depended on society have created him to material things, all you'd be

Fate is something you talk about when things have not gone too well...but it's when you are happy that you should really recognize its power.

• Every new scientific dis-covery tends to make non-sense and waste of the last

• I like flowers because they suggest no conflict, but beauty and peace. · Synthetic happiness is the

most expensive and the most fleeting. . The more wicked and miserable the headlines make out the world to be, the more vir-

tue, happiness, hope and beauty these is behind it all.
• Stupidity has no handicaps. The fool can say anything at any time to anyone, without limitations or concerns.

· Among the poorer people I find the most warmth and generosity. Their homes are old but hospitable . . . their food is simple but tasty . . . their dress has seen better days. It's the middle class and

shoulders to check who's watching to see if they are in

vogue.

• Taxes are always higher than we like. It would be wonderful if government taxes were the highest "taxes" we pay. But they are not. We pay five times as much for loafing . . . probably teatimes as much by our pride . . . fifty times as much by our foolishness . . and God only knows how much by our mistakes.

· The person who coined "Nothing succeeds like success" had no idea of the price you pay to everyone who's heard about it.

heard about it.

• What is really astonishing is how many children work their way up to productive adulthood in spite of their parents, society's bad example,, sex books, sensational headlines, bad movies and the TV murders.

TV murders.

If all you do is keeping your mind open, a lot of rubbish, rumors, falsehoods, gossip will invariably creep in.

We need more -card-carry ing Americans!

ing . . . Americans!

up that's stuffy and frosty Our Man Hoppe-

On Labor and Other Evils

Art Hoppe

Monday, as you know, was Labor Day. And I feel we should pause in our pleasures to salute the men and women of the American labor movement and their dedicated stand on the principle of labor.

They are, of course, against it.

Indeed, since its inception, the American labor movement has done little else but fight against labor. It's fought against labor for children, labor for ladies and labor for the elderly. And when it comes to labor for us healthy adult males, the historic stand of our trade unions is unequivocal: the less of it the better.

Look at the record. We used to average 60 hours of labor a week. But thanks to the unbending efforts of our anti-labor labor (cq) leaders over the years, we now get less than 40. And if this trend continues, if our militant union negotiators continue to win reductions in the work week at the present rate, I figure that by 1992, with luck,

we'll all be unemployed.
"Huzzah!" you say. "Fight for unemployment!" you cry. Maybe so. But at the risk of being thought anti-union, I'd like to speak up in defense of labor. For one thing, it saves work.

Take the way it is now. You've put in your 7 hours and 42 minutes at the office, chatting with the fellows, drinking lunch and maybe getting out a letter or two. So you're about to enter the door of your home. You loosen your tie, rumple your hair and affix a finely-dramatic

Oh, what a sympathetic welcome you receive. "Hush, dears, Daddy looks as though he's had a hard day." And: "I knew you were tired, darling, so I mixed the concrete and poured the new patio myself." And there you are, the hard-working provider, the male dominant, relaxing in the warm bosom of your grateful family.

But what, I ask you, lies in store for man when his work day is reduced, say, to a mere 2 hours and 37 minutes? Oh, rumple your hair all you want. Loosen your tie to the bitter end. Just try to look haggard as you enter the door. There's no question the welcome you'll receive will be: "What've you been in, a fight?"

Then there'll be dishes to do and diapers to change and toys to mend and . . . frankly, I'm physically exhausted just thinking about it.

So I say our great American anti-labor movement has gone just about far enough. And it's time we men took a rigorous stand against the vicious trend toward shorter hours. Before we all wind up working ourselves to death.

Therefore, let us hasten to agree with the moralists that labor is enobling. That growing things, building things or fixing things is essential to man's sense of purpose. That it brings him peace. At home, if nowhere else.

And in this spirit, we all paused on this Labor D 1963, to salute the dedicated men and women of the American labor movement in our traditional American way: by taking the day off.

Not only is this the most fitting of our national observances, but it's got full popular support.

Morning Report:

That movie, "Cleopatra," is doing a fine business everywhere. In fact, it was only the other day that the management in London finally got around to giving a pass to Elizabeth Taylor so she could see herself on the

The success of "Cleopatra" has prompted another movie company to start work on "The Christine Keeler Story" - another boy-girl picture.

But I see trouble ahead. "Cleopatra" was easy. Liz was mixed up with only two guys on the screen, Antony and Caesar, and two guys off the screen, Eddie Fisher and Richard Burton. But Christine is a cupcake of another flavor. This time the directors are going to have a tougher time with mob scenes than the closeups.

Abe Mellinkoff