

Press-Herald

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The Labeling Game

In his frenzy to link everything Republican with "extremism" and "radicalism" on the right, Governor Brown has made some startling statements in recent weeks. Many of us can be pardoned if his panic labeling is sometimes confusing.

For example: Last week he called on the GOP candidate, Ronald Reagan, to "repudiate the John Birch Society and its left wing counterpart, the Communist Party."

Which leads us to wonder where Brown puts the ADA and the CDC—in the middle of the road?

Our Vote, Our Duty

As the campaign weeks of this election year begin their march toward Nov. 8, some old-fashioned retrospection is in order. The role each of us plays as a citizen of the republic needs to be reaffirmed.

Speaking at the Host Breakfast in Sacramento on Admission Day, Joseph A. Moore Jr., president of the California State Chamber of Commerce warned us all that government can be "your best friend or your worst enemy."

"Government should be studied, understood, participated in and controlled," he said, "or else instead of being the referee which our forefathers wanted it to be, it will become a tyrant! . . . The expression of the consent of the governed is through the ballot box. The first right and the first duty of every citizen is to vote."

But just voting is not enough. "It is imperative," Moore added, "that you enter politics effectively." And what is "effectively"? In the words of an unnamed ex-soldier whom he quoted:

"The blood of freemen stains my ballot sheet. . . . I vote not because I can, but because I must. Those who died for this, my voice in government, had a right to expect that I would prepare with every faculty to use it wisely, honestly, and courageously."

Others Say:

Guaranteed Destruction

Supporters of the idea that the federal government should provide a guaranteed annual personal income are no longer just talkers but full-fledged promoters. A Guaranteed Annual Income Newsletter is now being put out by a group at the University of Chicago. So far, the advocates of a government allowance are campaigning on the premise that it would do away with poverty. They reason that since poverty is essentially caused by the lack of money, giving everyone an income on which to live will help cause poverty to go away.

It is one thing to say poverty will go away when everyone is guaranteed a specific income. But, it is quite another thing to overcome the economic reality that it would not work. Those who advance the theories of giving something for nothing overlook one simple fact: the government can only give to the people what it first takes away from the people. And the amount of additional taxes necessary to sustain a guaranteed dole for everyone and the accompanying inflation that would result would be enough to bankrupt the United States. A great many more citizens classed as "poverty stricken" would be the unfortunate by-product of a guaranteed dole as dependency replaced self-reliance in the United States.

History supplies ample proof that no theory has ever provided more moral and material rewards for the poor than is available through U.S. freedom of opportunity. — *Industrial News Review*.

A good many members of the administration of the University of California have expressed concern over the need for keeping the school out of politics. Student nihilism and campus-based demonstrations against federal policies should be removed from the public domain, presumably until November 9, at least.

As a wry flaw in this pious plea for political impartiality, a group of six students has been sent out on a statewide public relations tour to burnish the image of the Berkeley academic groves. All of them are Democrats.

Not that party ideology will necessarily influence the young people's appeals to the citizenry; but wouldn't it have been better PR for the state university to grant minority representation on this evangelical tour? When asked about this, Clark Kerr was quoted as saying, rather predictably, "I know very little about it." Which sadly seems to be par for the presidential course. — *California Feature Service*

One tax that completely startled this writer and it takes some doing to do this, is the so-called "inheritance tax" My mother, for example, after working side by side with dad, now has to pay taxes (on which taxes have already been paid) as "inheritance!" Government officials move in . . . tie up bank accounts, anything they can get their hands on. We call it down-right "Thievery" We aren't saying anything about passing it on to children who have never really earned it, but for husband-wife routine . . . that's robbery as sure as a bank robber comes into your bank! — *Elk Grove (Calif.) Citizen*

The idea of abolishing gun clubs because of the Texas sniper is just about as senseless as it would be to abolish auto clubs because people are killed by cars. — *Half Moon Bay (Calif.) Review*.



STAN DELAPLANE

Southern England Offers A Wealth of Attractions

SALISBURY, ENGLAND— These are the cathedral towns, down here in the South of England. The Romans built their villas in the south along the English rivers in green English valleys.

They left the wild west to the Welsh and the cold north to the Scots and set up fortified towns to hold them in check. And it was hard luck for the legionnaire who pulled that kind of duty.

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"We intend to drive from London up to Scotland if it is worthwhile"

I drove up through Scotland to the North Sea at Lossiemouth a couple of years ago, and I thought it was great. Misty lakes. Long, lonely moors. Hotels enroute were simple and plain but pleasant. And the Scottish salmon was excellent.

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"Where could we find a small flat or apartment for a few weeks in London?"

I see London agents advertising themselves as specialists in this field in the classified ads of the Paris edition, New York Herald Tribune. I haven't done business with them so I don't know how good they are.

★ ★ ★

"We would like to know where to find foreign dolls for our little girl while we are in Europe"

Dolls are such a popular tourist item, you find them in the most likely tourist spots. There are always dolls for sale at Puerto Rico.

★ ★ ★

" . . . whether to take a Janeiro for Carnaval next

Morning Report:

None of the 530 candidates in the Viet Nam election came up with a nice, easy solution to the war. This is amazing because every American candidate comes back from Saigon is an automatic expert on the subject.

Well, at least he's an expert through his returning press conference. And then he too keeps quiet.

All wars are complicated but this one has scored some kind of a record. Like the recent statement on Peking that "the scum in Moscow" is nothing but an accomplice of the United States. Nobody can explain that kind of statement to an American pilot who has just been shot down by a Russian ground-to-air missile as he swims past a Soviet tanker on his way to getting picked up by a helicopter.

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The idea of abolishing gun clubs because of the Texas sniper is just about as senseless as it would be to abolish auto clubs because people are killed by cars. — *Half Moon Bay (Calif.) Review*.

Abe Mellinkoff

HERB CAEN SAYS:

And Not Only That, He's Somebody's Grandfather

He is a good fellow, his ruddy complexion more a tribute to his steady drinking (accompanied by the clatter of dice boxes) than to healthy exercise; he'll run for a cable car or a pair of pretty legs, but not much else. He feels there is something vaguely wrong about women appearing publicly in slacks, and he still looks twice at those ladies who smoke on the street. On Straw Hat Day, he buys a straw hat, although he's beginning to notice that fewer men are following suit. He is touchingly square.

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He is aware, in an intermittent way, that something has gone wrong with morals, as he knew them, but he takes what he calls "visiting firemen" to the topless joints. He cheats as much as he dares on his income tax and over-tips cocktail waitresses, especially those who allow him a friendly pat. He is shocked that his children talk openly about things he only thought about darkly when he was an adolescent, and he wonders where they got all their highly accurate information in the first place. Certainly not from him.

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The old-time San Franciscan, salt of the earth, pillar of the community. He votes conservative, or for the people he went to school with. In fact, he only feels comfortable with those he went to school with, and believes his generation was the

last that had its feet on the ground ("I mean, wasn't the town better when it was open? Kids should learn about sex from old pros, like Sally Stanford"). He likes Dixieland music, especially "When the Saints Go Marchin' In," but lately he has been collecting Herb Alpert; with it, but not too far out. Even though he's an old Cal man, he can't figure out

San Francisco

what those kids are up to over in Berkeley, but he's against it. Mainly because their actions strike him as rude, and he's polite; that's why he has held the same job for 25 years.

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Like all old-time San Franciscans, he is sentimental. About Lowell High, the tennis courts in Golden Gate Park and the Ferry Building clock. About the Russ Building (to him, it's still the pride of the financial district)—all the newer, taller buildings are strictly Jerry-comelaties. His favorite Mayor was Roger Lapham, because Lapham represented everything he believed in. His favorite restaurant is Amelio's because he remembers when it was a speakeasy. His favorite dish is no longer available: crisp corned beef hash on an SP ferry bound for Oakland.

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The British Colony in San Francisco has been in a mild uproar because Robert Kirk Ltd., a store that is practical-

ly a outpost of Empire, has been selling Union Jacks as bar towels! Eeeegad, sah. Item one: The offending articles were made in England.

Item two: They sold out almost immediately, perhaps to Anglophobes. "And furthermore," vows Pres. Wendell Nicolais, "It will never happen again." Case closed. . . . Have you seen the new Philippines stamp containing a likeness of President Ferdinand Marcos and the plea "Help Me Stop Smuggling"?

Did you know he had this problem?

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Bagatelle: Out at S. F. International Airport, a plane scheduled for Seattle took off smoothly enough. After it had reached altitude, the pilot came on the horn with the usual pleasantries, and then commented "Because of a strong tailwind, we estimate we will arrive in New York 25 minutes ahead of schedule." In the cabin, loud cries of "No!" and "New YORK!" and "What he say?" Stewardesses, bewildered, were heard to blurt "Coffee, Tea or HUH?" A few seconds later, the plane abruptly turned and returned to S. F. International, where the pilot made a sheepish exit, to be replaced by another. Simple case of the wrong pilot on the wrong plane—but what rounds off the story neatly is that instead of landing in New York 25 minutes ahead of schedule, the passengers arrived in Seattle 25 minutes late.

ROYCE BRIER

It's Getting Tougher to Play Follow the Leader

It would be interesting to know two things about Washington's high-level public information regarding the Viet Nam war: (1) are any steps taken to coordinate pronouncements of the three chief spokesmen? (2) is any effort made to maintain consistency between them?

Involving the questions is not impertinent, since Administration leaders have repeatedly complained this year that the people are confused—and often being confused—about the aims and action of the war.

The spokesmen are of course the President, and Secretaries Rusk and McNamara.

Two or three times a week, sometimes in evangelical tones, the President deals with the war, and he appropriately postulates general policy or some as-

pect of it. Mr. McNamara's tone is dry, and he naturally takes the domain of the physical conflict. It is he who presages or announces escalations or logistics, and he expounds trends and current situations.

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Mr. McNamara does not always acknowledge seeming inconsistencies in his positions. Recently he an-

ounced the Viet Nam situation is "less severe" than it was six months ago. But

in the same statement he said that in the period infiltration from the north has doubled. Further, in the period American manpower in Viet Nam increased from about 180,000 to the present 300,000.

You may be pardoned some bewilderment as to

how this constitutes a "less severe" situation.

Simultaneously in his own domain, came Mr. Rusk to define the American moral and political position, not only in Asia, but in the general unsettled state of the world.

You must recall that not long ago Mr. Rusk, in response to some congressional prodding, flatly denied it was the intent of the Administration to commit the United States as a worldwide policeman.

And yet more recently Mr. Rusk defined the American attitude as one of "collective defense against armed aggression," even when the United States has no commitment to the times of such aggression.

He warned aggressors they should not count on "immunity" because of the absence of a defense treaty, a congressional declaration or American military presence in the area threatened.

Again, the people may be excused some confusion. Does this mean the United States is prepared to guarantee every piece of territory on earth against incursion by a neighbor? If it doesn't mean that, it's surely a declaration of global police authority.

It is the more astonishing in that Mr. Rusk is said to be very prudent with words and in the presentation of ideas.

But what is more important is that all these statements and postures, taken together, form a policy lacking in constancy, direction and visible consummation. It appears tossed, like a salad, and so may be your thoughts about your plight.

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If Goerner's well-documented "whodunit" is true,

he has solved a fascinating 30-year-old historical mystery. Until he is proved wrong, he is one up on some key agencies and officials in Washington, including the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. If official files prove him to be far off base, well, Goerner will look a little silly. As of this moment he does not, and that is part of the essential drama of this book.

★ ★ ★

My Neighbors



"That's one trouble with 70 acres under one roof."