

Press-Herald

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Happy Mother's Day

Today is Mother's Day. Unofficially, she is recognized by devoted children or husbands throughout the year, but Sunday she takes her place in the center of applause.

She will be deluged with special attention—gifts, hugs, kisses and affectionate love.

Mother earned her spot in the sun by her gift of a living legacy of fond memories and devotion—her family.

The recognition she gets today will be small return but not in her eyes.

Happy Mothers Day.

A Friend in Need

In the face of ever increasing crime rates, police departments more than ever need the spontaneous assistance and cooperation of citizens.

Many crimes could be prevented and many others solved if every good citizen would accept the responsibility to report immediately to police any information that they may have regarding crimes and the perpetrators of crime.

There are several ways of doing this. An officer on patrol can be notified, or in less urgent cases, a letter to the police department can be used to advise of criminal activities or suspected criminal offenses.

For emergency situations, the police are as close as the telephone. A call to the local police station is the best way to report crimes in progress.

Good citizens can become the eyes and ears of their police departments, and by doing so, add significantly to the safe use of the city's streets and other public ways.

Crime is not only a police problem—it is a community problem and one the community's citizens can help solve.

Assistance of the citizen can do much to make Police Week—May 12 to 18—a local success.

Opinions of Others

We would like for you to read a few comments made the other day by Representative John W. Wyder, a member of Congress from the State of New York. . . . The weekly press is the hometown voice and conscience of our country. It hasn't the far flung organization of the big daily. Often one, two, or three people gather the news, write it, edit it, write the headlines and do the makeup. . . . It's an excellent medium and supplements the daily. Let's help it prosper.—*Vinton (Va.) Messenger.*

Legislation can improve conditions. But only to a point. Just how far can the state legislate morality, intelligence, motivation and respect for the rights of others?—*Abilene (Kans.) Reflector-Chronicle.*

Secrecy in government has reached a crisis stage of enormous proportions in the United States and at last some of our senators and congressmen are beginning to raise their voices in sharp protest against this most dangerous trend.—*Fort Dodge (Iowa) Messenger.*

Guess we're old-fashioned, naive, and everything else that isn't modern, but it is hard for us to understand why anyone who is an American, who has spent his life here, who has read and seen conditions in other countries—can, for even a minute, give in to the civil disobedience occurring across the land. . . . Free speech? Yes! But within the bounds of decency and respect for a nation that has nurtured and cared for us for more than a hundred years.—*Childress (Tex.) Reporter*

It may surprise some readers to learn that the largest single industry in the world is the travel industry, and that all developed countries have a travel deficit. Will other countries follow the U.S. lead in restricting travel to the United States? If so, it would defeat the purpose of the U.S. tax on travel to Europe.—*Wellston (Ohio) Telegram*

With 50 states and the U.S. Congress passing laws almost every day there has still been no improvement in the 10 Commandments. To which we'll add Amen.—*New Rockford (N.D.) Transcript*

Morning Report:

A new, easy way to make a major withdrawal from a bank—especially if you don't have an account—is something called a "burning bar." The price is right too—just \$6.33, not counting the sales tax.

Assistant Attorney General Fred Vinson told Congress the other day that this tool could cut through six inches of bank-valut steel in 15 seconds.

This is just another example of the great technological revolution that is upon all of us. Including bank robbers. Not so very long ago, they were forced to work for hours on a vault with nothing but a chisel and hammer. I suppose this will result in a new generation of robbers, weakened—like the rest of us—by science.

Abe Mellinkoff

The Mother Image



HERB CAEN SAYS:

He Views the Phone With Terribly Mixed Emotions

For years I've had this love-hate thing about telephones—and the phone strike brought me up short. Without the telephone, I'm out of business in a sense. And yet, deprived temporarily of the blessed tyranny of the phone, wouldn't life be slightly less ulcerating? Race you to Moot Point.

What started me thinking twice about the Ma Bell phone—this was before the strike—was an elaborate series of tests run at some Eastern university. Fordham, maybe; I forget. For a week or so, a dozen busy executives were deprived of the alleged pleasure of answering their phones. They could make outgoing calls of real importance, but accept none incoming. The results were striking: at the end of the test period, they had produced twice as much work as they usually turned out, and were half as nervous. But the really important discovery was this: most of the calls to an executive—had he been allowed to accept them—were from people who wanted him to do something for THEM.

There are two things I really hate about the American telephone. The first is its fantastic efficiency. A lot of our products have turned to pure schlock over the years, but phones are better than ever. It's eerie: they even think by themselves. They know when you've just soaped yourself in the shower. The little devils are in league with the front doorbell: when they know you're alone in the house, both ring at the same time. I think they even know when you've been good or bad, an attribute formerly ascribed solely to Santa Claus.

The other thing I hate about the phone is the way it takes over, with that strident, demanding voice, impossible to ignore. You're in the middle of a long, important conversation with somebody and the phone rings. Everything stops while you answer it. ("Hello, Harb?") I wonder if you'd do me a small favor. . . . No matter what you're making—love, money, or even a pair of bookends—it butts in, loudly and rudely. One sign of maturity is the ability to ignore a ringing phone, but who's that mature, Victor?

Being addicted to complicated puns, I salute Trudie Clow's Country Store for "Should auld and quaint things be forgot?" Then, of course, there's the baseball story of Mel Famous, who was a winning pitcher till he got hooked on beer—

and in the World Series, he walked in the winning run. Said the batter: "It was the beer that made Mel Famous walk me." . . . And our friend Mary Jennings claims she

Report From Our Man In San Francisco

went to an Irish monastery that served fish 'n' chips, and wishing to compliment the chef, she asked: "Are you the fish friar?" "No," he replied, "I'm the chips monk." . . . Is three-dot journalism dead?

Successory: Samuel Crowningburg-Amalu, doing time in Folsom Prison on bum check charges, is now a regular columnist-by-mail for the Honolulu Star-Bulletin & Advertiser, thereby upgrading the profession considerably. . . . Sammy, a widely-respected con man and demon lover, on life in Folsom: "Well, I live better, and with more personal conveniences, than surely 90 per cent of the world's population. Something is really wrong. Imprisonment has compensations, depending

on your point of view. If you regard the bars as keeping you in, you become disgruntled. But if you think about the undesirables they keep out, you are duly compensated." . . . Welcome to the group.

Addendum: Another writer who has made good would be Ezra Goodman, who, until recently, lived in a flash apt. on Nob Hill, dined regularly at the best restaurants and showed other signs of affluence. Well, poor Ezra is now petitioning for bankruptcy, listing debts of \$172,160 (among his class creditors: Abercrombie & Fitch, I. Magnin, The Fairmont Hotel, Saks, Salka) . . . Ezra's trouble is that he wrote a book about Howard Hughes—and when he showed Hughes the manuscript, Hughes promptly sued him for \$100,000 and won. Then the publisher, Lyle Stuart, successfully sued poor Ezra for \$100,000 for showing the manuscript to Hughes and thereby killing the book. Great days on the literary scene? You betcha.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Alsop on Power Politics; It's No Civics Textbook

Stewart Alsop, the political columnist, knows why John Gunther, whose books have covered continents, has never written "Inside Washington." There are just too many Washingtons to get inside of. Alsop attempts to reflect the moods and mechanics of the contemporary capital, or at least its white-hot center, in "The Center: People and Power in Political Washington."

This is a once-over-lightly, gossipy, yet highly informed, politically astute, sophisticated, and highly readable romp through this one industry town which is administered, as he puts it, with "elephantine clumsiness."

Alsop's book is a far cry from those civics courses we took years ago, those incredibly over-simplified explanations of how the Federal Government works. It's not that way at all, not today, anyway. The Center, or the Capital Alsop knows best, is a Washington inhabited by political journalists, the people they write about and the power they exercise. For power is what Washington is all about.

Power is what attracts able men into the Govern-

ment and keeps them working longer hours and enduring more unhealthy pressures, year after year, for far less money, than they could make elsewhere.

The Secretary of Defense, for instance, "owns" more people than just about anybody as boss of roughly 3.5 million military and 1 mil-

Browsing Through the World of Books

lion civilians. Defense, however, is where military bureaucracy is even "sludgier" than civilian bureaucracy. Yet Alsop admires Robert McNamara, who "revolutionized" the Pentagon, just as he fails to admire Dean Rusk, who is pictured as reluctant to express opinions, on much of anything, and that overstaffed, sprawling, barely functioning department of his.

Although successive administrations have sought to make some sense out of State, it remains a ballooning bureaucracy, almost totally unworkable. "The triumph of those who would administer over those who do."

So Alsop goes through the CIA, the Supreme Court, the

SACRAMENTO SCENE

State 'Milk Trust' Goes Under the Prober's Lens

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO—The mere fact that the state department is "thinking" retail milk prices are too high in California is an indication the administration has the interests of consumers in mind. It also is further indication the tentacles of the powerful milk trust which reaches into almost every home are subject to a probe which eventually could benefit the food budgets throughout the state.

Earl Coke, director of agriculture under Gov. Ronald Reagan, has announced a continuing study of the economics and trade practices of the milk industry indicates reductions in minimum wholesale and retail prices "is both justified and advisable."

With this one statement, Coke makes history as far as the department of agriculture is concerned. Its actions in the past have been one long series of increases in the price of milk. These actions are legalized by the California legislature through the laws enacted stifling competition in the milk industry as it is known in other food commodities under the watchful eyes of potent lobbyists who see that the laws maintain the prerogatives of the multi-million dollar milk trust.

"We have been concerned for some time," said Coke, "about the activities of certain segments within the milk industry. Our investigations have brought to light trade practices that we feel fail to comply with the

Review of Major News
On the Sacramento Scene

California Milk Stabilization Act. We have been, and are, accumulating evidence so that corrective action may be taken."

Coke has scheduled a series of hearings, which are necessary under law before the department can order a reduction in the minimum price of milk. The first one will be in Los Angeles during the week of May 20, and the hearings will extend throughout the state through June.

What a reduction in milk prices would mean to consumers adds up to a large amount of money. Should the department find a penny a quart is justified, consumers would pay \$1,200,000 a month less than they are paying now. A two-cent reduction would mean consumers would save about \$2.4 million in household budgets.

All of these savings would be accomplished without any reductions in pay-

ments by the milk trust to the producers, who are the dairy farmers of California, as Coke says there is no proposal to reduce the producer price. Thus, it would appear that the distributors, who constitute the milk trust and maintain the legislative lobby, have been pocketing what appears to the department of agriculture to be excessive charges for milk to the detriment of the producer.

Milk is the only commodity which has a state-regulated price. However, liquor, which hardly can be classed as a food, has a synthetic regulation imposed by the liquor industry itself, but enforced by mandate of the legislature to the department of alcoholic beverage control. The liquor industry "posts" retail prices of liquor, and retailers are forced under threat of losing their licenses, to sell at a price not below the posted list. Thereby, competition in the liquor industry, as in the milk industry, is a thing of the past.

All of which makes something of a mockery of the free enterprise system in California. But at least, if the department succeeds in reducing milk prices, it will have accomplished something in keeping the power of the milk trust under control.

J. EDGAR HOOVER REPORTS

Emotion May Overcome Judgment During Riots

When riots occur and there is a breakdown of law and order, emotions and prejudices often overwhelm judgment and sound reasoning. We have seen this occur in the recent past in many of our major cities. In such instances, most people agree the restoration of law and order is, and should be, the paramount issue. Disagreement sometimes arises over how this can best be achieved and by whom.

In any circumstance where passions are aroused and prompt decisions are necessary, it helps materially if the lines of responsibility are clearly drawn and understood. This is particularly true in riots, racial turmoil, and disturbances where arson, murder, looting, and wanton destruction occur. Apparently, the role of

the FBI in civil disorders is not fully known to all citizens, and therefore it is frequently misunderstood. Some highly vocal groups insist that the FBI is obligated to step in and usurp the power of local law enforcement and "police" the areas where, in their opinion, a breakdown of law and order has occurred.

The FBI has no lawful authority or jurisdiction to take this action and certainly does not seek such national police power. In those instances when we refuse to exceed our authority, some extremists in these groups have accused the FBI of racism. Many times it is determined that these bigots are the same agitators and exploiters who provoked the disorder in the first place. On the other hand, some individuals insist that the FBI in performing its duties exceeds its authority and encroaches on the authority belonging to state and local enforcement agencies. In both instances, emotions and expediency override rationality.

The FBI's responsibilities are clearly defined and limited by federal statutes and Presidential directives. This bureau has no jurisdiction to protect persons or property or to police and control riotous conditions. These are obligations of local and state police agencies. Basically, the FBI's role in civil disorders is the development and dissemination of intelligence information, at the same time being alert to any specific violations of federal laws over which it has investigative jurisdiction.

In the field of civil rights, this bureau functions solely as a fact-gathering and fact-reporting agency. The information and evidence gathered are furnished to the attorney general for prosecutive consideration. For years the FBI has offered to local law enforcement agencies every possible cooperative service in the fields of civil disorders and civil rights. During the 1960's, for example, the FBI conducted almost 600 civil rights police schools, and since the early 1960's, this bureau has instructed almost 80,000 law enforcement officers in the various functional aspects of mob and riot control.

If the FBI has been consistent in any one commitment over the years, it is in

its awareness of the exacting limitations within which it must operate. We have meticulously avoided infringement on responsibilities belonging to local and state authorities. By the same token, we have always met our obligations regardless of criticisms and attacks from special interest groups, whoever they are.

Diversionary tactics by lawbreakers are as old as crime itself. Those bent on civil disobedience, riotous rebellion, and racial strife make good use of the technique. Time after time, with wild, unfounded charges, they have, in the minds of some people, successfully made law enforcement and established authority the scapegoats while diverting the critical public eye from their unlawful conduct. We can expect these groups and individuals to continue these disruptive practices.

During the coming months, if riots occur, unwarranted criticisms will again be directed against the FBI and other enforcement agencies by those who are eager to mislead the public and to negate effective police cooperation by misrepresenting the facts. The public should remember that persons who defy the law frequently find it expedient to disparage agencies charged with enforcing it.

Quote

The general highway user in Siskiyou or Sonoma or Del Norte, who already pays generous taxes for his vehicle and the fuel it consumes, should not be called upon to shell out more for the primary benefit of the San Francisco commuter so that the latter may enjoy the blessings of rapid transit.—Senator Randolph Collier of Yreka.

Whatever is said about the magnitude of effort by California in education, the plain fact is that it should have been far greater if it was to satisfy the educational requirements of the state during the last decade.—Professor Nicholas DeWitt, Indiana U.

Inflation is when you have money to burn and can't afford to buy matches.—Fred W. Grown, Bergen (N.J.) Citizen.