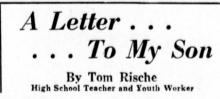


WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1968 PRESS-HERALD C-7



Dear Bruce,

In travelling, I like to get "behind the headlines" to find out how people think. To me, tours of churches and museums (except the really top ones) get boring fast

On our recent trip to Europe (and every town has a museum and church), your mother and I were able to visit with some European families, stay in a 16th Century English inn, and talk to fairly "typical" people.

A highlight of the trip was a visit with the family of Joe de Bock, foreign exchange student here last year, in Antwerp, Belgium. We hadn't planned to stay with them, but they insisted: "You Americans have done so much for our boy that we must do something for you."

Besides Joe, who plans to study economics at the University of Antwerp, the family includes:

His father, a policeman who seems to know half the people in the city; his mother, a housewife who kept bringing out trays of Belgian goodies until we thought our buttons would pop; Vera, an attractive, quiet, 11-year-old who smiles and reads a lot; and a 7-year-old dynamo, Ricky, who liked to shinny up and down the doorsills.

Our first night there, the TV set was on, when suddenly we saw Dorothy Malone and Mia Farrow in some of the early episodes of "Peyton Place"-with Flemish subtitles. The family had been watching it to try to get some ideas of how Joe's family in America might be. No wonder Europeans think Americans so strange!

One evening, we got a guided tour of the city from Joe's father, who showed us everything from the cathedral to the red light district and introduced us to the father of the Belgian billiards champion. He greeted many of the passersby and once stopped to settle a parking dispute between a taxi driver and a German motorist. (Another day, when we got stuck in a traffic jam, he got out to direct traffic.)

We spent an evening talking with Joe's high school English teacher, who was seemingly surprised that we agreed on so many political questions. He was, I suspect, more used to talking to rich, highly conservative Americans at the Belgian beaches, listening to complaints about the servants, high taxes, and "uppity" poor people.

The teacher's suburban home was comparable to many suburban American homes, while the Bocks' three-bedroom apartment is not much different from many in America.

Clothing styles are rather similar (men's shoes are more pointed) and Antwrep's downtown section is much like many in America, aside from sidewalk cafes.

We told Joe that Lea de Bever, a Dutch exchange student, had gotten tired of answering questions about wooden shoes, tulips, chocolates, and windmills when in the U.S.

"At least they think of something," he replied. "When I said was from Belgium, most people didn't think of anything. In fact, some weren't even sure whether it was in Europe or Africa."

Belgium, he told us, although a small country, is a major producer of iron, steel, and chemicals, and for hundreds of years been famous for its textiles and lace. Brussels is the NATO headquarters and Antwerp is the fourth largest port in the world.

So now, Joe can help the Belgians understand America and we can help the Americans understand Belgium.

Yours for understanding YOUR DAD

Senator Murphy Sets **Campaign Appearance**

Sen. George Murphy will speak at a fund - rasing luncheon for Joe Blatch-ford, 11th District Republi-can candidate for Congress, next Monday. The affair, one of only two Southland campaign ap-trogeneous bu Sonoto Murphilite termined for the state of the state of

two Southland campaign appearances by Senator Mur-phy this fall, will be spon-sored by the Committee for Politically Concerned Businessmen.

civic action and development among the slum development among the slum dwellers of Latin America. The 17th Congressional District includes the cities of Torrance, Gardena, San Pedro, Lawndale, Compton, Carson Wilmington Harbor

Tickets are available at \$50 a plate of \$500 a table from Mrs. Janet Wuttken, Blatchford for Congress Headquarters, 3991 W. Artesia Blvd. Luncheon funds also will benefit local assembylcandidates.

The 12:30 p.m. luncheon, which will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Bev-erly Hilton Hotel, will be preceeded by a noon recep-

tion. Pat Buttram, noted com-median and humor advisor to Gov. Ronald Reagan, will serve as master of ceremon-ies. A number of sports and enterainment personalities also will attend. The Committee for Polit-

4

Carson, Wilmington, Harbor City, Lomita, North Redondo and Hawthorne.

Appliances, **Rings** Gone From Home

A Torrance man returned home late Friday to find the front door standing open and the house ransacked. Jewelry and appliances worth \$915 were reported missing

ically Concerd. Business is composed of Los Angles bus-iness and industry leaders, primarily from Torrance-South Bay and Harbor areas. South Bay and Harbor active William Barth, executive vice - president of the Pepi-Cola Bottling Co., is chair-Police sad burglars appar-ently broke in through a window.

missing. The victim, Herbert S. Strain, 37, of 556 Palos Ver-des Blvd., reported the loss of a television set, a diamond ring, a man's gold watech, a lady's diamond watch, a camera, and \$125 cash.