

"Soft Words—Big Stick": Good Motto

The most effective way to sum up the import of President Kennedy's report to Americans is to use his own summation: "We seek peace—but we shall not surrender. That is the central meaning of this crisis—and the meaning of our government's policy."

This was the essential counterpoint that ran through Mr. Kennedy's speech: we are ready to talk—"willing to consider," as the chief executive put it, "any arrangement or treaty in Germany consistent with the maintenance of peace and freedom and with the legitimate security interests of all nations"—but we also are ready to fight, if necessary, to uphold our commitments and defend freedom.

THE PRESIDENT MADE it plain, through particular emphasis, that he considers this two-fold approach of vital importance. He noted that either talk or force alone would fail, but that "together, they can serve the cause of peace and freedom." He stressed the crucial point that "the choice is not merely between resistance and retreat, between atomic holocaust and surrender." That, in other words, there is still room for negotiation.

Mr. Kennedy went further than that. He said that the United States was willing to submit to adjudication the West's rights in Berlin. He also reiterated our willingness to submit to a vote of Berliners or all Germans the question whether our presence in Berlin is desirable.

But the President also—and this, doubtless, will carry the most weight with the Kremlin—detailed the extent of a long-range military buildup designed to give us a big stick to go with our soft words. His address said, temperately yet unmistakably: We will talk; we will not yield; we have the power to back our position.

Being A Practical Christian Not Easy

One of the most ridiculous paradoxes of all time is embodied in the rather commonly held belief that there is something a bit silly about devoting a great deal of attention to religion. According to this widespread misconception, anything more than Sunday service attendance and an occasional stint for the men's club is not to be expected of a red-blooded fellow with his way to make in the world. Anything beyond that, presumably, is somewhat extreme and is the prerogative of ladies (most of them elderly) who have time and inclination for unremitting good works.

The idea that religion is mostly the province of ladies and weak sisters of the opposite sex is preposterous. Real truth is that religious belief, firmly held and devoutly acted upon, requires iron in the soul. Far from being the pastime of weaklings, it sets tasks that demand heroic strength and courage.

IT IS EASY ENOUGH to adhere to the outward forms of religion—to attend services of worship at regular intervals, to subscribe a tithe, but not overly painful amount to support of the church, to respond when called upon for duty as an usher or canvasser. This is not the sort of thing here referred to, however. What we have in mind is the kind of religious dedication that follows belief wherever it may lead, and acts upon it without regard for self.

Few men have been able to attain such a level of devotion; that is reserved for martyrs. But it is not beyond the rest of us to aspire, and do our best. We can begin by ridding ourselves of the silly notion that religion is soft and easy.

U.S. Presidents Are Not Infallible Men

Perhaps an American might gain a little mental comfort if he would always realize that whoever occupies the White House is but a human being. As a human being, he is no better or no worse than the sum total of his developed talents, his aims, ideas, and aspirations, plus that most important ingredient: the surrounding of himself with competent and dedicated advisors. This especially is true in these very trying days—days that have been filled with many problems ever since the end of World War II back in 1945.

Perhaps as many authorities on the subject declare this cold war period is more difficult to fight than a hot war—for in a hot war one can see the objectives that he must overcome.

CONTRARIWISE, however, in the cold war environment so many of freedom's enemies are hidden out of sight and, instead of guns and all the other armaments

"To Your Health, My Friend!"



Editorial Page • A Free, Responsible and Aggressive Press Is Democracy's First Line of Defense

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of war being used, the cold war as operated by the Communists fires the weapons of falsehood, cheating, lying, even wholesale murder and enslavement of millions of people.

Another condition apparently favorable to the spread of Communism is the fact that the majority of human beings on this

earth are very ignorant, living lives pretty close to bare existence, and so they fall victim to any kind of an "ism" that is given them. Liberty and freedom, obtainable only through the processes of self government, are the most difficult kinds of an environment to defend on this, as yet, semi-barbaric society of human beings.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

We see that the Regents of the University of Michigan are going to allow the students to have a voice in the U of M's rule-making. Well, boys and girls, here's a suggestion: ask President Hatcher and his economics dept. brains to formulate a course named the "production and distribution of wealth in a free economy"—a course that you can understand; a course that will enable you, as later adults, how to do what you can just where you are to prevent the monstrous menace of inflation from cutting down your dollar's purchasing power. Unless you do, you'll enter a world bereft of this know-how. You'll be the victims of economic ignorance—even though a great University did continue the illusion of acquainting you with this problem.

American Motors Corp., in its current contract renewal discussions, has agreed to extend a profit-sharing plan with its 23,000 UAW employees . . . providing the UAW will scrap the cost-of-living escalator and annual improvement clauses in a new three-year contract. The UAW "will take the idea under discussion", even though already it had rejected any changes in the two classes. It may be that AMC believes it can improve its production schedules by offering the profit-sharing plan. If it is accepted by the UAW, there's no question but what the UAW will demand more influence in strictly management controls . . . and then AMC will probably find itself in a squeeze. This offer, however, will have important impacts upon future labor negotiations.

It was refreshing, several months ago, to observe that a famous U. S. TV reporter and writer, Eric Sevareid, has had his eyes opened with regard to Uncle Sam's inability to make going democracies of every under-privileged nation on earth—espe-

cially those in South America. Sevareid had been, in our opinion, among those "do-gooders" who think that such reforms only need some money and a few axioms. A personal investigation of the conditions, however, changed Mr. Sevareid's own thinking. He has become a conservative liberal.

Do you believe that Red China will, within the next 12 months, be admitted to the United Nations? Do you think it should, or should not, be admitted? Why not write your Congressman a brief note on this subject? In so doing, you are exercising a right, a very real responsibility, as a U.S. free citizen.

France's de Gaulle undoubtedly possesses considerable greatness . . . yet it is difficult to understand why he currently fails to share his great nation's responsibilities in meeting the Berlin crisis. Both "pride goeth before a fall"

We prophesy that one of the most important problems to be faced by the coming Constitutional Revision Commission will be that of re-appointment. Little contest will take place regarding population representation for the Legislature of the House; but the Senate will provide the reason for great debate and heated argument. There are many, even from the urban centers, who want geographic area as well as population to determine where State Senators come from. Defenders of this plan say that the U.S. Congress is set up on population for the House, while area plays a most important part in the Senate membership. Indeed, had not the Senate been so constituted in Colonial days, it is argued that the Colonies would not have become a United States of America.



One Thing or Another

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

George William Averill is on vacation. His column will resume with the Aug. 17 edition.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Fucik Praises Paper For Intersection Story

To the Editor:

I have been on vacation and the last few weeks on the job have been busy—otherwise, I would have written earlier.

Yes, I simply wish to thank you and your newspaper for publishing my letter in your May 25 edition and the front-page follow-up June 1 regarding the Long Lake Road and Woodward Ave. traffic intersection.

It is heart-warming for a cynic as myself (a "Cynic" comparable to those of the Greek philosopher group advocating Socratic teaching) to see a powerful medium, such as the newspaper is, pursue an important cause.

THE CAUSE of a single traffic death may appear trivial in the

rush of daily life, (unless it's oneself, and then you get pretty excited!) but—like the rotten apple in a barrel, if unnoticed, it'll sure "kill" a lot of apples!

Thanks again for bringing this case to the public's attention and your newspaper continue this excellent service to the people and the community.

WILLIAM K. FUCIK
Royal Oak

Editor's Note: Fucik wrote a letter to the Michigan Highway Department asking for action on the U.S. 10-Long Lake intersection following a fatal accident. His letter resulted in a highway department survey designed to bring recommendations to correct the corner.

TV, Movie Violence Affects Child Growth

To the Editor:

Social Workers who counsel with disturbed children and their parents in court clinics, child guidance clinics and family counseling agencies highly endorse HEW Secretary Ribicoff's recent position on TV and movie violence as it affects the emotional and educational development of our children.

Although there is much academic hair splitting by professionals and non-professionals over the question of the influence of violence, crime, and distorted sex portrayed on TV in the development of a child's emotional functioning, certain facts are inescapable.

Children whose perception of reality is still in the formative stage are bound to develop some of these productions are so readily available to them.

THE CHILD'S capacity to conceive death realistically is non-existent often even up to 10 years of age. When he threatens to kill he really cannot comprehend the enormity of the crime he is committing. He still believes to a large extent in make believe and that what is done can always be undone.

The more a child is chronically unhappy or "mised up" the poorer his grasp of what is real and unreal and the poorer is his control over his impulses. Such children, constantly fed the suggestion of revenge, hate and brutality or acquiescence regardless of means, are easily stimulated to sick, and antisocial behavior.

Many programs even offer step-by-step instruction in the arts of murder, theft, etc.

Parents are often unaware of the dangerous educational process involved in the repeated exposure of the child to this sort of material.

THOSE CHILDREN who are within normal limits emotionally must certainly have their sensitivity to human values dulled by repeated exposure to portraits of life which demand such values.

Programs in these programs to enhance the child's conception of right or wrong, compassion or sympathy to human values, and mature and humane considerations

Wanted to Rent: By the Birmingham school board. Two rooms large enough to seat 50 scholars, each must be ready by Sept. 1, 1961. By order of the school board.

A widow not 100 miles from Birmingham had been in the habit of giving any old boots she had to spare to a customer for his wife. Not having any for some time, he called and asked the widow if she had any boots, adding: "Ye see, my missus has such great, lang, ugly, splattering feet 'hat aw canna get a pair to fit her only yours an' she can wear them comfortable."—Exchange.

30 YEARS AGO
Aug. 6, 1931
Formal protest against alleged gambling in Birmingham, Ala., was held in the center of the village and also in the city hall. The celebration here last weekend in commemoration of the opening of Grand Trunk commuter service, was made Tuesday in a large outdoor gathering by Gov. D. L. Woodward, pastor of the Birmingham Baptist Church and Rev. R. M. Atkins, pastor of the Birmingham Methodist Church.

As building inspector, Donald C. Eggen is largely responsible for the final organization of the new building code adopted by the Commission Monday night. Assisted by Village Manager James W. Parry and Village Engineer Harold H. Corson, and later by the special building code committee, Mr. Eggen has been engaged on ordinance for more than a year.

Between \$5 and \$7 in change was stolen from the cash register in the Leon Beauty Salon in the Hamm building sometime between Saturday night and Monday morning. It was reported to police. Both upper and lower doors to the salon

as they may operate in human relationships.

There is a theory afoot that the chief projects of the TV and movie and vicariously works of some of his own innate aggression. Therefore, it is really in the nature of an experience. Unfortunately, many children cannot handle excessive stimulation of this type.

Children gain their sense of right and wrong, good or bad, and then apply moral and behavioral matters, etc., primarily from the adults around them who act as models for the child, knowingly or unknowingly.

IF THE parents permit exposure of the child to the inhuman behavior too often involved in much of TV and movie fare they tacitly approve it, in the child's mind. These same parents are appalled when they hope when Junior enforces an argument with a playmate by threatening him with a knife.

Sex, a highly sensitive and anxious area of the child's growth, is often grossly and crudely portrayed as illegal, immoral or brutal. As such it conditions children to the point of view of a normal human activity.

There are some parents who would fear in what it real and neighbor dumped his garbage on their front lawns. The police and health authorities would be quickly rallied around the incident.

BUT THE GARBAGE of commercials (so-called TV and movie) disturbs them little, although its contamination may be far more damaging to the mental health of their children.

So long as those connected with the production of this junk are called to the great social responsibility they do the children of this country, parents must exercise control over their children's viewing.

It is tragic that the genius of electronics should operate in the perpetuation of one of our worst social diseases.

JOHN TABER M.S.W.
Exec. Comm. of the National Assoc. of Social Workers

50 YEARS AGO
Aug. 11, 1911
J. M. Bryson's remedy certainly was not in the toilet cures hay fever. His remedy is Hayox and he has yet to hear of the first cure of hay fever that his remedy cannot cure. Starting in a small way, the business has grown to such an extent that many hands are required to do all the work that the enterprise calls for.

15 YEARS AGO
Aug. 8, 1946
Seven or times as many new phones have been installed in the Birmingham area in the last six months than were installed during the six-month period during the war, states W. B. Fausner, area manager of Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

Birmingham's three taxicab companies petitioned the City Commission Monday night to lower the rates charged by the companies to permit absorption of the increased cost of taxicab operations.

Birmingham's water consumption during the month of July was the greatest ever recorded in the city's history. Vorn W. Griffith, assistant supervisor of operations, announced yesterday morning.

Last month's total of gallons pumped was 7,887,300 compared to the previous record month of August, 1944, in which 72,311,300 gallons were pumped.

By KEN WEAVER

City Beat

Tom is an intelligent, athletic-looking, self-confident young man.

Last summer, between his junior and senior years at college, he accepted employment in a Birmingham office—to gain on-the-job training.

There he met Marie, a bright, cheerful, vivacious young switchboard operator.

They dated. In six weeks they became engaged. Tom still had a year of college, so they set their wedding date for June 17 of this year.

IN THE SPRING Tom sent out employment applications to several area companies.

His college record was excellent. So was his past employment record.

Replies arrived. Prospective employers were "very interested." They felt Tom met their qualifications.

But there was always one stumbling block: Tom's military status. He still faced a call to duty.

Tom sent out more applications, exploring possibilities with companies throughout the U.S.

Same result.

Tom and Marie postponed their wedding.

AFTER GRADUATION, he accepted a temporary job with an area firm. It wasn't exactly what he wanted, but it did offer experience in his field.

Tom and Marie aren't complaining. They are both content with their situation.

When the six months are up, he will again seek permanent employment in his chosen field—the field in which he spent four years educating himself—and he and Marie will again set their wedding date.

THIS IS the story of Tom and Marie, two very-much-in-love Birmingham people trying to plan a future.

And it is the story of many young men and women throughout the U.S. today.

By DENI SCANLON

Talk of the Towns

Last year, when Birmingham was this reporter's beat, the progress of a plan for the city's central business district was an intriguing assignment.

It was exciting to see a calculated prediction for the future of this town.

Now, according to last week's story on the Birmingham development, the Eccentric, the City Commission will decide soon just how much of the plan will become reality.

It's a personal hope, that the suggestions in the plan will be heeded—for more than the sake of Birmingham's development.

Sitting here behind a desk that is charged with keeping tabs on 10 area towns, there comes to light the fact that almost half of these surrounding communities might be aided by Birmingham's example.

One town by booming rapidly are Beverly Hills, Bloomfield Township, West Bloomfield Township and Southfield City.

Each is involved in negotiations to better the water system, the sewer system, the garbage and rubbish system, the public safety operation, the zoning, the recreational facilities, the traffic flow, the parking facilities.

What does all this add up to?

Planning.

There is a danger that it can become erratic with this here and that there and nothing to really tie the whole together.

Yes, these peripheral communities are young. Granted, they cannot afford to do everything at once. But it seems reasonable that each of these area towns should have a master plan—a goal—an idea of where they're going.

The townships, because they involve so much land and so many people, are vitally in need of direction.

There are and will be many growing pains for these communities but one of the biggest saving factors is the number of qualified people willing to help. Most of the towns are starting to put ideas for the future down on paper.

Of course, added encouragement will come from seeing that other towns have accomplished a well-organized plan.

Birmingham's doing it. It figures the junior communities nearby can too.

Most little boys discover early in life that they come equipped with certain virtues that can be mighty useful in difficult situations.

For instance, there is the subtle art of flattery. A deftly placed compliment sometimes can get a fellow out of a corner, especially if he's tired of sitting there for being naughty.

One local seven-year-old, evidently decided to use this technique a few days ago after getting into several scrapes.

"You know what I like about you, Mommy?" he called out to his mother who had just marched him into solitary confinement for 15 minutes.

There was a long pause after Master Seven's mother rose to the bait and replied, "What?"

As the pause grew longer, Mother distinctly got the impression that her son was hard put to find something nice to say.

Finally it came.

"When you are at the dinner table, you manners are pretty good."



A feed store is the only place in town where you can buy a chicken dinner for a dime.

There are three types of gossips: The shirt button type, always popping off; the vacuum cleaner type, always picking up dirt; the liniment type, always rubbing it in.