

Realistic--Not Reactionary

In an interview granted a London television firm, President Kennedy has explained opposition to his education, social security and medical proposals on the ground that change always is opposed by some persons. He has gone on to note that his plan to place medical care for the aged under social security "would be regarded as hopelessly reactionary in England, but nevertheless it's new here."

What the President is saying, of course, is that the British medical system is considerably to the left of his medicare plan. There can be no disputing that. Britain has socialized medicine. But we are not sure that all or even a majority of Britons regard anything

to the right of their medical set-up as reactionary.

Even if they did, their opinion would not influence many Americans, a majority of whom apparently don't want to adopt the British system and for that reason oppose any plan that threatens to give socialized medicine a foot in the door.

Charges that the Kennedy plan provides for socialized medicine are erroneous in the sense that they imply immediate adoption of something akin to the British system. That wouldn't be the immediate effect, but we are confident that it would be the inevitable one — and we are sorry to hear the President suggest it is reactionary to want to prevent a drift to socialism in this area.

Recognition for The Volunteer

Twice within the last few days, visitors in Grand Rapids have placed heavy emphasis on the importance of volunteer workers in social agencies. The latest to stress the extent to which such organizations depend on volunteers was Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, president of the American Red Cross, who declared here Thursday that "our biggest asset is the volunteer." His organization now has 2,000,000 volunteers.

Earlier in the week Samuel Grais, who is affiliated with many social agencies in Minnesota, and Maurice Beck, executive director of the Michigan Welfare League, both speaking at the central states conference of the American Public Welfare Association here, paid tribute to the work of the volunteers in the entire field of social work, and urged their listeners to try to enroll even more volunteers.

Virtually every private hospital in the land is dependent in large measure on the work of volunteers, especially the members of their guilds, to perform many tasks and to raise funds for improvements, equipment and added services. And every hospital board, like the boards of most social agencies, both public and private, are composed of volunteers.

It is estimated that the United States boasts as many as 45,000,000 volunteer workers in the social agencies, hospitals and similar enterprises. That is roughly a quarter of all the people in the country. And though the figure may seem exaggerated, one has only to consider all of the types of volunteer services performed — including fund-raising — to realize that there is an astonishing degree of citizen participation in this area.

The value of enlisting citizens in volunteer efforts of this sort cannot be overestimated. Not only do they perform services of immense importance, they also become familiar with the operations of the agencies and hospitals and thus help greatly to promote understanding of such resources and general support for them. Needless to say, the volunteer worker is in the true American tradition.

Art Isn't Always Where You Find It

The suspicion that it's the name that sells a painting, rather than the painting itself, is borne out again by the experience of a French tourist official named Albert Lorent in Nice. Contending that "true art connoisseurs are very rare," he prevailed on an art collector to lend him an unsigned landscape by Modigliani, a modern master whose signed works are much sought by art fanciers.

Lorent placed the Modigliani in an art show. On it was a price tag of \$24 — or the equivalent of \$24 in French money. The painting remained on view for two weeks — with no takers, despite the fact that it was valued at \$10,000.

Lorent would have been out \$9,976 if anyone had been sharp enough to detect the painting as an authentic Modigliani. From all accounts, however, he wasn't worried. He had infinite faith in the art-buying public's inability to recognize art that is not clearly

labeled a master. His experience will confirm many in their belief that the work of numerous modern painters would be thrown out as junk if they hadn't been resourceful enough to get themselves labeled "genius" by an art critic or press agent.

A Chance to Catch Its Breath

President Kennedy's order that a surplus government plant at Adrian be sold only to someone who intends to put the factory into production doesn't necessarily mean that Adrian is about to get a new industry. But it does mean that it now will have some hope of obtaining a new one.

The highest bidder for the vacant plant had wished to buy it to dismantle it. Any such action would have dashed Adrian's hopes entirely of reactivating a plant that at one time employed as many as 1,000 persons.

The President's order has been received enthusiastically in Adrian and by the Michigan Economic Development Department. Now the job is to find someone who will put the factory back into operation. Perhaps with all the attention this matter has received nationally, a buyer will be forthcoming — as was the case with Grand Rapids' government plant, Extruded Metals, now Reynolds Aluminum. Adrian has 11 per cent of its labor force out of work. It needs a new permanent industry badly.

The Man Who Wasn't There

Among the actors not present for the Academy Award ceremonies held last week though he had been nominated for best actor of the year — was one of our long-time favorites, Spencer Tracy. He has won two Oscars but hasn't put in an appearance at the annual affair since 1938. He says he really doesn't care whether he wins, and we believe him.

Ever since his days as leading man with the Wright Players in Grand Rapids — in the '20s — Tracy has been his own man. He has been driven by only one desire, to be the best actor he can.

Nowadays he is too busy to attend a ball game, let alone the Academy Award. Moreover, he still wants only to be a good actor. When the New York Herald Tribune's Joe Hyams suggested that he might become a director, Tracy bridled. "I couldn't be a director," he protested. "I couldn't put up with actors for 20 minutes." He could, we imagine, if all of them were as talented and conscientious as he has been for more than 35 years.

It is understandable that President Kennedy should complain because the White House pool is too warm. Jumping into hot water is no relaxation for an office holder.

Notes Made at 2 A. M.

By MARIE J. POST  
MY DAUGHTER is laudable  
Except when she's audible  
At hours nocturnal  
When I'm not maternal  
But sleeper maybe  
Than my noisy baby.

The Public Pulse

An Open Forum for Grand Rapids Press Readers

(Letters must bear signature and address. Name must be published. Letters exceeding 200 words in length will be edited to fit the space.)

Answers Statement On Who Pays City Library Operating Cost.

Editor of The Press: Your editorial distorts the facts in saying Grand Rapids' residents pay all of the operating costs of the city library and approaches the problem of library services with a tightly closed mind. You make such statements as, "It is impossible to believe that operating two libraries within Kent County is or can be economical." You are saying in effect no matter how overwhelming the evidence might be that it is economical, you stubbornly will refuse to believe it.

The fundamental questions which you have not even mentioned are first; whether or not any substantial portion of the services rendered by the county system duplicate services rendered by the city library and second, whether any real economies can be achieved by putting all the facilities under one head.

It does not follow that because an organization is larger, it is necessarily more economical. Your solicitude for Grand Rapids' taxpayers touches me deeply. I will admit that Grand Rapids' citizens support the county library and finance the major cost of the city libraries. However, if you will check the facts you will find Grand Rapids also gets substantial aid from outside the city in the form of a percentage of penal fines collected in the county. While on the surface it appears unfair for Grand Rapids to contribute to two systems, when you consider other aspects of the total city-county situation, the shoe is decidedly on the other foot.

For instance, the cities of Wyoming, East Grand Rapids, Lowell, and Grandville pay tens of thousands of dollars more for county welfare than they would if they were obligated to provide welfare only for their own residents instead of helping shoulder Grand Rapids' burden since that is where the vast majority of county welfare cases live.

A careful study of all the facts should dictate whether a regional system, merged county-city or the present separate systems is best. I don't know the answer, but I do know that editorials that beg the question, distort the facts, and arbitrarily refuse to keep an open mind will indefinitely postpone a solution.

William S. Wilson

Answers Mrs. Swarts — Says Mrs. Lamberts Claims No Connection With North Park Annexation  
Editor of The Press: There was justice to Mrs. Swart's assertion that Mrs. Lamberts had no connection with the North Park annexation, but I think it should be made clear she claimed none.

As a resident of the Huff school area, I would like to point out that Mrs. Lamberts was very active in the movements to annex both Huff and Beckwith.

In both of these successful attempts, the residents of the Huff and Beckwith districts benefited from invaluable technical aid provided by Mrs. Lamberts' friends from North Park. Though the organizational efforts in behalf of Huff and Beckwith annexation were of some help in setting up the mechanics of Mrs. Lamberts' campaign, the hard lessons of campaigning were learned in bloodier and more ancient political battles and were directed by captains whose connection with annexation was remote.

The credit for Mrs. Lamberts' efforts in behalf of annexation were proper and well deserved even though the wrong area was named. I think Mrs. Swart should be commended for pointing out this error.

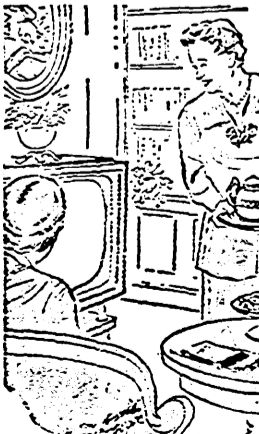
Lester Brooks

Today's Book

Spanish Passions, Volume VI in the Memoirs of Casanova: This book is the final one in the "Memoirs of Casanova" series translated by Arthur Machen — the first English translation of the unabridged memoirs.

In this last volume Casanova continues his adventures, misadventures and amours in Spain and back to France and Italy. But age has caught up with Casanova when the story breaks off suddenly, leaving him in Trieste at 49, toothless, and expecting "no more of Fortune's gifts, for the deity despises those of ripe age." However, he has left a unique account of 18th century life, generally accurate and entertaining.

The Girls



"Personally, I find television rather stimulating. Whenever Henry turns it on, I go out for a walk."

"Let's Brush Up On These Early Chapters"



HERBLOCK

David Lawrence Observes:

U.S. Should Use Force in Cuba

WASHINGTON — What is needed here is a compass to steer by. International relations nowadays bob around on turbulent seas. The pious words of Khrushchev, with their blatant hypocrisies, are spread around the world. Inside the United States — indeed, inside the Americas as a whole — there still is doubt, skepticism and uncertainty over the policy of the United States toward Cuba.

While President Kennedy's words in his speech last week are in line with historic policy, the question of how to implement those words has yet to be answered. What shall be done? The United States in this controversy has a fundamental principle to stand on — it must keep the Communists out of Cuba and Latin America. Enough evidence is at hand to show that the Soviets already have sent munitions of war, planes and tanks into Cuba. The United States is in duty bound to seize such equipment and confiscate it. Otherwise, the Monroe Doctrine becomes meaningless.

The justification for such a step is to be found not only in this doctrine — which now has been embraced by the Organization of American States — but in basic international law. American lives and property have been endangered. It is up to the United States to furnish protection not only for the lives of its own citizens but for those of other foreign citizens. The United States has long been acting as the trustee in this hemisphere of European nationals as well as Americans.

U. S. HAS RIGHT TO SUPPRESS FOES

But wouldn't this be "intervention"? Not as between domestic factions, but only as between the United States and the Soviet Union, which has already intervened in the internal affairs of Cuba. The United States itself seeks no authority over the internal affairs of Cuba — it's up to the Cubans to set up their own government and to hold free elections.

Supposing, however, resistance is encountered? The United States has a right under international law to use military force to suppress any opposition to its seizure of ports, homes or buildings where Americans and their assets are sequestered. This argument is made that this will hurt to some extent the prestige of the United States in Latin America and elsewhere. It can also be noted that, unless the United States fulfills its obligations under international law, it will forfeit all its prestige. No government ever lost prestige by fighting for its lawful rights.

The United States, therefore, cannot stand merely on the unstable premise that it will encourage revolutionaries engaged in a worthy cause. Aid to revolutionary movements is an age-old custom, but the United States cannot rely on a band of hastily organized revolutionaries to make its own rights secure.

For many years Congress was reluctant to give up the "Platt Amendment" whereby the Cuban government in a treaty, signed in 1903 — five years after the Spanish-American War — had agreed to permit automatic entrance of the forces of the United States if Cuban independence were threatened. This was abandoned in 1934 by the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration when it was believed that Cuba was immune from outside interference. Another step must be taken now in line with the spirit of the "Platt Amend-

ment" to recover the territory of Cuba for the Cubans.

Such a policy — open and above-board — is more in keeping with American tradition than clandestine support of revolutionaries who, incidentally, can also be infiltrated by Soviet stooges.

Only a few months ago the United States, under President Eisenhower, undertook an air and sea blockade along the Guatemalan coast to prevent Communist landings. Active protection of American lives and properties in Cuba means an air and sea blockade of all Cuban ports and airfields. But it also means cleaning out Havana and other places in Cuba and deporting all Communist agents and military men, among them the Czech fliers and Red Chinese helpers.

Eliminating Communist influence from Cuba would be a lesson to other countries in Latin America, where already several anti-American demonstrations have been launched, including last week an attack on American newspapermen's offices in

Caracas, Venezuela, and the destruction of their property.

The theory that the United States can imitate the Soviet Union in guerrilla tactics has been given some support in official circles, but, while help of that kind could be extended to liberation movements, the fact remains that this country cannot depend on any military force except its own to protect the lives and properties of Americans and other foreigners in revolution-torn Cuba.

The charter of the United Nations, moreover, under articles 51 and 52, gives to any member "the right of individual or collective self-defense." Hence, an action taken in Cuba by the United States alone in defense of the rights of its citizens is in accord with the basic principles of the U.N. charter. The only legal requirement is that the move be formally reported to the Security Council, which can later take steps of its own to restore peace, subject, of course, to a United States veto.

Roscoe Drummond Reports:

Republican Trend?

WASHINGTON — Although President Kennedy dominates the headlines, the Republicans believe that the political trend is going their way.

The primary victory of President Eisenhower's Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell in the contest for the Republican nomination in the New Jersey gubernatorial race is significant for several reasons. Rank-and-file Republican voters overruled the party organization with a candidate of their own choosing. More than anything else, the election shows how an outstandingly qualified man arouses the interest of the electorate.

GOP STRENGTH IS OVERLOOKED

New Jersey Democrats could not themselves agree on a strong candidate and they were praying that Mitchell would be cut down in the primary. Despite the fact that the Democrats have controlled New Jersey for eight years, a Mitchell victory this fall is now virtually conceded by competent analysts.

So much attention has been given to explaining how Kennedy defeated Richard Nixon that the Republican strength in the 1960 elections is often overlooked.

Just as President Eisenhower's victories in 1952 and 1956 concealed the weakness of the Republican Party, so President Kennedy's victory in 1960 tends to conceal the strength of the Republican Party.

While Kennedy was winning by the margin of 16/100 of 1 per cent in the popular vote, the Republicans gained two Senate seats, increased their strength in the House by 21, added two governorships, and made a net gain of 290 seats in the 50 state legislatures.

STATES VOTE 26 TO 23 FOR REPUBLICANS

Party as a party which has elected two Democratic Presidents since the passing of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945. Harry S. Truman was carried into office on the coattails of the Democratic Party in 1948 and again last fall the party ran ahead of Kennedy. Every Democratic Presidential nominee since Roosevelt has been weaker than the party itself and every Republican presidential nominee has been stronger than the party.

But under Nixon's banner last fall the Republican Party gained strength at the polls for the first time after three consecutive setbacks in 1954, '56, and '58.

BETTER CANDIDATE CHIEF GOP NEED

The Republican Party's greatest need is for more qualified and attractive candidates for public office. It usually requires a voter uprising against the organization to get them. That is what happened in New Jersey. The New Jersey Republican organization was overwhelmingly against Mitchell, but Republican voters overturned the organization choice for the first time in many years in demanding Mitchell.

What many Republicans hope — and expect — is that a Mitchell victory in New Jersey this November and the prospect of a Rockefeller sweep in New York next year will persuade Nixon that, in his own interests as well as that of the party, he ought to run for governor of California in 1962.

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So Says Aunt Het



Pa wants to get over his stomach trouble so bad that he's willin' to do anything except give up the things that hurt him.

Fired at Random

There's this to be said for short skirts: it's easier to appreciate the flower of womanhood if you can see the stems.

It's the bride-to-be who gets all the showers, probably on the theory that the groom is all washed up anyway.

Gloomy prediction from Constant Reader: "If we keep on spending beyond our means, those who come after us are likely to include the sheriff!"

THAT'S THE QUESTION

"This is the very last word, madam," the salesman assured the woman shopper as he held up a royal blue Italian silk smoking jacket. "Just the thing for the man-about-town."

"It certainly is," the lady agreed. "But what do you have for the mouse-around-the-house?"

A man is a lot better off when he gets smart enough to quit trying to understand women and just enjoys having them around.

"My reducing diet got me down," said the fat lady at the supermarket, "every way except in weight!"

The tiredest man on earth, one of my agents informs me, is the fellow who has just finished taking inventory in a toothpick factory.

Remember the early days of motoring, when motorists used to scare the daylights out of passing horses? Now they just scare each other to death.

MR. MINNICK THE CYNIC SAYS — among the other surprises that plague this country is this one — there is always an over-supply of after dinner speakers after dinners to after.

The woman from a couple of blocks over has finally figured out how to drive a nail without hitting her fingers. "I let my husband hold it," she explains.

"I admit there isn't much to see in a small town," writes one of my lady readers who lives in one, "but what you hear makes up for the lack."

We now have drive-in banks, drive-in theaters, drive-in supermarkets and drive-in restaurants — everything except drive-in parking spaces.

Many of our more successful friends are more or less bald. Evidently nothing recedes like success.

Roger Allen

Asks About Bronchiectasis

By JOSEPH G. MOLNER, M.D.  
All requests relating to subjects treated in this column and all requests for pamphlets or bulletins, must be addressed to Dr. Joseph G. Molner, Grand Rapids Press, Grand Rapids, Mich.

"DEAR DR. MOLNER: What about bronchiectasis? My husband went to a specialist who said he should have the infected part removed. Our family physician said he did not think it was that serious and to wait. My husband works hard and long hours. He also smokes and drinks heavily. Would this have any effect on his not feeling good and having a continuous cold? — Mrs. R.K."

Mrs. R.K. will have to wait until tomorrow to get some of the specific answers that her letter poses, but I want to thank her for reminding me of this topic because it is an important one.

Bronchiectasis (bron-kee-ECK-tuh-sis) is a common lung disorder. Tuberculosis and lung cancer are the diseases that get all the attention in print, and if you started collaring people on the street, I suppose you'd find that just about everybody was thoroughly familiar with them. But only a few would recognize bronchiectasis, unless it was affecting some member of the family. Then they'd know.

Bronchiectasis means a dilation of the bronchial tubes, especially the smaller branches. These areas become infected, and there is a puddling of mucus and pus.

The symptoms include, copious foul sputum, bleeding, shortness of breath, fever, weakness. In fact, hemorrhage from this cause is more common than hemorrhage from tuberculosis.

Likewise this disease can occur among children as well as adults. In children, it may be due to some defect in lung development, which is the commonest cause in the young ones, or about 75 per cent of time, or it may follow pneumonia, whooping cough, or measles.

In adults, some lung or respiratory infection is the primary cause as a rule, and chronic sinusitis is frequently associated with it — a good reason, I should say, in NOT giving in to the popular but mistaken belief that you can't do anything about sinus trouble, so why try. You can.

Another valuable bit of information to keep in mind is that chronic bronchiectasis is often attributed to "bronchitis." Well, to be technical, it is a form of bronchitis but not in the usual sense of the term as we customarily employ that word.

Bronchiectasis is annoying, stubborn and sometimes extremely dangerous, so it behooves us all to know the fundamentals concerning it. Tomorrow we'll talk a bit about how it is diagnosed, and treated, and answer the other questions asked specifically in today's letter.

"Don't Quit Because Of Arthritis" is the title of my latest designed to help all who suffer the aches and pains of arthritis. For a copy write to Dr. Molner in care of The Grand Rapids Press, Inc., 10000 A, S.E. 4th, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Enclose a 10-cent, self-addressed, stamped envelope and five cents in coin to cover cost of handling.

Dr. Molner welcomes all reader mail, but requests that due to the tremendous volume received daily, he is unable to answer individual letters. Readers' questions are incorporated in his column whenever possible.  
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