

EDITORIALS

March of Dimes

Many believe that Salk vaccine has ended polio! Nothing could be further from the truth, according to Grace S. Stoermer, chairman of the women's division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The Salk vaccine does not help the unfortunate victims who contacted the disease before the vaccine was discovered.

Salk vaccine is not 100 per cent effective, nor has it reached the entire population.

Research in continuing in the nature of the virus, and the vaccine, at a staggering cost.

It is costing \$1 million a year for care and rehabilitation of patients in Los Angeles County alone. Of this amount, 93 per cent goes for patients who were stricken before 1957.

The March of Dimes program, now in progress throughout the nation, is dependent upon the contributions of the citizens to this worthy effort.

Wrong Emphasis

Personnel people report a disturbing trend; that the chief concern of too many job seekers is not an interest in the opportunities offered for advancement.

Too much emphasis reportedly is being placed on the "comforts" of a job rather than the opportunities of a job.

This is disconcerting because a review of our nation's history reveals its forward strides have resulted largely from individual ambition for advancement.

The moral and physical disintegration and downfall of many if not most of the civilizations of the past can be traced in large part to a single root cause—the flight from individual responsibility.

Opinions of Others

America's draftees—who were sent to Korea or are presently serving all over the globe—represent a typical cross-section of American youth. Their collective understanding of their country and the world is that of their generation. And, up to now, nothing much has been done to inform young America on the overriding problem of our day and their future—the titanic struggle-to-the-death between Communism and Freedom.

Governments which financially dominate the Free World apparently have agreed to perpetuate an insufficiency of gold and silver to use as money or to "back" their paper currency by merely keeping the prices of gold and silver so low that citizens will find it financially unprofitable to mine gold and silver, as such. In this manner they believe they can continue to force their citizens to accept the product of their speedy printing presses as "money."

With the current exposes by the Senate Rackets Committee of the squandering of funds paid by union members, the average American must realize that he was the one who paid the money that made these lush funds available. Whatever funds find their ways into labor racketeers' pockets are added costs paid by the American public. Whatever wage demands are made by labor unions are paid by the American public.

One Guess



AFTER HOURS by John Morley

Interpreting World Events

One day recently in Damascus a French correspondent friend said to me something which we have heard repeated many times around journalistic circles here and abroad for years. He said: "If the false scare-headlines were eliminated by some super authority, from the press, radio and TV for only 30 days, the world will have overcome one of the most difficult barriers to peace and peace of mind."

Our life's work exclusively is to gather, report and interpret world affairs. We cover the world constantly to get the facts first hand. We believe that, subject to human frailty and error, we are doing our job as well as our talents and experience permit. Most correspondents we know are a dedicated lot of men—so dedicated that 13 of them lost their lives in the Korean war alone trying to bring back the story, which in most cases could have been had at a far lesser cost.

Unfortunately, however, the men who gather the news abroad do not always have the final word as to how the news will be treated at home. In some cases the news story from abroad is "watered up or down" for reasons unrelated to the news itself. For reasons of policy, politics, race, religion, personal bias, ideology, fixation and other personal factors which we call the "human element," which have a most important bearing on the way news is released to the public.

This "human element" could be a publisher, editor, headline writer, radio or TV station owner, program director, newscaster, etc. In most cases the news from abroad is reported pretty much as it comes over the wires, but the emphasis "up or down" is apparent by the nature of the headlines in one media or another. The reader has observed the same "news-flash" of crisis abroad treated differently by the various media. This is especially true of controversial news such as the Arab-Israel crisis—effect of U. S. foreign policy abroad, which in the latter case is treated differently between media supporting the Republican or Democrat point of view.

Confidentially, A.F.: You need new glasses, or you're reading another column. I have never recommended a divorce yet. Separation, yes—since I don't believe any woman should live with a man who beats her regularly, like a gong. Marriage is a legal contract and I could never suggest that a legal contract be broken based on the evidence presented in a single letter.

FROM OUR MAILBOX By Our Readers

Ignorance Is Not Bliss

Editor, Torrence Herald: I have just finished reading Tom Rische's column in the Jan. 9 issue. I would like to make the following comments.

Mr. Rische questions the merit of the disease education program of various societies. It is my belief that ignorance is not bliss, especially pertaining to mental illness, which was the topic of his column.

True, there is some humor of sorts in the pattern mental illness might take in various individuals, but it is no laughing matter when one out of every 20 persons in the United States will at some time in his life develop a mental disorder serious enough to require hospitalization.

According to the U. S. Public Health Service, mental illness is America's No. 1 health problem. It affects more people than polio, heart disease, and cancer combined.

Mental patients are NOT, and I quote Mr. Rische, "hustled off to the booby hatch in a straight jacket." Frequently, however, a person who has been allowed to "crack-up" because a responsible relative couldn't face the "shame" of a psychiatrist's office is taken to a hospital in a police car. A police care is used only because there is no other means of practical transportation.

No, to quote Mr. Rische, there's not much romance in a padded cell; but neither is there much pad. The patient's room is made as comfortable as possible when safety is the first concern. Recent research has found

Especially in the case of news from abroad, the story covers great distances—language barriers—international rivalries—foreign intrigue—diplomatic duplicity—power politics, etc. In our 26 years experience we have covered many "world-shaking" stories from abroad and too many of them turned out to be duds. Some of the most notorious fakers we know are foreign diplomats—and this includes friendly as well as enemy diplomats. Short of war, invasions, revolts and other physical and military eruptions, most of the news stories from abroad originate in government sources. It's often very difficult to distinguish between the planned propaganda and the actual truth. It is seldom that a diplomat releases a story without some propaganda reason in back of it.

Since "danger-crisis-tragedy" dominate the interest of people, the news media understandingly oblige, with various degrees of headline emphasis. It is generally conceded that on days of a major tragedy, true or imaginary, more papers are sold, and more people are glued to the radio and TV. People on the average, in our opinion, do not want "crisis" played down—but up. They criticize the news media that sensationalizes, but they invariably appear to support it by buying more newspapers and magazines in which that type of treatment prevails. Most people publicly proclaim their disgust and shock at sensational stories involving crime, morals, sex, etc., but invariably some of these same people have the uncanny faculty of discovering news stories, books, articles, movies and plays that shock them.

On radio and TV some of the most able correspondents we know are not popularly accepted, because they lack what is referred to as "glamour." They simply are not actors, nor have they the voice and personality that pays off in this media. It appears that the more dramatic and glamorous the newscaster, the greater his following. And since salaries are measured by popularity, some radio and TV newscasters are paid more for their ability to "perform," than for their ability to "inform."

The public may not realize that some of the popular newscasters never covered a newsbeat either at home or abroad. They are radio and TV "personalities," not news-

men. These radio and TV personalities serve the public by providing the news in clear, understandable style so long as they stick to reporting the news and avoid sensationalizing. The newscaster should use his talents in conveying pure news and allow the experienced analyst and commentator to evaluate the news.

If you really want to reduce your headline fears and frustrations, please keep these simple rules in mind in 1958:

News, for example, is news—not always true news. Most of the sword-rattling from abroad is propaganda. It always has been. An aggressor is not likely to telegraph his intentions.

It is better to check what a nation has done in the past several years, rather than on what its leader releases in the press of today. Headlines in the various news media are competing for your attention, just as soap powder and toothpaste advertising. One competitor tries to outdo the other. Headlines of global crisis may be true—but more often they have been untrue. Global news of crisis requires the test of time—often weeks and months—before a true picture can be had.

Depend less and less on your political reactions and more and more on your non-political ones. Remember that almost any happening in the world hurts somebody. Some people pray for rain—others pray for it to stop raining. Take headlines in stride. Don't believe all you hear as facts. This will reduce at least many of your frustrations. Has it ever struck you as peculiar that most columnists and commentators on world affairs are forever critical of something or somebody—and why it is that they became critics instead of statesmen, if they seem to know so much about running the world?

In all probability, if you consider these few suggestions and react with some restraint and skepticism to the scare-headline, you will not be the life of the party among the cocktail strategists on world affairs, or among the messengers of ill-omen in mixed gatherings. Maybe not—but you can be sure of one thing—that your life in 1958 will reflect a measure of serenity and peace of mind, which are fast becoming the exclusive province of the man who dares to think for himself.

YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Painters Wife Scores Critic

Dear Ann: May I say a word in regard to the woman whose husband is a house painter? I ought to know a little about this subject, because I've been married to one for almost 27 years.

All I can say, Madame, is don't worry about your husband frittering away his valuable time with the ladies in the house. No contractor is going to pay \$3.10 an hour (local scale in our town) to a painter who spends his time playing games. The boss knows how long it takes to paint a given number of rooms. In fact, he has it down to a science.

If your husband brings home a full paycheck every Friday you may be sure he's plugging along, sanding and swinging that brush eight hours a day.—Hoot Owl Helen

Dear Ann: My wife is a school girl in her 40's. She's been going to one school or another ever since we met. She's not interested in graduation, you understand. The idea is to stay in school.

We have two teenage children. My wife has always been a first-rate mother and housekeeper. But I'm fed to the teeth with her being a student all through life.

We have thousands of dollars worth of books in the house, on every subject imaginable. Whenever I ask her what she would like for a gift, she hands me a list of books and tells me to select a few. I've been competing with

books for 20 years and it's not flattering. May I hear from you on this subject? —B.E.

You could have worse competition than books. Your wife's interests are high-level and admirable. Be thankful she's not taken up with boy-friends, bottles, barbituates, brige-games or back-fence gossip.

Dean Ann: I have a dilly of a problem—a wealthy aunt. I suppose there's one like her in every family.

Wherever she goes there's trouble. She gave us their old car (and I DO mean old—a '35 Dodge) because it was her husband's dying wish. We've never heard the end of it.

Then she offered to help me out with a \$200 loan to pay a hospital bill. She insisted we go to the bank together. While in the bank, she raised her voice so everyone would know she was "befriending" me. I almost died of embarrassment.

Recently she called me on the phone (we have an 11-party line) and began to enumerate the things she had done for me in the last 20 years. I got so mad I actually became ill. My doctor gave me orders to stay away from my aunt or I would have a breakdown.

Now the entire family is on my neck saying the old lady needs kindness. They quote endless biblical passages about forgiving. But I just

can't stand her and that's all there is to it. What do you advise?—Mrs. A.M.

Your relatives can theorize all they like but they can't tell you how to feel. Your doctor has the right idea. If your aunt is bad news, stay away from her. And this means when you need something too, Madame. So long as you accept her kindness, she will continue to clobber you but good. This is her price.

Dear Ann: You goofed. You referred to the proud "PEACOCK" strutting her stuff. The peacock is not the female of the specie. The word you wanted was "pea-hen." Get out that wet noodle again.—Chessie.

Dear Chessie: Is 20 lashes with the wet noodle enough? I stand corrected. The female is pea-hen.

Confidentially, A.F.: You need new glasses, or you're reading another column. I have never recommended a divorce yet. Separation, yes—since I don't believe any woman should live with a man who beats her regularly, like a gong. Marriage is a legal contract and I could never suggest that a legal contract be broken based on the evidence presented in a single letter.

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. (C) 1958, Field Enterprises, Inc.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

So What If It Is Crooked?

Doing it yourself is fine, but—

Torrence is filled with thousands of happy and unhappy homeowners, most of whom are, to some extent, do-it-yourselfers. The reasons for this are two-fold:

1. It saves money, theoretically at least.

2. It gives Dad something to putter with and makes him feel important and creative.

In the "good" old days, when the homeowner wanted something done, he called a builder, plumber, brick mason, radio repairman, or maybe the mover.

Nowadays, the man of the house does it himself when he can and sometimes even when he can't. Depending on his skill, the results may be good, bad, or indifferent.

With families these days getting bigger and bigger, Pop has to stay closer to home, partly to watch Junior and partly because he can't afford to go anywhere else. A drive through some of the residential neighborhoods would indicate that better than half of the garages contain home workshops.

pool, by which each stocks up on a certain kind of tool. Then, when any emergency arises, they swap.

Even the fellow who isn't particularly eager to do it himself may be forced into this avocation by the condescending looks he gets from his wife as she reports on how Mr. Jones next door fixed their washing machine himself, saving a \$20 repair bill or how Mr. Smith across the street patched the roof himself, saving a like amount.

In any suburban gathering of neighbors, one of the main topics of conversation is, aside from women, who has done what himself and how he did it. The poor guy who called in the plumber to fix the leak feels a little out of place among the rest of the home handymen.

In a way, the picture of the home handyman, a wrench clenched in one hand and a brick-laying trowel in the other, is replacing the burly athlete, a football under his arm, as the symbol of American virility.

Depending on whether the man of the house is all

thumbs or not, the do-it-yourself" age may or may not be a boon to the average household.

A sign of the times appeared recently in Ann Landers' column. A housewife wrote in, wanting to know how she could stop her husband from trying to repair the household appliances. Everything in the house, she reported frantically, was broken.

This type of "do-it-yourself" is, of course, the delight of the professional repairman. On the other hand, some homeowners are virtual professionals themselves.

Most home handymen fall somewhere in between. The drain pipes they put up may sag and bend here and there, but they do get rid of the water. Their block walls may be a little crooked, but they make the back yard private. Their coffee tables may be a little scratched and wobbly, but they do the job until the budget allows something better.

And even if the wife is trying to hide a snicker in the background, it's nice to say proudly "I did it myself" instead of "I bought it myself."

ON YOUR GUARD ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY IN WORLD WAR II, 14 NATIONAL GUARDSMEN WON THE MEDAL OF HONOR, HIGHEST MILITARY DECORATION AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

STAR GAZER Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars. To develop message for Thursday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

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