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The State and Schools

Efforts to increase state participation in the financing of local school district costs received a positive boost from Assemblyman Charles E. Chapel with the introduction of his Assembly Bill 43 calling for the state to divert some of the horse racing money now going to state and local fairs and put it into schools instead.

In explaining his action in his weekly column, Assemblyman Chapel contends that fairs which are propped up by state funds despite public support probably deserve to be dropped and that the publicly supported fairs can get along quite well with a little less state money.

While probably not a complete answer to California's school financing problems, it is a step in the direction of relieving the property owner of the dubious honor of being the principal source of school money.

Among other plans advanced to increase the state's participation in school financing is one endorsed last week by the Torrance board of education.

The new move, Total Opportunity in the Public Schools (T.O.P.S.), is designed to impress California's legislators with the need for added state financing to relieve the spiraling burden on local property owners in supporting good schools.

Earlier, the Torrance board of education had opened a drive to bring about a state initiative constitutional amendment which would assure a constant level of state financing for schools.

Fears expressed by several local school officials bear consideration, however. The sudden outpouring of ideas, plans, petitions, and bills may only dilute the drive for state help. We hope not. We hope such activities throughout the State will inform those in Sacramento that Californians still think schools are more important than many of the other activities which draw generous state support.

To this conclusion, The HERALD can subscribe without a qualm.

Washington's Prayer

"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large."

Such was the supplication of George Washington after his inauguration as President of the United States.

If he looks down at us today from his Valhalla he must see disobedience advocated as the key to human rights; brotherly hatred and disaffection in many, many hearts. And he couldn't be blamed for wondering "Am I the father of that country?"

Yet Washington would understand the hatred, the disobedience as products of human frailties little different from those which plagued his times. And he could well murmur to all who will listen another of his admonitions: "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire — conscience."

If we do that, and persevere in doing it, eventually our first president's inaugural prayer will be answered in full.

We Quote...

Unless a school is able to educate its children so they may become competent and responsible citizens, its works is a temporary stop-gap that relieves immediate suffering only. — James B. Connant, former president of Harvard University.

The state has been increasing its degree of control and decreasing its proportion of support for public schools. — Ben Kellner, President of California Teachers Association.

My father and mother were married the same day. — Boy when asked by teacher for examples of coincidence.

As a parent whose love of the United States is based on trust in God's love for her, I cannot understand how we are to remain 'God's country' if our children are told that the very mention of God in school is unconstitutional. — Mrs. Blair Clubley, Canoga Park.

HIS GREATNESS WILL NEVER DIE



Yanqui Not Dare Shoot At Fidel-



ROYCE BRIER

DeGaulle, Mao, Franco; Who Will Succeed Them?

The problem of succession to the seats of power is plaguing a good many nations today, probably a larger proportion than ever before in history.

It is a problem which has always bothered both republics and oligarchies, the little Greek city-states, not to mention republican and even imperial Rome. Monarchies of course are different, and while disorder and contention has often followed the death of a monarch, the succession method is always settled.

Our own case is now in an acute stage because the Constitution provided for a makeshift arrangement when a President died to be succeeded by a vice president. So we lack a vice president for a year, and few are satisfied with the present statutory succession.

The other non-monarchical nations are in the same predicament. This is especially true where a "strong man"

has emerged who is for practical purposes a constitutional dictator by the consent of his people.

A foremost case in the news is that of Prime Minister Nehru. Free Indians know no other chief of state, but he suffered a stroke last month. Perhaps you saw televised pictures of him in the Republic Day celebration, his physical capacity somewhat concealed from the cameras. The man chosen as his successor made almost no impression in an interview.

Another important enigma is President de Gaulle, despite his apparent good health. The French constitution, virtually dictated by him, provides for succession, but de Gaulle is so much France, at the moment, that any succession appears to be a technicality, and a dubious one.

The Germans solved the crisis of Herr Adenauer's advanced age, but the Russians

have solved nothing. Premier Khrushchev, a little over 70, worked his way out of the "collective leadership" after Stalin's death, but there is no sign a sound succession has been devised.

Nor is a successor to Mao in sight. The West is even less familiar with power politics in Peking than in Moscow, but observers have been unable to name anyone of the ideological caliber of Mao. Who will follow Franco in Spain, Tito in Yugoslavia? Or Nasser in Egypt, though Nasser is still young and vigorous?

The "strong men" are the product of political turmoil of the past quarter-century and many depend on their legends for a considerable part of their strength. But legends do not grow overnight, and none are being made by candidates for succession in countries which keep the democratic form, but seldom the democratic reality.

A Bookman's Notebook

New Arthur Miller Play Evokes Strong Reaction

William Hogan

Living dangerously, and far from the age of Tugboat Annie, the Saturday Evening Post printed the text of Arthur Miller's "After the Fall" just as the play opened at New York's Lincoln Center. You might have thought the Post was challenging Evergreen Review. Never had so many members of the ordained intelligentsia pounced on a Post feature with such relish or discussed it with such passion, pro and con.

I found the text brilliant and disturbing. It is Miller's artistic soul-searching. It is what Elia Kazan, who directed the play, calls a "personal drama related to the big social drama." Is it a trial, a religious confession, an artistic catharsis? Kazan said he expected "hot arguments as to what we're doing." He and Miller got them—not merely among viewers of the play, but among readers of text.

The work is a panorama of our times played in the mind, thought and memories of its central character, Quentin, a lawyer (or Miller, a playwright). It concerns the investigation of the McCarthy period to the pointlessness of one man's life, and the world's. The gossip quotient hinges on the play's second act—and the charge that it presents a grossly unfair characterization of that tragic

figure in the recent American experience, Marilyn Monroe, Miller's second wife.

The play may be about the fall of Eve, with Miller saying in effect that one begins to live only after the loss of one's innocence; that one must accept himself as he is, which is less than what he wants to be. But the mechanics and fireworks of the text fade in a reader's mind. He becomes aware only of

the neurosis of the Miller-Monroe marriage.

"I'm a joke to most people," Maggie (Marilyn) says at one point. And Quentin (Miller), describing himself as a fraud, explains: "Because I should have agreed she WAS a joke... Why did I lie to her, play this cheap benefactor?" (In admitting her role as a "joke" Maggie takes on more dignity than her husband.)

Again, Quentin: "A suicide kills two people, Maggie. That's what it's for. So I'm removing myself and perhaps it will lose its point..."

Reading these bedroom and barbiturate scenes is an emotional experience. This is shattering stuff, and one admires Miller as a dramatist of Eugene O'Neill dimensions. But these intimate details of a recent unhappy marriage is what bothers most readers, artistic devices though they may be. I have tried to analyze my own depression, as well as exhilaration, in reading "After the Fall." It remains that all of us are still close to the Monroe tragedy to accept it on these terms—and the Monroe story was a symbol of our times just as the Kennedy affair was.

In the Post foreword Miller notes that the play is not "about something; hopefully it is something." I reminds a brilliant shocker. As the season's cultural conversation piece you must read it, then analyze your own reaction.

Strength for These Days (From The Bible)

Fear not, only believe.

—(Mark 5:36)

If we but express our belief in God in the strongest of affirmatives we will invite into our experience the full expression of God-life and overcome all trace of fear.

My Neighbors



"But I'm a non-conformist!"

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Arab Power Plays Keep Middle East in Turmoil

JERUSALEM, JORDAN — I have arrived here from the Biblical roads of Damascus, Jerico and the Jordan river to the wall dividing Jerusalem between the Arab and Jew.

Indeed, revolutionary changes have come to the Middle East in the thirty-odd years I have been covering it—and living in it. For one thing, they now hang transistor radios around the necks of the camels to entertain the Bedouins as they wander the arid wastes of Islam.

The Middle East today is the world's greatest political contradiction. Arab unity has been a myth for centuries... today it's like trying to put life into an Egyptian mummy.

Most observers over-simplify the Arab Middle East with capsule tranquilizers catering to the contradictions with the winds of prejudice or expediency. Some foreign observers and researchers seem to view this spectacle as a kind of side show of the Arabian nights.

The Arab Middle East today is buried beneath its own violent sands... torn between its religion and superstitions... between oil riches and starvation... and between political opportunists who "wheel and deal" with anyone who promises a bigger Cadillac or a bigger plate of pilaf.

As the governor of Jerusalem, Jordan Daoud Abu Ghazaleh, put it to me this week before my talk to Rotary, "The answer is still in the hands of the Gods."

The new Arab socialist movement, Ba'ath (Renaissance party) rules Syria and Iraq, but engages in plots and counter-plots to gain control of Pan-Arabia's broad arch from Morocco to Iraq.

Egypt is split with a crisis in Yemen with Saudi Arabia... and a drain on her resources in an effort to bail Ben Bella's Algeria out of a Moroccan war.

Jordan is in the middle of the worst Arab power play in centuries, wondering where the carving of the abortive state will begin... and whether Israel will beat Egypt to the punch.

Nasser's dream of putting all Arab oil under a unified state (Egypt's of course) has been shattered by the owners of the oil themselves.

Pan-Arabism has many champions today, as it had for centuries. The difference in the past is that they all blamed the Europeans for their disunity. Now they blame each other. Even Zionism has been left to cool in the old frying pan.

Nasser is still the boss in the Middle East. He may yet unite enough of Arabia to bring success to his revolution. The Baath or anyone else has not one to match him.

The answer to the Arab Middle East dilemma is in Russia... not in Cairo, Baghdad, Damascus, Algiers or Rabat.

Although Nasser's U.A.R. (United Arab Republic) lost Syria, he still keeps the two stars on his Egyptian flag, where previously he carried only one. "You never know," he said in Cairo today, "when we may again need it."

When natives here discuss the Middle East, they of course exclude Israel which is ridiculous... and Turkey which is attached to Europe at Istanbul.

Politically the Arab Middle East consists of three pseudo-republics, Egypt (UAR), Syria, Iraq... and one genuine, Lebanon; two constitutional monarchies, Jordan and Iran... one absolute monarchy, Saudi Arabia... and Yemen, where the civil war will determine where it's going to land.

Of course these political destinations are arbitrary... for other countries like Tunisia, Algeria Morocco and some minor political dependencies could be included.

The "Human problems" in the Arab Middle East are at the root of most of its turbulent history.

Probably 95 per cent of its nearly 65 million people are illiterate.

Some 80 per cent of these depend on a very limited agriculture for existence. Less than 5 per cent of all their land is productive.

One tenth of these masses is still nomadic.

With the exception of Lebanon, where 55 per cent of its population is Christian... the rest of the Arab Middle East is overwhelmingly Moslem.

But even Islam is not a unifying force like Christianity... because it is bitterly ruled into sects and cults with all the superstitions and fears born of illiteracy, hopelessness and cruelty.

With the collapse of the Ottoman empire after World War I in 1918, Europe took over the Arab world.

The secret British-French deal in 1916 divided Arab real estate into spheres of influence, and under an "inside" deal in the League of Nations, France took Syria and Lebanon... and Britain all the rest.

World War II brought social and political changes and independence to all Arab countries.

The collapse of European

political values raised new ideological concepts, long buried in national tradition.

The collapse of this society, although often feudal and corrupt in practice, had an element of stability. But the new Arab independence contained the seeds of violence, revolution and authoritarianism — much the same as now emerging in African independence, except that the Arab Middle East has enormous oil wealth... and the prize is formidable.

The political vacuum left by the European powers has aggravated the nationalist aspirations of the Arab intellectuals formerly employed by the Europeans. The present leaders... Nasser, Aflak, Ben Bella, Sallal, Imam are all cut from the same cloth... but all going in different directions to attain their goals.

The 'epidemic' in the Middle East is Arab... not Israel or Jew, or European.

Our Man Hoppe

Now Spacemen Battle Monsters

Art Hoppe

Leaping lunar lizards! What an opportunity. Insider's Newsletter reports a new radio space opera is in the works. The hero's going to be an astronaut. You know, real life science fiction. And they need scripts.

It's right up my alley. As a boy, I read all the science fiction I could lay my hands on: Buck Rogers, Flash Gordon, John Carter and the four-armed green men of Mars. Ah, what noble heroes. And, ah, what glorious villains: the Hairy Spiders of Jupiter, the Octopus Women of Venus, the Blob, the thing, the Giant Nasal Drip from Outer Space.

What battles! What conflict! And to think those boyhood dreams have at last become reality. For, as Mr. Robert Whitney, the producer of new space opera says: "I expect many things that happen to U. S. astronauts will be the basis for our plots."

So I've been checking over what's been happening to our U. S. astronauts lately. And I think I've got the basis for a great plot.

Hi there, kids, and you grown up folks too. It's time for another thrilling adventure with Colonel Glen Flash, Hero Astronaut. As we join Colonel Flash today, he's in his Secret Headquarters, grimly talking things over with his aides, Buck Ace and Ace Buck. (Sound effects: The whirring, purring, humming and beeping of fantastic science-fiction-type machines.)

FLASH: How does it look men?

ACE: Not so good, Flash. Our LACTIC VII Orbital Computer reports the Evil Enemy is threatening to conquer vast areas of our territory. Secret messages have come in from the President and the Attorney General saying you are their only hope.

FLASH: Are the people fighting back?

BUCK: That's just it, Flash. As you know, the Evil Enemy has this awesome Brainwashing Power. Somehow, they manage to convince the people they are their friends. The Evil Enemy takes over. And then, of course, it's too late.

ACE: We're trying to analyze this Brainwashing Power on the RATPACK XII Analyzer, Flash. So we can counter it.

FLASH: Right. We must show the people what the Evil Enemy looks like: pale green with magenta eyes, slimy horns, bloody fangs, and clutching claws. I am off men, to warn the people! Let's get this campaign off the ground.

BUCK: Five, four, three, two, one. Mimeographs functioning A-okay. All press release systems go.

FLASH: Keep 'em humming. Remember, men it is up to us alone to save Ohio for the Democratic Party!

Well, I don't know about the plot. It's better than "Flash Defeats the Rival Motel Syndicate." Or: "Flash Meets the Life Negotiators." But it seems to lack the simple charm of the science fiction in my boyhood.

I suppose the problem is mixing public heroes up with politicians. For I don't think being a politician qualifies you to be a public hero. And vice versa.

Besides, if people get the idea all Republicans are little green men with fangs and claws, there's no question it could spell the end of our two-party system.

Morning Report:

To listen to the senile outrage of all the old critics and editorial writers over 21, you might think the British had burned Washington—again. Actually all that has happened is the Beatles.

Without taking an artistic stand, I see that they induce screams of joy in a lot of youngsters. Which is less dangerous than riding in a fast car. And apparently equally pleasant.

No doubt, hairwise, the Beatles are arresting. But let's not forget, the Nation already has survived the patent-leather Valentino gloss, the extreme butch, the total shave, the Iroquois, and the duckbill. Personally, I don't feel the road to Hell is marked with barber poles.

Abe Mellinkoff