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War On Dope Masks A Basic Injustice

A GREAT deal of irresponsible twaddle about the armies of "dope fiends" prowling the nation's streets and alleys has been neatly neutralized by the American Medical Association's report on narcotics addiction. It should serve as a needed antidote to the hysteria that has somehow warped the public's viewpoint on the subject during recent years.

After an exhaustive two-year study, it is the considered opinion of the AMA's Council on Mental Health that dope addiction is neither as widespread nor as vicious as the public and most politicians seem to believe. Furthermore, the council frowns on the punishment of addicts.

Unfortunately, the enlightenment is a little late arriving on the scene. It comes after the Narcotics Control Act of 1956 has done a great deal of harm. This statute increased the already severe mandatory penalties required by the Boggs law of 1951, which in turn was an extension of the prohibition-type approach to the dope problem first established federally by the Harrison Act of 1914.

The basic injustice of present U. S. law is that the penalties fall mainly upon the victims of the traffic in narcotics—the addicts—rather than upon the racketeers against whom they are designed. The U. S. Supreme Court declared in 1924 that dope addicts are "diseased and proper subjects for (medical) treatment."

The "treatment" given addicts today largely consists of imprisonment and police harassment. The real culprits, as often as not, go free. Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III, testifying before a congressional subcommittee some time ago, got swiftly to the heart of the problem. Said he:

"Where are the wolves of yesterday? Why, we don't have a good substantial F. Scott Fitzgerald to our name anymore! And isn't it a shame that there's nobody around to take Nathaniel West's place?"

These and other bleats and cries are being bandied about in the critical journals and some outraged reaction to all of the trumped-up lamentation has created what looks suspiciously like a typhoon in a teapot. Granville Hicks, in a new book called *The Lying Novel*, has felt it necessary to defend the contemporary novel.

Today's novels and novelists need no defense, thank you. They are doing quite well.

If they lack the flavor and form of the old masterpieces by Thomas Wolfe or Theodore Dreiser or Henry James or Sinclair Lewis it is probably just as well. No one contemplating the novel as a force in literature can ignore James any more than he can ignore the role of Turgenev, Chekhov or Poe in the development of the short story. But any work of fiction must reflect a particular time in which it was created. The au-

thor must have an awareness of the mainstream of his own day—and its tribulations. He must present his age, drawing on his own experience, his own philosophy and his own view of man's fate. As David Daiches, the poet, says, the generation of novelists which has produced Saul Bellow, Ralph Ellison and Wright Morris has no right to complain. If they are not read enough or appreciated enough they will be in time. Good original art in any form takes a while to reach its audience and its creator is seldom doomed to eternal oblivion.

Fancy defenses are unnecessary. Novels published in 1957 such as James Gould Cozzens' *By Love Possessed*, William Faulkner's *The Town*, Nevile Shute's *On The Beach* and the late James Agee's *Death in The Family* speak for themselves about the vitality of the novel in the middle of the 20th century.

There are bad books, too, but there have always been bad books. There is no Fitzgerald today because the jazz age is dead. There is no Wolfe because his age of longing has been dissolved by the New Urgency. There is no Lewis simply because he won his case and there is no need for a retrial.

But novels—good novels—that tell today's story are still being written. "Of the making of books there is no end," sighed the Preacher more than 2,000 years ago. It is a good thing.

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Indian Masses Teeter On Brink Of Financial Collapse

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON
AFTER two months of delay, the United States is preparing to tell India that for the current year something more than \$200 million in American aid will be available.

The total from all sources—the Export-Import Bank, the Development Loan Fund, agricultural surpluses and scattered amounts here and there—may go as high as \$300 million. Both in Washington and New Delhi the hope is that this will be enough to see India through another 12 months, on a strictly scarcity basis, of her second five-year development plan.

So stringent is the need, with the second five-year plan cut back to a minimum essential to raise the pitifully low standard of living, that careful observers describe the situation as desperate.

MINDS AND HEARTS

President Eisenhower's new budget calls for a greatly expanded foreign aid program. But how much of this Congress will approve is a question, as many returning congressmen have expressed doubts about foreign aid in view of the need for greatly increased spending to catch up with the Soviet lead in missiles and rockets.

It will be popular to call for the conquest of outer space, as Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, the majority leader, has done. But the measures essential to win the minds and hearts of the people on the earth will not have the same glamour. The administration



What Do I Hitch My Wagon To?

tion is fearful that what one of the President's assistants calls "missile madness" will prevail in the session now begun in Congress. India, with its 400 million people, has been trying under the leadership of Prime Minister Jaw-

aharlal Nehru to set a course for freedom and Western-style democracy. Through the ballot box and thanks in no small part to the deep underlying hunger of the mass of the people, Communism has already made some gains. If

all of India should go Communist or lapse into the kind of anarchy now threatening Indonesia, the West could write off Asia entirely.

The inevitable complexity of a government like that in Washington, with a multiplicity of agencies out of the past and a division of powers between the executive and the legislative, has made for delay in responding to India's need.

CONSTANT PULLING

This has been so despite the constant pulling and pushing by Undersecretary of State C. Douglas Dillon, in charge of economic programs. The credit restrictions laid down by the Export-Import Bank, which will furnish about \$100,000 of the total, are strict, and little can be done to speed the process of review.

Last fall India's Finance Minister, T. T. Krishnamachari, came here to make the case for India's urgent need for the five-year plan with all that it means was not to be junked. He gave a reassuring picture of the progress that is possible with a large measure of freedom preserved in the economy. American officials promised to reply by Nov. 15, and this deadline was later put forward to Dec. 15.

QUICK REIDS

What many Americans have not yet realized is that the Soviets are engaged in a new and intensive competition in foreign aid. In this competition they have some advantages over the democracies, since decisions can be taken instantly without the inevitable delay of debate and controversy.

The Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, Vilem Siroky, arrived in India in a good will visit. Two days after his arrival he announced that Czechoslovak credits would be advanced to India for construction of a foundry costing \$3,000,000 at Ranchi in the province of Bihar. The Czechs would provide not only the financial assistance but technical aid as well.

Obviously this was all masterminded from Moscow. But done with dispatch and through Czechoslovakia, a smaller power, the impact was great. Russia is financing and directing the construction of a steel mill in India, one of four, the others being West Germany, Britain, and Henry Kaiser for the United States.

Making use of this year of all credit sources that can be tapped in response to India's urgent need, the administration will have to go to Congress next year for approval of help for the following two or three years. This will provide a dramatic test of whether Congress and public opinion are aware of a form of competition far less spectacular than the spunkiness of the West, or whether it is decisive in the struggle with Communism.

In both India and the United States there are major differences and dislikes. India has a fantastic population problem—an increase of 4,500,000 people a year, which tends to eat up the gains quickly as they are made. But if the differences cannot be submerged in a joint effort, then, in the view of other observers, the hopes for freedom both in the West and the East are dim.

People's God And The Universe: The Debate Continues

Editors, The News: Lincolnton

THERE is no need to attempt to defend the spirit of God or the idea of an immortal soul. The people of God know the facts about the power of the universe and where that power lies.

Mr. A. W. Black says that science finds no evidence of God in any phase of the universe or existence. Can science make anything without the help of God's substance?

Evolution is partly fiction, partly fact. Tomatoes, apples, peaches, and beans uphold the idea of evolution. Radishes, turnips, and rutabagas deny this idea. Animals and humans also deny this idea.

Mr. Black states that theologians concede that the Bible offers no formal proof of the existence of God. It's a personal God. The formal word does not come from the Bible. Nowhere can one find a personal God. One must find a personal God. There is no logical process whereby anyone can know God unless they wish to, not by the mind but by faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ.

—PHILIP AKERS

One Answer Suffices For Denial Of God

Editors, The News: Charlotte

MR. A. W. Black's denial of God needs only the first paragraph of the first verse of the 14th Psalm for adequate reply. There are thousands of other answers but that one is enough. He may claim to have evolved from a plant or a chattering monkey if that is his desire, but I am so glad that I can with full confidence claim an infinitely better origin.

—S. T. MOSER

Faith Is Evidence Of Things Not Seen

Editors, The News: Charlotte

WHEN the learned man challenges the atheist to prove the existence of God, I am reminded of another intellectual—our ancestor, Paul the apostle. "The Acts in the Bible tell of his enlightening experience on the road to Damascus."

Is the stumbling block "the burden of proof?"

Consider: Jurors did not see the crime committed but are in position to make a decision based on the greater weight of the evidence. Sometimes that evidence is not positive proof. They are persuaded. They believe.

This is a matter of belief through faith in the ultimate truth of the universe. Ponder Paul's explanation to the Hebrews:

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God Is A Spirit Dwelling Everywhere

Editors, The News: Lincolnton

RELATIVE to the argument as to whether there is a God, a supreme being, one person says yes, another says yes. Now the person who says no certainly can say, "There is no God. The person that says yes can prove that there is a God."

Everything is God. God is a

Atheists Carry Burden Of Proof

Editors, The News: Lincolnton

MR. A. W. Black in his recent letter to People's Platform chides me for ignoring the principle of intelligent debate. This is as much as I demanded that he

prove there is no God. The burden of proof, Mr. Black states, lies with the affirmative. I'll agree to that.

The question before us for debate is this: Resolved: "There is no God." I believe all students of the Bible, whether or otherwise, will agree that Mr. Black has adopted the affirmative position. There is no God. There is no God. There is no God.

—CHARLES EUREY

Scientists Should Stop Their Meddling

Editors, The News: Charlotte

Teddy Roosevelt's type, we need him now. He would rule with a big stick and tell Russia to sleep straight.

Japan whipped Russia and destroyed her fleet in 1905. Teddy Roosevelt settled it. Here we have the richest and most powerful nation in the world squandering money, shedding about that Russian boy in the skies. If true, it means no more than a boy flying a kite.

The universe is God's kingdom. The sun, the moon, the stars are God's works. Mankind should be satisfied and let it alone. All scientists are nuts.

—W. C. MCINTIRE

There Were Many Toys For The Tots

Editors, The News: Charlotte

A GREAT many children enjoyed a merry Christmas this year, complete with dolls, games and other toys, because of the generosity of the warmhearted people in the Charlotte area. The success of the "Toys for Tots" program certainly reflects the friendly spirit of our community.

Those of us in the Third Special Truck Company, United States Marine Corps Reserve, would like to take this means to thank everyone personally. We do extend a standing invitation to visit us at anytime at our Training Center, 725 West 6th St.

We would also like to thank the following public-spirited organizations for their wonderful cooperation: The Salvation Army and Cub Scout Pack 33.

Our deep appreciation is expressed to the Charlotte News and all the people on your staff. Your support was a most important factor in the success of the 1957 "Toys for Tots" campaign.

—CAPT. RICHARD Y. KELLY
Commanding Officer



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors, The News: Washington

SINCE President Eisenhower's health got shaky more than two years ago, he has dispensed with handshaking at the State Department. He has been replaced by a "freshman chairman," but the U. S. Chamber of Commerce that business conditions will get "much worse" than last year.

"Business was off during November and December," he said. "The same will hold true during January and February. However, my economic advisers assure me that there is bound to be a seasonal pickup in the spring."

Low Inventories

He cited the fact that many low-level inventories are low in many industries and will have to be replaced, also that the government's road-building program will spur business activity.

Mr. Pearson wanted a bit when Sen. GOP leader William Knowland and House leader Joe Martin predicted that the proposed 74 billion balanced budget would have tough sledding in Congress.

Challenge Made

The basic problem of the Democratic Party, one-man domination of its policies, was raised even before Congress convened by a freshman senator, Pat McNamara of Michigan. He wrote Senate Democratic leader Lyndon Johnson a blunt letter reminding him, in effect, that Democratic Senate caucuses were supposed to be democratic with a small "d."

The public doesn't know it, but not since last January have Democratic senators held a caucus. Under previous Democratic leaders, caucuses were held every month or so to decide policy. The late Allen Buckley was Democratic leader, he held caucuses every couple of months. Lyndon Johnson, however, doesn't relish discussion, decides party policy largely on his own.

This has been the reason why ex-President Truman, Adlai Stevenson, Sen. Kefauver, and Chairman Paul Butler set up a "freshman caucus." They didn't want the Democratic Party being dominated by one man, especially a man who bows to the oil and gas interests of Texas.

So when Sen. McNamara received Sen. Johnson's notice that a Democratic caucus had been called for "trial" the Democrats on the work of Johnson's Senate Preparedness Committee it raised some hackles on McNamara's back.

Other Problems

No. 1, he figured there were other problems facing the Democrats than being brushed on Johnson's "Preparedness Committee"—among them, more than 100,000 men out of work in Michigan, so. 2, he recalled that Johnson had chairmaned the Unpreparedness committee for two years without doing anything about missiles.

From The Richmond News Leader

THE FIRST WEEKEND

IT HAD never occurred to us that any one individual invented the week and that breathing period in which men exchange labor at home for labor at the shop under the delusion that such is the nature of leisure, had seemed to us one of those things that always had been and always would be, like spoonbread, or heavy traffic, or Felix Frankfurter.

But a gentleman by the name of R. A. Piddington recently contributed a scholarly work to the editorial page of the LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH, in which he traced the origin of the modern-day weekend to one Thomas Wordsell, an ironmaster of Birmingham a century ago. In definition, the week end comprises "an organization of work by which to Sunday's rest is added that of the preceding afternoon." Until Mr. Wordsell fell under the influence of a clerk by the name of Richard Tange, there was no rest on the preceding afternoon. The custom was for the ironworkers to quit at 4:30 on Saturdays, and then one by one to climb to a sort of crowd's nest in the loft to receive their week's wages. It was often 6 or 7 o'clock before the last man made it down to the yard, and much grumbling ensued.

But in 1853, Mr. Tange happened to come across a Glasgow paper in which an anonymous correspondent, calling himself "Common Sense," urged that employers institute a practice of paying their men on Friday afternoons and closing their works at 1 o'clock on Saturdays. This anonymous journalist is hailed at once as a great benefactor of the labor, it should be made clear that his

ideas were not altogether those of the CIO. He had observed, wrote "Common Sense," that most workmen took their wages on Saturday evening and proceeded to get thoroughly drunk on Saturday night. Their wives and children suffered by reason of this familiar failing. Why, he inquired, pay the men on Friday afternoon and fire them if they failed to show up Saturday morning? In this way it was to be supposed, the workers would not get so very drunk, and their families might be better cared for.

Mr. Tange, the clerk, showed this article to Mr. Wordsell, the ironmaster, who was much impressed with the reasoning thereof. He proceeded to lengthen the mill's work day by 30 minutes Monday through Friday, paid off the men on Fridays, and let everyone go home at 1 o'clock on Saturdays. The experiment succeeded admirably, says Mr. Piddington, especially with the wives.

What happened thereafter may be summarized briefly. Mr. Tange went on to become founder of the famous engineering firm that still bears his name. "Common Sense" was identified in time as a Glasgow printer, David MacLure. Mr. Wordsell's ironworkers, as everyone knows, spent their Saturday afternoons repairing fences, helping with the hush-mowing the grass, and exhausting themselves in those other domestic chores that now leave mankind so fatigued that a week end must begin on a Thursday, and not wind up until the laborer, seeking rest, flees happily to his desk or lathe of a Tuesday morn.