

RICHARD E. GEIS

PERSONAL JOURNAL NUMBER FIVE

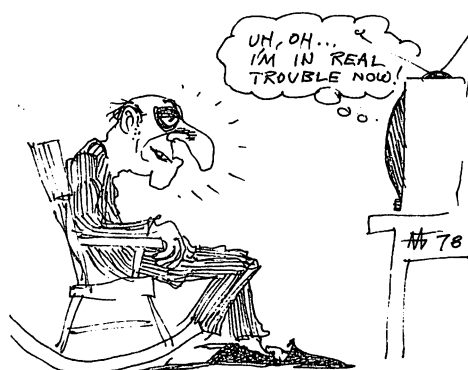
9-14-78 I see that Marina Oswald is still into forgetting and dissembling in her testimony. The House Committee spent a lot of time yesterday questioning her. As the daughter of a Soviet intelligence official she knows how and what to answer---as the FBI learned in 1963. She did allow that Lee Harvey Oswald probably did shoot John Kennedy...because he told her (she says) he shot at General Walker and wanted to shoot Nixon.

A few days ago ballistics and photographic experts testified that JFK and John Connally could have been hit by the same bullet. Of course. But they did not address the question of which bullet in the sequence that had to be. Most of this testimony is begging the question...or outright avoiding it.

It's curious to the point of conspiracy that the questioning of Oswald by the Dallas police and the FBI before he was shot by Jack Ruby has never been surfaced. The House Committee has not mentioned it, nor apparently did the Warren Commission seek it. Why not? What was said during those interrogation sessions would be vital to any investigation of the assassination. Yet those hours of questioning seem to have been ignored so thoroughly that no one is interested. Surely they were recorded? Surely a steno was in the room? Surely the police and agents involved remember something of what was said? I suggest that what Oswald said was so damaging to the "lone assassin" story and the cover-up that any recordings or writings or notes have been either destroyed or sealed away in Top Secret vaults...and the people involved are now either dead or sworn to secrecy on pain of death.

The big media pretend those hours never happened. You'll never hear CBS, NBC or ABC or any of the big establishment newspapers raising the issue. They are too busy supporting pro-Warren Commission findings, and knocking down any damaging findings.

On the economic front, the president has nominated Nancy Teeters, formerly of the establishment/liberal Brookings Institute and a House of Representatives economist, to be the replacement on the Federal Reserve Board for retired Arthur Burns.



MAN DOMINATING TELEVISION SET

Teeters is a statist and an ass. She believes that inflation means price increases and wage increases, so she says controlling deficits and the money supply is only part of the answer.

According to her (and her tribe) if your house is flooding you try to stop the rising water level by telling the couch to stop soaking up all that water, and you fine the pillows for swelling up. Oh, and you occasionally pretend to fix the broken water pipe...which you deliberately broke yourself.

New car sales have turned down, but industry officials think it is only temporary.

9-18-78 That was quite a show Sadat, Begin and Carter put on last night as they signed those "agreements" and paid each other compliments. Boy, did Begin and Sadat ever praise Jimmy Carter! It was sickening.

They both---Israel and Egypt---depend on the U.S. for their survival, economically. Money, money, money....

There are still ifs and buts in the agreements---but it appears as if Egypt is come to a separate peace treaty with Israel, as I said she'd have to do eventually, in order to get back the Sinai--and that oil.

Begin had to be bribed to yield a bit on the West Bank autonomy question---and I suspect that in the next five years there may be a hangup or three in giving the Palestinians their homeland and getting the Israel army out.

The bribe is partly known now--we build Israel two airbases in their southern desert--the Negev. I'm sure they'll be nice, big bases equipped with the best of everything...just in case we have to use them sometime.

And no doubt there are other little tidbits in the agreements, for both Israel and Egypt, to get

them to sign and smile to nicely for the TV cameras. No wonder Jimmy was smiling so much. He had his diplomatic triumph and appeared to the world and the U.S. public as a real President! No doubt his popularity rating will go up.

Remember that Carter signed those agreements along with Begin and Sadat. That implies we have agreed to things...the bases, yes, and what else?

Lord Keynes, who fathered the spend-spend-spend economic theory that has been adopted by the world for forty years---with what result you see in inflation and debt, as I say, his theory was that governments should run deficits during bad times, and counteract all that debt in boom times by running surpluses.

Except the politicians never have the guts or integrity to up taxes and accumulate those surpluses.

What has developed is deficits during booms and tremendous deficits during busts.

But Keynes knew the score. Consider this from his "The Economic Consequences of the Peace":

"...by a continuing process of inflation, governments can confiscate secretly and unobserved an important part of the wealth of their citizens.... There is no subtler, no surer means of overthrowing the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction and it does it in a manner which not one man in a million is able to diagnose."

9-19-78 I've now read the full texts of the "agreements" signed on TV by Sadat, Carter and Begin. It looks good on the surface, but it is cosmetics and wax. Underneath the accords give each side all kinds of options for delay and renegeing.

I think Israel will keep its end initially in order to get passage for its ships through the Suez Canal, and to get the (now told) two \$500 million airbases promised by Carter. [These bases are not mentioned in the "agreements", by the way. What else is not mentioned?]

I suspect there is a payoff due Egypt, too...perhaps a big loan from the Rockefeller-controlled International Monetary Fund.

On the JFK assassination charade: The House Committee has surfaced

charges that Castro knew in advance of a threat by a man who called himself Oswald (during that weird Mexico City trip Oswald is supposed to have made). Cuban officials and Castro deny knowing of it, and deny the man made a threat.

One of the Cuban embassy officials in Mexico City at the time---1963---said after the assassination and now that the man was not the same Oswald as pictured in news photos from Dallas. The Oswald he saw and talked to was a "cold, hard man" and thinner.

This has been common knowledge among the Warren Commission critics for years and years. If there was a "second Oswald" it suggests a conspiracy to set up the real Oswald for the crime.

I wonder if the House Committee will get into the Jack Ruby can of worms?

Personal income in the U.S. rose .5% last month (August). Sound good? Sorry. It didn't come close to equaling the devaluation of the dollar by the government. We lost ground in real-money terms.

I have been forgetting to mention that a second Sears crew showed up a few days ago and put up the chain-link fencing and the gate. I am content.

MOVIE REVIEW

ANIMAL HOUSE is (as you've probably heard) raunchy, tasteless, and funny. It was filmed on the campus of the U. of Oregon and Forest Grove, we are told. John Belushi (I hope that's the spelling) is revealed as an up and coming comic who in this film depends too much on obnoxious manners and sloppy, dirty, disgusting food habits. You laugh at him, but you wouldn't want to know him. He's a pig. National Lampoon, in this film, have done for frat house life on campus what Mel Brooks has done for westerns, FRANKENSTEIN, and Alfred Hitchcock movies.

ANARCHY COMICS #1 is almost a contradiction in terms. But Jay Kinney edited this comic book put out by Last Gasp, and it contains American artists as well as stories by foreign artists.

Naturally, the stories are put-downs of government. Never trust your local government. No way.

So what you get for your \$1. is 36 pages of grim anarchist propaganda. If that's what you want, the address is Last Gasp, POB 212, Berkeley, CA 94705.

Umm...I should mention there is some satire, but I find it mostly dumb. But, then, there's damn little comic book satire that isn't. Dumb.

9-21-78 *Sigh... I've got a terrible head cold, the flu...yet I've also got deadlines, so I am down here in pain and sniffles doing my duty. Give me a medal.

As I expected (and what anyone with half a brain expected) the other arab nations are pissed off at Sadat for 'selling out' and in effect arranging to sign a separate peace with Israel.

As expected, Begin is making speeches saying the West Bank and Gaza will have an Israeli military presence for more than five years. Further, there will likely be expansion of existing West Bank and Gaza settlements by Israel, and perhaps more settlements started.

It is my view that the long-term Israeli aim is to absorb the West Bank and Gaza by a slow process of settlements and maybe "encouragement" of the existing Palestinian arabs to relocate in Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria....

It would take radical economic pressure by the U.S. government to force a change in these policies. Not likely given the large and crucial Jewish vote in this country.

I nearly fell out of my chair laughing this morning when I heard ex-President Ford tell the House Assassination Investigating Committee that the critics of the Warren Commission were guilty of misleading the people and of using only those facts which help their arguments.

It was revealed today, too, that Ford was 'The F.B.I.'s man on the Commission.' He made two reports to the F.B.I. on the matter of the Commission's organizing, and presumably acted to protect the F.B.I. during the investigation.

At that time Ford was a senior member of the House of Representatives.

I wonder why Ford took on that role? Could J. Edgar Hoover have had something on Gerry?

On the economics front: stock market sinking, new housing starts down, housing permits down, gold at a new high, the dollar sinking fast on foreign exchange markets again.

The Senate Finance Committee, which is drafting the new tax-cut bill, has rejected indexing of future tax rates to compensate for inflation. [If the government devalues the dollar by ten percent per year, and you win salary increases to match that "inflation" rate and as a consequence find yourself in a higher tax-rate bracket, you will be paying more of your real income in taxes than before.] The government does not want to change the tax rate schedule, because it wants to impose this kind of subtle tax increase by the back door. In rejecting this indexing plan to protect the taxpayer, Sen. Russell Long said the resulting loss of revenues might produce irresponsibly large budget deficits.

Playing fair is out of the question. It never occurs to these spend-spend-spend idiots to cut the budget instead.

The House and Senate budget conferees agreed on a deficit of \$38.8 billion for fiscal 1979.

I laugh. I predict the deficit will be closer to 100 billion than 39 billion.

9-24-78 Henry Kissinger was on MEET THE PRESS this morning, giving out an indication---quite a good one---of the current Rockefeller/Establishment line on foreign policy.

It appears the goal is to have Israel and Egypt sign a separate peace treaty as soon as possible, and then have Israel and Jordan work out a peace treaty. The plan for the West Bank and Gaza is for those areas, during the next five years,



to develop local governmental structures strong enough to credibly offer an alternative to the Palestine Liberation Front based in Lebanon. The PLO is slated to be ignored into oblivion.

Kissinger felt it was okay for Egypt's Sadat to speak for and bargain for the Palestinians and for King Hussein of Jordan in the event those interested parties don't care for the terms wished upon them by America, Egypt and Israel.

Apparently the Rockefeller are sure the Saudi's won't make waves over all this. The opening into China's oil and the revelation of gargantuan reserves of oil under Mexico is probably one element of this new confidence---Saudi oil is becoming relatively less crucial to the U.S.

Kissinger said the current Russian moves in Africa are geopolitical and should be stopped pretty damn soon. He said we have been giving too much support to some of the Rhodesian rebels which are supplied by Russia and trained by Cubans.

A researcher in human brain function, Dr. Harry Whitaker, a neuropsychologist and neurolinguist, has found that:

More than half of the left hemisphere in 90% of the people is involved with language.

[Language function is located in the left hemisphere. The right hemisphere is devoted to visual and spacial functions.]

Different languages occupy different parts of the left hemisphere if a person speaks more than one language.

Brains are unique---different with each person, comparable to the differences in faces.

9-26-78 Ahhh, the confidence the world shows in the U.S. government. President Carter went before a joint meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, and pledged that controlling inflation, boosting exports and reducing oil imports "constitute the most urgent priorities of my administration." ... "We will not shrink from the hard decisions and persistent efforts that are needed. We are determined to maintain a sound dollar."

Aha-ha-ha-ha... The international value of the dollar dropped yesterday and today in response.

'Maintain a sound dollar.' Oh, such a funny man. If he thinks the dollar now is sound, firm, stable, full of value, then maintaining it in his view means perhaps allowing it to drop continually.

Of course, of course Carter was indulging in propaganda and pretense in the speech. Nobody believes him. If even Americans believed him there would be a panic.

The Consumer Price Index rose again at a .6% rate in August the govt. reported today. Food prices rose only .2% because of good harvests. Which means that non-food prices rose at a 1.1% rate, which is a 12% annual rate. Later this fall and winter the food component will probably rise to equal the other rates of increase and in Dec., Jan. and Feb., March... a great cry of anguish and anger will rise at the awful "double-digit" inflation, and lo, compulsory wage-price controls will begin to be seriously considered.

The crowning, absurdist touch to Carter's speech were these words: "Let there be no doubt in your mind about how seriously I take these pledges that I have made on my own word of honor and on behalf of the people of the United States." He added, "My own reputation is as stake as a leader."

Yes. Ho-ho. Whatever happened to his word of honor and reputation concerning his pledge to balance the budget by 1981 or so? So far he's merely run up about ninety billion dollars in deficits in two years. And of course, he manifestly does not speak for Congress.

In a weak moment last night we decided to go see PINNOCHIO and ALICE IN WONDERLAND, a double feature, both rated R.

Pinnocchio's penis grew each time he had sex with a woman he didn't love---about fifty or sixty, I think. He ended up with a pole four or five feet long (discreetly shrouded). But finally the good lady fairy managed to point him successfully back to the lonely, pretty young woman who had carved him for companionship.

Some funny lines and situations, and some fine naked ladies, but the film (with human actors, by the way) lacked punch and the sound was bad.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND was originally a Pussycat Theatre X-rated show, I suspect, edited for what now passes for R. The Alice storyline was only marginally followed.

Again, some good spots, some good talented singing, and a bit of dancing... nice tits... some raunchy double-entendre dialogue here and there... The film began well but went down after that.

No penis is ever shown in this type of titillation film, and hardly

ever a long-shot of bush. Just skin and breasts in abundance.

That gets boring.

In a rare breaking of medical establishment ranks and dogma, a panel of National Cancer Institute doctors and scientists voted 14-11 to ask the government to sponsor a test of Laetrile on cancer patients.

If conducted, the tests would involve giving the controversial drug only to cancer patients who have not responded to any other treatment. Terminal cases. Last gasp people.

Well, what harm can it do? And of course the test is set up to give the drug the least possible chance at curing cancer. Of course, if the doctors added megavitamin therapy, too....

The House assassinations committee is busy this week knocking down fringe conspiracy charges in order to avoid the central ones.

Yesterday they trotted out "the umbrella man" who some thought signalled the beginning of the JFK assassination by opening his black umbrella in Dealey Plaza.

He was a conservative out to bug the president with a symbol reminiscent of Neville Chamberlain's supposed appeasement of Nazi Germany, suggesting JFK's supposed appeasement of Russia.

They ran into an embarrassing glitch: he testified in passing: "There were three or four sharp sounds in very rapid succession." Referring to the gunfire. Which tends to confirm the acoustics experts' findings from the tape recording.

"Very rapid succession" does not conform to the spaced shots Oswald is supposed to have fired due to the limitations of his cheap rifle.

At this rate the committee is sinking the Warren Commission Report by accident and inadvertence. In its attempt to buttress the Report and knock down the conspiracy evidence it is doing the opposite... but only to those who can put two and two together.

CBS, of course, did not run his gunfire testimony. They made a comedy show of the segment by showing a committee secretary opening the umbrella too far---reversing the bow of the umbrella struts and ripping the fabric.

Ho-ho, those conspiracy buffs are ridiculous, aren't they?

10-1-78 It occurs to me that a devout Catholic---one who really believes God exists and takes an

interest in wordly affairs---would be going through a deep crisis now with the abrupt death of the new Pope.

Because it follows that if the Pope is God's voice on Earth for the hundreds of millions of Catholics, then God is vitally concerned with the man who is selected to be Pope, and for God to permit the new Pope to die [or cause him to die] suggests extreme Godly disfavor and anger.

A true Catholic would ask: "Where did we go wrong?" "Why was Pope John Paul I unsatisfactory?"

God either exists and dabbles in Earthly affairs, or He doesn't. He may be a distant, uncaring, non-interfering God...but in that event worship and belief are academic.

Either way---deeply religious Catholics are in a bind. But I've seen no trace of this kind of problem---or realization of the problem---surfacing in the media.

Because, obviously, no one but a few die-hard peasant types really believes in a real activist God.

All you get from priests and higher echelon figures in the Church are dogma, platitudes and cant. In other words--bullshit.

Every one of the all-powerful-God religions or sects or cults or whatever come up against the wall of "Why does He permit such awful things to happen to us?" "If God is perfect and all loving, why did He create us imperfect and why allow us to do such awful things to ourselves?"

The usual sophistry and rationalisation is something like: He's testing us/you. He gave us free will and these calamities are of our making, not His [a copout and dodge of the question]. God works in mysterious ways [the ultimate cop-out].

I have yet to hear a religious leader say: "God is experimenting; we are his laboratory rats." That holds a little water at first glance, until the questioner asks, "But if God is perfect, why does He need to experiment?"

If the religionists would give up their all-powerful-God and settle for a less-than-perfect and less-than-all-powerful-God, their hard-place questions and logical binds would melt away.

But I suspect that if a God is to have any following at all, He must be The all-powerful and all-knowing and all-perfect entity. People probably aren't content with anything less. Because it produces too much insecurity. Too much dependence on self and on us.

Could be---with more and more people losing faith in a God---that explains the rise in the number of people who embrace/believe world-

control conspiracies. I mean, if God is dead or doesn't give a damn, it's better to believe in David Rockefeller than in nothing at all. [Thus Jimmy Carter is the Pope of the Rockefeller God.]

Alas, the problem with David Rockefeller is that he seems to be the Devil. If he really is in control of the world he, too, is doing a really lousy job of administration.

I note that a mother killed her daughter recently rather than let the young woman return to the life of a prostitute.

Does this mean that mothers and fathers will take such drastic measures if their children opt for even worse professions---like politician? Lawyer? Used Car Salesperson? TV game show panelist?

The USSR airlifted three divisions of soldiers from Russia to Ethiopia last year [November-December, 1977] to show it could take over a small African country within 10 hours---if it wished to.

That is quite a feat. I don't think the USA could airlift that many in so short a time.

This information has been kept secret from the U.S. people---and most others in the world. Le Figaro broke the story recently.

The significance is not that the Russians can take over a small country, but that they have the capability of moving a very large strike force very quickly in the event that one of their puppet states in Africa gets into trouble or if the Cuban forces in Africa get in trouble. Or if an invasion of a neighboring African or near-East nation by their puppet is stalled or in trouble.

The Russians have been moving fast in the last few years to try to encircle the oil-producing area of the Middle East. They've taken over or made client states of or heavily influenced Iraq, Libya, Syria, Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

There is an undeclared geopolitical war going on for control

of the world, with the mineral riches of Africa and the Middle East the prize and the battleground.

That's why the rulers of the USA are moving so quickly to lure/seduce/ally themselves with China. China is a vast source of vital resources and a vast club that threatens the USSR.

For their own reasons the Chinese are welcoming this expanding relationship with us.

To curry favor with the existing black leaders/dictators in Africa, the U.S. government appointed Andrew Young U.N. ambassador and has let him make all kinds of racist, socialist and anti-capitalist statements.

He hasn't been fired; he's just doing his job. He was picked for exactly those qualities which most white Americans find ugly and wrong-headed.

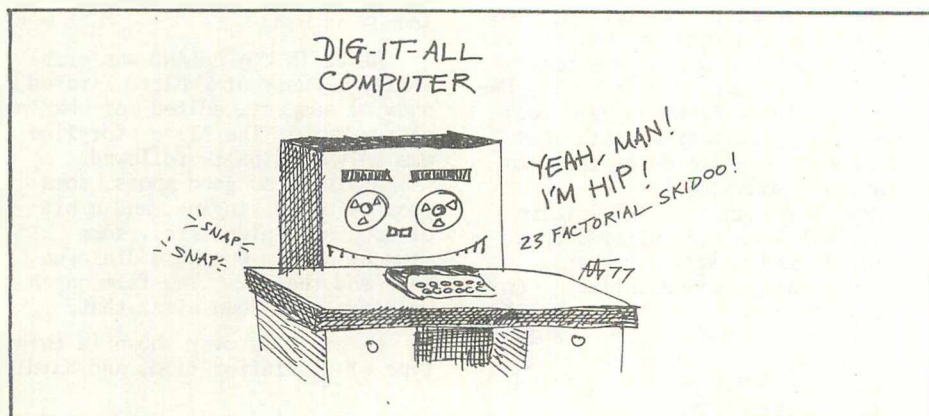
To try to keep the Russian-supported revolutionaries at least partially open-minded toward the U.S. the administration has done much to ruin and undermine the Ian Smith regime in Rhodesia and to queer the current black-white government in Rhodesia.

Today it is revealed that the State Department has refused visas to Smith and the Rev. Sithole [black] who is chairman of Rhodesia's ruling Executive Council.

The reason given is that the present Rhodesian government is an "illegal regime." Considering the number of dictatorships this country supports and whose dictators are welcome here, that hypocrisy makes me choke.

Sen Hayakawa of California and 26 other U.S. Senators had asked that Smith and Sithole be allowed into the U.S. to present their side of the situation in Rhodesia and that area of Africa.

But the last thing the rulers of this country want is for the realities of Rhodesia/Africa to be given mass media exposure in this country. It does not suit their purposes.



Sen. Henry Jackson [in the Rockefeller camp on most issues] has come out for the U.S. to offer Israel and the Arab world an aid program similar to the Marshall Plan for Europe after WWII.

This is a bribe and a punishment thing: those countries that cooperate with us and accept the Camp David agreements and make separate peace treaties with Israel [as Egypt is doing] will get the big money goodies. Those that don't will just have to go pound sand.

This "offer" is a move in the geo-political war mentioned above.

If this aid program is ever enacted it'll be multi-billion in scope and another unasked-for burden for the taxpayers.

10-7-78 I've been busy putting SFR #28 together and have neglected REG for a week. To catch up:

I see that the State Dept. finally caved in due to extreme political pressure from those 27 U.S. Senators and gave Ian Smith and three black members of his Rhodesian government U.S. visas...to tell their side of the Rhodesian problem.

It was stupid to try to keep them out in the first place.

New data indicates that 20 to 40% of all cancers in the next several decades will be caused by exposure to various chemicals in the workplace [according to a study by HEW just released].

Asbestos is especially dangerous, with a 30-year latency/development period. Cancers are expected from five prominent common industrial substances---arsenic, benzene, chromium, nickel oxides and petroleum fractions.

Generally, folks, you're taking a hell of a chance if you're young and working in a factory in which you're breathing air tainted with chemicals, paints, fuels, or if the air is laden with almost any kind of dust.

Along about your fifties you stand a good chance of developing cancer.

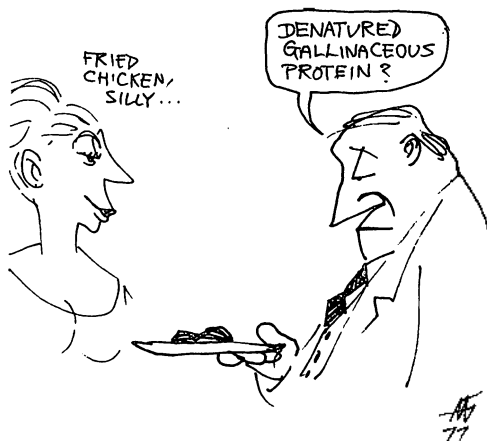
Scientists are working now on ways to stimulate the body's immunity system to fight cancers. They want to find a drug or a thymus hormone. They don't really want to prevent cancer, just to find doctor-administrated ways to cure it---for a price.

Is it generally known that vitamin C is used by the body to neutralize and counteract poisons in the bloodstream? Would it not follow that when you work in an atmosphere that puts poisons into your system, it would be a very good

idea to take extra-large amounts of C? Do doctors advise this? Does HEW? No. They all depend on sick people. They live off cancer and other illnesses. Their little empires are built on a system of "health" and medical care that makes the doctor and the government the only outlet for treatments and help. And they are inherently hostile to people curing themselves or preventing illnesses themselves.

I don't blame the doctors and the bureaucrats for structuring medicine in this way. It's entirely natural for them to do it. My aim is to acquire the knowledge to avoid the diseases in the first place [as much as possible], and to be able to treat myself if I get a disease.

Want to know if you have schizophrenia---or if a friend or loved



one has? Here's a set of symptoms developed by two psychiatrists which are specific and clear.

One from each of these groups:
Formal thought disorder (private words, stock words, non sequiturs, tangentiality.)

At least one "first rank" symptom such as hearing continuous voices, believing you are under alien control, thinking your thoughts are broadcast aloud from your head.

Emotional blunting---inappropriate indifference for loved ones, lack of emotional responsiveness and loss of social graces.

Clear consciousness.

No diagnosable affective disorder (such as depression or mania).

No diagnosable brain disease or past use of hallucinogens or other drugs that might cause schizophrenia-like symptoms.

Hmmm. A sf fan with an "alter-ego" who isn't sociable... Gad!

The Russians are confirming that space flight may be hazardous to your health. Rats sent along on

long (two-three weeks) orbiting Cosmos missions stop growing their bones. This happened to two sets of rats on different flights.

Bone growth resumed on Earth in each case a few days after the return.

On the next biological satellite scientist plan to let rats mate during the flight to check on embryonic and postnatal bone formation under space flight conditions.

Loss of bone mass during space flight has been detected in monkeys and astronauts.

I suspect that conception and/or pregnancy may be "rejected" by mammals in weightlessness. Perhaps the body needs, say, 50% gravity to allow pregnancy, and growing in babes and children and good health in adults.

In which case short vacations to orbiting "sin ships" would assure women a period of ideal birth control in near-weightless sexual antics.

The fighting in Lebanon strikes me as a virtual laboratory for showing the theory of anarchy at work.

Private armies perpetually fighting, armed interference by neighboring states...ruin and death for civilians...endlessly.

Sure, there are no laws being enforced by the state. Economic freedom is real...except for the disruptions caused by those damned small armies fighting over which of them will take full power over the survivors.

The Israelis are smart to support the Christian forces which tie up the Syrian army and help fight the Palestinian forces. Classic strategy.

More than half this nation's women are in the labor market. Women are vastly increasing their family's income and making possible the purchase of new houses, cars, etc., and the vast increase in private debt.

This process has been gaining strength and power for years. The tremendous increase in purchasing/debt power has fueled the boom so far and has fueled the ERA movement.

As a sidelight---women have probably taken most of the jobs that would have gone to teen-agers, which is why teen-age unemployment is so high, and likely to stay high.

I think women should get equal pay, equal rights and equal responsibilities. As taxpayers they are demanding and will get ERA. The House and Senate vote to give the backers of ERA another three years to get the three more state legislatures to vote for the constitutional amendment will be enough.

But make no mistake---ERA if made part of the constitution will transform this country in many ways unforeseen now.

Atmospheric chemists have been predicting that man-made chemicals will thin the ozone layer and cause more skin cancers and will also alter global climate.

There has been confirmation of those predictions recently by jet, laboratory experiments and computer.

The news is that nitrous oxide is not increasing, but another man-made chemical, methyl chloroform, is nibbling at the ozone at an increasingly rapid rate.

The experiments have shown that the atmosphere is able to cleanse itself only a tenth as well as previously believed. The projection is that 15% of the ozone layer will be gone in 50-100 years.

There is no way of knowing how soon or how severely this atmospheric change will affect the Earth.

Stick around and find out.

If we continue to have very severe winters, we might have a good clue...with the prospect of more and more to come. As the less-developed countries (and China) come on line with thousands of new factories in the decades ahead....

Currently in Asia we hear of the worst monsoon in decades. No doubt there are other extreme weather anomalies around the world we don't hear about.

There are, of course, always record-breaking storms and droughts and etc. happening every year in the world, making it difficult for a layman to see a worsening pattern that might be the result of a thinning ozone layer. But the suspicion persists that we may have already lost 3-5% of the ozone up there, and that may be altering weather patterns and relationships in an ongoing process which may not be dramatically evident for another ten years...in which case stopping air pollution totally at that time wouldn't have an improving effect for perhaps another five years.

I am wondering about the report that imitation and suggestion play a heavy role in suicide. David P. Phillips of U. of Cal. at San Diego found that in California automobile deaths increased 31% three days after a publicized suicide. The more media coverage of the suicide, the more the car deaths increase. And the age of the car drivers is usually close to the age of the well-known suicide.

What is the significance of the 3-day lag time? Is that "brooding time" required for a critical

unconscious/conscious decision to be made?

Larger question: should the media soft-peddle big-name suicides? Should the media be forced to soft-peddle the suicide of a well-known person?

Or are these "triggered" suicides people who were so close to suicide anyway that it was just a matter of time? You think these same-age suicides somehow gain a rationalized "permission" to end their lives when a person of their approximate age, of some importance, does the deed? Do they reason, "Shit, if Ernest Hemingway decided it was okay to blow his brains away with a shotgun, I guess if I want to ram my car into a building or into another car, it's okay."

So...if you're a famous person and you're contemplating suicide...think of all the people you'll be taking with you. More guilt. More responsibilities.

On the other hand, you may feel, as I do, that there is a need for the human population to be thinned and no socially acceptable ways to do it. Suicide is one "sinfull" method of eliminating some of the severely mentally depressed and some of the terminally ill, usually saving society and families much pain and money.

Now, what if a state-controlled Big Media got orders to play up big a series of prominent suicides? Would that be totally evil social engineering?

10-8-78 The biggest story in the world today is economic---the state of the world's money and the world's debt structure.

The October 16th issue of BUSINESS WEEK (distributed on Oct. 7) is a special issue devoted to what BW calls "The New Debt Economy." There are sections dealing with the

vast, unprecedented, and terrifying increase in private, corporate, local, state, federal and world debt.

This one issue of BUSINESS WEEK should be required reading for everyone.

Boiled down, the message is that the establishments of the world were scared shitless in 1974 by the recession triggered by the OPEC oil price increase and the then existing excesses in debt and inventories.

The rulers of the U.S. decided to inflate in order to keep the economy going. And they've kept on inflating at a hellish pace, fueling an on-going prosperity at the price of 5-6-7-8-?? yearly rises in price levels.

Consumers, noting this inflation, and encouraged by easy-credit, also went on a binge of acquiring debt, long-term (mortgages, cars) and short-term (charge accounts, personal loans).

The debt load has increased far faster than the rate of expansion of the economy, and it cannot continue much longer. The worst offenders (and the segments in most trouble) are mortgage debt, consumer debt, and federal debt.

There are signs that consumers are beginning to stop their binge. New car sales are now steady with last year after having led that high rate through 1978 until now. And retail sales are flat, and have been flat all year. In fact, unit sales are down 1-1/2%. New home sales are level or down.

The Federal Reserve Board is trying to defend the dollar and cool off the economy enough to keep the Consumer Price Index from going up again into 10%+ figures each month, and it is also continuing to pour credit into the banking system---to keep the economy perking.

The result is high interest rates (and going higher) and a juiced-up demand for more and more debt.



Which will result in a credit crunch (rates around 12%-15% for the best-loved borrowers and the sky for the rest of you).

The coming economic contraction will probably be more severe than 1974-5 and will probably have more severe worldwide consequences.

The rulers will face again the collapse of the system---the vast melting of assets in the form of debts owed which cannot be paid---from the consumer on up, in a terrible snowballing of bankruptcy. Literally trillions of dollars could be wiped out.

A long, horrendous depression would ensue.

Desperation and panic will no doubt result in a frantic attempt to save the day one-more-time by resorting to mind-boggling federal budget deficits.

That's the scenario I see. And I see Jimmy Carter and his rulers worried sick and trying all kinds of stop-gap measures to treat the symptoms of runaway debt creation.

On the front page of today's paper I see: SANCTIONS PLANNED TO FIGHT INFLATION. The President's new "phase two" plan is to use govt. force any way possible to pressure unions to accept a limit of 7% in wage increases per year, and to coerce business to limit price increases to 5-3/4% per year.

It won't work. Workers won't settle for 7% when their cost of living is going up 10%. And businessmen won't be able to limit price increases for the same reasons.

The last resort will be for Congress to "reluctantly" give Carter power to impose compulsory wage-price controls "during the emergency" of what will be officially seen as a short-term inflationary blow-off.

MOVIE REVIEW

A ho-hum murder mystery is made a delight by Robert Morley in WHO IS KILLING THE GREAT CHEFS OF EUROPE?

He literally steals every scene he is in, not by malicious design, but because he is so droll and selfish and dedicated to gluttony. He is calamitously fat and must diet to stay alive. So is he the one who is killing the great chefs because he is unable to resist their utterly delicious creations?

Is it George Segal, who plays a crude American millionaire fast-food king intent on opening a string of omelet emporiums in England and Europe?

Is it a jealous rival chef who is outraged at not being named one of the best four chefs in the world?

The real killer is a mild surprise. That doesn't matter. The

fun is in the exploration of Morley's arrogance and gluttony, and in Segal's pursuit of his ex-wife, Jacqueline Bisset (she wore the wet t-shirt in THE DEEP). Since this picture is PG we don't get to see her endowments much this time. She plays the world's best pastry/desert chef, which increases tension as the killer closes in on her, but which also increases disbelief since she doesn't look or act like much of a world-class chef. But the picture is played for laughs and none of the other great chefs seem legitimate, either.

Only Morley as the publisher of a gourmet magazine seems true to his part.

I'll probably see this one again just to watch him do his thing.

10-10-78 The OPEC countries want to be able to refine oil and get heavily into the petrochemical business...areas dominated and jealously guarded by the big oil companies.

High-ranking officials of the oil cartel countries are making threatening noises: sell us the technology and stop opposing our entry into your markets or we will cut your access to our oil!

The fact that this conflict has become public is a measure of its seriousness, I think.

I'll watch the business journals for clues as to what the oil multinationals do about this threat. I don't think OPEC is bluffing.

But oil refining, and the petrochemical business---plastics of all kinds...anything made from distillates of oil and chemicals---is probably the core of the Rockefeller establishment's power. This desire by the Saudis and Kuwait, Iran...etc. to move into that high-profit segment of manufacturing is a deadly

threat to the status quo, both in America and in Europe.

I find it hilarious that the Church should find it necessary or advantageous to let scientists assembled make tests on the Holy Shroud (purported to be Jesus Christ's burial cloth) to determine if it is authentic.

The battle between faith and science is finished---science is the winner.

In the media now Sen. Kennedy is getting lots of play for his committee hearings on Kennedy's plan for a comprehensive, compulsory national health-insurance program.

The country is being propagandized, prepared, lured. Like the segment last night on CBS which showed edited testimony by a woman from Canada who said all her medical services were free, including top specialists... No air time was given to the tax rate required to support this structure.

The program will be sold by the old Liberal/Statist method of pretending the people will be getting something for nothing. The costs are always fudged or ignored.

Ralph Nader is attacking Energy Secretary Schlesinger, saying the man is a tool of the energy producers---oil and gas corporations. Nader is calling on Carter to get rid of Schlesinger.

Ho-ho. Who picked Schlesinger to be Energy Czar? Carter, of course, who is himself a tool of the oil and gas corporations. Nader knows all this. He's playing media games. He needs national notice every few months to keep his name in the minds of people as THE consumer advocate, and for ego-boosting, too.

It's a jungle out there.



10-11-78 Abortion. What a problem! What to do about it? How do you balance the rights of the individual pregnant woman against the rights of the individual human life she carries in her womb?

There is the theoretical, idealistic argument that once pregnant, the woman must carry the fetus to full term, because all human life is precious and any killing of human life for the convenience of person, family or state is both immoral and illegal.

The pragmatic, realistic argument is that moralities and legalities cut no ice with a large percentage of women and that for overriding personal reasons they will get rid of their pregnancy one way or another, safely or not, and society has to take that into account and like it or not, accommodate it.

The Supreme Court has compromised with the three-month rule: Somehow human life only becomes human and deserving of protection after 12 weeks of development. So it is legal to kill human life up to 12 weeks of its existence, but illegal thereafter.

Is there a solution to this problem?

Nope. There will always be women who become pregnant against their will or through ignorance and who cannot physically carry to term. And there will always be a few whose babies will turn out to be monsters or idiots due to medication wrongly taken or other factors.

There will always be a need for strictly limited abortions.

Part of the problem is a schizophrenia on the part of society: we say abortion is evil---and contraception is evil. We are largely still into puritanism and see intercourse as evil (outside of marriage) and want the wrong-doers punished by forcing them to give birth to unwanted, "illegitimate" children, and want that stigma to stick.

I feel we should tell kids all about sex in grammar school and high school, tell them that intercourse should be reserved for marriage and tout them onto the joys of oral, manual, and mechanical sexual pleasures.

And at the same time require pregnancies to be uninterrupted. The babies could be kept or given to childless couples or raised in foster homes.

But above all, intercourse before marriage should be a society-wide no-no because of the dangers inherent in the pill and because of the long-term inconveniences and life-warping that a pregnancy and birth and child mean to a young woman.

Young men should be punished for cooperating or for forcing intercourse. If a man feels he must

have intercourse, licensed prostitutes would be available; women, highly paid, who are willing to be on the pill and willing to do the job.

This prescription for our sexual ills will not be followed, of course. And even if it were, there is no preventing the stupid, careless, self-destructive, self-punishers, and criminal types from doing what they do. They will always be with us. I would simply make them pay, in money or in work, for the costs they impose on others.

The greatest sticking point in my plan for sane sex and abortion is encouraging oral, manual and mechanical sex practices in children and teen-agers....in fact among unmarrieds.

The puritanism that condemns both intercourse and contraception also loathes mouth lovemaking and self-gratification. ANY sexual pleasure is ugly to that mentality.

The anti-sexual forces still want children and teen-agers to be non-sexual or chaste.

No way. The pleasure is there to enjoy and they will enjoy themselves. The only question is how they do it and the consequences of their doing it. They should be encouraged to enjoy any kind of non-intercourse sexual pleasure. And intercourse should be treated with scorn---a kind of moral felony---unless children are wanted, and the couple are married.

Sexual training films should be shown. "This is a clitoris. There are many ways to stimulate this wonderful little pleasure organ...."

But of course this country will go its curious schizophrenic way and that's the whole of it. Fundamental changes in attitudes on basics like sex, money, death, marriage...may be largely instinctually impossible. I hope not, though.

The current Senate-House tax-cut situation is a circus and I won't comment on it until Congress actually passes their final, agreed-upon tax cut bill.

On the personal life-style of REG: I'm in the process of fixing up the house---painting, paneling, etc., and getting the freehold in shape for the depression I see coming (probably it will "surface" in 1979-80). I need to have the fireplace chimney cleaned professionally, and have it repaired---some of the top bricks are loose or about to come loose. I think I'd like it lowered the limit consistent with city fire/building codes, to make

it easier for me to get at and clean in the future. Now it towers into the sky far beyond my nerve-level. Heights and wobbly (though safe) ladders scare me shitless.

I want a "lean-to" greenhouse against the garage, a food drier (freezers for food storage are both expensive to buy and expensive to operate), and a few more tools.

At present I'm overworked with SFR, REG, the GALAXY column, and self-publishing my novels before sending them around to the big commercial publishers. I don't have the time I need for the gardens, for some kind of art hobby, for pure lazing around.

But I figure in two years GALAXY will be gone, SFR may be quarterly again, and REG may be phased out, and my self-published novels may not have enough buyers to make them viable. In a depression people cut way back on luxuries.

If a depression doesn't materialize in two or at most three years I'll be proven wrong on my most basic Reality-view and won't be worth listening to. I won't even listen to myself, in that event.

I note that the federal housing statisticians are bleeding for the poor middle-class now. They have only a little bit of federal money to use to subsidize housing for those people and families who make around \$15,000 per year, and, weeping crocodile tears, these bureaucrats want to help those unfortunates whose housing costs are too high.

What they really want is to subsidize 99% of the housing in the country...because once hooked, once dependent on that federal money, the people thus "helped" will be subject to various and sundry housing rules and regulations. One more subtle step to slavery.

Of course the topline motive is to enlarge the housing bureaucracy and give certain federal fiefdoms more employees, more money, more importance. The bottomline subconscious motivation is to get ever more people under the thumb.



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