

Surprise Attack Impossible

Following the disclosure by President Eisenhower and Air Chief of Staff Nathan Twining that the air-borne alerts are no longer being flown by the Strategic Air Command comes the statement by Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy that he and the Joint Chiefs of Staff believe it is impossible for Russia to make a surprise attack on the United States.

Mr. McElroy told a news conference that the preparations and military movements that would be required for an attack with conventional arms would be observable and known long before the attack would be possible and that a surprise attack with missiles is almost impossible.

These statements will ease the fears of those who have confidence in Mr. McElroy's knowledge of our defense capacity and in the intelligence agencies of our armed forces and other branches of the government. They would indicate a far greater capability in the field of early warning methods than we are led to believe by other authorities, who take a somewhat different view of our detection and defense arms.

A vast improvement must have been wrought in our intelligence system since the Hungarian and Suez situations in which our government expressed complete surprise and was apparently paralyzed in the first few days because of lack of information.

If we could not know then what even our own allies were going to do, it was indeed difficult to know what our opponents had in mind.

Secretary McElroy, who has a deeper knowledge of our defense posture than those statesmen who told us almost two decades ago that Pearl Harbor was an impregnable bastion of the Pacific, and who went into hiding immediately after Dec. 7, 1941. We hope he knows better than the members of Congress who voted down the proposal to fortify the island of Guam in 1939.

The defense secretary also told his press conference that he does not believe a limited war will develop out of the Berlin contretemps at present and he implied that he believed a major war over Berlin to be improbable, too. This is encouraging, because nearly everybody else with the exception of President Eisenhower believes that Berlin is a very promising trigger for a war of some sort and Secretary of State Dulles believed it so thoroughly that he made a special trip to Europe under the shadow of severe consequences to his own health in order to shore up Western preparedness for the new crisis.

We hope Mr. McElroy is speaking of these matters from a knowledge of facts and a clear estimate of our defensive posture and not merely following a policy line from a sense of loyalty.

Four-Year College Urged for Kern

Recognizing the great need for higher educational opportunities in Kern County and the substantial support that is available for the plan here, the three members of the state Legislature from Kern County have introduced a resolution calling for a special study of Kern educational needs and the possibility of the establishment of a four-year college here.

State Senator Walter Stiern, Assemblywoman Dorothy Donahoe and Assemblyman John C. Williamson submitted the resolution, which recommends that such a study be carried on in Kern County by the liaison committee of the State Board of Education and the regents of the University of California, and the results of the study be submitted at the 1960 regular session of the Legislature.

The resolution by Sen. Stiern, Assemblywoman Donahoe and Assemblyman Williamson points out that Kern County young people now must travel long distances if they wish to attend a college or university and the demand for a four-year institution here is backed up by adequate population from which students would be drawn. The nearest four-year institution is Fresno State College, which has established classes here for upper division work and the enrollment in these classes has been surprisingly high.

The Kern legislators cite figures showing the prospects for increasing population growth and the increasing number of students seeking college training. Already, a special committee of the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce has begun a study of the four-year college proposal here and the reaction is reported to be extremely favorable.

The Kern legislators have also asked that a master plan for higher education be developed for California not later than 1961 for consideration by the Legislature. The study on the plan would be aimed at solution of the problems caused by increasing enrollment in the next 10 years and would include the development, expansion and integration of the facilities, curriculum and standards of higher education in the junior colleges, the state colleges, the universities and other institutions of higher learning in the state. This is a project that is essential for the establishment of high standards and proper facilities for a growing student population.

Approval of the resolutions introduced by the Kern County legislators will be of great benefit to the people here in affording an opportunity to establish better educational facilities and chances to obtain a college education in this area. The project should receive generous support.

Random Notes on the Day's News

News that the Kern County Museum and Kern County Historical Society will soon dedicate a marker in honor of Jedediah Smith brings to mind the remarkable career of this sturdy pioneer who passed this way in 1827 on one of his journeys to the Far West in the vanguard of the fur trade. For a man who was so eminently the pioneer, Smith has been neglected somewhat by historians, although there have been a few good books written about him.

Smith's personal life was above reproach and he was no swashbuckling adventurer who sought either notoriety or ill-gotten gains; as one writer says, he "stalks across the pages of history without bravado, complaint or complicity." He had no ambitious wife nor gift of self-dramatization, yet he accomplished probably as much or more than any other man to establish American prestige in the West.

He was the pathfinder of the southern and central routes to the Pacific, the Oregon Trail and the crossing of the Sierra Nevada. It is also written that he "single-handed and without government assistance carried on his explorations, met and matched the wit and business acumen of the Hudson's Bay Company and for his time, knew the geography, the economy and the

military strength and weakness of California more accurately and intimately than any other American."

This is the man who will be honored by the dedication of a marker along the trail he followed more than a century and a quarter ago in the great Central Valley. It is also good to know that the Jedediah Smith Society is active in acquiring and publishing more information about this sturdy pioneer.

The help of naval authorities and others is being sought to readjust land boundaries in the desert near Death Valley so that the final leg of the Cross-Country Highway can be established. The Cross-Country Highway Association has endorsed the selection of the Layton Canyon-Wingate Pass route as the final California link in the highway, and although plans for this link have been considered for more than a decade, the obstacle has been a tract of land held by the navy in its gunnery range.

Present plans are to move the range southward and clear the way for the highway and the case for the project is being pressed before Congress and naval authorities by Rep. Harlan Hagen, who has taken a keen interest in the matter and pledged his help.

His Ultimate Summit



The Reading Hour

A Century of History

By LOUISE PARKS BANES

In the new volume of his magnificent Pageant of England, Thomas B. Costain covers one of the greatest centuries in the advance of civilization. "The Three Edwards" begins with the gallant, but hopeless effort made at crusading by Prince Edward Plantagenet; an effort which gave us one of the most romantic tales in all history, the story of the poisoned wound and Queen Eleanor's courage. Edward came home from the Crusade to assume the throne and began one of the great eras in English life. He has well been called the English Justinian; his first task was the reform and codification of the laws of the realm.

In a fascinating chapter we see the Plantagenets at home at Windsor, and their happy life amid a large family of delicate sons and radiant daughters. During this reign the fork was introduced and buttons first appeared on clothing. It is interesting to note that the royal library consisted of three volumes: a book of ancient chronicles, almost certainly in Latin; a Latin work on agriculture; and a book of tables in French, sparse fare for a queen who had grown up in the scholarly court of a Alfonso of Castile. Eleanor was a much beloved queen, and when she died, Edward built the lovely Ely, crosses wherever her body rested on its way to the tomb. For three hundred years wax candles burned without dimming above the tomb in Westminster Abbey.

Edward II was not a satisfactory prince, nor was he a satisfactory king. His choice of both wife and friends was unfortunate, and he was the most frivolous of all the Plantagenets. The reign of this king, unloved to rule, was marked by revolts, constant wars with Scotland, and foreign invasion. He left England in chaos, but his son, Edward III, came to the throne like a breath of fresh air.

For four years he was a veritable Hamlet, after his father's murder and during the illegal rule of his mother as regent, but he did no mooning on the battlefields. Once he assumed power, he moved swiftly to right the wrongs of the previous reign. Under him, trade and commerce first became important in English life and education began to flourish. The great colleges were founded, and great merchant princes arose to point the way to the future.

Edward III established the Order of the Garter and the Black Prince won the great victory of Crecy, as the Middle Ages were ending in a blaze of glory. Brilliant portraits of the men and women of the time supplement those of the three kings; romantic William Wallace, fighting for Scottish freedom; Sir John de Haskewood and his famous White Company; Sir John Chandoe, singing with the minstrels on the deck of an English warship within sight of a threatening Spanish fleet; Philippa pleading for the lives of the burghers of Galais. Above all are the three kings, so different, and their memorable queens, Eleanor, Isabella and Philippa.

It was in the reign of Edward III that English became the accepted language of the kingdom and English literature was born. It was during this century that growth and progress were made in every field; Edward I came to the throne of a medieval kingdom, Edward III left a modern throne. This is a brilliant book, maintaining the high standards set by Mr. Costain's earlier volumes, "The Conquerors" and "The Magnificent Century." Pomp and pageantry, wars and peace, great rulers and ordinary men and women, all are woven into a great tapestry of the century which saw the birth of the modern age. All of these titles may be borrowed through any branch of the Kern County Free Library.

Answers to Questions

Q. Why do so many people die without leaving a will?—S.C.

A. A booklet published by a leading insurance company says that one of the major reasons is that people fail to realize the consequences of not leaving a will. With no will, state laws govern the distribution of an estate, and their handling of it may not be in accord with the wishes of the deceased. Other reasons listed were procrastination, avoidance of the thought of death, false modesty (thinking the estate is too small to bother with), and misconceptions about high attorney's fees involved in drawing up a will.

Q. What percentage of U.S. homes are heated by oil?—D.K.

A. In 1957, oil supplied 44 per cent of the nation's home heating requirements, with gas and coal supplying 33 and 23 per cent respectively. The use of gas for heating, however, has made great progress in the last decade (up from 11 per cent in 1947), and by 1967 it is expected that gas and oil will each supply about 48 per cent of the nation's home heating requirements, with coal providing the other 4 or 5 per cent.

Q. Did Rudolph Schullberg write the novel "Waterfront" before or after he wrote the movie "On the Waterfront"?—M.L.

A. Mr. Schullberg wrote the screen play first, thus reversing the usual novel-to-movie routine. The film was produced in 1954 and Mr. Schullberg was voted an Academy Award for his script. The book, published the following year, was a best seller and won a Christopher Award.

Q. At what age does a cat get its second set of teeth?—E.L.

A. The average age at which a kitten sheds its first set of teeth, and its second set comes in, is from four to six months.

Q. Do all fishes in their natural habitat make the same kind of sounds?—T.N.

A. No. Some detectors have proved that some fishes in the ocean may be said to cackle or yowl, others to wheeze, honk, bark, groan, or snore.

A reader can get the answer in any number of fact or writing. The Bakersfield Californian Information Bureau, 423 E. St., S. W. Washington, A. D. C. Please enclose four 14¢ cents for return postage.

From Files of The Californian

TEN YEARS AGO

The Californian, this date, 1949: Headlines: Odium, Plane Reach Goal; Flies 7,000 Miles Non-Stop; Millions Urged to Help Jobs. A bank has been urged for Greenfield.

Mrs. Frank Bennett is enrolled in a ceramics class. Ed Richardson is president of the Kiwanis Club.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

The Californian, this date, 1929: Headlines: Seize of Giant Loom Firm Links Seizure to Politics; Olson Rushes to Defense of Action. Bandits looted the Nile Theater last night.

Senora Beth Borton de Trevina has written a book. William Brannon Walker, Kernville pioneer, died this week.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

The Californian, this date, 1919: Headlines: Cement Trust Officers Face Jail; Federal Reserve System Ramped; Speculators Blamed by Warburg. Mrs. America Namer of Bakersfield has been named state president of the Amaranth Lodge.

Extensions are being made in telephone service here. A rabbit drive is being planned for the Arvin district.

FORTY YEARS AGO

The Californian, this date, 1879: Headlines: Ruches Refuse Allied Demand; U.S. Checks Huns at Bridgehead; Compulsory Military Service for Brits. The national forests are bringing a large income to the nation. New records are being ordered for the county library.

Standard will begin drilling in the Poso Creek section soon.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

The Californian, this date, 1829: Headlines: New Senate in Session; New President at His Desk; Car Jumps Track Into Saloon. Frank Keller Jr. will open a new livery stable here. Mrs. S. W. Woody, mother of County Auditor Woody, is dead. W. W. Vermer has purchased a new Buick "White Streak." The Monarch Oil Company is building large shops near Maricopa.

Today's Thought

I am the vine, ye are the branches; He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.—John 15:5.

Take any class of society, the highest or the lowest, and there is not an instance of one who trusted in the Lord and was confounded.—William Pennfeather.

SO THEY SAY

This is a man's world, but it's in the wife's name. This is not a battle of the sexes; we've already lost that. This is a holding operation.—Dr. Irvine H. Page, research director at Cleveland (Ohio) Clinic.

Television is unhealthy. TV is so unbalanced (with westerns) it's ridiculous. . . . But where are you going to put the westerns? If the public didn't like westerns they wouldn't be on the air.—TV director Bud Yorkin.

If a picture is a box office failure, they call it a message picture. If it turns out well, they call it a picture of content.—Producer Dore Schary.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

White House Probe Due

DREW PEARSON SAYS: Ike's White House budget will be probed; his White House personal spending blamed on influence of business friends; golfing cabinet carries lots of weight.

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Congressman Bill Dawson of Illinois, who acts as No. 1 congressional watchdog, has ordered the controller general to audit President Eisenhower's White House expenses.

Dawson is chairman of the House Government Operations Committee which guards against government extravagance, and is disturbed over the high cost of running the White House, particularly since the occupant has been crying for economy.

Ike is spending \$5,013,750 to operate the White House this fiscal year, more than double the \$2,467,000 ex-President Truman spent during his last and most expensive year. This includes such upkeep as servants, gardening, office staff, etc., and does not include the upkeep of helicopters, airplanes, two yachts, and the total budget for the Executive establishment.

On top of this doubling of the Truman budget, Ike is asking for a \$322,000 increase next year at the same time he is ordering everyone else to economize.

In a confidential letter to the controller general, Dawson called for a full accounting of Ike's bills. He intends to compare each item with what Truman and Roosevelt spent. The congressman from Chicago can't understand why Eisenhower, who entertains much less, should spend so much more to run the White House.

Note—Total Eisenhower budget for the Executive offices is now \$52,736,250, which includes the National Security Council, Budget Bureau, and other offices operating under the White House. Truman spent a total of \$8,703,000 on the Executive offices budget during his last year in office. Ike is asking \$31,880,000 for next year, this to include new civil and defense mobilization offices.

Reason for Ike Spending Democrats who have taken a look at Eisenhower's spending believe his own extravagance stems from (1) his army background when GI servants, cars and planes were always at his beck; and (2) his millionaire golfing partners who live in luxury but have been drumming home on the President that he must cut school, farm, and welfare spending.

Democrats also point to the fact that one Eisenhower intimate, George Humphrey of National Steel, has championed economy for most interests except his own. He called the St. Lawrence seaway a "socialist ditch" until the M. H. Hanna Co., which he formerly headed, purchased iron ore deposits in Labrador and needed the cheaper transportation provided by the seaway. As Ike's first secretary of the treasury, Humphrey reversed himself and

reversed himself and (Copyright, 1949, Ben Reynolds, Inc.)

He fought vigorously for the same seaway he had formerly denounced.

Humphrey also opposed fast tax write-offs for companies other than his own.

"They add to inflation and give favored companies an unfair advantage over competitors," he argued in 1954.

"But they weren't so bad when you got a \$115,000,000 tax write-off for your National Steel Co.," shot back Congressman Albert Thomas, Texas Democrat, "or when you got \$111,000,000 for your Canadian ore company. If these tax write-offs are so bad, why don't you repeal them?"

Other members of Ike's golfing Cabinet include William Robinson, head of Coca-Cola; Barry Lathead, president of Cluett, Peabody & Co.; and Clifford Roberts of Reynolds & Co. They built the 18-room, 7-bathroom "Mamie's Cabin" for the Eisenhower's at the Augusta Golf Club.

So it's hardly surprising, Democrats claim, that Ike's economic thinking has changed radically since 1952 when he jolted his GOP backers at the F Street Club by proposing that business should make no profit from defense contracts. He argued that a man's life is more important than corporate profits. If a life is asked to sacrifice his life in war, he said, it is only fair to ask a corporation to sacrifice its profits.

How different was the Eisenhower who remarked at his press conference last week: "We shouldn't be so prone, I think, to talk about and deny profits in our economy."

Dictator in Cotton

Dictator Franco's government in Spain is doing a land-office business in U.S. cotton which it gets free, then sells to Spaniards at double the American price.

This was revealed by Congressman Jamie Whitten of Mississippi in cross-examining agriculture department officials.

"My attention has been called to the fact that in Spain they are selling this cotton to their people for double the U.S. price," said the congressman from Mississippi where cotton is king.

Marvin McLain, an assistant secretary of agriculture, didn't know the answer but later admitted Whitten was right.

"Strenuous efforts have been made to get the Spanish government to change its practice of selling cotton to Spanish mills at a significantly higher price than the Spanish government pays us for it," McLain replied. "We have repeatedly remonstrated with the Spanish government. We have done this at the time of negotiation and have sent special messages to Spain. This and diplomatic pressure have been unavailing."

In brief, Secretary Benson's boys found that you can't argue with a dictator.

The Reader's Viewpoint

EDITOR'S NOTE—Letters should be limited to 125 words; must attack Bakersfield and persons, must not be abusive and must be signed. The Californian is not responsible for the contents of unsolicited letters and reserves the right to select and edit letters. Letters must bear an authentic address and signature, although these will be omitted if desired.

ART GALLERY

Editor The Californian:

After an absence of several years, we have returned to this area. There has been much development here, as in all of California.

We are very much impressed with your touch Cunningham Memorial Art Gallery. We know something of its development, from previous associations. It is a gem in a beautiful setting as art galleries go. It represents much work on the part of many—and tremendous work on the part of a few.

The city, the Bakersfield Art Association and others deserve much praise for this type of development means much to a city. The rewards are out of all proportions to its physical size and obvious qualities. These are giant steps for any community, and deserves the support of all.

C. HAFNER

PRAISE FOR LANE

Editor The Californian:

I was gratified to read recently of the new challenges offered to East Bakersfield High School students. My hat is off to Principal Irving Lane. The school should be proud of him. Other high school and grammar school principals should study his methods. Children should stop day dreaming and begin to study.

L. P. BURNETT

BUTCHERY

Editor The Californian:

All we read about these days is cruelty to newborn babies and small children. What is the matter when human beings are lower than the lowest animal?

MRS. COLIN STOKES

1906 18th St. Bakersfield, Calif.

THANKS

Editor The Californian:

Directors of the Catholic Welfare Bureau wish to express their sincere appreciation to you, and to members of your editorial staff, for the courteous and generous manner in which publicity in your newspaper was handled during the past year. We are particularly grateful for the news stories and pictures during our year-end annual campaign for funds.

Your generous allocation of space afforded us an opportunity of acquainting the general public with information regarding activities and services of the bureau.

Sincerely,

CHARLES ANSPACH,

Chairman, Board of Directors.

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