

THE PLAIN DEALER

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JFK at Yale

When a Harvard man goes to Yale, anything can happen, and something did when President Kennedy went there yesterday to receive an honorary degree and make a speech. What happened was that the President issued a challenge to business to discard old myths and the cliches of our forebears.

If the President will pardon the use of one of those cliches, it might be said that he extended to business the mailed fist in a velvet glove. If a contest were forced upon it, no administration could shrink from a response, he said, warning that "history does not suggest that American presidents are totally without resources in an argument forced upon them because of hostility in one section of society."

Then, drawing on the velvet glove, he said that his administration would not give way to general hostility toward business merely because there has been a temporary disagreement with one industry. This, of course, was a reference to the uproar which ensued when the government compelled the steel industry to rescind its price increases. And, to show that he did not harbor any ill will toward business, or the steel industry in particular, the President last night held a conference to discuss the balance of payments and gold problem with a number of business leaders, including Roger Blough, chairman of the board of the U.S. Steel Corp.

As for the myths which the President characterized as enemies of the truth, there is likely to be a debate over them for some time to come. He said it is not true that government deficits cause inflation, that the government has grown too big and out of proportion to the economy, and that confidence in government can be measured by the ups and downs of the stock market. Evidently, the President has been irritated by charges that the recent collapse of the stock market was a result of a loss of business confidence in the administration.

Our impression, after reading the text of the President's speech, is that he intends to carry on the spending and tax programs to which he is already committed, that he is determined to invoke government "guidelines" for the economy in the public interest, as he sees it, and that he is prepared to take on all comers if he is challenged.

Visiting Editors

Cleveland is the mecca this week for more than 600 editors of business publications who will be in session here through Friday as delegates to the 21st annual conference of the International Council of Industrial Editors.

These visitors are the people who direct the publication of house organs and similar journals which in this country alone number more than 6,000 and which have a combined circulation among employees, stockholders and customers of more than 150,000,000. They represent a growing and vital part of the public relations of business today, a symbol of progress in the art of disseminating information. We welcome them to what we are certain will be a fruitful meeting.

125 Years

The city of Bedford celebrates its 125th birthday anniversary this week and congratulations are in order for as fine a neighbor as one could have. Bedford has a proud history and a promising future and Cleveland wishes its fellow city well on both counts.

Laos? Still a Question

When a spokesman for the U.S. State Department appraised the agreement in Laos on a coalition cabinet as "encouraging" he just about hit it on the nose. His restraint is admirable, for it indicates a lack of enthusiasm for, or confidence in the deal that was worked out.

The effectiveness of the preliminary settlement depends on the actual degree of neutrality exhibited by the so-called neutral element surrounding Premier-designate Prince Souvanna Phouma.

Under the new arrangement, the neutralist premier will also be defense minister, giving him control of the army, and one of his close associates, Pheng Phongsavan, will be minister of the interior, in charge of the police. This puts much responsibility on the neutralist faction, since the future of the country depends largely on the administration of those two ministries. When the Communists got their hands on the police and the army in Eastern Europe those states eventually went Communist. It is to be hoped the neutralists in Laos will manage somehow to keep the Communies out of police and military affairs.

Transition in Atlanta

Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan's Pentecost Sunday message to his Catholic parishioners in the Atlanta diocese drew banner headlines in The Plain Dealer yesterday, and it was worth them, for the general order to start desegregation in Catholic schools marks a tremendous change. And the archbishop has many Cleveland ties, from high school, ordination and 20 years as a priest here.

But we hope that accomplishment of his school directive will need no further banner headlines; for if all goes as well as we hope, there will need to be only calm reportage on acceptance of this desegregation in the city which considers itself the cultural center of the South.

Little Rock with its tragic Faubian tumult took great space in the papers a few years ago because of the unneeded conflict over the first token public school integration; Atlanta last September rated only casual attention as it took the same sort of public school integration in stride. But Atlanta deserves the plaudits so far, and it will require a major space in our national social history when the permanent history of school integration is written.

Long preparations for peaceful compliance with the Supreme Court's rulings have been made by many Atlantans of all faiths, of course, and Archbishop Hallinan properly paid tribute to the "remarkable transition" last fall.

But he showed true courage, too, in providing for the first more-than-token change in Georgia and the first in the "Deep South" after Archbishop Rummel's recent decision for New Orleans Catholic schools.

For make no mistake about it, there are strong forces grimly opposed to school desegregation in the South, and some of this opposition lies among Catholics who do not understand or are unwilling to accept their church's traditional doctrines about the brotherhood of men.

Community's Great Loss

Felix S. Hales, chairman of the trustees of the Heights Christian Church, Shaker Heights, expressed the feelings of this newspaper as well as those of the congregation when he said, "In Dr. Parsons' death, not only the church but Shaker Heights and the whole community have suffered a great loss."

Dr. Waymon Parsons, pastor of Heights Christian Church, was killed in an auto accident near Columbus on Sunday, en route to a guest preaching assignment. Loss of any clear-headed, free-thinking religious leader is tragic; it is especially so when the man uses his talent and foresight, as did Dr. Parsons, for community betterment.

Dr. Parsons, 51, came to his church in Shaker Heights in 1944 and since that time made his mark not only as a spiritual leader of his congregation but also as a peacemaker and helping hand in many civic enterprises. He was associated with Red Cross, YMCA, Welfare Federation and Goodwill Industries. He was active in the Children's Service Bureau and he and Mrs. Parsons set an example by taking many needy children into their home. He had been president of the Cleveland Ministerial Association and had been a strong force for quiet, peaceful integration in the area.

He was the type of gentleman the community can ill afford to lose in this, or any other, time.

Camp Cheerful

The Society for Crippled Children each year holds an open house at its summer camp, Camp Cheerful, near Strongsville. It is the Society's way of demonstrating to its many supporters how part of their contributions are used to make life a little more pleasant for children who must live with crutches, artificial limbs, braces and wheelchairs.

Many service groups and industries have donated time, money and effort to build and maintain Camp Cheerful for the Society, a Health Fund Agency. Because of this camp for the handicapped, up to 1,200 crippled children can have two weeks of summer fun in the sun. This year's open house, next Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m., is an invitation to assess the value of the camp and its facilities and a friendly way of asking for substantial approval of the enterprise.

Nash of KSU

Kenneth Nash, attorney, mayor of Cleveland Heights, vice president of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, banker and general all-around civic leader, has been named by Kent State University as its outstanding alumnus for the year 1962. We can't think of a finer choice for such an impressive honor.



Breakfast Commentator - Lawrence

TARRYTOWN, N. Y.—Washington Irving led his readers into the Catskill Mountains from the banks of the Hudson, whence they are "seen away to the west of the river, swelling up to a noble height, and lording it over the surrounding country." From the west this "dismembered branch of the great Appalachian family" is approached from the high plateau of Central New York State, so that its three-to-four-thousand-foot peaks come into the traveler's sight more gradually, and one becomes aware of their impressive height only when the road has taken him into their deep glens or cloves, down which the highways wind precipitously to the Hudson valley.

The visitor from the west who wishes, as we did, to reach the country of Rip Van Winkle from Cooperstown, follows the Susquehanna down to Oneonta, where he turns east on Route 23. This carries him around the base of 3,200-foot Utsayantha Mountain to Prattsville, where he turns off on 23A and travels up the headwaters of the Schoharie into the Catskill Forest Preserve and over the crest of the divide, whence he drops down to Palenville, the traditional home of Irving's best remembered character. Nature has done her best to make this a route of scenic beauty, and here and there on the mountainsides there rise out of the forest great summer hostels, not unimpressive examples of man's architectural abilities. But the villages and hamlets along the way are not very pretty. Many of them, like Rip Van Winkle's modest domicile, are sadly time-worn and weather-beaten, and the traveler gains the impression that any number of the inhabitants share Rip's "insuperable aversion to all kinds of profitable labor." It requires only a bit of imagination to suspect that the heads of a number of these families have themselves been off in the mountains since the 1930s, enjoying a slumber in which they dream of a return to the good old days of the Noble Experiment.

WE OURSELVES were a bit disappointed, as we made our way in second gear down the gorge, that we did not come upon any sign pointing up a mountainside and reading, "Van Winkle Slept Here." But we did pass a rather nondescript roadhouse with a platform built at the edge of a precipice and bearing the legend, "Rip's Lookout." And if we heard no rumble of tennpins in the mountains, it being a fair day, we did note that Palenville, at the base of the mountains, had not neglected to erect a bowling alley. So we came down to Catskill on the Hudson with the happy knowledge that we had, after all these years, passed near the scene of Rip Van Winkle's long siesta.

We had been told that we could also visit the scene of the Headless Horseman of Irving's other famous tale, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," if we drove ten minutes from Catskill to the village of Leeds. This we could not bring ourselves to believe, for we had just reread the story, in which Irving said distinctly that, on the fateful night, Ichabod Crane "pursued his travel homeward, along the sides of the lofty hills which rise above Tarry Town." Tarrytown is a good 80 miles down the river from Catskill and we didn't intend to be duped by local pride.

BUT A CONFERENCE with a Washington Irving scholar at Tarrytown showed us that it was Irving himself who had fooled us. Sleepy Hollow is on the outskirts of Tarrytown, and the object of Ichabod's affection did live in Tarrytown. But the schoolteacher on whom Ichabod's character was modeled held forth, not at Leeds according to our scholar, but across the river at Kinderhook. So Irving combined the two widely separated localities into one in his tale.

We do not, however, feel cheated. We are not up to imagining an incident taking place at one time at places near a hundred miles apart, and so it is to Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow that we shall direct our attention on the morrow.

Kennedy and the Businessmen

WASHINGTON — Over the weekend, the White House was in a continuous bustle of preparation for the speech the President made when he received an honorary degree at the Yale commencement yesterday.

The professor-ambassador, J. Kenneth Galbraith, prepared a draft which was judged effective but too sharp in tone. The more usual all-contributors, headed by Theodore Sorensen, worked around the clock, as is their custom on these occasions. As is also customary, messengers dashed in and out almost hourly, bearing data and advice, suggestions and criticisms, from the Treasury, the Council of Economic Advisers, and other relevant agencies.

The President himself, meanwhile, was in close, unremitting charge of the whole far-spreading effort—which is why his major speeches, although the results of teamwork, are also very much Kennedy's own speeches in a quite literal sense. Nor was all this earnest bustle surprising; for the President had early decided to use the Yale rostrum for a particularly significant contribution to his uncomfortable dialogue with the American business community.

The mood and the equipment the President brings to this dialogue have now become exceedingly important. As to

the mood, in the aftermath of the steel crisis and the Stock Exchange panic, the President is plainly exasperated. He is not yet fighting mad, but he is both impatient and mocking.

HOW, HE ASKS, can sane businessmen be so alarmed and angered because they have been deprived of the painful privilege of paying \$6 a ton more for the steel they all use? What makes his "government intervention" so much more wicked in principle than the equally governmental steel-intervention by Vice President Richard M. Nixon?

That time, he points out, there was a long and crippling strike, a large wage rise, and no price rise by emphatic government request. This time, there was no strike, a very moderate wage rise, and no price rise, again by government request, though a request to be sure that was even more sternly proffered.

To this he adds a perfect litany of his own actions designed to be helpful and encouraging to business. The preparation of a new depreciation schedule by the Internal Revenue authorities; the investment credit proposal; the planned across-the-board tax cut—the list was heard at his last press conference. Why, he inquires in effect, should all these things of substance go for nothing, just because he was somewhat harsh with the hapless Roger Blough for the sake of the American economy as a whole and American business in particular?

Thus it must be said that if the business community is feeling ill-used, so is the President. But for the long run, this Presidential sense of being ill-used is clearly less meaningful than the equipment this formidable man is gathering together—which will be very useful in the fight with business if business chooses to pick a fight with him.

IN THE LAST 12 months, especially, President Kennedy has given an astonishing amount of time and energy to detailed exploration of every kind of economic problem, with special emphasis on testing the factual underpinnings of the common cliches of economic debate. There is an odd contrast here, in truth. Perforce, foreign policy is the President's main preoccupation; but he has not given quite the same kind of study to foreign policy matters that he has given and is even increasingly giving to economic matters. He does not try, for instance, to read the all-important Soviet signs and portents himself. He leaves that task, so to say, to the official astrologers. But he is absorbed by such abstruse but basic questions as the reasons for the difference in the European and American rates of economic growth; the difference between the government-business relationship in this country and in France or West Germany; the comparison between American budgetary practices and those used abroad, and so on and on. He not only demands a constant

Other Side - Readers' Opinions

Editor Plain Dealer—Sir: I think The Plain Dealer, which numbers among its readers many employees of the Lewis Research Center of NASA, should reexamine its arguments in opposition to HR10480 which proposes to overhaul the Civil Service pay structure.

The scientists, engineers, administrators, etc. of NASA have pay scales in the range of \$6,000 to \$16,500 with a very few top administrators to \$23,000. These men are charged with the awesome responsibility of planning and carrying out the space research program of the United States. The success of their collective efforts has recently been culminated by the three orbital trips of Glenn and Carpenter.

Now let's compare these with the teaching profession which everyone has been saying for years is underpaid. A beginning teacher in Cleveland is paid about \$550-575 per month of employment, which is equivalent to \$500-525 for the beginning engineer at NASA. At the other extreme, this morning's paper tells of the suburban school superintendent whose salary was increased to \$23,500 with annual raises of \$1,000 for each of the next four years. This is in excess of the salary paid to the top administrator of NASA by several thousands of dollars. And do you believe that Dr. T. Keith Glennan took a cut in pay to return to Case Institute as president? I think investigation will show differently.

A similar comparison with industry will show a decided penalty for the engineer or scientist who works for the federal government. Many key men are continually leaving government employment for private industry at increases in salary from 30%-100%. Replacements are hard to find at any but the beginning level.

JAMES C. LAURENCE 23216 West Road, Cleveland 38.

Blame AMA! Editor Plain Dealer—Sir: Several months ago, I was confused as to the causes of certain misfortunes besetting our society. However, the letters recently printed in The Plain Dealer have resolved my doubts and have crystallized the irrefutable ultimate answer. It is so simple that I am embarrassed to have overlooked the solution. (My pen trembles with the depth of insight and understanding about to be revealed!) Thanks to your letter writers, I take great pride in announcing that the sole cause of inflation, depression, high prices, low wages, sickness, old weather, cold weather, old age, and the crane controversy is the AMA.

Now is the time to act. Arouse the apathetic. Ban "Dr. Kildare" from TV. Get in the social whirl and be the first in your neighborhood to hold a realistic AMA pin-sticking party. Gen-

Editor Plain Dealer—Sir: It pains this mother-of-five to note the publicity given in the June 1 edition (Page 17) of your paper to a certain Superior Court judge's upholding a citizen's right to swear in public.

I, as a mother, feel personally "slapped in the face" at the printing of this decision, as well as at the reference to the use of foul language by U.S. presidents. Parents spend years trying to teach their children, among other things, the difference between good, healthy, correct self-expression as opposed to filthy, lazy swearing.

If that so-called judge had the youth of America in mind, he would not have shown such poor taste in his decision and references. MRS. JEANNE C. KONOLD 5365 Burns Road, North Olmsted.

Needed: A Lincoln Editor Plain Dealer—Sir: If there ever was a time in the history of our country when we needed a man with the stature of Abraham Lincoln it is today—a humble man but one dedicated to love of God and country, a man firm in his convictions. Oh yes, we have dedicated men in our government today, but they're dedicated to the wrong things.

I am sure Mr. Lincoln would recognize atheistic communism for what it really is and take the necessary action to destroy it. He would not permit the socialization of our beloved country, but would induce people to take pride in themselves and their country just as he did. I am sure he would ask Americans to do for themselves without resorting to government handouts. Times have changed drastically since Mr. Lincoln was President but the principles related thereto never change.

GEORGE W. FORQUER 70 Chevy Street, Ashville, O.

Revised Pledge Editor Plain Dealer—Sir: Believing as I do that we must keep up with the changes of our times, I submit for your consideration, a newly revised "Pledge to the Flag."

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States and to the Socialist democracy for which it stands, one nation divided into classes, with liberalism and injustice for all." OSCAR PADWA 10911 Windham Drive, Parma 30.

Joseph Alsop

inspired impressionist, acting on hunch. Instead, he will be armed, cap-a-pie, with hard facts and harsh figures to suit every occasion.

It is a point worth considering, especially as the last thing the President desires is clearly a feud with business. Although he does not parrot the conventional mottoes of the market-place, he is a conservative-minded man by any reasonable test, and what he wants is a cooperative relationship with business, rather than a feud. (Copyright, 1961, N.Y. Herald Trib. Inc.)

