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VIEWPOINT

COLLECTING DEBTS

The sad story of a woman who failed to make good a $200 debt and was then hounded for repayment while her husband learned he was dying of cancer was recounted to a committee of Congress earlier this year It was but one in a series of stories designed to prove that further federal regulation of bill collection agencies is needed Instances of collectors using deceit and unwarranted threats seemed abundant at the hearing

That was one side of the story When it came time for the bill collectors to testify though there were only a few of them, they suggested that Congress ought to be making laws against the deadbeats They pointed out that the failure of people to pay for those items they have obtained boosts the costs for all those who do make their payments on time It is a valid complaint Everyone pays for unpaid debts

With the federal government having done so much to insure a reasonable level of income for all Americans, it ought to leave the bill collection problems whatever they are, to state and local agencies and the courts There are enough laws which cover the subject already from those to insure payment by the debtor to those which protect the debtor against unwarranted threats It is not a subject which demands federal attention, the Norfolk Daily News said

SATISFACTION A REAL SHOT

A recent poll of educators sought to answer two simple questions What turns teachers on and what turns them off? The results are interesting, though not surprising, according to the Nebraska Education News

Of the respondents 98% cited their relationships with students as the greatest source of satisfaction Relationships with other teachers and freedom to select teaching methods scored almost as high Down the list, but still rated as a definite plus by 85% of the teachers was the general behavior of students

It's important to note that the teachers were not answering hypothetical questions They were reporting what they considered to be the most gratifying aspects of their present assignments

Those responding to the questionnaire were more divided as to the aspects of teaching that caused them dissatisfaction A majority of them agreed on a list of 10 major disadvantages But three of the five mentioned most often had to do with negative attitudes of the public toward education and educators The other most cited drawbacks were centered on management and lack of preparation time

A long and varied list of gripes attacked the system from many different angles but a connecting thread seemed to weave them together All were related to and seemingly aggravated by the public's detached attitude toward the continual battle that teachers must wage to make the system work

The study reinforces the conclusion reached by NSEA leaders that Public Relations must become a high priority of the Association Education News concluded

AS TIME GOES BY

Business saluted

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1937—

In a special section, the News-Press saluted area businesses and industries for their contributions in pictures and stories A total of 237 Otoe county eighth graders received diplomas in a ceremony at the Junior High with County Superintendent Charles Place serving as master of ceremonies County Agent A H DeLong, in outlining a plan to fight the worst grasshopper infestation in Otoe county's history, said a load of poisoned bran would arrive soon Nebraska City was the site of the 39th annual meeting of the Nebraska Bankers Association

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1952—

The National Production Administration approved the $300,000 American Meter Co. factory building to be erected in Nebraska City .State Highway Engineer Harold Aitken said the worst road he traveled over on a 3,500 mile jaunt was Highway 2 from Nebraska City to Lincoln Paul Bize of Nebraska City was elected president of the Hereford and Polled Hereford Breeders Association Myrl L Kunz of Talmage was vice-president Actor John Garfield died at the age of 39

TEN YEARS AGO
—1967—

New officers elected for the Nebraska City Education Association were Dave Malmberg, president, John Barton, vice-president, Mary Donna Yearsley, secretary, and Phyllis Milstead, treasurer Nora Billingsley, daughter of Mrs George Billingsley, was capped as a pinstripper at the Future Nurses dinner by Mrs Fred Wademan, R N, school nurse. An estimated 800 people from Nebraska and Iowa took time to tour Nebraska City Utilities in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the Nebraska City Utilities water system Dr H J Baker, Nebraska City veterinarian, was elected lieutenant governor at the Optimist district convention at Grand Island

Fifty years after his transatlantic flight, Charles Augustus Lindbergh remains the hero of the 20th century, and perhaps the archetypal hero of all time

Nothing that has happened since that epic event, neither the development of supersonic aircraft or landings on the moon, has so captured the imagination of the world and held it for so long Despite the passage of half a century, interest in this brave and in many ways enigmatic man is as great as it was when word was flashed of his safe landing in Paris on May 21, 1927

Others had flown the Atlantic before Lindbergh (though not alone, not nonstop and not in a single-engine landplane). The Wrights' first flight went virtually unnoticed and unbelieved for years Bleriot's crossing of the English Channel was, for its day, as spectacular a feat as Lindbergh's. Had Lindbergh not conquered the Atlantic, someone else would have eventually.

But Lindbergh was precisely the right man at the right place at the right time. The 33 and one-half hours it took him to fly from New York to Paris was just long enough for the entire world to be alerted and for people to follow his progress in their minds and hearts and to sit on the edge of their chairs as they awaited news of his sighting over the new medium of radio

Not only was history changed the moment the wheels of "The Spirit of St Louis" touched down at Le Bourget, but Lindbergh's life was never to be the same again. In the next decade came the tragedy of the kidnap-murder of his first child and his temporary fall from favor because of his opposition to American involvment in World War II, and always, the constant, constant notoriety.

Only in his later years did Lindbergh achieve a measure of tranquility as a private person, and only since his death in 1974 have we begun to appreciate his lifelong interest in fields other than aviation, such as conservation and the environment

"I never asked to be a hero," Lindbergh once told an interviewer. "I don't want to be a hero, and what's more, I never was a hero."

But he was.

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The Prayer For Today From

The Upper Room

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance." (Psalm 42 5)

PPAYER Dear Lord, forgive us for the weaknesses in our faith May we realize that You have a wonderful plan for each of our lives Help us to strengthen ourselves spiritually and always to have faith, just as our Savior, Jesus Christ, did. Amen

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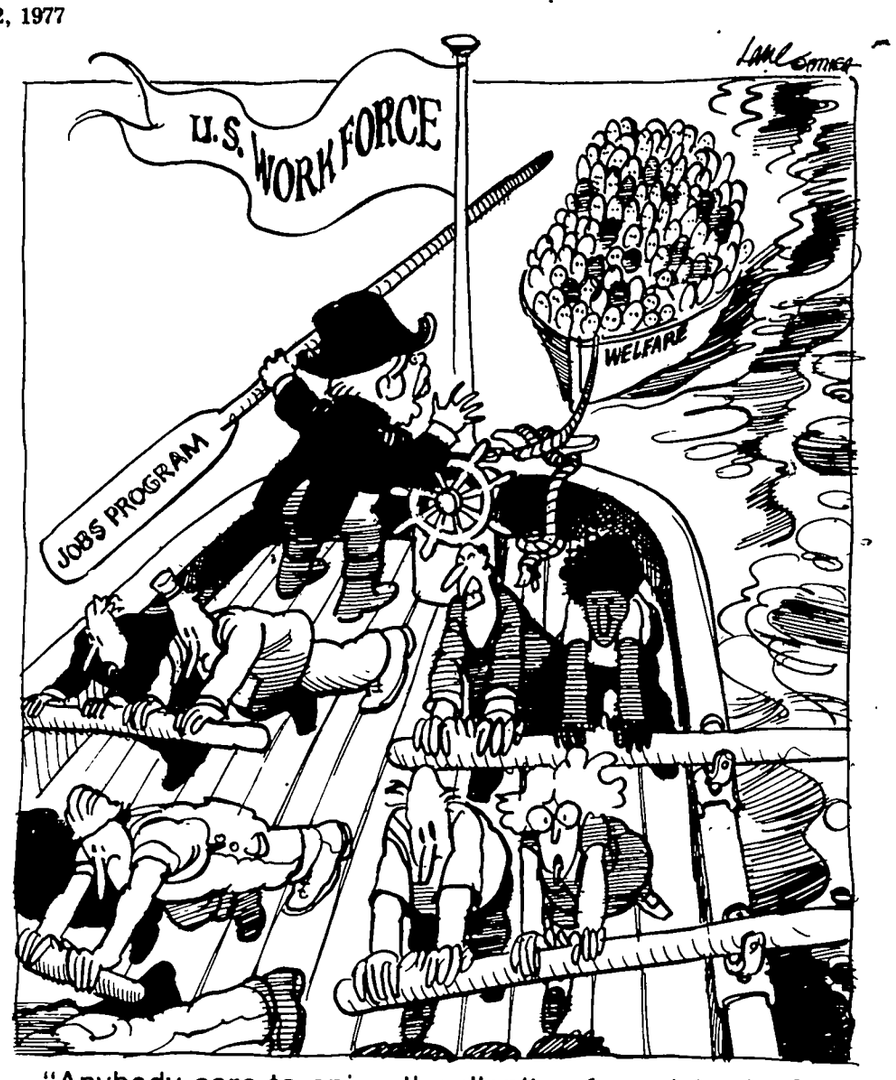
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"Anybody care to enjoy the dignity of participation?"



Martha Angle and Robert Walters

IN WASHINGTON

First class all the way

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — In his first televised address to the American people after being inaugurated, President Carter stressed his commitment to eliminate "expensive and unnecessary luxuries" because "government officials can't be sensitive to your problems if we are living like royalty in Washington "

In fact, Carter spent much of his first three months in office orchestrating a campaign of symbolic gestures designed to replace the image of the "imperial presidency" with a White House whose hallmarks are thrift, fiscal restraint and the common touch

But the previously unpublicized financial records of the two-and-a-half month transition period immediately prior to Carter's inauguration are replete with evidence of frequently lavish spending of taxpayer money on the part of the President and his staff

For instance, when the Carter organization sponsored a day-long foreign policy meeting at the Smithsonian Institution on Jan 12, only eight days before he was sworn into office, it contracted with one of Washington's most expensive caterers to provide food for the participants

That company, Ridgewell's Caterers, submitted bills totalling $3,800 But the General Services Administration (GSA), the federal agency in charge of disbursing a $2 million fund appropriated by Congress to pay for Carter transition expenses, refused to pay more than $1,700

GSA officials noted that the Carter staff could have engaged any of several Washington food service firms which provide catered meals at a far lower cost To pay the remaining $2,100 of the Ridgewell's bill, the Carter staff used money it had obtained earlier from GSA for other purposes

The President, who emphasized during a radio call-in program early in his term that he paid for his own family's food in the White House, used more than $2,000 in federal funds on another occasion to pay for a buffet dinner for members of his incoming cabinet and staff

That meal was served at the beginning of what undoubtedly was the single most extravagant event of the Carter transition A two-and-a-half day meeting of key officials of the incoming administration on Saint Simons Island, a posh resort just off the Georgia coast

The meeting opened on the evening of Dec 27 and ended two days later, on Dec 29 Those who had been selected as members of the Carter cabinet stayed in cottages and guest houses which cost $200 to $400 apiece for the brief stay

The bills from three different hotels totalled more than $16,000, while another $10,000 was spent to charter a commercial airliner to fly the President-elect's guests to the resort

The meeting was ostensibly a work session, but one news account at the close of the conference concluded "More than anything else, it was a social gathering on the grounds of the sprawling Musgrove Plantation and at The Cloister, a posh resort at nearby Sea Island "

Not all transition spending was that lavish The members of the Carter staff in charge of finances during that period note with pride that when some cabinet nominees submitted bills for first-class commercial air travel they were reimbursed only at the

In other cases, high-ranking officials of the incoming administration found that their requests for repayment of the cost of meals and other items were totally disallowed on the grounds that they were not appropriate

Although Carter was authorized to spend as much as $2 million in federal funds during the transition, his aides point out that the final figure probably will not exceed $1,650,000, and the remaining $350,000 will be returned to the Treasury Department

But Carter must meet a far more stringent standard of frugality because he has gone to such great lengths in recent months to depict himself as a humble penny-pincher who carries his own luggage and worries about the public's money He may not be a profligate spender, but the records show he's not much of a tightwad either



Don Oakley

COMMENTARY

Lindbergh: the right man



Ivan D.E. Beaumont

THE BUCK ENDS HERE

Virg had the knack

V.I.P. advice —

When Mr and Mrs Stephen Harvey purchased the Pitstick Studio, Virg took Steve aside to train him like the old "pro" in handling children and pictures.

On one such occasion, a little fella was giving his mother fits squirming and wiggling. Virg elbowed attention from Steve, then turned to the mother and suggested she leave the room. "It might help," he explained.

A few moments later the child came out of the room, the picture job completed.

The mother and child left the studio smiling and left behind a puzzled Mrs Harvey and a matter-of-fact Helen Pitstick.

Mrs Harvey turned to her husband and asked what he and Virg did to the child to get him to behave

Steve's face lit up "Oh, nothing," he explained "Virg just walked up to the little guy and told him to sit still or — I'll knock your block off!"

+ + +

Our friend, Elmer —

Elmer Kasbohm farmed for many years in this area. This was his home and he wasn't about to leave it during the winter months for a warmer climate

Elmer and Helen retired a number of years ago and they enjoyed going places together, meeting people and having a good time.

One winter evening, we sat next to the Kasbohms at a dinner party and enjoyed idle chat It was bitter cold that night and the steps were icy

"Elmer," we suggested, "why don't you take Helen and go to Arizona or Florida during the cold winter months?"

He answered (with expletives)

"Too many old people in those places "

Elmer is in that far away land now and he's missed by his family and friends, but we'll bet he found his way to be next to "younger" people

+ + +

New industry —

The announcement made the past week of the pet food plant to open at Morton House Kitchens, Inc, was welcomed in the community and an accomplishment on the part of Ray Ott, general manager, and others associated with the Lipton company

The new industry announcement also came at the most opportune time — during Salute to Industry Week sponsored by businesses in Nebraska City They couldn't have asked for a nicer present

Business people have pointed out for some time the importance of recognizing what we have and the new pet food plant is a good example.

Ray will be retiring soon after 50 years with Morton House Kitchens, the former Nebraska City canning company. He will step down with a great deal of inner satisfaction He left something behind — growth and development.

+ + +

Va-r-o-o-m! —

The Rev. Thomas Ozanne stopped in the other evening on his motorcycle on an invitation to go riding.

"Where we going?" asked the assistant pastor at St Mary's Catholic church.

"Oh, I dunno," I replied. "We might run over to Hamburg, or Sidney then buzz through Waubonsie park Whattya think?"

"Sounds fine with me, but it'll be dark by the time we get to the park so we won't have any view "

"Yup, you're right How about a cuppa coffee?"

"Fine Lead on "

We buzzed across the river bridge and headed east on Iowa No. 2.

"By the way," the priest shouted over the noise of the engines, "where's this coffee stop?"

"Rock Port," I answered.

"Oh.....oh!"

The coffee at Trail's End was piping hot. We visited for a few minutes, snacked and then mounted the bikes.

"One more stop before we call it quits," I suggested.

"Okay," the priest said "What is it this time?"

"Chocolate chip cookies and milk when we get home "

"Fine," he answered "Just one cookie."

Later that evening we sat around the table, visited and enjoyed the cookies sweetened with a bit of sour cream chocolate cake.

Father Tom got up to leave "Stop in again, Father," I invited "We'll go on another ride "

"Not for awhile," he confessed as he patted his stomach "I've got to get rid of this first "

And away he went into the night on his morotcycle



HEALTH

Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

Psoriasis isn't rare

By Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

DEAR DR. LAMB — Please send me some information on psoriasis My doctor said I have it but didn't give me any information about it How does it act, what to expect and how to cope with the situation? Will a person always have it once it has gotten a hold? The itching is rough on the skin

DEAR READER — Psoriasis is an ancient disease and has been known since Biblical times You may be surprised to know that from two to five out of a hundred people have psoriasis In the vast majority of these, though, the disease is very mild In a lesser number it can cause severe skin changes which are distressing to the patient and sometimes disturbing to the body's function

The cause of psoriasis is not known It is related to a defective gene in the cells and it does have inherited characteristics Because some patients have no family members with the disease this concept is sometimes challenged but it occurs at different ages — from infancy to old age — and it may be so mild as to have been unrecognized

The lesion itself is an overproduction of skin cells The excess cells pile up as a silver gray scab-like surface over a red and blotchy lesion These lesions are called plaques and may be very small or quite large They commonly occur on the knees, elbows and scalp but they can occur anywhere on the body

The silver scales slough off and when the scalp is involved they may be mistaken for dandruff Not only that, the oily scalp of seborrheic dermatitis may be followed by psoriasis

The disease may disappear and then reoccur — perhaps in a different location So you may not have to tolerate it forever The itching you complain of affects some patients but not all.

The disease is a social problem and some people are so distressed by their appearance, particularly if it cannot be hidden, that they become virtual recluses It helps to talk to someone and you may wish to write to the National Psoriasis Foundation, Suite 250, 6415 S W Canyon Court, Portland, Oregon 97221 The foundation provides information on psoriasis and stimulates research and public awareness of the problem

There are many treatments for psoriasis Some are rather old, using coal tar and ultraviolet light Newer approaches include anti-cancer agents which are quite toxic to the human body These are reserved for severe intractable cases, sometimes with complications Hormones the corticosteroid agents, are used and local application is sometimes advocated for relief

Treatment is so controversial that no definite statements can really be made that would apply to all cases Anyone with psoriasis should be seen by a dermatologist to get on the proper form of treatment

Nervous tension seems to aggravate the condition Any injury to the skin may permit the onset of a psoriatic lesion at that spot Sunlight may help but a sunburn may cause an outbreak of psoriasis

Stick with your doctor's program and remember that it may go away and in any case you are not alone with your problem

Readers who want information on the skin may send 50 cents with a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope for The Health Letter number 7-10, Your Skin Sun, Aging, Spots and Cancer Send your request to Dr Lamb in care of this newspaper, P O Box 1551, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN

Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, May 22, the 142nd day of 1977 There are 223 days left in the year

Today's highlight in history:

On this date in 1819, the first steamship to cross the Atlantic, the SS Savannah, set out from Savannah, Ga for Liverpool, England .

On this date

In 1802, Martha Washington died

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was put on trial for treason in Richmond, Va He was acquitted the following August

In 1813, German composer Richard Wagner was born in Leipzig

In 1868, the first train robbery in the United States was staged near Seymour, Ind

In 1918, in World War I, German planes raided Paris

In 1945, the Truman Doctrine to contain Communism went into effect as Congress appropriated $400 million for aid to Greece and Turkey

Ten years ago A department store fire in Brussels, Belgium took 322 lives

Today's birthday Actor Sir Laurence Olivier is 70 years old.

Thought for today: Debt is a bottomless sea — Thomas Carlyle, Scottish writer, 1795-1881

News in Brief

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government will look at keeping saccharin-sweetened diet soft drinks on the market for diabetics, but admits the chances are slim FDA commissioner Donald Kennedy clearly was impressed by the parade of diabetics, parents of diabetics and doctors who told two days of hearings that ended Thursday of the plight of diabetics under the FDA's saccharin ban, which will take effect in July.

Berry's World



"I've just learned that MY WIFE traded me for an undisclosed amount of cash and a pla er to t named later!"