

The Milk Thickens . . .

The trucking lobby is said to be powerful in the Nebraska Legislature, but consider France where the liquor lobby is so powerful that it at one time persuaded the government to buy a year's liquor supply for 20 per cent more than the regular sales price. There is one wine shop in France for every 64 persons.

Milk-drinking former Premier Mendes-France is said to have been ejected from office because of his opposition to the consumption of alcoholic beverages. He favored the drinking of milk which is admittedly a poor substitute for wine—especially in France where the milk is thin, poor tasting and expensive. And so Mendes-France soon went the way of all French premiers.

Now, the French government is again treading on shaky ground. They are now encouraging the dairy industry to improve their product and fruit juice manufacturers, non-fermented fruit juice, that is, are also being given a boost.

Including babes in arms and octogenarians, the average consumption of pure alcohol in France is currently running at 33 quarts per year.

Oh yes, the French people are finally admitting that alcoholism is a problem in their country.

War And Losers . . .

Val Peterson said Monday that civil defense is the nation's device for minimizing the effects of atomic attack. He also said that any air attack from an unfriendly power would be successful enough in terms of the destruction accomplished.

It is becoming more and more apparent that no winners will emerge from any future war—only losers. When war was in a relatively infantile state the Duke of Wellington remarked, "Nothing except a battle lost can be half so melancholy as a battle won."

Now, 140 years later, another Englishman has expressed hope for the survival of mankind. Winston Churchill has stated that perhaps peace can be achieved through a process of "mutual terror" with both ideologies realizing that mutual annihilation is the only sure result of nuclear war.

Civil defense is the important cog in a vast wheel of what may or may not be survival of the nation. How successful evacuation of cities or digging of deep holes in the ground will be when the real thing comes is not known and is not likely to be known until time of crisis.

Unprecedented Role . . .

The leader of 19 million people of Southeast Asia arrived in the United States Wednesday for an extended visit.

U Nu, prime minister of Burma, is basically pro-Western, but he is also an Asian leader and does not see the United States as the protector of the world as many Americans believe their country to be.

In a speech in 1954, he said, "We see America as a nation of great men and women who are capable of making this a better world." Then, a few sentences later, he went on to say, "We can also see them playing the unprecedented role of benefactors showering the needy world with billions worth of free gifts when most countries are indulging in receiving instead of giving. I am holding no brief for America, nor have I an axe to grind. As you know, we have already refused aid offered by her."

As is typical of Asia's new leaders, U Nu is a very wise man. He confesses admiration for both Red China and the U.S. and says, "We do not want these two esteemed countries confronting each other with bitterness and hostility . . ."

On stopping Communist aggression in Southeast Asia, he says very simply, "Western blood need not be shed in countering aggression in this area. Just make the nations of Southeast Asia strong . . ."

U Nu will be in the country for three weeks and yet few people will know of his visit and even fewer persons will know anything of his country and his people.

Asia now is the dangerous flash point of the world. Asia is the trouble spot. With over half of the world's population, the people of the area are tired of colonialism and war. They fear big, powerful nations. They only want peace and a small portion of modest prosperity so they can grow.

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"Anyone else like to disagree on what the test should have covered?"

The Changing Role Civil Defense Needs School Cooperation

By KAY NOSKY

It wasn't too long ago that grade schoolers were herded in fire-drill style down the stairs and through the doors—only then it was for practice in case of air raids. It seems a long time ago. Reflecting upon Nebraska's ex-governor Val Peterson's speech on Monday, one wonders what new form of safety drill will become a part of education's changing role.

Civil Defense Director Peterson's chart, which plotted the path of possible "fallouts," was enough to make one want to catch the first one-way rocket to the moon. Evacuation and back-yard bomb shelters seem scant enough protection from blasts, fire and fallout of an atomic bomb. But, Peterson said they can work, and he should know.

For educators, the point is this: A strong civil defense organization will have to include cooperation of schools. Should evacuation be called for in the middle of the day, a number of panic-stricken parents are going to swamp schools for their children. It's something to think about.

But not right now. Or, at least it's difficult to begin worrying about such phantasies as atomic blasts and fallout right now. Of course, it really wouldn't hurt anything if everyone was prepared for something that never happens.

Peterson must become terrifically discouraged at times. What the United States needs is a Billy Graham-type operator who could shock some of us out of our complacent world—and not for just one or two hours.

As one teacher said about Civil Defense, let's drop the subject.

Another phase of education's changing role is a relatively new method of teaching—progressive education, it is called, many times with a sneer. Dorothy Thompson, a syndicated columnist, let educators have it with a double-barreled shotgun in her column last Sunday.

"American education wants to achieve success without effort," she said. "This is also the ideal of the American people: The largest utilitarian return for the least expenditure of energy.

"All the subjects that require mental discipline, memory retention, concentrated work, and the exercise of logic are pushed aside."

Miss Thompson said that first it was cultural studies—literature, history, languages—that were being neglected, because of the technological age. Now various governmental agencies have come through with this amazing set of figures: 24.8 per cent of high school students study algebra; only 11.5 per cent have studied geometry; only half of the nation's high schools offer courses in chemistry and 53 per cent offer none in physics.

"It is doubtful whether anything whatever will be done about it," she continued. "We have the kind of education the American people want, and the kind of National Education Association, which determines educational content and teaching method, demands.

"For the American notion of democracy has degenerated into a universal workshop of mediocrity, combined, in educational circles, intellectual and spiritual capacities of the average American child and youth."

This is a quarrel between two conflicting principles as to how children should be taught. Which ever side is right, one thing is certain. Educators are not doing a good job of answering school critics.



Courtesy Sunday Journal and Star

From— The Editor's Desk

A few weeks ago The Summer Nebraskan published a current poll that surveyed the opinions of American college students. Publication of the results of another college poll are now available—a poll of 66 college editors who serve over half a million students.

Polls and their results are of interest to us since they offer some uniformity of thought on issues with which we are concerned.

A few general opinions of the majority of those editors polled are as follows:

The AFL-CIO merger is unhealthy for the country as a whole.

Red China should not be seated in the UN, but the U. S. service academics should be allowed to debate Red China's admission to the UN.

It is "hogwash" that educational and philanthropic foundations are subverting Americans.

Mass education substitutes quantity for quality.

The editors offered comment on how their papers were regulated with reference to censorship or control by university administrations. Eighty-eight per cent of the editors felt that the collegiate press, more specifically their own papers, was free of administration control and advertisers' influence. Only seven editors said that they were impeded by administration policies.

Probably the worst example of censorship came from the editor who said, "We are not expected to disagree with policies of the administration since they consider the paper a publication of the university and not of the students."

Letters To Editor

Letters to the editor will be printed on the editorial page of The Summer Nebraskan and may be concerned with any subject.

The letters should be signed, but if desired, the writer's name will be withheld in favor of a pseudonym. Anonymous letters will not be published.

There doesn't seem to be much unity or pattern in the answers given by the 66 editors, but it is shown very clearly that college editors, whatever else they may do, are not afraid to offer comment.

The second in our series of Opportunity articles is featured on the third page of today's issue of The Summer Nebraskan. Some readers might not think that a group such as the Haylofters deserve feature coverage. Perhaps not, but I admire the spirit of these people of comparatively few years and much determination.

If the University continues to produce the "let's-do-it-ourselves" type of people who are producing 13 plays in a white barn this summer, then the University will continue to have distinguished alumni.

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