

Edward Veith

Self-Styled Economist Decries Money

By CHARLES RANDISI

"The more I think about it, the more I read the newspapers, the more I'm convinced I'm right," said Edward Veith, 76, self-educated economist, farmer, newlywed (he and Esther recently celebrated their first anniversary), writer, and retired elevator builder.

Money, or, as he likes to refer to it, "counterfeit money," is the source of all the world's problems, he says. And it becomes clearer and clearer to him each time he hears of inflation, war, poverty, crime, or whatever else troubles the human race.

Of course, the idea is by no means new. This "root of all evil" business got its start with St. Paul's letter to Timothy (6:10). But it interested Veith so much that he was prompted to write a book, *In the Wake of Inflation (Of "Counterfeit" Money)*.

His fascination with money (beg pardon, "counterfeit money") was born with the Depression days of Father Charles Coughlin's radio crusade against communism, capitalism, and the gold standard, when Veith was "doing a little pioneering" on a farm in northern Wisconsin.

"I saw everything go to the dogs in the Depression," Veith said in the library of his old-fangled country home in Penfield.

Father Coughlin, he said, "came out with facts, but was silenced for being anti-Semitic."

Father Coughlin many times has denied the charges, and Veith, "one of his disciples," denied the same himself. If not a

Catholic, he confided, he would be Jewish. "We all have the same Commandments," he said. And, he added, "I never miss a Jewish radio program."

A 40-year career as a road man with the Houghton Elevator Co. (with some time off for the Wisconsin farm) postponed Veith's study of money and inflation until his retirement in 1962. Since then he has collected and read bundles of literature on the subject.

Though he humbly protested that he is no economic authority, he had quotes and clippings from dozens of sources (Karl Marx to the John Birch Society) at his fingertips to substantiate what he said.

He has much to say. On the country's economic future, for example: "Pretty soon we can start lighting our fires with \$10 bills."

On the Federal Reserve System: "It's creating our money out of thin air."

On Karl Marx: "Marx was first and foremost an economist, but all the stuff he wrote runs to atheism, for some unclear reason."

On communism: "Communism, the way it's defined, would be all right except that it's Godless. If it were Christian, it would be ideal. Communism is a creation of capitalism."

On capitalism: "Who are our enemies, the capitalists, or the Communists? I say it's both."

On Vietnam: "Who were we fighting? Russia? And who supplies Russia? Why, the United States! The people were told they were fighting for freedom. It was

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for nothing of the kind. It was for capitalism. All those men died for that."

On freedom: "It is the will of God that we be free. Inflation is slavery."

On inflation: "If the love of money is the root of all evil, then inflation is the trunk and branches."

On the gold standard: "Gold doesn't mean anything. Our money system should be based on something of value, like labor."

On international bankers: "A group of international bankers owns the Federal Reserve System. They control most of the wealth in the world. It makes little difference to them whether the whole world goes Communist or

not, as long as they have your money. They'd like to own the whole world and a couple of acres in hell for calf pasture."

The subtitle *Can the Church Remain Silent?* appears on the cover of Veith's 32-page book. If the Church wants to survive, he maintained, the answer is no.

"The Church has been the center of education throughout history," he said, "but our big Christian universities are now teaching the current money system."

He continued, "People in the Church have been screaming to help the poor here, there and the other place. I'm not knocking charity, but the Church needs to concentrate more on fighting inflation, which is the cause of poverty."

That particular line of thinking seems to coincide well with his motto of sorts, which appears once in the book, and several times in this reporter's notes: "No reform is possible until money has been reformed."

Education is the key, he said. "It's all we need to do, because then something would happen."

While people continue to go on uninformed, however, Veith has little sympathy for them. "We deserve the deal we're getting with the little brains we show."

He has, for the most part, resigned himself to the economic state of things. Though he said he plans to "keep squawking," he added, "I won't grin, but I'll try to bear it."

D'Angelo, Curry, Fraser and Hoadley for City School Board.



Louis D'Angelo has a "very personal involvement" in education. He is a former Benjamin Franklin High School teacher and is now a language teacher and department chairman at R. L. Thomas High School in Webster.

"As a teacher, I am familiar with educational issues and trends, and I have dealt successfully with youths all my life."



Archie Curry is a strong proponent of parent and community participation.

Archie, 33, is president of the School 19 Parent Group and is chairperson of the Community School Council. He is also regional vice

president of the NYS Parents Council on Compensatory education and believes there should be avenues for parents to come into the schools and give their time and ideas.



Brenda Fraser has long been active on the educational scene and has spent as much as six hours a week as a reading, art and library volunteer at School 23 on Barrington Street, where her children attend.

Brenda, who was a teacher before moving to Rochester and has a masters degree in education from Yale University, believes that "if parents are in there, school becomes a friendlier, more exciting place for kids to learn."



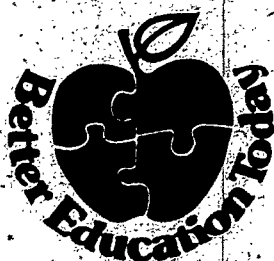
Reid Hoadley is a budget specialist. He was responsible for setting up a new budget procedure and is in charge of cost-control at Rochester General Hospital and has firm ideas on how the city school budget could be reformed to put the present \$80 million to better use.

It is good management to allow greater community participation in budget-making, says Reid. "When responsibility is shared, people become more careful of how money is spent."

The Candidates' Goals Are:

- To create a new era of openness and willingness to listen to parents, students, teachers and the community-at-large.
- To reform the budget process and make better use of our \$80 million.
- To emphasize reading, writing and math in the elementary schools.
- To involve the Rochester business community in setting up useful vocational programs.

- To seek voluntary ways of reducing racial and socio-economic isolation without resorting to unpopular methods such as forced busing.
- To strengthen individual schools by giving the total school community a new voice in decision-making.
- To emphasize discipline and justice in the schools.
- To strengthen programs and teaching methods that meet the needs of all the students.



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