

Editorials

No Respite

"Make the World Go Away."

This was the lyrical wish of country singer Eddy Arnold about a decade and a half ago.

The thought occurs to editorialists who may be trying to give readers a vacation break, a respite, breathing room or whatever balm may be desired to soothe troubled minds and souls.

But the world just won't go away. We have Iran ... and Iraq. We have Israel ... and the PLO. We have the cluster bombs detonated by the Israelis regardless of civilian deaths. We have the IRA terrorist bombs.

We have refugees. God, do we have refugees! Haitians, and Lebanese, and Palestinians, and the Boat People. Streaming around the world that the people

victimized by the international power moguls have neglected.

Recently, someone defending nuclear proliferation said something to the effect that since the U.S. has put its eggs into the nuclear basket it is noteworthy that the Western world has been free of war for the longest time in recent history. What about Vietnam? Or Korea, if that is not ancient history? And can anyone seriously think that the wars in Ireland, the Middle East, the south Atlantic and Afghanistan really do not involve all the nations of the world, including our own?

Editorialists dearly yearn to bask in poetic imagery, to wallow in florid thoughts of country gardens, of Alpine meadows, of zephyrs ... of summer afternoons.

But the world says no. Pay me heed, it says. Work to heal. Express my hurts. Now, the world says. And it won't go away.

Heroes

Names make editorials:

Luke Appling, at the age of 75, hit a home run in a major league oldtimers game recently at Washington's RFK Stadium. How about that for inspiration for older Americans?

Also from the world of baseball and inspiring in a different way. Outfielder Dwight Evans of the Boston Red Sox has learned that his five-year-old son has a brain tumor. This in addition to the fact that his other son, nine years old, suffers from neurofibromatosis (elephant man's disease). Evans' comment: "The Man upstairs never sends down more than you can handle."

Farewell to Dave Garroway, a Schenectady boy who became host of early television's excellent documentary Wide, Wide World and later the first emcee of the Today Show. His easy and friendly stage manner covered up a difficult personal life.

and Opinions

Disarmament Questioned

Editor:

More deadly than "The Bomb" is mind conditioning designed to program the American people to expect instant peaceful Utopia if we only render ourselves helpless. "Disarmament" is the magic word orchestrated on banners and in letters to editors. These concerned citizens ignore the quotation in St. Luke's Gospel (11:21): "When a strong man armed keepeth his palace his goods are in peace."

Papal teaching, with certain provisos, does not encourage the use of nuclear deterrence. The statement sent by Cardinal Cooke of New York to Catholic chaplains on Dec. 7, 1981 — the anniversary of Pearl Harbor — reflects the teaching of the Church: "As long as our nation is sincerely trying to work with other nations to find a better way, the Church considers the strategy of nuclear deterrence morally tolerable; not satisfactory but tolerable ... millions of people may be alive in the world today precisely because government leaders in various nations know that if they attacked other nations they themselves could suffer tremendous losses of human life or even be destroyed." The voices demanding our disarmament should confront Moscow. This would be an exercise in futility.

Most of the "unilateral" voices belong to well-meaning,

sometimes manipulated people; others represent "forces of appeasement in our midst who have used 'peace' ... as their excuse for yielding to Soviet aggression." (Louis Budenz)

Those concerned citizens of goodwill could be a positive force for a safe America. A positive new goal for them would be: "High Frontier," a satellite defense strategy. Lt. General Daniel O. Graham, retired former head of Defense Intelligence Agency, headed a team of scientists, space engineers, military strategists and economists in designing a new strategy to maximize our nation's technological lead in space. "High Frontier" is the result of a relatively inexpensive, non-nuclear shield for our country and our missiles. This completely defensive system was designed under the auspices of the Heritage Foundation. It is a three-tiered approach, the first tier attacking enemy missiles after they are launched against points in the free world.

The high-cost MX system of defense would be unnecessary, and this new approach to missile defense gives every promise of being a perfect replacement for Mutual Assured Destruction, the flawed concoction of previous administrations. Dr. Robert Morris comments: "Now a new frontier is opening up — space — and who will lead in that frontier will dominate the century to come ... we are being accused by clever propagandists and well-meaning souls of

engaging in an arms race we cannot win. General Graham offers a way out of this seemingly hopeless morass."

G.F. Newberry
160 Azalea Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14620

Investigation Questioned

Editor:

In the Courier-Journal of June 30, Father James Connolly, SJ, who is the coordinator-liaison for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, wrote that to place credence in the apparitions of Our Lady of Bayside to Veronica Leuken seemed dangerous. He states that the vice chancellor, Father Otto L. Garcia of Brooklyn, says that "it is the official and firm position of the Diocese of Brooklyn that no credibility can be given to the so-called 'visions of Bayside.'" This, he and the vice chancellor says, is the result of a thorough investigation by an official diocesan commission created for the purpose.

From information that I have received from writing to Veronica's and going to Bayside myself, this is what is being said regarding that official commission investigation of April 1975. Msgr. James P. King, then Brooklyn chancellor, admitted in a telephone interview with a Canadian newspaper reporter that Veronica was never interrogated, nor were any of her workers, nor were any of the reported cures investigated! The commission read some, but not all of the typed transcripts made from tapes of Veronica's voices during the vigils. The guidelines set by the Catholic Church for investigation of apparitions were certainly not followed. Yet he, Msgr. King, issued a letter to the bishops of the United States requesting that they discourage the faithful from attending the vigils of prayer. Bishop Mugavero of Brooklyn did not sign this statement to the bishops, nor any statement issued by the chancery concerning the "visions" as of last summer, when I attended one of the vigils.

I ask, is this the best investigation our Church can do regarding this matter?

Theresa A. Schuler
107 Landing Park
Rochester, N.Y. 14526

Editor's Note: In a message to the Brooklyn Tablet, the official newspaper

of that diocese, Father Otto L. Garcia, vice chancellor, wrote: After "a thorough investigation ... the conclusion was reached that there was no doubt that the alleged 'apparitions' lacked complete authenticity," and that "it is the official and firm position of the Diocese of Brooklyn that no credibility can be given to the so-called 'vision' of Bayside." The case, officially, is closed.

Unions Are On the Decline

Editor:

May I comment on your July 7 item, "Unionism, Nestle Issues In Hotel Takeover" by John Dash. It would appear from the article that Father Donald Bauer not only dislikes the Nestle Co. but is a great union supporter. The good Father should be reminded that only 20 percent of the American labor force is unionized, and unions are losing ground steadily — for good reasons.

Think for a moment of rights. A citizen has a right to work in a trade or profession of choice wherever he chooses without paying tribute to anyone. When the privilege of employment has been transferred to union membership, the citizen has lost a sacred inalienable right. The union now dictates to the citizen whether or not he may work, where he may work, how he must work and at what wage. For this "protection" the citizen pays tariff to the union.

Consider how many unions have outpriced themselves in the open market causing business failures and thus unemployment. Consider, too, in these cases, the union bosses have tipped their hats and vanished with little or no concern to the unemployed behind.

Recall how union thugs beat up their opposition, slashed tires, burned rigs and destroyed facilities all in the name of justice, never naked self-interest. Think, too, of the air controllers — union ready, willing and almost able to bring this country to a standstill.

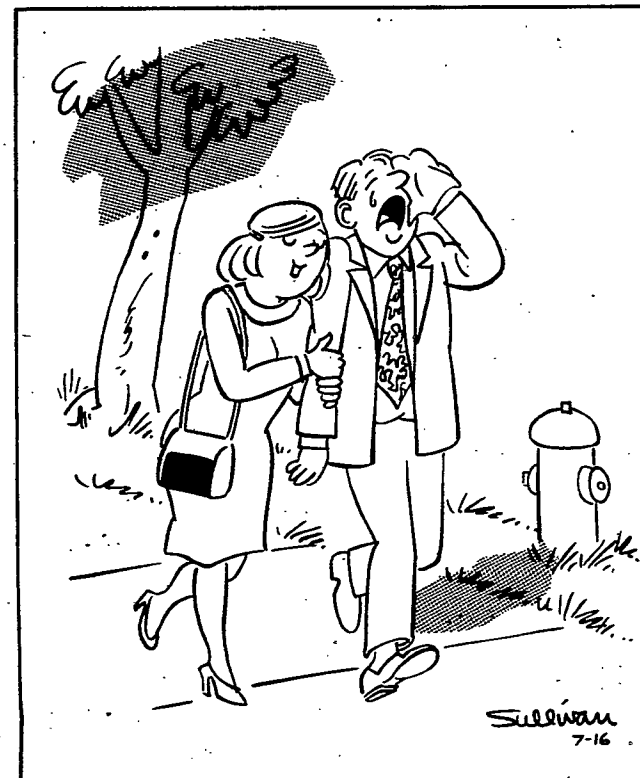
I would highly recommend that if the good Father intends to speak out from within the Roman Catholic Church on economic/political matters he develop a broader background by reading Milton Friedman's "Free To Choose."

Carl E. Burrows
76 Copperfield Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14615

Heed Thoughts Of Our Children

Editor:

My seventh and eighth-grade health students were



"YOU'LL SEE, SWEETHEART... CHURCH WILL BE A LOT MORE BENEFICIAL THAN GETTING SLIM-BURNED ON AN OLD GOLF COURSE, CHASING A DUMB BALL AROUND WITH YOUR FRIENDS."

asked to write an essay during their final exam on various topics, one being abortion. I was impressed with their thoughts and have recorded some of them below.

"... The reasons for abortion aren't good enough. No reason is good enough to take a life away."

"... Everyone deserves a chance. I was given a chance. Why shouldn't everyone else?"

"... It is a violation against the Declaration of Independence which says everyone is entitled to the gifts of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

"... Once an egg is fertilized, life begins."

"... A waste of life ... the lost child."

"... The innocent babies have no say in the decision."

"... A good word to describe it is cruel. The babies are helpless and innocent."

"... A life is started only to end it."

"... Legal murder."

"... Child abuse."

"... Roundabout way of murder."

"... And to think, my mother could have done it to me."

"... Killing an unarmed person — a defenseless person."

"... Murder of a three-month-old baby is a crime but aborting a fetus at three months is not illegal."

Perhaps we should listen to our children!

Ann K. Reddington
113 Stoneleigh Court
Rochester, N.Y. 14618

Guidelines

The Courier-Journal welcomes your opinions. Letters must bear the writer's signature, full address and telephone number. They should be sent to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 114 S. Union S., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

Opinions should be brief, typed, double-spaced, no longer than 1 1/2 pages.

We routinely condense letters, edit offensive words and libelous statements, and reserve the right to reject letters. Generally speaking, however, only limited grammatical corrections will be made and the letters will reflect the writer's own style.

Because submitted opinions exceed the space for letters, we publish only original letters addressed to us. We will not use poetry, open letters, or copies of letters sent elsewhere. To ensure diversity, we limit each writer to one letter per month.

