

Public Opinion on Leading Issues Reflected in Morning Mail Letters



Play Ball!

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: The gravure section for Sunday, June 23, had some excellent pictures of early auto races at the state fair. One of the captions, however, was definitely erroneous. The first automobile races held at the state fair were staged at the state fair exposition, not in 1911, as your caption states.

Auto Race Fan Recalls Heyday Of Sport at Fair

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: The reopening of the fair will probably mean a revival of automobile racing here, and this cannot be too soon to suit. Yours truly, JOHN C. DUVALL, 703 Seeley rd., Syracuse.

Speech Class at SU

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: In reply to "Daily Reader" (June 22): I believe there is a class held at the Syracuse university School of Education for children with defective speech. If this is not the class you desire, perhaps there is someone there who could advise you. E. F. P.

Disputes Press Report of Danish Plenty

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: In the Sunday edition of your paper, a few weeks ago, I read an article by a Judy Barden. In this she describes Denmark as a country of luxury, with all kinds of wonderful food and where even the women are dressed better than we here in America. The article made me rather distrustful. Being of Danish birth, my husband and I still have a large family and many friends over there. Since last fall I have collected used clothing from our friends here. This small amount in a cold country and with little clothing to keep warm, could hardly be called lavishness.

Says Griffin Field Could Be Used for High School Sports

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: The editorial on "High School Field Needed," written by Robert Lewis of Onondaga Valley academy on June 25, is the second or third such article pointing to the need of a high school stadium and emphasizing the need by discrediting MacArthur stadium, Archbold stadium or Griffin field. The existing need for a high school stadium in the City of Syracuse is granted. A great many cities of a lesser classification than Syracuse have taken strides in providing athletic fields for the high school students. I wish it were possible for the city fathers to see the public stadium at Lynn, Mass., a city of 100,000 population!

Pay-As-You-Go Plan Seen Only As 'Hot-Air' Talk

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: So the city is having financial trouble? The mayor now finds it necessary to make a few adjustments in the pay-as-you-go plan on which he ran for election last fall. He is sending the same Mr. Williams to draft a new plan, the Mr. Williams who drew up the pay-as-you-go plan. On Friday, May 25, 1945, a public hearing was held, with as many, if not more, people at the head table than in the audience, to gloss over, and to paint a rosy picture of the plan. Objections were made at that meeting, from the floor, that the plan placed the burden of payment in the first few years and that it was not flexible enough for our needs. Editorially, mention was urged by both local papers pointing out the same facts and citing needed repairs. City Engineer Nelson Pitts was already on record showing the amount we should have available for necessary repairs and replacement, \$5,000,000, and also for the "must" list of \$2,000,000 which represented a minimum for immediate use.

Lauds Bill Reddy's Attack on Gamblers At Baseball Games

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: Please thank Bill Reddy for his column, "It's the Gamblers," (June 26). When a guy hustles home, bolts his supper, gathers a few friends, motors 30 miles, (DS Time) with the expectation of a pleasant baseball evening, only to have it spoiled by continuous foul-mouthed coarseness, regardless of the play, it is disconcerting, especially when Syracuse has such a good team. More power to you, Bill. RURAL ONEIDA.

Is America Going Socialist?

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: In America, the question "Will America Go Socialist?" we must know what is meant by the word Socialist. We mean, by Socialism, the extension of democracy into every aspect of people's lives. We seek greater freedom for the individual. We oppose everything that is totalitarian, and have repeatedly denounced Russian Communism as un-socialist and even anti-socialist. We oppose great government bureaucracy, and consider many of the so-called "New Deal" and war controls, the direct result of trying to superimpose planning on today's chaotic profit system. In short, we seek Democratic Socialism which means both more security and more freedom. We Socialists will add to the Bill of Rights such provisions as: The guarantee that men may change jobs when they choose; the guarantee that consumers shall be free to buy what they wish; the guarantee that labor shall have the right to strike, and against government; the guarantee that all people shall be free to associate and organize for economic, political or cultural ends. There is no doubt that the world

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To the Editor of The Post-Standard: This is intended to be a salute to the aged, especially to my neighbor, a gentleman who recently reached his 87th birthday. I purposely avoided the words old and elderly because neither apply in my neighbor's case. He is youthful physically and mentally. We marvel at his agility, his strength and alertness; we admire his stamina and his reasonable outlook on life. And because we would like to know the secret of his ability to meet the years with grace and quiet acceptance, retaining many of the elements of his past youth, we sought him out and asked many questions. Not he is not easily made tired. Yes! his appetite is good but he does not indulge in gluttony. Yes! he sleeps like a baby because "my conscience is clear." Not the world doesn't look dark and dreary to him. Yes! life is pretty much what you make it.

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To the Editor of The Post-Standard: On the train going to Rochester recently, I could not help but notice all the drumming on the outskirts of Syracuse. They were spaced one right next to another, some yards apart, and others attractively spaced, thanks to the Glacier age. To anyone else this poor space relationship might have passed unnoticed but as I am an art student at Syracuse university and am obliged to spend hours planning compositions, in which no two spaces should be alike, and in which lines must all be pleasing, I could not help seeing the satirical humor of visualizing God as a space-conscious creator who just couldn't put a tree here and a hill there, "it wouldn't look right."

Drumlines Inspire Poem on Nature

"EARTH! BY GOD God shook His head, 'I cannot put a drumline in that space. And to put that tree over here would be such a disgrace. The horizon line, of course you know, is just an inch too low; And I think I'll move the river more and give it rhythmic flow."

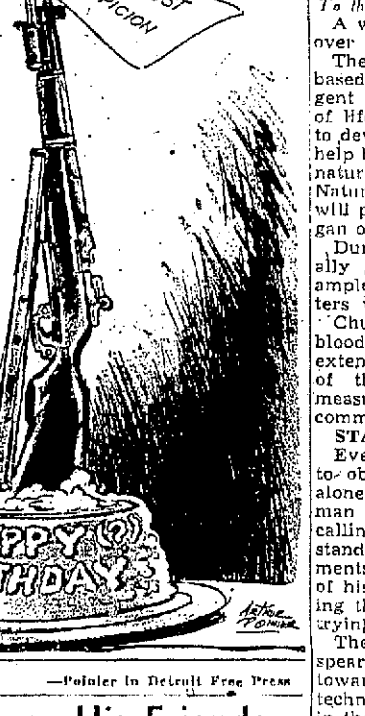
Would Experiment With Atom Bomb In Asiatic Russia

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: "Fools rush in where wise men fear to tread" is an old truism, but who is to say whether the so-called fools are foolish and the wise men really wise? Why, in the face of reported statements by Winston Churchill, Ambassador Wm. C. Bullitt and Sumner Welles, to mention only two, who are eminently qualified to talk, do Great Britain and the United States continue to hesitate, vacillate and try to appease Russia?

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is changing—that the profit system in America is being forced to change. It is interesting to note that supporters of this so-called "free enterprise" are the very people who have to call in the government every time they face a real problem. The government had to take title on paper; to the coal mines and the railroads. The government had to regulate wages, and try to hold the line on prices. The government, not private industry, had to put over twenty billion dollars to build the vast majority of the new war plants—five-sixths of all the war plants built because private enterprise would not risk its own capital. And, of course, the government has had to do every really big job that needed doing, such as supplying an educational system, postal service and the Tennessee Valley authority.

His First!



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Calls on World To Conquer Jitters, Not Russian Army

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: A wave of the jitters is spreading over the earth. The jitters is a despicable disease based upon the sluggish, lazy, indulgent lack of exercise of the organ of life that has no exclusive duty to develop control. The doctors can help but little in this matter because nature will not allow them to help. Nature demands that we combine will power and faith to give this organ of stimulus a daily workout. During the war two men especially gave the world excellent examples of control, the doctors can help but little in this matter because nature will not allow them to help. Nature demands that we combine will power and faith to give this organ of stimulus a daily workout.

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It's All Yours, Pal



Thinks Mothers Should Protest Atom Bomb Test

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: The interesting articles in your Morning Mail by "Constandia Reader" (June 27) needs much thought and approval. Just why hasn't there been a vote on whether this atom bomb test should be carried out? It has been tested and shown just what it will do. Is someone so interested to see just how much more unnecessary destruction can be brought about? Do some few people want the world destroyed? They sure are paving the way for total destruction. Why haven't the ministers preached against this? They tried to awaken the people to its terrible harm?

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To the Editor of The Post-Standard: I have just read with considerable amusement and bewilderment, your tantalizing editorial justifying capitalism by appealing to man's "instincts," primarily the "acquisitive instinct" in particular. I have a feeling that your psychology is somewhat obsolete. Or possibly you have been reading Thorstein Veblen. I believe you will find no support whatever in modern science for the existence of so-called instincts. In the early years of experimental psychology the instinct theory was greatly in vogue and scientists amused one another and the public in particular by drawing up lists of "instincts" which varied greatly in number. Later on the other scientists demolished these lovely lists in gradual succession until no reputable scientist today believes in instincts. It may be possible to justify a capitalist system, but you will have that bring forward something more acceptable as proof than an outworn psychological theory to prove your thesis. And in passing I might note that the word "capitalist" can mean many things, but I highly doubt whether it refers to our economic system and society as it is constituted at the present time. I'm not sure what YOU, yourself, mean by it. EDWARD NEWMAN, Syracuse. The amusement is mutual.—Editor.

Ex-GI Blasts Pegler's Attack on Army Press

To the Editor of The Post-Standard: Having read Westhrook Pegler's column, "Army Press Freedom," and finding it so full of gross exaggeration, contempt for the enlisted men, and enlisted men's rights, I feel that I would like to explain what I mean by the truth about "GI Journalism." I am a discharged veteran of 43 months of service, nearly two years of which was spent overseas in Africa, Sicily, England and France—to say nothing of a few months spent in Trinidad after the war in Europe ended. I was an enlisted man, I saw the war thru an enlisted man's eyes—and I read Stars and Stripes thru the same eyes. Stars and Stripes was our only source of news. It was a daily newspaper, serving the same purpose as newspapers all over the world. To bring out the news of the day was the paper's primary job—and a wonderful piece of work, it accomplished, too. Secondly, however, the paper provided a common forum, to which the GIs from all over the ETO could contribute their views. Now, Mr. Pegler refers to "publications in which the buck private has been encouraged to believe he has a right to talk back to his superiors." Having been an enlisted man, I am not sure but what the buck private should have every right in the world to talk back to his superiors, provided he does it in a polite way. That is one of the many privileges we have as civilians, and I see no reason why it should be denied a man who is serving his country

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in a greater way than he ever served before. MOST WERE GRIPES But the thing of it is, very few of these letters, if any, contained what you would call "back talk." They were "gripes," pure and simple. True, they might complain about the actions of certain officers or officers in general. However, I assure you that many actions on the part of officers, high and low, are worthy of complaint. Usually, there would be a flood of letters on the Morning Mail. Maybe the subject would be military discipline, poorchow, or any similar topic vital to the GI. In either of the two typical subjects I have mentioned, there is plenty of unfairness, and the GI letters concerning them pointed out this unfairness and suggested methods for correction. Is that wrong? A good many letters, as I remember, were written on the subject of military discipline and court martial punishment. It was the contention of such letters that the present system of court martial was all wrong in civilian life, they pointed out, a man is tried by a mixed jury. In the army, he is tried by a board of officers, who have little in common with the enlisted man, or little understanding of his problems. Why, they asked, shouldn't they be tried by a jury consisting of both enlisted men and officers? And a good many letters pointed out the now-famous case of the "Millionaire Battalion" in France. Nearly the whole battalion was engaged in black market activities and were court martialled accordingly. A good many of the enlisted men were sentenced to as much as 50 years, while the heaviest punishment accorded an officer was five years. Can you blame the enlisted man for complaining about such an injustice? Can anyone truthfully say he shouldn't have the right to complain about it? Anyone besides Mr. Pegler, that is, according to him, these honest and deserving complaints are "guttersnipe gossip, filthy and disruptive rumors." The above example is typical of the enlisted man's gripes published in Stars and Stripes. Now a word about the editorial policies of that paper. Each edition carried an editorial—honest, truthful and sincere. Frequently they urged better cooperation and more understanding between the ranks. Sometimes, I admit, they scolded the officer for his "officer complex," but frequently they bawled hell out of enlisted men, too. And sometimes they voiced a plea for greater officers on the part of all, or on occasions they were directed at moral and religious issues. Never can I recall reading an editorial in Stars and Stripes that was slanderous, libelous, or un-American. mentioned spending some money in Trinidad. We didn't get The Stars and Stripes there, but