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## *Liberté, Egalité, Sororité!*

The corridor was festooned with signs proclaiming the imminence of triumphant feminism. One walked a gauntlet of panting phraseology. If "equality at the coal face" "effects of the womenapause" "woman the barricades" and the ever popular "how to chairperdaughter a meeting" were not posted it was oversight and not intent. The state conference of the California Council for the Social Studies was in session.

A male delegate who somewhat weakly suggested that a little less overkill might create better effect was snarled away by jargon appropriate to people who believed their individuality would be served best by collective action.

The well-honed stilletto heels of Womens' Lib are tapping along a path well-trodden by other movements of political liberation. It is by unjust method to seek justice, by increased privilege to seek equality, by coercion and force to seek freedom, and by use of witchcraft to seek civilization.

Thus the 'liberation' of women becomes the 'right' to work longer hours, lift heavier weights, shoot other women, and suffer the thrill of descent into the deep mines.

It's as if the chains of the suffragettes earned women no more than the right to continue to wear chains.

These 'rights' which men have been assiduously avoiding for centuries, soon become the *ends* of activity rather than the *means*. That women teachers may teach to the penultimate month of pregnancy is regarded as success instead of asininity. The arrant nonsense which 'de-sexes' words

by adding more syllables and less meaning is greeted as victory by those who think with their feminine characteristics rather than their human abilities.

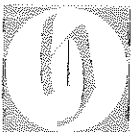
The replacement of a male leader by a female serves no more useful purpose than changing a white face to a black. The status of the follower doesn't alter. The only liberation of importance happens within the person and cannot be impressed from without. It can be seen less inside the various 'movements' than among those who find membership unnecessary.

This is not to fault the intentions of the true believers. They join "to do good" even if the result is that their leaders do even better in terms of blossoming careers, soaring incomes and fame. Good intentions and idealism are sorry substitute for hard thinking, but are preferred by a leadership whose influence is directly proportional to the warm bodies they can deliver.

So, belief in the ultimate objectives of a movement becomes less important than uncritical acceptance of the approved means of achievement. Maverick ideas become suspect and the out-of-step are discarded. For unity is the strength of political ambition which is ill-served by the beat of a different drum.

Womens' Liberation is unlikely to find solutions for they show scant awareness of the problems. They could, however, make a start by directing their energies to the entire human condition, for the most fanatical male pig would not deny their standing as the better half of humanity.

Harry Pollard



*Interstudent Program*

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Editor  
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Mini-Course Development

Games and Simulations

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## TEACHING THE 'TRUTH'

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**Ambulance Chasing**

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Insurance companies don't set premiums in whimsical fashion. They are related directly to the hazards involved. 'Hazard' in this sense refers to the amounts that must be paid out to successful claimants. A suit that goes to a jury is dangerous to the doctor and to the insurance company. If you served on a jury and the choice was between a patient blinded by an operation and the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Co. who would you pick - given any kind of doubt?

Maintaining their firm commitment: never to deal with cause - only effects - one of the legislative suggestions is to create a 'patients' compensation board' to hear claims. Another is to fund an insurance system through state or federal agencies, which suggestion is merely to open the (practically) bottomless purse to the legal scavengers. Three states have passed or are considering limiting contingency fees. Lawyers will chuckle at that one. Florida is considering a device already passed by five states - to limit the amount of damages. This effectively provides more to the crook and less to the genuinely hurt. One of the dozen or so congressional bills asks for 'federal arbitration guidelines' to make easier the argument between doctors and insurance companies. But there is no argument in a relationship that is actuarial and merely requires premiums to pay costs.

The problem is a judicial system that equates justice with irresponsible legal activity. Examples abound. John Connally's acquittal was greeted as a 'vindication of the system'. Yet, this case based almost entirely on the testimony of a man who was 'encouraged' by a sentence reduction of 38 years cost Connally a reported \$250,000.

Such vindication through bankruptcy is what alarms the doctors. It should also alarm us, for more is at stake than rising medical costs. Laws make the glue that binds civilization together. When they are used to provide free lunches for our 300,000 lawyers and their assorted dependents our sorry culture is still further weakened.

This is the lesson likely to be buried beneath a flood of palliative proposals to 'cure the crisis'. It is a lesson that we can afford to ignore at our peril.

**International Jewish Bankers**

It's been quite some time since somebody sidled up, lowered his voice and confidentially explained how the International Jewish Bankers are responsible for communism, war, adult book stores, chicken pox and the high price of beef jerky.

The covert anti-semite has been absent also. He's the one who hates everyone regardless of race, color, or creed. He's silent until he thinks you're receptive - then out it comes.

A high ranking U.S. General who protested the activities of the 'Jewish Lobby' got his wrist slapped even though he was right and his anger was understandable. One must assume that his opposition to a pro-Israel policy (or his less than fervent enthusiasm for such a policy) received short shrift. Such a reaction as he evidenced doesn't make him either a racial crackpot or an anti-semite.

Of course there's a 'Israel Lobby' and for that matter an 'Arab Lobby'. Just as in 1940 there was an 'English Lobby' and also

a 'German Lobby'.

The English used the ties of religion, race, business, friendship, family, common heritage - and anything else that might encourage policies that would keep the tight little island afloat.

Can the Israelis be expected to do less?

A premise of the Classical Analysis is that people will act like people and not like Barbie dolls. The tiny Israeli fortress is awash with Arabs - all of whom appear to be impatiently hanging around for the next jihad because the last one didn't go so well. The Arabs are automatically typecast as the heavies and the spectacle of the little guy winning out strikes a warm responsive chord in us. Particularly when the little guy does it with flair. Most of all when Spectacle II and Spectacle III follow with similar heroic finishes.

But, if the gentiles are enthused and delighted, what of the Jews. Surely, the provision of a genuine epic must warm their every cockle. They can be expected to use their influence in every way to support the survival of the Hebraic heroes.

This is the 'Jewish Lobby' and criticism of its effectiveness produced all the wrong reactions. The General had to nibble on crow; the Press had an indignation field day; and the President was appropriately contrite.

Meantime, noting that the 'Arab Lobby' is a might short in the popular vote, our congressional horde drove and flew around the country protesting the Arab oil blackmail. And discussion of a perfectly valid part of the political process is left to the 'sidler' and the 'covert' (see first two paragraphs).

### From the Halls of Philistia.....

Last time out, David was sorely stricken, which reminded the Israelis that each war ends with a weakened Israel and better trained Arabs. An accommodation is overdue.

Necessary to negotiation is a strong and well-armed Israel, which means U.S. support. However, something better than detente should be the target.

The path to cooperation - and anything less should be dismissed - is routed through Egypt whose Presidents talk up a storm, but must be hauled into combat by their scruffs. A genuine partnership of the complementary populations - allied to the enormous local energy resources - could bring back milk and honey to the arid wastes.

### Myopia

California's Jewish congressman - Henry Waxman - thought enough about his discovery

to call a press conference. He'd found that King Faisal didn't like Jews.

Also, that Jews are excluded from Saudi Arabian assignments by the U.S. government "in order not to jeopardize our relationship with that country".

Not so, said the State department, such action "would violate their civil rights".

The exchange is typical of the manufactured news plus stereotypical response which is so much a part of our American heritage.

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Secrecy and discretion are part of negotiation. The USSR doubtless would have quietly allowed the emigration to Israel to proceed. But never in response to a threat from a U.S. Senator. But such gallantry (much publicity but little risk) is to be expected from the candidates for President who far-sightedly think and act for the future - in this case, all the way to 1976.

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most local governments assess and tax unused, underused, and misused land so lightly that the tax makes the owners repay only a trifling share (perhaps 5 per cent) of the community investment that multiplied the value of their land. The other 95 per cent they are free to capitalize into higher and higher land prices.

This practice of public improvements for private profit gives land speculation an enormous hidden subsidy, a hidden subsidy so big that it may actually be bigger than all the farm subsidies plus foreign aid combined. And this is perhaps the biggest reason why building-site prices have been going up much faster than the prices of everything else. The Douglas Commission found that from 1955 to 1965 land prices climbed six times as fast as the index of wholesale commodity prices.

The smaller the land tax the bigger the land subsidy and the higher the land price can go. So we are shocked but hardly surprised to hear the Tax Foundation report that most of the federal urban redevelopment subsidies have gone to enrich the owners of slum property by raising the price of slum land (\$484,000 per average acre for the slum properties bought for demolition by the New York Public Housing Authority) and have done little to help the poor people living in the slums (just as the federal *Report on the Causes of Rural Poverty* found that the federal farm subsidies "have created a class of wealthy rural landowners but done little to improve the condition of the rural poor").

Here are a few of the many reasons why most of us believe the unimproved location value of urban and suburban land should be taxed much more heavily:

- Quite simply, to help pay the cost of local government, including the cost of all the tax-paid improvements that make the location valuable.

- To offset the cost of untaxing improvements. Local governments depend on property taxation for nearly 87 per cent of their local revenue, so the only way they can afford to tax improvements less is to tax unimproved land values more.

- To slow down the pace of land price inflation.

- To exert heavy pressure on the owners of underused and misused land (including most specifically slums) to put it to better use now instead of waiting for further subsidies and further investments of other peoples' money to raise its price still higher (land speculators call this "waiting for it to ripen"). With land prices for building soaring 8 to 15 per cent a year, millions of idle acres are now so underassessed and undertaxed that the owner can hold \$1 million worth off the market for a property tax cost of as low as \$5,000 a year, with up to 77 per cent of that \$5,000 deductible from his federal income tax.

- To let cities expand in an orderly manner instead of disintegrating in suburban sprawl and

premature subdivision, with millions of close-in acres held off the market for speculation, thereby forcing homebuilders to leapfrog further and further out into the countryside to get land they can afford to build on and forcing industry to move further and further away from urban employment (and unemployment) centers to find enough land they can afford on which to build new plants.

- To save the tax waste of sprawl, which multiplies the cost of roads to reach sprawl-scattered homes, multiplies the cost of water distribution, multiplies the cost of sewage collection, multiplies the cost of mass transportation, inflates the cost of police and fire protection, and doubles the cost of getting children to and from school.

- To stop and perhaps reverse the futile spiral in which the multi-billion-dollar urban renewal subsidies are being capitalized into higher urban renewal land costs calling for bigger urban renewal subsidies that will in turn be capitalized into higher land costs requiring still bigger subsidies (land write-down subsidies, below-market-interest subsidies, tax exemption subsidies, or perhaps some new kind of subsidy).

These and other good reasons for taxing location values more heavily are spelled out at greater length in the careful research reports of Prof. Dick Netzer for the Brookings Institution and the National Commission on Urban Problems; Prof. Lowell Hariss for the United States Chamber of Commerce and the Tax Foundation; and Prof. Mason Gaffney for the Urban Land Institute, the Lincoln Foundation, and the Schalkenbach Foundation.

And the Douglas Commission on Urban Problems is unanimously recommending that state governments vigorously explore the desirability and feasibility of placing new or differentially higher taxes upon land values.

And the President's Committee on Urban Housing (the Kaiser Committee) is urging a similar tax study "with particular emphasis on the potential beneficial effect of shifting more of the relative burden from improvements to land. Heavier taxation of site values has the apparent advantage of discouraging speculative withholding of land from development and of enabling the public to recoup more easily the benefits it bestows on local land owners through improvements like roads and sewers. Lighter taxation of buildings might remove existing tax disincentives which discourage new construction, rehabilitation, or adequate maintenance. This area seems a promising one for reform."

Says a Tax Foundation research: "A point of great significance and some urgency (is that) under present arrangements much of the intended benefit (of urban aid) will almost inevitably be incorporated into gains for land owners. They are not the persons for whom the assistance is designed."

# Mini-Notes

by JANET TERRY

The INTERSTUDENT family is made up of more than 30,000 students and hundreds of teachers, none of whom are exactly alike. It should come as no surprise, therefore, to learn that much variation exists in the ways in which Mini-Courses are used to supplement learning.

This column will examine some of these variations and suggest new approaches. In other words, we'll exchange ideas and experiences with each other - and steal a little (imitation is the sincerest form of flattery).

Have you had problems? Then tell us how you solved them. If you haven't yet dealt with them, tell us and perhaps another member of the 'family' can help. (After all, what are relatives for?)

We'd also like to hear of your successes and the reaction of parents and administrators to this 'different' kind of teaching. After all, where else will you find a higher grade awarded for some 'inspired cheating'? A first reaction to this by a principal is likely to be deep shock!

Here are a couple of my own experiences.

I teach in a large high school in an upper-middle class neighborhood where parents are upward-mobile and have great expectations for their children. More than 90% of our students go to college and this rarified intellectual climate would appear to be ideal for INTERSTUDENT. Not so, for the pressure of ambition obsesses the student with grade averages. They are more concerned with the 'expected' answer than learning how the answer was reached.

In fact, we often experience great resistance from the so-called 'brightest' students who are threatened by the lack of opportunity to look up the answer on page 46 - a method that they have perfected and for which they have been richly rewarded in the past.

To cope with this paranoia over grades, I am now placing more emphasis on individual points. In addition to the Group score he gets an extra financial reward (I use a money system) based on his cooperation with the rest of the Group.

When students complete the secret ballot for the 'cut' they also distribute 10 points according to each member's value to the Group. If one person did all the work - he gets the 10 points. If all helped equally, they share the points. Assignment of the points is part of the secret ballot and not a matter of Group discussion. I then average these points and add them to their already earned totals.

At the end of the Mini Program a grade is given based on the point accumulation. My hope is that this variation will encourage greater participation and cooperation and eliminate the one-man show that sometimes occurs when a bright student dominates - or is used by - a Group. It is still too early to judge completely its effectiveness, but it is apparent that it has quelled the fears of overly grade-conscious students who object to being saddled to less motivated partners.

One very good student who was drafted by the 'cut' Group has organized them into an effective discussion unit with full participation. They are currently in the lead in Mini-Two.

These extra personal points promise to be a useful addition to the Program - for me. Do you have some ideas and suggestions? What problems have you had? How did you solve them? What methods do you use between Minis to reinforce concepts and 'tie it all together'? Drop me a line and let me -- and the rest of the 'family' know.

## AN EXPERIMENT IN INDIA

The much travelled and well known author, Karl Eskelund, whose many books on foreign countries and their people have countless readers, describes the effort which a band of young American and English Quakers made in the way of assisting some of the Indian population, millions of whom live at starvation level.

The young idealists took up their task in 1946 at the village district of Pifa, which lies in the Ganges delta, 45 miles east of Calcutta and four miles by bus from Basirhat railway station. They were fully aware that their work would test their patience, for in India you can get no results "at five minutes past twelve." But after having outlined their plans to the peasants, the fishermen and the landowners, which met with general approval, they organised a co-operative enterprise in cultivating the land and in marketing the produce. They set up day schools for the children, evening schools for adults, clinics, etc.

After overcoming the initial difficulties, they saw signs of progress; inspiration grew. Health conditions improved. All took greater interest in their work and their earnings increased. New ideas took shape - there was advance along the whole line - an advance, slow but sure.

Five years after the experiment began Karl Eskelund visited Pifa and with one of the Quakers as his guide, he went through the village to see how it was faring. The Quaker had lost more than two stones in weight and was as thin and spare as the natives. But what was worse, he had lost heart because the experiment had proved a total failure. The day school still existed, but only one-fourth of the children attended it. The evening school was closed. The clinic was hardly used. Agriculture, fishing and trade were back again to old methods.

The author asked for an explanation of this fiasco. The young Quaker offered quite a number of reasons, none of which he could accept. Finally he got to the root of the matter. This is what he says:-

"In the first year after beginning the experiment, both peasants and fishermen earned more than ever before. What was the result? The large landowners at once raised their rents and the smaller landowners followed suit. The peasants had to pay more for permission to cultivate the land. The fishermen had to find more money to buy permission to cast their nets on the flooded fields. In that way practically the whole of the increased earnings passed into landowners' pockets.

"The people of Pifa were unhappy at this. Nevertheless, in the next year they worked hard. Crops were plentiful; there was a rich catch of fish; good prices were paid for the produce. At once the landowners raised their rents still higher.

"The people then began to lose courage. What was the use if for all their efforts they got no benefit? The land-owners waxed fatter. The peasants and fishermen did not become any thinner - that they could not, for otherwise they would die.

"Indians are ignorant but they are not stupid. They can put two and two together. They had found themselves momentarily enriched by the new methods but in the end all the extra money went to the landowners. If one of the new ideas would not work, what faith could they put in any other novelties? Perhaps after all, the old methods were the best..."

—"Land and Liberty."



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- To slow down the pace of land price inflation.

- To exert heavy pressure on the owners of underused and misused land (including most specifically slums) to put it to better use now instead of waiting for further subsidies and further investments of other peoples' money to raise its price still higher (land speculators call this "waiting for it to ripen"). With land prices for building soaring 8 to 15 per cent a year, millions of idle acres are now so underassessed and undertaxed that the owner can hold \$1 million worth off the market for a property tax cost of as low as \$5,000 a year, with up to 77 per cent of that \$5,000 deductible from his federal income tax.

- To let cities expand in an orderly manner instead of disintegrating in suburban sprawl and

premature subdivision, with millions of close-in acres held off the market for speculation, thereby forcing homebuilders to leapfrog further and further out into the countryside to get land they can afford to build on and forcing industry to move further and further away from urban employment (and unemployment) centers to find enough land they can afford on which to build new plants.

- To save the tax waste of sprawl, which multiplies the cost of roads to reach sprawl-scattered homes, multiplies the cost of water distribution, multiplies the cost of sewage collection, multiplies the cost of mass transportation, inflates the cost of police and fire protection, and doubles the cost of getting children to and from school.

- To stop and perhaps reverse the futile spiral in which the multi-billion-dollar urban renewal subsidies are being capitalized into higher urban renewal land costs calling for bigger urban renewal subsidies that will in turn be capitalized into higher land costs requiring still bigger subsidies (land write-down subsidies, below-market-interest subsidies, tax exemption subsidies, or perhaps some new kind of subsidy).

These and other good reasons for taxing location values more heavily are spelled out at greater length in the careful research reports of Prof. Dick Netzer for the Brookings Institution and the National Commission on Urban Problems; Prof. Lowell Harriss for the United States Chamber of Commerce and the Tax Foundation; and Prof. Mason Gaffney for the Urban Land Institute, the Lincoln Foundation, and the Schalkenbach Foundation.

And the Douglas Commission on Urban Problems is unanimously recommending that state governments vigorously explore the desirability and feasibility of placing new or differentially higher taxes upon land values.

And the President's Committee on Urban Housing (the Kaiser Committee) is urging a similar tax study "with particular emphasis on the potential beneficial effect of shifting more of the relative burden from improvements to land. Heavier taxation of site values has the apparent advantage of discouraging speculative withholding of land from development and of enabling the public to recoup more easily the benefits it bestows on local land owners through improvements like roads and sewers. Lighter taxation of buildings might remove existing tax disincentives which discourage new construction, rehabilitation, or adequate maintenance. This area seems a promising one for reform."

Says a Tax Foundation research: "A point of great significance and some urgency (is that) under present arrangements much of the intended benefit (of urban aid) will almost inevitably be incorporated into gains for land owners. They are not the persons for whom the assistance is designed."

# Mini-Notes

by JANET TERRY

The INTERSTUDENT family is made up of more than 30,000 students and hundreds of teachers, none of whom are exactly alike. It should come as no surprise, therefore, to learn that much variation exists in the ways in which Mini-Courses are used to supplement learning.

This column will examine some of these variations and suggest new approaches. In other words, we'll exchange ideas and experiences with each other - and steal a little (imitation is the sincerest form of flattery).

Have you had problems? Then tell us how you solved them. If you haven't yet dealt with them, tell us and perhaps another member of the 'family' can help. (After all, what are relatives for?)

We'd also like to hear of your successes and the reaction of parents and administrators to this 'different' kind of teaching. After all, where else will you find a higher grade awarded for some 'inspired cheating'? A first reaction to this by a principal is likely to be deep shock!

Here are a couple of my own experiences.

I teach in a large high school in an upper-middle class neighborhood where parents are upward-mobile and have great expectations for their children. More than 90% of our students go to college and this rarified intellectual climate would appear to be ideal for INTERSTUDENT. Not so, for the pressure of ambition obsesses the student with grade averages. They are more concerned with the 'expected' answer than learning how the answer was reached.

In fact, we often experience great resistance from the so-called 'brightest' students who are threatened by the lack of opportunity to look up the answer on page 46 - a method that they have perfected and for which they have been richly rewarded in the past.

To cope with this paranoia over grades, I am now placing more emphasis on individual points. In addition to the Group score he gets an extra financial reward (I use a money system) based on his cooperation with the rest of the Group.

When students complete the secret ballot for the 'cut' they also distribute 10 points according to each member's value to the Group. If one person did all the work - he gets the 10 points. If all helped equally, they share the points. Assignment of the points is part of the secret ballot and not a matter of Group discussion. I then average these points and add them to their already earned totals.

At the end of the Mini Program a grade is given based on the point accumulation. My hope is that this variation will encourage greater participation and cooperation and eliminate the one-man show that sometimes occurs when a bright student dominates - or is used by - a Group. It is still too early to judge completely its effectiveness, but it is apparent that it has quelled the fears of overly grade-conscious students who object to being saddled to less motivated partners.

One very good student who was drafted by the 'cut' Group has organized them into an effective discussion unit with full participation. They are currently in the lead in Mini-Two.

These extra personal points promise to be a useful addition to the Program - for me. Do you have some ideas and suggestions? What problems have you had? How did you solve them? What methods do you use between Minis to reinforce concepts and 'tie it all together'? Drop me a line and let me -- and the rest of the 'family' know.

## AN EXPERIMENT IN INDIA

The much travelled and well known author, Karl Eskelund, whose many books on foreign countries and their people have countless readers, describes the effort which a band of young American and English Quakers made in the way of assisting some of the Indian population, millions of whom live at starvation level.

The young idealists took up their task in 1946 at the village district of Pifa, which lies in the Ganges delta, 45 miles east of Calcutta and four miles by bus from Basirhat railway station. They were fully aware that their work would test their patience, for in India you can get no results "at five minutes past twelve." But after having outlined their plans to the peasants, the fishermen and the landowners, which met with general approval, they organised a co-operative enterprise in cultivating the land and in marketing the produce. They set up day schools for the children, evening schools for adults, clinics, etc.

After overcoming the initial difficulties, they saw signs of progress; inspiration grew. Health conditions improved. All took greater interest in their work and their earnings increased. New ideas took shape - there was advance along the whole line - an advance, slow but sure.

Five years after the experiment began Karl Eskelund visited Pifa and with one of the Quakers as his guide, he went through the village to see how it was faring. The Quaker had lost more than two stones in weight and was as thin and spare as the natives. But what was worse, he had lost heart because the experiment had proved a total failure. The day school still existed, but only one-fourth of the children attended it. The evening school was closed. The clinic was hardly used. Agriculture, fishing and trade were back again to old methods.

The author asked for an explanation of this fiasco. The young Quaker offered quite a number of reasons, none of which he could accept. Finally he got to the root of the matter. This is what he says:—

"In the first year after beginning the experiment, both peasants and fishermen earned more than ever before. What was the result? The large landowners at once raised their rents and the smaller landowners followed suit. The peasants had to pay more for permission to cultivate the land. The fishermen had to find more money to buy permission to cast their nets on the flooded fields. In that way practically the whole of the increased earnings passed into landowners' pockets.

"The people of Pifa were unhappy at this. Nevertheless, in the next year they worked hard. Crops were plentiful; there was a rich catch of fish; good prices were paid for the produce. At once the landowners raised their rents still higher.

"The people then began to lose courage. What was the use if for all their efforts they got no benefit? The land-owners waxed fatter. The peasants and fishermen did not become any thinner - that they could not, for otherwise they would die.

"Indians are ignorant but they are not stupid. They can put two and two together. They had found themselves momentarily enriched by the new methods but in the end all the extra money went to the landowners. If one of the new ideas would not work, what faith could they put in any other novelties? Perhaps after all, the old methods were the best . . ."

—"Land and Liberty."

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For a demonstration of the Mini-Courses next Fall you should reserve early..... It won't cost you anything and it's an easy way to become convinced that the INTERSTUDENT Program is as good as everyone says.....Once you see it work you'll want to run several Minis through the year.....Contact us at once and say you wish to be scheduled this Fall.....We'll juggle our scheduling to fit you in on one of the demonstration trips.....For this September and October we must limit our visits to New York City, Long Island, Philadelphia and the whole of California.....Maybe something can be arranged in Ontario and Alberta also..... Let us know!

# Contumely

AND I'LL TELL YOU ANOTHER THING. OUR GIRL SHIRLEY IS BACK FROM CHINA WITH A FILM THAT CONFIRMS THE HAPPINESS MAO HAS BROUGHT TO THE HUDDLED MASSES. EVERYBODY LAUGHED AND SMILED EXCEPT THE AMERICANS WHO WERE TOO BUSY ASKING SINCERE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MIRACLE OF A NON-COMPETITIVE SOCIETY. (THEY DIDN'T ASK HOW THE CHINESE PICKED THE BEST PLAYERS FOR THEIR PING-PONG DIPLOMACY.)

ON PUBLIC TELEVISION, THE SHOWING WAS FOLLOWED BY A SUITABLY DEWY-EYED GROUP OF THE TOURISTS CONCLUDING THAT CHINA'S POSITION CAME SOMEWHERE BETWEEN CLEANLINESS AND GODLINESS. EXCEPT FOR THE ONE WHO WAS DESCRIBED (WITHOUT REGARD FOR CLASS, COLOR, OR CREED) AS THE "WALLACE SUPP-ORTER". SHE JUST ABOUT APOLOGISED FOR REMAINING A STAUNCH ANTI-COMMUNIST, THEREBY SHOWING HER CLOSED MIND.

ONE SOUR NOTE INTRUDED. THE GUY WITH IMPECCABLE CREDENTIALS (HE'D BEEN PERSECUTED BY MCCARTHY ON HIS RETURN FROM YEARS OF FOREIGN SERVICE IN CHINA) KEPT EMBARRASSING THE IMPARTIAL MODERATOR BY CASTING DOUBT ON SOME OF THE ENTHUSIASM. HE WON'T BE INVITED AGAIN.

WHEN SHIRLEY WITH INFINITE PATIENCE EXPLAINED HOW OPPOSITION TO THE REVOLUTION WAS PARRIED BY RE-EDUCATION, HE MILDLY REMARKED THAT HISTORY HAS A WAY OF BEING RE-WRITTEN BY THE VICTORS. HE DEFINITELY WON'T BE INVITED AGAIN.


SHIRLEY'S CHINA CAN BE COMPARED TO THE GERMANY OF THE LATE 30'S. EACH COUNTRY WAS LED FROM POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DISASTER TO COMPARATIVE STABILITY BY A BEST SELLING AUTHOR WHO DEMANDED UNQUESTIONING OBEDIENCE TO "NATIONAL GOALS". VISITORS TO GERMANY RETURNED WITH THE SAME KIND OF "LAUGHING CITIZENRY" PICTURES AS DID SHIRLEY. THEY ALSO WAXED ECSTATIC ABOUT THE "NEW ORDER" THAT WOULD REVOLUTIONIZE THE FUTURE. BUT THAT WAS LONG AGO. THE NEW ORDER BECAME THE OLD ORDER BEFORE SHIRLEY BECAME A TEEN-AGER.

A. TIRADE

The Alumni Group consists of adult graduates of the many Henry George Schools and classroom teachers from grade-school to university whose abiding interest is improvement of the social science curriculum. Improvement means emphasis on scientific method and a rigorous examination of data. No particular philosophy may be ascribed to a member of the Group.

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