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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1957

Pity The Poor Scrivener

Writing Is The Loneliest Art

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I suppose every trade has its pet cliché... Writing is the loneliest art because it has to be done every day, or three times a week, or once a month...

But the contract job is the deadliest of all, because it has to be done every day, or three times a week, or once a month...

Furthermore, he doesn't give a damn how you get where you're going, how you get the copy back, or whether you're happy in your work...

NECESSARY EVILS
A secretary is more or less necessary if the volume is big, and so is an agent, and so is a lawyer...

STAY ON THE WAGON
Even the idea that writers are a gay lot who stay loaded all the time is fallacious...

Editors' Note: Mr. Ruark's latest book, "The Old Man and the Boy," was reviewed Saturday in The News.

The U. S. Faces A Crisis Of Confidence

THE disturbing news of the President's latest illness could not have come at a time when the nation was worse prepared to receive it.

To deep concern over revelations of Soviet scientific and military advances is now added the alarming possibility that the seat of U. S. leadership and world influence will be left vacant for an indefinite period.

Essentially, then, the President's illness presents a crisis of confidence that the people, the Congress and the administration must overcome.

The worst possible reaction would be for the nation to let its attention be drawn away from an examination of the Soviet threat and from a program to meet it.

The studies and the program must go forward. The determination of the nation to fill its role of world leadership must be kept crystal clear.

While there is no substitute for active presidential leadership, the people will respond wholeheartedly to disinterested direction from Congress and responsible administration officials.

The first concern of Congress and the administration must be to see to it that the U. S. government continues to function effectively at home and overseas.

The President's illness already has judged for the best instincts of Americans. If their attitude is matched in Washington, the uncertainties ahead will be weathered safely and confidently.



"True, there's no money in poetry. But, then, there's no poetry in money, either."

Younger Democrats Thwack Party's Southern Leadership

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
The determination of the younger and more aggressive Democrats from outside the South to assert themselves against their southern leadership has appeared in connection with the Senate missile inquiry.

The inquiry chairman, Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas, is the leading exponent of a moderate line which many Democrats often find indistinguishable from the Eisenhower brand.



SEN. JOHNSON
A Dose Of Soothing Syrup

A public collision between the Johnson group and moderation of the latter attitude of Symington and Jackson may be avoided. But the issue of party policy will recur again and again.

indignation long before the Sputniks forced it upon the attention of the public and the White House.

Technically Johnson is in this instance acting as chairman of a preparatory subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee.

But the committee roster shows too that Symington will not stand alone. Sen. Henry M. Jackson, Washington Democrat, chairman of the Nuclear Weapons Subcommittee of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, is also on Armed Services.

BIG PROGRAM URGED

Jackson has already urged a vastly enlarged military program to defend America against Russia, with higher taxes to finance it.

Testimony Vs. Talent

TOO MUCH current criticism sees literature as a form of testimony rather than of talent, and that explains far more than it enriches, as, in other words, education rather than culture.

Quote, Unquote

"True contentment depends not upon what we have. A tub was large enough for Diogenes, but a world was too small for Alexander"—The Londoner.

"Television sets are three-dimensional, they give you a width and depth."—Chapel Hill Weekly.

Year Of Progress



People's Platform

President Eisenhower Deserves The Blame

Cheraw, S. C.
Editors, The News: WE SHOULD take note of the statements and promises of the Eisenhower administration during its control of the government and its leadership in the field of foreign policy.

I feel that it is time that the President put his house in order and got on with the job the people elected him for.

Men And The Moon

Dr. Edward Teller, father of the H-Bomb, has recommended that a building a moon rocket as a "scientific stunt" called in by the White House to review the moon rocket proposals.

Five Months Warning

However, even they had a hard time defending the recent amazing revelation, namely that the Defense Dept. had known five months in advance that Russia was going to launch its Sputnik yet didn't let the Army put its six satellites at Huntsville, Ala., into the air first.

They Are Real

Existence of these six satellites was first reported in this column on Oct. 25. The congressmen, going to Huntsville after they finished quizzing defense officials in Washington, said these satellites, declared they were no figment of a newsmen's imagination.

Will Allies Panic?

Yet, according to the information given so far by the House Armed Services Committee, these bases are now almost valueless—thanks to Russia's superior missile development and to our complacency.

Shocking Disclosure

The United States was producing four Thor intermediate range ballistic missiles per month, when Eisenhower economy cut it down to two.

While it's true that Russia's interme-

diates place the blame on our neglect of duty. I place the blame for all of the mistakes where it belongs—on the shoulders of the President and his administration.

Why did our leaders not inform the people on what to expect? Why the let-down on the part of our government in the fields of missiles and satellites? Was it the cause of inter-service feuds in the Defense Department or a lack of leadership in the administration?

I note that Mr. Stevenson has been appointed by the administration to assist in preparing information for the President to present to the leaders of other nations at the NATO meeting in Paris.

I agree that it is time to appoint anyone—Republican or Democrat—who can help our country out of this disgraceful situation.

—J. A. GRAHAM

Charlotte's Best Hope Is A Necessity

AROUSING public support for urban renewal in Charlotte must be harnessed—now.

The leadership of inspired and dedicated citizens is available. The knowledge of what to do and how to do it is at hand.

The world will always look to the American presidency for an expression of U. S. policies and principles.

The Chamber of Commerce is already moving. It has kindled an amazing amount of interest in urban renewal's potentialities among Charlotte's business and professional people.

The tremendous human and material waste inherent in urban blight cannot be stopped by government alone.

The challenge must not be misinterpreted. It implies no rivalry. It is no power play to steal the initiative from the City Council.

From The Raleigh News & Observer

ALL IN A NAME

IT IS said that "daddy" is the most prevalent term for male parents. "Mother" holds an edge over "mamma" but "mom" is running hard, particularly with the younger country club set.

So-called "modern art" is about as modern as etchings made by cave men on the walls of their caves—and about as artistic—JACKSON (Miss.) STATE TIMES.

Judge rules wife may go through husband's pockets at pleasure. This validates the marriage license as a search warrant.—GASTONIA GAZETTE.

"Glad to see you old man. Can you lend me five dollars?" "Sorry, but I haven't a cent with me today." "And at home?" "They're all very, very, thank you, very well."—LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.

Anyway, there's a new remark to make about the "other" —It's a nice clear evening for looking for spunks." —RALEIGH NEWS AND OBSERVER.

All the world loves a lover—and that's why movies were born.—MIAMI HERALD.

be harnessed—the dynamic of an aroused citizenry, the dynamic of civil pride, the dynamic of moral concern and good citizenship, the dynamic of enlightened self-interest on the part of all the citizens of Charlotte.

If the slums of Brooklyn can be eradicated by the action of government, private enterprise and mobilized public pride and sentiment, then the whole community will profit.

Much planning will have to be done. Much work lies ahead. Those who work and plan must be realists who do not despise limited objectives at first.

SEN. SYMINGTON
A Table-Pounding Protest

Bridges of New Hampshire, publicly approve. The rebuffing halls of the Capitol now report a table-pounding protest to Johnson by Sen. Stuart Symington, Missouri Democrat, against what he feels is the silent smothering of the defense issue. It is an issue that Symington, the first secretary of the Air Force, pursued with force and

calling is a big mouthful. This seems to be attributable partially to the specious desire of some fathers and mothers to hold onto early middle age as if it were the only bucket of water in Arizona.

"Daughter" has gone to the old ladies home, and "son" is a sometimes boy. For some reason "son" also denoted a lot, particularly when prefaced by a smiling "my."

CONGRESSMEN Dan Flood of Pennsylvania and Robert Sikes of Florida, both Democrats, charged, out high Defense Department officials like Marine sergeants, training recruits at Paris Island when they heard about some of the lags in the satellite-missile program.

The public was barred from the two-day, electric-charged sessions. However, here are some of the things the congressmen heard which made them indignant.

When Pennsylvania's Dan Flood heard he looked as if he were going to jump down Defense Secretary McElroy's throat. He looked even more explosive when he learned that Russia was already producing and had stockpiled several thousand IRBM.

While it's true that Russia's interme-

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

dia missiles travel only 800 miles as against our range of 1,500 miles, the Russian range is ample to knock out all our Strategic Air Command bases overseas. Furthermore, they have missiles, we don't.

By pointing 25 missiles at each U. S. base and firing them simultaneously, the Russians could knock our bases out in Turkey, Italy, Libya, and Western Europe.

These SAC bases are for the purpose of carrying war to the heart of Russia. They are offensive bases, from which we would launch bomber attacks. These are the much-publicized attacks President Eisenhower has been talking about in his chin-up television broadcasts.

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