Those Monstrous Deficits:
Storm Clouds Over Recovery

Exclusive Interview
Ex-Treasury Secretary
William E. Simon

Coming Tax Changes:
How They'll Affect You

Why You Vote
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Moral Clarity

Praise be to Michael Novak for his sagacious “Moral Clarity in the Nuclear Age” in the August issue. Deterrence of the Soviets is now our highest morality. Praise the Lord and buy the ammunition.

Clyde Farrar
Warrenburg, N.Y.

Fakes

Although “The Plague of Fake Products” (August) is written to expose many other things, I believe it should also apply to many “generic” preparations of medications.

The unscrupulous merchant who sells “generic” as “just as good but cheaper,” especially medications, may actually be doing harm to those who purchase from him.

I believe in purchasing a clearly labeled product from a well-known manufacturer who is proud of his product and who stakes his reputation on the value of his merchandise.

Elvin M. Amen, M.D.
Bartlesville, Okla.

The U.N.

As a veteran of WWII and Korea, I agree that some sanctions must be taken by the U.S. against the U.N. as published in your August Big Issues, “Should Congress Ratify the Law of the Sea Treaty?” It’s time we took a closer look at those nations who bite the hand that feeds them.

Dan F. Cuelo
Douglas, Ariz.

Free Photos

Being a collector of old photographs and having had the good fortune to acquire the inventory of an old newspaper, I have numerous photographs of veterans of WWII that I will give free to Legionnaires who send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Morris Gerber
55 Sycamore St.
Albany, N.Y.

POW

Thank you for the article “The Ex-POW: Too Little, Too Late?” (August). It is surely time that we make the public aware of the plight of our former POWs and their fight for increased disability benefits and needed medical attention.

My father was a prisoner of the Japanese over three years and has just again been turned down for increased benefits—the reason being his disabilities are not service-connected.

I believe it is time we all start making noise, and loud noise, to get our legislators and the VA to start to help

About this issue . . .

Readers might be interested in knowing how long it takes to put together an issue of their American Legion Magazine. Like October’s.

Actually, planning started back before January. We thought the Magazine could perform a genuine service for readers by focusing on the American economy, which, in final analysis, is the wellspring for not only our jobs and high living standards, but also for a strong defense and virtually everything else our nation is trying to achieve.

This meant coming to grips with the problems posed by government deficits and taxes. We had to assume these would be at least as unsettled now as at the year’s beginning. And who could better comment on such matters than the man whose whole career has stood for fiscal integrity? Thus, the lead-off interview on page 10 with William E. Simon.

With the real work beginning in April and continuing to date, we proceeded to round out this coverage with a leading congressman’s views on balancing the budget (page 10), the impact of Washington reporting on economic trends (page 15), an in-depth look at tax developments (page 16) and an article on how one of our most important industries, autos, is maneuvering out of its rut of competitive troubles (page 20).

Other features and news on Legion activities fell naturally into our mix: the report on our new National Commander, Clarence M. Bacon, came right out of our recent National Convention. And the Legion Baseball story was speeded up to tie in with the World Series.

All this much more readily said than done! We hope you like the results. . . .

The Editors

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In lasting tribute to these patriots of yesterday and today, the American Military Historical Society announces the issuance of an official collection of military miniatures. This is the first collection of such miniatures in the history of the Society, which is the distinguished organization that brings together people who create military miniatures and those who collect them. This comprehensive collection will portray the fighting men who have served in every branch of military service — and in every era of American history — in the authentic uniforms they actually wore.

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To subscribe, send your application to the American Military Historical Society, c/o The Franklin Mint, Franklin Center, Pa. 19091, by October 31.

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Congress Battling High Pay

Congress has been feuding unsuccessfully since 1976 with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund over the "high" salaries of their staffs. This year's attempt to cap these wages at about $53,000 a year failed again, despite the best efforts of Rep. Andrew Jacobs Jr., D-Ind.

One-third of the 1,500 employees at the IMF get more than $67,000 a year, and as much as $144,000 tax free, Jacobs said. They also get mortgage loans at 5 percent.

Several congressmen—who get $72,600 a year—expressed sympathy for Jacobs' salary ceiling, but warned that for practical purposes there was no way that the U.S. could impose its pay philosophy on the two international institutions that make loans to developing nations.

Although the U.S. is the biggest contributor to the financial resources of the two institutions, more than 100 other countries also have a say in the affairs of the two global lending organizations.

Bad Roads, Bad Bridges

As the nation debates what to do about the national deficit of $280 billion, an even bigger, but little publicized, fiscal threat hangs over our heads.

The country's highways, bridges, water systems and sewers are going to pot at such a rapid rate, that it will cost more than $1,000 billion—that's $1,000,000,000,000—to put them into running order by the end of this century, according to the Congressional Joint Economic Committee.

That means unless repairs and improvements are made, the nation will lose some of its economic development, productivity and jobs.

"Just as clearly," said the committee, "Americans will suffer a loss in the quality of their lives."

Most of the problems come from aging, and the situation is getting worse day by day, especially for highways and bridges. The outlook, bleak as it appears, is "manageable," according to the committee, so long as action is taken quickly to raise funds to deal with the problem. How is this to be done? "New and innovative financing mechanisms" will have to be found, the committee concluded.

Who's the Breadwinner?

The traditional American way of life, with the man at his job and the woman at home, is dwindling.

The latest word from the U.S. Census Bureau is that based on 1981 earnings their findings show 62 percent of married couples worked.

Average earnings of the 42 million households where both husband and wife held down full-time jobs, brought home $34,560. If they held professional positions, total income reached $39,170. One out of six wives brought home more of the bacon than her spouse.

Of the working couples, 24 percent of the men and 17 percent of the women had a college education, and those with the college background earned more than their contemporaries. Working wives with at least one minor child in the home accounted for 55 percent of all working women.

Quote of the Month

"At Fulda Gap, which divides East and West Germany, our observation towers face east ... But the observation towers on the other side face east, too, and for a very different reason. They face east to contain and keep in and prevent anyone from coming to the West."

Caspar W. Weinberger
Secretary of Defense
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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE
Should There Be Direct Elections Of Presidents?

Sen. Quentin N. Burdick, D-N.D.

The Electoral College system of electing the president is outdated, outmoded and was ill-conceived from the beginning. It purported to reconcile opposing state and federal interests, to provide a carefully limited degree of popular participation in the election, and to preserve the office of the president independent of Congress. Instead, we have a system which can thwart the wishes of the voters, elect a president who has less popular support than another candidate, and allow half of Congress to elect the president instead of the people.

A system providing for the direct election of the president should replace the Electoral College. Consider the following three characteristics of the Electoral College.

First of all, the electors chosen by the people to vote for a candidate need not follow those people’s wishes. There is no Constitutional provision requiring electors to vote as they pledged at election time.

Second, a candidate can win more popular votes in November than an opponent and still lose the election—because the electors vote by states. For example, suppose the Democratic candidate carries some of the heavily populated states overwhelmingly, but loses other populous states by narrow margins. It is then possible for the Democrat to have more popular votes than the Republican nominee and yet not gain enough electoral votes to win.

Third, the presidency and the Congress are supposed to be two separate and distinct branches of government. Yet, if no nominee gets a majority of the electoral votes, the decision is turned over to the House of Representatives.

These aberrations have occurred in the past. The circumstances of these misfires are less important than the fact that any one of the three could occur again and unjustly deny the power of the voters to choose their president.

Direct election of the president would eliminate these problems. Under such a system, the candidate receiving the most popular votes would be elected president—so long as that candidate received at least 40 percent of the votes cast. If no one achieved that percentage, a run-off election would be held between the top two. This method would insure that the popular choice is elected president, and every vote would count. If the president serves as leader of the whole country, shouldn’t every person’s vote count?

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah

No

If more Americans understood the advantages of the Electoral College, there would be far fewer proposals to replace it with a direct election procedure.

The electoral vote system has worked extremely well for nearly 200 years in producing experienced and capable presidents. It has been instrumental in developing and stabilizing our political system while keeping the states at the core of national elections. The direct election alternative would eliminate many of these advantages. Among its more serious consequences, a direct-election system would:

- Seriously emasculate a vital area of American federalism by eliminating the role of the states.
- Threaten the continued existence of a moderate two-party system by encouraging splinter parties.
- Erode the popular “legitimacy” of presidents, who, under a system of direct election, may have support in but a single region of the country.
- Sharply reduce the orderliness of the presidential transition period through lengthy run-off elections.
- Involve the federal government far more deeply into voter eligibility and election administration, currently handled by the states.

It is a misconception to suppose that our present system does not render a president elected by popular vote. Direct popular election is already in place, but at the state rather than at the national level.

The only major argument offered by direct election proponents is that the present system permits the possibility of a runnerup president who receives fewer popular votes than his opponent. It is suggested that such a president would find it difficult to effectively govern. I disagree. No major crisis occurred in 1888 when Benjamin Harrison was elected with a smaller share of the popular vote than Grover Cleveland.

This practice of conjuring up statistical runnerup possibilities to suggest a problem where none exists is of little merit. The same statistical tactics could be used against direct election. For example, under direct election a candidate could fail to win a majority in 49 of the 50 states yet still be elected president.

The electoral-vote system has served us well, and we would do well to leave it alone.
We Didn’t
Ask for Parades

By Charles F. Newcomb

In the July issue, John M. Connolly Jr. wrote of the misinformation, or misrepresentation, the media presented on the lack of parades honoring the men and women who served in the Vietnam War.

His point was a good one, but from a Vietnam veteran’s point of view, not as relevant or important as depicted. And he missed one important issue.

While the media overplayed the lack of Vietnam veteran homecoming parades, it is more interesting to note that this same media also portrayed those veterans as dope addicts and baby killers. Perhaps the media themselves are responsible for perpetuating the myth that there were no parades, because they gave little or no publicity to such events.

In all fairness to the media, however, most of the parades would not have been given had it not been for media pressures. But this attention, as well intended as it was, served only to complicate the situation. For example, during the height of the publicity I was driving through Long Beach, Calif., and noticed a large banner which read, “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans!” This was three years ago—more than 10 years after I had returned—and some seven years since the end of our involvement in the war.

I think I can speak for other Vietnam veterans when I say that, although I appreciated the thought, I was extremely embarrassed by the sign. I imagined non-veterans thinking, “Boy, these guys finally raised so much hell that now we have to tell ’em we’re sorry we didn’t welcome them home.”

The fact of the matter is, we didn’t ask for a parade.

It would have been nice, and for those who were fortunate enough to have had one, I’m certain it was wonderful. But we simply didn’t ask for any parades.

What would have been nice, would have been someone at the airport waiting to welcome us home. Not even the military made an effort to recognize our arrival; we simply got off transport aircraft at an arrival terminal and went our separate ways to catch a bus to a civilian airport for connecting flights home.

It would have been nice to have had someone waiting for us at home, too. Having family there was wonderful, but knowing the community was glad to see you back would have been a joy.

It would have been nice to have seen our friends from school, and not be alienated, spat on or excluded from the group like we brought back some kind of plague.

When the WWI, WWII and Korea veterans came home, they did so in groups—usually with the same units that they had been with throughout their ordeal. They had time to unwind, to work out their frustrations and anxieties together and to prepare for their homecoming. Because they came home in groups, they usually had groups waiting for them. There were signs, flags and warm smiles. There were parades too, but I’m sure they didn’t ask for them either.

We Vietnam veterans came home much like we departed: alone.

In many cases, such as mine, we were home in our living rooms less than 24 hours after being subjected to hostile fire. We still had the smell of death on our skin, the memories of fallen comrades fresh in our minds, and it seemed that no one cared. We now know that it was this way because the American people were trying to pretend that the war didn’t exist, or simply wishing it didn’t, and they wanted no fanfare for what they felt was unjust. But that didn’t help the Vietnam veteran deal with loneliness, rejection and the uncertainty of our place back in our own society.

We didn’t want a parade. We just wanted someone to say: “You did a good job... we’re glad you’re home... welcome back.”

Charles F. Newcomb served in the Riverine Forces in the I-Corps region of South Vietnam, and was wounded during the 1968 Tet Offensive.
"The U.S. has long ago gone broke," says ex-Treasury Secretary William E. Simon, "but the government has two great powers which can, if used properly, extricate us from this pit." He discusses those options and other responsible economic alternatives in the following interview.

Legion Magazine: Mr. Simon, is there any real danger of the American economy going broke?

William E. Simon: The quick answer to that is no, there is not. We have overall the strongest economy in the world. But the biggest danger we face is the domination of the federal government over our lives and livelihoods. Right now we have a strong recovery under way, but there are numerous signs for the future, and there are some alarming fissures in our financial system as a result of many years of irresponsible policies. A better question might be: Is there a danger of the U.S. government going broke?

Q. Is there?

A. That requires some discussion of what it means to "go broke." If it means that there is no realistic prospect of ever getting out of debt, then I would reluctantly have to admit that the U.S. has long ago gone broke.

Every year the Treasury's Bureau of Government Fiscal Operations prepares a document called "Consolidated Financial Statements of the U.S. Government." Unlike the budget documents, this document attempts what businessmen call "accrual accounting." It tries to estimate the government's future pension liabilities and losses on its many guarantee and insurance programs. It also shows federal land, buildings and military equipment as assets. In short, the document assesses the U.S. government as it would a business corporation.

At the beginning of fiscal year 1982, using this approach, the federal government was in the hole by $2.75 trillion. During 1982 it went further into the hole by about $300 billion—$127 billion in operating deficit, and $186 billion in what is called "non-cash provision for Social Security." This is the increase in accrued liability of the Social Security

Former Treasury Secretary William E. Simon has worked for more than two decades in international and national monetary and financial affairs. He also served as president of the 1984 U.S. Olympic Committee.
trust fund. So at the beginning of 1983 the federal government was just over $3 trillion in debt. Even though the method seriously undervalues the public lands and resources, that is still a staggering figure. And it is getting larger by about $300 billion every year.

Q. What does this mean?
A. Well, it doesn't mean there will be a sheriff's sale anytime soon. Unlike a private business, the government has two great powers which can, if used properly, extricate us from this pit. One is the power to tax the economy. The other is the power to control the value of money, exercised through the Federal Reserve System. The responsible use of those two powers can keep the U.S. government solvent and the American people prosperous, even though the national debt itself may never be reduced or retired. But let me really emphasize this: Even the intelligent use of those two powers will not pull us out of the hole we're in if we keep getting in deeper by continued deficit spending. The federal government simply has to cut back.

Q. What are the chances of those government powers being used responsibly?
A. Based on recent experience, I would have to say "not very good." The absolutely indispensable key to success is controlling federal spending.

Some people in Washington are now congratulating themselves because federal spending is increasing less rapidly than it would have under previous administrations' spending plans. This borders on the ridiculous. How can a government running deficits in the $180 billion range as far ahead as the eye can see congratulate itself? Suppose one of your American Legion baseball teams goes out to play and gets walloped 19-2. You would hardly break out the campaign in the clubhouse to celebrate avoiding a shutout. That's the equivalent of what these people are doing in boasting of their success in controlling federal spending.

If the government can't control federal spending, there will be large deficits. If you try to raise taxes to cover those deficits, you run the risk of killing the golden goose. For instance, to cover the 1985 deficit it would be necessary to increase both individual and corporate income tax collections by about 50 percent. But, if you raised the rates 50 percent in hopes of doing this, there would be a calamitous recession and the revenue base would contract, and you wouldn't get the revenues.

Q. What happens if the Fed simply prints money to cover the deficits?
A. Now if you ask the Fed to print money to cover those deficits, you also get a disaster. That would set off a wild inflationary surge which would make it easier to pay off debts of all kinds, but it could destroy the American economy—in fact, the world economy—in the process. We were headed that way in 1980, and what we saw was pretty darned frightening.

Q. So is there a way out?
A. There is a very simple way out—that is, it is simple to declare but very difficult to do: restore the balance between fiscal and monetary policy by controlling spending and balancing the budget.

Q. How does defense spending rate as a part of the spending problem?
A. Defense spending doesn't have as much to do with the problem as the nuclear freeze lobby would have all of us believe. In fact, the share of gross national product absorbed by defense spending is actually projected to be lower in 1984 than it was from the end of the Korean War until 1970. During that period, defense outlays averaged 10.8 percent of GNP, whereas in 1984, it is estimated that defense will absorb 6.7 percent of GNP.

Nonetheless, in view of the severe fiscal imbalance that we face, it is likely that any effective budget-cutting program must include a modest slow-down in the rate of growth of defense spending. Of course, we must take great care not to compromise our national security objectives, and, in view of the dangers we face in the world, it's pretty hard to argue that 7 percent of GNP is too much to pay for national security. But with the exercise of caution, it should be possible to stretch out our defense spending plans in order to balance our concern for national security with the equally important concern for economic growth and domestic security.

Q. What about the growing interest on the United States' national debt?
A. That is an increasingly serious part of the budget problem. This coming year interest payments on the national debt will consume $165 billion, more than four times what it cost the taxpayers in 1977. Because of high interest rates, the interest portion of the budget is growing more rapidly than the economy itself. As a proportion of GNP, interest paid on the national debt is now twice what it was as recently as 1980. Like a bankrupt Third World country, we are in effect borrowing more money to pay the interest on money already borrowed.

Q. Some people say the federal deficit isn't all that serious—that we can learn to live with deficits. What's your view?
A. There are some people up in the mountains who say there is no danger in handling live rattlesnakes year after year. Yet a lot of those who said that aren't with us any more. I would put the deficit optimists in the same category, except they continue to remain with us for deficit after deficit.

I have seen analyses purporting to show that there is no correlation between federal deficits and high interest rates. All that proves, I think, is that an effort to correlate two series of numbers may produce nothing of significance. Every reader of your magazine, however untutored he may be in higher mathematics, knows that the government cannot go on spending $200 billion more than it takes in,

"There is a simple way out—that is, simple to declare but very difficult to do."

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year after year, without somebody, somehow, having to pay the bill for it.

"There ain't no free lunch." Like any family or any local Legion post, if we borrow and whoop it up today, we will have to face the consequences tomorrow. The only questions are: how long until tomorrow, and who will end up paying, and how?

Q. Whatever happened to supply-side economics?
A. The centerpiece of the supply-side economic policy was a major reduction in marginal tax rates—the income tax rate imposed on the last dollar of income earned. The supply-side theorists, and a lot of other people dating all the way back to Adam Smith, argued that when the tax rate on the next dollar you earn gets too high, you will just stop producing. And since we have a graduated rate structure, the effect will be most serious on those who are the biggest earners.

Now there is no arguing with that theory. It's true. And the 1981 tax-cut package phased in sharp reductions in the marginal tax rate. With all the recent tax legislation, including the base broadeners, the loophole closers, and the compliance measures—actions that are necessary to make our tax system fairer and more equitable—these cuts will amount to some $100 billion in reductions from prior law in each of 1984 and 1985. Moreover, it's hard to imagine that the economy would be recovering so well today without these cuts.

Q. But what about the promises that we could cut taxes and spend more too?
A. Here's where we got into trouble. Everyone assumed that the tax cuts would bring in a lot more revenue, which would allow spending to continue while balancing the budget. Without rehashing old arguments, we have learned that if tax cuts are to benefit fully the economy, they must be balanced by equivalent spending reductions in order to avoid enlarging the deficit and creating even greater federal debt burdens. This means that spending will have to be cut to equal revenues. But spending hasn't been cut. It has increased. And so we have $150- to $200-billion deficits as far ahead as the eye can see.

Q. The third world debt crisis is much in the news. Does it threaten the collapse of the international financial structure?
A. There's no doubt it threatens a real calamity, but it is quite possible that it can yet be avoided. Over the past decade, all sorts of Third World countries—notably Mexico, Argentina and Brazil—have borrowed hundreds of billions from Western banks. At the same time, many of these countries systematically strangled the potentially productive private sectors of their economies. They've borrowed, consumed and wasted, and now they are wondering how they will ever pay off. Most of them are already borrowing more money to pay interest on money already borrowed.

Certainly, a widespread default would cause an enormous financial shock throughout the world economy. There would be terrific pressure for shifting the losses to the Western governments—that is, to let the taxpayers, rather than the lenders, hold the bag. There would be a great temptation to inflate currencies in an attempt to make the debt smaller in real terms. These are all things the world can do without. In net, I am slightly optimistic—albeit only slightly—that all this can be avoided.

Q. Are we headed back into runaway inflation?
A. I sure hope not. Over the last three years, inflation has been under control, even though I cannot accept the idea of a "normal" annual depreciation of the dollar by 5 or 6 percent. What that means is that the savings of every person in America slightly disappears by 5 percent each year. That is simply immoral, and all that can be said for it is that 5 percent is 7 percentage points less immoral than 12 percentage points.

There are several reasons why we do not have high inflation now, despite the huge federal deficits. We are just emerging from a major recession, in which the utilization of our plant capacity was very low. There has been a good deal of room to expand production without running into bottlenecks. Our productivity is also on the rise, which means we are getting more out of our capital plant. A lot of...
Controlling the Federal Budget

Making government affordable isn't easy, but it is possible.

By Senator Peter V. Domenici

Just as an individual must learn to live within his means, so too must our nation learn to live within its means. In practical terms, this means that the United States must bring its spending down to a level that the taxpayers of this country are able and willing to pay for.

Veterans' programs have a high priority in Congress, even in this new era of tight budgets. Thus, important benefits for veterans have not been cut.

The Congress and the president in recent years have made tremendous strides toward getting our tax and spending policies into better balance. Since 1980, Congress has enacted deficit reducing measures totaling more than $600 billion. These savings were unprecedented—there have never been deficit cuts this large in our nation's history. Equally impressive is what Congress did NOT do during these years. We resisted the pressure to create new spending programs and to continue the unquestioned increases in existing programs. Few major new entitlements or appropriated spending programs have been established since 1980.

In addition, the president signed a major tax reform bill—one of the largest in history. It will continue the process begun in 1982 of eliminating unwarranted tax benefits, closing loopholes, causing more citizens to pay their fair share and raising needed revenue without increasing marginal tax rates on working men and women.

It is clear that Congress is aware of the deficit problem—and aware of its serious responsibilities to the American people. Yet, despite all these important measures, the deficit remains too large. At almost any other time in history, Congress and the president would be able to sit back and enjoy the applause for a job well done in restraining growth in spending. Today, however, we need to keep striving for more and better ways to bring federal deficits under control.

To generate the revenue needed, we need to take a two-pronged approach.

"Equally impressive is what Congress did not do . . ."

First, we need to keep our economy strong, as it has been for the last couple of years, so that more people are employed, more businesses are successful and more taxes are therefore collected. Without a healthy economy, even high tax rates will not be sufficient, but with a strong economy, we can make our revenues more closely match our spending.

Second, we need to consider further tax reform that will make tax collection more efficient, simplify the task of figuring out who owes what, get rid of any tax preferences that cannot be justified on the basis of our national priorities and improve the overall fairness of the tax code. Americans have a great sense of fairness. They are willing to pay the necessary costs of government if they believe the tax laws are fair.

This two-pronged approach to revenues seems to be a reasonable one that the American people can accept. But we should not simply raise revenues and ignore the spending programs. In fact, we should not raise taxes at all until we have closely examined every spending program and cut out all the fat.

To control spending, we will need to continue the process of evaluating each program to make sure it is serving the needs it was intended to serve and that it is as efficient as possible. As we do this, however, we must be careful to recognize the changing priorities of Americans.

A good example of this are the changes in spending priorities in veterans' programs. Outlays for veterans' benefits and services will increase by 13 percent between fiscal years 1981 and 1985. But not all of these benefits and services will grow at the same rate. Spending for educational benefits will decline somewhat, because most eligible wartime vets have already taken advantage of them and fewer new vets are coming along. But spending for VA medical care over this period will increase 37 percent because of the increase in medical costs and the increase in the number of WWII veterans seeking medical treatment.

As we seek to control federal deficits, we must also make sure the burden falls fairly on everyone. It would be unconscionable to ask veterans, who have given so much for their country already, to make larger sacrifices than other groups of Americans. Veterans should be commended for accepting a six-month delay in their 1983 cost-of-living adjustments. This delay will be partly made up this year when COLAs are accelerated by three months. Then, veterans' COLAs will be on the same schedule as the COLAs of other recipients of federal benefits. Veterans should be treated fairly, as they were in this case, and they should not be made scapegoats in our efforts to control the budget.
foreign money is coming in here to help us finance our deficit. If we had to finance it out of our own savings, there would be a much greater pressure to monetize the debt and thus launch an inflationary surge.

Q. What has the Fed done in this regard?
A. The Fed has somewhat erratically tried to make its monetary policy lean against our irresponsible fiscal policy. Monetary policy can certainly be made to do this—it worked spectacularly in 1982, and also produced a recession—but the price of it is high interest rates. The real problem is the tremendous magnitude of fiscal irresponsibility exercised at the federal level. If the federal government keeps running these enormous deficits, the Fed will simply have to start monetizing them. And that triggers inflation. I am not in the business of making economic forecasts, but I would not be at all startled to see inflation hit 10 percent within a year, the way things are going.

The trouble here is, once again, that there "ain't no free lunch." If we don't pay through the unlegislated tax of inflation—the depreciation of the value of our money—we will have to pay through other taxes or through fewer government benefits. In my view, curtailting government spending is the only responsible way out of the situation, and by far the least painful for society as a whole. I believe a serious and sustained reduction in the impact of government on our economy would launch a terrific economic boom, leaving everyone better off. I wish we'd try it.

Q. In your books and speeches you have criticized politicians for simply throwing money at problems. Why do you feel this way?
A. In the first place, it's not their money they're throwing at problems. It's your money. And if it doesn't appear to work, they can always confiscate more of your money and try again.

Politicians apparently console themselves with the thought that the country is still better off to have them in office than those who might replace them.

Given the way the federal government has chosen to organize its business, the usual choice is to do more of the same, to do less of the same, or—at least theoretically—stop. What rarely gets on the national agenda is wholly different ways of tackling problems.

Q. Can you give an example?
A. Take the enterprise zone idea. Instead of throwing money into depressed urban neighborhoods, why not slash taxes to get rid of all the burdensome government regulations that inhibit enterprise, and get out of the way?

Under such circumstances, is there any reason not to believe that an awful lot of economic activity would start to blossom even in a place as desolate as the South Bronx?

Some 22 states have started to implement the idea, and the results so far are extremely encouraging. But the federal legislation, providing the major tax breaks, has been stalled, even though it has passed the Senate twice. And if it worked it would cast a lot of doubt on the validity of many ideas advanced over the years. It would also mean that economic growth takes place when government is driven out, not when government is invited in.

Q. What's the solution?
A. I'm afraid there is no simple cure. It all comes down, finally, to the exercise of vision, courage and leadership at all levels of government.

Q. What can we as citizens do to change this?
A. What you have to remember is that special interests are concentrated and very, very active. The general interest is diffused and usually rather lackadaisical. And so the special interests, whatever they may be, carry the day.

In the area of national security, The American Legion has been a wonderful example of a group dedicated to the general interest of all Americans—namely, protecting America and preserving our freedoms. The trouble is that there is no counterpart to The American Legion in the area of economic policy.

Q. All in all, are you an optimist or a pessimist about the future of America?
A. Anyone who has stood up as often as I have to point out the economic and financial problems we are getting into is likely to be viewed as a pessimist. And I confess that there are a lot of things to worry about.

But there's also a lot of cause for optimism. We have the strongest, most productive economy in the world, over all. We have the most creative people in the world's history. We still believe in the spirit of enterprise. We have a strong and stable political system, a system that only a country like Switzerland can rival. We as a people know the value of freedom. We know it means productivity, prosperity and security for our families and our country. Every generation of Americans has been willing to put its lives on the line to preserve and protect it. With all these fundamental strengths, how can one really be a pessimist about the future of America?
Here is the place where the special interest has all too often come to be favored over the public interest, where personalities and politics are emphasized over policies and positions, where symptoms rather than causes are feverishly attacked, where short-run gains are the reigning goals, and where the longterm is interpreted as the next election.

about environmentalists’ charges about pollution but little about the billions U.S. industry spends to curb pollution. Or one hears much of the virtues of “zero growth” but little about the massive unemployment a stationary economy would produce.

Moreover, even in seeking story “balance” by covering both sides, one should keep in mind the wise warning of a former labor leader:

“The truth isn’t somewhere in the middle. The truth is where it is.”

• A related problem attends the headlong rush into “investigative reporting,” with all that means in terms of so-called “personalized” or “advocacy” journalism or editorializing within news stories. One can hardly blame beginning reporters for wanting to become another Woodward or Bernstein, yet, as one noted columnist wrote in the New York Times:

“Nowadays, ‘investigative reporting’ picks and chooses according to prejudice ... the technique seems to be: Get the results you want and make up the supporting data if required.”

What happens to public understanding under these conditions?

• Another disturbing news phenomenon revolves around so-called “pack journalism” — the tendency for much of the Washington press corps, in particular, to cover the same subjects from the same sources in much the same way.

• Perhaps the greatest economic reporting challenge of all, however, lies in the need to simplify this dense “dismal science” and to make news developments really meaningful to the average person. As one CBS commentator said, economics is considered a “foreign” language: It requires translation.

Reporters likewise must guard against the “tyranny of averages.” For instance, the Potomac River at Mount Vernion might well have an average depth of 18 inches—but if you try to wade across, your head’s going to get awfully wet in the middle of the river.

Finally, Washington reporting is made doubly difficult because this fair city must surely be the one place on earth where sound travels faster than light. Here is a circus of curved mirrors and distorted images, of lights and shadows, of smokescreens and red herrings—where it daily becomes more difficult to separate fact from fiction.

Except for shining exceptions, Washington reporters thus often get snared into transmitting to the nation some tall economic illusions and delusions. For instance...

... That there is such a thing as a free lunch—that, somehow, by running a government, people can get something for nothing.

... That we need only to tax businesses to pay for government’s mounting largess—as though businesses can somehow pay out anything they don’t first collect from customers.

... That government can somehow create and pass out money it does not first take away from taxpayers.

... That deficits do no real harm—it’s only money we owe to each other.

... That people really don’t have to work harder to produce the greater wealth everyone wants. We only need to carve up the economic pie differently and everyone will somehow get a bigger slice.

Combine all these challenges with normal reporting pressures and headline/deadline approaches, and the wonder is not that some Washington reporters do poorly, but that so many do so well.—JNS

OCTOBER 1984
THE BIG BOMBER DEBATE

Should the U.S. keep its B-52s, build B-1Bs and perfect the Stealth? Or, in face of a Soviet air defense system of 3,000 planes, 12,000 missile launchers and 6,000 radar sites, is the manned bomber obsolete?

By Richard Barnard

At any time, but more so during a presidential election year, spending some $75 billion to build two types of bombers over a 10-year period, is certain to spark heated debate. Such has been the case with the Stealth and B-1B bombers, two weapons that have created considerable controversy.

In June 1977, the government cancelled plans already under way to produce the B-1. The reason: a more exotic and allegedly more capable airplane, the Stealth bomber, was being developed. Based on revolutionary aerodynamics, new materials and futuristic electronics, the Stealth is designed to be less visible to enemy radar and able to penetrate the Soviets' air defenses.

In 1981, the B-1 was resurrected. After a heated debate on Capitol Hill over which bomber would be best, the administration decided to develop both.

Both projects have changed significantly since their inceptions. The current administration proposes 100 B-1Bs at a cost of $28 billion, or $280 million apiece. The last are to be built in 1986. The B-1B, an improved version of the B-1 designed in the 1970s, is to fly at low altitudes—beneath the horizon of some enemy radar—with a gross takeoff weight of 447,000 pounds and a payload of 125,000 pounds, enough for 22 cruise missiles and eight Mk-82 bombs.

The B-1B has certain stealth qualities, including engine inlets that are rounded rather than square and specially designed to hide the engine compressor, which is seen too easily by enemy radar. The windshield, door gaps and airframe joints are coated with material to absorb, rather than reflect radar energy. The radar cross section of the two prototypes of the original B-1 is one percent that of the B-52 designed in the 1950s, and the radar image of the B-1B is one-tenth that of the B-1.

Most important, in the eyes of many military experts, the plane is fitted with Eaton Corporation's ALQ-161, a sophisticated electronic warfare system to monitor enemy radio frequencies and to counter fire control and early warning radars by jamming and by projecting deceptive signals, such as that of a cruise missile masquerading as a bomber. A computer assesses enemy threats and sends data to other electronics aboard the B-1B. Among these is the Crosseye, a countermeasure that emits bogus signals designed to vex Soviet interceptors and air defense radars.

The ALQ-161 is the first such system that is reprogrammable. If the Soviets develop new jamming capabilities, the Air Force can type in new instructions to counter them. The hardware need not be altered.

The Stealth bomber, also known as the advanced technology bomber (ATB), is a highly classified project, and little official information is available about its cost, design or capabilities. However, there is ample information from knowledgeable sources to comprise an outline of the project. The administration plans for 132 Stealth bombers to be built by the Northrop Corporation at a cost of about $47 billion, or approximately...
$356 million per plane. The first is to be fielded in the early 1990s. This means the Air Force has prototypes on hand or soon must begin building them. Development funding alone is to climb from $1 billion in 1985 to $2.3 billion in 1989. Procurement funding will raise the annual totals significantly.

The Stealth bomber is to be smaller than the B-1B and is characterized by radically advanced aerodynamics. A further reduction in the radar cross section of U.S. bombers means that all straight lines and sharp angles must be eliminated from the aircraft frame. Northrop reportedly has settled on a comparatively smooth, wedged-shaped silhouette known in defense circles as the flying wing. It has little or no tail, causing critics such as Rep. Bill Chap-pell, a member of the House Appropriations defense subcommittee, to criticize the entire project because of the airplane's probable lack of stability. However, computer fly-by-wire systems based on electronic rather than mechanical manipulation of an airplane's wing surfaces make it possible to fly a broad array of aerody- namic shapes. The experimental X-29A Air Force fighter with forward swept wings is designed to be unstable yet is controlled and made more agile by an advanced fly-by-wire system.

Several prototype Stealth fighter planes built by the Lockheed Corpora- tion have crashed. The most recent known instance occurred during an April 1982 test flight in the Nevada desert. Though built by a different firm and of a different design, the fighter plane catastrophes illustrate the difficulties posed by the aerody- namic intricacies to Stealth planes. During floor debate on June 7, Sen. Barry Goldwater, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Tactical Warfare Subcommittee, cautioned: "There are other things to the ATB than one technology. There is the technology involving aerodynamics, for example . . . there are technicians in the Pen- tagon who have doubts about . . . things we cannot talk about during an open session of the Senate."

A futher complaint about the ATB is that much of its projected success is due to its advanced electronics, much of which is shared with the less sophisticated but easily improved electronics of the B-1B.

Also, the Stealth bomber will have significantly less payload and less range than the B-1B, prompting other critics to question its worth as a potent weapon rather than an important defense experiment that promises eventually to spawn a bomber worth the price. The principal purpose of bombers, after all, is to rain fire on the enemy.

Bombers have several modern-day missions. They are the only long-range weapon that can be redirected to find and destroy imprecisely located targets such as a Soviet Army on the move. "You can use ICBMs to target the barracks," noted one general, "but not an Army out of garrison." Armed with conventional munitions, bombers also are effective in smaller, tactical wars if properly employed.

Moreover, bombers prey on the Russian compulsion with defensive systems. The very existence of Ameri- can bombers forces the Soviets to counter them. Generally, the Soviets spend at least $3 on defensive weapon-

"The very existence of bombers forces the Soviets to counter them."

ry for every $1 of U.S. funding for off-ensive systems, according to Air Force estimates. More important, the weapons purchased are no threat to the U.S.

The Russians' National Air Defense Force, an independent military serv-ice, consists of more than 600,000 men, 3,000 tactical aircraft, 12,000 missile launchers and 6,000 radar installations. The cornerstone of America's strategic policy is to constantly update its ICBMs, ballistic missile submarines and bombers, preserving a U.S. lead in many military technologies and keep-ing Soviet defense forces off balance and fretful. Otherwise, the resources spent on homeland defense easily could be switched to offensive arms.

The bomber's strategic mission has changed, however. In an age of accu-rate and lethal ballistic missiles, bombers no longer are front-line strategic weapons. It is highly unlikely that B-1B or Stealth planes would be asked to penetrate Soviet air defenses that have not first been partially dev-asated by strategic and cruise missiles. At least some defenses would be in chaos. Under these conditions, the B-1B would have ample opportunity to invade the Soviet heartland.

Yet the Stealth bomber's small radar cross section and promised acu-men at penetrating Soviet air defenses is a principal rationale for its hurried development and production. Gen. Lawrence Skantze, commander of the Air Force Systems Command which develops and buys new weapons, touts the plane's "dramatic capability in terms of stressing Soviet defenses." Its new design and electronics coupled with the use of Kevlar-like materials to absorb radar energy, promise to shrink the radar image of the Stealth bomber to one-tenth that of the B-1B. That means enemy radar, instead of tracking the full-scale Stealth plane, would pick up what appears to be only a small bird.

Assuming the Stealth project is pro-ceeding successfully, there seems little doubt that it would make the Soviets' lives more difficult by presenting what Skantze calls "the synergism of having a substantial, complex two-bomber capability in the '90s and beyond which would compound the [Soviet] defen-sive requirement." Sen. Bennett Johnston maintains that to reduce Stealth bomber funding "is to sacrifice the program which is two full decades ahead of the B-1 and to tell the Soviets they do not have to divert those resources to build the interlocking radar

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B-1 BOMBER—Although smaller than the aging B-52, defense experts say that the B-1 carries twice the weapons, flies faster and farther, and penetrates enemy defenses better.

PHOTO BY AFRICAN HERITAGE

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COMING TAX CHANGES:

How They’ll Affect You

The time appears ripe for another serious effort to overhaul the federal tax structure. Here’s a detailed summary of what’s likely to be done.

By John H. Adams

An opposing view, widespread among veteran lobbyists and staffs of the numerous special interest groups clustered in Washington, is that the most you can expect is “incrementalism”—a series of small changes rather than radical surgery—in 1985 or 1986, with any sweeping reforms of the basic tax system put off until the ’80s at the earliest.

The key point to remember is that federal taxes will be heavier than they are today. The only question is how the dollars will be extracted and who will be squeezed the most.

At this point the one sure thing is that middle-class Americans (those with family incomes between $20,000-$80,000 a year) will bear the brunt of the higher taxes because that is where the money is.

Soaking the rich appeals to many, and their taxes will rise along with everyone else’s. But a 90 percent tax on all income above $150,000 a year, just to pick a figure for a rich family, would yield small beans compared with, say, a 10 percent increase in tax on incomes starting in the $20,000 range.

Why do taxes have to go up on anyone? Because Congress lacks the political will and know-how to reduce spending on domestic programs. Also, the USA is locked into an increasingly costly undeclared war with the expansion-minded Soviet Union and terrorists around the globe who often are supplied by the Soviets. The result is ever-rising federal budgets, exceeding one trillion dollars for the first time in the fiscal year starting Oct. 1.

For decades the government has drifted along, passing out goodies to most interest groups—in outright gifts or special tax deductions—while refusing to increase taxes to pay for the spending. The system has been financed with deficits, the difference between outgo and income. These deficits were additions to the national debt, and as the debt rose, the cost of servicing it—the interest—also rose year after year.

Suddenly, there are fears that the mighty economic system will not gen-
erate enough money to service government and private debts, under present rules.

Three choices face Congress: 1) Wipe out the debt, in real terms, by inflation; 2) put the economy under wage and price and credit controls; 3) Try to control deficits by both restraining federal government spending and raising taxes.

Choices 1 and 2 have been tried in the past and proved counterproductive in the long run, although it is important for people to remember that a certain "tolerable" amount of inflation—4 to 6 percent a year—appears to be irreversibly built into the present American economic system.

Choice 3—the hybrid policy of restraining deficits and ultimately inflation by holding down spending while raising more revenue—is the approach now being tried. Step 1 in this policy was the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 that took back most of the tax cuts for businesses adopted the year before, in the big tax cut in 1981.

Step 2 is the 1984 Deficit Reduction Act that closes some loopholes in the tax rules for both businesses and individuals, while trimming some increases in spending programs that were in sight in 1985 and 1986.

Step 3 is supposed to come next year, when Congress will have to raise taxes in a big way—or prune defense spending and "social entitlements" such as food, medical, pension and other programs; or lean on the Federal Reserve Board (the nation's central bank) to give the system a shot of inflation-lubrication.

Congress will end up applying a mixture of these policies, if history is any guide.

Raising the Take

Main reliance, however, will be on raising the take from taxpayers in a wide variety of ways. Among the major choices is delaying or reducing the "indexing" of individual income tax brackets. A provision of the 1981 tax-cut law for the first time ties the amount allowed for the standard exemption (the slice of income exempted from any tax, now set at $1,000 per person) and the progressively higher tax rates at different levels of income (known as the marginal tax brackets) to the inflation rate, starting in 1985.

If the inflation rate as measured by the increase in the Urban Consumer Price Index goes up by 5 percent, for example, the standard personal exemption and all the tax brackets would be adjusted upward by 5 percent. The effect would be to keep families from being moved up into a higher bracket, with its higher tax rate, just because of inflation.

For the last 40 years Congress has been offsetting this "bracket creep," or inflation bonus received by the government, with periodic reductions in bracket rates. But there was always a lag, with Washington's tax collectors coming out ahead. This tended to make Congress and government agencies in general, more tolerant of inflation—especially after they insulated themselves from inflation's worst effects by indexing their own pay and pensions, Social Security, food stamps and, in effect, all federal programs through automatic "cost of living" boosts adopted in the late 1960s.

That was followed, in the 1970s, by double-digit inflation (above 10 percent a year). For many, the issue became this: If Washington indexed its outgo, in government benefits and other spending, why should it not be required to index its income, supplied by the taxpayers?

Few on Capitol Hill expected it to happen, but in the confusion of last-minute bargaining over complex provisions in the 1981 law, indexing of tax

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After investing $60 billion to meet foreign competition, the automotive industry is at its leanest, hungriest and fittest. But is that enough to assure its future?

The American auto industry is nearing the end of the most searching self-examination it has ever had, one that has produced its greatest and most expensive changes. That effort has large meaning for the U.S., because the industry's health directly affects the nation's whole economy.

Japanese competition caused this revolution. It isn't clear yet whether the changes will restore U.S. carmakers to the position of world leadership they used to enjoy. It may take a few more years to know whether some $60 billion they spent will have helped the industry meet foreign competition. But U.S. carmakers now are the leanest, hungriest and most fit they've ever been. Their new products prove it, and a splurge of buying has resulted.

U.S. carmakers had grown fat and complacent between WWII and 1970. They had sold everything they could build. A growing tide of customers, enlarged by the baby boom of the '40s, took its offerings almost routinely.

Mark that word "almost." While the shadow of import competition was recognized as it crept across the marketplace during the '60s, American producers largely pooh-poohed it. Henry Ford II said his company and the others would shove the foreign offerings back into the ocean. That was when the Volkswagen was the most visible foreign passenger car and when total imports were around 10 percent of total industry sales. Japan then had 3 or 4 percent of the market.

With the oil crisis in 1973-74, gasoline suddenly became scarce and far more expensive. Overnight, imported cars gained a selling point—operating economy—that American offerings couldn't begin to match. That swelled the imports' market share to 15 percent by the mid-1970s and to 20 percent by 1980. U.S. auto production fell behind Japan's in 1980, beginning the first year of a series of U.S. auto company losses that amounted to $12 billion by 1984.

The slump created a frenzied reaction, as U.S. carmakers tried to stem the foreign tide and to regain their traditional leadership. In 1980, Roger Smith, chairman of General Motors, revealed a four-year, $40 billion program for new facilities and new products. Other companies' plans were equally large in proportion to their size, a fact especially telling because past programs had rarely exceeded single billions.

Chrysler, meanwhile, faced bankruptcy. It won a U.S.-guaranteed loan of $800 million to retool its production lines and to prop up its field organization, a program that Lee Iacocca has spearheaded to record-high earnings this year. GM's recovery, despite the building of two awe-inspiring plants,
Streamlining Takes the ‘Drag’ Out of Driving

At the November 1983 auto show in Tokyo, a U.S. aerodynamics engineer looked at the new Japanese cars and said, “They’re taking a leaf out of our book. They’re starting to catch up on our streamlining.”

Streamlining has been around since the 1930s, but car designers only recently have learned what a major effect it exerts on a car’s gas mileage, an important consideration in these days of costly fuel. So carmakers have begun applying a technical idea called “coefficient of drag” (CD) to car styling.

Put simply, CD measures how easily a car moves through air, just as a boat moves through water. It is expressed in a percentage of the horsepower needed to overcome air resistance, a factor apart from the horsepower needed to propel the car.

Today, U.S. cars need from 0.3 to 0.4 horsepower to overcome air resistance. Only a few years ago, the level was 0.5 horsepower or higher. Still in the design stage are cars like Ford Motor Co.’s “Probe IV,” an experimental car that boasts a CD of only 0.15 horsepower—and rumor has it that Ford has even gotten below that figure in wind-tunnel tests.

What’s it like to drive such a car? Donald F. Kopka, a Ford vice president, said that when “Probe IV” was driven at 80 mph on a test track and then allowed to coast with its motor turned off, it was almost silent. “It was eerie,” he said. “Virtually no wind noise at all.”

Cutting drag also makes a car easier to handle and more stable in crosswinds. The wind rolls off the car’s surface instead of piling up around it, creating drag that cuts gas mileage. You can see the effects of air flow on your windshield: If raindrops tend to slide up the windshield, that’s visible proof that the air is flowing up and away, sweeping the rain with it rather than letting it splash around.

Also, the clearer your rear window is of rain or snow, the better is your car’s rear-end drag reduction. That’s why “spoilers”—various attachments on the rear decks of some newer cars—have been added. They control the air flowing off the rear of the car, reducing drag as well as improving rear-wheel traction.

Another new wrinkle brought about by this stress on drag reduction has been in the size and placement of radiators. Ten years ago, radiators were bulky, expensive units installed in front of the motor. Car designers thought then that when the car was moving, air blanketed the radiator evenly, cooling its contents. But wind-tunnel tests showed that turbulence in front of a moving car pushed the air out to the radiator’s sides, leaving the center hot.

Now, radiators are being moved down behind the bumper, where air can flow across the fins before passing under the car. Also, because only about 20 percent of older radiators were actually doing the cooling job, new radiators are smaller and cheaper.

Aerodynamic styling, in short, is helping U.S. carmakers produce better looking, better handling, more efficient cars that also offer better gasoline mileage.
Why People Vote the Way They Do

Four fundamental factors determine why one voter will split a ticket at the drop of a hat, while another will stand by his party through thick or thin.

By Richard M. Scammon

In politics, as on the battlefield, results may depend "...on the situation and on the terrain." But enough is known about the whys and wherefores of voting decisions to give us some solid insights into just why Americans do what they do in polling places.

Decisions are based on four broad areas of reasoning: history, issues, personality and plain blind luck. People may vote for reasons outside any of the four, but most can be brought into this quartet.

Historically, we Americans are pretty independent minded in our politics and split tickets on a moment's notice. However, we still have a good deal of latent affection for one or the other of our major party labels. "Affection" and "labels" are just about the right words, too. It isn't really hardline party loyalty as much as a general "plus" feeling about one party or the other, always allowing for many who stand by the "independent" designation though they may lean one way or another. And it is a "label" rather than solid party dogma. Our two major parties are perhaps the most undisciplined in the world of democracy. Nobody has a "loyalty test" to identify who is a Democrat or a Republican. In Congress, members of both parties are often found on either side of a controversial issue rather than marching in solid blocks "aye" or "nay."

But disciplined or not, party affection has played a role in our political history. We couldn't speak of "upstate GOP voters" in New York as opposed to New York City Democrats, nor could we relate "downstate" Illinois Republicans to Chicago Democrats unless there were a sense of history about the way we vote.

While much current party affection dates from the victory of FDR in 1932, some go back further. Catholic voters have been thought of as Democrat-inclined for many years, and there are counties in the eastern Appalachian spine that have been voting Republican for generations.

In fact, it is useful to remember that even in the worst post-1945 presidential scenarios (1964 for the Republicans, 1972 for the Democrats), nearly 40 percent of our voters supported the loser. So-called landslides aren't as huge as the name would imply, and a major reason is the sense of history we have, even though the components of that history may vary over the years.

A second basic motivation of voters lies in what might generally be called "clientele" or issues. The great shift of black voters in America in the past 50 years is due to a number of specific issues but can be ascribed much more realistically to a feeling by many black citizens that their interests will be better served by Democrats than by Republicans. Right up to the 1992 Depression election, the majority of black voters were Republican, and the first black elected to Congress after 1900 was a Republican, Oscar dePriest, who won his south side Chicago seat in 1928. This changed rapidly under President Franklin Roosevelt, though even in 1960 black precincts in Atlanta supported Republican nominee Richard Nixon for president over Democrat John Kennedy. Today the "clientele" of black voters is very heavily Democratic and certain to remain so for 1984.

Some of these clientele groups are not so solid. Blue-collar workers and Roman Catholics, for example, are normally considered as majority Democrats, but in 1980 both groups supported candidate Ronald Reagan. Not by a large margin, but by enough to shift the clientele around ... for the presidency. On the other hand, many of these voters went right back to a longer-range Democratic affiliation when they got further down the ticket and were voting for state and local officials. Another example from 1980 would be in one congressional district in south Brooklyn, a district with a large number of Jewish voters. The incumbent Democratic House member was re-elected by some 80 percent of the vote, but the same district was carried by candidate Reagan for the presidency.

Recently there has been discussion of the possibility of a candidate's gender becoming a clientele group for voter motivation. In the past, men and women have generally tended to vote pretty much alike, with women perhaps a bit more Republican than men.

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For example, Gallup tells us that in 1976 women voted 51-48 in favor of President Gerald Ford, while men supported Jimmy Carter by 53-45. There was a difference, however, in 1980. Despite the national trend, the votes of women changed very little... from plus-8 Republican in 1976 to plus-5 Republican in 1980. By comparison, men moved very substantially from Carter to the Republican side, at least for president. Where the Republicans lost the vote of men in 1976 by 8 percent, they won it in 1980 by 15 percent (53 to 38, with 7 for John Anderson).

It may be that gender is a newly arrived clientele to be considered in American political motivation, but if so it is clear it cuts both ways. For 1984, the question is rather one of balance: If men move one way and women the other, how many go each way? Political analysts will be watching this new clientele as carefully as they will be older ones.

Many would use "issue-oriented" to describe the general direction of many of these voters, but clientele is a broader term and it lasts longer in political history. Moreover, many specific issues tend to meld. Remember, candidates are seeking the votes of 40 to 50 million Americans. However strongly candidates feel on a controversial matter, they have to keep in mind that they, or any candidate, are really seeking the support of a coalition and they have to have respect for the mass of people to whom they are going to appeal.

No candidate wants to cut off any possible hearing from millions of voters, so he will almost always keep some kind of line open to groups of voters who may not normally be on his side. Moreover, he doesn't need to win over a clientele that normally votes the other way. If he can only shave the normal levels of support for his opponent he might win the election. Finally, there are so many broad areas of policy on which all will agree that much of the debate comes back to the clientele interests at stake. Thus, no one has heard any candidate campaign for nuclear war, for an inadequate national defense, for dirty air and dirty water, for an unfair tax system. Most of the appeals of the fall will relate issues to clientele.

But just as important as history and clientele to voters are a whole host of impressions and images we call "personality." Americans want to vote for candidates they regard as leaders, as "take-charge" people, and the perception of leadership is important to any candidate trying for public office. A candidate perceived as weak or indecisive, as vacillating or unsure, operates under a substantial handicap.

Ticket-splitting is a normal part of American politics. Much of it is due to differing perceptions of personality in candidates. Voters may select a Republican for governor, a Democrat for senator—or vice versa. Sometimes this is due to a perceived difference in clientele reactions, or even a specific issue, but usually personality perceptions play a major role in leading the voter to shift from one party to the other in his selection of candidates.

Finally, plain blind luck, "happenstance" if you will, can shift the actions and moods of voters in a brief moment... or over longer periods of time. Some years ago Governor Romney of Michigan was a leading candidate for the Republican presidential nomination. Returning from a trip to Vietnam, he remarked that he had been "brainwashed." The question was asked if he might be similarly handled were he in the White House. Fairly or not, this comment is thought to have cost him his chance at the nomination.

Who could have said, in the summer of 1979, that the actions of the dictator of Iran in seizing American hostages in Tehran would have had a major effect on our presidential election the following year. Yet most observers agree that the inability of President Carter to secure the release of our hostages in the year before the 1980 election was a part of the dissatisfaction that generated Republican presidential votes. Perhaps unfair, but nonetheless real.

Whatever motivates voters, we are heavily involved right now in the November sweepstakes. From the White House to Congress, to the states, to local governments, candidates are seeking support from the electorate. In one area—the presidency—we have a pretty good idea where the campaign will be principally waged. Given that more Americans say they are Democrats than say they are Republicans, and knowing the size of President Reagan's victory four years ago, it is clear that a major effort must be made by the Democrats to persuade the switchers of 1980 to switch back and to vote Democratic for president as they have voted for many years for the House of Representatives. The House has had a Democratic majority since 1954, but in those same 30 years, we have voted four times for a Republican president, only three times for a Democrat.

In the final analysis, the break of the moment, the happenstance, may be decisive in this switching. It was pointed out in 1980 that there was nothing wrong with the Republican party that 12 percent inflation wouldn't cure— a recognition of current circumstances as a part of the appeal of the moment. A flourishing economy, a sense of confidence about the future— these go to help the incumbent and have as obvious an impact on moving voters as would the opposite set of circumstances. For the truly uncertain, for the last-minute decider, these circumstances of the moment may well be the most important in determining just how ballots are marked, so the happenstance of late October may well be what finally decides the presidential sweepstakes of 1984.
A New GI Bill educational assistance program has the House and Senate battling over compromise options both could support before the bill is passed. The compromises include removing a "transferability" clause that would allow service members to transfer education benefits to their family members, limiting participation in the new program to enlisted people only, requiring members who use the bill to pay part of the costs, and deleting the December 1989 deadline for using benefits under the Vietnam-era GI Bill.

Lawyers for Thousands of Vietnam veterans have launched a $10 billion lawsuit against the federal government, according to the Washington Post, claiming it could have done more to protect and treat servicemen exposed to Agent Orange.

Those same lawyers also filed the current $180 million suit against the seven chemical companies that produced Agent Orange.

In that suit the veterans claim that the companies knew Agent Orange was dangerous but failed to tell the government about those dangers.

The new suit, said the Washington Post, maintains that the government nevertheless knew, but failed to act.

Good News for Military and federal civilian retirees, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. If inflation keeps its steady pace, most will earn a pay raise of about 2.7 percent, effective Dec. 1 and payable Jan. 1.

In Testimony Before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, The American Legion presented its positions concerning increases in service-connected disability and death benefits as well as other proposals on benefits for veterans, their survivors and family members.

The Legion supported the following bills:
• S-2736, which would increase by 4.7 percent the rates for disability compensation and DIC effective Dec. 1. The bill provides that, if the Consumer Price Index is not 4.7 percent, then the proposed increases are to be at the same rate as the cost of living increase for Social Security.
• S-2737, which would provide a 10-percent increase in educational and subsistence allowances for veterans pursuing education, training and vocational rehabilitation.
• S-2759, with certain qualifications. The bill would provide for a period of trial work for veterans having total service-connected disability by reason of individual unemployability. The Legion has no objection to such efforts, as long as the veterans are not driven into activities that would endanger their health.
• S-2267, which would increase the amount of automotive adaptive equipment assistance that can be provided certain severely service-connected disabled veterans.
• S-1371, which would add lupus erythematosus to the list of chronic diseases for which presumptive service connection may be established.

Students in Need of scholarships, loans and part-time jobs might be interested in "Need A Lift?" The American Legion's education and scholarship handbook. It may be ordered by sending $1 to "Need A Lift?" P.O. Box 1060 Indianapolis, IN 46206.

The book, which has career and financial sources of information, was compiled with the help of more than 200 organizations. It is revised annually and released when school starts in the fall.

Applicants Are Being Sought for the White House Fellowship Program. Annually, 13 to 19 Americans from all occupations and professions are named by the president as White House fellows and assigned to serve as special assistants to cabinet officers, to the vice president or to members of the president's principal staff. Fellows also participate in an extensive education program in which they meet with a diverse group of public and private-sector leaders.

The program is open to all U.S. citizens with the exception of federal government employees. Leadership, intellectual and professional ability and commitment to community and nation are the broad criteria used to select fellows.

Application deadline is Dec. 1. Write to The President's Commission on White House Fellowships, 712 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503.

Military Family Members and Department of Defense civilians are now eligible to take DANTES examinations to earn college credit for knowledge gained independently or on the job.

DANTES—Defense Activity for Non-traditional Education Support—offers more than 50 standardized tests on subjects ranging from applied technologies to language and social sciences.

Although many of the tests cover knowledge required to get a technical trade certificate or diploma, they also apply to associate and baccalaureate degrees. Candidates who pass one of the tests can usually earn three college credits without having to participate in classroom instruction, and without having to pay tuition.
The mark of The American Legion is stamped indelibly on the one export that means "America" worldwide: baseball. And for good reason.

Look through any knothole in any fence around any major league baseball park and you'll see former American Legion baseball stars rounding bases, scooping grounders and scrambling for double plays.

And if you take a look back through those baseball bubble gum cards stuffed in a shoebox in the attic, you'll see more faces of former Legion baseball greats.

From pro baseball front offices to pro playing fields, The American Legion emblem is stamped indelibly on the one export that means "America" to more people the world over than anything else: baseball.

The Legion first got the idea of promoting youth athletics on a national basis in 1925. That was when South Dakota Cdr. Frank G. McCormick invited John L. Griffith, then athletic director of the Western Conference, to speak to the South Dakota department convention. Griffith suggested Legionnaires get involved in promoting some form of organized youth athletics as a way of teaching discipline, teamwork and other character-building values. The department adopted a resolution supporting that idea and in the fall of that year Natl. Cdr. James A. Drain backed a resolution calling for a nationally supported Legion baseball program. In 1926, 15 departments played in the first national youth sports championship of any kind held in the U.S.

In the 58 years since, over 250,000 teams have played Legion ball with a total of over 4,000,000 boys participating. Among them were some of the most outstanding professional players to ever put bat to ball, including Kirby Higbe and Phil Cavaretta, the first Legion baseball graduates to become big-league stars.

"The impact American Legion baseball has had on the major leagues is well-documented by the high percentage of major leaguers who played in the Legion program, some 55 percent this year alone," said Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn.

Among those present-day stars with Legion ties are Atlanta Braves outfielder Dale Murphy and Chicago White Sox pitcher LaMarr Hoyt.

Continued . . .

TOP PLAYER—Atlanta Braves outfielder, Dale Murphy, played Legion ball and won National League MVP honors in 1982 and 1983.
Murphy, who played Legion ball in Portland, Ore., and who needs a wheelbarrow just to move the awards he's earned in the past two years, said playing Legion ball helped him decide on a baseball career. "It was a fast brand of baseball; a step up from high school," he said. "It helped convince me I could compete against good players in pro ball."

Indeed. At 27, Murphy became the youngest National League player to win back-to-back most valuable player awards from the Baseball Writers Association of America. He was the only player in the league to play in all 162 games in 1983. He won the Golden Glove award for fielding excellence, was the only unanimous choice in the first annual selection of the United Press International all-star team, was one vote shy of a unanimous selection on the Associated Press all-star team and was named to The Sporting News all-star team. He won the Golden Glove Award for fielding excellence last year, the Louisville Slugger's Silver Stick award as the top hitting outfielder and the most votes among league players named to the Major League All-Star Game. In six years with the Braves, he's racked up career batting figures that are second only to Hall of Famer Hank Aaron. In all, Murphy won 13 post-season honors in 1982 and 1983.

He may have learned something else by his association with Legion coaches: volunteer service. Murphy is a volunteer in cystic fibrosis and Huntington's Disease programs.

Dewey LaMarr Hoyt, at 6'3" and 244 lbs., is known around the White Sox bullpen as "The Incredible Bulk." It's a sobriquet that applies to his records as well as his size. He established himself as the best league pitcher in 1983 after posting a 24-10 record. Combined with the league-leading 19 he won in 1982, Hoyt's 24 wins of 1983 gave him more victories over the past two seasons than any other active pitcher at the start of the 1984 season.

Besides Murphy and Hoyt, other current stars include Jim Rice, Boston's leftfielder and the American League's home run king in 1983, and Dickie Thon, the Houston shortstop whose record 18-game-winning RBIs was the best in the league in 1983.

"American Legion baseball was very important to me and many other players in Puerto Rico," said Thon, a native of South Bend, Ind., who now lives in Rio Piedras, P.R. "Puerto Rican players always look forward to playing American Legion baseball because they know the scouts come out to watch you play."

Rice, who played in 1969 and 1970 for a Legion team in Anderson, S.C., said, "The biggest thing it did for me was to give me extra exposure to pro scouts." Boston Red Sox coach Ralph Houk described Rice as a "great gamer," a player who is "always ready to go out and attack the game."

Besides producing outstanding athletes, American Legion baseball produces outstanding leaders in baseball. Robert Howsam Sr., president and chief executive officer of "The Big Red Machine" at Cincinnati from 1967 to 1978 said, "Without a doubt, American Legion baseball has

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**PLATE THIEF** — Legion baseball produced top pros, including Cooperstown Hall of Famer Yogi Berra. A former catcher and now manager of the New York Yankees, Berra was 16 when he made this play in 1942, stealing home from third in the western sectional playoff between St. Louis's Stockham Post 4 and Los Angeles Sunrise Post. Catcher Gene Mauch, who later played pro baseball and managed the Philadelphia Phillies, is yelling at Russ Steger, claiming interference.
had a lot to do with developing not only great players for pro sports, but also building better citizens. It’s an outstanding program that has contributed so much to the youth of America.” Howsam, who played Legion ball for LaJara, Colo., Post 72, where he was later a commander, was brought back to the Reds’ organization in July 1983 to help rebuild the club. His son, Robert Jr., also played Legion ball and is the Reds’ vice president for marketing and promotion.

Yogi Berra, a Cooperstown Hall of Famer who played Legion baseball for the Fred W. Stockham Post 8 in St. Louis, remembers American Legion baseball for the travelling and learning experiences it offered. Berra appeared in 14 World Series as a pro and later coached the New York Mets to their 1973 appearance there against Oakland. Now the manager of the New York Yankees, Berra said, “Legion baseball gave me my start. All the scouts know American Legion baseball is the program to watch to find future professional players.”

Brooks Robinson, named to the Hall of Fame in 1983, spent 23 years in the pros after developing his skills in Legion ball. “American Legion baseball was the greatest thing that could have happened to me when I was a kid,” he said. Now a television sports commentator in Baltimore and vice president of a management company, Robinson said there wasn’t a team at his high school in Little Rock, Ark. His father, Brooks Sr., and George Haynie, his Legion baseball coach, “were responsible for me getting the kind of training I needed to make it in the pros.”

“Scouts were always watching us, too,” he added. “We called them ‘bird dogs.’ About 15 of the guys on our team were scouted by eight or nine teams. All were later signed to play on semi-pro teams, and some went on to play pro ball.”

Putting all of those contests together and organizing and running the practices takes thousands of Legion volunteers and someone who can organize them. That “someone” for the past 23 years has been George W. Rulon. A twice-wounded infantry veteran of WWII, Rulon coordinates the national program, including making the arrangements for the national championship each year. Because of his expertise, Rulon is on the board of directors of the United States Baseball Federation, is a charter member of the National Council of Youth Sports Directors and is an associate member of the American Baseball Coaches Association and the Intercollegiate Baseball Writers Association. This year he was the U.S. Olympic baseball team manager at Los Angeles and coordinator of a taxing, pre-Olympics exhibition schedule for the U.S. baseball team.

“The thrill of being at the Olympics with those players when 50,000 people screamed ‘USA! USA!’ was the most inspiring thing I’ve ever been a part of,” Rulon said. “The 20 players on the U.S. team, especially the 12 who had played Legion baseball, worked hard for that moment. I’m sure it’s something they’ll never forget.”

To help create and keep such memories alive, the baseball commissioner’s office and Rulon stay in touch throughout every season. Kuhn voiced his and many others’ feelings when he said Rulon’s and Legion volunteers’ efforts are the main reasons “American Legion baseball continues to produce young athletes who will be tomorrow’s major leaguers.”

By Ward Beckham

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**Hall of Fame**

Fifteen departments organized the first American Legion baseball teams in 1926. Since then, many Legion players have achieved greatness as professionals. The Baseball Hall of Fame’s list of 146 players includes 19 who started their careers playing for the Legion.

Those greats and the year they were named to the Hall of Fame include:

- Bob Feller 1962
- Ted Williams 1966
- Joe Medwick 1968
- Stan Musial 1969
- Roy Campanella 1969
- Lou Boudreau 1970
- Yogi Berra 1972
- Earl Wynn 1972
- Warran Spahn 1973
- Ralph Kiner 1975
- Bob Lemon 1976
- Eddie Mathews 1978
- Al Kaline 1980
- Frank Robinson 1982
- George Kell 1983
- Brooks Robinson 1983
- Harmon Killebrew 1984
- Don Drysdale 1984
- Pee Wee Reese 1984

**Grades of the Year**

American Legion baseball has its own “Cooperstown” greats. Each year since 1958 the Legion has named one of its former players to its “Graduate of the Year” list. Those who made it and the teams they played for when selected are: John Lollar, Chicago White Sox; Ted Williams, Boston Red Sox; Stan Musial, St. Louis Cardinals; Bobby Richardson, New York Yankees; Warren Spahn, Milwaukee Brewers; Brooks Robinson, Baltimore Orioles; Eddie Fisher, Chicago White Sox; Frank Robinson, Baltimore Orioles; Carl Yastrzemski, Boston Red Sox; Mickey Lolich, Detroit Tigers; Harmon Killebrew, Minnesota Twins; Dave McNally, Baltimore Orioles; Steve Carlton, St. Louis Cardinals; Al Kaline, Detroit Tigers; Johnny Bench, Cincinnati Reds; Wilbur Wood, Chicago White Sox; Carlton Fisk, Boston Red Sox; Rick Monday, Chicago Cubs; Dave Winfield, San Diego Padres; Ron Guidry, New York Yankees; Mike Flanagan, Baltimore Orioles; George Brett, Kansas City Royals; Gary Carter, Montreal Expos; James Sundberg, Texas Rangers, and Andre Thornton, Cleveland Indians.
Clarence M. Bacon Elected Legion National Commander

"Our nation is emerging from a period of desperately searching for a national meaning, a national purpose, a common sense of destiny," said newly elected Natl. Cdr. Clarence M. Bacon in his acceptance speech to nearly 3,000 delegates at The American Legion's 66th National Convention in Salt Lake City.

"The American Legion has played a major role in helping to renew that national confidence by providing stability and direction," he said, "and by carrying the torch of involvement into every facet of American life."

Emphasizing that the Legion is a service organization at every level, Bacon said, "Service is the vital link between our organization and the veterans who depend on us to act as a watchdog for their rights, and as America's leading veterans' advocate."

A veteran of World War II and Korea, and the second Marylander ever to hold the Legion's highest office, Natl. Cdr. Bacon has devoted more than 40 years to military, government, civic and Legion service. Awarded a life membership by Hansmann-Huff Post 110 in Mt. Rainier, Md., the Commander has held virtually every office at the post, county, district and department levels during his more than 30 years of Legion membership.

Having served with distinction in each elective office, as a delegate to the National Convention since 1972, and as chairman of numerous special projects ranging from membership drives to fund-raising campaigns, Natl. Cdr. Bacon is a firm believer in commitment, in results and in letting all of America know what the Legion stands for.

"We need to take credit for the things we do at every level of involvement," he said. "I've seen other groups scramble for credit when they've done things that can't hold a candle to what The American Legion does every day."

In recognition of the Commander's own commitment and ability to get the job done, Maryland Legionnaires elected him Department Commander, 1974-75, and National Executive Committeeeman in 1978, a position he held until 1980. At the national level, he has also served as consultant to the Internal Affairs Commission, and as chairman of the National Security Council, National Legislative Council and National Legislative Commission.

To each of these offices, he brought a wealth of business and government experience, as well as unwavering commitment to Legion aims and principles. Educated under the G.I. Bill, due to his Navy service as a Chief Storekeeper in two wars, Bacon holds college degrees in accounting and in business management. He has also completed graduate work at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the University of Maryland, and has done extensive course work in international economics and computer sciences.

After retiring from a 30-year career with the Department of the Navy in 1980, the Commander organized C. M. Bacon Associates, a firm specializing in computer logistical planning and management consulting.

In addition to a broad-based business and Legion background, he is active in community affairs. Believing that "an unequaled record of volunteer activity and commitment to community service have always been in the forefront of what The American Legion stands for," Bacon leads by setting an example in civic involvement. He serves on the Maryland Veterans' Commission, on the Fifth Congressional Academies Selection Board, and has been listed several times in "Who's Who in Government." In appreciation for his outstanding record of service, Bacon was presented the Prince George's County Favorite Son Award in 1982.

A man described by his associates as self-confident and strong of character, Natl. Cdr. Bacon is firmly committed to traditional American values. He believes that the cornerstone of American society is the family unit. Married in 1947 to Helen Louise Schaefer while he was still on active duty, Bacon is a devoted husband and the father of two sons: Mel, who is a teacher, and Edward, an attorney. The Bacons also have a four-year-old grandson and a nine-month-old granddaughter.

"The Bacon family is very close," he said, "and we get together as often as we can. I personally enjoy fishing, golfing and watching the Washington Redskins, but I especially value the time I spend with my family just enjoying their company."

At 59, Bacon considers his election to the office of National Commander to be "the greatest achievement of my life." And he approaches the challenges of his year of stewardship with "an open heart, a serious mind and a deep sense of gratitude for the trust" placed in him by his fellow bluecap Legionnaires, for whom he holds great respect and admiration.

"The bluecap represents the Legion in the community," he said, "and it's there—in them and in what they do—that the Legion either lives or dies." Convinced that bluecaps are the source from which the Legion draws its strength, Bacon makes no secret of his desire to mold all 2.5 million Legionnaires into an active force dedicated to civic and national accomplishment. "We have the programs; we have the influence; what we need now is the involvement of every member."

And so diverse are Legion interests and programs, that he believes any member can easily find some area of personal fulfillment and involvement. During a recent interview with THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, Natl. Cdr. Bacon shared his views on a number of these areas. The following are excerpts from that discussion.

ON MEMBERSHIP: "This will be my number one priority as National Commander. Our membership goal, in general, should be to surpass the previous year's total, and each of our 16,000 posts can help us do that by Continued...
making a commitment to increase its own membership during 1986.

"But we need individual commitment as well; each Legionnaire has to be a spokesman and a salesman. We have to tell people what we all know: When the shooting stops, the battle to maintain veterans' benefits has only begun. And that battle requires a strong membership base.

"The important point to make is not the price veterans must pay in dollars to join the Legion, but the price they have already paid in service and sacrifice in order to become eligible. We must never forget that for many veterans and their families that price continues, and we have a collective obligation to see that it's paid in full."

**ON VA MEDICAL SERVICES:**

"Clearly, the demand for medical care constitutes the VA's greatest short-term challenge. If the VA is to provide the scope and quality of services required, it is in need of some very extensive upgrading. As the veteran population grows older, the demands on our current medical delivery system, which is already inadequate, will grow too. With more than five million veterans already age 65 or older, we do not have the luxury of time. We must act now to make sure that Congress approves a larger appropriation for the VA, despite fiscal constraints imposed by other entitlement programs."

**ON THE AGING VETERAN POPULATION:**

"Geriatric research and providing medical care for our aging veteran population are, perhaps, the most pressing problems facing the VA today. As the veteran population ages, demands for medical care will increase. To meet this ever-increasing demand will require congressional awareness and approval of sufficient funding. The American Legion has always been successful in convincing Congress to increase health care delivery system appropriations for the VA when the need was apparent. I have no doubt that we will achieve our goal in this instance too."

**ON THE POW/MIA ISSUE:**

"We require a full accounting. Period. Although we are encouraged by the bipartisan commitment expressed by the federal government, we must insist that this issue be assigned the highest national priority and that these brave men never be used as bargaining chips in international politics. The American Legion will not forget our POWs, our MIAs or their families, nor will we be silent on this issue until every single man has been repatriated."

**ON WORLD WAR I PENSIONS:**

"This has been a highly emotional issue within the Legion and the Congress, but I believe that all World War I veterans should be considered for some amount of pension based on their need to support themselves and their families. To that effect, The American Legion currently supports legislation being considered by the Congress. Our World War I veterans didn't have the advantage of the wide range of benefits available to veterans of later wars, although they themselves championed those benefits for others. We have an obligation to ensure that no veteran, regardless of period of service, is forced to live in poverty."

**ON THE G.I. BILL:**

"We need a peacetime G.I. Bill to promote retention and recruitment of qualified people in our armed forces. Despite what you may have heard, I think you'll find that key military leaders are 100 percent in support of such legislation. As a beginning, one of our legislative priorities this year is to secure an extension of the delimiting dates on the current G.I. Bill for certain active duty forces."

**ON AGENT ORANGE:**

"From the beginning, the Legion has assumed a leadership role in obtaining adequate and fair compensation and treatment for those veterans believed to be suffering maladies resulting from their exposure to Agent Orange. We are currently engaged in a joint study with Columbia University which addresses this issue, and we were instrumental in writing the compensatory legislation now being considered in Congress for the benefit of Agent Orange-exposed veterans. We will not let this matter fade from public consciousness until it is resolved fairly and to the satisfaction of those veterans involved."

**ON NATIONAL DEFENSE:**

"I'm pleased with the efforts made in the past few years to upgrade our weapons systems and our overall defense posture. While it is difficult to determine at what level of military readiness we are fully prepared for any eventuality, we must not forget that the price we pay for a strong national defense is part of the cost of our continued freedom—and no price is too high."

"We must also recognize that our modern technology is useless without adequately trained and motivated people in our armed forces. Just as we periodically upgrade weapons systems, we have a responsibility to appropriate sufficient funds to train those men and women who man them. "With communism posing a greater threat than ever before, we must maintain our commitment to peace through strength. We know that our system of deterrence is working if it is maintained at a sufficiently high level so that no aggressor dares to challenge us, and we must spend whatever is required to keep it at that level."

**ON COMMUNIST AGGRESSION:**

"Communist aggression can only be stopped through strength. We who have experienced war know the value of peace, yet we also know the price of weakness. So when we say we will not tolerate incursions into our spheres of influence, we must be prepared to stand behind our foreign policy. We should use diplomatic channels first, of course, but if they fail, we must be prepared to use military force at whatever level necessary."

**ON WORKING WITH CONGRESS:**

"The Legion's diverse interests require a legislative approach keenly attuned to political sensitivities and realities. Because we deal with issues and not partisan politics, we must forge and maintain open communications at all levels of government."

"In the past, Congress has recognized the priority status of veterans' programs because no other segment of our society has needs as great, or needs so much derived from decisions made by the federal government. Moreover, the Legion itself has always enjoyed a special relationship with Congress because we have always acted responsibly and have never recommended funding in excess of that actually needed."

"I expect that relationship to continue and the commitment to our veterans to be kept regardless of the fiscal constraints our nation faces."

It is only through that kind of cooperation, expanded far beyond the halls of Congress and into every American community, that we can forge the involvement and commitment needed to fulfill the dreams of our Legion founders and those who followed in their footsteps. For more than 65 years, The American Legion has helped train our youth, championed a strong national defense, and served as advocate and friend to those who have borne the brunt and scars of battle."

With those thoughts in mind, Clarence M. Bacon, our new National Commander, begins writing yet another page in his record of service to his fellow veterans and to The American Legion.
Car Prices Will Rise over the coming months. How much will depend on the costs of wage settlements, material expenses and the state of the market.

Meantime, basic prices continue to rise subtly because makers are converting former options into standard features; for example, power brakes raise the price about $100; radios, $100; and V-8 engines, $225.

Three New Types of Life Insurance are being promoted heavily by companies these days to get your business. Besides the familiar whole-life and term contracts, the roster now includes variable life for which you pay a fixed premium, but can vary cash value and additional benefits by telling the insurer how to invest the savings portion of your premiums; universal life, which allows you to raise or lower premiums and death benefits periodically; and "universal II," which is a combination of variable life and universal. Study this bewildering array carefully before you choose. Also, remember that costs vary considerably from company to company.

Hottest Household Appliance of 1984 is the microwave oven. Sales should top seven million units this year, breaking the 1983 record by about a million.

Lower prices and a wider range of models are the main reasons for the upsurge. Smaller versions of the full-size 1.3-cubic-foot models now are hitting the market at $200 or less. Look for these trends to continue in 1985, when another sales record is expected. Meantime, despite the boom, prices should continue on the downside because of tough competition among domestic and foreign makers.

If You Have a Passbook account, ask yourself if you really need it. Why? Interest on passbook (savings) accounts is a maximum 5.5 percent these days, compared to more than twice that of money market accounts and certificates of deposit. Economists figure that savers are losing millions by not making the switch.

If your passbook account is too small for conversion, or if you want a few dollars where you can get your hands on them fast, it may be okay to stand pat. On the other hand, if safety is your concern, forget it. Bank money market accounts and CD's are just as safe—they're all insured up to a maximum of $100,000.

Major Changes in Moviemaking at home are under way because of video cameras that record sight and sound on tape—instead of film—for projection on TV screens. Video camera sales this year are estimated at 650,000 units, with 750,000 in prospect for next year.

In turn, though, the video camera field is in for its own change. Present cameras use half-inch tape, projected through BETA or VHS decks. Now smaller 8mm versions are beginning to appear with decks of their own, for about $2,000. Watch for heavy competition and price declines.

A Much Tougther Bankruptcy Law goes into effect this month, plugging loopholes in the old version. The new law says that debtors can't run up a lot of bills before filing then claim they can't pay them; assets to be excluded from liquidation will be lumped into a single $4,000-per-household figure, instead of a lot of small exclusions; and, instead of giving up assets, the debtor—at the discretion of a judge—now may be ordered to pay back as much as seems reasonable over a three-year period.

By Edgar A. Grunwald
Agent Orange Updates...

...On the Suit

Contrary to some media reports, no final settlement has been made in the $180 million suit against the manufacturers of Agent Orange. A proposal for settlement was submitted in May, but it won't be final until it has been approved by the courts.

The next step is a series of hearings to determine if the $180 million is fair, reasonable and adequate and whether the proposal should be approved. As this issue went to press, those hearings were scheduled Aug. 8 to 24.

...On the Risks

Vietnam veterans in general do not suffer increased risks of fathering children with serious birth defects, said spokesmen from the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

However, some "statistically significant" findings showed up in the comprehensive August report published in the "Journal of the American Medical Association."

The report showed that the estimated risks for fathering babies with spina bifida (a deformed spinal column), cleft lip with or without cleft palate, and certain benign and malignant tumors were higher for Vietnam veterans who may have suffered higher levels of exposure to Agent Orange. CDC stated that although the findings are statistically significant, they may not be biologically significant because of the low power of the study.

Of 5,400 fathers interviewed, 428 were Vietnam veterans.

The 7,133 babies with birth defects initially included in the study were born in the Atlanta, Ga., area from 1968 through 1980. The control group was to be 4,246 babies born during the same time period with no major birth defects. The actual numbers included in the study were lower because of the inability to locate parents or their refusal to participate in the study.

The study showed two additional findings of general interest. Vietnam veterans had much lower estimated risks for fathering children with abnormalities classified as complex cardiovascular defects.

According to John F. Sommer Jr., deputy director, National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division, The American Legion believes that while the results are by no means alarming, a closer look should be taken at those birth defects that may occur more frequently in the offspring of veterans heavily exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam.

That look may present itself through the Columbia University and American Legion Study of Vietnam-Era Veterans, which is looking, in part, at birth defects. When the results of that project are released, they will be compared with the CDC study.

...On the Puzzle

The Agent Orange puzzle has not been solved yet, according to Harry Walters, national VA chief.

The final answer on whether Agent Orange has caused health problems for Vietnam veterans should be known in another three years, he said.

A $150 million study by the national Centers for Disease Control to screen 30,000 veterans should be finished by 1987. With the completion of that, "we hope to have the data to finally prove or disprove a link" between health problems and Agent Orange, the VA administrator said.

Programs Get Boost
Via Special Trust Fund

Volunteers are the lifeblood of The American Legion, but they can't do it all.

Their efforts to keep Legion programs alive sometimes need a financial boost, because some programs require more money than is available locally. Where does this support originate?

Much of it comes from a trust fund of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan, which serves double duty for the Legion. Since the plan began in 1958, some 27,000 Legion family beneficiaries have been paid $50 million, reported Jerome P. Dobel Jr., chairman of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan and Trust Committee. The fund also has donated about $6.5 million to support Legion programs.

Some of those programs and amounts received include Oratorical, $1,380,803; Boys Nation, $480,148; Junior Uniforms, $39,650; Baseball (since 1972), $2,928,876; and Boy Scout Award, a $2,000 annual scholarship.
VA Home Loan Fee Rises

The administrative fee veterans pay for buying homes under the VA-guaranteed home loan program was raised to 1 percent in August.

The .5 percent increase was needed because the VA's Loan Guaranty Revolving Fund, which is responsible for backing the VA guarantee, was slowly

racking up deficits that could have spelled doom for the VA home loan program. In the past, this one-time user fee generated funds that went to the U.S. Treasury. With the change, funds will be deposited directly into the LGRF and wipe out nearly 70 percent of its current operating debt. A supplemental bill passed by Congress will kill the remaining 30 percent. While the increase will come as bad news to many, it is important to remember that without a solvent LGRF, there can be no VA home loan program for veterans.

Disabled/Vietnam Vets Sought For VA Business

The VA wants to do more business with Vietnam veterans and disabled veterans who own their own businesses.

They are invited to apply for some of the $5 million in contracts the VA awards annually when buying office and custodial supplies, and repairing office equipment. Supplies and repairs that cost $1,000 and more require a bid. Costs less than that do not.

For more information, write the Supply Division, VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20420, or any VA office.

Did You Know . . .

- The maximum interest rate on VA home loans dropped from 14 percent to 13.5 percent, which will mean monthly savings of about $24 on an average VA loan of $51,000. The change doesn't affect existing loans.
- By 1990 the VA expects to see about 7.2 million veterans who are 65 or older and eligible for VA care. At 65, veterans are entitled to free care at VA's 172 hospital centers, 227 outpatient clinics and 119 nursing homes.

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE MONTH

That all-American spirit of determination embodied in a “Yes, I Can!” attitude, is the hallmark of Dorothy Slamin Hill.

A member of Joseph Slamin Hill Post 156 (named after her late husband), Waltham, Mass., Mrs. Hill's reputation of never taking “no” for an answer began after a WWII Coast Guard official told her she wasn't eligible to join because she was a woman. She persisted, was accepted in 1943 and served three years.

Mrs. Hill joined Post 156 in 1948 and organized its band. Only eight men attended the first meeting. By year's end, there were over 80.

She has lead the band to 12 first-place wins in department competition in the past 14 years. Under her direction, the band marched in several national convention parades. In 1982, she lead the band up Constitution Avenue in Washington, D.C., as part of the ceremonies to dedicate the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

But marching with her band isn't all Mrs. Hill does for her post and community. In 1977, when membership dropped to about 160 and post activities declined, she began the first of five consecutive terms as post commander. Her inspiring leadership helped membership swell to over 700, which also lead the post to move to a new and larger building.

WELCOME ABOARD—Past Natl. Cdr. Daniel F. Foley, Minn., confers Honorary Life Membership in ANAVICUS (Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada of the U.S.) on former President Jimmy Carter. Every U.S. President since Harry S. Truman has been a member of ANAVICUS.
Like the roots of a giant tree, the Internal Affairs Commission is that hidden source of strength and vitality that supports The American Legion," said James P. Dean, commission chairman for the past seven years.

Asked to explain the job he and 17 other commission members perform, he said: "It's difficult to nail down the one or two most important things we do. This commission and its staff affect in some way or another nearly everything the Legion does."

To achieve this effect, Internal Affairs operates four standing national committees: Constitution and By-Laws; Membership and Post Activities; Resolutions Assignment; and Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee reviews proposed changes to the Legion's constitution, interprets the potential effect those changes may have and makes its recommendation to the Internal Affairs Commission. For example, the committee proposed and saw adopted Legion membership eligibility for WWII, Korean and Vietnam War veterans, and the constitutional change that permits post and department officers to hold their positions at the same time they hold elected public office in their communities.

"An indicator of any organization's soundness is when its charter, constitution and bylaws stand the test of time," said Dean, municipal judge and attorney from Corinth, Miss. "Yet, that strength is also shown when an organization sees the need for change and makes that bold decision to change and to innovate."

Innovative membership drives are one way the Legion shows its willingness to adapt. For instance, the Internal Affairs Commission created the "Paid Up For Life" membership plan in 1975. Since then it has netted 32,000 members. Another membership innovation is about to be launched: Direct Membership Solicitation.

Under DMS, the Legion will contact by letter over three million veterans. "This letter will tell them about their legal benefits," Dean said. "Each letter will have a card that the veteran may mail back to National Headquarters for more information about those legal benefits."

"Letters will go to any veteran, not just to Legionnaires," he said. "That way, we'll help fulfill one of the most important mandates in the Preamble to the Legion Constitution: mutual helpfulness among veterans. For sure, there are distinct eligibility requirements for joining the Legion, but Legionnaires regard as a primary responsibility the rehabilitation and welfare of all veterans, their dependents and survivors. We think that these letters will make veterans aware of their legal rights. If they become members because of our contact, good; but even if they don't join, a clearer understanding of the benefits of membership has been provided and we can take pride in providing this service to all veterans."

Internal Affairs also uses a Direct Renewal Program to encourage members to renew their membership. The program helps retention by contacting each member through a personalized letter. Over 3,500,000 letters will be sent over a 12-month period.

While one eye of the commission is focused on membership, the other is kept on membership interests and con-
cerns. This is the job of the Resolutions Assignment Committee, which reviews the hundreds of proposed resolutions, then assigns them to the appropriate national commission or convention committee for consideration.

"Here again, you see why this commission is like a tree," Dean said. "Original ideas for the resolutions come from members at the post, district or department levels. They feed them through us and we feed them out to the appropriate branch of the Legion's tree."

The breadth of Legionnaire concerns and interests—from foreign relations and veterans rehabilitation to child welfare and economics—shows in those resolutions a broad reflection of mainstream America. Because it's so broad, however, an occasional resolution comes along that doesn't belong to a specific commission or committee.

For example, when Legionnaires honored the men and women who'd served in Vietnam by proposing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., the Internal Affairs Commission coordinated Legion fundraising to help build the memorial.

Likewise, when the '70s Arab oil embargo threatened American safety and security, Internal Affairs appointed a subcommittee to encourage energy conservation and research into alternative energy sources.

Members of the commission carry out the Legion's mandate to decrease America's dependence on foreign fuel and to encourage the use of America's proven energy resources. The commission also supports the development of new energy sources and the conservation of those that exist today.

"This conservation and development of new energy sources is critical to America's stability not only from an economic standpoint, but also from a defense standpoint," explained Dean.

To encourage the Legion's continued growth, Internal Affairs organizes eight annual National Leadership Workshops where Legionnaires may learn more about the Legion and the Auxiliary. The eight workshops are held after the National Convention in various cities around the country.

About 500 volunteer Legionnaires and Auxiliary members attend each workshop to discuss matters of interest to the organization and to share experiences, exchange ideas and solve common problems. Also, Internal Affairs provides the American Legion Extension Institute course to members interested in learning more about the Legion's beginnings.

"It's like a history course," explained Ray Patterson, the director of Internal Affairs. A veteran of WWII and a former U.S. history teacher before he joined the national staff, Patterson said, "You can't expect a child to understand the greatness of this country without teaching him or her something about what America is about and the courageous people who made it that way. The Institute course does the same thing for Legionnaires. It tells our history, our accomplishments and sets a challenge before all of us to keep persevering in the Legion's quest for further greatness."

Legionnaires may enroll in the Extension Institute course by sending $10 to National Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

The Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee recommends to the commission the awards that may become official Legion awards. This committee also gets annual nominations for the Distinguished Service Medal, the International Amity Awards, the Canadian Friendship Awards and the Good Neighbor Awards.

MAIL STORM—Nearly one million Legionnaires mailed entry forms to National Headquarters in hope of winning a PUFL membership. The deluge required additional workers to help process the mail.

The Distinguished Service Medal, established in 1921, recognizes persons outside the Legion for their contributions to America's greatness. Past winners have been presidents, publishers, writers, military and religious leaders, actors and entertainers, athletes, astronauts and leaders in medicine. The Good Neighbor Award is given as a national "thank you" from the Legion to Legionnaires who perform outstanding volunteer work in their respective communities.

The commission also oversees staff services for the Contests Supervisory Committee and coordinates the contests at the national convention each year. This year, there were contests in six categories: junior color guard, senior color guard, senior band, junior drill team, senior drill team and firing squad.

One more part of the commission's tree is the Sons of The American Legion. Organized in 1932, this group of young men and adults shares the same ideals that guide the parent organization: patriotism, honor, faith, reverence and helpfulness. With a 6,481 membership increase this year, SAL is now 66,058 strong. SAL members have pledged their efforts this year to veterans rehabilitation.

"As long as there is an American Legion," Dean concluded, "there will be a need for an Internal Affairs Commission. We make sure the things Legionnaires want done, are done. We may not be known outside the organization, but if it weren't for Internal Affairs, there would be little, if any, external affairs."
New York, N.Y., Post 930

Homeless Post Helps Homeless Runaways

Some New York City Legionnaires without a post home are helping runaway teenagers find theirs.

The 700-plus members of New York Fire Department Post 930 are firemen who live in and around New York City. Because of their widespread membership, a post home has never been built. Instead, they meet at Rhinelander Post 6 in Manhattan.

While that type of arrangement may pose membership problems at some posts, it hasn’t at 930, founded in 1920.

“Thirteen of our members have been with the post over 50 years,” said Post Cdr. Thomas Doyle.

Doyle, who spoke for Post Cdr. Andrew F. Clarke, who was abroad, said, “Whatever the department or national resolutions indicate are important projects, we get started on right away. We may even work on a project long after that particular year is over.”

Or they may have started long before.

During the mid-’70s the problem of runaway children was barely known to most Americans, but was apparent to Post 930 members. They realized that nearby Greenwich Village was a mecca for many of these runaways. That’s why members began working with Rev. Fred Eckhardt, then a New York City fire department chaplain. Eckhardt got post members involved in a people-to-people search in the Village.

Given photographs of children believed to be in the Village, post members and their wives fanned out in search of them. While life in the artist colony was a lure for many runaways, most soon learned that the arduous of romantic “street life” vanished under the rigors of survival.

“Rev. Eckhardt walked us through the Village to see where the kids were. One Sunday a month for three years he’d bring us pictures of missing kids. One or two were found and we helped get services to them,” said Doyle.

Though searches are no longer held, members still raise funds for a home for runaways. Members also have run fund-raising dinners for a burn center, and they conduct annual flag retirement ceremonies for flags used at each of the city’s firehouses, place flags at veterans’ cemeteries and give Americanism awards to area school children.

One of the post’s main concerns now is the restoration of the Statue of Liberty. Members have already collected nearly $1,000 and have scheduled a dinner/dance to raise more.

What many members are most proud of is the $7,000 they raised for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. They believe it may be the most money contributed to the memorial from a single post.

New York City is a melting pot for first- and second-generation Americans. Post 930 Membership Chairman Tom McMahon stresses that point and the Legion’s long record of service to veterans when he meets potential members on his recruiting rounds.

“I tell them, ‘You were born those other things. You didn’t have to pay your dues to be an Italian-American or an Irish-American. That was your birthright,’ ” said McMahon.

“But you put your life on the line, and you earned the right to be an American and a member of The American Legion,” he added. “When you say you’re a Legionnaire, you’re saying I paid the price. I have a right to be here and to be proud.”

Being a Legionnaire is also a statement of our devotion to continuing our service to this country.”

That kind of pride was shared in the late ’60s and early ’70s when they organized their own parades to support soldiers in Vietnam. McMahon, a Vietnam-era veteran, said, “With the help of this post’s long-time leaders, I’ve been able to learn more about the Legion, which helps recruiting. The slogan, ‘Get Involved,’ is a good one for the Legion. But it’s the training that the long-time members such as Doyle and (Ernest) Jeanet (one of the commanders during the VVMF fund-raising drive) give that’s responsible for getting and keeping us going. All of the guys in this post are very active and involved, and that’s never ending motivator for all of us.”
Legionnaires: SHOW YOUR COLORS Veterans' Day and every day!

A. HOME FLAG SET. Installs in minutes on any vertical or horizontal surface. 2-pc. aluminum pole, plastic eagle, holder with cleat, halyard, heavy cotton bunting U.S. flag with embroidered stars, sewed stripes, flag etiquette folder, storage carton.
   No. 72800 6-ft pole — 3' x 5' flag ........................................... $20.75
   No. 72801 8-ft. pole — 4' x 6' flag .......................................... $29.30
   Same as above except cotton sheeting flag with dyed stars and sewed stripes.
   No. 72802 6-ft. pole — 3' x 5' flag ........................................... $10.50

B. DELUXE DESK SETS. Printed rayon 8" x 12" U.S. and Legion flags, golden yellow fringe, cord and tassels, ebonized staffs with gold eagles, plastic base with golden metal Legion or Auxiliary emblem. (Specify).
   No. 72860 Legion ................................................................. $23.90
   No. 72860 Auxiliary ............................................................. $23.90

C. DESK COLORS. 4" x 6" printed rayon flags (U.S. and choice of Legion or Auxiliary), golden yellow fringe, cord and tassels, brass finish staffs with spearhead ornaments and matching base.
   No. 72910 U.S. & Legion ....................................................... $7.00
   No. 32910 U.S. & Auxiliary ................................................... $7.00

D. DELUXE HOME FLAG SET. Lustrous heavyweight nylon U.S. flag with embroidered stars and sewed stripes, handsome aluminum pole (4-pc.), steel bracket with cleat, plastic eagle, halyard, flag etiquette folder, Gift/storage box.
   No. 72909 6-ft pole — 3' x 5' flag ........................................... $28.85

E. LAWN FLAG SET. Telescopic white steel pole, ground socket with cap, plastic ornament, halyard, cleat, aluminum pulley, heavy cotton bunting U.S. flag with dyed stars and sewed stripes. Easy to install. (Aluminum pole and different rigging on 12 ft. set)
   No. 72820 12-ft. pole — 3' x 5' U.S. flag ................................... $51.90
   No. 72813 18-ft. pole — 3' x 5' U.S. flag ................................ $63.90

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Peter Klarsky, William Tully (1983), Post 96, West Hartford, CT
Charles M. Snyder, Henry J. Ridgeley (1984), Post 2, Dover, DE
James D. Carlton, Stanley J. Klibas (1984), Post 12, West Palm Beach, FL
Henry F. McDowell (1984), Post 323, Lehigh Acres, FL
Dorothy L. Rowe (1984), Post 334, Tampa, FL Louis T. Ellison (1984), Post 87, Chicago, IL
Russell Garren (1984), Post 606, Maroo, IL
Walker Pat Prytyna, Arlelgh W. Johnson (1984), Post 94, Valparaiso, IN
Robert S. Hartlgen (1984), Post 336, Danbury, IA
Irby J. Hornsby (1984), Post 272, Montegut, LA
Charles Mason (1983-84), Post 68, Lakeside MI, George W. Hinklely III, Thomas J. Shire (1984), Post 110, Macclief, MA
Ronald M. Wenberg (1984), Post 15, Detroit Lakes, MN
Emmet Otto Stolte (1984), Post 55, Hannibal, MO
Herald J. Muckler, Millon Cowperthwaite, James V. Matts (1983), Post 139, West Orange, NJ
John W. Kover (1983), Post 239, Skaneateles, NY
William F. Varney Jr. (1984), Post 303, Rockville Centre, NY
Milo M. Clothing (1984), Post 533, Corlinit, NY
Robert Beyer, Plm D. Mach, Denon (1984), Post 152, Berkeley, CA
Paul Saneshen, Richard K. Todd (1984), Post 30, Pomona, CA

FOOTNOTE

John B. Long, Richard J. Wilde (1984), Post 1, Panania, FL
George W. Lair, John Isier (1983), Post 76, Hope, PA
Frederick Pennington Jr., Melvin Morris (1984), Post 547, Marion, AR
Robert H. Gouger (1983), Post 927, Gilbert, PA
Melvin W. Mann (1984), Post 166, Goose Creek, SC
Clyndl Schaffner (1982), Post 27, Memphis, TN
Eckley H. Stewart (1984), Post 156, Brentwood, TN
Charles T. Webb (1984), Post 251, Granit Falls, WA
Daniel Stoyd (1983), Post 527, Swanton, WA
Harald Schut (1984), Post 398, Plain, WI

TAPS

The Taps Notice mentions, whenever possible, those Legionnaires who have held high National or Department Office in the Legion or the US government or who have attained other forms of national prominence.

Vernon P. Fleming, Florida Department Vice Commander (1980-82)
Pau R. Gents, NM Department Commander (1935-47)
Mercus S. Goldman, Paris Cucus Delegate, American Legion Founders Society.
Russell Ivan Grob, WA Department Commander (1978-79), Department Vice Commander (1977-78)
Charles P. Gedrick, GA National Executive Committeeman (1947-49), Department Commander (1948-50)
Ernest H. Devilshien, National Vice Commander (1946-47)
Clarence B. Broughton, VA Department Vice Commander (1977-76)
James T. Annin, National Vice Commander (1949-49), MT Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1945-46), Department Commander (1941-42), Department Commander (1979-80), Department Vice Commander (1977-79)
Harold Pasl Carlson, CO Department Commander (1979-80), Department Vice Commander (1980-82), Department Commander (1977-77), Department Commander (1977-77), Department Commander (1977-77), Department Commander (1977-77), Department Commander (1977-77), Department Commander (1977-77)
Carlon M. Bredin, ND Department Commander (1977-80)
Robert Samuel Reddy, MS Department Vice Commander (1979-80), ND Department Commander (1977-77)
Carlton H. Foster, WI St Louis Cauus member.

‘Taps’ Available

Posts needing a cassette recording of “Taps” for playing at military funerals or patriotic services may receive one by writing to George Gregory, 1470 Circle Dr., Apt. 304, Pontiac, Mich. 48055.

The recording features the “Taps” played at the funeral of President John F. Kennedy, complete with the firing of the rifle squad. Another recording of “Taps,” also available from Gregor-y, is the traditional Army “Taps.” While the copies of the recordings are free, donations are appreciated to help defray the cost of materials, recording and mailing.
Legionnaires save an extra 10%.

Cruise all the way to Acapulco in a week from only $1,089 including airfare.

Second week only $299.

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Whichever cruise you choose, you’ll go splendidly aboard the Cunard Countess—with magnificent dining that includes panoramic sea views, outdoor sunning, swimming and other sports, a casino, disco, piano bar, sauna and oceans of fun and relaxation.

For reservations call Mr. Les Kertes at 800-645-2120, or send in the coupon.

10 convenient Saturday sailings:

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<tr>
<th>L.A.-Acapulco</th>
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All rates are per person, double occupancy and subject to availability. Taxes not included. All rates valid on cruises through December 8, 1984. Cruises beginning January 5, 1985, start at $1,199.

Those that gave so much for our country. As Mr. Sommers said in his article, there are only 88,000 former POWs left and that will soon be reduced in half. We need to obtain help for them now. They don’t have much time left.

Mabel I. Grossnicklaus
Diz, Neb.

Real Threat

Enjoyed the articles in the July issue concerning the Soviet Union and other communist nations, but they ignore the real threat to our freedoms: those from within.

By that, I mean our own government. Not a year goes by that more laws are not passed for our “own good,” or another fee added.

Lest we forget the words of Benjamin Franklin, “A man who gives up personal liberty for a little safety deserves neither liberty nor safety.”

F. Edward James
Macon, Ga.

Young Fan

My parents are Legionnaires and I, at 21, read their LEGION magazine and like what I read. It is fair and presents both views for domestic and foreign policy. It advocates involvement politically and is not afraid to take sides against communism. Certainly the Legion is the best reason why communist countries do not, and never will, have a free press.

Jerry N. Deibert
San Diego, Calif.

Infantry

The articles by Dr. Coit Blacker and Dr. Adam Ulam (July) sounded like wishful thinking and little knowledge of what it takes to win wars. They mentioned everything except infantry, which is still the “Queen of Battle.”

We know the Soviets have problems but we have plenty also, especially when we spend too many billions for strategic forces and very little for infantry and artillery. Lack of funds for infantry weapons, training, and the wrong methods of infantry training make us the underdog.

Charles Davis
East Greenville, Pa.
Doesn’t Anyone Like the Press?

Ex-Detroit News Editor William E. Giles’ positive article on “The Nation’s Press” in the July issue triggered a flurry of reader reactions—all negative. The letters, as excerpted here, label the news media as “irresponsible” and “unpatriotic.” Any other viewpoints?

Asking a newspaperman to tell what is wrong with our press and what can be done to correct it is like asking an AMA member to write an article and tell what is wrong with doctors and what should be done to correct the problem. Giles spent most of the time telling what is good and right about the media and, like the critics he criticized, he gave no solutions.

Charles Davis
East Greenville, Pa.

Mr. Giles makes the point that many newspapers don’t have rude and cynical reporters and editors. Unfortunately, the rude and cynical ones are featured on national television.

A. R. Loomis
Fairfield Glade, Tenn.

Shortly after the Grenada invasion, a TV reporter was crying because the liberal press was not allowed to do more to sabotage U.S. efforts.

The sad and simple truth is that there are “American” reporters who would do anything to undermine any effort to slow communist conquests.

William Mayfield
Humboldt, Tenn.

I recently returned from living three years in Costa Rica, Central America. Radio Cuba and Moscow beam daily programs to Central America with anti-U.S. propaganda. A few days later I would read it all over again in the eastern U.S. press, shipped into Costa Rica.

Having experienced what is going on in Costa Rica, then reading the communist propaganda in our “free U.S. press,” tells me that Giles is trying to frost a cake terribly rotten at the core, and I mean the U.S. press.

Herbert C. Savage
El Paso, Texas

Giles’ quotation from Time Magazine expresses exactly how most people regard journalists. While a small minority might want the press restricted and controlled, most Americans simply want it to be as ethically responsible as the great privilege it has been granted under our Constitution.

The press’s irresponsibility is obviously not being restrained by those listed under “Who’s Watching the Watchdog.” Organizations that are having some success in that regard are Accuracy in Media and the American Legal Foundation.

Edward Ahrens
Tucson, Ariz.

I must disagree with Mr. Giles. There is more wrong than right with our present news media.

Writing or reporting the news objectively, without bias or editorializing, must be a difficult skill because it has been years since I’ve heard or read a news report that was without bias or editorializing.

Chester J. Milezarek
Corpus Christi, Texas

Why is it outrageous to suppose that someone in the press might have subverted the Grenada invasion?

Wasn’t someone in the news business who published the Pentagon Papers, lionized the thief who stole them, sympathized with the Viet Cong and heaped dishonor on the efforts of our fighting men in Vietnam? And aren’t there some in the press today who portray the U.S. as the villain in Central America and take the side of Russia in the cold war debate?

Clem J. Stava
Glendale, Ariz.

Giles’ article is full of the same arrogant self-service that seems to afflict virtually the entire press. He claims “editorial excellence” for the New York Times, that paper editorially likened our Marines and paratroopers involved in the Grenada operation to “Nazi storm troopers,” demonstrating once again that the loyalty of the American press can’t be assumed in any conflict with Marxist regimes.

John Walker
Riverdale, Ill.
Tax Changes

Continued from page 19

The second change in 1985 may be a zinger: a surtax or surcharge on top of the regular tax. That would be a quick way to raise tons of dollars and might be sold politically as a "temporary" crisis preventer.

Among others holding similar views on this issue, the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank, suggested a surtax on both personal and corporate income tax in its recent book-length study of how to balance the federal budget without killing the economic boom.

- A national sales tax is a third mass revenue raiser that has been attracting more support in Congress. One reason is that recent polls suggest that sales taxes are gaining ground against income taxes, as a way of raising taxes in the public's view.

No Tax on Food

Other advantages are claimed: A sales tax is relatively easy to collect and harder to evade. Food and medicine can be exempted to keep the levy

Continued on page 44

WHY CONGRESS RAISED TAXES THIS ELECTION YEAR

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Federal Deficits
Net Interest on Federal Debts


RED INK—The specter of monstrous deficits and skyrocketing interest rates galvanized Congress into tax increases and some spending restraints in 1984, despite election year fears. The forecasts that shook Washington came from the Congressional Budget Office. October 1—a "red letter" or, perhaps more accurately, a "red ink" day—begins the federal fiscal year.
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ROGER WHITTAKER “Heart-Touching Songs!”

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This is the remarkable treasury over 1,400,000 people ordered when it was on television. Every song is an all-time favorite. There’s no other singer like him.

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DEANNA DURBIN “Hollywood Super Star!”

‘The most beautiful voice in movie history’ is what they say about her. Hear all her greatest hits in this just released, exclusive collection. A goldmine of nostalgic memories.

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CRISTY LANE “One Day At A Time!”

Her famous TV album. America’s favorite songs of faith to give you strength and courage each day.

One Day at a Time • I Believe • In the Garden • Everything Is Beautiful • Whispers from the Rock of Ages • Just a Closer Walk With Thee • Softly and Tenderly • Give them All to Jesus • Why Me? • How Great Thou Art • You Don’t Have the Power • I’ll Rise Again • Try a Little Kindness • Amazing Grace • He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands • Peace in the Valley • It Is No Secret

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For every G.I. Joe and his girl! Here are all the Vera Lynn hits that sold by the millions. A goldmine of musical nostalgia for you.

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JIM REEVES “All American Legend!”

Jim Reeves’ golden mellow voice touched your heart like no other singer. Now here are all his beautiful recordings that were never included in his famous TV Treasures.

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ENGELBERT “Release Me!”

Here is Engelbert Humperdinck, America’s romantic singing sensation, with his famous hits that swept America. The kind of music that you play over and over.

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The Singing Legend! Now you can get the exclusive Marty Robbins album that doesn’t have a single unknown, unwanted song. Includes his giant hits!

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One form of a sales tax economists like to talk about is the VAT (value-added tax), which is collected on the value added to materials at various stages in the production process.

VAT is widely popular in Europe and was advocated here by then-President Richard Nixon in 1972. Many politicians think the name is jinxed and now prefer the term "national sales tax."

An alternative form of a sales tax or VAT is the "transactions tax," levied only on producers and wholesalers. The tax would be passed on into prices consumers pay, but retail buyers would not see it—"a very big plus to some seeking a way to raise billions of added revenue in an efficient, virtually self-collecting system."

A transactions tax might also be more acceptable to states and local governments, which look on sales taxes as their turf, to be protected at all costs from invasion by the feds.

An experienced lobbyist, when asked what he expects in 1985, answered this way a few weeks ago: "They (Congress and the White House) will kill indexing, close more loopholes in the present code and adopt a surtax of about 10 percent or a national sales tax of about 5 percent with a lot of exemptions. All the talk about radical changes and a whole new tax system will fade away like the hot air it mostly is."

Even if that down-to-earth appraisal turns out to be correct, there will still be months of debate in Congress and news media over a number of suggestions for fundamental "rejiggering" of the federal tax system. The major ideas fall into two groups, which can be summarized as follows:

1. Simplified flat tax. Also called "the fair tax," this proposal gets its considerable political appeal from the

Continued on page 46
### Ultra-Thin Men's or Ladies' LCD Quartz Watch

**FREE with every order!**

These gold-tone watches are beautifully thin-styled to compare with luxury designs! What's more, they give you information equally accurate as others selling $20 or more.

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  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B5
  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B6
  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B7
  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B8
  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B9
  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B10
  - 50 mg. VITAMIN B12
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### Papaya Papain Degesta

- **VITAMIN E**
  - Beauty Oil
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I want to see your terrific selection of brand-name shirts, slacks, jeans, jackets, sportswear, work clothes, boots, and shoes. With sleeve and inseam lengths to 38". Necks to 22". Waists to 60". And footwear to size 10EEE.

Name
Address (Please print)
City State Zip
My telephone number

6044 King-Size Bldg., Brockton, MA 02402

Tax Changes

Continued from page 44

fact that it would replace the present jumble of rates/brackets/deductions/exemptions/shelters and labyrinthine rules, regulations and court decisions with only one or at most two or three rates of tax on virtually all income, with no or only a few exemptions.

An early "pure" version of the flat tax, authored by economists Robert Hall and Alvin Rabushka, would shrink Form 1040 to a postcard; tax all income above personal exemptions at one rate and end all deductions. A bill has been introduced along these lines, calling for a 19-percent rate on taxed income.

2. Consumed-income tax. This is a tax plan that has intrigued economic theorists since the dawn of the "dismal science" of economics. Its cornerstone is the idea that savers create the financing for wealth-producing equipment, national defense and socially desirable aid to disadvantaged groups, so they should be given a tax break and incentive to save still more, compared with those people who prefer to spend all of their income on current consumption. In Aesop's terms, it's the ants over the grasshoppers plan.

Money set aside in savings or invested in productive facilities including housing for example would not be taxed at all, until it is drawn out of the savings pool and spent. Money spent on consumption products and services, above certain level-of-living costs, would be taxed at rates rising with the amount of money spent.

It is generally agreed that the consumed-income tax is a nice theory that will remain a theory and not a fact. But portions of the idea already have been adopted.

National Sales Tax

The Individual Retirement Account and KEogh plans for the self-employed, deferring tax on limited amounts of current income until the money is spent, are examples of the consumed-income tax principle at work. A national sales tax, or a transactions tax, would be a very big step in the direction of the consumed-income tax system.

On the eve of the 1984 presidential and congressional elections, no one in Washington or elsewhere can predict with any degree of certainty the extent and nature of tax changes that

Continued on page 48

The American Legion Magazine
NEW FOR THIS CHRISTMAS…

A LETTER FROM SANTA MAILED TO YOUR CHILD!

ONLY $1.00

SANTA CLAUS
The North Pole
Christmas 1984

Dear (your child’s name here),

I'm so happy to be able to write this special letter to you this Christmas, and hope you have fun with your new toys too!

These are some of the many good things I've been hearing about you:

- A thrilling surprise for any child
- Addressed to your child, and mailed directly to your child
- Santa’s name and return address on every letter and envelope
- Written in simple, easy to read language
- Envelope marked, “Do not open until Christmas”
- Orders received prior to Dec. 14, 1984 will arrive before Christmas.
- Orders received after Dec. 14, 1984 will arrive after Christmas.

If you'd like Santa to write to more than 3 children, please enclose your own list.

UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEE:
Every child on your list must be thrilled with their personalized letter from Santa, plus their FREE Toys, or your money will be refunded.

FREE GIFTS

3 FREE TOYS

With Each Letter You Order

ORDER TODAY

LETTERS TO CHILDREN, Sterling Bldg., Dept. SL-8845, Garnerville, NY 10923-0500

YES, please ask Santa to write to the following children on my Christmas list:

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City _____________________________________________ State _______ Zip _______

Child's approx. age ________

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City _____________________________________________ State _______ Zip _______

Child's approx. age ________

Enclosed is just $1.00 plus 35¢ for postage and handling for each letter.

This includes 3 FREE TOYS to each child. N.Y. St. residents add sales tax

My name __________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City _____________________________________________ State _______ Zip _______

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE on your full purchase price less postage and handling.
When your knees go bad...you're in trouble!

Now thanks to Coach "Cotton" Barlow, there's an answer!

Nobody knows more about crippling knee pain, stiffness and strain than "Cotton" Barlow.
The veteran football coach has seen plenty of it in his years on and off the field.
He's also discovered that ordinary knee supports and elastic bandages just can't do the job. So he finally set to work to find a way to add strength and stability directly to the joint where support and protection are needed most.

FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES

Today, thanks to his unique invention, thousands of men, women and children of all ages lead active, pain-free lives despite serious knee problems.
Coach Barlow's fantastic invention uses no metal yet it provides maximum lateral and cap support. This incredibly lightweight support absorbs shocks and prevents twisting. And the BARLOW™ knee support provides soothing warmth to injured or arthritic joints.

So comfortable you can wear it for hours and non-allergenic too. Choose from five sizes for your perfect fit.

NO RISK OFFER

We urge you to try Coach Barlow's remarkable knee supports for 30 days. If it doesn't bring you pain-free relief, we'll refund your money without questions.

Order today. Specify size in coupon below.

WHAT FOLKS TELL US ABOUT OUR KNEE SUPPORT:

"I'm 80 years old and certainly not an athlete...but now I can garden again and be active 'cause I wear your brace."  
L.W. Oconto Falls, WI

"At first I wasn't sure...now I want a brace for the other knee. I've had knee problems for the last 5 years. I only wish I had known of this brace 5 years ago. I'm so grateful. Thank you"
J.N. Hartwell, GA

"This support is a great help to me. I could hardly get around before I got it. Thank you."
A.J. Springfield, OR

Barlow® INC., Dept. AL104
406 So. Ella, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

Enclosed please find $____ for Barlow knee supports.

□ One Barlow knee support $19.95 plus $1.50 S&H & Hdlg.
□ Two Barlow knee supports $39.90 plus $2.50 S&H & Hdlg.

Enclosed is my □ Check □ Money Order or Charge my □ Visa □ Mastercard.

Credit Card Customers call NOW: Toll Free 1-800-824-7888 Operator #115

Card No. _______________ Exp. Date _______________

FOR CORRECT SIZE

Measure around the knee, one inch above the knee cap.

CIRCLE ONE

SM under 15" MED 15" to under 17" LG 17" to under 19" XL 19" to under 21" XXL 21" and over.

(circle one)

Mr./Mrs./Ms.

ADDRESS ____________________________________________

CITY ____________________________________________ STATE ______ ZIP ______

When in Sandpoint, visit the Barlow Knee Clinic.

Tax Changes

Continued from page 46

will be enacted in 1985 and later. But several basic trends are gathering steam and you can expect to feel their effects regardless of who, or which political party, wins at the polls.

First there will be a speedup in the drive already under way to tighten and maybe eliminate some loopholes in the Internal Revenue Code. Moves against individuals' biggest loopholes, such as home mortgage interest and charitable contribution deductions, have been ruled out as politically impossible. But businessmen and investors will be put through the wringer.

At the same time, Congress will give the IRS more manpower, machines and probably more power in enforcement procedures to tighten overall compliance with the tax laws.

“...All the talk about a whole new tax system will fade away like the hot air it mostly is.”

Along with this you can expect a host of new “non-tax” taxes: user fees for services and products once provided free or at below-cost prices. Finally there will be the adoption of new taxes such as the surtax, sales tax or transaction tax described earlier. This is likely to be accompanied by a sweetener such as an increase in the personal exemption for income tax payers, already floated on a trial balloon basis by the current administration. That would help the lowest income families avoid the income tax altogether, partially offsetting the impact of any sales tax.

What about the other side of the federal financial ledger, the chance of significant economy moves to reduce Washington’s spending and thus its need for more and higher tax revenues? Many, both in and outside of government, predict that proposal will get much lip service along with a few generally insignificant cutbacks. But there is little optimism that a cure for Washington’s spending habit is in sight.
SUPER AWL WORKS LIKE A MACHINE... SEWS LEATHER, RUBBER, CANVAS, PLASTIC, UPHOLSTERY, NAUGAHYDE & ALL TOUGH MATERIALS! FREE Accessory Kit

End the Pain of Cramped Feet! Professional Shoe Stretcher

2 ATTACHMENTS FOR EXACT SPOT STRETCHING

Why torture yourself? Get blessed, overnight relief the professional way. Enjoy a custom fit that will have your aching feet dancing for joy! Gently stretches and widens tight shoes. Crafted from Genuine HARDWOODS with an E-Z Twist METAL HANDLE. Comes with 2 NYLON SPOT RELIEVER...relieves pressure on bunions and corns. Pays for itself...no more trips to shoe maker. Takes the "ouch" out of breaking in new shoes. Don't suffer another day! SPECIFY SIZE AND SEX WHEN ORDERING.

Men's Regular (7B-11A) Men's Large (10B-14D) Ladies' Regular (5B-8A) Ladies' Large (9B-11A) No. 3066 - Professional Shoe Stretcher...$4.98 SPECIAL: 2 for $8.99

NORELCO SHaver SHARPENER

Only...$2.98

Puts Back Factory Fresh Performance in your Shaver

In just one minute you can put back that factory-fresh performance you enjoyed when your Norelco Shaver was brand new! This new, scientifically designed rotary Sharpener will give your shaver blades a keen, surgically sharp shaving edge to give you smooth, clean shaves every time! Use it just once a month or so to retain super sharpness.

No. 3080 - Norelco Shaver Sharpener...$2.98

HO-HO-HO! GENUINE DOLLAR BILLS WITH SANTA'S FACE ON FRONT!

Real uncirculated bills negotiable anywhere in the U.S.A. or North Pole!

The most unique Christmas greeting we've ever seen! These are real dollar bills - with Santa's face on front. So beautifully done, you'd think it was done right at the mint! Yet, it's all legal and bills are still negotiable. Comes in a STEEL ENGRAVED Christmas Currency Envelope. A very different stocking stuffer - a unique gift for anyone on the list.

No. 9219 - Santa Bills...$3.98

Save! 3 for $11.00 - Save More! 6 for 19.98

A FULL 10 FEET LONG - FULLY ILLUMINATED!

"Tis the season!" When Santa and his 8 Reindeer prance across your yard this Christmas. Reaches to 10 FEET! Each figure has been brightly painted and is lit with its own reflector and bulb. Easy to set up...easy to take down and store. Bring the "spirit" to your home and neighborhood this year! Reindeer measure approximately 16½" high. Comes complete - nothing else to buy. Because of the great size and weight include $2.95 for postage & handling. Hi-impact weatherproof plastic.

No. 9038 - Lighted Santa & Reindeer Set $14.95 plus $2.95 postage & handling...TOTAL $17.90

END THE PAIN OF CRAMPED FEET! PROFESSIONAL SHOE STRETCHER

2 ATTACHMENTS FOR EXACT SPOT STRETCHING

Why torture yourself? Get blessed, overnight relief the professional way. Enjoy a custom fit that will have your aching feet dancing for joy! Gently stretches and widens tight shoes. Crafted from Genuine HARDWOODS with an E-Z Twist METAL HANDLE. Comes with 2 NYLON SPOT RELIEVER...relieves pressure on bunions and corns. Pays for itself...no more trips to shoe maker. Takes the "ouch" out of breaking in new shoes. Don't suffer another day! SPECIFY SIZE AND SEX WHEN ORDERING.

Men's Regular (7B-11A) Men's Large (10B-14D) Ladies' Regular (5B-8A) Ladies' Large (9B-11A) No. 3066 - Professional Shoe Stretcher...$4.98 SPECIAL: 2 for $8.99

NORELCO SHaver SHARPENER

Only...$2.98

Puts Back Factory Fresh Performance in your Shaver

In just one minute you can put back that factory-fresh performance you enjoyed when your Norelco Shaver was brand new! This new, scientifically designed rotary Sharpener will give your shaver blades a keen, surgically sharp shaving edge to give you smooth, clean shaves every time! Use it just once a month or so to retain super sharpness.

No. 3080 - Norelco Shaver Sharpener...$2.98

Our finest Quality Import! 17 Jewel Shock Protected Railroad Pocket Watch

Only...19.95

17 JEWEL MOVEMENT
JEWLERS ENGRAVED GOLD-TONE CASE

Each RAILMASTER DELUXE has a precision 17-JEWEL MOVEMENT had assembled by old world watchmakers. It ticks away the seconds with supertight, old-fashioned accuracy. SHOCKPROTECTED. As rugged as it is good looking! The heirloom quality case is finished in gleaming gold-tone. A deeply engraved backplate features a powerful locomotive in beautiful 3-dimensional detail. Easy to read at a glance! Big, bold numbers with two color markings for the seconds. Large sweep second hand. Heavy winding stem with a swivel for your watch chain. It's the timepiece of a tradition! An exceptionally fine gift...a real thrill to own! Let us prove to you that old-fashioned dependability and quality is not just a thing of the past. Keep your RAILMASTER DELUXE for 30 full days...at our risk! Because we import directly from one of Europe's oldest, finest watch factories, we can offer this low, low price. Each watch has been gift boxed and factory tested.

No. 5178 - 17 Jewel Railroad Pocket Watch...$19.95
No. 5145 - Matching Gold-Tone Watch Fob...$3.98
No. 5146 - Deluxe Double Link Watch Chain...$4.98
No. 5135 - Genuine Leather Watch Belt Holder...$3.98

Engagement and Wedding Ring Set with 12 SIMULATED DIAMONDS MATCHED STONES APPEAR APPROXIMATELY 3 CTS. NOW ONLY $5.98

So brilliant...so dazzling...only an expert could tell our fabulous ASTRALITES from precious, genuine diamonds! Slip on our magnificent matched set...feast ASTRALITES shining and sparkling as only can genuine diamonds! Platinum look band has been set with 12 ASTRALITE simulated diamonds. Yes, the thrilling look and feel of precious diamonds are no longer just for the rich to enjoy. Order today and discover why so many "with it" women insist on the fey beauty and value of lifetime ASTRALITES. Push gift box given to you FREE.

No. 5406 - Engagement & Wedding Ring Set...Only $5.98

2345 Post Road, Dept200K, A.Larchmont, N.Y. 10538
RUSH the items ordered below on 30 DAY TRIAL...complete satisfaction GUARANTEED or my money back (except postage & handling). My purchase is enclosed including 1.60 for postage & handling (sorry no c.o.d.).

QUAN. SIZE ITEM NO. DESCRIPTION PRICE

SHIPPING & HANDLING 1.60

N.Y. Residents Must Add Sales Tax

Total Enclosed

For swifter delivery use address & apt.

Name

Address Apt. #

City

State Zip
Now, Clear Any Drain In Your Home In Just Seconds... Without Calling The Plumber!

**HYDRAULIC PLUNGER & PUMP**

Will save you plumbing expenses for years, yet it costs only $7.77

Just slide this handle up for 200 lbs. of suction power! Just slide down for 100 lbs. of plunging pressure!

At last! This safe, powerful, fast, easy HYDRAULIC PLUNGER & PUMP!

In just seconds, you can now prevent and eliminate:
- clogged drains
- disgusting, messy overflows
- water damage to your home
- big plumber’s bills
- Weighs only 22 oz... less than an old-fashioned, hard-to-use plunger
- Compact... stores under lavatory or sink
- Operates without electricity or batteries
- Eliminates your need for dangerous, strong-smelling, expensive chemicals
- Occasional use will stop potentially dangerous buildup of grease, hair, lint

**MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE:** This new HYDRAULIC PLUNGER & PUMP must open any drain in your home in just seconds, or your full purchase price, less $2.60 postage & handling, will be refunded! All orders processed promptly. Credit card orders processed immediately upon credit approval. Delays notified promptly. Shipment guaranteed within 60 days.

**STERLING HOUSE,** Sterling Bldg., Box PLR-8725, Garnerville, N.Y. 10923

YES! Please send the following HYDRAULIC PLUNGER & PUMP(s):

☐ One for only $7.77 plus $1.75 postage and handling.

☐ SAVE! Two for only $14.44 plus $2.60 P&H.

☐ SAVE MORE! Three for only $21.11 plus $3.45 P&H.

NY St. residents add sales tax.

Enclosed is $__________________

CHARGE IT: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card #__________ Expires __________

Name ____________________________

Address __________________________

City: __________ State: ______ Zip: ______

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**Big Bombers**

Continued from page 17

it would take to possibly defend against the ATB."

Yet bombers would be used as penetrators only in a war with the world’s only other super power. In such an instance, missiles rather than bombers would take the initial attacks to the Soviet Union. That means bombers would have “no play” as front-line strategic weapons, one Air Force general said.

In conventional combat, few doubt that the larger, longer-range B-1B would be more effective. “If you look at conventional warfare,” said Sen. John Glenn, “there is very, very serious doubt about the Stealth technology being able to perform in the same way the B-1 will.”

Also, the U.S. typically modernizes many of its principal weapons. The B-52 bomber continually has been updated, as has the F-4 tactical fighter and the M-60 family of battle tanks. Yet the Air Force plan for its $280 million B-1s, said Skantze, is “to buy a limited number” very rapidly “and set the stage for bringing on the ATB.”

A more reasoned plan is to retain several dozen B-52s as cruise missile shooters, as is the Pentagon’s intention. The B-1B program should be continued, and its radar cross section reduced further, though it never could match the stealth qualities of the ATB. The Pentagon might buy a few dozen additional B-1Bs to flesh out its bomber force in the 1990s. Meanwhile, the Stealth experiments should be continued and a viable airplane produced once the aerodynamics are proven and the ATB can offer more than its single advantage as a stealthier craft.

Another school of thought holds that Stealth technology should proceed apace with the development and deployment of an ATB aircraft as soon as possible. With the modernization of the B-1B, which will surely come about as technology permits, the strategic triad of ballistic missile submarines, intercontinental ballistic missiles and a strategic bomber force will continue to provide the necessary nuclear deterrent for now and the foreseeable future.

Eventually, the Congress and the public must face the question of whether the significantly higher cost of the Stealth bomber justifies its limited gain in capability.
PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE!

Entire 21-Piece Set of Old-Fashioned Christmas Ornaments

Nationally Advertised At $19.95

Your Price Only $3.95

Hard to believe, but true!

During its fabulous Pre-Christmas Sale, the giant multi-million dollar New York firm of Abernathy & Closther will distribute its most expensive set of holiday decorations—the famous Old Fashioned Christmas Ornament Set nationally advertised at $19.95—for the astonishing Pre-Christmas Sale price of only $3.95 per set to every reader who mails this ad to the company before Midnight, December 25, 1984.

This original Pre-Christmas Sale ad must accompany your request. Copies or photostats are not acceptable.

*This is the same famous Old Fashioned Christmas Ornament Set advertised by others in leading media for $19.95. And well worth the price—for it is the best-selling, most expensive Christmas Ornament Set ever sold by this giant New York firm. But the entire set is yours for only $3.95 during this Pre-Christmas Sale. You save $16.00—a full 80% off the nationally advertised price!

You get the entire set of 21 delightful miniatures. Each piece is different and hand-painted in colorful detail. Jolly Santas and roly-poly snowmen, toy wooden soldiers, cuddly bears and animals, merry-go-rounds, sleds, cuckoo clocks, and much more. Not cheap plastic but rich natural wood, hand-crafted with the loving old fashioned skill you hardly see anymore.

These valuable Christmas Sets will not be sold at this price by the company in any store. There is a limit of two (2) sets per address at this price, but requests mailed early enough (before Dec. 17) may request up to seven sets.

Mail this original printed ad together with your name and address and $3.95 for each set. Add only $2 shipping and handling no matter how many sets you are requesting. Mail to: Abernathy & Closther, Christmas Ornament Offer, Dept. 570-17, Box 1789, Hicksville, New York 11802.
AT LAST!
YOU CAN
SHARPEN YOUR
NORELCO® SHaver

Guaranteed to sharpen every rotary shaver including:
• Norelco® • Sears • All other brands

ONLY
$1.00

1 YEAR MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE
on your full purchase price less P.H.

STERLING HOUSE, Sterling Building,
Dept. NSA-8775, Garencille, NY 10230-0548

DI. Yes, please send me ONE All New Rotary Shaver Sharpener for only $1.00 plus 60c postage and handling.
DJ. SAVE, Get TWO for only $2.00 plus 60c postage and handling.
DJ. SAVE MORE. Order THREE for only $3.00 plus 60c postage and handling.
New York State residents add sales tax.
Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State ______ Zip ______

* Norelco is a registered trademark of North American Philips Corporation

The Auto Industry
Continued from page 21

much as car prices in total.

The University of Michigan released a study comparing U.S. and Japanese cars. Its conclusions: Japan still has a wide edge in fuel economy and its cars still excel in "fit and finish." But those advantages, the study said, are rapidly disappearing. By 1987, according to the study, Americans' cars' exterior quality will be better than Japanese cars.

Quality, as any American knows, has been a big problem for U.S. carmakers in recent years. Annoying mechanical defects, sloppy workmanship, poor sheet-metal fitting, and slow and careless repair work at dealerships all plagued carmakers. The federal government responded by forcing carmakers to recall products seriously deficient from a safety standpoint. Lately, however, the number and size

"In the old days, it was quality being damned—get out that productivity! Now, it's quality first."

of such recalls has been diminishing, thanks to carmakers' efforts to improve quality.

GM, for instance, has acted to better that quality by investing heavily in robots and by giving assembly-line workers more of a say in the production of its cars and other vehicles. "We know when a job has problems," said an hourly employee at a Pontiac Division engine plant. "We have the right, now, to stop our line so that we can fix something up right. The company figures it's better to have fewer cars going out right than a lot that'll have to be fixed later."

Other U.S. automakers naturally are following suit. Ford has encouraged worker participation in quality control; American Motors is also investing heavily in robots. "Motor News Analysis," an automobile-business newsletter, has been blunt in its assessment of the change. "In the old days," it said, "the watchword was 'quality be damned—get out the production.' Now, it adds, all American
Must Liquidate at Low Closeout Prices!

An ideal addition to your workshop!

16-speed, Heavy Duty DRILL PRESS

- Ideal for metal, wood, plastic, etc.
- With 5/8" chuck and Morse Taper.
- Powerful, dependable 3/4 hp. motor.
- 16 speeds from 260 to 3650 rpm., using quick change belt pulleys.

Due to factory surplus, we obtained these fine quality 16-speed drill presses for liquidation to our customers at a low, money-saving price! The price is even less than some of the "sissy" little models you sometimes see around town.

This 216 lb. heavyweight has the power and the "guts" to drill cleanly through steel, cast iron, aluminum, brass, wood, plastic, etc. Head and base are made of strong, fine-grained cast iron. The base has longitudinal ribbing that provides added strength. And the column is bolted to the base, NOT pressed on as with some other drill presses. The heavy-walled, machined column increases rigidity, cuts down on vibration and provides smoother drilling operation.

12" production table swings 360° and tils from 0° to 45° in either direction. There's precision movement of the table, up and down, with rack and pinion.

For drilling extra large holes, the No. 2 Morse Taper allows you to remove the 5/8" chuck and insert extra big drill bits. A convenient recessed light bulb socket makes it easy for you to provide plenty of illumination for jobs being worked on.

SPECIFICATIONS:
- Swing: 17".
- Drilling capacity: 5/8".
- Spindle travel: 4½".
- Spindle to base: 4½".
- Spindle to table: 29½".
- Table size: 12" dia.
- Spindle taper: MT No. 2.
- Column diameter: 3½".
- Spindle rpm: 260 to 3650.
- Overall height: 66".
- Base size: 11¼" x 20.3".
- Weight (approx.): 176 lbs.

Manufacturer's
Sug. Retail.......................... $595.00

Liquidation
Closeout Price Now Only ............. $158

Order No. 1023 Shipped freight collect

Fine Quality Floor Model

Model 8000
KODAK Disc Camera

Factory new! First quality!
Now at BELOW dealer cost!

Liquidation of a surplus inventory! Kodak's most advanced Disc Camera. Just aim and shoot. Electric "eye" and automatic lens do the rest. Unique disc film gives 15 snapshots. Take photos of objects as close as 2 inches! Self-timer, so you can get in your own pictures. Built-in LCD Alarm Clock! Built-in flash, automatic lens, shutter and other electronic functions are powered by long-life energy cell. Camera size: 4½" x 3½" x 1". 5 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY FROM KODAK.

Mfrs. Suggested Retail .......... $150.00

Liquidation
Closeout Price
Now Only ......................... $ 58

Order No. 62715 Ship, handling: $4.00

Disc & Belt Sander

Liquidation due to manufacturer's overstock. 4" x 36" standard-sized sanding belt fits to any degree from vertical to horizontal. Disc wheel uses standard 6" sandpaper discs. Disc drive rotates on permanently lubricated ball bearings. Solid metal 5" x 7½" feed table fits for sanding at any angle from 0 to 45 degrees.

1/3 hp, 115V motor generates 1720 rpm. Comes with a sanding belt, 6" sandpaper disc, set of allen wrenches and operating instructions. Weight of unit approx. 46½ lbs. Size approx. 20" x 16" x 12".

Mfrs. Suggested Retail .......... $129.00

Liquidation
Closeout Price
Now Only ......................... $ 76

Order No. 1087 Ship, handling: $12.50

SEND ME THE ITEMS I HAVE LISTED BELOW
(All prices subject to change after 60 days. Offers void outside original 48 states.)

Item No. How Many Item Ship/Handl. Price

C.O.M.B. CO. / Liquidators
Dept X-140
14605 28th Avenue N., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

Send the items indicated at left. (Minnesota residents add 6% sales tax. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Add 2.3% extra if paid by check. Sorry, no C.O.D. orders.)

- My check or money order is enclosed
- Charge my: √ VISA √ MasterCard* √ Am. Ex. √ Diners Club

Acct No. Exp

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name
Address
City
State or ZIP
Phone

Copyright 1984 C.O.M.B. CO.
Organize those belts and ties!

- Installs in minutes without tools
- Telescopes out of closet
- Uses less than 6” of space

New Telescoping Closet Rack

Owning too many ties can sometimes be a “pain in the neck.” They seem to be all over the place, including the closet floor. Here's the perfect solution. It's a telescoping closet rack that can hold 36 ties and a multitude of belts. It uses less than 6” of closet space and when pulled out, brings all your ties into full view. And best of all, the sturdy rack is easily installed on any closet rod in minutes and without tools.

This handsome and practical item is only $7.50 and is sold with a full 30-day money-back guarantee. A great value and an even greater gift idea.

NO-RISK 30-DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!
ENTICEMENTS LTD DEPT 9900
777 Irvington Place, Thornwood, N.Y. 10594
Please rush Send me
( ) Telescoping Closet Rack(s) at $14.95 (plus $2.95 postage and insurance) each. Enclosed is check/money order for
$ _____________. NY residents add Sales Tax.
Name ______________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State ____________
Charge Cards Accepted
AMEX DEL MasterCard
Exp Date __________________________
Account No _____________________
Signature __________________________

30 DAY MONEY BACK OFFER

Santa Claus Outfits

Suit: $20
Woman's Suit: $25
Business Suit: $30

Mrs. Claus: $20

Clown: $8
Easter: $8
Halloween Costumes: $15

Accessories: $5

O'BYRNE COSTUMES

18” X 40”

LIFETIME GUARANTEE

DRESS IN STYLE WITH ADAM,
A BEAUTIFUL BILL OF RIGHTS POSTER PLUS BOOKLET. THEIR ORIGIN AND SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR BASIC RIGHTS LAMINATED SURFACE RESISTS SMUDGES. SUITABLE FOR FRAMING, MOUNTING, HANGING OR MAINTENANCE AS A MUST FOR ANY AMERICAN OFFICE, HOME, SCHOOL, LIBRARY, ETC.

30” X 40” $7.50 ea. + 1.00 pp. CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.
WORLDWIDE SHIPPING

KNOW WHAT’S GOOD ABOUT AMERICA!

AND LET THE WHOLE WORLD SEE IT!

BILoF RIGHr5 POSTER

18” X 40”

LIFETIME GUARANTEE

S-188

SIZE

CLOSED
3” = $1.88
4” = $2.88
5” = $3.88

GIANT LIFETIME GUARANTEE

CHENNY COMPANY

Helping people help themselves

301 S. 163rd St., New Berlin, WI 53151

414-782-1222

THE CHENNY COMPANY

301 S. 163rd St., New Berlin, WI 53151

414-782-1222

30 DAY MONEY BACK OFFER

Santa Claus Outfits Since

1946

Suit: $20
Woman’s Suit: $25
Business Suit: $30

Mrs. Claus: $20

Clown: $8
Easter: $8
Halloween Costumes: $15

Accessories: $5

O'BYRNE COSTUMES

414-782-1222

NO-RISK 30-DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

Ride up and down stairs safely.

Cheney has the lift you need. The durable Wecator for straight, curved and spiral staircases or the economical Liberty Lifts for straight stairways. You'll ride safely from floor to floor in the home you love.

Wide comfortable seats and footrests
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Santa Claus Outfits Since

1946

Suit: $20
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Easter: $8
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Accessories: $5

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DISPLAYS FOR ORGANIZATIONS-
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Prompt shipment. Ask for our colorful WHOLESALE Catalog for 1984:

MARTIN'S FLAG CO., FORT DODGE, IOWA 50501

The Auto Industry

Continued from page 52

carmakers are holding back on production until quality is assured.

Related to quality is gasoline mileage. U.S. carmakers' engineering advances of the past few years—smaller engines, turbo-charging, weight reduction, reduced-friction tires and others—have improved gasoline mileage significantly. The days when a big new U.S. car might get only 8 to 10 mpg and an average car might get 15 mpg are gone. Today's U.S.-built car fleets average from 25 mpg, and many offerings in the 1985 models go well beyond that mileage.

Another area in which U.S. carmakers have made significant improvements is cost reduction. Over the past five years, all four major American carmakers took heroic measures to survive by closing plants, cutting staffs and generally tightening up their operations. Most have adopted

"U.S. carmakers are internationalizing their operations, creating a world automobile industry.”

“Just-in-time” inventory management (a Japanese concept) in which shipments of parts and subassemblies are timed to arrive within hours of use, rather than being allowed to pile up in sizable inventories. Supplier multiplicity also is being reduced: Where Ford used to call upon 207 outside suppliers to produce a new axle, it is now using only 112.

Other recent advances by U.S. carmakers have included new ideas in design, including the currently hot minivans and extensive under-the-hood computerization.

Despite these advances, U.S. carmakers probably can’t ever hope to compete on an equal-cost basis with foreign manufacturers, primarily because of the disparity between wage rates and the desire of American workers for better work environments, which translate out as irreducible cost factors. Japanese workers, for instance, are paid an average $8 per hour, U.S. workers $19 per hour. When you figure in the cost of safety

Continued on page 56
Now Get Up or Sit...Without Pain
...With Ease and Independence

New Seat-Lift
"Easy-Riser"
Recliner gently
seats or raises
you...at the
touch of a
button!

Medicare Approved

Be Self Reliant—Move About More Freely
Now, with just a feather-touch of a button, you're in
total control of your own seating arrangements. The
new Seat-Lift "Easy-Riser" recliner from famous Niagr-
ara Therapy allows you to sit down and get up whenever
you want to...safely, gracefully, without anyone's help,
and without strain or discomfort.

The "Easy-Riser" Recliner features a safe, strong,
visible elevating mechanism that lifts or lowers the seat
at your command, also has an automatic recliner. In
addition, it's a handsome piece of furniture that you'll
show off proudly. And you'll be proud, too, of your
increased independence and freedom of movement!

Mail this coupon today!

YES, I want to know more about
the Niagara Seat-Lift "Easy-Riser".
Recliner. Rush me your FREE
Information Kit without any obligation

Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Mail
coupon to:
Niagra
Therapy Mfg. Corp.
98 Highland Ave.
Brockton, N.Y. 14716

SPECIAL OFFER!
Available For Limited Time!

FREE GOLF
FOR OUR RESIDENTS ON OUR
OWN 9-HOLE EXECUTIVE COURSE

YOU'LL FIND ALL OF THESE
FEATURES WAITING FOR YOU
AT ORANGE BLOSSOM GARDENS
• Solar Heated Swimming Pool
• Fishing Lake on Property
• Free Tennis Courts
• $1,000,000 Clubhouse Complex
• All Faith Church on Property
• Lighted Shuffleboard Courts
• Outdoor Bar-B-Que Area
• Security Police
• Free Bus Service
• Storm Sewers
• Central Sewerage System
• Central Water Plant
• Underground Telephone
• Underground Electric
• Underground Cable TV
• Garbage Collection
• Wide Paved Streets
• Mercury Street Lights
• Corner Street Pots
• Fire Dept. on Property
• 10 Models on Display

Prices subject to change
without notice

Now, with just a 
feather-touch of a button, you're in
total control of your own seating arrangements. The
new Seat-Lift "Easy-Riser" recliner from famous Niagr-
ara Therapy allows you to sit down and get up whenever
you want to...safely, gracefully, without anyone's help,
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Mail this coupon today!

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• Underground Electric
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• Wide Paved Streets
• Mercury Street Lights
• Corner Street Pots
• Fire Dept. on Property
• 10 Models on Display

Prices subject to change
without notice

New Indoor-Outdoor
Electric 3-Wheeler!

Free Garden
Cart/Trailer
Offer—
Valued
over
$200.

One Hand Operation—Rear Differential Drive
Rascal Rover, the NEW ALUMINUM ELECTRIC BIKE that
is different and safer. It's so easy to handle, you control on,
of, forward, reverse, speed, and steering with just ONE
HAND!

Use RASCAL ROVER indoors as well as outdoors. Share
your bike ride with the children, travel to the store, or take
it to your favorite fishing hole. Take tough terrain and climb
steep hills. Fits in most car trunks. Recharges overnight
for pennies.

Medicare Reimbursement Available on MOST Models.

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Trailer Offer call Toll Free 1-800-MOBILITY
(1-800-662-4548) or fill in coupon below
and mail today.

Please send me the Free 16-Page Full Color
Electric Mobility Catalog and Free Garden
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Address
City State Zip
Telephone ( )

Electric Mobility Corp., Dept. 1214
591 Mantua Blvd., Sewell, N.J. 08080

Buy your FLORIDA home NOW! Completely fur-
nished pre-manufactured home PLUS a 60' x 90'
landscaped lot, Carport, Utility Room, Florida
Room, Patio included!

IMPORTANT! You are not renting the lot—
YOU OWN IT OUTRIGHT along with the home

Florida's Beautiful New Adult Lakefront Community

ORANGE BLOSSOM GARDENS, a friendly adult
community of over 1400 people, is ideally situ-
ated in the Heart of the Citrus Groves and Lake
Section of Central Florida. Only 8 miles from Lees-
burg directly on 4 lane U.S. Highway #441-27. The
"Gateway to Disney World," Just 39 miles away

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Live Here On Less Than $200 per Month!
Let us tell you how this low monthly expenditure
can pay your taxes, maintenance, water, elec-
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FOR FULL DETAILS WITHOUT COST OR OBLIGATION
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P.O. Box 452, Lady Lake, Fl. 32059

Name
Address
State Zip
Phone
I Earn More Per Day Now... than I used to make in a week.

I started my own business part-time as a Von Schrader Associate... got step-by-step help and success beyond my dreams.

How it really happened, by William Turnbow

"Fresh out of the Marines I bought a farm. Unfortunately, it wouldn't support a wife and three growing boys. Next I managed a food store. But I got tired of having somebody always telling me to do this and do that. I wanted to be my own boss."

"So I answered a Von Schrader message like this one, which opened the door to new opportunity for me. It was just what I was looking for. No big investment. No licensing or franchise fee. No waiting, no training needed. What really appealed to me is that you pay no dues, fees or royalties—every single penny you earn is yours to keep."

"I started out part-time. Jobs started to snowball and pretty soon I had as much business as I could handle. Before long I went full time."

"Now I make more in one day than I used to make in a week. I made $43 per hour on one job recently... have made $1,600 in a week. Now I have the time and the money to go hunting and fishing all I want. Recently we moved to a new, larger house."

"How would you like to earn big money, starting out spare time, like William Turnbow? Be your own boss. Become financially independent? You can start in business for yourself using your home as a base. Everything you need is a job fits easily in your car. As a Von Schrader Associate you can have three money-making businesses in one. If you want! Carpet cleaning, with the only foam machine that cleans and vacuums carpets in one pass. Upholstery cleaning, that quickly results in bright, sparkling clean upholstery without harmful overwetting. And wall cleaning, almost 5 times faster than bucket-and-sponge, with little effort, no streaking."

"Our easy-to-follow instructions tell you step-by-step how to operate your equipment. Absolutely no experience or special training is necessary. Our proven sales and servicing methods are backed by over 50 years of experience. Get all the know-how you need to become a home furnishings maintenance expert."

Send coupon today for FREE booklet
Send in the coupon below. NOW! Get all the facts. No obligation. No salesman will call.

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VON SCHRAEDER COMPANY, Dept. 17105
1620 Junction Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53403

WITHOUT OBLIGATION send free booklet that tells me how I can have a high income business in my spare time at no risk to my present job. No salesman will call (PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ___________________________
Address: _________________________
City: __________________ State: ___ Zip: __________

To expedite call toll-free 1-800-558-2484. Ask for operator 17105.

The Auto Industry
Continued from page 54

and health protection in the workplace, which is much greater for U.S. carmakers than for their counterparts overseas, the problem is compounded.

In response, U.S. carmakers are internationalizing their operations and, in doing so, creating a world automobile industry. Pontiac, for instance, may soon begin importing cars built in South Korea to plans created by GM's German subsidiary, Opel. GM also owns 35 percent of Japan's Isuzu Motors and 5 percent of Suzuki. A GM plant in Spain is producing cars with engines built in Austria and selling them throughout Europe; GM also is setting up a joint manufacturing operation with Toyota in California.

Ford, for its part, is getting ready to make cars in Mexico. It also owns 25 percent of Japan's Toyo Kogyo (maker of the Mazda), and its Lincoln has an optional diesel engine made by Bayerische Motor Werke (BMW) in Germany. Chrysler has a 15-percent interest in Mitsubishi Motors in Japan, and sells Mitsubishi-made Colt, Challenger and Champ cars in the U.S. American Motors, too, has extensive links with Renault in France.

Some of the foreign makes also are moving globally. South Korea's Hyundai Motors is selling cars in Canada; Volkswagen already manufactures Rabbits in Pennsylvania. Honda is assembling cars at Columbus and Marysville, Ohio, and is planning to begin assembling them at Alliston, Ontario, Canada in a few years. Nissan is building cars in Smyrna, Tenn.

Many of these developments do mean fewer U.S. production-line jobs, it's true, and possibly fewer jobs in parts and toolmaking as well. But internationalization may also eventually mean lower car prices. If U.S. companies can get parts from their foreign units for less than they cost here—the prime reason for making them abroad—that factor inevitably must be reflected in lower car prices, competition being what it is. The presence of more foreign makes in the U.S. market also tends to hold down prices.

A global automobile industry may also help maintain peace throughout the world. As carmakers' international networks get stronger, their management will be increasingly inclined to encourage the peaceful settlement of governments' differences.

That may be the greatest virtue of a worldwide automobile industry.
Join the ONLY Officially Approved Plan. Get up to 10 Units. 20% Benefit Bonus.

**BENEFITS**—Annual Renewable Term Insurance (Policy Form GPC-5700-781) Benefits determined by age at death and include 20% SPECIAL INCREASE for deaths occurring during 1984. Maximum coverage limited to 10 units.

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**Prorated Premium** $40 $36 $32 $28 $24 $20 $16 $12 $8 $4

*No persons age 70 or over (including those desiring additional coverage) will be accepted for new insurance.

**INCONTESTIBILITY** Your coverage shall be incontestable after it has been in force during your lifetime for two years from its effective date.

MAIL TO: The American Legion Life Insurance Plan P.O. Box 5609 • Chicago, IL 60680 Plan insured by Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company.

Application Subject to Underwriter's Approval

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**NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION** Information regarding your insurability will be treated as confidential except that Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Co. may make a brief report to the Medical Information Bureau (M.I.B.), a non-profit membership organization of life insurance companies, which operates an information exchange on behalf of its members. Upon request by another member insurance company to which you have applied for life or health insurance, or to which a claim is submitted, the M.I.B. will supply such company with the information it may have in its files.

The M.I.B. may also release information in its file to its reinsurers and to other life insurance companies to which you may apply for life or health insurance, or to which a claim is submitted.

Upon receipt of a request from you, the M.I.B. will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. Medical information will only be disclosed to your attending physician. If you question the accuracy of information in the Bureau's file you may seek correction in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The address of the Bureau's information office is P.O. Box 105, Essex Station, Boston, Mass. 02112; Phone (617) 426-3660.

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**ENROLLMENT CARD FOR YEARLY RENEWABLE TERM LIFE INSURANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Full Name</th>
<th>Last</th>
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<td>Name of Beneficiary</td>
<td>Example: Print &quot;Helein Louise Jones.&quot; Not &quot;Mrs. H. L. Jones&quot;</td>
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I apply for the number of units indicated: 

The following representations shall form a basis for the Insurance Company's approval or rejection of this enrollment: Answer all questions.

1. Present occupation? 
   Are you now actively working?
   Yes [ ] No [ ] If no, give reason: __________

2. Have you been confined in a hospital within the last year?
   No [ ] Yes [ ] If yes, give date, length of stay and cause: __________

3. During the last five years, have you had heart disease, circulatory disease, kidney disease, liver disease, lung disease, diabetes, or cancer, or have you had treatment for alcoholism or high blood pressure?
   No [ ] Yes [ ] If yes, give details: __________

I represent that to the best of my knowledge, all statements and answers recorded on this enrollment card are true and complete. I agree that this enrollment card shall be a part of any insurance granted upon it under the policy.

I authorize any physician or other person who has attended or examined me, or who may attend or examine me, to disclose or to testify to any knowledge thus acquired.

Dated: [ ] Signature of Applicant: The American Legion offers this insurance through Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company, Home Office: Los Angeles, California (Univ.)

GMA-300 19 12-79

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION** I have received and read the Notice of Disclosure of Information at left. Further, I authorize any physician, medical practitioner, hospital, clinic, or other medical or medically related facility, insurance company, the Medical Information Bureau or other organization, institution or person having any records or knowledge of me or of my health to give Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company any such information.

A photographic copy of this authorization shall be as valid as the original.

Dated: [ ] Signature of Applicant: __________

[ ] I apply for additional Legion Life Insurance, My present certificate number is: __________
Send me Burpee’s free 1985 garden catalog!

I want your full-color garden catalog describing more than 1,800 vegetable seeds, flower seeds, trees, shrubs, bulbs, and garden aids. (If you ordered from Burpee in 1984, your new catalog will be sent to you automatically in January.)

Since 1876, Burpee has been developing new vegetable and flower varieties that are easier to grow and more productive. Your satisfaction is guaranteed or your money back any time within a year.

Burpee
W. Atlee Burpee Company, The Garden People of ITT
2125 Burpee Building, Warminster, PA 18974

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City ______ State ______ Zip ______

We will start sending out Burpee’s 1985 Catalog in January 1985.

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The Affordable Award-Winning Communities of Florida

BEGIN AT $14,900!

Century Communities offer you a wide range of Fun-in-the-Sun choices in new mobile home living, including communities with... waterfront living and marinas... golf course living... large clubhouses... heated swimming pools... Jacuzzi whirlpools... plus many other amenities.

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The leader in mobile home community development throughout Florida. Choice locations include Ocala, Leesburg, Wildwood, Tampa-Plant City, Lakeland, Winter Haven, Haines City and Sebring.

Learn about the choices along with the advantages available to you as offered by Florida’s largest provider of new mobile home communities.

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P.O. Box 5252
Lakeland, Florida 33803

Name: ____________________________
Street Address ____________________________
City ______ State ______ Zip ______
Phone ( ) ____________________________ A.L.
Why are so many people in favor of supply-side economics until their side runs out of money?

Tell me, is it coincidence that we’re hearing more about air-bags now that the elections are nearer?

Pollsters are people who would have picked the British in 1776.

Have you noticed all the exercise books on the market? Where else but in America would you have to buy a book to learn how to work up a sweat?

I’m not ashamed to admit that I talk to myself. I pick up a lot of good information that way.

Have you ever stopped to consider that the world is like a candy bar? What would it be without the nuts?

Personally, I don’t look on our defense build-up as deficit spending. I see it as paying rent on the free world.

Shoplifting has really become a problem for retail merchants. How much of a problem? One store now gives a discount for paying.

Isn’t it great sometimes how things coincide for the better? For instance, a trip to the bathroom and the average commercial both take about 60 seconds.

If you don’t think there’s great acting on television, look at the commercials.

Procrastination is the thief of time. But, so is television during the football season.

In every politician, there’s a statesman trying to get out.

Lots of people worry about the security of their savings. Not me. I know my bank is sound. It just moved into a brand new Winnebago.

There’s nothing wrong with the federal budget that a 200-billion-dollar-off coupon wouldn’t cure.

Have you noticed all the exercise books on the market? Where else but in America would you have to buy a book to learn how to work up a sweat?

Please indicate quantities

<table>
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PERIL IN THE MEDICINE CABINET

Over-the-counter medications, prescription drugs and long-forgotten potions are stored in medicine chests everywhere—and each harbors potential danger for the unwary and the uninformed.

By Vernon Pizer

If home is where the heart is, more often than not it is also where the heartburn is—and the sniffles, headaches, strained muscles and all the rest of the human ailments that lead one to reach into the family medicine cabinet to seek relief.

Ironically, in too many instances reaching into that cabinet turns out to be a mistake—even, in extreme cases, a fatal one—because the medication it contains to ease your woes can also aggravate them. Consider, for instance, the two-edged sword in ordinary nose drops.

The drops relieve stuffiness by causing nasal blood vessels to constrict, decreasing the blood flow and improving the congested sensation. But if you use the drops too long the blood vessels relax instead of constricting, and increase instead of diminishing congestion. The usual response to the increased congestion is to apply drops more vigorously, thus causing matters to worsen.

Or consider mineral oil, an old, familiar standby as a laxative. What few people realize is that prolonged use of the oil inhibits intestinal absorption of vitamin A, which is essential for good health. And even vitamin A, necessary though it is, can become a booby trap for the unwary: too much of it can enlarge the spleen and liver and promote baldness, headache, nausea and other ills. The Center for Science in the Public Interest has petitioned the Food and Drug Administration to require that warnings be printed on supplements containing large doses of the vitamin.

Dr. John Pinto, Cornell University Medical School, pointed out that the symptoms of vitamin supplement overdose are the same as vitamin deficiency. Because an overdose mimics a deficiency the misleading symptoms prod one to continue and even to increase vitamin intake, paving the way for grave consequences.

Or, think of your reaction when you awake with a splitting headache on the morning you are scheduled to see your physician for a series of diagnostic tests. Naturally, you swallow two aspirins and by the time you reach the doctor’s office the ache has disappeared just as you knew it would. But what you do not know is that the aspirin in your system can place you at risk because it can produce false readings, either positively or negatively, on several of your diagnostic tests, thus deceiving your physician as to your true condition.

What emerges from all of this is persuasive evidence that the same family medicine cabinet that can be a friend can also turn out to be a foe. Whether it is the one or the other depends on what you know about all those pills, potions and palliatives in the cabinet and how you ultimately apply that knowledge.

The experts agree on the initial step to be taken in reducing the hazards in the cabinet. Prune ruthlessly, they say, to eliminate latent sources of trouble. Discard the tag ends of medicines prescribed in the past for ills that have long since become faded memories. Bear in mind that drugs have a finite, useful life—with the passage of time many lose, or sometimes gain, strength—so throw out all those that are old. How old is old? Unfortunately, there is no universally applicable yardstick, but often examination will

Author of 15 books, Vernon Pizer has written some 500 articles for leading magazines throughout the U.S. and in foreign countries.
reveal that time has wrought changes in color, odor or consistency. Over-the-counter aspirin, for instance, develops a fuzzy coating and a vinegarly smell. If there is the slightest suspicion that the substance has seen better days get rid of it or, at least, consult your pharmacist. Eliminate any bottles whose labels have become illegible.

Once the cabinet is shorn of its undesirable, be hard-nosed about adding new medicines to your store. Question whether they really belong there. Do you have a clear and precise understanding of the implications and proper usage of the new drug? When the doctor wrote the prescription was he completely aware of any adverse reactions you have had to past medications? Was he fully informed of all other drugs, even "harmless," over-the-counter preparations you are currently taking? This is vitally important because drugs interact—one may dissipate or multiply or otherwise alter the effect of another. What this can mean is demonstrated by a popular, over-the-counter pain pill. If it is taken while you are being dosed with blood-thinning anticogulant capsules you suffer the possibility of dangerous hemorrhaging.

Each time he adds a new medication to his cabinet, the prudent person satisfies himself that he has bought the right one, that he knows how it must be stored, and that he has a full understanding of the circumstances under which to use it.

"When I have time to wax philosophical I reflect on what an illogical, contradictory cuss man is," a long-time pharmacist told me between compounding his prescriptions. "He will deliberate with great care over what brand of beer to buy, but he will blithely pick an over-the-counter drug from my shelf simply because it has a pretty package or a friend uses it or its TV commercials are so memorable. He doesn't consider that it may not be the best choice for what ails him. In fact, it might even be the worst possible choice he could make in his specific circumstances. He'd be a lot smarter and healthier to be as careful with his medicine as he is with his beer."

The Right Medication

Making a wise choice in over-the-counter drugs doesn't require an act of genius, only a few sensible precautions. The first thing to do is to ask yourself whether you really need the drug, or any drug, or will a hot bath, some rest or even a plate of Mama's chicken soup do the trick? But if an OTC preparation is indicated, before settling on your choice read the active ingredients list that federal law requires manufacturerers to print on the package. Are you allergic to any of the ingredients? Does the list duplicate that of a competing brand that you already have at home? If so, save your money—and avoid the chance of overdosing by taking both products—because it won't do a thing for you that you won't have done by the one you already have. Are you choosing the proper size for your needs? It is false economy to buy the giant size just because it is on sale when all you really need is the small size; but more important, even if you can consume the giant size over a period of time will the contents remain effective throughout that period? Are you currently using any medication, either prescription or OTC, and if you are is the new drug completely compatible with the old?

Before putting a new medication in your cabinet read its label carefully for any special storage instructions it may provide. Some preparations will not remain viable unless they are kept under refrigeration. Others may not require refrigeration but may need to be kept in a cool, dry place—which would make the heat and humidity of most bathrooms unsuitable.

Pill boxes are convenient for the pocket and for the purse but they are not appropriate for storage at home because they permit their contents to undergo change in time. Certain pills, nitroglycerin tablets among them, should always be kept only in the pharmacy packaging, which is specifically designed to prevent changes in their strength.

If there are children in the home, there are certain other common-sense precautions that need to be taken. Only child-proof containers should be used and care should be exercised to insure that they are properly closed each time they are returned to the cabinet. All medication should be kept out of reach of inquisitive youngsters. And never make the cabinet seem to children to be the home version of the corner candy store by encouraging them to take their medicine because it tastes so good; each year countless children injure themselves by doing away with the "candy" in the cabinet.

If the label directs you to take one capsule four times daily does that mean in a 24-hour day or in a normal, wakeful period? Dr. Worley stresses that "those few hours could make a real difference."

When to Medicate

If the package instructions tell you to take one capsule daily does that mean until the condition being treated has been corrected or does that mean until all of the capsules have been consumed? This is an important distinction because certain medications have to be taken in their entirety to be effective. Halting them prematurely, even though you are again feeling fine, simply leaves a gap in the body's defenses that presents the illness a chance to regain vigor and attack anew.

When should your drugs be taken in relationship to your meals? Some may be taken at any time, but some must be taken only on an empty stomach while others will not be effective unless taken after a meal. On the other hand, some need to be taken accompanied by food.

Even if you know precisely when to take medication, do you also know when not to take it? Do you understand all of the drug's possible side effects—such as drowsiness, dizziness, nausea or other conditions? Are your drug and alcohol compatible? Basic prudence dictates learning what else your medication may do so that you do not at the same time engage in an activity that could prove hazardous—like driving, operating machinery or drinking

Normally, your physician or pharmacist will explain to you all of the circumstances related to your drugs and how to handle them properly. But if they skimp on the explanations, never hesitate to question them until you are confident your understanding is complete. Don't risk having your medication become a noose instead of a nurse.

Just for the fun of it, try counting all of the various medicines in your home. The Public Affairs Committee, a respected agency devoted to social problems, estimates the normal American household has on hand some 30 different medical preparations. According to those attuned to such matters, bulging medicine cabinets are persuasive evidence of society's zeal in reaching for pills and potions—not always wisely or safely. The consumer drug bill now approximates a hefty $9 billion annually. By exercising intelligent restraint—and especially by knowing precisely what medicine to take and when and how to take it—you stand to improve your health and at the same time chip away at that enormous and growing drug bill. □
Good Guess
When the kindergarten teacher asked her little ones, "Does anyone know who Joan of Arc was?" A little boy answered, "She was Noah's wife."
—George E. Bergman

Cheap Thrills
Two memorable things happened recently: first, we sold our car. Second was the thrill of seeing our two teenagers take their first steps.
—Edward Otto

Silent Partner
Young drama student to his father, "I finally got my first part. I play a man who has been married 20 years."
Father: "Well, that's a start. Keep it up and maybe someday you'll get a speaking part."
—Rilla May

Bird Watcher
A daughter explained to her mother that she wanted to be a bird. "Why? Because they have wings and can fly?" asked the mother.
"No," came the answer. "Because they never have to stop what they're doing to go to the bathroom."
—Martha J. Beckman

Good Question
First parishioner: "Does our new minister lisp?"
Second parishioner: "Not that I know of. Why?"
First parishioner: "He just told me he wanted me to come in and have my faith lifted."
—Jan Tincher

Evolution
Think that man came from monkeys? Here's proof that you've been kidded: They've never found a monkey yet Who was willing to admit it!
—Hans G. Mueller

Needless To Say
Beware the asides That are an affront And remarks that are sharp Because they are blunt.
—May Richstone

Egotist
Egotists share a common ailment: It's called I strain.
—Frank Walsh

Definition
Seismologist: fault finder.
—Ida M. Pardue

Football Fans
America is football crazy. Any day now we may hear that the Electoral College has fielded a team.
—Arnot L. Sheppard Jr.

Set Point
TV has progressed So that now thanks to cable There are so many more shows You wouldn't watch if you were able.
—R.C. Shebelski

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