



The JOURNAL

A Summit Ministries Publication

We don't go around preaching about ourselves, but about Christ Jesus as Lord. All we say of ourselves is that we are your slaves because of what Jesus has done for us. 2 Corinthians 4:5

Month in Review

q “It is God himself, in his mercy, who has given us this wonderful work [of telling his Good News to others], and so we never give up. We do not try to trick people into believing—we are not interested in fooling anyone. We never try to get anyone to believe that the Bible teaches what it doesn't. All such shameful methods we forego. We stand in the presence of God as we speak and so we tell the truth, as all who know us will agree.

“If the Good News we preach is hidden to anyone, it is hidden from the one who is on the road to eternal death. Satan, who is the god of this evil world, has made him blind, unable to see the glorious light of the Gospel that is shining upon him, or to understand the amazing message we preach about the glory of Christ, who is God. We don't go around preaching about ourselves, but about Christ Jesus as Lord. All we say of ourselves is that we are your slaves because of what Jesus has done for us. For God, who said, ‘Let there be light in the darkness,’ has made us understand that it is the brightness of his glory that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

“But this precious treasure—this light and power that now shine within us—is held in a perishable container, that is, in our weak

Thee will I cherish,

Thee will I honor,

Thou my soul's glory,
joy, and crown.

17th Century

q “I would counsel secular humanists to spend much less of their time accumulating proof texts on the failings and horrors of religion and much more on what, humanly speaking, must be the great concern for us late twentieth-century survivors of the horrors perpetrated in Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia in the 1930s and 1940s: the face of man after Auschwitz....Obviously secularism and the advance of science have been no unmixed blessing. The great horrors of our time have been the work of secular anthropocentric societies. The eminent secular thinkers who inspired us in our youth never prepared us for what happened.”

Seymour Cain, *Free Inquiry*, Winter 1993/94, p. 57

Leftist Academic Elite

q “In the immortal words of Mark Twain, ‘In the first place, God made idiots. That was for practice. Then he made school boards.’ Take the Jefferson County [Colorado] board—please.

bodies. Everyone can see that the glorious power within must be from God and is not our own.

“We are pressed on every side by troubles, but not crushed and broken. We are perplexed because we don’t know why things happen as they do, but we don’t give up and quit. We are hunted down, but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, but we get up again and keep going. These bodies of ours are constantly facing death just as Jesus did; so it is clear to all that it is only the living Christ within [who keeps us safe].

“Yes, we live under constant danger to our lives because we serve the Lord, but this gives us constant opportunities to show forth the power of Jesus Christ within our dying bodies. Because of our preaching we face death, but it has resulted in eternal life for you.

“We boldly say what we believe [trusting God to care for us], just as the Psalm writer did when he said, ‘I believe and therefore I speak.’ We know that the same God who brought the Lord Jesus back from death will also bring us back to life again with Jesus, and present us to him along with you. These sufferings of ours are for your benefit. And the more of you who are won to Christ, the more there are to thank him for his great kindness, and the more the Lord is glorified.

“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our inner strength in the Lord is growing every day. These troubles and sufferings of ours are, after all, quite small and won’t last very long. Yet this short time of distress will result in God’s richest blessing upon us forever and ever! So we do not look at what we can see right now, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven which we have not yet seen. The troubles will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever.”

2 Corinthians 4, *The Living Bible*

“First, they launch an off-the-wall ‘operational audit’ of, arguably, the best school in their district, the D’Evelyn Junior-Senior High School. What prompted the audit, apparently, were complaints from a handful of disgruntled parents because the school hadn’t dumbed down its curriculum enough to accommodate their children. D’Evelyn’s standards and academic rigor were too demanding, they whined, causing undue stress and loss of self-esteem for some students who probably shouldn’t have enrolled there to begin with. Duh. But that was precisely the point of D’Evelyn, it’s *raison d’être*. It was created to be an academically superior school for students who wanted to be challenged.

“Then, on a roll, the Jeffco board dumps the Saxon Math curriculum, ignoring the pleas of administrators, teachers, students and parents at Bear Creek, Normandy and Weber elementary schools where the program has had great success, routinely producing standardized test scores well above national and Jeffco averages. What’s going on here?

“Saxon critics claim that the curriculum doesn’t meet new district math standards. Well, I’m pretty good in math and took large doses of it right through graduate school—which is more than you can say for most public school math teachers. I’ve seen the Saxon text. It’s wonderful, and a huge improvement over every other math text I’ve seen in the public schools, most of which even I have trouble understanding. It’s no wonder the kids struggle with them.

“If Saxon is inconsistent with Jeffco and state standards, I’d take a hard look at the practicality of those standards. They’re not sacred. It’s not as if the Lord handed them down to Moses on Mount Sinai. Educrats seem to believe that writing a standard is synonymous with achieving an outcome. A grandiose standard matched

q Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God
and man the Son:

with a lousy textbook and an inept teacher equals a student who still can't make change, calculate a percentage or solve an equation.

2 The Journal

“One Saxon detractor said that it ‘does not seem to be a program that would get students excited about math.’ If that’s your standard, lady, no curriculum will meet it. It’s an unreasonable goal. Here’s a news flash: There’s nothing you can do to make math generally ‘exciting’ for the great majority of students. It’s something most students just want to get through. School, like life, isn’t always fun. And it’s not supposed to be. In many ways, math is like exercise for the mind. It develops those brain cells while teaching logic, orderly thinking and discipline. Doing things you don’t want to, like homework, is great training for the real world.”

Mike Rosen, *The Gazette Telegraph*, May 15, 1998, p. N7

q “The [California Supreme] Court’s ruling [*Smith v. Regents of the University of California*] listed 14 ‘frankly political or ideological’ groups to which the student government, called the Associated Students at the University of California (ASUC), had given funds from mandatory student fees: ‘Amnesty International, Berkeley Students for Peace, Campus NOW, Campus Abortion Rights Action League, Gay and Lesbian League, Progressive Student Organization, REAP (Radical Education and Action Project), Spartacus Youth League, Students Against Intervention in El Salvador, Students for Economic Democracy, UC Berkeley Feminist Alliance and Women Organized Against Sexual Harassment, UC

Jane Fonda Speaks

q “[Hanoi] Jane Fonda sounds the tocsin calling patriots to action. ‘Most Americans don’t know their tax money is being used for that, and most Americans don’t want it,’ she declares. Ms. Fonda, we are given to understand, has a long record of being attuned to the values of most Americans. The current cause for her alarm is that Congress has appropriated \$50 million per year to encourage sex education programs that promote abstinence until marriage. Ms. Fonda is not without support from disinterested patriots. She has teamed up with Durex Consumer Products, the world’s largest marketer of condoms (Shiek, Ramses, and Avanti brands), to launch a nationwide ‘Truth for Youth’ program. Says Ms. Fonda, ‘Abstinence until marriage is based on an unreal world that isn’t out there.’ Not if the Fonda-Durex team has its way.”

First Things, March 1998, p. 75

q “Jane Fonda apologized to Georgians yesterday after telling the United Nations that ‘children are starving to death’ in her adopted home state, which she compared to ‘some developing countries.’ “‘I was wrong. I shouldn’t have said what I said,’ Miss Fonda said in a statement after her comments Wednesday in New York provoked an angry response from Georgia

Sierra Club, Conservation and National Resources Organization and Greenpeace Berkeley.”

The Phyllis Schlafly Report, April 1994, p. 2

q “The situation in the [American] universities was appalling. The Marxists and socialists who had been refuted by historical events were now the tenured establishment of the academic world. Marxism had produced the bloodiest and most oppressive regimes in human history—but after the fall [of the Berlin Wall], as one wit commented, more Marxists could be found on the faculties of American colleges than in the entire former Communist bloc. The American Historical Association was run by Marxists, as was the professional literature association, whose field had been transformed into a kind of pseudosociology of race-gender-class oppression.”

David Horowitz, *Radical Son* (1997), p. 405

q “Who are the liberation theologians?... [T] here are feminist liberation theologies, black liberation theologies, Hispanic liberation theologies, neo-orthodox liberation theologies, evangelical liberation theologies, Roman Catholic liberation theologies. Liberation theology is taught in virtually every seminary in mainline Christianity in North America. And more, it threatens to eclipse the preaching of the Word from the pulpits of the American churches.”

Paul C. McGlasson, *Another Gospel: A Confrontation with Liberation Theology*, p. 16

Gov. Zell Miller.

“‘I apologize to Governor Miller and the people of Georgia. My comments were inaccurate and ill-advised.’

“Addressing a roundtable Wednesday sponsored by the U.N. Population Fund, Miss Fonda said, ‘There is a lot of rural poverty [in Georgia]. In the northern part of Georgia children are starving to death. People live in tarpaper shacks with no indoor plumbing, and so forth.’

“Mr. Miller called her statements ‘simply ridiculous,’ saying in a letter he sent to her yesterday that they reflect ‘a prejudice I am shocked to learn you hold.’

“After noting Georgia’s strong economic growth and innovative education programs, the governor also added: ‘Maybe the view from your penthouse apartment is not as clear as it needs to be.’

“Miss Fonda, 60, moved to Georgia after her 1991 wedding to Atlanta cable television magnate Ted Turner, who recently announced he would donate \$1 billion to the United Nations.

“‘If she truly believed Georgia is a Third World country, [Miss Fonda and Mr. Turner should] redirect the \$1 billion they’ve pledged to the U.N. to our state treasury to help out with the problem,’ said Rep. Nathan Deal, a Republican whose district spans the north Georgia mountain region.

The Journal 3

From the President's Desk

Dr. David A. Noebel

Your editor did not see *Titanic*. However, I have read enough reviews to know I would agree with nearly every nuance of the film as seen through the eyes of John J. Dwyer.

Here are his eyes:

“I regret that my \$4.00 matinee ticket has helped *Titanic* become the number one-grossing motion picture in American history. Had I known the content of the film, I would not have gone to see it.

“Even more do I regret that droves of Metroplex Christian families have allowed their children to see this brilliant, larger-than-life epic—once, twice, thrice, even more!

“Why do I make such a fuss about a secular movie? For two reasons—because of what the film is and because of what it is not.

“What *Titanic* is, is over three hours of snobbish, greedy, cruel rich people having their way with the benighted poor. One can only wonder how the film’s writer-director James Cameron brought himself to accept from the evil rich of our day the \$200 million necessary to make the film.

“Even the movie’s one ‘church’ scene portrays the haughty, self-sufficient wealthy barring the film’s hero from their service.

“Ah, the ‘hero’ so many Christian parents have sent their children to watch. He is a shiftless bohemian barely out of his teens—if out of them at all—who smokes, drinks, gambles, mocks all manner of social convention, and has lately lived the life of a reprobate painter in Paris, sleeping with that city’s women of the night, while painting them nude, the evidence of which the movie graphically shares with us.

“Which brings us to the teenaged heroine. Cameron’s standard for young American womanhood asks our hero to paint her nude as well, which the film again shares graphically with us. She also rebels against her mother,

of the ship. Yes, the same man portrayed in the movie as an ineffectual, tea-sipping incompetent who after a quarter-century sailing ‘hadn’t learned a thing.’ And who, shattered by the tragedy, selfishly allows the waves crashing over the *Titanic* to engulf him.

“In reality, Captain Smith refused a saving place on a lifeboat, rescued a baby from the water, and left his spot on a capsized lifeboat so that others could survive. Those others saw him swim away into the icy sea and, after a short time, become still.

“Other men swam through the freezing Atlantic and placed their own infant children into the safety of the lifeboats, then remained in the water to die, so the small crowded craft filled with women would not sink under the added weight.

“Multi-millionaire Benjamin Guggenheim perished after saying, ‘No woman shall be left aboard this ship because Ben Guggenheim was a coward.’

“And while Hollywood’s version of a *Titanic* hero tells a man who is praying ‘Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil,’ to ‘get outa my way if you’re gonna walk,’ God’s version of a hero, Scottish Pastor John Harper, behaved a bit differently. He got his four-year-old daughter to a life boat, then proceeded to share the saving gospel of Jesus Christ and His accomplished work with everyone he could.

“As he struggled for breath in the frigid black water, Harper shouted at a man who clung to a drifting board to ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.’

“The man would not respond. Finally, the dying Harper called once more, ‘Are you saved? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.’ Then he went down.

“*After* Harper drowned, the man believed in Christ. He was later rescued and testified that

offers obscene gestures, and makes such passionate love (it used to be called fornication) to her new 'boyfriend' that her character over 80 years later remembers the affair as her life's greatest love.

"What great role models for American youth.

"Meanwhile, back in 1912, the real Titanic went down, amidst such an outpouring of heroic sacrifice that books were written, monuments built, and, now, web sites established 'To the brave men who gave their lives that women and children might be saved.'

"Who were these men? For one, Edward Smith, English captain

"'Since most of Jane Fonda's knowledge of Third World countries comes from spending so much time in North Vietnam, I presume she is comparing our state to that country,' said Rep. Bob Barr, a Republican whose north Georgia district adjoins Mr. Deal's, referring to Miss Fonda's 1972 trip to Hanoi during the Vietnam War.

"While Miss Fonda's remarks drew wrath from Georgia leaders, callers to local talk-radio stations responded mostly with ridicule.

"Callers 'have been having a lot of fun' with the comments, said Mike Rose, program director at WGST-AM in Atlanta. He said Miss Fonda's statements 'are so laughable and so outrageous' that they weren't being taken seriously by callers.

"'To compare us to Somalia . . . is just ridiculous. It doesn't even deserve a serious response,' he said.

"For the record, Georgia has 'no reported deaths by starvation,' said Joyce Goldberg, a spokeswoman for the state's Department of Human Resources.

"An actress and activist, Miss Fonda was testifying to the United Nations about her work with the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (G-CAPP) when she

he was John Harper's 'last convert.'

"Now what a tale Hollywood could have told with that.

"The death of the righteous who dieth

Is gateway to life evermore;

The joy that all glories outvieth

For him is laid up in store.

Painless and tearless,

with 'no more sea,'

Beauteous indeed

shall the morning be."

"Mr. Clinton earlier this year waived controls on the export of U.S. satellite technology to China. The waiver to sell the technology to China was granted to two companies, Loral Space and Communications and Hughes Electronics, both of which were being investigated by the Justice Department (and still are) for possibly compromising national security in an earlier transfer of sensitive missile technology in China. This earlier transfer may have provided the Chinese with information they needed to improve their nuclear-armed missiles, some of which are aimed at U.S. cities.

"That's the smoking-gun part of the story. The other part is that the United States has no defense against missiles. None. This is not because the military couldn't field such a system, but because the Clinton administration opposes anti-missile weapons and believes the best defense against missiles is the threat of a U.S. counterattack.

"This policy of deliberately leaving the country vulnerable is like leaving your house unlocked to protect yourself against robbers. It works perfectly like the experts said until you're robbed.

"The Clinton administration appears

made the remarks, in which she noted Georgia's high rates of sexually transmitted diseases and teen-age pregnancies.

"In his letter to Miss Fonda, the governor noted 'that while teen pregnancy rates remain a serious problem in Georgia,' the rate has declined 9 percent in the last six years, making the state's teen pregnancy rate the eighth-highest in the United States, 'not the worst, as you apparently told the United Nations.'

"A Democrat and native of Young Harris, a college town in the north Georgia mountains, Mr. Miller wrote, 'I personally feel used and betrayed' by Miss Fonda's remarks.

"The governor noted that Georgia ranks No. 3 in the United States in job growth and No. 4 in population growth, and was recently cited by a nationwide moving company survey as the No. 1 relocation state in America. 'People vote with their feet, and they are coming to Georgia by the thousands.'

"Jane Fonda must be very proud of her latest trip to New York,' said Mr. Barr. 'In one fell swoop, she has called our state a Third World country, accused us of starving our children, and stated that our churches are conducting a vast right-wing conspiracy to take over school boards and health departments.'"

The Washington Times, April 17, 1998, p. A3

Clinton and China

q "Imagine giving a blueprint of your house to a burglar and telling him where your valuables are. Imagine as well that you decide not to put any locks on your doors and windows or purchase a safe for your valuables.

"Then you give the burglar a 45-caliber pistol to replace his .22. Pretty much an invitation to get robbed, right? This is the equivalent of what President Clinton appears to have done by approving the export of missile-guidance technology to China, while

wedded to this policy of deliberate vulnerability. Earlier this spring, the administration vigorously supported a Senate filibuster (the same tactic used in the early '60s to block civil rights legislation) intended to sidetrack a proposal by Sen. Thad Cochran, Mississippi Republican, that called on the United States to field a missile defense system as soon as technologically possible. A majority of the senators favored the proposal, but it fell short of the 60 votes needed to end the filibuster and never came up for a vote.

"Then in late May, President Clinton sent a letter to Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman, New York Republican, and Sen. Jesse Helms, North Carolina Republican, the chairmen of the House and Senate foreign-policy committees, saying he views the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty with the Soviet Union, which codifies the policy of vulnerability, as legally binding despite the fact the Soviet Union no longer exists.

"It is hard to fathom the cynicism at the White House when a conscious decision is made to keep the American people vulnerable to missile attack, while approving the transfer of technology that allows a potentially hostile power to better target its missiles on the United States."

Edwin Feulner & Gary Bauer, *The Washington Times*, June 14, 1998, p. B1

Environmental Myths

q "A nasty little brouhaha has broken out in the scientific community over global warming. It pits the estimable National Academy of Sciences against one of its past presidents, Frederick Seitz, who also is president emeritus of Rockefeller University in New York.

"Seitz, a respected physicist, is circulating a petition, which has been signed by 15,000 scientists, calling for the White House and Congress to repudiate the so-called Kyoto Protocol, the United Nations treaty negotiated last December in Japan that would require the

refusing to defend the American people from missiles. The difference is that instead of losing money and jewelry, the result could be the loss of American lives.

“Here is what we know.

United States to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent over the next 15 years.

“Seitz’s petition was accompanied by an eight-page article, a review of research literature on global warming, which concluded that ‘predictions of harmful climatic effects due to future increases in greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide are in error and do not

4 The Journal

conform to current experimental knowledge.’

“This article drew a rebuke from the governing board of the National Academy of Sciences, which declared that it ‘does not reflect the conclusion of expert reports of the Academy.’ As for Seitz, he’s probably blown any chance of ever being feted at an Academy testimonial dinner.

“But that suits the physicist just fine. He’s not interested in being politically correct about global warming. He’s more concerned with being scientifically correct.

“And although his former colleagues at the Academy concluded in 1991 that ‘greenhouse warming poses a potential threat sufficient to merit prompt responses,’ Seitz believes it is premature for the U.S. government to take Draconian steps to reduce the American people’s consumption of fossil fuels.

“It’s not that the physicist rules out the possibility that hundreds of millions of gasoline-burning cars and oil-heated homes have heated up the planet.

“Indeed, he acknowledges that the planet’s temperature has risen one degree over the past century. What is at issue, he says, is whether this temperature rise is natural or man-made.

“The American people have a lot at stake on the outcome of the global warming debate. If they are asked to reduce fossil fuel consumption by 40 percent over the next 15 years, at considerable cost to the U.S. economy, such dramatic change in their way of life ought to be based on honest science, not politics.”

Joseph Perkins, *The Gazette Telegraph*, May 20, 1998, p. N7

Remembering Pol Pot

q “Pol Pot was a small man who cast a giant bloody shadow over the latter half of the 20th century, and his death in Cambodia left even the memory of his rule a thing of fearsome terror.

“Pol Pot, 73, died Wednesday a frail prisoner betrayed by the 200 or so of his followers who remain loyal to his Khmer Rouge brand of absolute Maoist-style rule.

“He narrowly escaped the judgment of a court that the United States, even in his final hours, sought to organize.

“But history has already judged him as the mastermind of the genocide of minorities, the slaughter of the middle class and the turning of small children into killers of their own parents.

“‘The subject is unresolved,’ Seitz says. ‘There needs to be a level playing field’ free from politics. Then scientists can do ‘honest research’ on global warming.

“As it is, the science of global warming is anything but honest. Indeed, a decade ago, the United Nations created the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which was supposed to ascertain whether human activity truly was overheating the planet. Almost from the beginning, the IPCC operated under the assumption that human use of fossil fuels was having a measurable impact on the Earth’s climate.

“But this assumption needed the scientific community’s imprimatur if it was to motivate the United States and other developed countries to curb their carbon dioxide emissions. So computer models were ginned up to ‘prove’ that if the nations of the world continued to produce more carbon dioxide, a potentially catastrophic planetary warming would occur.

“There was, however, a huge problem with the models—they were wildly inaccurate. Indeed, the models on which the Kyoto Protocol are based predicted that the planet’s temperature should have risen by as much as 2.3 degrees since the start of the Industrial Revolution, when major greenhouse gas emissions began. In reality, the Earth’s temperature has risen only about a third of what the models forecast.

“Yet despite the unreliability of atmospheric models, despite evidence that actually contradicts the dire warnings of global warming (like global satellite technology and data showing that, over the past 18 years, there actually has been a global cooling of .09 degrees Celsius), the National Academy of Sciences and the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change continue to misinform the public that there is ‘no scientific dispute’ that global warming is

“Pol Pot turned his Southeast Asian country of 8 million people into the ‘Killing Fields’ from 1975 to 1979. All who wore glasses, spoke foreign languages or even whispered opposition to his Khmer Rouge rule were brutally silenced forever.

“To the end, Pol Pot showed no regret, or even recognition of the misery he had caused.

“‘I want you to know that everything I did, I did for my country,’ Pol Pot told Western reporter Nate Thayer last fall. ‘My conscience is clear.’

“Pol Pot’s guerrilla army took power 23 years ago today as U.S. forces abandoned Cambodia. Laos and Vietnam would soon fall to communists as well.

“Over the next four years, virtually all of the Buddhist nation’s monks, doctors, nurses, engineers, government officials, journalists and professors perished. Its ethnic Muslims, Chinese, Thai and Vietnamese fled or were slaughtered.

“Some 1.7 million people died by the time Vietnamese troops invaded and drove Pol Pot from power in January 1979, according to professor Ben Kiernan, director of the Cambodia Genocide Program at Yale University.

“‘Pol Pot was one of the worst manifestations of extreme ideology this century has thrust up,’ said Richard Holbrooke, assistant secretary of state for East Asian affairs under President Carter.

“At the height of the killings in 1977, Mr. Holbrooke told a House committee that Pol Pot had unleashed ‘genocide—another Holocaust.’

“‘The Khmer Rouge combined extreme communism learned from Chinese Maoists in the Cultural Revolution with an extreme version of French left-wing intellectualism’ picked up when Pol Pot and his aide Khieu Samphan were students in Paris in the 1950s, said Mr. Holbrooke, who also negotiated the

underway and that human beings are the culprit.

“That’s why Frederick Seitz and the 15,000-some scientists who have signed his petition are performing a public service. They will not allow the Academy, the IPCC, or any other science organization to provide a false scientific basis for the United States government, the United Nations or any other authority to advance unfounded public policy.

1955 Dayton accord ending the civil war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

““They had an intellectual rationale they thought justified exterminating entire classes of people. This is why they could go out and indoctrinate teen-age boys on why it was proper to kill babies and their own parents.””

The Washington Times, April 17, 1998, p. 1

The Journal 5

q “I was so sorry to hear about the death of Saloth Sar, 73, who was also known and justifiably hated as Pol Pot, because now he will never stand trial, at least in this world he so defaced. Pol Pot has not only died but escaped.

“The death of Cambodia’s murderer-in-chief also means that his almost equally guilty, but lesser known accomplices may never face justice; he is no longer in a position to testify against them. Besides, who has heard of Tam Mok, Nuon Chea, Kieu Samphan? Pol Pot eclipsed them all.

“Even in the annals of Communist slaughter, Pol Pot’s Cambodia stands out. He had to be the greatest mass murderer since Stalin, Hitler and Mao Zedong led the totalitarian league in that bloody category. Of course, Pol Pot had only a small country to work with, rather than the Eurasian land mass or the great expanse of China, the most populous of nations.

“But let it be said that Pol Pot did what he could to kill as many as possible. According to the last, necessarily loose estimate, he may have been responsible for wiping out a third of Cambodia’s population: 2 million out of 6

“How strange then that a columnist writing from distant Arkansas should not have been surprised at all. Travel, it turns out, can be narrowing.

“The distant observer need not depend on the immediate and necessarily limited impressions of a foreign correspondent, but on the experience of others over time, namely history. And this one had the unfair advantage of having read Robert Conquest’s classic history of Stalin’s purges and collectivizations. That book’s very title presaged Pol Pot’s reign in Cambodia: *The Great Terror*.

“Also on the recommended reading list is Hannah Arendt’s prophetic *Origins of Totalitarianism*. Reigns of terror in the name of The People, The Masses, The Proletariat go back to the French Revolution. It helps to read Edmund Burke, too. He may have been the first foreign observer to see where modernity was leading.

“It isn’t just the late, unlamented Pol Pot and his murderous crew who bear the awesome responsibility for what happened in Cambodia, but those so blind that they confused the Khmer Rouge with the usual ‘agrarian reformers.’ Sydney Schanberg’s moral myopia

million people. Not bad for a small-time Red.

“Pol Pot managed to turn a whole country into one big death camp. He used a variety of means: execution, starvation, slave labor . . . whatever worked. Almost anybody qualified for Pol Pot’s gulags and firing squads, but especially the literate, the urban and anybody who looked as if he might be capable of thoughtcrime.

“No exceptions were made for women, children, the sick and aged. Indeed, the patients in Phnom Penh’s hospitals were especially targeted when Pol Pot and his Khmer Rouge emptied the city on his great victory over American Imperialism. It was a kind of early euthanasia on a mass scale.

“Pol Pot’s minions also specialized in what would later be euphemized as ethnic cleansing in Bosnia. All were fair game: Chinese, Muslim Chams, Vietnamese. . . . In many ways, he was a man ahead of his time—the precursor of what happens when America loses interest in the rest of the world.

“With the Americans retreating from Indochina in the spring of 1975, the way was open for Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge to seize the country. And they did, taking Phnom Penh two weeks before Saigon fell.

“Pol Pot had his defenders in the West, at least at first. There was the (in)famous report in the *New York Times*, four days before the fall of Phnom Penh, assuring readers worldwide that for the ‘ordinary people of Indochina . . . it is difficult to imagine how their lives could be anything but better with the Americans gone.’ After that kind of reporting, Sydney Schanberg naturally got a Pulitzer Prize for his Cambodian coverage.

“Even as the bloodbath began, the *Times*’ Schanberg was assuring readers worldwide that ‘none of this will apparently bear any resemblance to the mass executions that had been expected by many Westerners.’ It didn’t; it was far worse—by the millions.

was widely shared—by colleagues such as Anthony Lewis at the *New York Times*, by magazines like *The Nation*, but politicians like Connecticut’s Christopher Dodd . . . and all those who, as usual, were blaming America first. Some still are. The damnations they now heap upon the black memory of Pol Pot should not obscure the role of all those, witting and unwitting, who made his enormous crimes possible.”

Paul Greenberg, *The Gazette Telegraph*, April 22, 1998, p. N7

Other

q “Our teen-age anti-smoking agenda is stupid. Our big problems with our youngsters are drugs, murder, rape, teen-age pregnancy, gross disrespect for authority and scoring dead last, or nearly so, on international comparisons of academic achievement. Those problems threaten the nation’s future, and what do we do? Like that Paris police chief, we cover the ‘entrances next door’—and go after teen smoking.

“What’s worse is that, while trying to stop kids from smoking, we are destroying our Constitution. At a recent meeting I had with leading members of Congress, I asked one of the congressmen to cite the article in the U.S. Constitution that granted Congress authority to do what’s no less than extortion of the tobacco industry and its customers. I got no answer. There wasn’t even an attempt to fabricate an answer using the ‘commerce clause’ or the ‘general welfare clause.’

“Here’s my prediction: The war on teen smoking is going to be just as successful as the war on drugs. Just as the war on drugs has weakened our Bill of Rights protections against unreasonable search and seizures (Article IV) and taking of property without due process of law (Article V), the war on tobacco promises to continue the process. When our Constitution is finally buried, a fitting inscription for its tombstone might be, ‘We Did It For The

“Not since the *Times*’ Walter Duranty couldn’t see any evidence of Stalin’s crimes in the collectivization, i.e., starvation, of the Ukraine in the ’30s had the paper been so blind to the nature, and therefore the facts, of Communism.

“Even when obliged to admit his terrible misjudgment, Sidney Schanberg made excuses, writing that ‘virtually all Cambodians living in government-held areas and most members of the press corps’ had failed to anticipate the murderous ways of the Khmer Rouge.

Children.”

Walter Williams, *The Washington Times*, April 16, 1998, p. A16

q “All this doesn’t mean that there is not a crisis in education. Colorblind admissions policies, however, did not cause it. On the contrary, by exposing the problem, the Regents and the voters have started California on the road to recovery.

“Parents of minority youths understand the need for innovative solutions.

6 The Journal

That’s why 57.3 percent of African Americans support school choice. Among African Americans in the age group most likely to have young children—26 to 35—the support for vouchers is an astounding 86.5 percent, according to a poll by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. Indeed, Alveda C. King, the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., recently remarked that ‘school choice is the civil rights issue of the 90s.’

“Latino parents are no different. Like African-American parents, they are willing to be politically incorrect if they have to in order to ensure their children are properly educated. A recent Field poll showed that, here in California, 61 percent of Latinos favor the new initiative to turn away from bilingual education in favor of special ‘structured English immersion’ that would move most students into mainstream classes after one year.

“No one disputes the tough chore the Regents and the voters have given the University of California officials, particularly those at Berkeley. We Regents knew that the transition would be difficult, which is why we chose to phase the admissions change in over a couple of years. But even two years feels short when policies that have been in place for decades are being overturned. To their credit, many administrators in the university system are committed to aggressive, race-neutral outreach and recruitment.

“University administrators, however, cannot and will not solve the under-lying problem. That hard work must be done by educators at the K-12 level, by families and by the students themselves. Yes, we need to ‘level the playing field.’ But the problem must be addressed in kindergarten, not in the lecture halls of UC Berkeley.” Ward Connerly, *The Washington Times*, April 16, 1998, p. A19

