

# Gettysburg Times

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The Gettysburg Times, founded in 1902, continues The Star and Sentinel (1800), The Gettysburg Compiler (1818), The York Springs Comet (1873), The New Oxford Item (1879), and The East Berlin News (1880).

Winner of two Associated Press awards in 1988

## As our readers see it

### More thoughts on abortion

Editor, Gettysburg Times:

Deliberate abortion is a terrible crime, but no less terrible is the lust that brought about the need for abortion. If all the children conceived in lust are born, then we are faced with the overwhelming problems of overpopulation and they are many and frightening to think about. So goes the choices in this dark world created by self-pleasure seeking disobedient mankind.

It is a very strange situation that exists on planet earth. Here in Adams County we can look out on the rolling hills, many of them lush with growth. We can hear the call of the geese flying overhead and see deer running across the open fields. This is the world of purpose and beauty God has given us to live in. Then we can go into our homes, flick a switch and light up a room, twist a dial and see our laundry being done. We turn a faucet and get hot and cold water. We live in a thermostat controlled environment. We truly have life more abundant. This is the modern world God has brought into being through the minds of seeking mankind. In this world of purpose, sickness is being overcome through obedience to new knowledge and understanding; children are conceived in holy love; there is peace and tranquility in knowing you are doing what is right for yourself and your neighbor according to present knowledge.

Unfortunately, not everyone lives in this beautiful world. Exercising free will and using the same resources and energy put here by God, disobedient mankind has

created another world of chaos. This fantasy world that gives us so many problems is all based in the free will undisciplined passions to use the instincts of our animal body beyond purpose. In this world sickness abounds, greed and dishonesty and ignorance destroy our air, land and water; lusts of all kinds are rampant. It is truly a world of darkness and death.

In God's world of purpose, the only abortion is spontaneous to keep the species healthy, strong and reproductive. Deliberate forced abortion for any reason does not exist because acts of lust that bring consideration for abortion do not exist.

What should our emphasis be to turn the raging tide of this abortion dilemma that threatens God's world of purpose? Certainly not abortion clinics and pills or encouraging overpopulation. A first step would be to be honest with ourselves. Stop calling lust an expression of perfectly normal romantic love. Call it what it is — carnal love that comes from a carnal mind seeking instant self-gratification without eternal purpose. Cleanse the mind, blot out this delusion and find the great joy in becoming what we are created to be — stewards of this earth and creators of our own eternal soul in the image of God as portrayed by Jesus. When we accept this role, there is little time or desire for self-destructive lustful practices of any kind. To borrow a thought from Rene Dubos, we could move toward our humanity and away from our animal nature.

Laura R. Wood  
Gettysburg

## Out of the past

### 100 YEARS AGO

We publish the winners of the borough election. They are gratifying to the Republicans and specially so in view of the fact that the Democrats made a determined fight to obtain control of the town council. If the Democrats can find any consolation in the figures, they are easily satisfied. Burgess-William P. Quimby, R; Justice of Peace-Edward J. Cox, R; Auditor-Maxiel G. Comfort, R; Tax Collector-Jacob Remmel, D; High Constable-Valentine Warner, R; Town Council-1st Ward, John J. Tawney, R, 2nd Ward, William H. Tipton, R, 3rd Ward, J. A. Tawney, R.

The committee having learned that Col. Bain's lecture entitled "The Golden Gate" was delivered here a few years ago, and not wishing to have it delivered here again, has decided to take Col. Bain's favorite lecture "Among The Masses or Traits and Trials of Character." The sale of reserved seats for this lecture will begin on Saturday, March 2.

Sales-Improvements: Mrs. Belle Griffith has purchased a house and lot on High St. from Mrs. Mary A. Blessing for \$1,300.

Mrs. Henry Garlach is remodeling her shops into a dwelling house and putting up a back building.

During the past week two fires have occurred in this county, the barn of Levi Herr, in Conowago Twp., on Tuesday last,

and the warehouse of Lewis A. Bushman, at Round Top station, on Friday night, between the hours of 11 and 12. These large fires, so shortly following the series of barn burnings in York County, and Carroll County, Md., together with the numerous threatening notices that have been sent farmers in the eastern and other sections of the county, have created alarm and excitement among the considerable portion of our farming community.

The Firemen's Ball on Friday evening in the Rink was a very enjoyable and successful affair. More than 300 persons attended it, and there were over 50 couples on the floor at once. Everybody enjoyed the evening.

The celebrated Noss Family, great favorites of our people, gave one of their delightful entertainments consisting of vocal and instrumental music, in the Opera House yesterday evening. They had a good audience and were well received. The concerts given by this family are unexceptional in character and tone, and an evening cannot be spent more pleasantly than in listening to them.

Two thousand dozen pairs of stockings have been shipped from the Gettysburg Hosiery and Knitting Factory, within the past few days. For the want of space the Company will immediately erect an additional building 40x25 feet. This is the best evidence of prosperity.

## Today in history

### By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 28, the 59th day of 1989. There are 306 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history: On Feb. 28, 1854, some 50 opponents to slavery met at a schoolhouse in Ripon, Wis., to call for a new political group. The organization would later become known as the Republican Party.

On this date: In 1827, the first U.S. railroad chartered to carry passengers and freight, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, was incorporated.

In 1844, Secretary of State Abel P. Upshur, Navy Secretary Thomas W. Gilmer and several other people were killed when a 12-inch gun aboard the USS Princeton exploded.

In 1849, the ship California arrived at San Francisco carrying the first of the gold-seekers.

In 1861, the territory of Colorado was organized.

In 1917, The Associated Press reported that the United States had intercepted a

German communication, the so-called Zimmerman note, which proposed a German alliance with Mexico and Japan should the United States enter World War I.

In 1951, the Senate crime investigating committee headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver D-Tenn., issued a preliminary report that said at least two major crime syndicates were operating in the United States.

In 1966, astronauts Elliot M. See Jr. and Charles A. Bassett II were killed when their jet trainer crashed into an aerospace plant in St. Louis.

In 1974, the United States and Egypt re-established diplomatic relations after a seven-year break.

In 1975, more than 40 people were killed in London's Underground when a subway train sped past its final stop and smashed into the end of a tunnel.

In 1983, the long-running television series "MASH" wrapped up 11 seasons on CBS with the broadcast of a special 2 1/2-hour finale.

# A few fine ways to cut spending

WASHINGTON — Who says that federal outlays can't be cut? Who says revenues can't be increased? The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has just published a volume describing 149 specific measures that might be taken by Congress to dam the government's flood of red ink. All that is lacking on Capitol Hill is the will to do what ought to be done.

CBO does not actually recommend any of the options it sets forth. That is not the responsibility of the office. Its task, required by law, is simply to suggest how the budget might be controlled if Congress ever gets in the mood to control it.

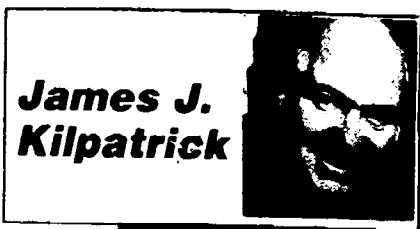
Without firm action, in the CBO's view, the picture is bleak. Left untouched, current programs could roll up another \$667 billion in deficit spending over the next five years. Nothing can be done about interest on the debt. Not much could be done to Social Security, except to tax more of the benefits that go to upper income recipients. Certain retirement programs are equally sacrosanct.

But if Congress wants to get serious, by way of example, Congress could:

— Scrap the idea to put 100 MX missiles on railway cars. So the Soviet Union has a rail missile? So what? That doesn't make it a great idea. The savings would amount to nearly \$5 billion over a five-year period.

— Cancel the space station program. Here too it has to be asked if an effort to keep up with the Joneskis is worth the formidable cost. Getting out of this exhibition of national vanity could save \$13 billion between now and 1994.

— Put off production of the B-2 "stealth" bomber for at least five years. This aircraft is stunningly expensive — \$500 million to \$600 million a copy — and



James J. Kilpatrick

it has yet to undergo the extensive tests that ought to be completed before production begins.

— Order deep cuts in personnel employed within the Department of Defense. Roughly 485,000 military and civilian employees are engaged in procurement. Reducing this army by 10 percent a year could achieve savings of \$4.5 billion over the next five years.

— Require our allies, notably West Germany and Japan, to pay a much larger share of the costs of their own defense. The United States now spends about 60 percent of its defense budget — \$170 billion a year — on forces committed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This is more than is contributed by all the other NATO members put together.

— Cancel or postpone the superconducting super collider. The folks in Waxahachie, Texas, would be sorely disappointed, but this \$6 billion baby is a luxury piece of scientific equipment the nation can't afford.

The Congress could search the budget for opportunities to make relatively small savings. They all add up. For example:

— Turn out the lights on subsidized loans to rural electric cooperatives. Fifty years ago these loans might have been justified in the name of the general wel-

fare. Today most of the co-ops are prosperous enterprises. There is no valid reason to preserve their 5 percent rate.

— Along the same line, eliminate federal subsidies for the construction of wastewater treatment plants. These facilities are state and local responsibilities. This program was supposed to be temporary when it was launched some years ago. It has been getting more permanent all the time.

— Scale back the program of low-interest loans for rural housing. Some mortgages through the Farmers Home Administration carry an effective rate as low as 1 percent. This is absurd.

— Reduce federal aid for urban mass transit. It makes no sense for federal taxpayers to pay half the cost of operating transit deficits in a relative handful of cities.

— Cut in half the \$840 million now spent annually for the arts and humanities. Let the private sector pick up the tab.

Will any of CBO's 149 suggestions be adopted? Don't bet on it. The very thought of increasing fees for grazing cattle on Western lands is abhorrent to ranchers. Workers everywhere would object to taxing their health benefits as income. Under present law, businesses may deduct 80 percent of expenses for meals and business entertainment. If this were reduced to 50 percent, the Treasury would take in an extra \$3 billion a year. The restaurant, theater and sports lobbies would howl.

The CBO report treats each option evenhandedly, pro and con. The political problem is that when it comes to spending money, everyone is pro; and when it comes to raising revenues, everyone is con.

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## Tower is Churchill and a cigar

Attending Hirohito's funeral, President and Mrs. Bush were both wearing black — in mourning for John Tower.

At the exact moment Hirohito was going into the ground Tower was going down the drain.

There was George — honoring the man who once commanded the Japanese pilot who shot him down in World War II. But would Bush do the same for Sam Nunn?

The committee vote rejecting Tower was strictly along party lines. Most thought he went to too many parties.

On the other hand, who would you



Mark Russell

rather have leading us in battle — the renowned boozier Ulysses S. Grant or the milk drinkers Pat Boone and Jimmy Carter?

Tower's friends will tell you he is Churchill without the cigar. His enemies will tell you he is the cigar without Churchill.

More and more homes now have fax machines and that means more and more junk mail is being faxed into those homes. It's like having a mailman who moonlights as a prowler.

With all of those contests and insurance pitches — Ed McMahon will soon come slithering out of the machine into your house, uninvited.

I've been holding off buying a fax machine until they come up with one with a shredder attached.

What's next, you ask? The fax crank call ("Pant, pant, pant") creating a Normandy-sized invasion of privacy.

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## The 'C word'

Are you at all bothered by the freedom with which the word "condom" is being used on radio, TV and in print?

Certainly it is nothing new for TV sitcoms and talk shows to titillate listeners with sex-talk — but the "C word" is now justified in the name of disease prevention.

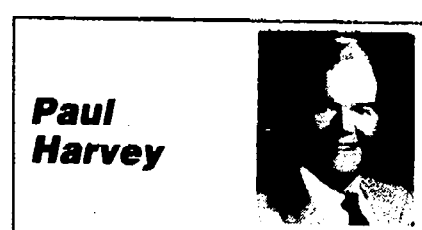
Japan is moving into the American market with its own entry in this major growth industry and Akimoto Industries promises a media blitz stressing the quality of its particular brand of condoms.

Its aim is "10 percent of the U.S. market within two years and 25 percent within seven."

Between 1985 and 1987 condom sales in the United States increased 62 percent to become a \$292 million annual business.

A student newspaper at the University of Texas attached a condom to each issue recently, along with editorials warning about AIDS.

The seven-year-old San Francisco Aids Foundation has teams visiting high schools lecturing on the subject of "safe sex."



Paul Harvey

Including Catholic high schools. One Catholic school teaching nun says, "We preach 364 days a year about abstinence but they need to know how to protect themselves on the 365th day — in case our teaching hasn't worked."

Yet, the foundation concedes that "more awareness of safe sex has not necessarily translated into the kind of behavior change we know is necessary."

The foundation urges more "open discussion" of the subject on TV.

During so-called "sweeps weeks" when TV and radio programs are being "rated," the efforts to attract the most listeners have involved programmed sex.

Now with the justification of "health

benefits" the networks allow themselves license that would have been inexcusable a decade ago.

Granted, the electronic media's short life span has been long enough to have recorded an evolution in what's tolerable. Forty years ago the word "syphilis" was never used on the air.

Carefully reporters would refer to "social disease"; later to "venereal disease" — but never were the diseases specified.

Indeed, the word "cancer" was avoided until the 1940s.

Today's frankness is so blatant by previous standards that the distance between Hustler magazine and prime time TV is shrinking fast.

Our gradual acceptance of amorality is preconditioned by the comics. Gradually we snicker at what we used to blush at.

As a professional observer of the passing parade I try to keep my own intellectual arteries sufficiently pliable to accept and adapt to inevitable change.

Recently when I learned that commercial valentines included enclosed condoms I was neither embarrassed nor indignant anymore — just sad.

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