

This Is The Week That

... By Don Henshell

Charley Murphy's mustache is an issue that someday could be resolved by a young lady with a fastidious nature and a strong will.

He will either shave it off or keep it in wondrous plume, depending on the sensitivity of a lady's fair cheek.

But while the processes of justice grind fine, the mustache brings us a delightful confrontation—lip-to-lip, maybe—between the generations.

Oh no, you say, it was the kids themselves who proposed the code of conduct and appearance. The Board of Education sanctioned it and, thus it became law. And everybody is equal under the etc. etc.

THE HUTCHINSON Act is also law, if you'll permit an aside. It



A Hair-Raising Issue

forbids public employees to strike or "absent themselves from their jobs."

Extend the logic a mite: If educators establish the conduct and appearance code as law, it means there will be no teacher strikes next spring.

The kids drew the code themselves, but picture the carnage if they had proposed long hair and mini-skirts and beards. Instantly we would deem them flighty and incapable of sound judgment.

The smarties don't necessarily come with age.

So Charley wins and somebody

loses and that's the way it is. Let's hope it isn't a tie.

AN OLD PROFESSOR used to quote Blackstone by the yard. His favorite was:

"The law is not primarily concerned with justice."

Murphy and his parents contend he's worn the mustache for years and makes him valid as a musician.

School officials contend it violates the rules and its existence under these conditions sasses the code by which every other student is required to live.

It is discipline with a touch of Blackstone.

The case is getting to be funnier than an old Spike Jones symphony. The schools have hired an outside attorney, one more specialized in mustache litigation. The students are saluting Charley with half-covered winks.

Charley doesn't merit the attention.

WITHOUT PREJUDGING the case—and with some of the recent Supreme Court decisions, this could be a capital offense—we think Charley should keep his mustache if he can stand it.

The no-mustache rule should be erased from the books—the only test being whether it prevents Charley or others from getting a proper education.

Kids will accept discipline but not arbitrary dictums (or dicta, if you're a purist).

WE REALIZE that the board of education is trapped on the issue. But the damage to discipline and order, if, indeed, there has been any already has been done.

We don't think this whole business will result in mustaches on every kid able to grow one.

Kids these days need discipline and leadership, but not inflexibility. A smart slap on the fancy is better for the young than rules they don't understand which provide another opportunity to rebel.

So the board and the courts and the teachers and other students are all fretting over Charley's mustache.

Personally, it looks adequate on him but would look terrible on anybody else.

If he wants to look like that, OK.

SENSE 'N' NONSENSE

The nationwide economic inflation has had its effect on the cost of new homes in Garden City.

One developer last week changed his roadside signs and raised the price of his new homes \$500 to \$19,490.

Patriotism Requires A Quiet Sacrifice

Just two weeks ago the President closed his State of the Union message with an appeal to the people for pride in their country. He used the term "patriotism."

Just what does a person mean by patriotism? What is the emotion?

Webster's defines patriotism as "love and loyal or zealous support of one's own country, especially in all matters involving other countries."

It's a nice dictionary definition, but it doesn't quite do the job.

Maybe Adlai Stevenson came closer to describing true patriotism during the 1952 presidential campaign than anyone else. In a speech he asserted that patriotism in the current day is:

"A patriotism that puts country ahead of self; a patriotism which is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."

That comes closer.

A PERFECT CASE in point (and what has prompted this piece) is the grumbling and scorch that has been heaped on LBJ's plea for Americans to support their travels to the Western Hemisphere because of the balance of payments problem.

It's a blow to think that the Americans who have always

prided themselves on being free agents face the possibility of having their travel rights restricted.

However, this is where the quiet, unobtrusive type of patriotism comes into play.

No doubt there is a balance of payments problem. No doubt, if every single American were to stay within the confines of this country during the coming year, the problem wouldn't be solved. However, it would help.

PATRIOTISM involves many complex factors. It is more than marching off to fight for one's country during a war or having that strange feeling when one hears the national anthem, visits a national shrine or even sees the flag flying in certain circumstances.

Patriotism is more than attending a Memorial Day or Fourth of July parade once a year.

Stevenson said in the same speech that "it is often easier to fight for principles than to live up to them."

True. It would be easy to be patriotic in the case of another Pearl Harbor or even another presidential assassination.

It's not so easy when the quiet, unobtrusive personal sacrifice is involved.

—Sue Shaughnessy

From the Publisher's Desk—OBSERVATION POINT

By Philip H. Power

By now, everybody knows about the Pueblo crisis and how the North Korean seizure of the American intelligence ship has plunged the world onto the brink of a wider war in Southeast Asia.

Briefly, the facts are these. The Pueblo is a ship crammed with electronic gear designed to snoop on various things going on in North Korea. (Similarly, Russian ships appear daily off our shores.) Last week it was surrounded by North Korean vessels, boarded and towed into the port of Wansan.

The 83 American crew members were packed away into prison, the boat was investigated by North Korean engineers (who, hopefully, found the secret equipment and codes already destroyed or thrown overboard) and the North Korean radio broadcast an obviously fake "confession" by the American Captain.

Presently, the United Nations is debating the matter. President Johnson has called up some naval and air reserves, including an air rescue squadron based at Self-

ridge Air Force Base near Detroit. The Americans say they won't put up with this, and the North Koreans say they're ready to fight about it.

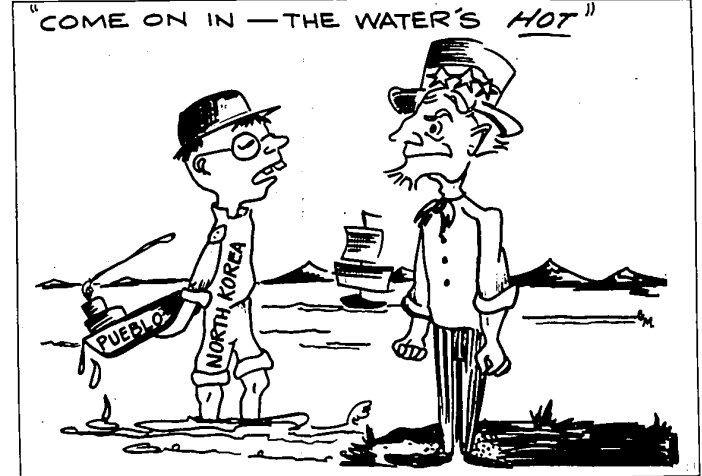
IT'S A FULL-FLEDGED crisis, and over the weekend every time I thought about it I got that sinking feeling in the pit of my stomach that I remembered so well from the Cuban missile crisis.

Then I started to wonder just what the North Koreans were up

to. Why in heaven's name should they run such a heavy risk of retaliation? And why should the Chinese Communists, who have everything to gain from egging the North Koreans on to do such a thing, have slipped and done a complete news blackout on the story?

There is no certain evidence to show that the seizure was in fact specifically authorized by the authorities in the North Korean government. Surely no evidence of this could ever be found, now that the event has happened.

But it makes you wonder.



While Cities Burn... His Response: A Speech

It seems that summer riots will be commemorated as the 4th of July holidays, according to remarks in the Michigan State Journal.

In the Dec. 14 Journal, Senator Robert J. Huber of Troy in Oakland County, painted a dim picture of the riot front in Detroit and its suburbs this summer and he gained comments of agreement from the state's "chief law enforcement officer," presumably referring to State Police Director Col. Fredrick Davids.

Huber, according to the account of his remarks in the Senate Journal, said:

"I'M VERY concerned about the fact that we as a Senate have done nothing about the coming year and the rioting that we know is going to occur in Detroit. Now, I'm tired of hearing about the New Detroit Committee and all the noble men who are doing nothing on that committee except meeting."

"I've been reading in Business Week (financial magazine) where the members of the Detroit Committee are quoted as saying that 'if you fat cats don't give us what we want, it won't be our places that will be burning next summer, it will be yours.'"

"I have a letter here that was submitted to the New Detroit Committee from our chief law enforcement officer in which he states that people are being trained today in the use of incendiary devices. The letter was dated Oct. 18 and nobody is doing anything about it."

"I have a release from a Macomb daily paper that says that next summer—this is a report given by a seminarian who is apparently supposedly have been a counselor to Romney and Cawson—and he said that next summer some 50 carloads of militants are going to the suburbs and shoot children, and then head back to the core city to start the next riot."

"I CHECKED THAT out with the chief law enforcement officer here in the state and he said that is substantially correct from information which he has."

"And here we sit some six months after the worst riot the state has ever had doing nothing but worry about lower court reorganization and open occupation with the lives and safety and the security of every member of the state, particularly in the core area, threatened daily."

"Now I think the time has come now to take some sort of constructive action. I think it's a shame that when these conditions exist and I have these things in print, that the Executive Officer (Gov. Romney) isn't here in the state instead of running for the presidency. I think these are critical times and critical matters and we're doing nothing, and my constituents if they had any idea of some of these things or if they had been made public I think they would rise up in righteous indignation and demand that their Legislators do something."

"We haven't had a single thing on this agenda that we were called back for that would in any way protect the lives, welfare, and security of the people back in our districts, particularly in the metropolitan area where there is a sad situation."

"MANY OF THE members of the floor here and in the House (of Representatives) carry guns and have permits because of their own recognition of the insecurity and the possibility of being attacked. I intend in the next Legislature to do something along these lines in the way of asking that all members of the Legislature, while they are in the Legislature and maybe for some term thereafter, be able to arm themselves."

After calling for action by his fellow senators, Huber, whose \$90,000 home on a nine-acre site in a district which includes the plush Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills communities, issued his concluding comment that "I would like my remarks printed in the Journal."

When the riots start next summer, maybe the good senator can pass out copies of his speech and stop the disorders right then and there.

The honorable legislator is also conspicuous for not asking why "the chief law enforcement officer" of the state doesn't seek warrants against those persons who are plotting the 1968 riots?

Possibly, Huber is waiting until the smoke dies down and then tell everyone, "I told you so."

Then next year, he will again make a long speech on the floor of the Senate and conclude his rousing call to arms by asking that his remarks be printed in the Senate Journal.

—Leonard Poger

HERE IS THE port commander at Wansan. He sits in his office and every day he sees this American intelligence ship cruising off his installation, safely outside the 12-mile limit. He knows the ship is monitoring his radio messages, just as he knows there is nothing he can do to stop it.

So one day he gets sore and tells some of his patrol boat captains to go out and seize the Pueblo... without checking with the political authorities in Poyngyang, the North Korean capital. His men go out and bring the Pueblo and its crew back to Wansan. Then the port commander gets on the blower with Poyngyang.

"Well, I've got this American ship and 83 crewmen in port," he says.

"You've got what?" replies someone in the North Korean politburo.

"An American intelligence ship and its crew," comes back the inscrutable reply. "What do you want me to do with them?"

"But you didn't get any clearance! Don't you know what this means? This is a full-fledged international crisis!"

"Well, that may be. But I was getting madder and madder every day that darn ship cruised back and forth, just outside the 12-mile limit and I finally blew up and sent my ships out to bring it in."

"It's your problem now, so I guess you'll want to send someone down here to handle the situation."

Splitting eruptions in Korean on the other end of the line as the port commander puts down the phone.

I'M NOT TRYING to be flippanant about the incident. What I'm trying to suggest is that it certainly could have happened in this way and that such a possibility is very alarming.

One man in a comparatively minor position gets mad. He goes off half-cocked and seizes a ship without checking with the higher-ups. And although his government may wind up busting him back to the North Korean equivalent of a naval back private, the event has happened and there is no way to back out of it.

And the world is in the middle of another nuclear crisis.

IN AN EARLIER and perhaps more civilized day it wouldn't have been so serious. Minor officials could make mistakes, but military reaction wasn't so quick or so catastrophic then as it is now. Ships on their way to bombard a port could be recalled, simply because it might have taken them weeks to get there.

But recalling an atomic bomb after it has been dropped is another matter.

And correcting or rectifying a miscalculation by one individual—in an age when electronics bring the mistakes of one man into the center of the world stage in the flash of a radio message—is almost as difficult.

Most governments have various built-in fail-safe devices to try to prevent one man's mis-train of events which would bring nuclear destruction. But no fail-safe system can stop every possible mistake or miscalculation.

That's a little frightening. And it may be that a certain North Korean port commander now realizes it.

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SENSE 'N' NONSENSE

Westland Municipal Employees Union charged a conflict of interest in the Civil Service Commission because its chairman has his wife working as an employee with civil service protection. But nothing publicly was said about the union last month picking its representative on the Commission although the new member has a son working for the city. On top of that, the previous Commission member who recently resigned had a brother working for the city. Who says there's no close family ties anymore?

"At the moment it is shockingly apparent that in the battle to feed humanity, our side has been routed."—Prof. Paul R. Ehrlich, Stanford University population biologist.

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