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Education aid for whom?

President Carter's observation that the cost of a college education is an increasingly serious burden" to middle-income families was assured of drawing a response of fervent amens from the burdened across the country

Whether his ideas for dealing with the situation will find similar instant favor is another — and politically charged — matter

His proposals for guaranteed loans, expanded scholarships and more part-time jobs for students add up to a multibillion-dollar care package to families with incomes up to $25,000, most of which had not previously been eligible for federal education assistance programs.

The help — any help — would be welcome for the families of the estimated two-million students most immediately affected. But possibly not quite as welcome as the alternative which the president is intent upon heading off at the congressional pass — a college tuition credit against taxes

There is no questioning the steep and continuing increase in the cost of a college education — up by 77 percent during the past decade, as the president noted Tuition plus other basic charges total an average $2,500 at a public institution currently, $4,800 at a private school

There is, however, some question whether the cost burden is actually increasing A recent Congressional Budget Office study suggests that in terms of percentage of family income it actually decreased during the decade

The 10-year increase in median family income was put at 89 percent — significantly more than the 77 percent college cost rise The study worked out current college costs at 12.4 percent of income at a public institution, compared with 13 4 percent 10 years ago Similar figures for private schools were given as 26 1 percent today, down from 27 8 percent

It might thus be argued that a college education actually is becoming slightly less burdensome to the middle-income population But trying to argue that with a parent who signs the checks could get you threatened with physical violence

Along with income and college costs, everything else has gone up — most particularly including taxes which hit middle-income families heavily They derive little benefit, however, from most of the existing tax-funded education assistance programs, oriented as these largely are to low-income and other disadvantaged segments of the population

A compensatory tax credit has been gaining support as a quick and apparently easy way of easing the middle-income burden with the odds rising that Congress eventually will act on it A bill now in the Senate calls for a $500 credit.

The appeal of the credit is in its simplicity — it would require no specific appropiations and no new administrative machinery or accounting follow up — and in its political visibility A tax credit would be something of recognizable value to every taxpaying parent and to the credit, it is assumed, of the legislators responsible for its enactment. The benefits of and credit for a diffuse aid program, on the other hand, would be less apparent.

President Carter sees the tax credit as a threat to his already watered-down effort to reform and simplify the tax system The expanded aid program may be a good try at an acceptable alternative.

But whether it will be readily accepted by Congress and, most importantly, the middle-income taxpayer is open to considerable question

The bottom line which most interests the latter is still the one he works out every April 15

AS TIME GOES BY

25 expected

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1938—

County Superintendent of Schools Charles H Place said that 25 schools would be represented at the Otoe county spelling bee to be held February 26 at Nebraska City Junior High County officials said that the county's venture into the grocery store business could be considered a success after 3½ months of operation Falls City took their fourth straight Southeast conference basketball crown by defeating Auburn 32-12, at Falls City .Buyer L H Lange reported that over half of the walnut trees standing in southeast Nebraska were dead

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1953—

Shirley Duda served up two points with one minute left on the clock to give Douglas spikers a 20-18 victory over Talmage Mayor Victor Bremer said Nebraska City outdistanced most other cities in the state with 19 beer licenses and six hard-liquor stores Otoe County schools, not including Nebraska City, donated $597 to the county March of Dimes, according to County Superintendent Merritt Whitten Christine Jorgensen was reportedly a "complete" female after her operation.

TEN YEARS AGO
—1968—

Harold Hanks, a member of the Julian Methodist Church, received a 50 year pin Irene Baier was named the 1968 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow for Nehawka High School The City Commission planned to meet with the Park Board to discuss preliminaries for a new swimming pool in Steinhart Park The Lee P Gillette Lodge, Dunbar, presented Edgar E Ashton with his 50-year Masonic membership pin at the Dunbar Presbyterian Church .David Cummins, son of Mr and Mrs Sam Cummins of Nebraska City, was one of the six University of Nebraska Senior who received the Woodrow Wilson Fellowships for graduate work

Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 1978. There are 315 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On this date in 1878, a whole new era of the world of sound was ushered in when Thomas Edison was granted a patent for the phonograph

On this date

In 1473, Copernicus, the man credited with founding modern astronomy, was born in Torun, Poland.

In 1803, Ohio was admitted to the Union.

In 1881, Kansas adopted prohibition.

Today's birthdays Prince Andrew, second in line of succession to the British throne, is 18 years old. Actress Merle Oberon is 67. Actress Mia Farrow is 32. Actor Lee Marvin is 54.

Thought for today: Peace of mind really comes out of the harmony of life. It is another way of saying that you've learned how to live — Hubert Humphrey.



"Yeah, yeah — hang it up around the corner"



Martha Angle and Robert Walters

IN WASHINGTON

Who wants Jimmy's help?

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—President Carter's promise to campaign for congressional Democrats seeking re-election this year raises an embarrassing question Who wants him?

Although party leaders are delighted Carter will devote more time to politics than he has to date, not every Democrat in Congress is exactly clamoring for a presidential campaign appearance

A substantial number, although by no means the majority, fear Carter could prove a liability in their own races and would just as soon not have him around embracing "my good friend and fellow Democrat"

The jitters are most noticeable among senators and House members from oil-producing states, the farm belt and the West — areas where Carter's standing in the public opinion polls is at its lowest

"I want to be as diplomatic as possible in saying this," cracked Rep Andy Jacobs, D-Ind "He'll be a drag"

"If we could put it on the ballot Colorado would vote to withdraw from the union about now," said Rep Patricia Schroeder, who — like most of her colleagues — intends to run on her own record, not the administration's

"The West just doesn't understand him," Schroeder said "We no longer have Polish jokes, we have Georgia jokes"

In the South, on the other hand, the welcome mat is still out "He'll be an asset in my area He's still popular down here," reported Rep Butler Derrick D-S C

And Democratic senators in Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island — the beneficiaries of Carter's first political swing of the year — expect his mid-February visit to enhance their own image

"It doesn t hurt to have the president show interest in your state, and it makes the voters think our guy has some clout," said an aide to one of these senators, who requested anonymity

Most congressional Democrats think Carter will make little difference in their races They ran ahead of him in 1976, and they expect to win on their own steam this time as well

"I happen to think he's a plus, and I'll certainly invite him to come into my district if only to fire up my campaign workers But he won't get me any votes," said Rep Abner Mikva, D-Ill

"Any good incumbent ought to run ahead of the ticket," Mikva added, an assessment that is widely shared on Capitol Hill Nearly all Democrats now in Congress outpolled Carter in 1976, and the advantages of incumbency are so immense that the president's popularity — or lack thereof — should have little impact this year in districts where the incumbent is running again.

Voters angry at Carter are more likely to vent their spleen on Democratic candidates for House and Senate seats that have been vacated by members either retiring or seeking other offices

Unfortunately for Carter, many of the open seats this year are in states like Texas and California where the president s popularity is lowest

Recent off-year elections have produced major set backs for the party in control of the White House The Democrats lost 48 seats in 1966, two years after Lyndon B Johnson s landslide election, while the GOP lost an identical number in the Watergate wipeout of 1974

Campaigning for incumbent Democrats who want him in their districts may win Carter some political chits he can call in for his legislative programs in the future, but it won't accomplish much else

The real referendum on the Carter administration will be taking place in districts with no incumbent on the ballot It will be interesting to see how much time the president spends campaigning in those areas

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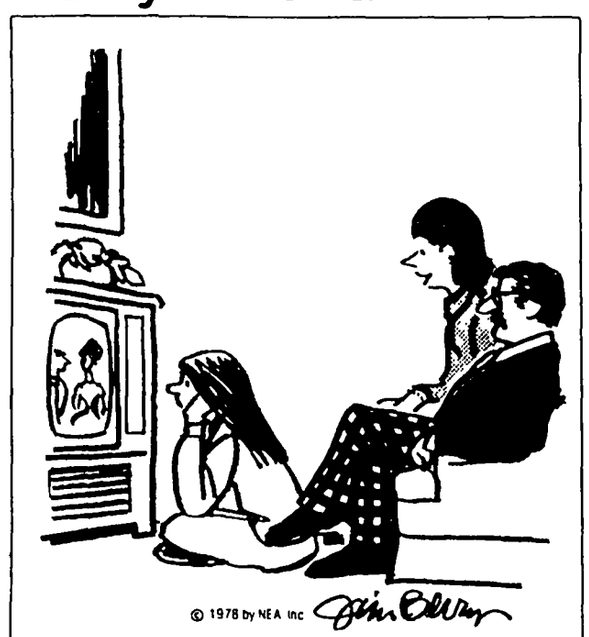
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The Prayer For Today From The Upper Room

"I give you a new commandment, love one another As I have loved you, so you must love one another If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples" (John 13.34-35 TEV)

PRAYER Our Father, thank You for giving us Your Son, who taught us how to love. Help us to truly love others in Your way In His name we pray. Amen.

Berry's World



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"What would you call Anna Karenina, dear — 'laid-back' or 'off-the-wall'?"



Ivan D.E. Beaumont

THE BUCK ENDS HERE

Dog-gone it!

Coming up—

Mrs Beverly Jordan was discussing plants and plant life to her second graders at Fourteenth Street school She was telling the youngsters that several plants have names which include the name "dog"

She gave examples as "dogwood, the dogviolet and the dogrose," then asked "Can someone name another plant using 'dog' in its name?"

Little Jimmy was the first up from his desk exclaiming "I know one! Collie Flower!"

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The Nannens—

Neil Nannen, one of the family that has contributed so much to basketball at Syracuse over the years, is continuing his interest He's coaching at Grand Island The other day the Grand Island newspaper printed a picture of him and a story about one of his games

Neil is the son of Mr and Mrs Ray Nannen who now live at Hallam.

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Our friends—

We've lost several friends the past week You know them well Loyal Shannon, Mrs Emil Knoll and Paul Holliway

Loyal was a frequent visitor to the News Press He was a well read and informed man and kept us in touch with other happenings Recently he had been particularly interested in the American Agriculture movement

He was always about as happy a man as you'd ever meet He greeted people with a broad smile and a warm handshake

Mrs Knoll was special to a lot of us she joshed a great deal with friends and got back at all of them if they didn't wear green on St Patrick's Day She possessed a warm heart for all and an especially deep love for her family

Paul Holliway taught science at the high school for 20 years or so He was our neighbor He was a tireless gardener and put my lawn to shame with his zest for outdoor work He was an accomplished electronics man and a ham operator

We miss them all

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Mr Bryan—

We received a note from G Neihart of Braddyville, Ia , and a clipping of a story written by William Jennings Bryan Mr Bryan was a good friend of Judge Monroe Neihart of Nebraska City

The clipping is from the I H Farm Equipment Co. Dunlap, Ia , advertisement

"Burn down your cities and leave our farms and your cities will spring up again as if by magic, but destroy our farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country"

As long as the North American farmer can supply our food at a price that allows us to spend the greatest part of our income for our cars and TVs and recreational items, our high standard of living can continue

But when our farmers can no longer produce our low-cost food, or when they have no economic incentive or ability to produce the food — truly again, "The grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country"

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The snowstorm—

Kevin Mabie, son of Mrs Charlotte Mabie, spent the night at our home Sure was convenient It was snowing and the wind was blowing I had rescue duty at 6 a.m., and I wasn't so sure until Kevin accepted an invitation and spent the night with our son Kevin has a four-wheeled drive vehicle

Sure enough the next day was something else Chuck Johnson and Pat Osbon hoofed it to work Jerome Keran had been on the phone in the early morning hours arranging to get employes to work And since Kevin loaned us his four-wheeler, it was a snap

Unfortunately, I discovered even a four-wheel drive won't do the job when you miss the drive and plunge front wheels first into a ditch

We were short a number of employes, at the plant, but everyone pitched in and we beat our own deadlines and went home early .had to; we had a lot of snow to scoop, 10 inches of it

Judy Huebner was on the phone to her 30 carriers and they arrived earlier than usual, picked up their bundles and went on their routes We're pretty proud of those boys and girls; they've done it before

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Favorite food—

What's a favorite food? Golly that's pretty broad If you're talking about pastries, then it's sour cream chocolate cake

I still think it's pretty hard to beat plain old fried chicken, but I've never refused juicy roast beef and carrots

Millie makes a light meal of rice and pork It's real tasty Tabasco sauce really sets it off, and will set your tongue on fire at the same time

For a fun feed, I like all kinds of goodies Carl Wademan can whip up the best turkey fries, but I have to wash them down with mustard, horse radish and beer

And it will be a long time before anyone will ever come up with anything better than the kind of tacos prepared by Mrs John Peterson, Mrs Sam Kellogg, Jr , and Mrs Whoopie Landis My table manners sort of go to pot, and I swan I cannot eat as many as John Peterson .and I try

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and then there's the one about the jazz musician who attended services at the Bethel United Church of Christ in Nebraska City After the service he complimented the Rev Gary Nienkamp "You really flipped me out," he said "That sermon was groovy"

"I'm happy the sermon pleased you," Pastor Nienkamp said, "but I would appreciate it, however, if you could express your approval in some other terms"

"Sorry," the musician said, "but that's my way I just want you to know that I dug your sermon so much I flipped a c-note into the money pot"

"Cool, man, cool," Pastor Nienkamp answered



HEALTH
Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

O.J. is the answer

By Lawrence Lamb, M.D.

DEAR DR LAMB — I have been taking Hydropress 50 for over 18 years and it has done a great job in keeping my blood pressure under control Recently, I was bothered with nausea and dizziness and my doctor said it was because the Hydropress robbed me of potassium He prescribed potassium, but I was wondering it there isn't a way to replace it in my diet, instead of with medication

DEAR READER — Yes An eight-ounce glass of orange juice contains about 500 milligrams of potassium If you wanted to drink a glass of orange juice three times a day (total 24 ounces) you would get about 1500 milligrams of potassium a day which is about what many physicians prescribe Sometimes when the potassium is very low, the doctor may want you to take a larger amount than that, but that is certainly enough to maintain your potassium level

I think it is a good idea for everyone who is taking any of the medicines that eliminate water (diuretics) to eat plenty of fresh fruit and drink fresh fruit juices That will help keep the potassium level normal despite losing some through the diuretic action of the medicine on the kidneys

DEAR DR LAMB — I have a problem that really bothers me and my whole family It is a hair problem My 20-year-old son has a spot the size of a 50-cent piece on the back of his head that is completely bald, a perfect round circle I noticed it about a month ago and have been to two doctors about it

They had a big, long name for it saying to me it meant a spot without hair They said there was no cure for it and that sometimes the hair would come back in four to six months I would very much appreciate all the information you could give me and what causes it It has gotten a little larger in size since I first noticed it

DEAR READER I'm sure that long name was alopecia areata, which means a spot with no hair, as your doctors have told you There are a few medical disorders that have to be ruled out when such a spot is noted, such as ringworm, but since he has seen two doctors I'm sure such conditions are not present

In most cases the cause is not known The spot comes and may enlarge, then finally go away Because new spots may develop while the old one is growing new hair it ususally takes at least six months for the problem to disappear The hair that first grows back is often white, but it will soon regain its normal color in most cases

Worry or nervous tension can be a factor in causing such episodes A person who has had one episode is likely to have other episodes of alopecia areata, particularly during periods of emotional stress or acute illness that may occur during life

This form of temporary baldness in a spot is not to be confused with ordinary male-pattern baldness that affects the hair at the forehead or the generalized loss of hair that some people, particularly men, have at an early age

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