



Harry Golden's "Only In America"

BONEHEAD ENGLISH

G.K. Hodenfield of the Associated Press has written a three-part series on the problems of the colleges. Chief among these problems is the unsettling and distressing news that \$10 million a year is invested in teaching freshmen how to write simple declarative sentences. Mr. Hodenfield is giving the colleges a break. I would make an educated guess that at the majority of the universities, the entire freshman year is usually devoted to teaching down and accomplish college work. The one area in which college students are proficient and well-prepared, namely science, is

the one area in which we keep entertaining fears and anxieties they are not. Millions of dollars have been appropriated for enlarging the high school science curricula, yet today's kids by and large keep up with scientific developments and come to grasp intuitively scientific methods through newspapers, magazines, and television. Few millions, if any, are appropriated to teach school children how to read and write English. In the South alone, I believe we have nearly three million illiterates. All the Governors and Senators will challenge me and say my statistics are not quite accurate, the figure is one and a half million.

Twenty illiterates in the South would be too many. And, of course, the colleges aren't at all interested in the illiterates that are genuinely illiterate, just in the illiterates who want to pose as educated illiterates. I hesitate to suggest an unlimited educational appropriation is the answer. After all, people who speak a language must in some sense love it, but is obviously a slave without desire, a love that doesn't care about mastering riting. And we are not talking about literature or technical writing, we are talking about the ability to express simple thoughts such as are expressed in business letters. A high school graduate can be presumed to be acquainted with the following: two or three plays of Shakespeare, usually "Caesar," "Lear," and "Macbeth"; three novels, say "Lord Jim," "Silas Marner," and perhaps the "Mayor of Casterbridge"; a play by John Galsworthy and one by Bernard Shaw; poetry on the order of "To a Flower in a Crannied Wall" and "Schrab and Rustum" and the "Odyssey." This might be enough if in Spanish a student reached proficiency enough to read "Lazarillo del Tormes" or "Don Quixote" and in French "Racine" or "Pensees" and in Latin "Catullus" and Horace and in Greek Plato. But this is dreaming. Most of our high school graduates have no idea what the imperfect tense, let alone how it appears from time to time on the printed page.

school graduates; and (4) that the testing system stop this nonsense with the multiple-choice answer and start including essay questions so that qualitative appraisals be made of ability instead of quantitative. Since that educational atrocity, the teachers college, is with us in vast numbers, it is futile suggesting its abolition. But certainly, these colleges could improve their curriculum and they could begin failing those students who do not measure up just as the summer schools for teachers could start improving standards. As a matter of fact, I will take out the request that educational budgets be doubled if all the other requirements are met.

OUR DEEPEST CONCERNS

As my readers know, I have no fear of "population explosion." I believe man's ultimate responsibility is not to prevent the birth of children but to find ways to house, feed, and clothe them. I subscribe to the notion that man will do so. But this position earns me bushel load after bushel load of mail, most of it filled with criticism and portending the dire events which will ensure if my position does not change. These prophecies inevitably center on when the civilization will collapse through overcrowding if we don't institute a universal birth control policy.

I have struck a balance, an average of all the dates of the world's demise in roughly April, 2035. This is enough to cause us concern if not acute fear. At least according to my correspondents who are working with might and main to see that birth control devices and pills are widely disseminated over the world, (especially in India and in Africa). Every issue has two sides and I would not dare question the integrity of those who disagree with me. They are

Barney Glazer's Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. - Men-Golan, Israeli producer-director and head of Noah Films in Tel-Aviv, arrived here recently and announced that film production is booming in Israel.

Golan said that 10 features will be completed in 1965 with 25 scheduled for next year. Four studios presently operate in Israel.

Winner for the past two years of Israel's "Harp of David," our Oscar equivalent, Golan has produced four films, now being dubbed into English and other languages. Two of these have been sold for world distribution.

The films are: "Eldorado," "Dalia and the Sailors," "Eight Against One," which he co-produced with Michael Kagen, and the current "Sallah." Israel's 1965 entry here for Best Foreign Film in current Academy Awards voting.

Unlike our Oscar winners who are selected only by Academy members, Harp of David awards are decided by both the Israeli public and industry members.

To encourage motion picture production, the Israeli

government not only finances a film but on its completion grants the producer a 50% rebate on theater taxes.

"Israelis are extraordinary moviegoers," said Golan. "They simply overwhelm us by packing our theaters solidly night after night."

For example, Tel-Aviv's 400,000 population annually pays for twelve million admissions to the city's 40 theaters during the average year. Golan pointed out Israel produces 1 1/2 times

more film revenue than all Arab countries combined, a vital statistic that probably incites Nasser at this very moment to burn (grabbed) American midnight oil for preparation of an official denial.

Golan hopes to sign a top male American star of the James Bond type for his production of "Trunk to Cairo," which starts shooting May 1 on locations in Rome, Berlin, Paris, Tel-Aviv and Cairo.

This will be Israel's initial color movie, shot in Eastmancolor with prints processed by Technicolor in London.

Marc Behm, currently scripting the second Beatles film, wrote the screenplay. Senta Berger plays the feminine lead. Golan obtained her services from Arthur Brauner of CCC Films, Berlin.

Co-stars include Germany's Hans Neilson, France's Robert Houssein, and Israeli actress Geula Noni. Otto Heller directs photography.

Receiving his film training at England's Old Vic School of Direction, Golan also studied film techniques at N.Y. University.

He is recognized as well in the legitimate theater as Israel's leading director. Working with the Habimah and Obel theaters, he staged "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Winterset," "The Pajama Game," "Come Blow Your Horn" and others.

Ben Oakland, noted composer, recently revealed at The Friars in Beverly Hills that Vic Damone has recorded Ben's latest tune "Bellisma" for the Warner Bros. label.

deeply concerned with a vast tragedy fast overtaking the world. Some of them have even recounted the terrifying experience of standing in front of the Equitable Life Insurance Exhibit at the World's Fair and watching

the demographic machine inexorably tote up the increasing population of the United States.

Curiously, however, I notice this is the only tragedy that concerns many of my correspondents. The war on poverty, unemployment, and civil rights, somehow do not impinge upon their consciousness. Their appreciation of tragedy often has a wider scope than Congress's inability to pass a bill for medical and hospital care for the elderly. In fact, some of my neighbors, beset by the tragedy of the growing population of the world, were paradoxically beside themselves with joy when the last census proved Charlotte had 210,000 citizens and the banks around the nation would write our bonds at less interest than if the city had had only 180,000.

My correspondents remind me of my insurance man, and expert and on top of that, an extremely likable, decent fellow. Aside from his efficiency in handling my liability, workman's compensation and life insurance, he displays a deep interest on my own welfare. He is anxious that I convert, become a Christian and be saved.

I have pointed out, however, that I could feel his interest in me was more viable if he could get the same energies mustered to get me into the Charlotte City Club, a fraternity from which I and all my fellow co-religionists are banned.

After all, a fellow willing to share heaven with me through all eternity should not balk at sharing a dining room once a week.

Thus I feel when he tenders me membership he really wants me to have IN; and when the folks who worry about the "population explosion" programs, I will begin to believe they really do have a universal concern for the welfare of man. But not until!

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There is no simple solution. But if I were asked what steps could be taken, I would suggest (1) educational budgets, municipal, state and Federal be doubled; (2) the school year be lengthened as well as the school day; (3) the study of languages be instituted as early as the fourth and fifth grades with the aim of producing bi-lingual high

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