

Eye on the World

Dec. 8, 2018

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of Dec. 8, 2018.

Compiled by Dave Havir

Luke 21:34-36—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



An article titled "Israel Launches Operation to Cut Off Hezbollah Infiltration Tunnels" was posted at yahoo.com on Dec. 4, 2018. Following is the article.

The Israeli army said Tuesday it had detected Hezbollah tunnels infiltrating its territory from Lebanon and had launched an operation to cut them off.

Israeli army spokesman Jonathan Conricus said the "attack tunnels" detected were not yet operational. He declined to say how many were detected or how they would be cut off.

All operations would take place within Israeli territory, Conricus said, though they were likely to boost tensions with Hezbollah, the Shiite militant group with which Israel fought a devastating war in 2006.

The military has used various means to collapse or fill in tunnels from the Gaza Strip.

"We have launched Operation Northern Shield to expose and thwart cross-border attack tunnels dug by Hezbollah terror organisation from Lebanon into Israel," Conricus told journalists.

The announcement of the operation comes after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Brussels on Monday night.

Netanyahu said he had planned to discuss with Pompeo “steps we are taking together to block the aggression of Iran and its proxies in the north,” referring to Syria and Lebanon.

Hezbollah is backed by Iran, Israel’s main enemy.



An article by Patrick Goodenough titled “With NATO’s Backing, US Gives Putin 60-Day Notice to Comply With Missile Treaty” was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on Dec. 4, 2018. Following is the article.

Accusing Russia of deploying missiles threatening Europe in violation of a Cold War-era arms control treaty, the Trump administration on Tuesday gave Russia 60 days to return to compliance, failing which the United States will itself withdraw.

The announcement by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo came after he secured strong support in Brussels from NATO counterparts, many of whose countries are directly threatened by the ground-launched cruise missiles in question.

Pompeo characterized Moscow’s violation of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty as part of a “larger pattern of Russian lawlessness on the world stage.”

He cited its military intervention in Georgia and Ukraine, election meddling, the attempted assassination on British soil of former spy Sergei Skripal, and last week’s seizure of Ukrainian navy vessels in the Black Sea’s Kerch Strait.

The administration says the U.S. has been challenging Russia since 2013 over its development of a cruise missile named SSC-8 (Russian designation 9M729), which Pompeo said has been flight-tested and is now deployed in “multiple battalions.”

After years of Russian denials and obfuscation, he said, only when the U.S. last November made public the name of the missile did Moscow for the first time even admit its existence.

And at that point, Pompeo added, “Russia changed its cover story from the missile that does not exist to the missile that exists but is treaty-compliant.”

The U.S.-Soviet treaty, which entered into force in mid-1988, outlawed all ground-launched cruise or ballistic missile with ranges between roughly 300 and 3,400 miles. Under it, the U.S. and Soviet Union destroyed some 2,700 missiles including Pershing IIs and SS-20s.

A new INF-class missile wielded by the Russians would not directly threaten the U.S., but could target allies and partners in Europe with nuclear or conventional warheads, with little to no early warning.

NATO foreign ministers threw their support behind the U.S. stance on Tuesday, urging Moscow to return to verifiable compliance and so “preserve the INF Treaty.”

The ministers underscored that for its part, the U.S. has to date “remained in full compliance with its obligations.”

"There is no question that the United States fully complies with the treaty," NATO secretary-general Jens Stoltenberg told reporters. "There are no new U.S. missiles in Europe. But there are new Russian missiles in Europe."

"Arms control agreements are only effective if they are respected by all sides," he said. "A situation where the U.S. abides by the treaty and Russia does not, is simply not sustainable."

Absent a reversal by the Russians, the 60-day warning period announced by Pompeo will be followed by a six-month formal notice period for U.S. withdrawal from the treaty.

As for U.S. plans to subsequently start deploying intermediate-range missiles in Europe again, Pompeo stressed it would work closely with allies, seeking their help and input in developing an effective security architecture.

Return to 'glorious 1970s'

In Moscow, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu told a teleconference that at recent meetings in Sochi with President Vladimir Putin and top military brass, measures were discussed to reinforce the capabilities of the armed forces in the light of U.S. plans to exit the INF Treaty.

The TASS news agency quoted Shoigu as saying Putin had been "informed about the process of building and developing the armed forces, their capacity to ensure the state's military security and counter a technologically advanced enemy."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Tuesday Putin had planned to discuss the dispute with President Trump at their scheduled meeting in Argentina at the weekend, "but regrettably, as you know, the meeting never took place." (Trump canceled because of the Kerch Strait incident.)

Peskov warned that if the U.S. deploys new missiles in Europe after exiting the treaty, "Russia will be forced to take steps to ensure parity."

"European territories will be in crosshairs of our missiles," he said, describing the scenario as a return to "the glorious 1970s."

China concerns

While the U.S. blames Russia for putting the INF Treaty in jeopardy, Pompeo also pointed to another serious concern the U.S. has about the treaty.

"Many other states—including China, North Korea and Iran—are not parties to the INF Treaty," he said. "This leaves them free to build all the intermediate range missiles that they would like."

"There is no reason the United States should continue to cede this crucial military advantage to revisionist powers like China, in particular when these weapons are being used to threaten and coerce the United States and its allies in Asia."

Pompeo said three previous attempts to broaden the INF Treaty to include countries like China have failed.

(Beijing, most of whose nuclear and conventional missiles fall within the range prohibited by the INF Treaty, has shown little interest in joining the treaty.)

The Obama administration first began accusing Russia of breaching the INF Treaty—although without making the details public—in a 2014 report, but while urging Moscow to return to compliance it chose not to withdraw or threaten to withdraw.

Trump said in October the Russians had been violating the treaty “for many years, and I don’t know why President Obama didn’t negotiate or pull out.”

A provision in the FY 2019 National Defense Authorization Act, signed into law last August, gives the administration a January 15, 2019 deadline to inform the Senate if Russia is in “material breach of its obligations under the INF Treaty,” and whether the treaty’s prohibitions remain binding on the U.S.



An article by Brooke Nelson titled “This is the Reason Why Americans Refrigerate Milk and Europeans Don’t” was posted at yahoo.com on Dec. 3, 2018. Following is the article.

Ask for a glass of milk in an American home, and your host will likely pull an ice-cold gallon out of the fridge. But if you do the same in a European country, you’ll probably receive a room-temperature glass. What gives?

Believe it or not, most of the world doesn’t refrigerate milk. But before you go nuts with worry about food poisoning, you should know that it’s completely safe to drink.

Turns out, the major difference lies in the method by which milk is processed. Almost all milk is pasteurized, meaning it undergoes extreme heat in order to kill illness-causing bacteria.

The U.S. and Canada use a pasteurizing technique called high-temperature short-time pasteurization, or HTST. HTST is cheaper and more efficient because it processes milk in larger batches, but as a result, milk has a shorter shelf life—around seven to ten days—and must be refrigerated. Find out why Americans refrigerate eggs and Europeans don’t, too.

Meanwhile, the rest of the world uses ultra-high-temperature or ultra-heat-treated pasteurization (UHT), which heats the milk to an even higher temperature than HTST. The result: Milk that stays fresh outside of the fridge for about three months.

In the early 1990s, one company attempted to sell UHT milk on American shelves, but it never caught on. Why? For starters, the high temperatures make UHT milk taste a bit more “cooked” than HTST milk. But most likely, Americans’ obsession with refrigeration is to blame.

So forget about whether you take your glass half full or half empty. The real debate lies in whether you like it warm or cold.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

- An article by James Tapsfield titled "Christians Face 'Imminent Extinction' in the Middle East, Archbishop of Canterbury Warns" was posted at daily-mail.co.uk on Dec. 3, 2018.
- An article by Sam Meredith titled "Qatar to Quit OPEC After More Than 57 Years, Denies Decision Related to Saudi-Led Boycott" was posted at cnbc.com on Dec. 3, 2018.
- An article by Laretta Brown titled "Nikki Haley Slams the Failure of the United Nations to Pass a Resolution Condemning Hamas" was posted at town-hall.com on Dec. 6, 2018.
- An article by Peter Allen and Tim Sticklings titled "Macron Starts the Clean-Up: Graffiti Is Removed From the Arc De Triompe 24 Hours After 'Gilets Jaunes' Protesters Stole Assault Rifle From Cops, Attacked Police, Burned Cars and Left 133 Injured in France's Worst Riots in 50 Years" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Dec. 2, 2018.
- An article by Peter Allen titled "French Cops Call for Troops on the Streets As Rioters Plan Third Weekend of Violence After 'Worst Paris Riots in 50 Years' " was posted at thesun.co.uk on Dec. 3, 2018.
- An article by Steven Mufson and James McAuley titled "France's Protesters Are Part of a Global Backlash Against Climate-Change Taxes" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article titled "The Latest: France's Macron Scraps Fuel Tax After Protests" was posted at apnews.com on Dec. 5, 2018.
- An article by Artz Parra titled "Far-Right Party Shakes Up Spanish Politics" was posted at yahoo.com on Dec. 3, 2018.
- A Reuters article titled "Sharp Contractors Axe 3,000 Staff As iPhone Sensor Output Shifts: Union" was posted at reuters.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article titled "Mexico's New President Kicks Off With Something Unusual: A Press Conference" was posted at yahoo.com on Dec. 3, 2018.
- An article titled "Number of Poor in Brazil Grows by Two Million" was posted at france24.com on Dec. 5, 2018.
- An article by Patrick Goodenough titled "US Warship Sails Near Disputed Waters to 'Challenge Russia's Excessive Maritime Claims' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Dec. 6, 2018.
- A Reuters article by Philip Pulella titled "Be Celibate Or Leave the Priesthood, Pope Tells Gay Priests" was posted at reuters.com on Dec. 2, 2018.
- An article by Ross McGuinness titled "Pope Francis 'Worried' About Homosexuality and Says Gay People Should Not Join Catholic Clergy" was posted at yahoo.com on Dec. 3, 2018.



An article by Walter Williams titled "Miseducated or Stupid?" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Dec. 5, 2018. Following is the article.

A recent Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation survey found that 51 percent of American millennials would rather live in a socialist or communist country than in a capitalist country. Only 42 percent prefer the latter (<http://tinyurl.com/ybsejy3f>).

Twenty-five percent of millennials who know who Vladimir Lenin was view him favorably. Lenin was the first premier of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Half of millennials have never heard of Communist Mao Zedong, who ruled China from 1949 to 1959 and was responsible for the deaths of 45 million Chinese people.

The number of people who died at the hands of Josef Stalin may be as high as 62 million. However, almost one-third of millennials think former President George W. Bush is responsible for more killings than Stalin (<http://tinyurl.com/yb43dlhm>). By the way, Adolf Hitler, head of the National Socialist German Workers' Party, was responsible for the deaths of about 20 million people. The Nazis come in as a poor third in terms of history's most prolific mass murderers.

According to professor Rudolph Rummel's research, the 20th century, mankind's most brutal century, saw 262 million people's lives destroyed at the hands of their own governments (<http://tinyurl.com/lu8z8ab>).

Young people who weren't alive during World War II and its Cold War aftermath might be forgiven for not knowing the horrors of socialism. Some of their beliefs represent their having been indoctrinated by their K-12 teachers and college professors. There was such leftist hate for former President George W. Bush that it's not out of the question that those 32 percent of millennials were taught by their teachers and professors that Bush murdered more people than Stalin.

America's communists, socialists and Marxists have little knowledge of socialist history. Bradley Birzer, a professor of history at Hillsdale College, explains this in an article for The American Conservative titled "Socialists and Fascists Have Always Been Kissing Cousins." Joseph Goebbels wrote in 1925, "It would be better for us to end our existence under Bolshevism than to endure slavery under capitalism."

This Nazi sentiment might be shared by Sen. Bernie Sanders and his comrade Rep.-elect Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Goebbels added, "I think it is terrible that we and the Communists are bashing in each other's heads" (<http://tinyurl.com/yd4lqxvs>).

When the tragedies of socialist regimes—such as those in Venezuela, the USSR, China, Cuba and many others—are pointed out to America's leftists, they hold up Sweden as their socialist role model. But they are absolutely wrong about Sweden.

Johan Norberg points this out in his documentary "Sweden: Lessons for America?" Americans might be surprised to learn that Sweden's experiment with socialism was a relatively brief flirtation, lasting about 20 years and ending in disillusionment and reform (<http://tinyurl.com/lvdwzhr>).

Reason magazine reports: "Sweden began rolling back government in the early 1990s, recapturing the entrepreneurial spirit that made it a wealthy country to begin with. High taxation and a generous array of government benefits are still around. But now it's also a nation of school vouchers, free trade, open immigration, light business regulation, and no minimum wage laws."

School vouchers, light business regulation and no minimum wage laws are practices deeply offensive to America's leftists.

Our young people are not the first Americans to admire tyrants and cutthroats.

W.E.B. Du Bois, writing in the National Guardian in 1953, said, "Stalin was a great man; few other men of the 20th century approach his stature."

Walter Duranty called Stalin "the greatest living statesman" and "a quiet, unobtrusive man."

There was even leftist admiration for Hitler and fellow fascist Benito Mussolini. When Hitler came to power in January 1933, George Bernard Shaw described him as "a very remarkable man, a very able man."

President Franklin Roosevelt called Mussolini "admirable," and he was "deeply impressed by what he (had) accomplished."

In 1972, John Kenneth Galbraith visited Communist China and praised Mao and the Chinese economic system.

His Harvard University colleague John K. Fairbank believed that America could learn much from the Cultural Revolution, saying, "Americans may find in China's collective life today an ingredient of personal moral concern for one's neighbor that has a lesson for us all."

Are Americans who admire the world's most brutal regimes miseducated or stupid? Or do they have some kind of devious agenda?



An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Policies Have Consequences" was posted at dailywire.com on Dec. 5, 2018. Following is the article.

This week, France set itself on fire; the stock market tumbled; and news broke that low-wage employment tumbled in the city of Seattle. What do these three headlines have in common? That policies aren't wish lists—they have real-world consequences.

Rioting in France

Begin in France, where the so-called "yellow vests"—a group of anti-tax protesters dressed in safety vests—tore up Paris. Rioters defaced the Arc de Triomphe, burned cars and attacked police with stones.

They were protesting the exorbitant fuel taxes pursued by French President Emmanuel Macron, taxes designed to curb climate change. The fuel tax rates in France are already estimated to be a whopping 64 percent on unleaded fuel and 59 percent on diesel fuel.

The riots resulted in the French government backing down, with French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe announcing, “No tax is worth putting in danger the unity of the nation.” By polling data, more than 70 percent of French voters support the yellow vests, and Macron’s approval rating has dropped to an anemic 23 percent.

Stock market

Move to the United States, where the stock market continued to experience outsized volatility this week—volatility increased by the hot-and-cold pronouncements of President Trump on trade.

On Monday, thanks in part to optimistic pronouncements on the postponement of a trade war with China, the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose more than 250 points.

On Tuesday, President Trump tweeted that he favors protectionism, dubbing himself “a Tariff Man,” and the stock market promptly plummeted more than 600 points.

It turns out that talking up the economic benefits of domestic taxation of consumers doesn’t do much for consumer confidence or investor optimism.

Wages in Seattle

Now take a look at Seattle, where a new analysis from economists at the University of Washington shows that the city’s forced \$15 minimum wage had resulted in serious consequences for low-wage workers.

The study found that the costs to low-wage workers outpaced benefits “by a ratio of three to one,” according to the *Washington Post*, amounting to an average of \$125 per month lost to the average low-wage worker.

But no matter: So long as there are politicians, there will be policies that achieve the opposite of their intended consequences.

Politicians, after all, don’t have to show results. All they have to demonstrate is a willingness to “help.” Thus, the G-20 last year announced that carbon taxes would offer “significant opportunities for modernizing our economies”—workers be damned.

President Trump has declared that tariffs are an economic winner, despite reams of evidence to the contrary. And Rep.-elect Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez proclaims that we mustn’t “whine about minimum wage”—if we don’t implement a minimum wage, we will only be paying “human labor less than they require to live.”

Policies have real-world consequences, regardless of how much we wish they don’t. It’s failure to cope with that basic fact that leads to so much of the finger-pointing we see in politics, with each side accusing the other of bad intention—as though pointing out a policy’s failure is equivalent to rooting for failure. It isn’t.

But rooting for reality is a far more sustainable economic strategy than fighting against it.



An article by Skip Hollandsworth titled “Beth Moore is Forcing Evangelical Christianity to Get Woke” was posted at texasmonthly.com in the Dec. 2018 issue. Following is the article.

On October 2016 Beth Moore read about the Access Hollywood tape of Donald Trump bragging about sexually assaulting women. She was flabbergasted.

Moore, who lives on the outskirts of Houston, is a popular 61-year-old Christian evangelist who aims her ministry solely at women. She has sold millions of books, ranging from in-depth Bible studies to an inspirational work that encourages her readers to break free from their insecurities so they can live more abundant lives. At her sold-out conferences, held in arenas across the country, her fans erupt into screams when she bounces out onto the stage.

Petite and blond, Moore dresses in expensively casual outfits. She jokes about her big hair and her copious use of self-tanner. She talks self-deprecatingly about her domestic life. Then she grabs a Bible and flips through the pages with perfectly manicured fingernails. "Anybody need a fresh dose of Jesus?" she asks. Her fans scream some more as they take photos of Moore with their cellphones.

Many evangelicals do not believe women should lead churches or preach to men. Some cite the words of the Apostle Paul, who wrote in the book of Timothy, "I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet."

And since she began teaching a women's Bible study at Houston's First Baptist Church in the early eighties, Moore has carefully followed the rules and refrained from advising men about their behavior.

But after the Access Hollywood tape was released, Moore, who openly acknowledges that she was sexually abused as a child, couldn't stay quiet.

"I'm one among many women who have been sexually abused, misused, stared down, heckled, talked naughty to," she tweeted to her hundreds of thousands of followers. "Like we liked it. We didn't. We're tired of it."

In another tweet, which seemed to be directed at Trump's supporters, she wrote, "Wake up, Sleepers, to what women have dealt with all along in environments of gross entitlement & power."

Trump's supporters include such influential male evangelical leaders as Robert Jeffress, the pastor of Dallas's First Baptist Church. They excused Trump's behavior as nothing more than boorish locker room talk, and some of them asked Moore to recant. She backtracked slightly, stating that her previous tweets did not constitute an endorsement of either candidate.

But she wasn't finished. Earlier this year, in May, as the #MeToo movement continued to sweep the country, she let loose with a long blog post that she titled "A Letter to My Brothers."

Moore wrote about how she had learned to display "constant pronounced deference" around male Christian leaders, going so far as to wear flats instead of heels "when I knew I'd be serving alongside a man of shorter stature so I wouldn't be taller than he."

Still, she wrote, those leaders would often ignore her or make fun of her. She mentioned that one notable theologian, upon meeting her, looked her up and down and told her she was more attractive than another female Bible teacher.

She also confessed that her own acquiescence had made her complicit in perpetuating the situation. She went further still, accusing misogynistic male evangelical leaders of being driven by “sin” and “ungodliness.”

Moore noted in a later post that many women who had experienced “horrific abuses” at the hands of high-ranking Christian leaders had been “silenced by fear, intimidation, shame, bullying and such manipulation of biblical submission as to border on pathological.”

It was like a bomb went off. Three days after the first letter was published, a group of Southern Baptist women called for the ouster of Paige Patterson, the president of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Fort Worth, noting that he had made blatantly sexist statements in his sermons (he once described a sixteen-year-old girl as “built”) and callously treated a woman who had been a victim of domestic abuse.

Days later, Patterson was removed from his position by the seminary’s board of trustees.

At the Southern Baptist Convention’s annual meeting in June, delegates adopted a resolution condemning abuse and another honoring the contributions of women. One pastor even wrote a column for *Christianity Today* saying that he would nominate Moore as the next president of the Southern Baptist convention if he thought she would accept.

Such a thing didn’t happen, of course. But what no one can deny is that Moore has done something momentous: she has ignited the #MeToo movement among evangelical women.

“The winds of change have been blowing for a while,” Moore blogged last summer. “But those winds have been upgraded to a hurricane. A holy hurricane.”



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled “What’s in Store for 2020?” was posted at patriotpost.us on Dec. 1, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

If this was 1918 instead of 2018, I would be convinced that Donald Trump would be elected to a second term. Most Americans would be grateful that he had improved the economy and restored the military, that he had lowered taxes and given our foreign enemies fair warning that they had better think twice before provoking us. Most Americans would also appreciate the fact that he took our national sovereignty every bit as seriously as the Founding Fathers did.

I find it hard to believe that any of the countless dwarves who will be duking it out for the chance to run against Trump—a group that will include the tawdry likes of Kamala Harris, Joe Biden, Bernie Sanders, Sherrod Brown, Gavin Newsom, Michael Bloomberg, Cory Booker, Elizabeth Warren, Kirsten Gillibrand, Andrew Cuomo, “Beto” O’Rourke, and, God help us! Hillary Clinton—could possibly have a chance of defeating him. But that’s only until I remind myself that this is 2018, not 1918.

■ Spoon-fed propaganda

As the House elections proved, the problem isn't that people think badly; the problem is that the majority don't think at all. They never learned how. After all, unless you are well into your middle years, you have spent most of your life being spoon-fed left-wing propaganda by your teachers, the courts, and the media.

■ Emotional responses

You have been told time and again that the only thing that matters is your emotional response to the issues of the day.

The fact is that the concept of privacy rights is never mentioned in the Constitution, but if you have been told that's the only way the Supreme Court could have made abortions and same-sex marriages the law of the land, you accept the argument that the Constitution doesn't mean what it actually says, but what it should say, at least if your emotions are to be believed. And according to the Left, there is no higher truth than your emotions.

■ Political correctness

Many of the conflicts between liberalism and conservatism were resolved to the satisfaction of progressives when those on the Left instituted something called political correctness. It not only served to corrupt the language in a way not seen since Humpty Dumpty insisted that "When I use a word, it means just what I choose it to mean, neither more nor less."

That was one lesson the youngsters took to heart. It allowed them to pretend that being against foreigners sneaking into the country was the same as being against foreigners who entered the country legally.

It allowed them to pretend that being opposed to same-sex marriages or opposed to those who were biologically male using bathrooms and locker rooms intended for females or opposed to viable human beings being murdered in the womb made another person a bigot, a hater, a Nazi, or a fascist, even if that other person happened to be your mother, your father, your brother, or your sister.

What most people forget is that the exchange between Alice and Humpty Dumpty continued, with Alice saying: "The question is whether you can make words mean so many different things" and Mr. Dumpty responding: "The question is, which is to be the master."

■ Federal aid

In an article titled "Not Theirs to Give" by Brian Farmer that recently ran in *The New American*, he opened with the statement President Grover Cleveland made at the time he vetoed a congressional appropriation of \$10,000 to buy seed grain for drought-stricken Texans: "The friendliness and charity of our countrymen can always be relied upon to relieve their fellow citizens in misfortune. But Federal aid in such cases encourages the expectation of paternal care on the part of the Government and weakens the sturdiness of our national character, while it prevents the indulgence among our people of that kindly sentiment and conduct which strengthens the bonds of a common brotherhood."

The article goes on to report that once, when he was running for reelection, Davy Crockett reminded voters that he had used taxpayer money to help the citizens of Georgetown recover from a fire.

When a farmer took him to task over it, Crockett argued that a great and rich country should not shrink from spending a paltry \$20,000 to relieve public suffering.

The farmer challenged him: "Well, Colonel, where do you find in the Constitution any authority to give away the public money in charity?"

The farmer continued: "It is not the amount, Colonel, that I complain of; it is the principle. The power of collecting and disbursing money at pleasure is the most dangerous power that can be entrusted to man. If you had the right to give anything, the amount was simply a matter of discretion with you, and you had as much right to give \$20,000,000 as \$20,000."

He concluded with: "You will very easily perceive what a wide door this would open for fraud and corruption and favoritism, on the one hand, and for robbing the people on the other. No, Colonel, Congress has no right to give charity. Individual members may give as much of their own money as they please, but they have no right to touch a dollar of the public money for that purpose."

If only our college graduates had the ability to think or speak so clearly. I would say the same about their professors.

■ Legal plunder

The author then quotes the French economist of the 19th century, Frédéric Bastiat, who had this to say on the same topic: "How is this legal plunder to be identified? Quite simply. See if the law takes from some persons what belongs to them and gives it to other persons to whom it does not belong. See if the law benefits one person at the expense of another by doing what the citizen himself cannot do without committing a crime."

But of course none of that matters in a mobocracy where politicians can ensure their success by carrying out just such a criminal enterprise in the certain knowledge that when you take from Peter to pay Paul, you can't lose so long as the Paul's outnumber the Peters.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Judgment Calls" was posted at patriotpost.us on Dec. 3, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Federal district judge Timothy Kelly has decided that President Trump had no constitutional authority to deny CNN's obnoxious Jim Acosta a White House press pass.

That would constitute an amazing overreach of Kelly's own authority except that such misreadings of the Constitution have become commonplace. It began when Supreme Court justices pretended that privacy was one of our nation's enumerated rights, which gave them license to make abortions on demand and same-sex marriages as inalienable as freedom of speech, religion, and peaceful assembly.

With that nonsense as legal precedent, it was inevitable that a couple of federal judges would decide they could prevent President Trump from denying people from various hellholes entry to the United States.

But you can hardly expect better when a justice on the Supreme Court, namely Ruth Bader Ginsburg, expresses her own contempt for the Constitution by stating that if an emerging nation sought a model for its own constitution, she would strongly advise it not to adopt ours.

Getting back to Judge Kelly, I wonder if he also believes I have the constitutional right to sleep in the Lincoln Bedroom.

We are often told by those who regard themselves as our betters that when it comes to Muslims, Arabs, so-called transgenders, and illegal aliens, we shouldn't be judgmental.

Among the many nonsensical things elitists say, that is one of the goofiest.

We are all judgmental every day. For example, people are always stating such things as a preference for salmon over tuna, football over baseball, and Meryl Streep over Emma Thompson or Jennifer Lawrence.

For their part, liberals never hesitate about declaring they prefer, say, gays to straights, Muslims to Christians and Jews, and certainly blacks and Latinos to white conservatives, even if they don't personally know any blacks or Latinos but are related to Republicans.

With the constant attention that young people pay to their electronic devices, I foresee genetic changes that will result in future generations being born with tiny heads and massive, muscular thumbs.

But that, of course, assumes that there will be future generations of Americans. The fact is that there are two female college students for every male currently on campus, and that margin just keeps increasing.

Over the next 20 years, the ratio could be four or five to one.

The inevitable problem is that women don't tend to marry men whom they regard as their intellectual inferiors. And there's nothing like a college degree, even if it's only in Grievance Studies, to endow people with an overblown notion of their intelligence.

Do you know a lot of college-educated women married to plumbers, mechanics, and bricklayers? No? Neither do I.

■ Conceding elections

One can only wonder if Stacey Abrams will finally concede she lost the gubernatorial race fair and square to Brian Kemp before 2020 rolls around.

It's rumored that when asked about it, Mrs. Abrams said: "It's been two years since my good friend Hillary Clinton lost her election and she hasn't conceded yet. So, why should I?"

■ Startling candidates

Sen. Kamala Harris of California, who replaced Barbara Boxer in more ways than one, has compared ICE officers to Ku Klux Klansmen. In a sane nation, that would preclude the black racist from holding elective office. Instead, she is one of the front-runners in the race to be the flag bearer for the Democrats in 2020.

But, then, in spite of losing their recent elections in Florida and Texas, Sen. Harris will still have to claw her way past Andrew Gillum and Robert Francis "Beto" O'Rourke.

■ Tijuana

Although everyone who appears on CNN and MSNBC has downplayed the danger, sometimes even the very existence, of the Honduran caravans, the mayor of Tijuana says his city is buckling under the unwelcome presence of the thousands of Central Americans, many of whom he has found to be criminals.

I'm waiting for the Democrats to call the Mexican mayor a racist.

■ Inconsistent views

The gall of liberal politicians is often so huge that you have to wonder how they manage to cart it around. Take Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, yet another pretender to the throne. Here's a guy who has openly campaigned for late-term abortions but insists that he's speaking on behalf of Jesus Christ when he calls for open borders.

■ Open borders

Speaking of which, since Democrats have made open borders the central plank of their 2020 platform, insisting that our policy should be "the more the merrier," I have a suggestion to make to which they could hardly raise an objection.

I would like us to start flying in as many millions of eastern Europeans as wish to come.

For one thing, they are far better educated than the illiterates who have been flooding across our southern border for the past 30 years.

They are far more likely to be bi- or even tri-lingual and to be fluent in English than the Latinos.

And what's more, having experienced the yoke of communism and socialism up close and personal, they are far likelier to appreciate the freedoms available to them in America and the endless opportunities provided by capitalism.

It's time to stop rolling out the red carpet for the teeming masses from Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, and start bringing in Poles, Czechs, and Hungarians.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Finances

- A Reuters article by John Beltz Snyder titled "U.S. to End Subsidies for Electric Cars, Renewables, Says White House" was posted at reuters.com on Dec. 3, 2018.
- An article by Javier Blas titled "The U.S. Just Became a Net Oil Exporter for the First Time in 75 Years" was posted at bloomberg.com on Dec. 6, 2018.

Illegal immigration

- An article by Chantal Da Silva titled "Obama Administration Used Tear Gas, Pepper Spray at Border Dozens of Times, CBP [Customs Border Protection] Data Shows" was posted at newsweek.com on Nov. 27, 2018.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "90,000 Illegal Aliens Have Come to America Since the Caravan Formed in October" was posted at townhall.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article by Beth Germano titled "Baby Jesus in Cage As Part of Dedham Church's Immigration-Themed Nativity Scene" was posted at cbsboston.com on Dec. 5, 2018.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Beth Baumann titled "Truly Disgusting: 'Conservative' WaPo Columnist [Jennifer Rubin] Uses Bush 41's Death to Chide Republicans and the NRA" was posted at townhall.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article by Jeff Asher titled "U.S. Murder Rate for 2018 is on Track for a Big Drop" was posted at nytimes.com on Dec. 6, 2018.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Chuck Grassley Wants to Know: Why Did FBI Agents Raid the House of a Whistleblower Exposing the Clintons?" was posted at townhall.com on Dec. 5, 2018.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Matt Viser titled "Beto O'Rourke, Who's Pondering a 2020 Presidential Bid, Met With Barack Obama" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article by Tal Axelrod titled "Biden: 'I Think I Am the Most Qualified Person in the Country to Be President' " was posted at thehill.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Ocasio-Cortez: Green Jobs Are the 'Mechanism Through Which We Can Deliver Justice' to Underserved Communities" was posted at cnsnews.com on Dec. 4, 2018.
- An article by Salvador Rizzo titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's \$21 Trillion Mistake" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Dec. 4, 2018.

■ An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Census Bureau: 5 Richest U.S. Counties Are D.C. Suburbs; 10 of Nation's 20 Richest Counties in D.C. Area" was posted at cnsnews.com on Dec. 6, 2018.

News about the media

■ An article by Amber Athey titled "Meghan McCain Shuts Down Joy Behar for Using Bush's Death to Attack Trump" was posted at dailycaller.com on Dec. 3, 2018.

■ An article by Joe Brophy titled "George HW Bush's Funeral Won't Feature Any Criticism of Donald Trump 'After President Cut Deal With Late President's Family to Ensure He Wouldn't Be Targeted' " was posted at theusn.co.uk on Sept. 5, 2018.

■ An article by Nicholas Fondacaro titled "Come On: Nets Made Bush's Funeral About Trump's Behavior" was posted at newsbusters.org on Dec. 5, 2018.

■ An article by Alexander Hall titled "John Stossel's Anti-Socialism Video Age Restricted by YouTube" was posted at newsbusters.org on Dec. 5, 2018.

General interest

■ An article titled "Massive Earthquake Leaves Alaska Infrastructure in Shambles" was posted at msnbc.com on Nov. 30, 2018.

■ An article by Ashley May titled "CDC Warns of Exotic Ticks Spreading Across the Nation That May Carry Diseases" was posted at usatoday.com on Dec. 3, 2018.

■ An article by Sarah Knapton titled "Pig Hearts Could Soon Be Tested in Humans After Scientists Pass Important Milestone" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Dec. 5, 2018.

■ An article by Emily Ward titled "Mark Levin: George H.W. Bush Was 'Incredibly Loyal to Ronald Reagan' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Dec. 6, 2018.

■ An article by Jessica Chasmar titled "Jeb Bush: 'Gracious Trump Couldn't Have Been Nicer After My Father's Death' " was posted at washington-times.com on Dec. 6, 2018.



Isaiah 55:6-11—"Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."