

Eye on the World

Feb. 29, 2020

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 Feb. 29, 2020.

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 by Ben Farmer titled "Chinese 100,000-Strong 'Duck Army' Bound for Pakistan to Fight Locust Plague" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Feb. 27, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

Chinese officials are on standby to deploy an army of voracious ducks to Pakistan to help their neighbor fight locusts threatening to devour crops.

At least 100,000 of the specially raised waterfowl are expected to be sent to Pakistan later this year to combat a desert locust outbreak.

Chinese researchers have described the ducks as "biological weapons" and claimed they can be more effective than pesticide.

"One duck is able to eat more than 200 locusts a day," said Lu Lizhi, a senior researcher with the Zhejiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences who is in charge of the project.

A trial to gauge the ducks' locust-eating prowess would begin in Xinjiang later this year, he told Bloomberg.



An article titled "Saudi Arabia Suspends Entry for Umrah Pilgrimage Over Coronavirus Fears" was posted at arabnews.com on Feb. 27, 2020. Following is the article.

Saudi Arabia has placed a temporary ban on Umrah pilgrims in an attempt to ensure public safety by preventing the spread of the coronavirus.

Most foreign pilgrims often visit the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah before or after the completion of their religious duties in Makkah, this has also been halted.

It is one of a number of precautionary restrictions announced early on Thursday as health authorities in the Kingdom closely monitor the spread of the virus. Tourist-visa holders from countries judged to pose a particularly high risk of spreading the virus will also be denied entry.

The Saudi health ministry said again on Thursday that there were 'no known cases' in the Kingdom.

Meanwhile, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation said it supports Saudi Arabia's actions to protect pilgrims and visitors from coronavirus.

The Egyptian Dar Al-Iftaa also said Saudi Arabia's decision to temporarily suspend Umrah visas over the coronavirus outbreak was in accordance with Sharia law.

The suspension of Umrah visas due to the coronavirus outbreak preserves the lives of pilgrims, it said.

Indonesia on Thursday said they asked the Kingdom to allow its citizens to continue their Umrah pilgrimage, with hundreds of pilgrims stranded at Jakarta airport following the temporary ban.

Later in the day, Dubai's Emirates said it would no longer carry to Saudi Arabia passengers with Umrah pilgrimage visas or tourists from nearly two dozen countries starting Thursday, until further notice.

In addition, Saudi nationals and citizens of Gulf Cooperation Council nations will not be able to use a national identity card to travel to and from the Kingdom for the time being. Exceptions to this shall be granted to Saudis returning home, and citizens of GCC countries who are in the Kingdom and want to return to their home countries, provided that they left or entered the Kingdom using a national identity card.

Health authorities at entry points will verify which countries travelers visited before arriving in Saudi Arabia and apply all necessary precautionary measures.

Saudi officials stressed that the restrictions are temporary and will be continuously reviewed by the health authorities. They reiterated the Kingdom's support for and implementation of international efforts to limit the spread of the virus, and the Foreign Ministry urged citizens not to travel to the countries worst affected by the coronavirus.



An article by Patrick Goodenough titled “Daily Tally of New Coronavirus Cases Now Higher Outside of China Than Inside” was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on Feb. 28, 2020. Following is the article.

For the first time since the coronavirus outbreak began, the number of new confirmed cases outside of China has exceeded the number of new cases within the country where the epidemic originated, and for two consecutive days.

China still accounts for 95 percent of the number of COVID-19 cases worldwide—78,598 out of a total of 82,294, according to World Health Organization (WHO) figures updated on Thursday.

But on Wednesday and Thursday this week, for the first time, the number of new confirmed cases reported each day was higher outside of China than inside the country.

- On Wednesday there were 412 new cases in China and 459 cases elsewhere.
- On Thursday there were 439 new in China, compared to a total of 746 in other countries.

Outside of China, there are now 47 countries around the world with reported cases, with nine new ones, mostly in Europe, added to the list on Thursday. They are Brazil, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, and Romania.

COVID-19 deaths have been reported in seven of those 47 countries—Iran (22 deaths), South Korea (13), Italy (12), Japan (3), France (2), Philippines (1), and Taiwan (1).

The cluster of cases associated with the Diamond Princess cruise ship berthed in Japan has also accounted for 4 deaths.

“It’s what is happening in the rest of the world that is now our greatest concern,” WHO Secretary-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a briefing in Geneva on Thursday. “Outside China, there are now 3,474 cases in 44 countries, and 54 deaths,” he added.

“We’re at a decisive point,” he continued. “For the past two days, the number of new cases reported in the rest of the world has exceeded the number of new cases reported from China.”

“And in the past 24 hours, seven countries have reported cases for the first time: Brazil, Georgia, Greece, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan and Romania.”

(Tedros appeared to be using non-updated figures; WHO in its daily update Wednesday reported 3,664 cases in 46 countries—WHO counts Taiwan as

part of China, not as a separate country—and 57 deaths. It also reported nine, not seven, newly-affected countries.)

“My message to each of these countries is: This is your window of opportunity. If you act aggressively now, you can contain this virus,” Tedros said. “You can prevent people getting sick. You can save lives. So my advice to these countries is to move swiftly.”

In other observations about the outbreak, Tedros noted that eight coronavirus-affected countries—Belgium, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam—had not reported any new cases for more than two weeks.

Of those countries, Vietnam has 16 cases, India and the Philippines 3 each, Russia 2, and the rest one case each.

On the other hand, Finland and Sweden had no new cases for more than two weeks, but both had new cases to report on Wednesday, he said. Finland and Sweden now have 2 cases each.



“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.

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- An article by Foster Klug and Matt Sedensky titled “Financial Pain Deepens As Nearly 60 Countries Report Virus” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 28, 2020.
 - An article titled “New Virus Has Infected 83,000 Globally Caused 2,800 Deaths” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 28, 2020.
 - An article by Charlie Campbell titled “Could the 2020 Tokyo Olympics Be a Victim of COVID-19?” was posted at time.com on Feb. 20, 2020.
 - An article by Lucy Craymer titled “Coronavirus Prompts a Whole City [Hong Kong] to Try Home Schooling” was posted at wsj.com on Feb. 25, 2020.
 - An article by Nicole Winfield, Ciaran Giles and Giada Zampano titled “Italy Sees Virus Cases Rise 45% in a Day; Deaths Up to 11” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 25, 2020.
 - An article by Desiree Martin titled “Hundreds of Tourists in Tenerife Hotel [in Spain] Lockdown Over Coronavirus” was posted at afp.com on Feb. 25, 2020.
 - An article by TOI Staff titled “In Last Days of Campaign, Netanyahu Stops Shaking Hands Over Coronavirus Fears” was posted at timesofisrael.com on Feb. 25, 2020.

- An article by Jon Gambrell titled “Iran Says Official Who Played Down Virus Fears Is Infected” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 25, 2020.
- An article by Seth J. Frantzman titled “Iran’s Incompetent Response to Coronavirus Threatens the Middle East and the World” was posted at national-review.com on Feb. 26, 2020.
- An article by Adam Geller and Kim Tong-Hyung titled “As World Scrambles, Experts Warn Virus Spread in US Certain” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 25, 2020.
- An article by Avery Hartmans titled “San Francisco’s Mayor Has Declared a State of Emergency As the Coronavirus Continues to Spread” was posted at businessinsider.com on Feb. 25, 2020.
- An article by Sean D. Naylor titled “As Coronavirus Cases Surge, the U.S. Military Prepares for Possible Pandemic” was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 26, 2020.
- An article by Katie Devies titled “California Resident With No China Links Catches Coronavirus—Showing Disease Has Started Spreading Within US” was posted at independent.co.uk on Feb. 26, 2020.
- An article by Gabby Landsverk titled “Clorox and Lysol Wipes May Help to Keep the Coronavirus Off Surfaces, But They Aren’t the Best Way to Protect Yourself” was posted at businessinsider.com on Feb. 26, 2020.
- An article by Kate Linthicum titled “To Silence a Newspaper, Nicaragua’s Government Took Away Its Paper and Ink” was posted at latimes.com on Feb. 21, 2020.
- An article titled “Belarus Leader Says Nation Being Forced to Merge With Russia” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 27, 2020.



An article titled “Presidential Ad Spending Approaches \$900 Million” was posted at mediaproject.wesleyan.edu on Feb. 26, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

A new analysis from the Wesleyan Media Project has identified \$617 million in spending on television ads in the presidential race, while digital spending in the presidential race has soared to about \$260 million.

“It is possible we reach \$1 billion in ad spending before Super Tuesday,” said Erika Franklin Fowler, co-director of the Wesleyan Media Project.

Television advertising was led by Michael Bloomberg, whose spending has surpassed \$377 million for over 444,000 ads (Table 1). Tom Steyer has spent \$144 million, while Bernie Sanders has spent \$20 million on television ads in the nomination campaign. Meanwhile, Donald Trump has spent \$17 million on television ads since January 2019.

Table 1

Table 1: TV Ad Airings and Spending by Candidates

Sponsor Airings Spending Numbers include ads aired on broadcast television, syndication, and national cable between January 1, 2019, and February 23, 2020.

Source of Data: Kantar/CMAG with analysis by the Wesleyan Media Project.

	Ads	Cost
Bloomberg	444,156	377,362,070
Steyer	246,402	144,879,840
Sanders	60,467	20,348,820
Trump	4,698	17,102,360
Buttigieg	22,565	11,175,070
Yang	26,644	9,004,890
Warren	20,155	7,006,960
Biden	15,676	4,740,360
Klobuchar	11,521	4,642,660
Gabbard	4,741	1,591,930
Gillibrand	2,788	1,075,750
Bennet	1,649	902,520
Delaney	1,439	547,720
Bullock	809	402,650
Harris	810	401,050
Booker	447	113,480
Sestak	103	57,000
Castro	50	27,800
Matern	26	23,040
Gravel	5	7,700
Total	865,151	601,413,670

Compared to other campaigns

Bloomberg, Steyer Biggest Ad Spenders in Recent History

Both Bloomberg's and Steyer's spending have shattered historical records for this point in a presidential campaign.

Table 3 shows ad spending by sponsor through February 23 in each of the past four election cycles (2008, 2012, 2016 and 2020). Prior to 2020, the most any sponsor had spent during a presidential nomination race was the \$62 million by Right to Rise, a super PAC that supported Jeb Bush in 2016. Obama's campaign had spent \$44 million up to this point in 2008, while both Clinton's and Romney's campaigns had spent about \$31 million in that same year.

"Clearly, ad spending by both Bloomberg and Steyer is in a whole different league," said Travis Ridout, co-director of the Wesleyan Media Project. "Traditionally, a lack of money has helped to winnow candidates from nominations races, but that dynamic is different this year in part because there are two candidates with almost unlimited funds."

Table 3

Table 3: TV Ad Airings and Spending by Sponsor and Cycle (2008-2020)

Numbers include ads aired on broadcast television and national cable between January 1 of the year prior to the election and February 23 of the year of the election.

Bloomberg and Steyer have both purchased ads on syndicated programs, which are included.

Source of Data: Kantar/CMAG with analysis by the Wesleyan Media Project.

	Ads	Cost in Millions	Year
Bloomberg	444,156	377.4	2020
Steyer	246,402	144.9	2020
Right to Rise USA	35,558	62.2	2016
Obama	67,216	44.5	2008
Clinton	47,981	31.9	2008
Romney	36,453	31.3	2008
Clinton	50,940	27.9	2016
Sanders	51,764	27.1	2016
Sanders	60,467	20.3	2020
Conservative PAC	12,632	19.5	2016
Trump	4,698	17.1	2020
Restore Future	24,261	15.3	2012
America Leads	5,377	14.2	2016
Rubio	20,038	12.8	2016
Buttigieg	22,565	11.2	2020
Romney	21,741	11.1	2012
Crossroads	14,497	10.7	2012
McCain	13,564	9.9	2008
New Day	3,367	9.4	2016
Yang	26,644	9.0	2020

Compared to general election spending

To further illustrate the unprecedented levels of ad spending in the current nomination race, Table 4 shows how Bloomberg and Steyer totals through February 23 stack up against top advertisers across the full cycle (including general election spending). Bloomberg ranks first in total spending (more than any other single ad sponsor's advertising from the full election cycle), and third in total airings. Bloomberg has already aired more ads than Hillary Clinton's campaign did during the entire 2016 election. Only Barack Obama's campaign aired more total ads (in both 2008 and 2012 over the course of the full election cycle including the general election).

In fact, it is likely the case that Bloomberg has aired the most ads if you include local cable spending. According to data from Kantar/CMAG, Bloom-

berg has spent \$23 million on local cable ads, which in 2008 and 2012 was not generally a venue for political ads. We do not have local cable spending totals for Obama in either of his campaigns, but under the assumption that those totals were generally low, then it is reasonable to infer that Bloomberg's efforts there make him the candidate with the most television ads ever in a political campaign.

Table 4

Table 4: Ad Airings and Spending by Sponsor and Cycle—Full Election Cycle (2008-2020)

Numbers include ads aired on broadcast television and national cable between January 1 of the year prior to the election and Election Day.

Figures for 2020 include only ads aired through February 23.

Bloomberg and Steyer have both purchased ads on syndicated programs, which are included.

	Ads	Cost in Millions	Year
Obama	560,736	306.6	2012
Obama	549,451	289.2	2008
Bloomberg	444,156	377.4	2020*
Clinton	402,344	257.6	2016
Steyer	246,402	144.9	2020*
Romney	245,626	139.6	2012
Sanders	128,494	75.9	2016
Trump	120,908	91.2	2016
McCain	120,703	57.4	2008
Restore Future	117,709	110.1	2012



An article by Walter Williams titled "In Search of a Perfect Crime-Busting Solution" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Feb. 26, 2020. Following is the article.

Before former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg threw his hat into the 2020 presidential race, he defended the New York Police Department's use of "stop, question and frisk" policing.

At a United States Naval Academy's 2019 Leadership Conference, Bloomberg said, "We focused on keeping kids from going through the correctional system . . . kids who walked around looking like they might have a gun, remove the gun from their pockets and stop it."

He claimed that as a result of his policy, New York's murder rate fell from 650 a year to 300 the year he left office.

In the cases of *Terry v. Ohio*, *Sibron v. New York*, and *Peters v. New York*, the U.S. Supreme Court, in 1968, granted limited approval to officers to stop, question and frisk, even though they lacked probable cause for an arrest, if the officer believed the subject to be dangerous.

The Court's decision made suspicion of danger to an officer grounds for a "reasonable search." The stop, question and frisk policy has taken on racial overtones because most of the people stopped are black men. Let's look at the numbers.

Last year, NYPD data showed that 93% of suspects arrested for murder were black or Hispanic. Ninety-six percent of those nabbed in shootings were also minorities. Eighty-eight percent of New York City's homicide victims were black or Hispanic as were 96% of shooting victims.

While these percentages have been roughly the same for decades, New York police have brought the absolute number of crimes, including homicides, way down from its 1990 peak at 2,245 to 289 homicides in 2018. Since blacks and Hispanics are the major victims of homicide, as a result of the NYPD's proactive response to crime, possibly tens of thousands of blacks are living today who would otherwise be dead.

For a law-abiding black person to be stopped, questioned and frisked—in a word or two, be racially profiled—is truly insulting.

However, to analyze the policy, let's look at the origins of racial profiling or any other kind of profiling.

First of all, policemen are neither mind readers nor are they equipped with X-ray vision. That means good policing requires learning how to use an easily observed physical characteristic as a guess or proxy for some other difficult-to-observe characteristic. Thus, the reason people profile is that information is costly and they seek methods to economize on information costs. One way to do that is through profiling.

The reality is that race and other behavioral characteristics are correlated, including criminal behavior. That fact does not dispel the insult, embarrassment, anger and hurt a law-abiding black person might feel when being stopped by police, being watched in stores, being passed by taxi drivers, standing at traffic lights and hearing car door locks activated or being refused delivery by merchants who fear for their safety in his neighborhood.

Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg is a politician in pursuit of his own agenda. President Donald Trump is also a politician in pursuit of his own agenda. Both will deny their support for and talk down the policy of stop, question and frisk in an effort to curry favor with black voters.

Most Bloomberg and Trump supporters don't live under the horrible conditions that so many blacks live under in high crime cities like Baltimore, St. Louis, Chicago and Detroit. Black people must ask what needs to be done to

stop criminals from preying on them and making so many of their communities economic wastelands.

If stop, question and frisk can contribute to that goal, so be it. They need not listen to politicians, academics, talking heads on the news and others.

I'll add that even if the police, intimidated by leftists, are not doing their job to safeguard black residents in high crime communities, that doesn't mean that black people should not organize to take independent measures to protect themselves.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Why Do We Fight?" was posted at patriot-post.us on Feb. 22, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

In the early days of World War II, it wasn't just Hollywood actors in their 20s and 30s who went to war. They were joined by directors in their 40s, men like John Ford, William Wyler and John Huston, who began turning out propaganda films for the government, generally documentaries immortalizing specific battles.

And while Hollywood kept rolling out morale-boosters starring the likes of John Wayne, Van Johnson, Gary Cooper, Robert Walker and their female counterparts, three-time Oscar-winning director Frank Capra was busy directing and editing a series of films under the banner of "Why We Fight," which spelled out the reasons why it was imperative that we defeat the Axis powers.

Capra was a grateful immigrant who showed his appreciation for his adopted country in a great many movies during the 20s and 30s, but perhaps never expressed it quite as well as when he devoted four years to making movies in support of the war effort, not directing a single feature film between 1941 and 1945, until coming back like gangbusters in 1946 with the classic "It's a Wonderful Life."

I'm wondering if there is anyone, even someone as adept at filmmaking as Capra, who could make a case for our having spent the past 70 years waging war in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria?

I'm not asking if we were on the right side or the wrong side, just questioning why we were on any side.

And let us not forget Bill Clinton's ill-advised foray into Somalia or Reagan's bombing mission in Libya. At least in Grenada, there were a handful of Americans who needed to be rescued.

Besides, if we were looking for bad guys to fight, why didn't we engage them in Venezuela, which is 2,799 miles away; Cuba, which is 90 miles; or Mexico, a one inch line in the sand? They're all a lot closer than Afghanistan, which is 7,410 miles and about a thousand years away from us.

■ Memories of Orson Bean

After I shared my memories of Orson Bean, I heard from Pat Sajak, who took time off from his duties at "Wheel of Fortune" to let me know that he, too, had had the good fortune to know the original Mr. Bean.

He wrote to say: "Though I only met him once (I saw his one-man autobiographical play a few years ago), I was a lifelong admirer of his. I loved his whimsical style, his way with words and his impeccable timing. You may remember that he always began his Johnny Carson appearances with a joke, and they were generally (and intentionally) on the silly side.

"On the night of the play, I knew we would meet afterwards, and I wanted to bring him a joke. But not just any joke. It had to fit his style and be new to him. The only way to insure the latter was to write a joke, and here is what I wrote for him and told him that night.

"A student of reptilian biology [at which point he interrupted to tell me he already loved it] was given an assignment to bring home an alligator for the weekend and study its habits and write a paper on what he observed. The following Monday he showed up at class rather distressed and with no finished paper. He explained to the professor, 'The homework ate my dog.'

"My last memory of Orson Bean was his genuine laugh and his promise to incorporate it in his patter. RIP, Orson. Pat"



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Our Debt to Mitt Romney" was posted at patriotpost.us on Feb. 24, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

I realize that on the face of it suggesting that Conservatives owe anything to the poseur from Utah, especially after he stabbed Trump in the back, must sound like a bad joke. But think about it: If Romney hadn't run such a mediocre campaign in 2012, he would have defeated Barack Obama.

But can anyone imagine that the Romney administration would have been anything but more of the same sort of thing we saw with Bush I and Bush II?

True we would have been spared Obama's second term, and perhaps Romney wouldn't have sent \$1.5 billion to Iran, but we wouldn't have seen Donald Trump elected in 2016, perhaps the one year the former reality show host could have won, thanks to his opponent being the odious Hillary Clinton. And had we missed the opportunity to elect Mr. Trump that, I suggest, would have been a tragedy from which America might never have been able to recover.

■ The two popes

Of all the movies I saw once I learned how to watch DVDs on my TV set, the one I was most conflicted about was "The Two Popes." On the one hand, I

thought it had an interesting premise, decent dialogue and two fine performances by Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce. My problem was that the "hero" of the piece was the current pope, Francis, a devout Socialist from Argentina.

The thing that bothered me was that the writer and the director both thought it was a good thing that the more traditional Pope Benedict XVI was won over in a number of days by the left-wing cardinal and decided to retire in order to make way for the slightly younger man.

At the time of Benedict's abdication, it was big news, as no pope had retired in over a thousand years. With Catholicism waning in Europe, everyone knew that the next pope would come out of the two places where membership was increasing. That narrowed it down to Africa and South America.

My problem with the movie is that the drama was secondary to its politics. I say that because there's no way this movie would have been produced if Francis, the liberal, had been the one retiring and deciding that he was leading the Church too far to the Left and chose to be replaced by a pope who could better represent the conservative tradition of Catholicism.

■ Is coronavirus connected to Corona Beer?

There is evidence suggesting that the drinking of beer may be as harmful to brain cells as the smoking of marijuana. The proof is that there has been a 60% decline in the stock value of Corona Beer since the recent outbreak of the coronavirus in China. Apparently, there are a bunch of people who apparently believe that the beer is the cause of the epidemic.

You can bet there are a lot of executives at their competitor's headquarters sighing with relief that whoever is in charge of naming diseases didn't decide to call it the coorsvirus, the pabstvirus or the samadamsvirus.

Rumor has it that someone at Corona is spreading the entirely unfounded rumor that the "weiser" in Budweiser means virus in German.

■ Limbaugh and Obama

The brouhaha over the goings-on at the State of the Union Address is showing no signs of let-up. The Democrats are particularly upset that they wound up attending the bestowing of the Medal of Freedom on conservative talk radio legend Rush Limbaugh.

But the same chimpanzees who cried "foul" at Limbaugh's receiving the Medal seemed to think it was perfectly reasonable that Norway's Socialists gave Barack Obama the Nobel Peace Prize a few months after he was elected President of the United States, when his most notable prior achievement had been running to be the President of the United States.

The Norwegians insisted that he deserved the Prize because of his "Extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."

Until now, I bet you didn't think Scandinavians had a sense of humor.

Even if you ignore the monumental effect that Limbaugh had on the radio industry, replacing Top 20 music stations with non-stop political call-in shows, just based on his charitable efforts the man deserved the Medal.

That's especially the case when you realized that earlier recipients included the tawdry likes of Robert De Niro, Tom Brokaw, Henry Kissinger, Robert McNamara, Marlo Thomas, Oprah Winfrey, Ellen De Generes, Angela Merkel, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, Joe Biden, Harvey Milk and Jesse Jackson.

■ Sat during the National Anthem

Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter and hubby Shawn Corey Carter (aka Jay Z) came in for some heat for remaining seated during the playing of the National Anthem at the Super Bowl. But Mr. Z was quick to explain that it wasn't a political statement. Instead, he said that they were simply too busy critiquing Jennifer Lopez's performance to notice the music. I assume that a tune such as the Anthem that lacks a beat and rap lyrics simply doesn't register with the two of them.

■ Leaders often miss the facts

Speaking of high-profile blacks, I wonder if those black members of Congress who refused to even clap when President Trump mentioned the financial gains of their constituents or the fact that he had earmarked millions of dollars for black colleges during his Address noticed that a recent poll showed that Trump had a 42% approval rate among black voters.

If the numbers are even close to that in November, the Democrats can forget about changing their party's name to Socialist. Perhaps they would consider calling themselves the Whigs. That one hasn't been used in a while.

■ Politicians promise "free"

In the meantime, Sanders, Warren and Buttigieg, are taking their medicine show around the country trying to convince the suckers that, once elected, they'll be able to provide free college, free healthcare and free money, to every slacker and illegal alien in the nation without bankrupting the middle class.

In other words, whereas earlier politicians were promising a chicken in every pot, the Socialists are calling for you to turn on the gas, climb in the pot, pull the lid on over your head and cook your own goose.

■ Another Biden

After recently complaining about Joe and Hunter Biden, Nate Bachman reminded me that they're only part of the story. "Don't forget that Joe's brother Jim Biden got a huge government contract worth \$1.5 billion with no experience."

I replied: "What the heck are you talking about? Jim has had plenty of experience being Joe's brother."

■ Golda Meir

After I mentioned Golda Meir's dire prediction for peace in the Middle East requiring that the Arabs start loving their children more than they hate Jews, Stephen Hanover recalled another quote of hers: "I don't remember if it was as Foreign Minister or Prime Minister, but she was once asked by a reporter what help she would like from the U.S. She replied: 'Three of your generals.' When asked which three those would be, she said 'General Motors, General Electric and General Foods.'"



"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

- An article by Fred Imbert and Eustance Huang titled "Dow Plunges 1,000 Points on Coronavirus Fears, 3.5% Drop Is Worst in Two Years" was posted at [cnbc.com](https://www.cnbc.com) on Feb. 23, 2020.
- An article by Fred Imbert and Yun Li titled "Dow Falls More Than 100 Points As Market's Attempt to Rebound From Sell-Off Fails" was posted at [cnbc.com](https://www.cnbc.com) on Feb. 26, 2020.
- An article by Sebastian Herrera and Aaron Tilley titled "Amazon Opens Cashierless Supermarket in Latest Push to Sell Food" was posted at [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com) on Feb. 25, 2020.
- An article by Michael Sainato titled "Target Raised Wages, Then It Cut Workers' Hours and Doubled Their Workload" was posted at [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com) on Feb. 27, 2020.

Green New Deal

- Looking back to July, an article by Adam Shaw titled "AOC's Top Aide Admits Green New Deal About the Economy, Not Climate" was posted at [foxnews.com](https://www.foxnews.com) on July 12, 2019.

Illegal immigration

- A Reuters article titled "Clashes on Greek Islands in Protest Against Migrant Camp" was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on Feb. 25, 2020.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Benjamin Wermund titled "Texas is the Big 'Target' for Gun Safety Group Planning \$8 Million Campaign" was posted at [houstonchronicle.com](https://www.houstonchronicle.com) on Feb. 19, 2020.

Comments about Trump support

■ An article by Richard Harris and Tamara Keith titled "Trump Puts Vice President Pence in Charge of Coronavirus Response" was posted at npr.org on Feb. 26, 2020.

Comments about Trump opposition

■ An article by Thomas D. Williams titled "Bishops' Pro-Life Chairman: Senate Failure to Ban Infanticide 'Appalling' " was posted at Breitbart.com on Feb. 27, 2020.

■ An article by Robert Costa and Philip Rucker titled "Bernie Sanders, Powered by Diverse Liberal Coalition, Forces a Reckoning for Democrats" was posted at WashingtonPost.com on Feb. 23, 2020.

■ An article by Jon Street titled " 'Bernie Sanders Is Your Enemy': Venezuela Socialism Victims Sound the Alarm" was posted at CampusReform.com on Feb. 24, 2020.

■ An article by Jon Levine titled "Judge Judy Will Fight the Bernie Sanders Revolution 'To the Death' " was posted at NYPost.com on Feb. 22, 2020.

■ An article by Christopher Cadelago and Laura Barron-Lopez titled "Bloomberg Internal Poll Claims Bernie Would Sink Downballot Dems" was posted at Politico.com on Feb. 25, 2020.

■ An article titled "Democratic Leaders Willing to Risk Party Damage to Stop Bernie Sanders" was posted at DNYUZ.com on Feb. 27, 2020.

■ An article by John Stossel titled "Bloomberg the Nanny" was posted at TownHall.com on Feb. 26, 2020.

■ An article by Thomas Beaumont and Tom Foreman, Jr. titled "In S.C., Buttigieg Faces Black Voters Wary of a Gay Candidate" was posted at APNews.com on Feb. 24, 2020.

■ An article by Tobias Hoonhout titled "Over 200 Native Americans Ask Elizabeth Warren to 'Make Clear Public Statement' Disavowing Past Claims of Heritage" was posted at NationalReview.com on Feb. 26, 2020.

News about the media

■ An article titled " 'World News Tonight With David Muir' Is Number 1 for the Week in All Key Demos [Week on Feb. 17, 2020]" was posted at ABCNews.com on Feb. 24, 2020.

■ An article by Joe Concha titled "Fox News Prime-Time Lineup Delivers Highest Ratings in 24-Year History" was posted at TheHill.com on Feb. 25, 2020.

■ An article by Matt Wilstein titled "Stephen Colbert Booed for Brutal Take-down of Bloomberg's Debate Performance" was posted at TheDailyBeast.com on Feb. 25, 2020.

General interest

- An article by Lauren Feiner titled “Bob Iger to Step Down As Disney CEO, Effective Immediately” was posted at [cnbc.com](https://www.cnbc.com) on Feb. 25, 2020.
- An article by Erik Hayden and Alex Weprin titled “Disney Picks Bob Chapek As Next CEO” was posted at [hollywoodreporter.com](https://www.hollywoodreporter.com) on Feb. 25, 2020.



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.”