### **HERMIT HERALD**

**ISSUE 133** 

NOV. 26, 2021

# **INCOMPRHENSIBLE QUOTE FOR THE DAY**

"We must together. Work together. To see where we are. Where we are headed, where we are going and our vision for where we should be. But also to see it as a moment to, yes. Together, address the challenges and to work on the opportunities that are presented by this moment." VP, Kamala Harris

### **SAY WHA?**

Yep, that's the verbatim statement, sentence structure and all, Harris delivered to Mr. Macron on her recent visit to France as she continued the president's effort to make nice after we screwed France out of a \$66 billion submarine contract with Australia.

Unless president Biden dies in office, the closest this woman will ever be to the presidency is the hour she assumed the title last week while the president under went a medical procedure. If Biden doesn't run again, she will fare poorly against a large number of truly qualified Democrat contenders.

# A QUOTE IN NEED OF NEW CONTEXT

"We have met the enemy and he is us." Cartoonist Walt Kelly's protagonist, Pogo.

### WHY THE NEED?

In the world of politics, that phrase was always used in a jocular manner, as Republicans squared off against Democrats, but in the era, decades ago, of Everett Dirksen, after the day's battles members of the congress and senate would go off with friends (notice that word, "friends") from the other side of the aisle for cocktails and dinner.

As we all know, that is no longer the case, and, no, it didn't just start with the Trump presidency, it's been going on this way for

many years. How did this come to be? Some might say it's because of better and faster communications, and the media is simply reporting on the daily events of national dysfunction. I say it's just the reverse. The media, print, digital, visual is comprised of huge, for profit, organizations representing the left and the right. To keep those monies coming in they need to dominate the 24/7 news cycle and they have to provide their adherents with fresh red meat every day. In reality the goal is to exacerbate tensions by inflating/distorting supposed news to give their fans the world-view they desire.

No better example can be found than the recent Kyle Rittenhouse trial where so much false information was dispensed that many people could not accept the jury's verdict. Added to all of this we have MSNBC trying to surveil the jurors on their way home, a clear attempt at juror intimidation.

Speak about pressure, the president of the U.S. having called Rittenhouse a "white supremacist" said, according to the columnist, Piers Morgan, "Look, I stand by what the jury

concluded." Morgan goes on. "But then, later in the day he (Biden) changed his mind saying, 'the verdict will leave many Americans feeling angry and concerned.' In other words, he didn't agree with the verdict at all. Biden has further fanned the racial flames."

So, this is just one example, but the media lives today to make money, and on the right and left, the hell with facts, just give the fans what they want to hear, read and see. New quote, "We have met the enemy, and it is the right and left wing media. We are victims all."

#### **CLIMATE CRISIS**

Over the past 170 years 23 rich countries have been responsible for half the CO2 emissions. A more eye-catching statistic is that just 12% of the global population has produced half of all greenhouse gases. Here are the countries most responsible: U.S., 24.6%; China, 13.9%; Russia, 6.8%; Germany, 5.5% and UK, 4.4%.

So 195 countries descend on Glasgow in 400 private jet aircraft to chow down on Haggis, bemoan the state of the climate and fail to

accomplish anything more substantive than a common agreement that, "something has to be done."

Oh boy, does Thomas Friedman hit the nail on the head on this topic. "If I am brutally honest there is only one motto I would give to the movement to stem climate change after the Glasgow summit: 'Everyone wants to go to heaven, but nobody wants to die.'"

Continuing, "On the one hand, liberal greens will tell you that the world is ending, but that we must not use nuclear power to stave it off. On the other hand, conservative greens will tell you the world is ending, but we can't burden people with a carbon tax or a gasoline tax to stem global warming."

"On the third hand, suburban greens will tell you the world is ending, but that they don't want any windmills, solar farms or high-speed rail lines in their back yards."

"On a fourth hand, most of today's leaders will tell you that the world is ending. So at Glasgow they've all decided to commit their sucessor's successors to deliver emissions-free electricity by 2030, 2040 or 2050- any date that doesn't require them to ask their citizens to do anything painful today. This is not serious- this is pretend."

Friedman concludes, "I have nothing against Glasgow, but we will not decarbonize the global economy with a lowest common denominator plan of 195 countries- not possible." Well said.

### **BUILD BACK BETTER BILL**

As your scribe warned in an earlier issue, a 2,185 page bill has just got to contain some pork (pet projects) or items that just plain don't fit. A few examples: Item:\$4.1 billion for people to buy electric bicycles. Does this imply that this generous subsidy will cause people to abandon their cars in favor of electric bikes, or, more likely, will conventional pedal pushers upgrade to E-bikes? Item: \$2.5 billion for, "tree equity"- bringing shade trees to poor communities. OK, not a bad idea, but the authors forgot Maslow's pyramid. Half the allocation for affordable housing was cut in this bill. What is needed, more trees or

housing? Item: \$1.9 billion for local newspapers for payroll tax credits. A "qualifying publication" must serve a local community by providing local news. What in the world is this doing in the bill? Item: \$2.5 billion to help contingency lawyers recoup their expenses. You must be kidding. Yes these people don't get paid when they lose a case, but they take a third or more when they win-ridiculous!!

Item: universal preK care. This one has very broad support, but the devil is in the details, and execution of the program may wind up causing much unhappiness. In fact, the program could be a disaster with newly subsidized families jumping into a field where today's facilities are hard pressed to care for existing children.

How quickly build outs for new facilities can occur will be critical. There are some needbased provisions in the bill, so families at the lower end of the spectrum will be the first to receive permission to be in the program. Moderate and higher income families will have to wait several years. With supply and demand

pushing up the price of care, many families are apt to be priced out of the program. The consensus is that, "ramping up" is easier said than done. Be prepared for a lot of grumbling as the preK program is rolled out.

# AND DON'T BE FORGETTING, "BIDEN BUCKS"

Betsy McCaughey, former Lt. Governor of New York weighs in on this one. "Democrats pushing to pass the Build Back Better bill want a single parent with two kids to be able to take home well over \$31,000 a year in cash and non cash federal benefits tax free, without having to work."

That package assumes a continuation /making permanent of the \$300 cash payment per child that has been in place in 2021.

McGaughey goes on, "The political battle over Biden Bucks is key to where we, as a nation, are headed."

"In 1996, President Bill Clinton and a bipartisan majority in Congress passed welfare reform, eliminating cash welfare in the absence of work, job preparation, or searching for work."

"It worked. Child poverty dropped from 13% to no less than 4%; teen pregnancies and welfare dependence plummeted. Today Democrats want to undo these reforms."

"Biden himself supported the work requirement then, but he says he's adamantly against it now. So much for his blue-collar cred."

McCaughey notes, "University of Chicago economists calculate that monthly cash payments will encourage 1.5 million parents to quit working." How do our readers feel?

### AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL- POT POURI

JOE NAMATH: makes me so sad to see him every day during November shilling for Medicare on TV to scrape together a few bucks to supplement his monthly social security check. Actually, I do see that due to other endorsements since his playing days, that Broadway Joe doesn't have to worry about his

next meal. He's said to be worth about \$17 million.

In reality, he's actually a pauper compared to today's grid iron stars. In the late 60s Namath signed the biggest two year contract in any sport at any time; \$500,000 for two years. Today, Jimmy Garopollo makes \$24.1 million for one year and Josh Allen has a multi year guaranteed contract for \$150 million.

Poor Joe. I empathize. As a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. in the Air Force in 1962 I made \$3,200 per year.

DARRELL BROOKS: This is how bad things are in this country. This career criminal, after having mowed down a woman with his car, less than a month ago, with a history of writing anti-white rhetoric and having been released on \$1,000 bond, kills six and sends over sixty to the hospital. Oh, and this time the D.A. is going to get tough. Instead of no bail permitted, the DA says he can walk the streets if he can post a \$5 million bail. And, guess what happens? A Go Fund Me fund is started to spring him from jail. You can't make this stuff

up. Fortunately, the Go Fund Me site has shut down the effort.

**COLORADO SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD:** 

Has decreed, the term, "sex offender" must be abolished. "It's too negative, ostracizes people and is offensive," Oh, poor put upon perverts, what can we do to make you feel more a part of the community? Puleeze!!

LORENZO BOYD: Professor of criminal justice at U. of New Haven says looters aren't looters because the term is racist. Sounds like Boyd is a racist himself as he implies all looters are black. Who can say from the grainy photos? Anyway, let me suggest some alternative apellations: "The five finger discount club" or "Midnight auto supply." In any event, the word is out, most states don't call anything with value under \$1,000 a felony, so go in grab what you want. Store security is scared to death to try to stop you, and the police, just about the same. So you grab \$100 over the limit and get caught. "Honest, your honor, I thought I only

took \$975." "I'm in your corner young man. Go, and sin no more."

Your faithful scribe, PB