

THE DIOGENES REPORT

“a few steps ahead of the curve”

The Wit, Wisdom & Wituperation of Emanuel L. Strunin

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CONTINUING THE WORK OF HENRY

Henry Ford, the founder, was a well-known Jew-hater as evidenced by his public comments and the articles carried in his Dearborn Independent. His heirs have gone out of their way to overcome his reputation and to cultivate the Jewish market. Now, the Ford Foundation that was funded by Ford family money has returned to old Henry's roots, albeit in a much more sophisticated way.

The Foundation is supporting a Reform movement—a religious group distantly related to Judaism—initiative for Mid-East Peace & Justice. We know from experience that the Reform version of “justice” in the Mid-East means injustice for Israel. From the days when Reform was anti-Zionist and opposed the formation of a Jewish state to today, when the movement has been labeled the left-wing of the Democratic Party, the knee-jerk reactions of its leadership has changed but little. Fortunately many members of Reform have a more favorable view of Israel's need to crush Arab terror.

Old Henry must be mighty please to see his money being used to harm the Jewish people. As for the Reform leaders, I suggest that they open a temple in Mecca so that they can coordinate their “peace” initiatives with the Saudi “Prince of Peace.”

NO WONDER THEY CAN'T CATCH HIM

As I was watching the news from Afghanistan, It dawned on me why they can't catch Osama bin Laden. He is hiding under the new spelling of his name: Usama bin laden. It must be that every time our Special Ops forces asks a driver in Afghanistan to show them his driver's license and they see the name Usama bin Laden they think this isn't the guy they're looking for,

ACROSS MY RADAR SCREEN

Oy, Not PC Oy

The New York Times doesn't carry a standard comics page although they do run political cartoons and “literary” cartoons. However, there is inadvertent humor in their news and editorial (which are often difficult to tell apart) coverage. On September 1, the Times society page carried its first same-sex marriage/commitment announcement. The happy couple are Daniel Andrew Gross and Steven Goldstein.

According to the write-up, after his second date with Steven, Daniel went home to visit his parents. His mom said, 'You seem like everything's great You seem like you're in love.' I said, 'I am. His name is Steven,' My mother said, 'Oy,' and was silent for a while. The couple says that both sets of parents now support the relationship.

There is deeply religious aspect to this union. Since both gentlemen are Jewish, 'they postponed a commitment ceremony until the leaders of Reform Judaism had voted to support rabbis who perform same-sex unions...and Vermont had given legal recognition to civil unions.' If they didn't feel so deeply about Jewish tradition, they could have been married by a Greek priest since that community's experience with same-sex unions goes back, at least, to the Trojan (you should pardon the expression) Wars.

Steven said that 'Sept. 11 accelerated the process. We all began to think of our own mortality.' Fear of AIDS could have generated the same thoughts much earlier.

The society page should remain a source of social commentary for a good while.

A New Pro Sports Phenomena

The volume of news about pro (and college) athletes involved in killings, robberies, burglaries, rapes, assaults, drug violations and spousal abuse seems to increase day-by-day. To help control this phenomenon, I suggest that each team add to their roster of coaches, managers and trainers, a team-paid parole officer from their local law enforcement agencies. This will reduce the cost of law enforcement to the public and help unclog the criminal court system.

This public spirited recommendation could be taken a step further by establishing a police precinct at each stadium or arena to handle the miscreants on site and keep them locked up between games.

I am reminded of the old saying about major college sports: the members of the team made straight A's but their B's were a little crooked.

Begorra And Make Mine A Double

A friend just returned from a visit to Ireland and told me about the friendliness of the people and the strong anti-Bush sentiment he ran into. Why, I naively asked? They don't like his aggressive approach toward Iraq, he replied. As I put down my Guinness, I recalled some wee bits of history.

Of course, not every Irishman supports the IRA, but the members of that terrorist organization happily received money and arms from another Arab dictator, Khaddafy and also trained with other Arab terror groups in Libya.

But let's go back to World War II. While many Irishmen served in the British forces, Ireland was a hot bed of pro-Nazi sentiment and spying. And when Adolf Hitler committed suicide, the Irish Prime Minister, Eamon de Valera sent a message of condolence to the German people. It was not tongue-in-cheek.

So despite all of their well-earned reputation for *gemutlichkeit*, the boys and girls from the auld sod have a soft spot in their hearts for tyrants.

He'll Be Back

After taking a beating in the polls on the primary for Democratic candidate for Governor of New York State, Andrew Cuomo dropped out of the contest. But you can be certain that the son of former New York Governor, Mario Cuomo will resurrect himself. The foregoing reminds of an incident in the early political life of his father.

The New York City fathers in an ancient fit of political correctness decided to build a huge low-income housing project in the Greek and Italian neighborhood of Astoria. After the locals rose up and threatened to burn down such buildings, the target area was moved to the heavily Jewish neighborhood of Forest Hills. Nobody expected that the Jews would object, but object they did and forcefully.

Mario Cuomo was given the job of trying to convince the Jews that destruction of their community was a good thing. To achieve his goal, Cuomo lied about the size of the proposed project, claiming that it was going to be much smaller than the secret plans called for. But the Jews weren't buying. So Mario and the city fathers had to slink off with their "tales" between their legs, as the expression goes.

During the investigation that followed these disruptive events, Cuomo admitted that he lied about the scope of the project and admitted that he didn't think that the Jews would be as adamant about preserving their neighborhood as the Greeks and Italians. The reason that he was so forthright was that he thought his political career was over. But, as we know, he came back from the dead. He became a much-adored liberal spokesman. Based on some rare insights, I believed that under his liberal persona there lurked the soul of a fascist.

Based on nothing but educated intuition and his Cuomo and Kennedy family connections, I believe that Andrew, the abrasive young punk who accomplished nothing as Secretary of HUD in the Clinton Administration, will also have a resurrection.

NAMES

Names that fit and names that don't.

Jonathan Venison was married to Alexandra Kerényi according to the Times (9/1/02)
Will he also go under the names of John Deer or Robert Roe? Will Alexandra be known as Jane Doe?

HEADLINES AND COMMENTS

Headlines from the world's press. Comments by Diogenes.

Drug Ring In U. S. Fueled Terrorists

Nothing to get excited about, it's only the old Moslem terrorist drug trust.
You probably know them better under their corporate name: The Islamic Charitable Foundation for Widows and Orphans.

Minor League Pitcher Shot

If they had waited 'til he made the majors, he would have been the shooter.

Senate Opens Debate On Domestic Security Plan

First item on the agenda: how to stop senators from leaking secret information to the press.

Keeping Faith With Islam In A New World

How do they hide the practices of their faith in the old world?

Former Sunbeam Chief Agrees To Ban And A Fine Of \$500,000

They finally took a chainsaw to Al.
Too bad they didn't run him through a shredder.

Albany Names 487 Failing Schools Under New Law

What happened to grade inflation?

Car Bomb Kills At Least 15 In Afghanistan Capital

That's the Afghani version of nation-building.
They'll reduce the nation to rubble before they start rebuilding.

NAFTA Emissions By The Truckload

It's probably just the refried beans from the Mexicans hiding in the back of the truck.

QUOTES I LIKE

Experience keeps a dear school, yet fools will learn in no other.

Benjamin Franklin

Statistics are like psychiatrists, they will testify for either side.

Fiorello H. LaGuardia

Talent is developed in retirement: character is developed in the rush of the world.

J. W. von Goethe

For the sake, Tobacco, I
Would do anything but die.

Charles Lamb

I speak truth, not so much as I would, but as much as I dare.;
and I dare a little more as I grow older.

Michel de Montaigne

Some editors are failed writers, but so are most writers.

T. S. Eliot

It certainly has been a pleasure working at Sixteenth Century-Fox.

Jean Renoir

It was one of those plays in which all of the actors
unfortunately enunciated very clearly.

Robert Benchley

The marvel of all history is the patience with which men and women submit
to burdens unnecessarily laid upon them by their governments.

William E. Borah

A jest's prosperity lies in the ear
Of him that hears it, never in the tongue
Of him that makes it.

William Shakespeare

Remember the Golden Rule: He who has the gold makes the rules.

Anonymous

The trouble with unemployment is that the minute you wake up in the morning you're on the job.

Slappy White

One hears and gains, another hears and loses.

Midrash

I found your essay to be good and original. However, the part that was original was not good and the part that was good was not original.

Samuel Johnson

You call this a script? Give me a couple of \$5,000-a-week writers and I'll write it myself.

Joseph Pasternak

Part of the loot went for gambling, part for horses, and part for women. The rest I spent foolishly.

George Raft

In California everyone goes to a therapist, is a therapist, or is a therapist going to a therapist.

Truman Capote

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