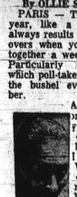
REPORT FROM EUROPE:

French feel U.S. is their best friend

By OLLIE STEWART

PARIS — The end of a year, like a big dinner, always results in some leftovers when you're putting together a weekly column. Particularly statistics, which poll-takers gather by the bushel every December.



And there's one question you can count on being asked. It's this: What man do you admire most? Well, sir, it was no surprise to me that General Charles de Gaulle got the most votes. The cross-section of French people who answered said de Gaulle is the man they most admire in the world.

Coming in second was Dr. Christian Barnard, who started the heart transplanting trend. And third were the first moon voyagers — Armstrong, Collins and Aldrin. Pope Paul VI came in fourth.

But one thing really surprised me, and probably a lot of other people. The French feel (by a whopping 29 percent) that the best friend they have in the world (as a country) is the United States.

Their second-best friend, they feel, is Belgium. But Belgium supporters made up only 10 percent of the total vote.

"With all the criticism coming out of the USA about de Gaulle and the French way of life," a friend remarked, "it's hard to see how the United States wound up on top. Must be a silent majority in France, also."

Maybe so. Maybe my not hiding the fact that I'm an American by birth doesn't hurt me. Maybe I've got more friends in France than I know about. I hope so.

But I don't hope so just for me. If the French have goodwill toward Americans and think that Americans feel the same way about them, then some of this human understanding is bound to rub off on any American who comes here, who gets off a plane or boat and wanders around without speaking the language — but still feels at home just the same. A nice thought for the New Year.

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Some more things left over from 1969: Only 22 years ago did the British let a colored boxer fight for a British title!

The BRITISH Boxing Board of Control passed regulations in 1947 to allow colored boxers born in Britain to fight for British titles — which have never carried much weight in worldwide competition.

But look what happened. The first year after getting the chance, in 1948, a brother took the British and Empire middleweight crowns.

His name? Dick Turpin, Randy Turpin (his brother) got inspired and lifted the middleweight championship of the world from Sugar Ray Robinson. He lost it back to Sugar Ray, but showed he had world class.

Hear this: Swedish food is the most expensive in Europe. British food is the cheapest. We're not talking about the best; we're talking only about price.

And for the people who cry about eating in France, I hasten to add that France is only number 8 on the expensive list, preceded by Sweden, Austria, West Germany, Denmark, Norway, Italy, Finland.

Below France are Belgium, Switzerland, Holland, Portugal, Spain and Britain.

What happened was a research official and his wife went on a shopping spree (for food) in 14 countries in Europe. It took them five weeks and they were hired by a firm of industrial consultants.

They did most of their shopping in supermarkets on menus for a family of four, including two young children. But one thing worries me. Did the fact that they were British help make British food come out cheapest?

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This Is Vietnam

By CONRAD CLARK

SAIGON, Vietnam — A few days ago I read the column, "My View" by Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, president emeritus of Atlanta University and one of the nation's 10 best speakers.

Dr. Mays' article, which appeared in Dec. 19 issue of The California Advocate, was on the question, "How Close To Peace?"

Dean Mays (I shall remember him that way) commented on President Nixon's speech on peace in Vietnam and said that, "It was straightforward and forthright."

Nixon's speech said that withdrawal would depend upon three things: Escalation of the war by the Vietcong and Hanoi; the progress of the peace talks in Paris; and the ability of South Vietnam to fight its own war.

To quote part of the column, Dean Mays wrote: "When I analyze these three one by one, I am not happy. The very fact that Nixon has announced to the world that American troops will be withdrawn says to the negotiators in Paris that they do not have to make any concession to the United States.

"They interpret this to be an admission on the part of our government that we do not belong there. Why should they do anything except wait for our troops to be withdrawn?

"It seems that our enemies are escalating the war. Our withdrawal doesn't mean that Hanoi is withdrawing.

"My other reservation has to do with the ability of South Vietnam to take over the fighting. If they have not been trained to take over the fighting after all these years, I do not believe they are going to be able to do it within the next 12 or 18 months. What have they been doing up to now?

"Nixon's promise to end the war in Vietnam when he was a candidate for the presidency has now placed him in a tough spot. . . . We cannot walk out on our commitment to South Vietnam because if we do, the nations around the world will not trust us anymore.

"This is largely true because we have promised scores of nations around the world that we will come to their aid if the Communists strike.

"So we are caught. And yet Nixon has promised to bring our boys home."

Dean Mays, in this writer's opinion, seems to have more of a grasp of what is happening than many of our columnists and writers, as well as the so-called "experts" that believe they have an answer to the problem.

Columnist Mays further said in his "How Close To Peace?" that, "The three conditions on which our soldiers will be brought home may make it impossible for Nixon to end the war soon.

"I do not expect negotiations in Paris to get anywhere. I do not believe the South Vietnamese will ever be able to wage the war alone. I do not expect Hanoi and the Vietnamese to let up on their attack.

"If what I write is true, the implication is that the United States will become more deeply involved.

"Russia could bring pressure to bear upon Hanoi but Russia won't for two reasons: She fears China's reaction and Russia is enjoying seeing the United States stew in the juice of war: enjoying seeing us spend billions on a war we cannot win.

Dr. Mays' column should be read by the back-stabbers in our country that are lending aid to the enemy by their protesting marches.

I wonder if they really understand what they are doing by using the words "for peace" as their shield of deceit. More power and strength to the writings of Dean Mays.

Dick Turner the leader

SANDERSVILLE, Ga. — Richard Turner is a energetic little man, bobbing from one foot to the other and constantly "on his way" somewhere or the other.

Asked of his plans in one area he said, quoting a freedom song, "I'm going to move when the spirit moves me, but it hasn't told me which way to move on that yet."

He might be mistaken for a teenager, his beard, 'fro, combat boots and freedom clothes misleading you. "Soul power" he'll say, raising a clenched fist and winking.

Turner is the generally acknowledged leader of the "Sandersville movement" and as such is the target of much of the violence and threats.

He is determined that he, and the black people of Sandersville "will not be turned around."

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The State Health Department Jones, Ardmore, as regional directore of environmental protection. Jones will represent and coordinate the department's anti-pollution and environmental control programs in Chester, Montgomery, Bucks, Delaware, and Philadelphia Counties.

Should TV cover it, or cover it up?

"If television would only stop showing all that bad news, maybe we wouldn't have so much of it." Sound familiar?

Think of the questions it raises.

If television is to black out riots, should it also black out UN debates? School demonstrations? Battle scenes? Political speeches? Who will be the censor to tell us what news television should cover, and what news it should cover up? And would covering up a bad situation remove it? Or make it worse?

The answers are found in our tradition of a free press—guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution. It recognizes that the people have the right to know everything that matters to them—the bad as well as the good. Only a free press can make wise decisions.

Television, by being free to cover all the news, has increased our awareness of the problems of our schools, our cities, our world. And television, like the rest of the press, must remain free. For if, out of fear of public disfavor or government reprisal, newsmen, broadcasters or newspapers fail to report what is happening, the freedom of all of us is diminished.

As Walter Lippmann wrote, "The theory of a free press is that the truth will emerge from free reporting and free discussion."

For broadcasters, "covering it up" might mean playing it safe. But television would not be doing its job. Because, you have the right to know.

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House plants get mid-winter Doldrums, too. Perk them up with a special bath: wipe leaves with a sudsy sponge to get rid of smoke, oily residues, then rinse under the shower. Don't forget to sponge down the plant containers, too.

Many physical and mental disabilities due to birth defects can now be completely corrected or reduced in severity if detected early and treated promptly, according to March of Dimes reports.

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Under each fender is another fender. Its sole purpose is to fend off road salt, slush, and anything else the weather can whip up.
Computer-selected springs
However you equip your Impala, our computer matches the correct sets of Full Coil springs to its weight—front and rear. Which means no over-springing or under-springing. And a lot more comfort.
Impala Custom Coupe
Power disc brakes
With our custom coupe you get power disc brakes standard up front. And you can order them on all other Impalas. What's more, our brake lines are built to resist corrosion longer.
More resale value, more popularity, too.
Impala's higher resale value. It's quite a tradition with America's most popular car. And as you can see from the features here, it's not a tradition we're about to give up. Impala. More to drive. More to re-sell, as your Chevrolet dealer will gladly show you.
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New publication escapes red as first issue hits the stands

NEW YORK — A new publication in the black with its first issue? What is the unusual but happy condition of Equal Opportunity, whose first issue hit the stands this morn.

The 68-page magazine is primarily concerned with job, career and "own your own business" opportunities for black students. It is the first product of an interracially owned and staffed venture.

The white publisher, John Miller III, and partner-Editor Alfred Duckett announced that the paid and controlled circulation of 12,000 is distributed on campuses and to key public and armed forces post libraries.

"The essential difference between Equal Opportunity and other publications is that we are a magazine with a point of view, not merely a guide or directory," they state.

The first issue includes articles by and about Rev. Jesse Jackson of Operation Breadbasket, Rev. Leon Sullivan, founder of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers, Georgia State Rep. Julian Bond, Jackie Robinson, baseball hero turned businessman, and William R. Hudgins, president of Freedom National Bank in Harlem.

There are also articles by and about whites. Henry Ford and his work with the national business community to secure minority jobs; J. Robert Hoffman authors an article on "Franchising —How To Tell The Good Guys From The Bad." Hoffman is Vice-President of The National Better Business Bureau.

Barton Cummings, Chairman of Compton Advertising and Chairman of the Association of Advertising Agencies, rebukes his industry for not doing enough to accelerate minority employment.

Black students accused of attempting to create a reign of terror at Cornell University were "misrepresented" and "the distorted picture of the incident is not a development of which the United States press can be proud," declares Hudgins, who was on the scene at the upstate New York institution.

Robinson's article is entitled "Mind Your Own Black Business-A Peek Into the Billion Dollar World of Franchising." He is vice-president for marketing of a New York-based instant seafood company which is franchising entrepreneurs.

PRESIDENTIAL ESCORT — Archbishop Makarios of Cyprus is escorted by President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania upon arrival in Tanzania last week on the first leg of a two-week tour of Africa. The religious-political leader will also visit Zambia and Kenya. (UPI Radiophoto)

Sudan's leader discloses plot

CAIRO (UPI) — Maj. Gen. Gaafar Numeiri, head of the Sudan's Revolutionary Council, said last week he had "irrefutable evidence" Israel, the United States and West Germany are conspiring to create civil war in his country.

In an interview with the Middle East News Agency, Numeiri said documents had been captured which showed the three countries were part of a "major conspiracy" and intended to create a Biafra-type war in the South.

"We are working to uncover this conspiracy and those behind it," he said. "This will take some time."

Nigerian forces seize Biafran town of Okpapa

LIBREVILLE, Gabon (UPI) — Federal Nigerian troops have seized the town of Okpara and reached the outskirts of Owerri in their drive into breakaway Biafra, relief workers reaching here said Saturday.

The workers said federal planes were bombing the Biafra airstrip at Uli in daylight raids. The runway was said to be usable, however, and not under attack at night.

Uli has been a main landing point for supplies of food and medicine collected by relief organizations for distribution to civilian war refugees.

Local officials said 26 doctors and nurses from the International Red Cross, the French Red Cross and Caritas International, a Catholic charity reached Ihon during the night. They had worked in hospitals at Owerri, Awomama and Santana.

The war between Nigeria and Biafra began in July 1967, a few weeks after Biafra proclaimed itself independent following years of religious and tribal strife.

Biafran leaders said the federal government was trying to take too much of the revenue from oil development.

Casualties have been extremely heavy in the civil war. More than a year ago, Biafra said 40,000 Biafran troops had been killed and that federal losses were twice that number. Civilian deaths, including many from starvation, are believed in the tens of thousand.

WASHINGTON — Frederick O'Neal, president of Actors Equity, has been named chairman of the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee. William Bowe, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, is a member. A. Philip Randolph, president emeritus of the Sleeping Car Porters, is a member of the community services committee.

U.S. teachers offered new seminar on Africa

NEW YORK — The Institute of International Education last week announced a new eight-week study abroad program, called the African Seminar for Teachers, at University College in Nairobi, Kenya.

Sponsored by the IIE and New York University, the program will run from July 1 through Aug. 27, 1970 and will carry nine graduate credits.

Priority will be given to secondary school teachers, preferably in the social sciences, and to other teachers with a special interest in Africa.

During the seminar, African professors will present a course-The Arts and contemporary African literature, art, drama, music and folk-lore; and The Making of Modern Africa, an historical perspective of the major political, economic and social forces in Africa.

• • •

New York University faculty will offer a course in Methodology and Curriculum Development, demonstrating teaching methods utilizing African subject material.

The second half of the program will include the participation of a group of Kenyan teachers who will act as hosts at the end of the seminar, inviting the U.S. teachers to their communities.

The U.S. participants will also spend ten days in travel in East Africa enroute to Nairobi and will make field trips to game preserves, schools, villages, museums and other places of interest.

In addition, they will be invited to follow-up seminars in the autumn of 1970 and the spring of 1971 to discuss their experiences.

A $2,030 charge for the African Seminar for Teachers covers round-trip air fare from New York City, room and board, tuition for nine credit hours of academic work, and all program-related travel and special events in East Africa.

Interested teachers may request a detailed brochure and application form from the Division of Study Abroad Programs, Institute of International Education, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Completed forms must reach the Institute by March 15.

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