

# National News

## GOP's brutal health cuts too 'timid,' London says

The murderous reductions in health care demanded by congressional Republicans were far too mild for London's taste, the *Economist* declared recently. The British weekly, one of the major orifices of London finance, ran an editorial commentary under the headline, "Weak Medicine: Republican Plans for Medicare and Medicaid Did Not Go Far Enough."

The *Economist* complained that both the Medicare and Medicaid programs "have ballooned out of control since they were set up in 1965" — to provide health care assistance for the elderly and the poor. "They are too generous to the old, a group that is now less likely to be poor than the young. Medicare fails the test of cost-effectiveness. . . . Although some 40 million Americans lack health insurance, half of Medicaid spending goes not on health care for the poor but on long-term care for the old. . . . Set against these failings, the Republicans' proposed reforms, far from seeming abrupt and savage, look belated and timid."

Having no qualms about savage measures, especially against the United States, the *Economist* declared that "the government could experiment more explicitly with rationing. Oregon has succeeded in hugely increasing the number of poor people covered by Medicaid, including many more of those in work, simply by rationing the treatments it will pay for."

## Science quacks breathe hell-fire and ozone

A House subcommittee hearing Sept. 20, on the innocent but much-abused ozone hole, was dominated by scientific quacks protected by environmentalist lunatics within the federal bureaucracy. The ozone cultists insisted that their claims that industrial "emissions" cause global warming were no longer debatable, and did their worst to prevent any dissent from being heard.

The day-long hearing was convened by Dana Rohrbacher (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Science Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, to discuss "Stratospheric Ozone: Myths and Realities." That Rohrbacher had even scheduled such a hearing was denounced the night before, by Dr. John H. Gibbons, head of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, speaking to "environmental science" students at the University of Maryland.

"Amazingly, there are those today on Capitol Hill who don't want to believe that the ozone hole exists," Gibbons declared. "The scientific community has spoken time and time again, with a virtually unanimous voice, that the phenomenon is real, and the problem is immediate. . . . Yet, tomorrow, Congress will give a few vocal skeptics equal standing with the hundreds of scientists represented by the international assessments."

At the hearing itself, the representative from the Environmental Protection Agency displayed a large chart, which on one side listed 250 names of scientists who "think there is an ozone problem." On the other side, the list of scientists "who don't think there is an ozone problem" was limited to the names of the only two dissenting panelists at the hearing, Dr. Fred Singer and Dr. Sallie Baliunas.

Singer and Baliunas, who both countered the fraudulent premises of the ozone depletion theory, were then attacked by the panel's two leading proponents of the hoax: Robert T. Watson, of the Office of Science and Technology Policy; and Daniel Albritton, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. They spouted lines identical to those in the leaflets handed out by Greenpeace, Ozone Action, and Friends of the Earth. Rep. Lynn Rivers (D-Mich.) barked that the dissenting scientists were unqualified, and had not published in journals approved by their peers. When Dr. Singer noted that he had submitted a list of 200 published scientific articles, Rivers snarled that the publications were not of acceptable "caliber and distribution."

Dr. Baliunas, a Harvard research astrophysicist who also chairs the Science Advisory Board of the George C. Marshall Institute, told the committee she had almost

decided not to appear — following threats from bureaucrats that funding for her research programs would be cut if she testified.

## Terrorist wave signaled by Unabomber manifesto

Massive media attention recently lavished on the so-called "Unabomber Manifesto" has set the stage for a new wave of environmentalist terrorist attacks. Beginning Sept. 19, when the *Washington Post* published it as a special eight-page pullout, the deranged call for a war against civilization was spread within hours, through Time Warner's World Wide Web and countless newscasts. Within days, a flood of "expert" commentary attempted to raise the Manifesto to the level of a profound philosophical treatise.

The *Post* claimed on Sept. 23, "Thousands — librarians, professors, teenagers, men wearing fatigues — have called or visited the *Washington Post* looking for extra copies of *Industrial Society and Its Future*." In a Sept. 25 commentary, the *Post* declared, "The Unabomber's larger message, a romantic Green ideology, may have some appeal to people who fear developments like global warming. But it may also resonate among people thought to be at the very opposite end of the political spectrum: rugged individualists resisting the encroachments of urban life and government. Mr. Unabomber, meet Mr. McVeigh," referring to Timothy McVeigh, who is charged with involvement in the Oklahoma City bombing.

The *Post* also compared the Manifesto to "the 'Port Huron Statement' (which marked the birth of the New Left in 1962)," adding that the Manifesto "may well wind up being influential in a similar way in galvanizing a militant Green movement — with a broader appeal to Americans who simply want to be left alone."

The high-level coordination among major media, as well as the ideological "signature" evident in both the Manifesto and the commentaries, point to British intelligence operations — and specifically to Prince Philip's World Wide Fund for Nature. The *Post*

chose to highlight the following "message" from the Unabomber's ravings against mankind's scientific and technological progress: "The positive ideal that we propose is Nature . . . *wild* nature: those aspects of the functioning of the Earth and its living things that are independent of human management and free of human interference and control. And with wild nature we include human nature."

Beyond all the pseudo-debate over how much violence is acceptable in bringing this "ideal" about, the *Post's* concluding message is simple enough: "Our decisions about technology are going to be made by people and movements outside our current political system."

## Archer leads House raid on private pension funds

A pension-looting scheme backed by Rep. Bill Archer (R-Tex.) cleared the House Ways and Means Committee Sept. 19. Archer, who chairs the committee, expects his legislation to open the door for corporations to take tens of billions of dollars from private pension funds.

Archer presented the Orwellian argument that his bill would help balance the federal budget, since the swindle would boost income for corporations so much that they would owe billions more in federal taxes. The added loot can be taken out of "overfunded" pension plans, Archer claims.

In 1990, Congress imposed a 50% excise tax on corporate withdrawals of money from pension funds, in reaction to the wholesale looting of pensions during the 1980s by Michael Milken and other junk bond bandits. The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. (PBGC), the federal agency which insures pensions, estimates that \$20 billion was drained from pension funds in those years. Many pension plans were terminated, while others were left floating on worthless annuities purchased from junk peddlers.

Archer's scheme would cut the 50% "anti-Milken" excise tax to a mere 6.5%, with no tax at all during the first six months. PBGC executive director Martin Slate told the Sept. 21 *Washington Post* that the bill

would establish an "open season on pensions." Slate said that \$30-40 billion would have to be removed from pension funds over the next seven years, in order to generate the \$9.4 billion in new corporate income taxes Archer projects his bill would yield.

If a looted pension plan is unable to meet its obligations, the PBGC steps in and pays the benefits, and the taxpayers foot the bill. Assistant U.S. Labor Secretary Olena Berg called Archer's proposal "a straight-out raid" on pension funds.

## GOP candidate wants more gold in major pots

Multi-millionaire Malcolm S. ("Steve") Forbes, Jr., editor of *Forbes* magazine and heir to his father's vast fortune, announced Sept. 22 that he would contend for the Republican Presidential nomination as "a man of the people." He was promptly hailed as a man of nearly Churchillian stature by Emmett Tyrell, editor of the *American Spectator*, the recycled propaganda rag of the British Hollinger Corp.

Forbes kicked off his campaign by calling for eliminating all capital gains taxes, and substituting a 17% flat rate for the graduated income tax. Both measures would considerably add to the loot which the privateers of the Conservative Revolution hope to steal and distribute among their wealthiest supporters. Forbes even plans to spend \$25 million of his own money to finance this new crusade.

Tyrell, in his Sept. 23 column for Rupert Murdoch's *New York Post*, gushed that Forbes is the man to lead the United States into the upcoming "era of peace." A peacetime economy demands economic growth, said Tyrell, claiming that Forbes would return America to the heyday of deregulation in the early 1980s — supposedly interrupted when capital gains taxes were raised in 1986.

Forbes's campaign team includes members of the staffs of North Carolina's Republican senators, Jesse Helms and Lauch Faircloth, both of whom have retailed wild British slanders of President Clinton.

● **ROBERT BYRD** (D-W.Va.), speaking on the Senate floor Sept. 22, denounced House Speaker Newt Gingrich's (R-Ga.) threat to force the U.S. government into default as "arrogant brinkmanship." Byrd said the attempt to blackmail President Clinton into accepting the Republicans' budget cuts was an "outrage," and the attempt of "one party to put its own agenda ahead of the best interests of the American people."

● **PRIVATEERS** in Congress are trying to revive the ancient Babylonian system of tax-farming, under a bill to turn over federal tax-collecting authority to private companies. In pagan Babylon, the system licensed armed thugs to loot the population to the ground. The Gingrichite Republicans' "pilot program" would initially restrict private collectors to a single region, and withhold the power to seize property.

● **FEDERAL S&LS** "will not exist" by 1998, House Banking Committee Chairman Marge Roukema (R-N.J.) declared at a Sept. 21 hearing, speaking for a bill to revoke their charter — and the requirement for insuring their deposits. The scheme would force them to join the dog-eat-dog world of commercial banks, to qualify for federal deposit insurance.

● **COCAINE** usage causes damaging chemical changes in the brain, scientists at Brookhaven National Laboratory reported Sept. 8. With the aid of positron emission tomography, researchers confirmed that cocaine affects the user's ability to control both repetitive and impulsive behavior, and may also lead to permanent deadening of other functions of the brain.

● **NEWT GINGRICH** (R-Ga.) told an eight-month-old baby, at a Capitol Hill bash Sept. 27 on the first anniversary of the Contract with America, "There's finally a generation of elected officials who care enough about your future to endure some change now, endure some pain now."