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QUOTE FOR THE DAY

“Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured.” Mark Twain

THAT’S ONE TO JUST STOP AND THINK ABOUT

I’ll bet almost every one of us has on more than one occasion gotten furious at someone else for one reason or another. I don’t think too many will say that’s a nice feeling. In fact, it wreaks havoc with your blood pressure, concentration, digestion, sleep and many other aspects of your life. Today, in our deeply politically divided country many of us have permitted these feelings of hatred and distrust to permeate our physical and emotional lives. I only have to point to the example in the last issue about the Trump supporters who plowed

a woman neighbor's drive. She, an arch anti Trumper, wound up excoriating them as Nazis So folks, it's time for everyone to take some Xanax, Pepcid, whatever.

So, here's my proposition: we, collectively, are just wasting too much time on hatred and disregard for others' points of view, to the detriment of our own physical and emotional health. And, NO, I' am not calling for a big camp fire, Kumbaya singing, marshmallow toasting by feel gooders who say everything is going to be okay- it's not. Politics are important to the future of our country, but not to the extent that we permit them to endanger our health and relationships.

SO, WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Essentially, if you are a Republican, you feel you are existentially threatened. By the time Biden gives citizenship to eleven million illegal aliens (eight years from now, and probably ten million more democratic voters) plus pushing through legislation to make D.C. a state, with two more Democratic Senators- for sure, the country will become a one party country,

**where the G.O.P. will never again see power-
maybe change the initials from G.O.P. to N.I.P.
(never in power).**

IMPEACHMENT WRAP UP

We all know the outcome of the impeachment trial by now. The Senators who voted to acquit did so (by their account) because the trial was “unconstitutional.” Their votes, supposedly, were not reflective of their real opinions as to whether Mr. Trump bore responsibility for the rioting. Some pundits contend that many of the votes to acquit were predicated on the fear of retribution by pro Trump forces. Senator Mitch McConnell, who voted to acquit was not cowed by those potential threats saying, “There is no question – none – that President Trump is practically and morally responsible for provoking the events of that day.”

Giving equal time, the recently acquitted Mr. Trump said, “It is a sad commentary on our times that one political party in America is given a free pass to denigrate the rule of law, defame law enforcement, cheer mobs, excuse

rioters, and transform justice into a tool of political vengeance, and persecute, blacklist, Cancel and suppress all people and viewpoints with whom or which they disagree.”

Columnist, Michael Goodwin, opines re the Democrat’s latest impeachment effort, “They have normalized impeachment as a partisan weapon, which is the last thing our country needs. The growing instances of violence are being stoked by extremist demands for political purity, and the effort to convict Trump and boot him from the ballot in 2024 is a dangerous provocation.”

Writing in today’s NY Times, Mark Leibovich, asks, “Will impeachments become the new normal?” Seeming to answer that question in the positive, he points out, “Officials of both parties have suggested that impeachments may just become one of several regular features of a new and bitter normal in our politics. Previously rare or unthinkable measures could simply start happening all the time.”

So, as I predicted in the last issue, Nancy Pelosi is like a dog with a bone, and is still going after Mr. Trump with the hope of eventual criminal prosecution. The obvious route would be to refer the events of January 6th to the Department of Justice and seek to indict Mr. Trump for his actions. In a barely concealed version of the same thing, she is spearheading the formation of an “impartial” panel to investigate the Capitol attacks. The reader doesn’t have to guess where that is going. Ms. Pelosi is setting herself up for a third unsuccessful strike at Mr. Trump, as no defense lawyer is going to permit the empaneling of jurors who, after screening, are perceived to be neutral, or antagonistic towards Mr. Trump.

So, what’s next? Various pundits/ politicians suggest impeachment proceedings against Hillary Clinton (surely she knew what was going on with the Democratic funded Steele Dossier). Not to forget about VP Kamala Harris, financial contributor to the bail fund for the BLM protestors on the west coast who burned stores, (primarily minority owned), burned down police stations and assaulted law

enforcement officers. Democrats have let the genie out of the bottle. Readers, do not shoot the messenger here, just do your own home work – might possibly cause you to reconsider your view point. Given our bifurcated country –I don't think so.

COVID – 19 UPDATE

What was initially circulating as mere speculation has gotten substantial traction in the medical community that being, that unlike polio and smallpox, the coronavirus is never going to go away – cannot be eradicated.

As the virus continues to mutate, every year it is likely that we will have to get a coronavirus shot, just as we get annual flu shots. I guess we can all say, “Hey, no problem with that as long as I can avoid the illness.”

Good news comes from an article by Carl Zimmer that scientists are already working on a shot to protect against Covid- 19, its variants (mutations) and even certain colds.

Dr. Eric Topol of Scripps Research Institute is pursuing the strategy of searching for pancoronavirus antibodies made by our own

bodies during infections. “It might be possible to create vaccines that coax the body to make abundant amounts of these broadly neutralizing antibodies.”

That is just one avenue being pursued. The article refers to the work of at least five others. Dr Daniel Hoft, at St. Louis University is working on a universal vaccine that does not rely on antibodies. He states, “We are interested to develop maybe a third generation vaccine, which would be on the shelf and ready for the future outbreak.”

The takeaway from this article is that this is a real and current endeavor, with some human testing already in progress. No timelines are predicted, but a one to two year period seems likely.

PRESIDENT BIDEN ON THE CATBIRD SEAT

At last, former President Trump is not taking all the oxygen out of the room. Now we can totally focus on President Biden, with his adoring print media hanging on his every word. Problem is, the minority are by no

means silent, and mostly through cable programming, the night of the long knives is just beginning.

So, they start with the Biden promise to follow the science with regard to Covid -19. CDC says OK to open schools, especially, K-8.

Teachers' unions in the NEA who contributed 98.5 % of their election funding to Biden say, "NO, we don't want to go." So the new target becomes: opening schools within 100 days is defined as one day a week. Is that an "A" or a "D" minus ?

Hey, here's one you didn't know: President Biden, on one of his first days in office installed a law partner of the firm that is defending his son, Hunter, in his legal problems, to lead the Department of Justice criminal division which is currently investigating his son. Problem? – No problem.

President Biden, in espousing his own high ethical standards says, "Here's how I look at it: The foul line is 15 feet away from the basket. Never get me closer than 17 feet because it really is a matter of the public trust."

Prior to becoming president, Mr. Biden had said, “no one in my family will have any business relationship with anyone that relates to a foreign corporation or a foreign country. Period, end of story.” OOPS!

Turns out that Hunter still owns 10% of the Chinese equity firm, BHR Partners. Ouch!! So now that Biden is in the catbird seat that previous position has to be modified. He now says, “My son, my family will not be involved in any business that is in conflict with or appears to be in conflict, with the ‘appropriate distance’ from the presidency.”

And then, just last Sunday, President Biden promoted his son’s new book about his tragic life in a CBS interview before the Super Bowl with an audience of 96 million people. Walter Shaub, Obama’s ethics czar said it was wrong. “This is not the way to model strong government ethics.” Sorry if you missed it folks- it was quickly deleted.

Welcome, Mr. President, to the Catbird seat.

Your faithful scribe, PB

