The WESTERN SOCIALIST

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OFFICIAL NOTICE

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Respectfully Speaking

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, a **ghoul** is defined: "1. Among Eastern nations, an imaginary evil being who robs graves and feeds upon corpses; and 2. A person whose pursuits suggest those of a ghoul, as a blackmailer, grave robber, etc." Robbing graves was once a lucrative profession in the times when medical research needed corpses and could not acquire them legally. Charles Dickens made the profession widely known through his character, Jerry Cruncher, in A Tale of Two Cities.

Whether or not the commissioners of Lincoln County, New Mexico, and New York City Beautician Lois Teller can, strictly speaking, be classified as would-be ghouls is a question of interpretation. The difference is that they seek to go about their ghoulish activities in a legal manner. They are still engaged, after a year of legal battle with the De Baca County, New Mexico commissioners in an attempt to have the bones of William H. Bonney (Billy the Kid) exhumed and moved from his present grave near Fort Sumner to a new resting place in Lincoln which once was fortunate enough to have the famous oulaw as a guest in its jail.

The murderous exploits of Billy the Kid all happened a long time ago, 81 years ago to be exact, but there is still plenty of "gold in them bones." Movies (such as the Howard Hughes spectacular, "The Outlaw," which featured the womanly charms of Jane Russell and was compelled, itself, to give legal battle before winning over would-be censors) and television have publicized the Kid and made his resting place a tourist attraction. And, as the Arizona Republic for March 13, 1962, so aptly puts it:

"Tourists mean money and both Lincoln and Fort Sumner would like the extra revenue."

* * *

In the words of Shakespeare's Timon of Athens:

"Gold, yellow, glittering, precious gold!
Thus much of this, will make black, white; foul, fair;
Wrong, right; base, noble; old, young; coward, valiant.
. . . What this, you gods? Why, this
Will lug your priests and servants from your sides;
Pluck stout men's pillows from below their heads;
This yellow slave
Will knit and break religions; bless the accurs'ed;
Make the hoar leprosy ador'd; place thieves
And give them title, knee and approbation,
With senators on the bench; this is it,
That makes the wappen'd widow wed again;
. . . Come damned earth,
Thou common whore of mankind."

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CRIME EXPLOSION STAGGERING IN U. S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Since the end of World War II, we have seen the era of the crime explosion.

What you can see and hear of it is staggering.

What you can't see is bigger.

This is what Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy and FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover are talking about when they say crime ranks high among the nation's major domestic problems.

The Crime bill, says Hoover, now amounts to more than $60 million a day.

To most people, the word "crime" means violence. The murderer, the burglar, the sex offender makes a direct assault. His crime strikes close to home. The victim has a name.

But this is only one part of crime. There are two other broad areas:

— Big time organized crime.

— Nonviolent, white collar crime. All have been on the rise.

The evidence indicates that the greatest increase has been in white collar and organized crime . . .

— Since the end of World War II, the U. S. population increased by a little more than a third.

— In 1946, there were 931,894 known serious offenses. In 1960, there were 1,861,300, an increase of nearly 100 per cent.

— In 1946, the crime rate (which is the number of offenses per 100,000 population) was 665.5. In 1960, the rate was 1037.9, an increase of 56 per cent.

The figures are gathered from more than 7,000 local law enforcement agencies by the FBI, which began the job in 1930.

Arizona Republic, Jan. 28, 1962

CRITICS OF SOCIALISM

We welcome your views in the columns of THE WESTERN SOCIALIST

QUICK CHANGE ARTISTS

It sometimes doesn't take the leaders of flocks very long to shake old bosses and start serving the new proprietors that take over.

"Roman Catholic priests in Goa, biggest of the three Portuguese territories which India recently captured, prayed for the prosperity of India at special services. The bishop of Nova Goa — the Goan capital — charged that the Portuguese had deprived Goans of full freedom and called Indian Prime Minister Nehru the world's No. 1 man of peace." (Victoria Daily Times, Dec. 26, 1961).

We heard no complaints about dictatorship when the Portuguese owners were in control, and what a time to call Nehru a man of peace! Consistency and truth do not fare very well in the jungle of contradictions and strife that characterizes capitalism.

TELSTAR

"The crucial decision that will determine the lasting value of international television—a willingness of countries to clear the necessary time on their own screens to see and hear other peoples of the world—cannot be made in laboratories in the sky — only in offices on the ground."

N. Y. Times, 7-11-62

Sad to say, the "offices on the ground" are primarily concerned with their economic interests and their national sovereignties.

Telstar symbolizes how the present shrunken one-world (technologically and "historically") is choked by the persistence of outmoded political, nations.

Only the socialist-conscious majority, on the ground, can make available the full use of international television and communication for the benefit of all mankind.

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