

assister picked up the paper ballot and marked it with no indication from the patient whatsoever. In one case the elector's head was never inside the voting booth, but the curtain was closed between the elector and the assister.

Assistance to Exit the Voting Booth: Put ballot in box. Exit polling place.

In some cases all of the above assistance was given, in other cases a lesser amount, but in no case was less than 50 percent of the named assistance granted. It appeared to the viewers that in order to gain an additional vote, it was necessary to mail a registration request, and deliver a warm body to the polling place.

The only conclusion one could reach after watching this performance unfold for most of the day, is that this was a scheme to gain votes, a conspiracy to commit election fraud. A recent news release from the City of Philadelphia stated that indictments were served for adding fictitious names to the voting list. In this case the crime was much more serious because innocent, unfortunate, suffering human beings were exploited to gain the ad-

ditional votes. One assister visited the voting booth 28 times, each time accompanied by a different Pennhurst patient.

I am fully aware of the seriousness of this charge, but the charge can very easily be substantiated. The entire election board could be questioned, along with a hundred or more other electors who waited in line and watched ... personally, I am not interested in the prosecution of any person. My only concern is to prevent this travesty upon our basic constitutional right to vote from happening again. As one who knows full well the high value of this right of free choice, I cannot again conscientiously bear witness to the complete devaluation of that right.

To the Republican voters of East Vincent Township, East Precinct, who elected me as their Committeeman to represent them in the county committee, please consider this my resignation.

Thomas W. O'Connor
619 Heckle Avenue
Spring City, Pennsylvania

Press Tears Carter On Energy And Election Act

Energy

Chicago Daily News, May 10, "An Energy Crisis? No Kidding," by Father Andrew Greeley, syndicated columnist:

Everyone is saying it: President Carter must persuade the American people there is an "energy shortage."

They're right...a large number of Americans don't believe there really is a shortage of energy.

Americans are skeptical...(about) the Carter "sky is falling" cries.

You tell (an American) we are five percent of the world's people and use 32 percent of its energy. He's not likely to feel bad. He knows that such figures are essentially meaningless — guilt tactics. If we stop using energy, it doesn't follow that others are going to be able to use it. Indeed, if your typical American knows anything about economics, he realizes that a drastic curtailment of American energy use would mean disaster for humankind — worldwide depression and famine. America may use 32 percent of the world's energy, but it produces 34 percent of the world's products and half its food. If American industry and agriculture should slow down, there would be fewer jobs, less energy, and less food for the rest of the world...

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, May 8, "New Disclosures on Laser Fusion Dispute," by Richard Dudman, chief Washington correspondent of the Post-Dispatch:

A confidential report has provided new details about a dispute within the Government over the development of laser fusion, a potential vast new source of energy.

The dispute is over the level of Government financial support of work by a private firm, KMS Fusion, Inc., (KMSF) of Ann Arbor, Mich., to develop commercial power through this method.

Behind the dispute over financing, some specialists in the field say, is a disagreement over whether the new technique should emphasize weapons applications or whether it should be directed more at achieving a clean, safe new source of energy for the 1980s and 1990s...

The report, obtained by the Post-Dispatch through a request under the Freedom of Information Act, was written last August by Chalmer G. Kirkbride, a consulting engineer who was science advisor to Robert C. Seamans Jr., then administrator of the Energy Research Development Administration.

Kirkbride, assigned by Seamans to appraise the KMS work under contracts with the agency and its national laboratories, confessed to a personal bias. Kirkbride strongly urged more generous Government financing of the KMS work.

"I cannot tolerate a game in which I think the deck of cards is 'stacked' or the 'dice are loaded,'" he wrote.

Kirkbride told Seamans of "pressures put on me, including the bugging of my telephone, and I believe also my office to pressure me to recommend no funding for the KMS proposal of January 1975."

Kirkbride told the Post-Dispatch that, "Although I never caught them red-handed, I am positive I was bugged."

"Every time I had a telephone call or a messenger delivered anything about this to my house, Jim McNally, the physicist in charge of laser fusion work at ERDA, showed up in my office and showed that he knew all about it."

In his report, dated Aug. 3, 1976, Kirkbride questioned particularly a recommendation of June 1976 by the agency's division of laser fusion to cut off all KMS financing, except for manufacture of the tiny Tritium-deuterium pellets that are the raw material for fission power production.

He wrote that this was "another disguised way to liquidate KMSF."

Unless ERDA can justify full funding, we should not fund at all; but, in my opinion, it would be a serious national mistake not to fund KMSF, he wrote.

"It stands out as the only real competitor the national laboratories have in laser fusion. It represents the private sector. It keeps the national laboratories honest."

Kirkbride objected to the handling of any contractual work by KMS Fusion through the federal Los Alamos National Laboratory. He said he had discovered that the national laboratories has a "deep resentment" against the private firm.

"I suspect that this stems from the fact that the national laboratories were embarrassed when KMSF was the first to achieve thermonuclear neutrons by laser implosion," he wrote.

This was when the small private company announced in an international scientific meeting in Tokyo that it had achieved this breakthrough.

Up to that time, the national laboratory at Livermore, Calif., had not conducted any laser-pellet work in the field, Kirkbride said. He said the laboratory's work, confined to mathematical theory, had been accepted as proof that fusion by lasers could not be achieved except at very high energy levels.

"So it was indeed an embarrassment to the national laboratories when the small insignificant KMSF private company showed the world how to do it without any cost to the United States Government," he wrote. "The KMSF achievement was recognized by the Russians and by many other prominent scientists throughout the world before the national laboratories finally were willing to admit that they were wrong and that KMSF indeed had achieved laser fusion."

Kirkbride said that the private firm had been kept in a "contractual straitjacket" by the agency's national laboratories and Division of Military affairs, which supervised its work.

He urged that the KMS program be shifted from the National Security wing of the agency and returned to the Advanced Energy Systems Division where it would be handled more sympathetically.

An agency spokesman said that \$ 10,000,000 had been earmarked for the private firm's work in the current fiscal year. He said the agency had asked Congress for \$ 7,000,000 for the same purpose for the fiscal year beginning next Oct. 1.

Senator Stuart Symington (Dem.) of Missouri, who retired last year, gave strong support to the private company's efforts. He urged in a speech in 1974 that the firm's private financing be supplemented with Government funds.

Symington said he hoped that the huge Livermore laboratory would get results sooner than the modestly financed KMS Fusion program, but he observed that "the Goliath does not always win."

St. Louis Globe-Democrat, May 7-8 (weekend edition) editorial, "Carter Breeder Decision Repudiated":

President Carter is attempting to gloss over the earthshaking impact his decision to put the fast breeder

nuclear technology in mothballs will have on the American people.

This was perhaps the biggest blow to nuclear technology since its discovery. (Emphasis in original - ed.)...

(Carter) said on April 7 that he was indefinitely postponing further work on the breeder nuclear reactor and on plutonium reprocessing plans because he feared nuclear proliferation and the danger of atomic blackmail.

Unfortunately for the nation this turns out to have been a political decision without any solid scientific basis. The scientists who have been working with the nuclear program for more than 30 years totally disagree with the president. They say that Mr. Carter has greatly exaggerated the potential dangers of reprocessing and handling plutonium. (Emphasis in original - ed.)

Those who have worked with nuclear reactors point out that it is nonsense to talk about terrorists coming into a nuclear plant to steal plutonium to make a bomb from it.

Nuclear fuel containing plutonium is highly radioactive when it is taken from the reactor. Highly expensive and sophisticated equipment are required to handle it. It also takes special, very costly equipment to separate the plutonium from the other materials. Even when this is done, the plutonium taken from a reactor still isn't refined to the degree necessary for making a bomb.

This view is confirmed by a 500-page report prepared for the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) by the Savannah River Laboratory.

After a complete review of the potential hazards and existing safeguards, the report says: "...with full recognition of the need to provide adequate protection against theft or diversion of (special nuclear material) or sabotage of facilities involving nuclear materials, it is concluded that there is no safeguard-related reason to delay the development of (light water reactor) fuel cycle facilities to demonstrate reprocessing, including plutonium conversion and storage." (emphasis in original-ed.)

Thus President Carter may have committed the energy blunder of the century...

The above explains why top Democratic leaders have already begun to challenge the President's April 7 decision...

Columbia State, May 9 (report on a dinner held by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce in honor of the state's congressional delegation):

...Sen. "Fritz" Hollings, although a southern Democrat, mentioned that he had been disappointed particularly by (Carter's) decision to ban plutonium reprocessing and the closing of funds for completion of the Russell Dam on the Georgia-South Carolina border...

With President Carter, (Hollings said) he felt like the man walking across a busy thoroughfare with a seeing-eye dog which almost got him killed in the middle of the street. When he finally stumbled to the other side and tried to give the dog a treat, Hollings joked, a man came up and said, "Don't reward that dog; he almost got you killed." The blind man responded, "I am not going to reward the dog. I'm just trying to find his head so I can

kick his ass." Hollings added, "That's how I feel About Carter.'...

Election Act

Youngstown Vindicator, May 10, editorial:

Secretary of State Ted Brown, whose experience in election matters is hard to match, has grave doubts about the idea and even the President's own Justice Department is not convinced that the recommendation is sound.

Knoxville Journal, May 2, editorial, "Insidious Idea":

Earlier this month the Jackson County (Missouri) Board of Election Commissioners adopted a heated resolution which cited the "dangers" of this insidious legislation (Carter's "Universal voter registration" package -ed.);

1) It would be conducive to fraud, since there would be no opportunity to check on the residence or eligibility of voter applicants.

2) It would allow felons, ghosts and aliens...to vote, since it would be easy to obtain the identification.

3) It would be confusing...since there would be no way to have applicants voting in their proper wards or in polling places with adequate space..."

More Americans ought to feel such a sense of duty to protest what amounts to a proposal to destroy honest elections.

Cleveland Press, May 10, editorial, "Invitation to Fraud."

The more we hear from the Carter administration on why voters should be able to register and vote on the same day, the more convinced we are that election day registration would be an invitation to fraud.

It develops in fact, that lawyers in the Justice Department who prosecute election fraud cases are not at all happy about the prospect of unregistered voters simply appearing at the polls on election day and demanding the right to vote.

They argue that advance registration is the best way to prevent fraud and that weeding out the phony or duplicate voters on election day itself would be difficult to do.

Yet the administration pushed right ahead with its election registration bill, blithely ignoring (and at first refusing to make public) the Justice Department's own internal memo on the subject.

Attorney General Griffin Bell contends that tough penalties in the bill discourage fraud, but there are tough penalties in existing law and fraud occurs just the same...

Allen argues that, "In the big cities they would clean out every skid row hotel, every street corner, every beer joint or loafing hangout, every x-rated movie house, every massage parlor, and march them down to the polls."

That may be an exaggeration, but it's no exaggeration to say that this is a very bad piece of legislation and should be rejected by Congress at the first available chance.

Chicago Defender, May 5, "Warns Electoral College End Could Hurt Blacks":

Quoted from a speech given by Frank Mankiewicz before the American Jewish Congress National Women's Division biennial convention. Frank Mankiewicz termed Carter's proposal to abolish the electoral college a "major threat to American democracy and the two-party system...Virtually any cause — no matter how disreputable — can get a million votes in America today. The only thing that prevents them from contaminating the national political system is the fact that we elect our presidents on the basis of the states they carry, not the popular vote.

"The proliferation of political groupings of every stripe and hue — including anti-black and anti-Jewish parties would be the inevitable result of any tampering with the electoral college. These parties — too weak to win but strong enough to prevent anyone else from winning — would be in a position to bargain politically in any run-off that may take place.

"That poses a major threat to American democracy and the two-party system.

"For all its faults, that system has served as the great healer of political and social conflict in America. It has contained the pressures of our society by preventing racial, religious and other tensions from being directed into political activity.

"These safeguards, which have served our country well for 188 years, would be eliminated in any effort to dump the electoral college...."

Chicago Defender, May 5, "State Now Hits Carter Voting Bill":

The article quoted a testimony given by Franklin Lunding Jr., Chairman of the Illinois State Board of Elections before the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration in Washington D.C. on May 4. Mr. Lunding stated that the universal voter registration Act. "if enacted, it will create a nightmare for state and local election officials, encourage more vote fraud and result in more election day problems than it hopes to solve."

Lunding told the committee that he was expressing the unanimous attitude of Illinois' board and county clerks whose jobs it is to conduct elections in the state.

"We surveyed all 102 Illinois county clerks and the 10 municipal boards of elections commissions and to date have not received one letter in support of this proposal..."

"We have found that people are much less apt to cheat if they think someone will scrutinize the voting rolls and challenge them before election day. Under the proposal multiple voting could easily be arranged by having but one piece of identification and using it repeatedly in the course of an election day — with the names and records being buried in an avalanche of paperwork during the day."

Chicago Daily News, May 6, a Gilbreth-Schultz column, "The Vote Fraud Act of '77":

A few weeks ago, Vice President Walter Mondale telephoned Quaker Oats executive Tom Roeser, Chairman of Project LEAP. The Vice President wanted to know if there was any way the Carter Administration might overcome the objections of Chicago election

reform leaders against the proposed universal voter registration act. Mondale implied that Carter might consent to slight modifications if they were necessary to make the bill more palatable.

Roeser chuckled, recalling the conversation. "At the time I had the bill on my desk. I told him there was no way we could support the bill I was reading that very minute. It's truly the Instant Vote Act of 1977."

"Congress ... will reopen the door to vote fraud, in Chicago and in every other area that has ever had an election day problem. You (Congress) are unwilling to spend the millions of dollars that will be required to police the polls and prosecute the new crimes that will be committed. You are dumping on us and every other area subject to similar problems the potential of wholesale vote theft. You will return us to a system where every close election will leave the victor with the stigma of having won in a corrupt election."

The only major organization supporting the bill is Operation PUSH. A spokesman for PUSH called a press conference Thursday to support the measure and

minimized its potential for increasing vote fraud. He contended that blacks make up about 400,000 of the city's 700,000 unregistered voters and that these people should not be disenfranchised because of "a few hundred or even a couple of thousand cheaters."

The weight of responsible local opinion, however, has sided with Hanley (Chairman of the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners) and Kusper (Cook County Clerk)...Unfortunately, there are signs that their protests will be futile...

...post-election analyses showed that Carter's unexpected margin (in Wisconsin) came from unregistered voters who, for the first time in Wisconsin, were allowed to register immediately prior to voting. More recently, conservative writer and scholar Kevin Phillips estimated that Carter would have won nine states that Ford carried, including Illinois, and California, if same-day on-site registration had been allowed there.

The bill's supporters, of course, contend that stiff penalties for violation should deter fraud, but the simpletons who mouth these idiocies can't be familiar with elections, Chicago style.