

# Bye Bye, Simple Simon

ON THE UNIVERSITY RIGHT

by Joseph Sanlei

In the jovial, luxurious and placid atmosphere of one of the finest restaurants of Geneva (located on the banks of Lacleman), wherein even the cuisine is French nouvelle; sat "Q", an unidentified Swiss banker of considerable stature and a reporter for the Boston-based *Atlantic Monthly*, having an all but light conversation. The subject: the impending world war. Q categorically insisted that, without a single doubt, Western Europe would quite shortly become a battleground once again. Q, who manages an exclusive and rather lucrative financial enterprise in Geneva, with connections throughout Europe, is increasingly being called upon to handle European investment in North America. Q interprets as significant evidence the fact that, in Europe, he is not alone in his assessment of the dire nature of that continent's geopolitical future.

Around the world from that restaurant, an

Australian journalist writing in the April 28th edition of *The Age*, of Melbourne, concur with Q's basic assessment of impending doom, but extends it far beyond the European perimeter. "The danger to world peace", he writes, "now lies not only in the multiplicity of regional conflicts and crises, in the instability of the nuclear balance, in the stagnation of the world economy, and in the fact that the crucial resources of industry are now partly controlled by unstable and irresponsible regimes with insatiable appetites for arms. More frightening still is the apparent breakdown of old procedures for resolving international crises. Moreover the Western Alliance, until now the foundations for freedom and security, is showing dangerous cracks."

Andre Fontaine, Editor of the Parisian Daily, beloved of the Left, *Le Monde*, has written that, "No one in the West seems able to cope with massive problems such as inflation and unemployment. The gap between the North and the South is widening. There

are more and more wars, and the arms race is frightening. So I don't see any reason for optimism at present." Fontaine goes on to state that humankind is at the crossroads of its existence.

Lost ideological, theological and philosophic rationals which formerly led the life and death struggle for the survival of our race, cannot be rekindled as they are now insufficient to meet the challenges ahead. Despite this, there are those who persist in splendid naivete in their attempts to turn back the clock, to create a simple world to match their simple solutions.

As untold millions die in misery, hunger, disease and squalor, the simple simon's attempt to drown us all in the blood pouring forth from their profusely bleeding hearts. On they go with their fogged-in minds, following the directions of the four winds, confident that they alone possess "compassion" for the suffering, and "concern" for the future, which they endlessly confuse with an unreal past. Almost

like the citizens of old Salem, seek out "witches" in the night, upon whom blame can be placed for all the tragedies of our age. Science, technology, business (usually "big business"), politics, intellectuals and academia, and a host of others, are placed under the neo-puritanical scrutiny of their self-assessed "liberal" minds.

If Q, the Australian journalist, and the French editor, are correct in their understanding of the present danger, then the only salvation of humankind is in immediate, and at the same time thoughtful, action on the part of those in power, or in a position to assume power, around the world, to reverse the trends pointed out by all three gentlemen.

As pessimism is as foolhardy as optimism, there is no reason to think that all hope has vanished, and the end is at hand, but should an increasingly schooled, yet uneducated, populace turn to simple answers for complex questions - then I bid you all farewell.!!!



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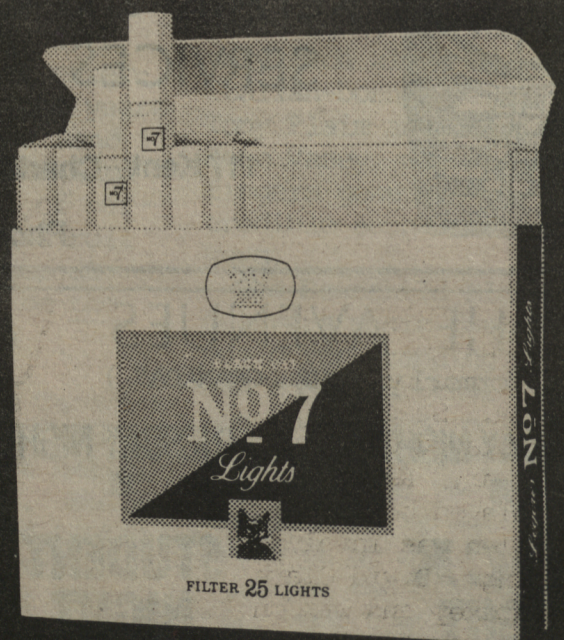


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