

MARCH 24, 2023

My first patient this morning was a marble worker. This has always fascinated me, the timeless beauty. You see it in the most unusual places. Believe it or not, the best marble floor moldings I ever saw were in the old courthouse in Hamilton, Ontario. Once, I was in an ancient church in Dorset, England. The marble finishings were stunning. I was surprised to find it was local marble—marble in England. Who knew?

The best sink I ever saw was in a lady's house in Athens. It was rose-colored marble, small, triangular, and took up very little space. Most powder room sinks are silly, so big you could do a week's laundry. I asked her where she got it. She told me, "You buy a block of Greek marble. Then you send it to Italy and tell them what you want. They will carve it and send it back."

The marble cutter was wearing a face mask, which the clinic still insists everyone wear. I asked him what he thought. As he grinds marble, he knows all about masks and dust, so he laughed. He thought a paper mask was ludicrous and the only value was for friends of friends to make money selling that rubbish. Putting a mask on a kid, he thought, was child abuse.

A lady phoned last night. She had fallen in a bus and opened up her scalp. She was taken to a hospital where we had both worked decades ago. She waited twelve hours for a CT scan of her head and a few staples. The service was abysmal. She had been an emergency room nurse at that hospital. How sad to hear what had become of an institution I thought of as a beacon of light, as described by Edna Quammie and I in the book of reminiscences we wrote called "The Big House."

How did it get so bad? I hear that Canadian hospitals have eight administrators for everyone in a German hospital. I also heard that in

Stanford University in California, there are more administrators than students. Parkinson's law and Joseph Schumpeter's predictions were that institutions would drown in useless administrators. So don't hold your breath. It will only get worse.

Comments

1. When the top gets too heavy, the foundations can't support it, and it will all fall down.
2. Another case of too many chiefs and not enough — (I can't use the word in case fake boob has a fit!).

Answer

These rapidly multiplying bureaucrats have nothing to do, so they sit around making up crazy rules, just like the EPA, which is destroying industry in the US.

MARCH 25, 2023

Nothing is new under the sun. If it is worth saying, someone has said it before. St. Jerome wrote in AD 410, “Why don’t you practice what you preach?”—a rebuke to hypocrisy.

All around us we see this. The pilots flying commercial airlines have been forced to take the “safe and effective” shot. It is rumored that the oligarchs flying around the world to global warming conferences will only employ nonneeded pilots. We serfs are told that to save the planet, we must not fly unless we can afford to fly private. We are told we must not drive unless we have a forty-limousine cavalcade.

We are told we must eat fake food and bugs. The kids in Scotland will no longer get meat at school lunches while at Davos the important chaps eat Wagyu beef. We are told we must stay inside our fifteen-minute cities, which used to be called ghettos. We are told rising sea levels will displace millions, but the important chaps buy beachfront mansions.

Was hypocrisy always so obvious? I suspect it was, and the legacy media just covered it up. Walter Duranty, working for the *NY Times*, got the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 for lying about the starvation in the Soviet Union. I guess it is “plus ca change, plus c’est la meme chose.” It was Bismarck, the Iron Chancellor of Germany, who said, “Something should only be believed when it has been officially denied.”

The net, in spite of all its censorship and fact-checkers, does give us a glimpse of the world as it really is, not as the oligarchs would have us believe. If we can see reality, maybe we can change things for the better.

MARCH 29, 2023

I went to a movie for the first time in years. The chairs were great, like business class seats on a plane. The theater was empty. It was the new John Wick movie. Fun, but totally unrealistic, like one of these Chinese flying-tiger things. I am in the broken bones business; as it says in Job, “I heal the lame.” When you get hit by a car or fall from a third-story window, you don’t walk away. If this is a modern action movie, it would make Chuck Norris or Clint Eastwood weep!

The clinic was quiet, so I had a long talk with a patient who is a car mechanic. I know nothing about cars, except once when I was operating in Modena, they took me to the Ferrari plant in Maranello where I saw them making the cars, and I sat in the race car that Shoemaker had won the Formula 1 contest the year before.

We talked about battery cars. I like and admire Elon Musk, but a battery car on the highway in Canada in the winter? There were battery cars and steam cars before the internal combustion engine. The Stanley Steamer was popular in 1897. So we talked about steam trains. I remember taking the slow steam train up from London along the west coast of Scotland—fabulous scenery.

Half a century ago, I took a train from Athens to Istanbul. The Greek students were going home for the summer. At the top of the mountains, they took off the additional pushing engine. So we sat at the open door at the back—drinking, laughing, singing, dancing, throwing empty beer cans out the back door. Ah, the wonderful silliness of youth.

The global warmists would never allow steam trains. With all the restrictions and lies coming from these people, it makes you think of

Matthew: “Beware false prophets who come in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly, they are ravening wolves.”

Comments

1. In the UK, a battery car has a range of about three hundred miles if you don’t turn on the heater or any other electrical device.
2. I am a big fan of Elon Musk, but I worry about a power outage.

Answer

That’s the problem in snow countries, sitting in a prolonged traffic jam in the middle of a snowstorm watching the battery run down. There was a big ice storm in Quebec a few years ago, and there was no power for days. I also think that happened fairly recently in Texas.

APRIL 2, 2023

What is “grace”? It is not courage. That is Dietrich Bonhoeffer facing the Nazis, saying, “Not to speak is to speak.” Over the last three years, we have seen lots of courage from docs and scientists facing the Fautian Scamdemic Nazis, putting their careers and licenses on the line to warn the people.

Now they are beginning to speak out about the disaster in progress because of the global warming scam. Even the totally discredited WHO is warning of the 100 million facing starvation, which they call “food insecurity,” as a result of banning cheap reliable energy and fertilizer. I didn’t mean to write about this man-made and seemingly planned cull of the “useless eaters,” as Klaus of Davos calls normal people. Everyone who understands is sick of the lies and this seemingly unstoppable tragedy in the making.

For some reason, thinking of these disgraceful Davos people made me remember an incident years ago. I was with a friend in Rome. His old professor, to whom he owed a lot, was with us. The car doors were open, and the prof squeezed in the backseat with Luca’s kids. Luca was mortified.

“Ah no, Professore! You must sit in the front seat.” The professor just waved his hand. Grace in action?

When I think about “grace,” I think of my old mentor, Renato Bombelli, a hip surgeon from Busto Arsizio in northern Italy. He spoke English perfectly, but he asked me to translate his book on hip surgery from what he called “Italian English” to “English English.” For weeks, I would fly to Milan for the weekend to do that.

Years after his retirement, I was back in his hospital doing demonstration surgery. Now in his late eighties, he came down to watch me revise a hip

he had done decades before. It was very moving to meet again a man I had admired most of my life.

So what is “*grace*”? I can’t define it, but you know it when you see it.

Comment

1. I have seen grace, but rarely today I am afraid.

Answer

It is so rare that one can almost remember each individual.