perked up considerably by the dramatic announcement that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin will join President Carter Sept. 5 at Camp David in a renewed search for peace in the Middle East

The news is doubly welcomed because it comes as a surprising dividend from Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's unpromising visit recently to the capitals of Egypt and Israel, made sullen by mutual threats and recriminations. Despite White House cautioning against great expectations and the discouraging history of summit accomplishments, there are grounds for hope that the Camp David conference will amount to something

The need for Egypt and Israel to find a settlement is as desperate now as when President Sadat was moved to risk his peace pilgrimage to Jerusalem last November, perhaps more so. It is in the overwhelming interest of the participants in the tripartite summit to reach agreement; the rewards for success are too great and the punishment for failure too severe. And we can be encouraged to believe that President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin, not to say President Carter, have been made wiser by the miscalculations and misunderstandings that halted the previous peace initiative in January and poisoned relations ever since. The antagonists, strong-willed though they are, should be twiceshy about repeating their mistakes.

Surely, President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin realize that this may be the last op

and burden of war from their peoples. If nothing else, their hard experience since November has clarified the position of each to the other. It is difficult to believe they would risk such an ultimate showdown without being sanguine about the chance for compromise and agree-

In view of the discouraging circumstances, the forthcoming negotiation between Egypt and Israel is a major diplomatic achievement for which the President and Mr. Vance deserve all credit. The great opportunity they have created carries commensurate risk because failure at Camp David would be a defeat this besieged administration can ill afford. We can hope that Mr. Carter's increasing understanding of the Middle East will prompt him to be more of a mediator than partner in these meetings and that he will order his associates not to speculate aloud on its potential success

Realistically, the United States cannot impose a settlement and should not undertake to guarantee one through dangerous treaty commitments: Egypt and Israel must come to terms themselves if their peace is to be enduring.

The one thing we can understand about the dynamics of the volatile Middle East is its constant movement. If the drive is not toward peace, it will inexorably be toward another war that could be the flashpoint for a global conflict. Thus, the stakes at Camp David next month will be about as high for the United States and the world as they are for Egypt and Israel.



Eager Beavers Promote Corps being smothered in a security from island to island for health

the Army Engineers have been other pet vote-getting projects dear to the hearts of congressmen. But now the eager beaver Engineers have dipped into the federal pork barrel for about \$10 million to promote themselves.

This amount was slyly set aside for the construction of 11 visitor centers throughout the country so that the Corps could butter up the taxpaying public. The authorization and money for the tourist centers were concealed from key congressional committees bureaucratic legerdemain. "It was sneaky. said congressional aide.

congressmen here like to know about these things. Previously, the Corps had operated information centers in various projects on a modest

scale. The project engineer's office usually offered basic information and material to visitors. But Lt. Gen. J. W. who became chief engineer of the Corps two years ago, came up with a more grandiose propaganda scheme.

WASHINGTON-For years, to set up a tub-thumping operation to tie the basically building waterways, dams and civilian pork barrel projects "to the Army and the national defense." Morris' subordinates quickly responded with blueprints for the 11 new information center buildings. They were approved by their bosses in Washington, but still required

congressional approval. The Engineer Corps wangled this by submitting the anpropriations request in the guise operation and maintenance expenses, which congressional aides complain was a "sneaky play." One-line, unexplained items, intended for the centers. were balnketed in with general project expenditures.

Three of the centers have already been built, yet have never been specifically funded by Congress. Corps officials are identifying vague about precisely which pocket the money came from

One of the most red-faced and irate members of Congress over the legislative dupery is Rep. Tom Bevill, chairman of House Public Works subcommittee which oversees the Engineers. The Alabama Democrat had never heard of the expensive self-aggrandize ment program until we inquired

He then demanded and got from the Corps a sheepish admission that the centers were being built. One of Bevill's assistants said the Congressman was incensed because "he likes to know about these things."

A spokesman for the Corps contacted by our reporter Peter Grant, blustered that simple oversight was to blame for keeping the congressional committees in the dark. retrospect, maybe we should have told them." He awkwardly conceded. "Sometimes you're smarter after these things than

WELFARE PARADISE -The once-happy South Sea islands of the Pacific are fast becoming Paradise Lost. Hbomb tests contaminated such atolls as Bikini and The Marguesas. Tahiti has become a jet tourist stop. Now placid American Samoa, where Robert Louis Stevenson spent his last peaceful years, is in danger of blanket of foreign aid from the

United States.

small American protectorate holds a total population of about 30,600 natives. We are presently pouring in \$30 million a year in assistance funds. This totals out to an estimated \$1,000 annually compared to the \$300 average income of the inhabitants of nearby independent Western U.S. aid provides 60 percent of Samoa's gross in-

Some of the specific programs financed by Washington show that the protectorate is in danger of becoming a welfare state, with the Samoans addicted unrequested government services. For instance, with the compliments of Uncle Sam, elderly Samoans receive free lunches regardless of need. An observer back from a recent trip to the islands reported that high local officials, including judges stand in line to receive the lunch

The elderly also are able to be flown at government expense

care and other free social serv ices. Compounding the problem is the fact that natives from independent Samoa are increasingly coming to American Samoa to get a share of the

The Interior Department's Office of Territorial Affairs is aware of the interlopers, but a spokesman said little can be done about it because the illegal recipients look the same as the

The pattern in Micronesia, where the people recently voted to place themselves under U.S. aegis, is depressingly similar. A veteran U.S. administrator there comments: smothered them, and it will take them a long time to come out from under this blanket.

American Samoans

Meanwhile, a number of inhabitants of the over-protective U.S. regime are becoming increasingly resentful because their people are growing too dependent on the paternalistic aid from outside and the gradual erosion of what was once a strong and independent people.

Under the Courthouse Dome

Swinging Around Nation, State, County

'sneak" closer to election day

the former Pittsburgh mayor.

All the noise by ERA

proponents is a little sickening.

For their information since the

constitution was framed there

have been over 6,000 amend-

now want more time. Forget it!

courthouse is that the com-

missioners will go ahead with

their plans to hire a "fiscal

administrator" as proposed in a study released August 9th. The

big question is who will get the

Commissioner Frank Swogger qualifies by experience and education and feel he would be a

good choice. Others have voiced opposition to the plan as a whole

but if it is to be adopted, are of

courthouse circles should be

With all the in-fighting going

they have delayed submitting a

nob the

Griffin's prothonotary

POINT

Some observers think

Speculation around the

Record-Argus Columnist Let's take a swing around the

nation, state and county E The revelation that the Carter staff in the White House has been using marijuana and cocaine is just another in-dication of how poor a leader Jimmy Carter is. During his days as governor of Georgia, Carter used the Rolling Stones and similar rock groups of the drug cult to raise campaign funds and to promote his can-didacy. ... The dollar is floundering in world money markets, our exports are at an all time low, the balance of trade is at a new low and President Carter just can't seem to cope with the problems. While he meditates the United States is sliding downhill as a world power and all he has to depend on are the likes of Hamilton Jordan and Jody Powell! .Good thing "jail break" at the new regional correctional institution near Mercer was a fake. From accounts the "escapees" could have been in Canada

The 1979 campaign in Mercer County is simmering just below

In the first two hours of its

three-hour special. CBS lays out

the various problems plaguing

public education. In its final

hour, the question is examined:

What should be done about these

problems? Should students be

tested more? Should they be

flunked if they fail? Should we

better train our teachers

already on the job? Is a different

mix of courses needed in our

next column.

More on these questions in my

Correction: In a recent

column I noted that blacks made

up 40 percent of those who voted

for California's Proposition 13.

What should have been said was

that of those blacks who voted.

40 percent voted for Proposition

rumors pop up on possible candidates for commissioner, sheriff, recorder of deeds, clerk of courts, prothonotary and district attorney Commissioners Frank Swogger and Peter Joyce having earlier voiced their intentions not to seek reelection, the Dems can

expect a mad scramble for that .It is no secret that county Democratic Chairman Dick Miller would like to see one the commissioners resign before the primaries so whoever is appointed could run as an bent for one of the spots. The GOP is expected to field a strong duo in an effort to regain control of the board of commissioners. There is talk that some organized opposition may materialize in the primary for Commissioner Josephine the McCutcheon, Republican on the board at present. . . It is almost unheard of for a party to oppose an incumbent, but those promoting idea to oppose Mrs. McCutcheon point out that she is

an appointed, not elected, commissioner and that she has been, in their opinion, a not too vociferous minority voice on the board and has frequently op-posed the views of some elected administrator from outside .Some ob-GOP officials. servers think the Republicans hired have a good chance to win board control in 1979 if the Dems have on to gain the Democratic ap-to field two new faces in the pointment for the late James C. general election. .In the sheriff's race the word is out Dem powers are probably sorry that Coroner John Mohney is anxious to gain the GOP nod to name to Governor Shapp until make the run for that office and Sept. 12th. . . . A quick substrong sentiment is building up in Democratic circles for Mike Krivosh to be the Dem's stan-

dard bearer. Krivosh is presently employed in the Domestic Relations Bureau and has a strong background in law gained in the yers he served Sharon's police department as an officer and later as chief. It happens he is also a most impressive figure in the courthouse at 6'4", handsome and always immaculately groomed. He would be tough to beat. . . Dana Frankenberg, a deputy sheriff

with the narcotics squad, is also expected to be a candidate as is Francis Dickson, police chief of Clark borough.

In the clerk of courts and recorder of deeds races no one. except the incumbents, have made known their intentions to seek the positions. . . . As a result of the upset of Bill Madden by Dick Miller for county Democratic chairman at the spring meeting there is a feeling that District Attorney Samuel Orr IV may face some primary opposition. He was a solid backer of Miller in the chairman's fight and word is that forces in Sharon are seeking a formidable candidate to oppose Orr. On the GOP side the only name mentioned as a possible andidate is Joseph Nelson. whom Orr defeated in 1975. Nelson has not indicated he would seek the office again but

some GOP biggies think he can be persuaded to run. Notice how quiet the governor andidates are? This might work to Pete Flaherty's ad-

vantage since he hasn't the cash

Remember When

10 YEARS AGO August 21-Fund raising consultant George Doty has been named director development and public relations at Thiel College, Dr. Chauncey G. Bly Chauncey G. Bly. president, announced today. In the past four-and-a-half years. Doty has consulted with 14 colleges and universities in the eastern and

20 YEARS AGO

southern United States.

August 21-Two Greenville bankers are attending the Pennsylvania Association Summer School at Bucknell University, Lewisburg. Attending are Michael Lorenzo, first National Bank of Mercer County and R. Glenn Adams, Farmers and Merchants Trust Company

Thornburgh, so each day he can ended speculation and not required the vote on Sept. 12 without having to employ a full staff, answer his opponent with media ads, etc. is a big plus for when the county committee will choose an appointee-designate entry of Joe Perry of Greenville

opponents. . . . Perry is the only male seeking the \$16,000 post. A quick check revealed each of ments proposed. Of these, 37 made it to Congress and only 26 the other four candidates. Betty DeVito, Dorothy Toth, Margaret were ratified by the states! The longest time it took for any (Peg) Harpst and Helen Duby, optimistic and sure of victory amendment to be ratified was DeVito has some added help in slightly under four years and the the form of Mariam Cashdollar, shortest time was 207 days. The of West Salem fame, who has ERA gang has had nearly seven written Dem leaders on behalf of years to win ratification and

into the race, it may require a realignment of forces by his

her friend, Mrs. DeVito Helen Duby, mayor of Wheatland, insists she is a serious candidate but she is an extremely close friend of DeVito and Cashdollar and reportedly acationed with both in Florida this past winter. She could be a decoy to draw votes from DeVito's opponents, but the feeling is she will withdraw prior to the vote on the 12th. Dorothy Toth is an attractive candidate and would be a touch campaigner in the 1979 election. She also has financial backing available to her for a strong campaign that would not drain the county committee's limited campaign funds...Mrs. Harpst has been a tireless worker for the Democratic party over the years and oft times loyalty is a major factor when only fellow

DeVito's chances of gaining the appointment could suffer. She is a two-time loser in races for county row offices and the party also spent a whopping sum on her unsuccessful campaign to unseat County Treasurer Irene Nicholson in 1977. Plus, she had an issue of the embezzlement in that office and still was defeated rather soundly

While on politics, watch this

name — Mary Lou Weldon. The Coolspring Twp. resident recently resigned her chief clerk's job in the commissioners office. With 18 years in county government, Mrs. Weldon is probably one of the most knowledgeable persons 'on Mercer County government The word is that the GOP (yes. she was a Republican) is slating her to run for prothonotary in 1979. . . . Mary Lou won't say whether she will be a candidate or not - she just smiles. But it looked like a "yes" smile! And a word of praise to Controller Mary Stevenson, Deputy Controller Dorothy Toth and the controller's staff for the fine convention they hosted for the Pennsylvania State Association of Controllers at the Sheraton .We spoke with over 25 controllers and all said it was the finest convention they had ever attended adding that Mike Stone's wonderful band was the 'greatest.'' The Stone aggregation played all four nights of the convention, the cos committeemen and women are of which was defrayed by the voting. She, too, is an attractive advertisers in the association's souvenir booklet. A big plus for Mercer County!

John F. Lofton, Jr.

CBS Report: D-Minus and Slipping

moving

WASHINGTON - Roy Innis, a black who directs the Congress of Racial Equality, makes the most compelling argument for the Packwood-Roth-Moynihan tuition tax credit proposal at the elementary and secondary levels: it would provide a competitive stimulus to the public schools. Calling for a power shift from the controllers (i.e. the educational establishment) to the controlled (parents and kids). Ennis says: time that the laws of this country give more than lip service to freedom of choice and quality education.

Right on, Brother Ennis! In a series of three one-hour broadcasts, to be shown the nights of Aug. 22, 23, and 24, CBS 'the national average. News correspondents Walter Cronkite and Charles a high school student who Collingwood, provide a well- graduated despite the fact that he balanced, in-depth look at public education in America, asking the question: is anyone out there

many as should be. in our public elementary and the bank to show him what to do high schools at an annual cost to with his checks and how to open the taxpayer of almost \$81 an account. billion. 'The biggest problem, at least as the public perceives it.' News, 41 percent said that says Cronkite. "is that the today's students are not getting schools have strayed too far as good an education as they from the basics of learning - got; only 26 percent said today's that we don't adequately teach teachers are better than reading. writing, generation ago, 35 percent said mathematics." Regarding our they are worse; and 39 percent public school teachers, he con. said about the same or had no

"They're better paid than A study prepared for the ever better protected by unions College Entrance Examination than ever, hold more degrees Board reports that secondary than ever but they do not do a school principals say that their better job than ever.

Cronkite and company provide a academic standards, are more

public education today A CBS Diane Ravitch, who teaches News poll of 1,622 adults shows philosophy and the politics of

postage paid at Greenville. Pa.

Audit Bureau of Circulation.

GREENVILLE RECORD-ARGUS

Published Daily except Sunday and Holidays

10 Penn Ave., Greenville, Pa. 16125

WAYNE W. WILLIS WILLIAM A. BRIGHT RICHARD ROWLAND

General Manager Managing Editor Advertising Director TERMS: Delivered per week 85°. Single copy price 15° by mail within Mercer. Crawford. Venango. Butler. Lawrence Counties. Pa. and Trumbull County. O. per year '37.50. By mail: 6 mos. 18.75. 3 mos.

10.25. 1 Mo. 14.00. By mail outside the above counties extra postage

dependent upon postal zone. Rates upon application. Second Class

Member of The Associated Press American Newspaper Publishers Association, Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association and

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duction of all local news printed in this newspaper. * Telephone: Greenville 588-5000.

by Greenville Newspapers. Inc

that 76 percent favor more education emphasis on reading, writing, University's Teacher's College, arithmetic. Tests reveal says: that today's students score awful lot of time spent in school lower in the basic subjects than is not spent in the classroom and they did 15 years ago, even a lot of time spent in the though during this time period classrooms is not spent on spending on public education teaching and learning but on

has almost quadrupled. The rate of functional papers, gabbing, rapping, illiteracy - the inability to read whatever. or write a simple sentence - is now running at 13 percent or higher among 17-year-olds. Stirling Cooper, a teacher, is quoted as saying that if real literacy tests were given, "I their work quality, is opposed by would wager one-half or more of 83 percent of those surveyed. our students are illiterate in the and old-fashioned sense." An HEW study says that 42 percent of black 17-year-olds are functionally illiterate, three times

Reporter Collingwood tells of could barely write. After getting a job with a rubber company, he happily showed his teacher learning? The answer is: not as every check he had received. All any as should be. were uncashed. The young man's teacher had to take him to

opinion

teachers are less dedicated. To back up these assertions, have less desire to enforce high multitude of convincing facts permissive, spend less time outside the class with students. -The nationwide "back to and place less emphasis on basics" movement is the classroom discipline than did strongest trend in American their counterparts in 1965.

Speak Your Mind

Expensive Trip

following letter printed in the "Speak Your Mind" column. We have just returned from a

"Studies have shown an

around, shuffling

The CBS News poll further

-That so-called "social

promotion," passing people to

the next grade regardless of

-That of those asked the

question, 84 percent said that

discipline in the public schools is

not strict enough. Only 4 percent

felt that discipline is too strict.

Apologies

Dear Editor:

This letter is to express my apologies to the people of Greenville who were expecting a program about snakes and who were disappointed - twice. The Park ranger for the Corps of Engineers at Shenango River Lake had agreed to give his program. "For Goodness Snakes" as part of the Evening Nature Program Series on June All the details had been agreed upon, but the speaker failed to show

The program was rescheduled for July 26 but again, the speaker did not appear. Explanations for these failures to appear were not acceptable.

I am truly sorry the in-convenience caused to those people who came to these programs and went away disappointed. While I am in no way responsible for the speaker's failure to appear, I realize that guilt by association will cast a on the Greater Greenville Recreation Association and on the programs of the Riverside Park ature Center.

Sincerely J. Kent Crawford Environmental Educator

We would like to have the Greenville. We parked the car on Canal Street and deposited 10 cents in the parking meter, which is the only amount you can put in the meters. This dime provides you with only 30 minutes of parking time. We were gone approximately 35 minutes, and upon returning we found a parking ticket for \$1.

> The merchants of Greenville are always complaining of people taking their business out of town. If a 35 minute business trip costs you \$1,10 just to park it is much cheaper to drive to Greenville Plaza or the Shenango Valley Mall.

> Perhaps it is not economically feasible to do away with the parking meters, but meters that allow a variety of times should be provided. This way you would be able to judge your shopping or business time accordingly.

> Paying for a parking meter is not unacceptable. However, paying for a parking meter and a parking ticket in less than one hour seems a bit unreasonable. Sincerely, Vicki K. Cole

Judy Ross

Thought for Today

Thought for today: The sun also shines on the wicked - Seneca, Roman scholar, about 54 B.C. to 39 A.D.

VIEWPOINT

lady and a good campaigner. .

.Since the appointee must run

The public voice has been and still is the foundation of American society. With the VIEW-POINT editorial feature, The Record-Argus provides a forum through which that voice can

VIEWPOINT will present an issue each week on which you, as a Record-Argus reader, may express your opinion. The questions will cover issues affecting our community, county, state and nation.

VIEWPOINT responses will be tabulated and published each Saturday.

Take or mail your VIEWPOINT to The Record-Argus, 10 Penn Ave., before noon Thursday.

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on the issues of

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THIS WEEK'S QUESTION	IS

Last week, a state House committee voted to sv September in order to reduce time and money spent or	n campaigning
The State Government Committee voted unanimo tatewide, school board and municipal elections on the in presidential election years, the state primary was a school board and municipal elections on the incomment was a school board and school beautiful to the school board and school beautiful to the school board and school board an	ously for the bill, which would hold

day in June to permit time for delegates to be elected for the national conventions Currently, the presidential primary is held in April. This week's Viewpoint question is

Should the primary election be held in September rather than May?

Would the change possibly increase the productivity in the legislature by eliminating some campaign time and removing election pressures?

Please use the space	below	if you have	additional	comments.
COMMENTS:				

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