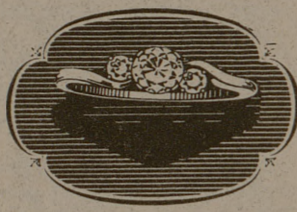


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Centennial scholar analyzes America

Americans have "fallen into a material neo-Garden of Eden despite all our sins," says Dr. Eric A. Walker, president emeritus of Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Walker spoke as a visiting centennial professor at Texas A&M University on the subject of "Invention, Innovation and Entrepreneurship." "Americans have more goods, more rights and more entitlements

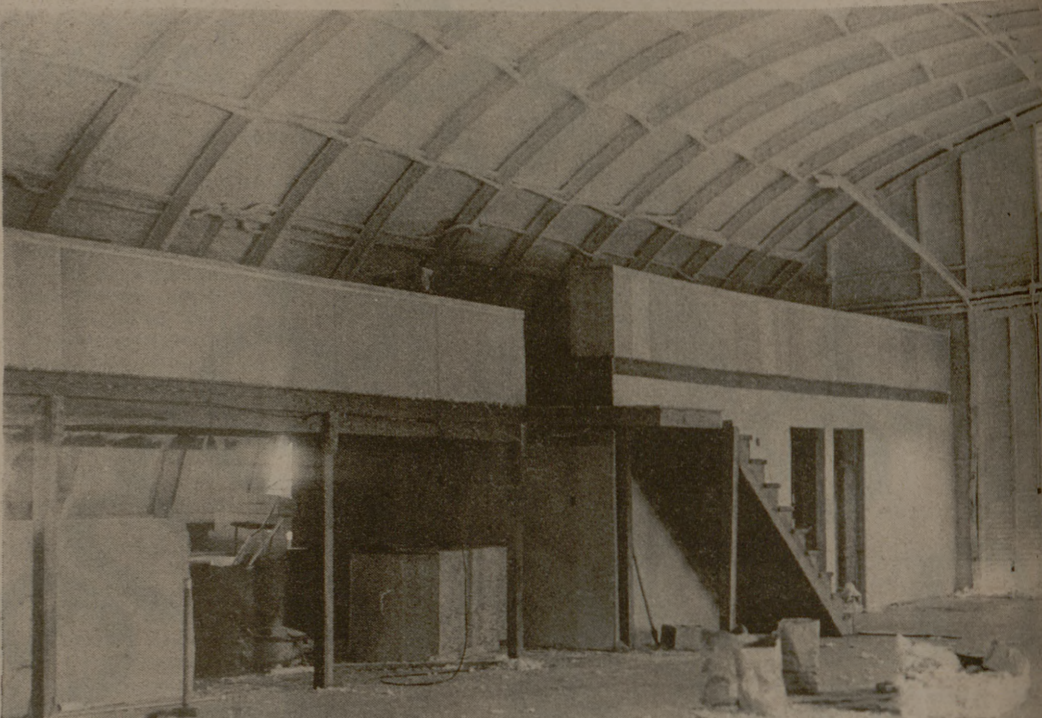
to education and social security and rights than any other group in the world," Dr. Walker said.

The reason for that, he said, is because America allows the individual to flourish.

"The capitalist system is essential to allow these individuals to get more than they could as part of a larger machine," he added. "We have to have an environment to produce invention. If we examine the 22 most important inventions, we find that 17 were invented by Americans.

"We also find they were independent inventors, not working for corporations and few of them were engineers," Walker said.

He used as an example the Wright brothers, noting that they saw the commercial need for a flyer and applied their know-how and inventiveness to the problems. They developed a wind tunnel and methods to turn the craft. After all this, they started a persistent marketing venture ranging as far away as Europe.



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Gun control bill lacks public interest

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — A lobbyist for strict gun-control laws says there ap-

parently is insufficient public interest in the issue to prompt Congress to impose more stringent gun con-

trols. However, the lobbyist, Jack Corbett of the National Coalition to Ban Handguns, and other supporters of tighter gun control laws say their cause may have been strengthened in the long-run by the decision of the House Judiciary Committee to defer action on a gun-control measure.

That ironic scenario, espoused both in the Congress and by such private groups as the coalition, assumes that members of the public will be repulsed by crime and violence and will demand even stronger controls than those dealt a setback Tuesday.

The Judiciary Committee, on a 17 to 16 vote, sent the bill back for reconsideration by a subcommittee, and there was widespread sentiment that the move killed the legislation for this session. The measure would have outlawed so-called concealable handguns, set mandatory sentences for using a handgun to commit certain felonies, including murder and rape, and established a waiting period of 28 days before an individual could complete the purchase of a handgun.

Indicating the bill may be dead for this session, one Judiciary Committee member said there was no chance that subcommittee Chairman Conyers Jr., D-Mich., will call for a new attempt at passage.

The House Judiciary Committee has not sent a gun-control bill to floor since 1968. Without that action, there was little chance a gun-control bill would move to the Senate judiciary panel.

Last year, as the House subcommittee moved slowly on its report, Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., author of the Senate bill, insisted there would be no action until the House acted. The Senate in 1972 approved Bayh's ban on so-called Saturday Night Specials, but the measure died in a House subcommittee.

On Tuesday, the House bill was sent back to subcommittee on the condition to recommit offered by Tom Railsback, R-Ill.

Lobbying efforts by opponents of gun controls were criticized by members of the committee. Peter Rodino, D-N.J., chairman of the panel, said members had complained to him that they were besieged by calls and mail from them to vote against the bill.

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