

## Yankee Steve's Column for the week of January 7, 2010

### Lessons from 2009

As far as I am concerned last year was an eye-opener. I learned and even re-learned some valuable lessons.

Lesson 1:

#### **Trust farmers.**

Four hundred million dollars was budgeted by Congress to projects dealing with global warming which is now called "climate change" because science in order to survive must be self-correcting. Eventually junk science will be shown the door, especially when it can be shown that many of the global warming enthusiasts willingly or unwillingly have been perpetrating a scam.

Would you believe it, the *Farmers' Almanac* which we associate with down home folks who say "shucks" knows more about the weather than a hundred Al Gores or a thousand Barbara Boxers? Well, doggy! The oldest and most widely read publication in America, which still publishes its magazine with a hole in the corner so it can be hung in the outhouse, informed its 18.5 million readers about the bone-chilling weather conditions we are increasingly facing around the world at this time and over the last decade.

The *Almanac* knew that a chill was in the air. Gore and Boxer, two aficionados of fear-mongering, who together managed to suck \$400 million from the U.S. budget for climate change projects, should have thought outside the box. I am wondering, maybe their head is in the sand, or should I say the snow.

Awhile back had you been an *Almanac* reader you would have run across this statement,

**"We at the Almanac are among those who believe that sunspot cycles and their effects on oceans correlate with climate change, . . . Studying these and other factor suggests that cold, not warm, climate may be our future."**

#### **And just for fun, here's an Abraham Lincoln's spun yarn.**

Once there was a king, who hired him a prophet to prophet him the royal weather. One day, the king notioned to go fishin' but the best fishin' place was nigh unto where his best sweetie-pie lived. So he aimed to wear him his best clothes. He called in his imperial prophet and said, "Prophet, is hit a-comin' on to rain?" And the prophet says, "No, yo' Highness, hit hain't a-comin' on to rain, not even a sizzle-sozzle."

So the king he put on his best clothes and he got his fishin' tackle, and he started down the road toward the fishin' place and he met a farmer with an umbrella over his head and ridin' a jackass.

The king drewed himself up and he says, "Farmer, I hired me a high-wage prophet to prophet me my weather and he 'lows how hit hain't a-comin' on to rain, not even a frog-duster." So the king he went a-fishin' and hit come on to rain, a clod-buster and chunk-mover.

And the king's clothes was wetted and they shrunk on him, and the king's best gal she seen and laughed and the king was wroth and he went home and he throwed out his prophet. And he called to the farmer and says, "Farmer, I throwed out my prophet and I aim to hire you to prophet me my weather from now on'ards."

And the farmer says, "King, I hain't no prophet. All I done this evenin' was to look at my jackass' ears. For if hit's a-comin' on to rain, his ears lop down and the harder hit's comin' on the lower they lays, and this evenin' they was a-layin' and a-loppin'."

And the king says, "Go home, farmer, I'll hire me the jackass." (And that's how it happened. And the jackasses have been holding the down all the high-wage government jobs ever since.) [from *A Treasury of American Anecdotes*, edited by B. A. Botkin. 1957. Random House, New York.]

Lesson 2:

### **Plato deserves a hearing.**

Now I cannot say that I am really fond of the ancient philosopher Plato. Unlike the Swiss Protestant reformer Ulrich Zwingli [1484-1531] I do not believe that Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were pre-Christian saints, far from it. Nevertheless I have to admit that Plato was on to something when he brought up the subject of personality cults and the way things of that sort can have a direct effect on voting.

Democracies, said the author of *The Republic*, a communist tract, suffer from a willingness on the part of voters to elect individuals that are either incompetent or corrupt, who know how to get elected but that is all they know. After being elected they will very often drive the ship of state on to the jagged shoals that line the seashore. It is, he says, as if we have been willing to elect a ship's captain who has never studied navigation, who if asked would not be able to locate the North Star. America did that when it elected President Barack Obama who when it comes to job creation and the economy recovery appears for some time now has been lost at sea.

The man who now sits in the oval office is incompetent. A man's job was assigned to a boy and all because he knew how to sell himself to the American voter. Someone who has no real knowledge of economics or international affairs was awarded the presidency because he seemed like a smarter and a nicer guy than his predecessor; and who by all accounts was elected because

his skin color permitted the American voter to say to the world, "See, America is against all forms of inequality. And thus in this election has expunged any guilt for slavery."

It is certain, if Obama were a white man, possessing the thinnest resume of any elected president he would never have been elected.

I can see Plato, the archenemy of democracy, gloating. He has to put down his feta cheese and olives to belly laugh. He foresaw what you do not have to be a philosopher to see. He recognized how a smooth-talking Obama took advantage of the fact that some of the people can be fooled some of the time, or should I say, most of the time. America has had only one exceptional president in the last 80 years, Ronald Reagan. (If the economy was good under Clinton it was because he was ruled over by a conservative Congress.)

In order to enter the Academy founded by Plato you had to confess your love of mathematics. If Plato were here now if asked, he would be only too glad to act the accountant and go over our books. He would instantly realize that Obama is leading America to insolvency which is just what the terrorists are hoping will happen; those hopes are well-founded. Make no mistake about it our ship is about to flounder.

At this very moment the government owes more than \$2 trillion to Social Security, a pension fund which should not be allowed to touch. This means that we are over-extended. Whenever it can't pay its bills the government sends someone to a place in Virginia who takes out a key and on doing so puts into a desk an IOU. Sound crazy? Yes, it's crazy but this is literally how it is done. Need I tell you that the IOUs are piling up?

America, under George W. Bush and Obama acted in consort. They have been like that compulsive shopper you hear about on talk shows who has 20 or more credit cards, who manages to survive by making minimum payments, even borrowing from one card to pay another, who lives in denial not admitting to himself that a day of reckoning is coming.

Under Bush the debt was a whopping 5.4 trillion. This December the debt ceiling was raised by another 290 billion dollars to 12.4 trillion. Words like whopping lose their effect when numbers like that are bandied about by an Obama Congress.

Lesson 3:

### **Liberals do not want to hear from the people.**

I now know that Liberals talk out of both sides of their mouth. During the last year House Speaker Nancy Pelosi changed her tune. She had been calling for the *vox populi*, but when the people began to speak what she did not want to hear, she spread the rumor that what was obviously a grassroots movement was nothing of the kind. To discredit the Tea Party movement and similar public expressions Pelosi said that they were being funded by big business.

Liberals begin by calling for free speech but when free speech is used by their opponents they accuse them of demagoguery. This tactic of Pelosi would have put her in good stead with the Kremlin.

Lesson 4:

**Taxpayers have been robbed.**

We have learned that Obama policies are costing the taxpayer billion of dollars that will never, and can never, be recouped. **Forty-five billion dollars granted to General Motors and Chrysler has been lost forever.** The government has admitted as much; the taxpayer will never regain those losses. This is just the tip of the iceberg. A number of small banks that have received money from the government may never pay back what they owe. These banks have five years to repay their loans and much can happen in that time. It has become apparent that they are intentionally dragging their feet.

Lesson 5:

**America is more conservative than Liberals are willing to admit.**

No sooner had we put Obama, the Socialist, in the White House than America began to react. The real America, not the “America” of the Northeast or the “America” of Beverly Hills, is center-right. Apparently God has blessed America.

**Conclusion**

The year is before us. Our aim should be to win back the House of Representatives and a number of seats in the Senate. We should find ways to cash in on the anti-incumbent movement that is now underway. Some Liberal Democrats are informing their constituents that they are not going to run in 2010. They see the handwriting on the wall. Let’s drive them from office. We need conservative-minded people in government, those who believe in private enterprise who openly and consistently embrace traditional American values.

Ever yours,

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