'Tories' Advocate Return To British Rule

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Now, upon ground once trod by Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson, comes a counter-revolutionary band of loyalists who would finally return prodigal America to the forgiving arms of Mother England.

Already these latter-day Tories have collected $83 and the support of 150 U.S. citizens who envision a happier life in a colony restored. If only another 200 million or so sign up, their petition may be ready for the Queen when she arrives for a Bicentennial visit next July.

Otherwise, the Bicentennial will be nothing but "a big fake, a piece of propaganda trying to cover up the mistakes we've made," says John T. Ambrose, co-founder of the Committee for Reunion with England.

"It's time we realized that the Revolution was nothing more than the self-serving acts of a bunch of hotheads and caused a lot of problems for this country which now can be corrected only by reunion."

According to the committee's Declaration of Reunion, the corruption and injustice which have troubled America's 199 years could have been avoided if the rebels had only been patient enough to work within the system.

It noted, for example, that slave trade was abolished in the British Empire in 1807, "two score and 16 years" before the Emancipation Proclamation.

If only the colonies had stayed in line, there would have been no Civil War, no Reconstruction and no Ku Klux Klan, it adds.

"World War I and II would never have occurred. Germany would never dare attack a British Empire that included both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. The American Revolution not only betrayed America, but also Mother England, nay the entire civilized world," it says.

Not that Ambrose and his collaborators are looking for revenge.

"Mother England is kind and just," the declaration says. "If we apologize now and promise not to rebel any more, she will go easy on us. Amnesty will be offered to the rebel leaders and the present officials of this rebel government. There would be no fear that President Ford, members of Congress or the Supreme Court will be sent to prison."

Naturally, "there cannot be unconditional amnesty," however. "They have made mistakes and must pay a penalty . . . perhaps a period of alternative service in the Bengal Lancers."

The committee was organized back in March when Ambrose, an advertising writer, and David A. Gambill, a Richmond bank employe, decided the Bicentennial was, on the whole, boring.

"It lacked a sense of humor, the real remedy," said Ambrose. "So we got out a mimeograph machine, took an ad in the Richmond Mercury, rented a post office box and sat back to watch the fun."

The Times of London published an article on the committee noting both its plea for contributions and its mailing address. That netted about 20 letters from Britain and a check from one Londoner for 29 new pence — or enough to buy two copies of the Times.

Ms. Zip Wins Jumping Title

DOUSMAN, Wis. (UPI) — Ms. Zip, a 2½ inch leopard frog of uncertain sex whose name stands for "Zip Code," is the new champion jumping frog of Wisconsin.

With three jumps, Ms. Zip zipped 13 feet, 11½ inches Sunday to capture the title, easily outjumping 180 other frogs.

Ms. Zip was entered in the 20th annual championship by Mrs. Jane Abbott, Oconomowoc's postmistress.

"Zip for Zip Code," she said, loyally.

Leopard frogs are better jumpers than bull frogs, Mrs. Abbott said.

"The big ones are pretty to look at, but they just have too much of a load to jump very far," she said. "The bigger they get, the fatter they get, the harder it is to jump. They've got more to take off the ground."

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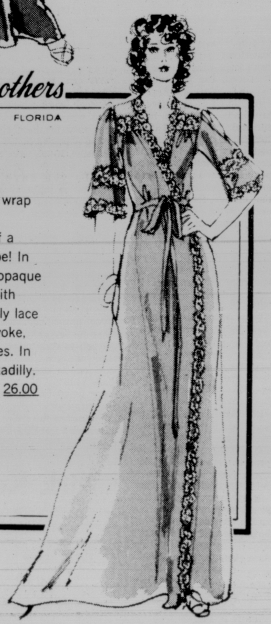

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