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For the weekend...

from Douglas E. Welch

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Issue #27: June 10, 2022

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Join The Conversation On Discord.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, I have been running a Discord community for friends and family.

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Liz Cheney and chairman Bennie Thompson are chairing the House Select Committee investigating the January 6 US Capitol insurrection

Shining A Cleansing Light on the (Ongoing) January 6th Insurrection

Watching the January 6th hearings yesterday was tough. We had heard nearly the all the stories before, but to see the events laid in such stark terms was illuminating but also horrifying.

Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis is often quoted for paraphrasing a larger quote from James Bryce in his 1888 book, *The American Commonwealth*...

“Publicity is justly commended as a remedy for social and industrial diseases. Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman.” — Justice Louis Brandeis

...but the complete quote also bears repeating (emphasis mine) ...

*“Public opinion is sort of atmosphere, fresh, keen, and full of sunlight, like that of the American cities, and **this sunlight kills many of those noxious germs with are hatched where politicians congregate.** That which, varying a once famous phrase, we may call the genius of universal publicity, has some disagreeable results, but the wholesome ones are greater and more numerous. **Selfishness, injustice, cruelty, tricks, and jobs of all sorts shun the light; to expose them is to defeat them.** No serious evils, no rankling sore in the body politic, can remain long concealed, and **when disclosed, it is half destroyed.**” — James Bryce*

These hearings are the disinfectant for an insurrection that is still brewing even as they meet, often including their peers in the Congress.

I have always believed that January 6th was only one attempt to overthrow our government. I watched closely on the day that Lafayette Park was violently cleared. Trump asked the military to intervene — and they refused. Had they not, that might have been the beginning of the end.

Thankfully, they did not intervene, but it was only a matter of time before another coup was plotted. That culminated in the January 6th attack, but that attack is still ongoing by those sticking to ‘The Big Lie’ and attempting to convince US Citizens to turn against their own government. We are not out of the woods, but any stretch of the imagination.

I was listening to Thursday’s hearing on the radio as I prepared dinner that night. Several times I stopped, overwhelmed with the committee chairpeople and how they called out the name of the one person directly responsible again and again. They clearly declared what had occurred and who had taken part. While we have all heard bits and pieces of this as other investigations have dribbled out, it was the starkness of these statements that struck me most.

I do remember the Watergate hearings from my childhood and think there is a possibility of testimony and evidence that will make it seem small in comparison. This was the first time that a sitting President has refused to relinquish power peacefully as the Constitution demands and has put our entire country and democracy at risk. Such strong attacks require equally strong responses up to and including imprisonment for ALL involved, no matter what.

As John Dean stated during the Watergate conspiracy,

“I think that there's no doubt about the seriousness of the problem we've got. We have a cancer within—close to the presidency, that's growing. It's growing daily. It's compounding. It grows geometrically now because it compounds itself.”

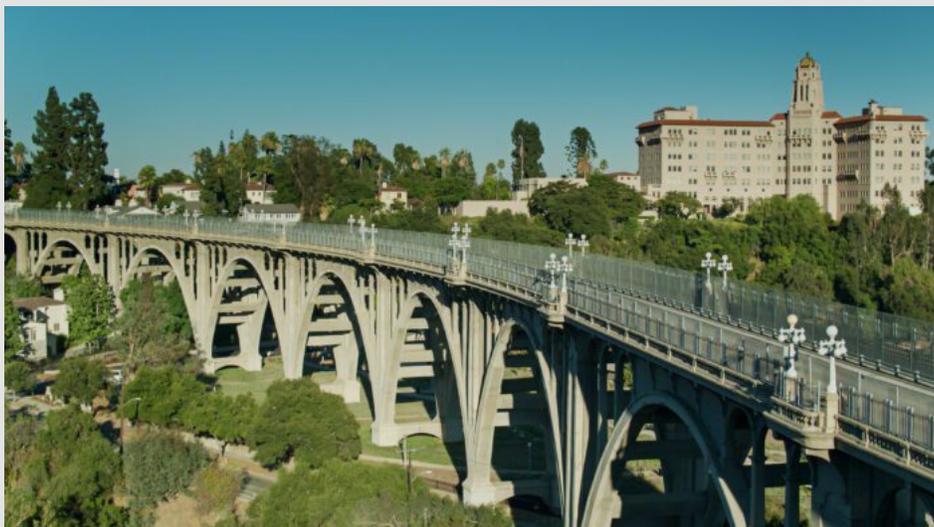
I think the Trump conspiracy was and is far worse, far more damaging, and far more of an ongoing threat than Watergate ever was. We ignore it at our peril.

Let the sun shine in!

Video



"In my never ending quest to test as many garden tools as I humanly can, I've come across an extremely satisfying garden knife: the Felco 3.90 60." - Epic Gardening.



The Historic Concrete Bridge In Pasadena Is The Only One Of Its Kind In Southern California

Via Only In Your State

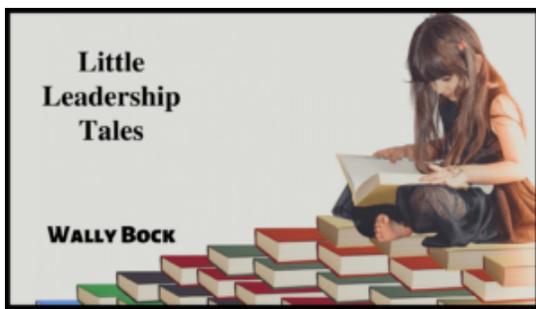
I have taken many photos of this bridge and even have some prints for sale. You can walk beneath and around it on a trail that traverses the entire Arroyo Seco, too. – Douglas

Driving along Ventura Freeway across the Arroyo Seco, drivers can catch a glimpse of one of the most unique bridges in Southern California. Considered a feat in engineering when it was constructed, the Colorado Street Bridge is striking to look at with wide arches and stunning lamp fixtures. The historic bridge is truly one-of-a-kind, making it a beloved spot for photography and sightseeing. It is well worth it to go out of your way to drive or walk across this magnificent bridge whenever you're in Pasadena!

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The Agincourt Technology Rules

via Three Star Leadership

History always has much to teach us, if only we think about its lessons and how to apply them. – Douglas

In 1346, an English army of 16,000 defeated more than 35,000 French at Crecy. Ten years later, 7,000 English defeated 20,000 French at Poitiers. And, in 1415, in a battle immortalized by Shakespeare, 6,000 English repeated the feat against 30,000 French at Agincourt. The English did not have better soldiers. And, at Agincourt the English were ragged, on scanty rations, and tired, but they won. There are three reasons.

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Plant These Quick-Sprouting Seeds If You Want a Garden as Fast as Possible

via Lifehacker

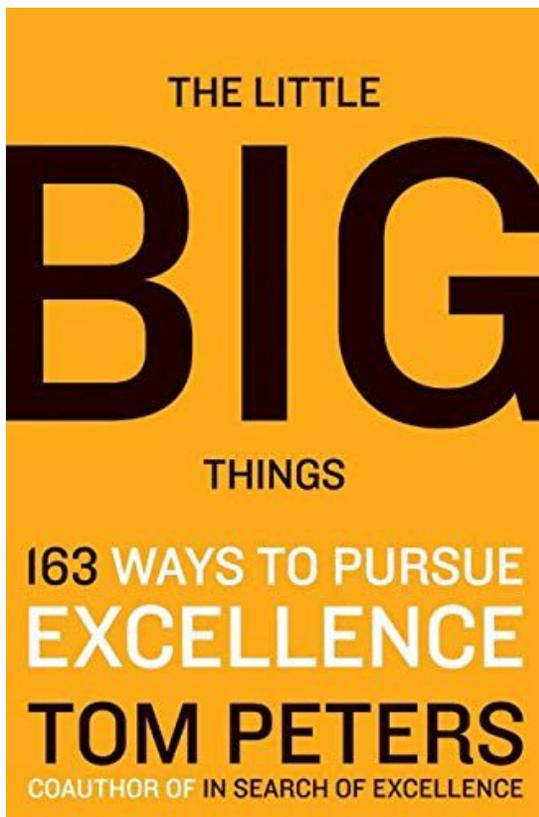
Gardening is not always about immediate gratification, but there is something to be said for some quick results,

especially when just starting out. – Douglas

When starting a garden, you have two choices: planting seeds or seedlings (and other transplants). Those looking to have a close-to-instant garden will likely want to begin with already-sprouted plants. But if you decide to go the seed route, you may want to pick seeds that will produce at least something green as soon as possible.

In an article for Well + Good, writer Francesca Krempa spoke with Allison Vallin, an organic gardener from Maine, to find out which seeds sprout the fastest. Here's what to know.

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The Little Big Things: 163 Ways to Pursue EXCELLENCE

by Tom Peters

Business uber-guru Tom Peters is back with his first book in a decade, *The Little Big Things*. In this age of economic recession and financial uncertainty, the patented Peters approach to business and management—no-nonsense, witty, down-to-earth, insightful—is more pertinent now than ever. As essential for small-business owners as it is for the heads of major corporations, *The Little Big Things* is a rousing call-to-arms to American business to get “back to the basics” of running a successful enterprise.

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