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Econometrics

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INNER PEACE

*In some warm corner
of the mind
the thought lies curled and purring
with delight
all blind
to phantoms capering
throughout the night
outside.*

— Frank B. Dopp



Daily News Portico — Chicago, Il. 1982

Bob Rivoire

CHALLENGE, 20th CENTURY STYLE OR UNCLE SAM'S DECISION

*with corporate power in his wallet
and new age love in his heart,
with all the governments watching
and you, a vivid fan,
he saw what he had to do,
this hero of the west.
driving fast forward as usual,
in highly sincere moves,
he drove right up to the east,
and said, "partner, let's Om."
said, "comrade, do you hear?
say, we need to talk.
let's fix this world of ours
and live as brothers should."*

*and what was the answer, but
"yes, friends, yes,
it is about time."*

*now the question is
"How sincere are you?"*

— Corrine Hayes

ECONOMETRICS

*Shrouded among the silver equations
Penthouse pundits devine the secret numbers
That swell the ripples in our lives;
Down wall, the bulls snort fiery digits
Of profit and loss, elves snip up the tape
And huddle in their bureaus, cyphering the formula
Scrawled by Professor Emeritus.
Up the hill, interminable zeros cross the page,
Tons of anonymous paper wealth voted and dispensed
Like Hongkong gold traded in the night.
In the cracks of teeming offices mice with microscopes
Measure the fractions of our increase:
Breathless, the multitude waits for the figures
To flash across the screen, graphs and charts
Issuing forth from the Spiritus Mundi —
Monday evening data —
Our weekly destiny meted out
Our well-being proved or denied.*

— Charlie Kostelnick