



tom thompson

Treaty serves China-Japan interests

Vice-Premier Teng Hsiaoping's recent visit to Tokyo was an occasion brimming with good will, enough to douse memories of jealousies and wars that in the past have too often embittered relations between the two countries. China and Japan formally ratified recently the peace and friendship treaty signed in August.

At the treaty ceremony, Teng took Japan's Prime Minister Fukuda by the shoulders and delivered a Gallic hug. Yet there is, in fact, little sentimentality in the relationship. Realistic, practical calculations outweigh any other factors in shaping the two countries' policies.

The crucial determinant of the basic policies of China and Japan toward each other is security. Both Peking and Tokyo have been uneasy about the other's close links to another power that has appeared threatening.

Chinese policy was shaped throughout the 1950's and 1960's by Peking's perception of Japan as a base for American power which the Chinese at that time saw as the principal immediate threat to them.

In contrast, since Chinese leaders have given priority to the Soviet threat, they have viewed their relations with Japan — linked to the United States — as necessary to

create a counterweight to Soviet power.

The Japanese, throughout the 1950's and 1960's, regarded the Soviet Union rather than China as the main potential threat to their security. Today Japan's primary security concerns focus even more clearly than before on the Soviet Union, in part because of increasing Russian naval activity in Asian waters.

In this context it is hardly surprising that Moscow has stated coldly that the new treaty between China and Japan is aimed at the Soviet Union. Virtually any Chinese foreign policy is part of China's effort to fight against the hegemony which the Soviet Union is supposedly trying to establish both in Asia and in Europe.

At first, the Japanese, not wanting to irritate the Soviets, declined a place in the anti-hegemony crusade. China had demanded an explicit "anti-hegemony" clause in the treaty, obviously aimed at the Soviet Union.

Asked why Japan now has accepted the Chinese thesis on hegemony, Japan's Foreign Minister Sonoda disingenuously replied that there was absolutely no reason why the Russians should object to the treaty. There is a section that disavows the treaty's connection with third party countries.

But Moscow's leaders are not impressed. Two hapless Japanese fishery negotiators have already had their visa extensions refused. Most analysts agree that with the signing of the treaty between China and Japan, Moscow's relative importance in Asia is likely to see a steady decline.

Peking's leaders could not be happier. The jubilant *People's Daily* said the signing of the treaty "proclaims the ignominious bankruptcy of the Soviet social-imperialist plot to interfere and sabotage Chinese peaceful relations with Japan."

Actually, China's interest in Japan is not simply to check Soviet power. China's leaders have decided that in the post-Mao era of economic development they should allow and even encourage imports of advanced foreign technology.

Japan now is one of the most technologically advanced of countries, but is in urgent need of more opportunities for its energies and technology. China is wealthy in natural resources and manpower.

The needs of the two countries thus complement each other. In all logic, Japan is the right country to undertake to help in modernization of China.

As a result Japan is now China's largest trading partner by a large margin and it is Peking's most important external source for

advanced technology and capital goods.

Most important, Japan has become a major source of credits since China began accepting medium-term foreign credits to finance portions of its imports.

The Japanese likewise see the current relationship in very beneficial terms. Even though China trade is a tiny fraction of Japan's total trade and is not critical to the Japanese economy, Tokyo views it as important. To the Japanese all trade is important.

Japanese business with China has been steadily increasing, culminating in a \$10 billion order for steel mills earlier this year. An ethylene plant the Chinese have just ordered from Nippon Kihatsuyu and Marubeni is only the first in a series of major trade deals.

China's rapidly expanding production of crude oil may become increasingly important in China's trade with Japan. Japan is definitely to be the biggest market for it.

China's raw materials and Japan's industrial capacity are an old theme in the history of the two countries' relations with each other. The theme has often included tension and even war. But now the old elements of conflict have become the new basis for a peace treaty and trade.

theirs

Forego coalition

Reprinted from the Oregon Journal

One political question facing the upcoming Legislature is whether Oregon has a two-party House, as the political umbrellas indicate, or a three-party House wearing a two-party disguise.

The question revolves around the band of conservatives who run and win elections as Democrats. They wound up labeled the "Hornets" in the last session. But while they are nominally members of the majority party, they were reluctant to accept the responsibility of their role in the majority last session.

The alignment of the new House appears to be 26 regular Democrats, 26 Republicans and nine Hornet-style Democrats.

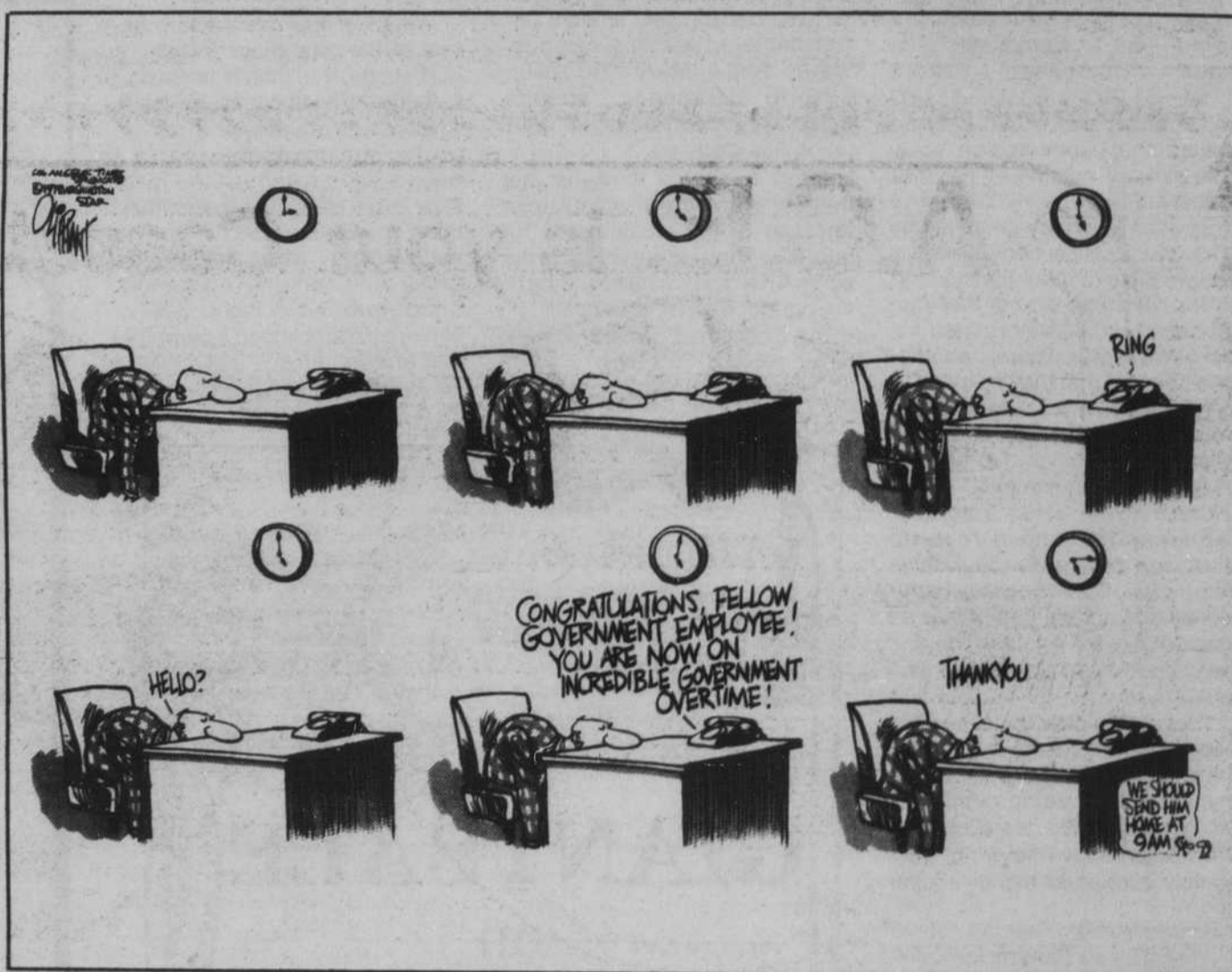
At issue is whether the House is organized as it should be in the two-party system with the majority party conducting the business of the chamber and the minority serving in the vital watch-dog role of the opposition.

Or will a coalition rule with the Hornets teaming with the Republicans? Or perhaps with enough of the Republicans unwilling to accept the Hornets that they coalesce with the regular Democrats?

Oregon should have had enough of coalition control with the 10 years that a small band of Democrats joined Republicans in running the Senate. But of course coalitions are not formed for the well-being of the state but rather for the personal power of a few individuals.

The hope is that the small band of Hornets will drop their game playing and accept their responsibility as members of the majority party to operate the House in the 1979 session.

For them to do otherwise makes a mockery of the political process that is based on a two-party system.



yours

Methods differ

Open letter to politically concerned students:

Be wary of "savior organizations" and self-appointed "leaders."

To illustrate: Sterling Hayden was once asked by one of the world's leading socialists if he was communist or socialist.

He replied he was communist.

Asked the difference, Sterling

stated that he believed that communism was justified in using totalitarian means to achieve the socialist ideal.

"That is also the chief difference between us," stated the old socialist, "because I believe that totalitarian means destroy the very fiber of humanism which make the socialist ideal a necessity." (This is in Hayden's own book, "The Wanderer," by his own hand.)

The difference between communism and socialism is METHOD.

The difference between capitalism and facism is METHOD.

The difference between monarchy and tyranny is METHOD.

The difference between aristocracy and feudalism is METHOD.

The Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, claiming humanity, has consistently praised, on this campus, the government of Mao Tse-tung, and consistently condemned the present rulers of China? Why? Both are communist.

Let's examine.

The government of Mao was so repressive that it even controlled people's style of dress, type of hair-cut, and forbade public dancing!

The present government has tried to return some of those things to the people, and, in addition, has raised a few salaries.

Madame Mao ordered her followers to call her "Niang-niang," the pet name of a former empress of China. This has something to

say about her style of rule.

A question of method. We choose one and leave the other.

It is sad that there are still masochists who choose to be hated and feared, rather than respected.

It is sad that the RCYB is found on an otherwise peaceful campus. Thanks. Bye.

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Friday, November 17, 1978