

Capital Journal

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Polls Become More Accurate

Pre-election polling is becoming more scientific and more accurate.

Older people will recall the Literary Digest's fiasco in 1936 when it surprised the country by predicting the election of Landon over Roosevelt. The death of the previously popular Digest was attributed in part to this blunder, which appears to have been honest.

No such mistake has been made since, though most of the polls were in error in 1948 when all but one predicted a Dewey victory over Truman. They may not have been as wrong as they appeared to be, however, for there was indication of a big change in sentiment at the very last that no poll could reflect.

Since then the pollsters have learned something from each election and the best ones are able to come pretty close. The Gallup organization, whose polls appear regularly in the Capital Journal, has just issued a survey of its work in four elections in the last two years, in Canada, Australia, the United States and England to show how well it can now call the shots.

In Canada's 1953 vote Gallup came within less than one percent in forecasting the vote percentages, which were: Liberal 50, Progressive-Conservative 31, C.C.F. 11 and other groups eight. No one will ever do better than this.

In 1954 Australia voted. Labor was forecast for 51 percent of the vote and received 51.3. The L.C.P. opposition was forecast for 48 percent and got 47. The independents were forecast for one percent and polled 1.7.

In our election, nationwide, the Democrats were forecast for 51.5 percent of the popular vote for congressional posts. They got 52.7. The Republicans were estimated for 45.8 and got 47.3. Outside the south Gallup gave the Democrats 48.5 and they got 47.3, the Republicans 51.5 and 50.5 respectively.

In the British election last month Gallup placed the Conservative vote at 50 percent. It went 49.8. He placed Labor's vote at 48 and it dropped to 46.4, some of this in the last two or three days, it appeared. Liberals were given 1.5 and they got 2.7. Others were given .5 and got 1.1.

Considering how public sentiment ebbs and flows during a campaign and how it can be changed overnight by some spectacular speech or event, this is a remarkable showing in four English speaking countries.

Three U.S. Reds See the Light

Three of the 20 former members of the U.S. Army who were captured in Korea and who voluntarily chose to stay with the Chinese are now reported by the Chinese as slated for early release, at their own request, along with two Belgians. One of the Americans is quoted as wanting to go to Japan rather than to come home, and one of the Belgians chooses the United States.

It is not surprising that these chaps, one of whom is from Olympia, Wash., have tired of their captors. The food they must have received over there should make any American long for the States, regardless of how much his brain had been washed. It is surprising that only three of the 20 renegades have had this change of heart up to now, particularly since they face criminal prosecution upon their return.

What is more surprising is that Red China is willing to free them when it still holds 11 loyal American Army fliers whom it has trumped up spy charges against. Have these three been so well brain washed that China sees a propaganda advantage in letting them return here, knowing they will be able to sound off any ideas they may have, no matter how absurd.

The episode places before the Army a problem, whether to be lenient and thus encourage future American P.W.s to believe they can collaborate with their captors without punishment, or to bring criminal charges and thus make all our soldiers more fearful of capture, wondering if they too, might be too weak to withstand the peculiar pressure put upon our prisoners by the Communists.

Whatever the sequel, it will be interesting to see what ideas the released men bring home, whether they've been "sold" so they'll stay that way, or whether they'll be able and willing to give us a realistic account of what they've experienced.

China as well as Russia, for some reason not yet fully clear, is experiencing a change of tactics, trying to butter us up, perhaps to put us in a better frame of mind for the Big Four conference.

A Vote of Approval

Salem residents gave a well deserved vote of confidence to two public servants when they returned M. E. (Gus) Moore and Mrs. Edith Brydon to the school board. At the same time the electorate agreed that not only is there educational strength in the field of consolidation but at the same time agreed to shoulder a little larger share of the tax load that faces all growing communities when they decided to join forces with Keizer.

The Salem school district, with its increasing enrollment, larger teaching staff and need for more class rooms, has long since entered the field of big business. A directorate carries with it no compensation other than the satisfaction of serving the community. At the same time the demands upon a director are at times onerous as all who have served the district in recent years will testify.

A continuity of service on a school board involving as much territory and financing as that of Salem is vital when a successful program is considered. For this reason, those persons who pay the taxes should derive considerable satisfaction from the results of the election.

After twice turning down a proposal to join the larger district, residents of Keizer did an about face. The result will, in the long run, prove beneficial to all concerned. The two areas are contiguous and their operation under a single administration should work out satisfactorily both from an educational and financial standpoint.

June 21, a New Season

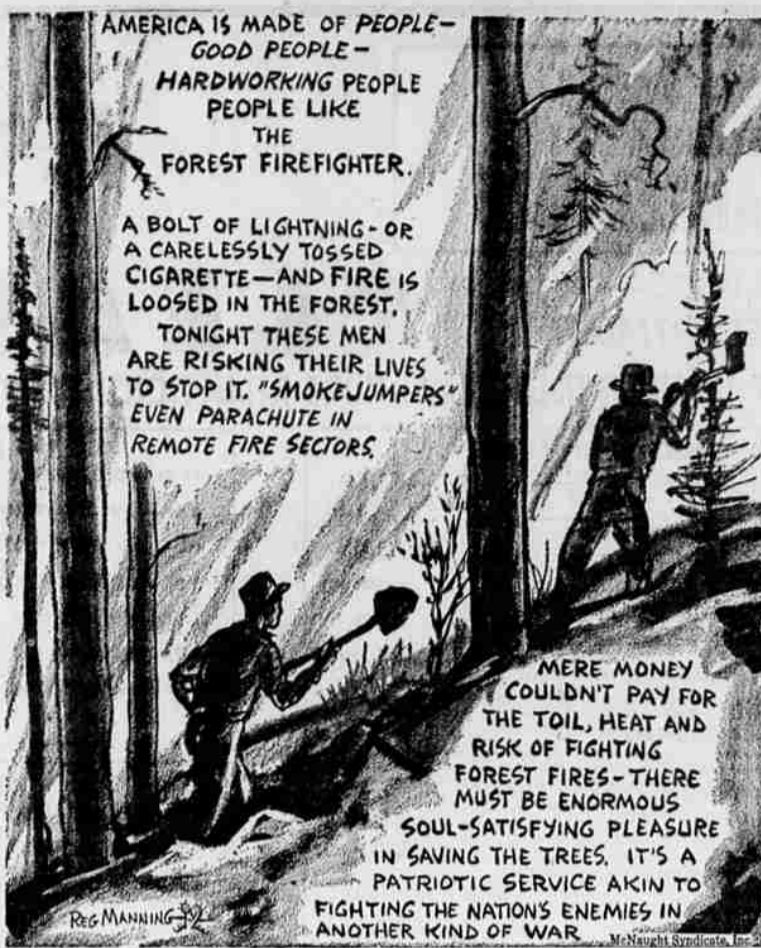
Usually dates like March 21, June 21, September 21 and December 21 are perfunctory, of interest to weather experts but to no one else, for the season has usually arrived well in advance of the official date. Particularly is this true of winter.

But June 21 means a little more than usual this year because we've had such a late spring a lot of folks must still be wondering whether summer has come to stay a while even now, after we've had two near record breaking days with heat maximums of 98 and 96, far above any we had last year.

So June 21 should be greeted this year as we traditionally greet new year's, not a new year but a new, pleasant season we hope will stay a while now that it is here. And if not that it will at least pay week-end visits.

Not that the Willamette valley has been discriminated against, though. The interior has also had a late spring, though this is evidently behind 'em now. So welcome, glad-some summer. And since you're a little late, maybe the winter rains will be too.

THE 'ORDINARY' AMERICANS



OPEN FORUM

Reader Disagrees With Auto Race Editorial

To the Editor: I read GP's editorial entitled "Death Wins in Auto Races" and I would like to add a thought or two on the subject.

In all the years that the LeMans race has been run, I have only seen the results printed in a four-line account on the second page of the sports section. But when somebody gets killed, look out. The cry goes up, "There ought to be a law . . ."

True, it was the worst thing that has ever happened to automobile racing. But it seems to me that everyone tends to overlook the safety record that has heretofore reigned at LeMans despite the terrific speeds that the cars attain there.

You say that improvements in racing cars serve no useful purpose. Chances are you've heard of Ford's half-point suspension. Where do you think they got the idea? Jaguar has used that type of suspension for years. Jaguar used spot brakes successfully in the LeMans race three years ago. The Chrysler Corporation has used some of the engine improvements employed in the Cunningham sports car.

You want racing outlawed. Next, it might be football and boxing. The list would be endless if you were to enumerate all the sports that have killed and injured people. You no doubt heard of the fight that hot rod enthusiasts put up to get their sport legalized. It was an uphill fight all the way, but now they have the police departments helping them instead of chasing them. By their example, it seems to me that outlawing such a widespread and universally accepted sport such as auto racing is not the answer.

There's one more thing you overlooked. The man who would race cars is the same kind of man who has the guts to fly a plane, storm a beachhead, or sweat it out in a submarine. We can all be damn thankful for these men. Maybe racing is standing proof that we have and always will have them. Sincerely yours,

ROBERT BARNES
2315 Hyde St.
Salem

Orchids to Mr. Norblad

Representative Norblad (Rep. Ore.) stood up in the House the other day to praise the Postoffice Department for closing the postoffice at Keasey, Ore., which is in his district.

The Keasey Postoffice was closed because its operating expenses were \$1,350 last year, while it took in only \$418.

Mr. Norblad evidently was impressed by these figures. We can think of a good many politicians who might profit from his example.

GROWN UP KID GAME
Sherman County Journal
Adults who play at bombing their cities into oblivion shouldn't be too critical of boys who wear space suits and carry atom guns.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Are Office Girls Watching the Men or Males Ogling Girls?

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—What really does the most to lower efficiency in the average business office—girl watching or man watching? Would you get more work done if every white collar man were forced to wear overalls and a Hallows mask on the job?

I raise these questions only because my earlier campaign to put the American working girl in bloomers has fallen flat.

Why the campaign? Well, a survey showed that on an average day American men were wasting 20 million hours of company time doing nothing but daydreaming over the charms of their pretty girl co-workers.

My theory was that if all working girls were compelled to wear the same drab uniform they would waste so repulsive nobody would waste time looking at 'em. The suggested uniform: Black cotton stockings, old-fashioned black bloomers, and a blue middie or high-necked blouse.

But it looks as if I got off on the wrong blooming foot. You'd think it would be the office girls who'd raise a howl against being compelled to wear bloomers. Not at all. Many of them were quite attracted at the thought. It was the men who yelped.

Typical complaint from a boss: "Why don't you shut your big mouth, Boyle? It has taken me 20 years to work up to a place where I can have an office of my own and a good-looking secretary. Quit talking like a wife, will you? Let well enough alone."

An office supervisor remarked: "You're putting the cart before the horse, son. There are more women than men, and believe me most of them are man crazy."

"If men are wasting 20 million hours a day girl watching, then the girls themselves must be wasting 30 million working hours staring at the men in their offices. The real problem is how to make the white collar man less attractive."

I checked in to this and—by golly—the supervisor was right: America's white collar men are getting downright irresistible. Every stenographer and secretary I talked to admitted of the record, of course that there was at least one man in her office she couldn't keep her mind and eyes from.

"There is a junior executive in our place who has been promoted to a desk with two telephones," said one. "And he's as happy as a baby with a new rattle. Every time I pass his desk it's all I can do to keep from reaching over and pinching his little fat merry cheeks."

What about a standard uniform for men office workers then—overalls or Bermuda shorts, plus blinders or Hallows masks?

"In my opinion it wouldn't work," said a middle-aged secretary, acidly. "To me most men look like they are wearing Hallows masks anyway, but in this civilization there is nothing you can do to make men repulsive—heels that they are—simply because there aren't enough of them to go around."

The case against putting office girls in bloomers was expressed most forcibly by Don Sauters, president of something called the American Society of Girl Watchers, Inc. Sauters says girl watching may reduce office efficiency but boosts office morale.

"I recommend that each American working girl be given a special income tax deduction of \$100 per year for cosmetics," he wrote.

"And I suggest the hiring of one beautiful girl for every 10 male employees who has no talent for shorthand and who doesn't know a typewriter key from a piano key. Her sole assignment would be to stroll around the office adjusting venetian blinds and tidying up desk tops."

"Is anybody against this whole idea?"
Not me. Who am I to fight progress—in any form?

A SMILE OR TWO
Coronet
A motorcycle cop who helped direct traffic for a large wedding reception was invited later to partake of a bit of liquid refreshment. Somehow the officer got one more than he could handle, and when he went back to his rounds he hung over time parking tickets on 64 cars before he discovered he was in a drive-in theater.

NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG

British Confident We Can Negotiate With The Kremlin

By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON—The main issue in controversy between President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Anthony Eden as they prepare for next month's talks with the Kremlin were recently outlined by a British spokesman with extreme frankness. It is surprising that his comment got hardly any attention in the press, although it was judiciously noted by the State Department.

The spokesman was Max Freedman, Washington correspondent of the Manchester Guardian. Although a liberal, influential and highly respected newspaper, the Guardian generally supports the Churchill-Eden program, and favors close co-operation with the United States.

However, together with Alistair Cooke, the Guardian's roving representative in this country and commentator on the Ford Foundation's "OmniBus" television show, Freedman is frequently critical of Eisenhower-Dulles policies. So is Sir Anthony.

Freedman's remarks, which were delivered before the Women's National Democratic Club here, suggest that Dulles and his British opposites must iron out several differences, if they are to present a solid front when they take on the Soviet's wild and formidable Molotov at Geneva on July 18.

BRITISH CORRESPONDENT'S OPINION

"While you have been right on some things," Freedman told the Democratic ladies, "we were more right than you on Russia. We believe that there is an essential difference between Russia and other dictatorships. We believe that because Russia did not become a dictatorship in a hurry, it is possible to negotiate with her."

Unfortunately, nobody in the audience thought to ask the speaker to elaborate on this odd remark, or to explain what basic difference it makes whether a country achieves totalitarianism and atheism overnight or over

a long period of time.

U. S.-BRITAIN DIFFERENCES
Freedman's discussion of Eisenhower-Eden differences in the Far East, which generally reflects 10 Downing Street's viewpoint, indicates that the two western nations are still far apart on this question. He said:

"We believe that what happened in China was a Chinese revolution; that Chiang Kai-shek excommunicated himself by his mistakes from the confidence of the Chinese people."

That is the prevailing conclusion in popular and official opinion in Britain, although Eden does not explain it quite so brutally as Freedman did.

SOCIAL REFORMS IN U. K.

Although it is no secret that the Eisenhower Administration favored Eden over his Labor opponents in the recent election, the Guardian correspondent demurred against the belief that British Conservatives and American Republicans are peas of the same pod.

"The Conservative Party (in England) has come to terms with the need for social reform," he said. "In the process, they made a virtue out of necessity and adopted new policies with a generosity and conviction that no longer makes them contemporary with your Republican Party."

What does he think that Eisenhower has done with regard to New Deal reforms?

SOME KIND COMMENTS
Freedman had a few kind words for the United States,

Salem 10 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

June 21, 1945

Oregon state board of agriculture had decided against holding a state fair in 1945.

Officers were arriving daily at Camp Adair as preparation of the camp advanced for use in deployment of army ground force men to the Pacific area.

Men and women employees were urgently needed at Camp Adair following re-activation of the camp.

Willamette valley cherry growers had agreed upon a ceiling price of 3½c a pound for picking the 1945 crop.

The 1888 graduating class of Salem high school (upper grades in the old East school), first in the city, had plans for an annual reunion at the Portland home of Burt Brown Barker.

Funeral services had been held for James S. Albert. When first rural free delivery service started from Salem postoffice April 1, 1901 Albert was one of those horse and buggy carriers.

however, Referring to the Marshall Plan and other postwar aid programs, he said:

"Instead of looking the other way when Europe faced her hour of need, you ministered to her, and you built her up so that again Europe has become your economic competitor."

Discussing the Supreme Court's anti-segregation ruling, he said that it ranked next to the Marshall Plan in commanding respect for us abroad. It was received with rejoicing everywhere, he added, "except in Moscow, where Pravda maintained a peevish silence."

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Is The Catholic Church A MENACE TO DEMOCRACY?

Every now and then a false rumor about the Catholic Church gets into circulation and—for a time—fools a lot of people.

Usually such rumors die out when fair-minded people learn the truth. But some of them pop up again like "ghosts" out of the distant past, to deceive people who have not heard them before.

The one most prevalent today is that American freedom is in danger from "the anti-democratic program of the Roman hierarchy." This, to some people, will sound new and alarming. Actually, there is nothing new about it.

Catholics of a century ago heard the same "alarm"—that the Church was hostile to our form of government—that she was anti-republican in spirit and influence—that she would disregard our free institutions and deprive us of our self-government.

Even those who do not understand the teaching and practices of the Catholic Church will have to admit the falsity of this rumor... for the evidence of a hundred years contradicts it in every particular. The Catholic people always have stood shoulder-to-shoulder with their non-Catholic fellow-citizens in building and defending our liberty and free institutions.

The rumor of today... like the rumor of a hundred years ago... does not claim that the Catholic Church is harmful to men's souls. It does not claim that the Church



endangers the salvation of mankind. Its entire objection is that the Church is hostile to our political and social institutions.

In this there is a remarkable resemblance to the "alarm" sounded against Jesus Christ Himself.

"If we let this man go," said the Savior's critics, "the Romans will come and take away our name and our nation."

Some think that Catholics should get their blood pressure up and reply angrily to these rumors. This is not necessary. We know that the American people of all faiths... with their traditional sense of justice... will boot this ghost back into its closet without our help.

Free
But if you would like to know the Catholic attitude toward democratic freedom, our form of self-government, and the rights of the State and the individual, write today for free pamphlet on the subject. Just ask for Pamphlet No. KC-21.

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