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Danger of 'Creeping Inflation'

William H. Chamberlain, author, historian and veteran foreign correspondent, in an editorial in the Wall Street Journal on "creeping inflation," asks if the steady erosion of our money value is the price of pursuing "illusory economic promises of full employment." The evidence on this question is not, he says, "not entirely conclusive, but it tends to favor the affirmation."

Chamberlain points out that prosperous little Switzerland goes on from year to year with jobs for all and a price level that scarcely varies. The new German mark, "emerging like a Phoenix" from the ashes of Germany's second great destructive inflation has stabilized its currency in terms of what the consumer must pay. Of other nations he says:

"But France offers a grave warning of what inflation, now creeping, now galloping, but stopping only for brief uncertain intervals, can do. During the last 40 years the franc has lost more than 99 percent of its value. The French price index has pointed in just one direction—upward. And since the war the United States, Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries have discovered that full employment, accompanied by various measures designed artificially to prop up prices, does tend to create a continuous upward pressure on the cost of living."

Since World War II conditions have been reversed. The danger has been not unemployment and unused resources, but a steady cheapening of the currency, with its threat to savings and investments. Built in devices make prices higher to consumers. Some results listed are:

"Wages—Sheer economic power of monopolistic unionism, not productivity, is the determining factor in the steady annual increase of money wages and fringe benefits.
"Farm Prices—Farm organizations hold out for high guaranteed prices that bear no relation to market realities—to unload on the government huge unwanted surpluses, which can only be sold, if at all, at a heavy loss.
"Businessmen clamor for tariff protection if exporters propose to supply better and cheaper products."

The danger of an ever rising price level and its inflationary spiral level must be apparent in the shrinking value of the dollar already down to half its former value. Chamberlain concludes:

"Security for everyone could become security for no one. Inflation may not be a necessary consequence of full employment; but a combination of full employment, monopolistic union power, comprehensive social security and government handouts for other sectors of the economy certainly builds up inflationary pressures."

These conditions are all the result of years of Democratic New Deal and Fair Deal policies and every effort at readjustment has been opposed by the Democratic congress. Adlai Stevenson in his Saturday night speech opening his campaign for the presidency favored as a remedy for conditions a full return to the evils causing the existing menace, full labor union monopoly, higher crop supports to increase government surplus and the national debt—a program designed to win labor and farm votes by more "creeping inflation."—G. P.

Football Post Mortems

Most of the college football conferences wound up their schedules Saturday with traditional "classics," some of which came out as expected, a considerable number otherwise. Most of the New Year's day bowl contestants are now known and only a few games like Army-Navy and U.S.C.-Notre Dame remain to be played.

Our Pacific Coast conference champion is U.C.L.A. as expected, though U.S.C. made it a close, interesting game that might have gone otherwise but for one unusual decision. Washington defeated Washington State as expected and Stanford defeated California for the first time since "Pappy" Waldorf became coach there nine years ago. Idaho salvaged something out of a gloomy season, trouncing Montana in rain and snow at Moscow.

Our own Oregon "civil war" saw the big upset of the western games. Oregon State, picked by virtually all the "experts," was decisively outplayed from the opening play and received its worst beating since 1899 in this series that now covers 61 years.

The upset was remarkable in that this Oregon State team has one of the best season records in Beaver history and finished second to U.C.L.A. despite this humiliating 28-0 beating, every point of which was earned. Oregon played brilliantly, while Oregon State showed no fire at all, giving its rooters a chance to cheer only once on a one man punt run-back feat.

Superior weight figured on a muddy field but this was only a minor factor in Oregon's superiority, amazing for a team that was so badly beaten by Stanford the week before. Maybe the college psychologists can figure out why teams play in such contrast to what their records would indicate. The coaches and sports writers can't.

The Pacific Coast conference will have a fine team in the U.C.L.A. Bruins to send against a great Michigan State Spartan team that owes its good fortune to Ohio State drubbing Michigan, first time it has done this in Ann Arbor since 1937. Great as this Rose Bowl game should be, it will be overshadowed a bit by Miami's Orange Bowl clash which will match the No. 1 and 2 teams, Maryland and Oklahoma.

It was a great season. Followers of nearly all teams had their happy and their unhappy Saturdays. Football, both college and professional, is still gaining in popularity.

Warning to G.O.P. Conservatives

Young Governor Fred Hall of Kansas has sounded a vigorous and timely warning to Republican "old guard" elements that dominate the party organization in some mid-west and one or two western states that they will face a knockdown battle in the party's 1956 convention if they try to nominate one of their numbers. This assuming that President Eisenhower declines renomination.

Hall warned his fellow partisans that "we can't possibly win as an anti-labor, anti-farmer, anti-business party. We must avoid the role of extremist, either conservative or radical." He promised the united support of the Kansas delegation to Eisenhower and predicted his re-election by a bigger margin than in 1952, if he runs.

There are indications that what used to be the Taft wing of the party has been "feeling its oats" in recent weeks, since the President's illness. Many think Senator Knowland's moves are aimed toward becoming the standard bearer of this group. If not he, someone else, from current indications, again assuming Eisenhower does not run. No Republican faction will oppose him.

Governor Hall's warning is timely, for an "old guard" Republican will have no chance to win, any more than a fire eating southern "white supremacy" shouter would on the Democratic ticket. Those who seek this type of G.O.P. candidate remind one of Senator Penrose's cynical answer to a 1912 warning that the renomination of President Taft would wreck the Republican party. "Yes," said Penrose, "but it will be our wreck."

Most Republicans wish to bequeath no wreck to anybody.

Our writer is over, till late 1956, one hopes. Who would have expected as recently as last Thursday, to see green lawns and fields, and dry highways, within two days? The experience will do us good too, making us more appreciative of what we miss the rest of the winter which is like that or worse for three or four months in half of the United States.

Order in the Court



G.O.P. Given Edge in Taking Care of the Big Questions

By GEORGE GALLUP

(Director, American Institute of Public Opinion)

PRINCETON, N. J., Nov. 19.—Elements of great strength in the Republican party's stand on national issues is seen in a survey just completed by the American Institute of Public Opinion on the political situation today.

As in other years, the Institute has asked each voter what he considers the most important problem facing the country today and what party he thinks can best handle that particular problem.

The one great issue that is singled out with unmistakable clarity by voters in all parties is keeping the peace. It stands far above the issues of prosperity, the farm problem, tax reduction and others.

Today's survey results show that on this one big issue, the Republicans have a great advantage over the Democrats as the party that can best solve the problem, in the minds of voters who singled it out.

When representative voters throughout the nation were asked by the Institute to name the country's most serious problem, 42 per cent named keeping the peace and foreign policy first, followed by the farm problem with 8 per cent and tax reduction with 7 per cent.

The same voters were then asked which party they felt could best handle the particular problem they had named. Eliminating all those who said "no difference" or "no opinion," the voting goes this way:

MAJOR ISSUES	
Republicans can handle better	54%
Democrats can handle better	46
The following table is a summary of how those who named keeping the peace as the Number One problem rate the two parties in terms of ability to handle this particular problem:	
WHICH PARTY CAN BEST KEEP THE PEACE?	
(Vote of those naming this problem first)	
Republicans can handle better	43%
Democrats can handle better	26
No difference, no opinion	31

The importance of today's findings to political strategists in both parties is obvious. U. S. elections are usually decided on the basis of three considerations: first, voter appraisal of the merits of the candidates; second, basic party strength, and third, issues of the day.

Apart from candidate strength, how the voters feel about major issues, and how well they think each party can handle them, bears a close relation to how they will vote at election time. Today the nod goes to the GOP on this score.

However, this evidence of a Republican advantage is offset by the Democrats' advantage in basic party strength.

An Institute survey reported in October showed that the GOP Congressional vote outside the South—an excellent barometer of party strength—is running at 52 per cent at present and Democratic strength at 48 per cent.

Since the South is overwhelmingly Democratic, the GOP vote outside the South has to average considerably higher than 52 per cent to win control of the House.

It is enlightening to compare today's figures with the results of an identical survey prior to the 1946 election, when the Republicans captured control of both the Senate and the House.

That survey showed the GOP for the first time coming out on top in an Institute poll as the party which could best handle the major problems then uppermost in the minds of each individual voter.

When the question was put to the people in 1946, those voters

1946 MAJOR ISSUES

Republicans can handle better 60%
Democrats can handle better 40

In 1946, the principal issues named were rationing and shortages of food, clothing and other necessities, labor trouble and strikes, foreign policy and dealing with Russia, reducing the high cost of living and the housing situation.

In sounding out sentiment today on public issues, the Institute asked voters first, "What do you regard as the biggest issue, or problem, facing the government in Washington today?"

Keeping the peace, foreign policy, dealing with Russia 42%
Farm problem, falling prices 8
Tax reduction 7
Communism in U. S. 5
Government finances, balancing the budget 4
Labor problems, unemployment 3
De-segregation, racial issues 2
Defense, preparedness 2
Miscellaneous 16
Don't know 17

Some voters named more than one problem and thus the table adds to more than 100 per cent. All who named an issue—and, of course, many different issues were named—were then asked: "Which party—the Republican or Democratic—do you think is best able to solve this problem?"

The Democratic party gets the preference when it comes to handling the farm problem and reducing taxes, but the GOP gets the preference in regard to the problems of keeping the peace, dealing with Communism in the

U. S., and handling government finances. Copyright, 1955, American Institute of Public Opinion

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Astrology has reached its peak at last. It has gone feline. They now have a book out on how your cat, too, is controlled by the stars.

The book is called "Horoscopes for Pussy Cats," and the author is Bootsie Campbell.

A note about the author says: "At the moment she is stretched out on a sunny window, tail curled around, contented and delighted with everything and everyone! She is very special."

What makes her so special? A publisher friend of mine says this would describe any author he has ever known.

I am glad to see this book on astrology for cats published. For years I suffered from an allergy to cats, which, happily, I was able to conquer. For many more years, however, I have suffered from an allergy to people who believe in astrology. This allergy, fight it though I try, I can do nothing about.

Even the dictionary defines astrology as a "pseudoscience," and the dictionary usually has a nice word for everything. The idea that people actually believe events on earth are controlled by the position of the stars and planets thoroughly depresses me with the future of the human race.

When I see a man who attends church buying an astrology magazine I can't help wondering who he is trying to make a fool of—his God or himself.

Salem 53 Yrs. Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

November 21, 1902

Capital Journal's X-Rayist had said: "The Hayseed city administration would be continued for at least two years longer."

Charles H. Hinges, pioneer optician at 88 State street, had advertised artificial eyes, fever thermometers, field glasses, magnifying glasses, hour glasses and eye glasses.

E. Hofer, co-publisher and editor of the Capital Journal, had Wilson, Sharpe, New Paris, Magoon and Defiance strawberry plants for sale at the office: \$2 for 100 plants, 30c a dozen.

A Cornoyer, enterprising proprietor of the Noble (a popular Salem saloon) had just equipped his elegant resort with an up-to-date lunch counter.

The electric line (transmission, not transportation) from Aurora to Canby had been completed and the line to Hubbard would become operative November 24, 1902.

A 15 year old Salem boy had been committed to the reform school because his mother said she could not manage him.

The Happy New Yorkers

Bill Henry in L.A. Times

I ran into a chap just back from New York. An epicure, he was driven out of the best eating places by the manner in which New Yorkers jam together, scream at each other and constantly jostle. His thumbnail impression—New Yorkers aren't happy in restaurants unless they're (1) overcrowded, (2) overstimulated, and (3) overcharged.

PREMATURE

Kansas City Star

The outcome of a national election is not safely gauged by results in state and local contests a year in advance.

U. S., and handling government finances. Copyright, 1955, American Institute of Public Opinion

NATIONAL WHIRLWIND

Knowland Ambitious But Its Not His Year, Editor Says

By DAN L. BEEBE

PRECEDENT: Ray Tucker is on vacation. While he is away there will be great columns by several prominent newspaper editors. Today's column is by Dan L. Beebe, Editor of the Oroville (Calif.) Mercury.

Wherever I have gone on a six-week trip just completed, people have asked me about the political aspirations of California's Big Four: Vice President Nixon, Chief Justice Warren, Senator Knowland and Governor Knight. I believe that next to the question: "Will he run again?" the question about this Big Four is the one most on the tongues of the American people right now.

The majority of the people believe that Mr. Eisenhower will not be a candidate to succeed himself in 1956. For the sake of this piece let us assume that is true. We then have four Californians being mentioned as the most likely candidates for the Republican nomination.

As for Chief Justice Warren, I recently talked with him in Washington and I left convinced that he has not changed his position as stated in April, when he said he would stay out of politics permanently and that his decision was "irrevocable."

Nothing need be written about Vice President Nixon. He, of course, would be a candidate under the circumstances mentioned, and probably with Mr. Eisenhower's blessing.

NOT KNOWLAND'S YEAR
Senator Knowland has shown signs of aspiring to the presidency, but it does not seem to be his year. The Republicans will need to run on Mr. Eisenhower's accomplishments for peace and prosperity, and too many of the American people have misinterpreted Senator Knowland's statements courting war, which of course they do not.

Senator Knowland is immensely popular with Californians. They refer to him as "Mr. America," but I believe his time will not come unless a peaceful coexistence blows up in our faces. Then, as with Winston Churchill after Munich, Senator Knowland might be viewed as the man who was right all along.

So how about Governor Knight? Governor Knight is an ambitious man. For ten years he has been campaigning for governor of California, and I mean campaigning. He was working steadily for the job during the last two terms of Governor Warren, and was quite critical of Warren up until the appointment to the Supreme Court, because he claimed Warren was playing footsie with the Democrats and with labor.

Now that he is governor, Knight wants to be president. Knight was precipitated into the national limelight on August 15, in San Diego, when he appeared on the platform at the convention of the California unit of the American Federation of Labor.

GOVERNOR'S PROMISES TO LABOR
Knight told labor that he would veto any "right-to-work" legislation. He said he would not sign any secondary boycott or hot cargo laws that labor found undesirable. He stood for strengthening labor's position in jurisdictional strike laws. He said he would support legislation "to implement any negotiated guaranteed wage program."

He told labor that after AFL and CIO have merged, during the final months of this year, more than 15,000,000 working men and women will have become a tremendous political force. He estimated that the members of the two organizations along with their families and well-wishers will constitute 75 per cent of the registered voters of the United States.

George Meany, president of AFL, took the platform and said that "America could use more Governor Knights."

The 3,000 delegates ovation Knight a five-minute standing ovation he spoke and repeated it after his speech. One California labor official said that in his 25 years as a delegate to the national AFL convention he had never seen a governor so well received.

But, of course, the labor people won't be in force at the Republican national convention in San Francisco. Nor will they be members of the California delegation.

MIGHT HAND-PICK SLATE
As for that delegation, Governor Knight may hand-pick a slate. He has said that if so, he will release it after the first ballot. It is recognized, however, that such a delegation would do his bidding despite the release.

If the Governor "plays fair," as his opponents put it, and allows a delegation evenly divided among himself, Vice President Nixon and Senator Knowland, there will be no trouble.

But if he hand-picks the delegates he asks the Republicans to vote for, as provided by California law, then there will be another slate. I have been assured.

KNIGHT'S KOWTOWING ATTACKED
At this point we must insert what happened following the AFL convention. The Los Angeles Times bible of the Republicans of popular southern California, went after Knight in a way to make a politician shudder. It referred to "the spectacle of a Republican Governor of California kowtowing to labor union officials who blandly announce in his presence their determination to destroy his party."

It referred to him as an opportunist who had "departed from a life-long political philosophy" and allied himself with the "wretched foes of President Eisenhower and Vice President Nixon." He cannot "save the powerful Times," remain a "thrill" to the "active

A Smile or Two

Joe stopped to chat with his old friend Henry while they were shopping one day. Joe was astonished to note from the labels on the boxes Henry was carrying that he had bought flowers, perfume and lingerie.

"What are you buying this folder for?" he demanded.

"It's all right," Henry said, smiling. "Some men, when they get to middle age, start looking for greener pastures, but I—well I thought I'd cultivate the one I have."—Wall Street Journal.

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