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Wanted, A Few Old Time Wits

The country doesn't need a five-cent cigar nearly as much as it needs a good honest-to-goodness comedian. We have in mind particularly, good political commentators who say things with a smile and a rapier-thrust. Not a self-conscious smile, above all not any TRYING to be funny, but being funny because that is the way they were constructed, and they can't be otherwise.

WHERE are the Dooleys and the Will Rogers of today? They are, as the saying goes, conspicuous by their absence. We have a number of commentators who are funny, but unconsciously so, and their humor increases in direct proportion to their lack of it.

NOT only are good comedians entirely absent from the political scene but there are precious few of them on the contemporary stage, radio or TV. We don't deny we are prejudiced in this field somewhat, but since Fred Allen departed, and before him W. C. Fields, real funny men in this area, are harder for us to find than the proverbial needle in a haystack.

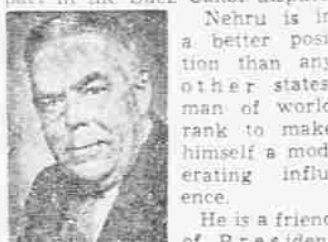
PERHAPS before the present "free-for-all" is over another Will Rogers or Mr. Dooley will appear but we doubt it. Our idea is they smashed the mould which produced these two masters of the brief but shattering political punch-line, also the sound Yankee philosophy that was so seldom absent.

Our attention has been called to Mr. Dooley of Chicago, who was as much a power in the field of American manners, humor and politics half a century ago as Will Rogers was two or three decades later, by an article in this week's "Nation" by Professor Bernet Baskerville of the University of Oregon and conclude today's contribution with the following extracts from same, quote:

- 1. The projected Aswan Dam, much in the news lately, would be over the Snake, Colorado, Nile, St. Lawrence or Ganges River?
2. The recently adjourned Congress was the 64th, 74th, 84th or 94th?
3. X-rays were first developed by Einstein, Nobel, Roentgen, Koch, Pasteur, or the Curies?
4. More persons go from one U.S. city to another by train, bus or plane?
5. The national Prohibition (18th) Amendment was in force a little less than (a) 4, (b) 9, (c) 14, or (d) 19 years?
6. The Bessemer Process is used in manufacturing aluminum, uranium, soda, steel, magnesium or anti-pollio vaccine?
7. A Liverpoolian is a man with a bad liver, inhabitant of Liverpool, surgical specialist, or patent medicine to purify the blood?
8. The answers: 1. Over the Nile in Egypt. 2. 84th. 3. Roentgen. 4. More by train. 5. 14 years. 6. Steel. 7. Inhabitant of Liverpool.

India's Nehru May Play Big Part As Moderator in Canal Dispute

By CHARLES McCANN United Press Correspondent



Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India may play a big part in the Suez Canal dispute. Nehru is in a better position than any other statesman of world rank to make himself a moderating influence.

He is a friend of President Charles McCann Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, and his country is a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

He is being kept closely advised of all Suez developments by his ambassador in Washington, London and Paris. It would not be surprising if, when the moment came, Nehru decided to step into the situation in the role of mediator.

That his services would be welcomed by the United States, Great Britain and France hardly can be doubted. Meantime, it is quite likely that Nehru may urge Nasser privately not to mortgage Egypt's future by continuing his present course.

Nasser is talking big. As dictator of a backward, poverty-stricken country of 20 million people he is challenging the big three Western Allies to a fight to the finish. He also is antagonizing other countries all over the world, from Canada to Australia, to which an open Suez Canal is of great importance.

Premier Mohammed Mossadegh of Iran tried the course which Nasser is taking now. He plunged his country into bankruptcy and landed up in prison, charged with treason. Nasser loses head.

It seems that Nasser has lost his head, acting not on logic but in the heat of blind rage. He can cause a lot of trouble. But he can't get away with it. Nasser must have noted that Egyptian industrial shares slumped alarmingly on the Cairo stock exchange Monday. Losses ranged up to 15 per cent. The

price of cotton—the backbone of Egypt's economy—also dropped sharply. Nasser can not be expected to retreat right now. But it may not be long before he realizes that he is taking on more than he can handle.

When that time comes, Nasser is likely to look to Nehru for some help in getting himself out of trouble. A Moderating Force. Nehru increasingly regards himself—with some justification—as a moderating force in world

affairs. Though many people have questioned his policies, nobody has cast doubt on his honesty or on his abhorrence of such international disputes as that over the Suez Canal. He had a good deal to do, as a man of good will, in arranging details of the Korean armistice and helping to carry it out. He has offered a compromise on the Algerian situation which is being considered.

If he can offer something to ease the canal dispute, he will be a very popular man. Imperialist days of Disraeli and Palmerston, when the canal was born. But it is also well to understand the American stake in the matter.

AMERICAN Middle Eastern oil also moves through the canal, and will henceforth do so, if Nasser has his way, only by courtesy of the Egyptian strongman. But that is only a small part of the American stake. The biggest part is the British alliance. British prestige, influence and power have been shrinking steadily. If Egypt successfully defies Great Britain on a matter absolutely vital to British interests, then it is no exaggeration to say that Britain is through, once and for all, as a great power. The value of the Anglo-American alliance, which remains the heart and soul of Western strength, will then be sharply and disastrously downgraded.

What is more, what has now happened is a very direct result of American, not British, policy. It is no secret that Jefferson Caffery, former American Ambassador in Cairo, had a lot to do with installing the Nasser regime. Through Caffery, moreover, very heavy pressure was brought to bear on the British to evacuate the Canal Zone. And it was Secretary of State Dulles who took the lead in the Anglo-American decision to withdraw the offer to help finance the Aswan Dam—a decision which led directly to Nasser's act of defiance.

It has been said that Dulles' decision was a triumph gambit, because Soviet Foreign Minister Dmitri Shepilov subsequently remarked that the Soviet Union was "not considering" helping to build the dam. The triumph may well be premature. After all, if two people are interested in a piece of property, and one withdraws, the other is very apt to assume an air of indifference. The Soviet objective has clearly been to make certain that Nasser, when he goes to Moscow next month, will arrive hand in hand and without real bargaining power.

THE objective has been achieved, and the danger of a Soviet-Egyptian deal which will make the Soviet Union the master of the Middle East must be added to the dangers inherent in Nasser's seizure of the canal. There are other dangers. The Israeli, for example, count Nasser their most formidable enemy. If Nasser now triumphantly defies the power of Britain and America, they will conclude that Israel is next on his list. The Israeli may then take "preventive action," or could spark a Middle Eastern or even a general war.

In this situation there are three alternative courses of action, all hideously unattractive. One is to waffle—to protest, to denounce, but to do nothing. Another is to bring maximum economic and political pressure on Nasser. Egypt's sterling accounts have already been frozen, and other punitive measures can also be taken, like undercutting Egypt in the world cotton market. But this kind of economic arm-twisting has an unpleasant smell to the world, and it would leave Nasser nowhere to turn but to Moscow, which is precisely what Moscow wants.

A third alternative is to send the British Parachute and Royal Marine detachments on Cyprus to the Canal Zone, and back them up with the Egyptian Sixth Fleet. But the Egyptian army, such as it is, would almost surely resist and war would result. Much of the world would regard the Western powers as the real aggressors. And a small war with Egypt might lead on to ultimate horrors. The British probably will not use force without American backing. This is an election year. Thus the betting is about ten to one on the policy of waffling, and the grumbling acceptance of another major setback for the weakening West.

Copyright 1956, New York Herald Tribune Inc. Socialists Nominates Oregon Candidate. Portland—U.P.—The Socialist Labor party has nominated Bert L. Baxter for United States senator from Oregon and Thomas L. Goff for governor. Baxter said the party would conduct a write-in campaign in Oregon.

In The Day's News By Frank Jenkins

COUNTRY, uncomplicated by what will be good for the members themselves. That raises a question: If the 84th congress wasn't as it might have been, why wasn't it? Another question: What can we do to make succeeding congresses better? ONE answer, I think, will take care of both questions. The way to get better congresses is to get BETTER MEN into the congress.

Let's put it this way: When you hire a man to mow your lawn, what you want is a good job at a price you can afford. If you get a good man, you'll be apt to get a satisfactory job. If you get a poor man, you'll be pretty sure to get a poor job of lawn mowing. The same rule holds for members of congress—who are EMPLOYEES of the people, out of whose pockets their wages come.

There is this difference: The man who mows your lawn and collects his wages, and that's that. The members of congress SPEND YOUR MONEY FOR YOU. When you hire a man to spend your money, you'd better be pretty sure you're getting a GOOD MAN—not just a good talker.

BACK to the Suez canal situation—which is important to all of us because if it isn't handled wisely by our legislators and our statesmen it can get us into war. Egypt's Man on Horseback Nasser returns to Cairo from Alexandria, where he proclaimed the seizure of the Suez. To excited crowds in Cairo he shouted defiance at British and French protests against his Suez grab. As Cairo throngs screamed "Down with Britain and France," "Down with America" and "LONG LIVE RUSSIA," Nasser said: "I strongly warn the imperialist countries that their interference will cause obstruction of navigation in the canal."

What he means by his last crack is that if Britain and France and the United States don't keep still and take it lying down he'll close Suez to the tankers bringing British and American oil from the Middle East fields and compel the to go around the far southern tip of Africa. Uncle Sam is known all over Europe as Santa Claus or Uncle Shylock and you can take your choice, remembering that in sarcasm, as not as a compliment. If you are dead set to vote against your own interests go ahead and vote Republican. But, remember this, also, we have now two Senators from Oregon who are for the Veterans: Wayne Morse and Richard Neuberger. Believe me, I KNOW. I have their written statements to that effect.

A vote for McKay is a vote to cut the Veterans throats and do not forget it. For it is true as the fact that the sun shines. You younger veterans will be old some day and, in the meantime, you may not have such luck as you may wish in gathering in your first million. It could be you will wish for the privilege of drawing a pension or of going to a Veterans Hospital for something for which you cannot pay. So, if you vote for a Party who will take away pensions and benefits from all Vets, you may blame yourself. You are warned. Be wise, and vote in your own interests. Vote for Wayne Morse for the Senate. He is your friend, McKay is not.

Consult Mr. Insurance Fred Brennan. I carry fire and "extended coverage" on my home and household goods, which covers loss or damage from just about everything except damage from flood or rising waters. Is Personal Property insurance my best bet to cover water damage? CALL MEDFORD INSURANCE AGENCY Phone 2-4940

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GOP Views Chance Of Getting Control Of Senate This Year

Washington (CQ)—Republicans have about a 50-50 chance to recapture Senate control in the November election when there will be 35 Senate contests in 34 states.

Congressional Quarterly surveyed the 18 Democratic and 17 GOP seats, found that: Democratic seats are in danger in Oregon, Washington, New York, Nevada and one in Kentucky—where there are two Senate races. Republican seats are in danger in Ohio, Colorado, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Republicans have the edge in California, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, North Dakota, Wisconsin and Utah. Democrats have the edge in Arizona, one Kentucky seat, Missouri, West Virginia and Ohio. Ohio quite likely will flip over into the Democratic column this year, even though it has a Republican incumbent.

Democrats are sure winners in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma and South Carolina, where there are two races. Kansas, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Vermont are safely Republican. A rundown on the top contested races: Oregon—The GOP high command prevailed on Douglas McKay to resign as Secretary of Interior to take on Sen. Wayne Morse, a Democrat twice previously elected as a Republican. Morse is the Republicans' "number one" target because, by switching parties, he gave control of the Senate to the Democrats during the 84th Congress.

Washington Race. Washington—Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D) has strong competition from Gov. Arthur B. Langlie (R), who also received a White House request to enter the race. Each man is a top vote-getter in his party. Republicans sought to give Langlie a mighty boost by naming him keynoter at the Republican National Convention. New York—Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D) at 78 is undecided about running for reelection; Republicans have several strong possible candidates. Nevada—If 45-year-old Sen. Alan Bible (D) survives primary opposition he will have stiff competition from Rep. Clinton Young (R), 33 and a strong campaigner. Kentucky—The President

prevailed on former Sen. John Sherman Cooper (R), the state's strongest GOP vote-getter, to give up his post as U. S. Ambassador to India to run against Gov. Lawrence W. Wetherby (D) to fill the unexpired term of the late Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D). Ohio—Gov. Frank J. Lausche (D), the state's only five-term governor and Ohio's "favorite son" to the Democratic National Convention, is out to take away the seat of Sen. George H. Bender (R). This is the only Senate race in which the challenger has a definite edge over the incumbent.

Colorado Candidates. Colorado—Ailing Sen. Eugene D. Millikin (R) is not seeking reelection. Colorado Republicans must build up a candidate fast to oppose either former Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan or former Rep. John A. Carroll (D), vying for the Democratic nomination. Maryland—Sen. John Marshall Butler (R) is challenged by ailing former Sen. Millard E. Tydings (D), out to avenge his 1950 defeat by Butler. Pennsylvania—Sen. James H. Duff (R), an early Eisenhower supporter, has formidable opposition from Joseph S. Clark Jr. (D), former mayor of Philadelphia.

Other interesting Senate races are shaping up in Illinois, where scandals in the state Republican administration may affect the reelection chances of Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (R). In Idaho where Glen Taylor (D), cowboy singer, ex-Senator and 1948 candidate for Vice President on the Progressive ticket is trying for a comeback; and in North Dakota where there has been a re-alignment of the parties. Beating the Bushes. With President Eisenhower seeking re-election, Republican leaders have sought to capitalize on his popularity by beating the bushes for first-rate Senate candidates in races where there is a good chance to win. Democrats have put up a number of Senate candidates with impressive farm backgrounds in farm-conscious states, such as Brannan in Colorado, former Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard in Indiana and R. M. (Spike) Evans, former Agricultural Adjustment administrator, in Iowa. (Copyright 1956, Congressional Quarterly)

G.O.P.'s loudest battle-cry: "MORSE MUST GO!"

This week, The Saturday Evening Post brings you the story of the political battle that the whole nation is watching! Find out why McKay's connection with an automobile concern may cause him trouble with labor. You'll want to know how much Morse's anti-Eisenhower remarks have affected his popularity! Learn about the remark McKay once made over the radio that Morse has never forgiven! And what do the polls show about McKay's chances to beat Morse? Be sure to get your copy of this week's Post and read: GRUDGE FIGHT IN OREGON In all 7 articles, 4 stories, 2 serials

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