

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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What's the Big Idea?

The tax behaviour of the State Legislature is hard to understand. The members of both houses must know the people of the state want a balanced budget, and that many millions in taxes must be collected to secure that. Yet to date the chief activity in both houses has been to reduce the area of tax revenue, and before the complete tax picture can be known, What is the big idea?

THE House of Representatives was the first to act, only a short time after the present session opened. By an overwhelming majority Democrats and Republicans joined to kill any prospect of a sales tax. Our recollection is Representative Littrell of Jackson County was only one of three or four members to oppose such action.

Now the Senate has followed suit. By a similar overwhelming vote it has passed a bill preventing general use of any state property tax. This isn't closing the stable door after the horse has been stolen—it is closing and locking the door as the poor beast can't be properly watered and fed.

WE HAVE for many years opposed a state sales tax, and we hold no brief now for a state property tax. But when necessary state expenses for the ensuing biennium are added up, it may be apparent, that one of these sources of revenue, or both, will be needed to avoid a state deficit financing veering close to the edge of bankruptcy.

Whether such a situation will arise or not, we fail to see the sense in approaching the state's financial problem in such a thoughtless, precipitate and negative fashion—eliminating legitimate sources of tax revenue, before the necessary needs of the state tax-wise, have been determined. If any reasonable or convincing explanation has emanated from Salem we have failed to note it.

WE BELIEVE the people of the state who have to foot the tax bills, would appreciate one. The business-like approach would seem to be in order, namely: to secure as accurate an estimate of what money the state will need as possible BEFORE eliminating ANY legal and legitimate means of getting it.—R.W.R.

The "Honeymoon" Is Over

We prophesy that, instead of "relying on the magic of the Eisenhower name in the 1958 elections," Republicans who believe in less Federal government and in protection of the American people's interests first in foreign affairs will be engaged in a struggle with the Republican "One Worlders" for party nominations. We believe that, in 1960, the two parties will not be so much alike that confused citizens constantly are raising the query: "What's the difference between the Republican and Democratic parties, anyway?" —Grants Pass Courier.

This is an interesting and somewhat surprising admission on the part of one of the state's most uncompromising Republican newspapers, that the Eisenhower honeymoon is over.

The Courier is convinced that a year hence, the magical vote-getting power of the Eisenhower name will be abandoned, and the Republicans will rally not around "Ike" but the standard bearer of those G.O.P. leaders who are tired of being mistaken for "New Dealers" and "One Worlders" and (presumably) wish to return to the good old days of isolationism, "full dinner pail" and William McKinley.

WELL, this has been the contention of this department for a long time. But we never expected to have the Courier, or any other stalwart supporter of the G.O.P. status quo ante admit it—at least until the bye elections of 1958 had passed, and the tenure of the Eisenhower administration approached its zero hour.

BUT there it is in the Courier in black and white. So to the scrap heap with the basic principles of the "New Deal" which President Eisenhower accepted and continued to support. Also down with the "One Worlders" who as the President has declared believe in acceptance of

"our own deep involvement in the destiny of men EVERYWHERE."

Down with all that half-baked socialist philosophy in fact disguised under the hated term of "New Deal" and up with the new standard that "what is best for General Motors is best for the country."

WE FIND the Courier's frank admission as refreshing as it was unexpected. So many Republicans feel the same way but for the sake of political expediency, have refused to admit it.

However we have our "doubts" that the prediction of the Grants Pass paper will be sustained by the events. For while the old elephant never forgets, he never likes to take a beating either, and to not only be without President Eisenhower's blessing but to publicly repudiate him and his political beliefs, would, we fear, give Jumbo a lacing that he might like to forget, but never could.—R.W.R.

Bill versus Dick

Of course in this turbulent world, almost anything can happen in the next three years politically—and otherwise.

But barring some spectacular and unforeseen development, such as a world war, a major business depression or the like, the next G.O.P. convention promises to be a contest between two prominent Californians—Vice President Nixon and Senator Knowland.

The latter, of course, will represent the "Old Deal"

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Why so Much Hate?

To the Editor: Our dog was poisoned last Sunday morning. He was our 18-year old boy's friend, companion and protector. Our dog died by the front steps, where we had found him as he left to go to Sunday School.

Way, oh way, is there so much hate in the world, that some find it necessary to destroy? I have never had a son (or daughter) who looks upon a pet as a real friend? I wonder, who ever did this, if they have ever seen our son and his dog playing ball in the back yard, racing down the street together, sometimes the boy on his bike, seeing the dog get home first. Or, if they had looked in the window they could have seen many wrestling matches, or the two sitting quietly watching television—the boy with his arm around the dog.

If they could look into the boy's eyes now and see the deep sorrow there, I'm certain they would be filled with remorse. It was a comforting feeling, to be able to go out in the evening and leave the boy and know that the dog would watch the house.

There is a sad and quiet family at 1007 Murray, because a friendly, wagging tail is no longer there. Mrs. Vincent Lobdell 1007 Murray St., Medford, Ore.

State Democrats Scored

To the Editor: Your editorial headed "Blind Partisanship" dated Feb. 24 has avoided many of the facts. Referring to the last two lines of the editorial: "We don't deny it may be blind Democratic Partisanship tomorrow" is pretty good except it should have read "yesterday."

I would like to call your attention that prior to the election this Democratic majority that you are trying so hard to defend were promising everything to the voters including the kitchen sink! I would just like to call to your attention a few of these fantastic promises supplied by the campaigning Senator Holmes:

"I am for repeal of the surtax." (Incidentally, House Bill No. 1, introduced by the House Taxation Committee at the request of the Governor, calls for repeal of the surtax. We have now been in session 6 1/2 weeks and there has been positively no action upon this measure.)

"Raise the dependency exemption from \$500 to \$600." "Unilaterally opposed to a sales tax." (When Campaigner Holmes was asked the question as to where all this money would come from, his glib answer would be: "It is possible to derive all the needed revenue from a change of rates in the income tax.")

In Governor Holmes' inaugural address, he stated he was charting the course for a bold new look in Oregon; followed by the words: "Let's fly not flounder." To date, Governor Holmes has refused to answer direct letter questions: "What are your budget recommendations?" If it is irresponsible to attempt to ascertain a Governor's budget recommendations, then I am sure that many of the Jackson county citizens would have to join me in being irresponsible.

I would also like to remind you that it was these same vocal Democrats who supported defeat of the emergency clause for taxation bills. Now since they are in the majority, they seem to be crying their heads off because many of us wish to take the State out of the property tax field and assure homeowners, small businessmen and others in similar circumstances from being penalized with property taxes because of what might prove to be an irresponsible Democratic majority at the Legislature this session.

Wayne R. Gier, Monroe, Ore. State Representative Salem, Oregon

Republicans, as exemplified by such newspapers as the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago News, the Los Angeles Examiner and the Grants Pass Courier—to be guilty of a major anti-Climax! It is fairly clear that California's senior Senator in opposing certain Eisenhower policies now is preparing for such a transfer and readjustment.

ON THE other hand the shrewd and calculating Vice President is not only working night and day, with the 1960 presidential nomination in mind, but is plainly getting enthusiastic and constant help from the White House.

So at this distance in time it is hard to see how the G.O.P. Old Guard is going to get much satisfaction out of the 1960 convention, as far as repudiation of "modern Republicanism" is concerned.

This is entirely speculative of course. But one thing isn't—namely—that so long as President Eisenhower's influence and prestige not only throughout the country, but within the Republican party, remains at its present high level, "Bill" will never beat "Dick" for the coveted prize.—R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

REFLECTIONS ON NIKITA

Paris—An attempt to analyze the character of a single individual may seem an odd first installment of an attempt to sum up seven experienced people in a country more than 200 million people. Yet I think all the same that Nikita S. Khrushchev is a useful human symbol of the strange society which he leads.

For one thing, despite the rumors to the contrary, this powerful, resilient, gutta percha-like man has almost certainly been strengthening his position as first among the equals of the Soviet ruling collective. It was highly significant, for instance, that Khrushchev, the Party Secretary, rather than Bulganin, the Chairman of the Ministerial Council, presented the staggered new plan of administrative and economic re-organization to the recent Plenum of the Communist Central Committee.

Under Soviet practice, this makes the new program a Khrushchev program. The right comparison is the only slightly less staggering new lands program, with its total investment of more than \$3 billion dollars and its human movement of about 600,000 farm workers, which is also a Khrushchev program.

IN THE circumstances, in truth, it is rather more likely that Nikita Khrushchev will eventually combine the two key posts now divided between himself and Bulganin, than that he will be replaced as first among the equals by someone else. What then is the character of this representative Soviet leader?

The record tells a good deal. Khrushchev danced the "Gopak" and pacified the Ukraine with an iron hand for Josef Stalin. He reached his present great position in a period when no man's back was safe from the dagger of intrigue, a period when the struggle for survival at the Soviet summit was quite literally a struggle to the death. He must be tough. He must be astute. He must have a talent for survival. Otherwise he would not have survived.

It may seem presumptuous to think that one can add much to these established facts on the basis of a mere conversation—even a very frank conversation that continued for two hours. Yet as I watched and listened to Nikita Khrushchev the other day certain of his traits seemed to stand out in a way that was indisputable.

HE IS, first of all, possessed of an incomparable energy, an astonishing zest and gusto. When he and Bulganin returned from their grueling trip to India, the exhausted Bulganin had to take to his bed for a few days. But Khrushchev resumed ordinary

duties with the air of having enjoyed a rest cure. In the same manner when I saw him, he had just finished a pretty rough two weeks, with the Supreme Soviet Central Committee Plenum, the changes in the Foreign Ministry, the big program of administrative re-organization, and all sorts of other tasks crowding in together. But he still seemed just as bouncing gaily perched like a when I first saw him laughing Chou En Lai in high good humor at the Kremlin.

YET the immensity of the stakes upon the table (stakes which of course quite possibly include Khrushchev's own future) did not seem to dismay him in the least. On the contrary, he positively rubbed his stubby, strong peasant hands in open delight, when he described the planned movement, from comfortable baths in the capital, out to hard jobs on the industrial front in the provinces, of countless thousands of important officials, engineers and technicians. The radical character of the industrial-economic shakeup obviously appealed to him greatly.

At the same time, Khrushchev's discussion of Soviet internal problems was singularly practical and hard-headed. In contrast, his discussion of foreign policy seemed at first to have an inordinately high content of polemic and Communist slobbered talk.

Yet if one listened analytically, this initially unfavorable impression was soon dispelled, or rather soon replaced by an impression of a different nature. On the one hand, it became clear many Khrushchev statements that would seem outrageous to every American, were in fact believed by Khrushchev himself. And why not? He himself has revealed that even his primary education began very late. His whole training and experience have been acquired within the iron limits of the iron Soviet system. So the special way he sees the outer world is hardly surprising.

ON the other hand, despite the great distortion of some of his judgments, concerning American intentions, for instance, there was an extreme sharpness, a ruthless, brutally realistic focus in most of his vision of the outer world. Above all, he plainly saw with utmost clarity all the weak points in the patchy armor of the Western alliance. And he plainly realized only too precisely how those weak points could best be probed and exploited.

Altogether, it seemed to me impossible to resist the conclusion that Nikita S. Khrushchev was a very formidable fellow indeed and above all a very uncomfortable sort of opponent. And it also seems to me that this same conclusion can be applied to Soviet society.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

There's quite a bit of remodeling going on these days. Have you noticed? Two firms on the north side of Sixth street between D'Anjou (Front) and Central are doing themselves over, one of them expanding all over the place.

And across the street, a former furniture store is getting a major going-over, and it is understood that the unannounced plans call for a group of attractive offices there.

We've succumbed ourselves. The display advertising department of the M-T is in the throes of moving into glossy and attractive new quarters adjacent to their old ones; the front of the building is undergoing a facelift, and the business office is due for a major rearrangement and overhaul.

This is progress, of course. But did you ever try to concentrate as a jack-hammer was shattering the air (and concrete) only a few feet away? Or did you ever start to scamper down a stairway suddenly to find that the bottom half of it was missing? Or did you ever have a carpenter poke a hole through the wall while you were sitting quietly and busily at work at your desk? Discon-darn-certing, that's what it is.

Seth Bullis, our favorite sidewalk superintendent, was inspecting the progress last week. Asked for his authority to do so he promptly produced a properly authenticated "Sidewalk Superintendent's" card—but for Portland. He was told he'd better have it punched to make it valid in Medford.

We like the rules of "How to Stay Young," composed by LeRoy (Satchel) Paige, the perennial baseball player, which we spotted in the Pendleton paper. His recipe for agelessness is as follows:

- 1. Avoid fried meats, which are angry up the blood.
2. If your stomach disputes you, lie down and pacify it with cool thoughts.
3. Keep the juices flowing by jangling gently as you move.
4. Go very lightly on the vitamins, such as carrying on in society.
5. Avoid running at all times.
6. Don't look back. Something may be gaining on you.

The 13-year-old was going to a dance, and mentioned that the mother of a friend was going to be a chaperone. Eleven-year-old: "What's a chaperone?" The 17-year-old: "Oh, sort of an overseer." (Shades of Simon Legree!)

A lady we happen to know quite well started an adult education class in sculpture not long ago, and got exceedingly interested in it, finding she thoroughly enjoyed messing around with the sculpting clay.

She searched her closet for some sort of raiment which would protect her good clothes from getting dirty, but found none she deemed appropriate. Inspiration struck, however, and she called a friend who had recently become a mother, asking if she had any old maternity smocks she no longer wanted. A deal was concluded.

Since then, she has been spotted wearing a smock by several friends, who approached with surprise and delight in their eyes to congratulate her on her "condition."

Oregon's state bird is the meadowlark. Its flower is the Oregon grape. Its tree is the Douglas fir (pseudotsuga taxifolia). Its official dog? Alas, it has none—a state of affairs that a major dog-food company seeks to rectify. It points out an "official state dog" can be named by the state legislature by proclamation of the governor, or by popular vote. (There's a really serious problem for the legislature, now.) Anyway, it is also seeking an expression of public opinion on this weighty matter, and if you have a suggestion the Gaines Dog Research Center, 250 Park Ave., New York 17, would be happy to hear it.

Telephones are fearful and wonderful machines and we're made aware of it nearly every day. For instance, the other day an M-T staff member tried to telephone a county office. She dialed, but there was no ring at the other end of the line. Suddenly, though, she heard a voice. The following conversation ensued:

"Hello." "Hello?" "Are you the operator?" "No, I'm calling from the Mail Tribune and I'm trying to get an outside line." "Well, I'm calling from the airport, and I'm trying to get an outside line too. Shall we try again?"

Bert Kissinger tells us about a sign in front of a house on North Court street which says "For Sale or Rent." Bert says he hopes the owner has success, although he thinks the house should remain anchored to its foundation, for the time being.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1947 (Monday)
Mrs. Elsie Ragsdale, 513 Palm St., Medford, wins name contest sponsored by the American Beauty shop.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Crows are now plentiful in the rural regions. They came at dawn and fly around all day as the crow flies.

20 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1937 (Wednesday)
Plans to start the sawmill of Medford Lumber Company (Oregon Lumber Company) Monday, if weather permits logging, are announced by James H. Owen, general manager.

Under supervision of County Agent R. G. Fowler, eight men started work this week on a WPA project that will remove diseased fruit trees on county land.

30 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1927 (Thursday)
Boy Scout summer camp Applegate river is inspected by Lee P. Brown, camping committee chairman of Crater Lake council.

Plans are in formative stage by the chamber of commerce for election of 11 directors.

40 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1917 (Saturday)
Medford and Jackson county schools asked to compete in the statewide contest for prizes offered by Dr. W. A. Wood, of Hillsboro, state senator of Washington county for essays on good roads.

From Local on Personal column: A Bowman of Phoenix is in Medford transacting business with local merchants.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. Did the War of 1812 end in 1812?
2. Name the capital of Portugal.
3. Archelus was Herod Antipas or Archelus tetrarch of Judea and Samaria?
4. Was thorium B, the first isotope, used to study how certain plants absorb and internally use lead, or silver?
5. Which Roman deity is associated with the forge?
6. During World War I the "Central Powers" were Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and—what other country?
7. Is a fortnight a week end?
8. In the Army, what is a "hash mark"?
9. Which word is expressive of bullet caliber or caliber?
10. The athlete was in the — what — of condition?
Answers: 1. No. 2. Lisbon. 3. Archelus. 4. Lead. 5. Vulcan. 6. Turkey. 7. No. Two weeks. 8. Service stripes. 9. Caliber. 10. "pink".

Invitation Accepted

By Governor Holmes
The Dalles — (U2) — Gov. Robert Holmes of Oregon and Gov. Albert Rosellini have accepted invitations to attend dedication of the Army Engineers navigation lock at The Dalles dam March 16-17. Gov. Holmes said he would be forced to keep an engagement in Portland after the first day's activities but Gov. Rosellini said he would participate in the full two-day ceremony.