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Policies in City Affairs -- II

(The following editorial is the second of three adapted from a talk made by the writer to Oregon mayors and councilmen at the recent convention of the League of Oregon Cities in Portland.)

What is the logical, thoughtful way to develop cities' policies which will prove to be helpful and successful?

Any successful policy must find its basis in philosophy, and in what are known as certain presuppositions. Four of these (and there can be others) are suggested:

1. That a city government's sole excuse for existence is to do for its people what they cannot do, or cannot do as well, for themselves.
2. That a city is a fluid, ever-changing entity, and that what was effective and helpful in the past is not necessarily the best solution for problems of today.
3. That nothing in the full range of human activity is, of and by itself and without qualification, outside the scope of a government which has the duty of ministering to the welfare of the people it serves.
4. That the test of "the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run," which also implies the protection of the rights of the minority, is the most important test which can be applied to actions of government.

If these presuppositions are granted — and they will be granted by those who serve without an ax to grind or an empire to build — then we can come to the area of policy-making.

Municipal policies can—and very possibly should — cover any eventuality which the mind of man can dream up. For almost anything can happen, and experienced city officials know it usually does.

So what are some areas where policy may legitimately be employed? Here is a partial list, which any city official could add to and which all will recognize. The list is in no particular order:

- Off-street parking . . . arterial streets . . . traffic control, including truck routes and freeway access . . . sewers, including mains, laterals, installation, assessment and repair . . . police and fire administration and the relative advantages of consolidation . . . annexation . . . water supply, and should it be offered outside the city.
 - Parks . . . recreation programs, including pools, story hours, supervised play, sports and overnight or summer camps . . . juvenile delinquency . . . judicial administration . . . building inspection, including subdivision regulation, billboard control and overhanging sign regulation . . . zoning . . . setback rules . . . sidewalk and street construction and repair, the assessments . . . parking meters . . . fluoridation . . . police money escorts.
 - Railroad crossings, including speed and safety considerations . . . air pollution . . . convention and tourist hospitality . . . ambulance service . . . franchises for electric, telephone and gas utilities . . . bus service and the city's responsibility in seeing it is maintained . . . tree trimming over streets . . . street sweeping (including the momentous question of whose responsibility it is to sweep up glass after an accident) . . . after-hours employment for police officers and firemen . . . pensions and retirement . . . safety education and programs . . . crime reporting . . . utility pole control or elimination . . . tree planting plans . . . parade permits and policing.
- And so on and so on.

That may serve to give a general idea as to the areas in which people expect advance planning and a settled policy. If it is lacking, they are apt to feel cheated.

Some areas of policy are outlined for cities in the city charter. These limit the freedom of action of the administration in some regards, and generally speaking are "hard" policies, difficult to change. Frequently, of course, no change is either necessary or desirable, although changing conditions may from time to time make the charter obsolete in some regards.

Other policies of the city have "hardened" into ordinances, most of them in the long, long ago.

But there is a large area in which the administration operates which is governed largely, perhaps even solely, by policies adopted by the current office-holders.

And if they are not aware of operating under policies, that simply means they are unaware — not that they have no policies. They may be negative, they may be amorphous, they may be unwritten or even unspoken, but they are there — even if they are nothing but policies of doing as little as possible.

It is for this reason that the conscious, intelligent formulation of general, overall policies — to supplement, or even change those in the charter and in the ordinances — and the understanding of policies in specific areas of government, not only are of assistance to the responsible officials, but are no less than what their constituents should have a right to expect.

This is not to say that policies should never be changed — or even violated. They should be changed the very moment they no longer serve the purpose for which they are intended. And they may be violated for good and sufficient reason.

But intelligent consistency is of great value, provided it is not slavish. For one thing, it will insure an equality of treatment to those citizens who appear before the council seeking, say, a sidewalk, or a curb and gutter job, or a sewer extension or repair of a street.

If they are denied, and can then point to a similar or identical situation where some other individual was successful in his plea — then we all know what the office-holders' names will be: MUD. —E.A.



Turkey, Berlin Eyed as Possible Spots for Headlines of Future

By CHARLES M. McCANN
 United Press Correspondent
 around the world look ahead at the news that will make the headlines.

On To Berlin
 If Soviet Russia starts to take its propaganda heat off Turkey this week, as expected — watch Berlin.

Russia's vicious charges that Turkey was plotting to attack Syria were aimed partly at embarrassing Premier Adnan Menderes in his election campaign. The election was held Sunday.

Allied intelligence agents predict that the anti-Turkish campaign will dwindle and that pressure will be increased against Berlin.

For 10 days, the Communists have been harassing highway and rail traffic along the lifelines that connect Berlin with

West Germany across 110 miles of the Soviet Occupation Zone. Now the pressure is expected to intensify. The big question is whether the Reds will resort to blockade-type measures.

Warning
 President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan did a lot more talking — and deciding — about the Middle East last week than their joint communique indicates. They devoted just one paragraph to Turkey, but that paragraph pointed out that an attack on Turkey, as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, would be considered an attack on all 15 allies. It was a stern warning.

Eisenhower and Macmillan decided that it would be more effective if they gave it without any frills.

Big Show
 Reports about preparations for the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Bolshevik regime on Nov. 7 center on the likelihood that new nuclear weapons may be unveiled in the big parade.

Diplomatic advances say there may be some headline news

Ike's Coattails Questioned as Effective on Basis of Record

By LYLE C. WILSON
 United Press Correspondent
 Washington — The riding qualities of President Eisenhower's coattails, now in question by some Republican politicians, soon will be substantially tested.

The test will come in New Jersey's Nov. election of a governor. The administration is all-out to obtain the job for Republican Malcolm S. Forbes who opposed Democratic Gov. Robert B. Meyner.

Chairman Richard M. Simpson (R-Pa.) of the Republican National Congressional Campaign Committee is telling GOP candidates to beware of the presidential coattails. There are other Republican politicians who simply cite the record in support of their doubts about their riding qualities.

Forbes is not one of these. He was campaigning New Jersey last week in company of Vice President Richard M. Nixon, apparently pleased and grateful for the opportunity to run as an Ike-man. The administration effort for Forbes in New Jersey is without precedent in that state.

Morale Boost
 Nixon frankly told New Jersey voters that Forbes' election would boost Republican morale nationwide. The implication was, of course, that the party needs a morale boost which, apparently, it does.

The need became acute after Wisconsin's August election of Democratic William E. Proxmire to complete the U.S. Senate term of the late Republican Joseph R. McCarthy.

Proxmire defeated former Gov. Walter J. Kohler Jr., who proudly ran as a 100 per cent Eisenhower Republican. Wisconsin had not previously elected a Democratic senator since the Roosevelt landslide of 1932. Kohler's defeat was another bit of evidence supporting the belief of many practical politicians that the President's personal popularity is no great asset to Republican state and national candidates, and that the administration is incapable of attracting voters in sufficient numbers.

The Others
 Kohler was not the first Ike-man to go down. Gov. Dan Thornton of Colorado was a big man in the Eisenhower campaign of 1952 and in 1956 ran as an Ike-man for the Senate. Democrat John A. Carroll licked him.

Sen. James H. Duff was the big man of Pennsylvania Republican politics and in 1952 was a leader of the Eisenhower band. Democrat Joseph S. Clark defeated Duff's 1956 bid for reelection.

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.), who bolted the Republican party in 1952 in protest against presidential nominee Eisenhower, was the man the administration most wanted to defeat in last year's elections. The President sent then Secretary of Interior Douglas MacKay to demolish

that the mock nuclear weapon dropped from an A3D Skywarrior twin-jet plane during last week's big United States Pacific Fleet maneuvers missed the dead center of its target by only 1,500 feet. The Navy isn't bragging about it. Cmdr. Herbert Salyer of Coronado, Calif., who piloted the Skywarrior, and other Navy pilots have done better in previous, unpublicized tests.

On the Spot
 This may or may not hit the headlines. But American earth-satellite scientists are complaining privately that President Eisenhower has put them on the spot as the result of Russia's "Sputnik" success. Eisenhower said at his press conference Oct. 9 that the United States would fire a small test sphere in December. Reporters who heard him got the impression that it would certainly get into an orbit, like Sputnik, and become a minor moon. He also said the U.S. would try to launch a true satellite in March. The scientists had reported that it was unlikely these spheres would get into an orbit. They had said that the first "earnest try" would be made some time in "early spring." The scientists feel that by pinpointing months and indicating that the test sphere was expected to orbit, Eisenhower put them under pressure to make his statement good. The satellite project never had been a "crash" program. A lot of technical difficulties still stand in the way.

Peevish
 The Chinese Reds are getting frightfully annoyed at those big Super-G Constellation "weather" planes based on Okinawa. U.S. officials blush when they deny that the planes are charting the Red-held coast.

Mr. McCabe Is Answered
 To the Editor: As for the letters of Mr. McCabe: People do not tell me what to write. I am quite sure that I have enough intelligence to write my own letters.

What type of air is it that Mr. McCabe doesn't want registered? Hot or cold? (I bet it's hot).

And as for me having socialist leanings, the only thing "red" about me is my hair. I have gone to Medford public schools all my life, and if I have been taught Communism, perhaps Mr. McCabe should investigate.

If Mr. McCabe thinks I am dumb, please inform him that I read from five to eight library books each week, plus my school work and more of the papers besides the comics.

I always seem to be able to find time to eat, sleep, dance, watch T.V., go out, and have fun with my parents.

I love this country, I like the way it is governed. There could be no other country as beautiful or as democratic as ours, and I dislike the way Mr. McCabe speaks against it.

Virginia Eddy Walker,
 16 Quince st.,
 Medford, Ore.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

CATS OUT OF THE BAG
 Washington — Certain very large and ugly cats have been let out of the bag in recent days.

These revelations cast a new light on the Eisenhower administration's policies in the race with the Soviet Union for superiority in the ballistic missiles. And in the now inevitable full dress investigation of those policies, the cats that have been let out of the bag are going to be very hard indeed to explain away.

Cat number one was the report in the authoritative technical magazine, "Aviation Week," that a radar tracking system in Turkey has been monitoring tests of ballistic missiles in the Soviet Union for more than two years. The report has not been denied for the simple reason that it is true—the existence of the radar system, which is of course known to the Soviets, has been common knowledge among those who interest themselves in such matters for a long time.

The meaning of this particular cat-out-of-the-bag is quite obvious. The Administration has not had to guess about Soviet progress in the missile field, or to rely on doubtful secret intelligence reports. It has known, without the slightest room for doubt, that the Soviets have tested hundreds of the shorter range strategic missiles, scores of the intermediate missiles, and this year, at least eight missiles of inter-continental range.

THE Administration has known, in short that the Soviets have been rapidly outdistancing this country in the ballistic missile race, whose outcome will predictably determine the future balance of world power. And this is where cat-out-of-the-bag number two comes into play.

For cat number two concerns the Administration's reaction to the hard intelligence of Soviet missile progress. This cat is emerging little by little, and is not entirely out of the bag yet.

The "Washington Post and Times-Herald" for example, recently reported an order by former Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson which last summer cut research and development work largely on missiles, by some \$170 million.

The order, successfully concealed for a long time, came right on the heels of the first detection by the radar monitoring system of Soviet tests of inter-continental range missiles. Other parts of the cat are also out of the bag, like the order

limiting work on the American ICBM to a five-day week, with no overtime, and the heavy cuts in Air Force procurement, including procurement for the Strategic Air Command.

SOME parts of the cat have yet to emerge fully, like the economy dictated slowdown in the schedule for "Titan," the Martin Company's vital ICBM project, by a full ten months. But the essential fact, which the forthcoming Congressional investigation is certain to establish, is simply this: The Administration reacted to hard intelligence of Soviet technological progress especially in the missile field by sharply cutting back on our own efforts in that field.

A further fact can also be established — that the Pentagon powers that be conceal the facts sought to conceal them. An obvious attempt to conceal the \$170 million research and development cut was made. An obvious attempt to hush up information on Soviet missile development was also made.

For example when early in July it was reported in this space that the Soviets had achieved a successful test of the ICBM an influential Senator who is also a member of the Armed Services Committee checked the story with the highest Pentagon authorities. He was flatly assured that it was untrue — this despite the fact that the radar tracking system had by that time recorded a number of Soviet ICBM tests.

ALL in all, administration spokesmen called to testify before the investigating committee are going to have to do some tall explaining. The facts, of course, are not at all on one side. The defenders of the Administration can say with perfect justice, for example, that there was no serious missile program at all in the Truman years, which is a main reason why this country is so frighteningly far behind the Soviets in the missile race.

And yet one thing is already clear. The Sputnik as a visible symbol of the Soviet technological lead, has suddenly and sharply eroded President Eisenhower's reputation for all-knowing wisdom in defense matters. This reputation has heretofore protected the Administration's defense policies from politically effective criticism — as witness the bored yawns which greeted the sensational testimony before the Symington Air Power Committee last year. Now, thanks to Sputnik, defense is sure to be a major political issue, and the subject of a major national debate. And that, in a democracy, is precisely as it should be.

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

10 YEARS AGO
 Oct. 28, 1947 (Tuesday)
 Colors which provide a link with history and tradition of famed combat units will be presented to organized reserve units here.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "The deer hunting season passed without any mighty hunters telling white lies about not having the heart to shoot a pure white deer on a hillside."

20 YEARS AGO
 Oct. 28, 1937 (Thursday)
 The 1937 pear crop totals 1,615,298 boxes, according to figures of the Rogue River Traffic association.

On every Rogue River national forest Christmas tree going into a home this Yule season will be attached a card telling its source, forestry officials said.

30 YEARS AGO
 Oct. 28, 1927 (Friday)
 Allotment of space in the new city hall to county offices has been made tentatively.

40 YEARS AGO
 Oct. 28, 1917 (Monday)
 Medford raises more than \$85,000 over the minimum allotment of \$260,000 for Liberty bonds.

Alvin Dufford, 27, is the first Jackson county man wounded in the war.

What's Your I.Q.?

- Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.
1. What is the name given to a dining hall in a convent or monastery?
 2. Bible: In which book is the first reference to man praying to God?
 3. In which country did the writ of "habeas corpus" originate?
 4. What do the initials B.O. stand for in theatrical parlance?
 5. Who wrote the song "A Perfect Day"?
 6. May a pair of blankets be in one piece?
 7. In measuring, is a teaspoonful equivalent to one-half of a tablespoon?
 8. Are bees raised in an aviary, or commissary?
 9. How many cubic feet in a cord of wood?
 10. Correct the following: If he would have come earlier he would have been in time.
- Answers: 1. Refectory; 2. Genesis; 3. England; 4. Box-office; 5. Carrie Jacobs Bond; 6. Yes; 7. No; 8. Aviary; 9. 128; 10. "If he had come earlier," etc.

Holmes To Address Special Legislature

Salem — Gov. Robert D. Holmes has the following items on his agenda for the week starting Oct. 27:

Monday: Opening of the special session of the 49th Legislature assembly. The Governor is scheduled to address the joint session at about 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday: Board of Control meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday: Speech before the Rural electrification association at Eugene at 10 a.m. He will also attend the Oregon State college-Washington State college football game at Corvallis.

Goblins . . . Ghosts . . . all sorts of spooks prowling on the new

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