

# American Popularity in India Found To Be Almost Universal Situation

Editor's note: The future of the world, say many, lies in Asia. But in the opinion of Austin V. Wood, vice president and general manager of the Ogden Newspapers of West Virginia, this is, at least for now, a fallacy. Wood returned recently from a lengthy tour of the Far East. This is the first of three dispatches in which he tells what he found.

**By AUSTIN V. WOOD**  
Vice President and General Manager  
Of the Ogden Newspapers  
(Distributed by UPI)

I was in India when the Eisenhower visit was announced. For an entire week the front pages of the various newspapers carried little else. The picture has changed tremendously in India since the Chinese encroachment and border warfare. American popularity is almost universal. Russian and Chinese communism is at an all time low. I have no doubt that President Eisenhower was welcomed to New Delhi by crowds estimated between one and two million. I have equally little doubt that this means nothing insofar as the interests of the United States are concerned.

I was in the Orient for nine weeks. Certainly that is not sufficient time to constitute me a Far East expert. At the same time, with proper preparation beforehand, and with proper sources of investigation available, a pretty accurate fundamental knowledge may be gained in a short time.

**Many Hours Spent**  
I spent many hours with many people: Japanese, Chinese and Indian newspaper publishers and political writers; French, British and American foreign correspondents representing the various wire services and metropolitan newspapers; business men, porters, waiters and taxi-drivers.

I went to the Far East convinced that there lay the future of the world. I returned with the conviction that I was mistaken insofar as the next several generations are concerned.

No one who has not visited India can have the slightest conception of conditions there. Filth, disease, ignorance and lethargy are unbelievable. It is the lethargy that makes the problem hopeless. By and large, the Indians are satisfied, and have no conception of improved living standards. The rich and educated Indians have no wish to be controlled eventually by the masses. The masses want no part of any change that would involve effort.

**Religion Influence**  
The most important single influence in India is religion. The caste system has been legally abolished but persists unabated. Station in life is determined by birth rather than by ability or accomplishment. Because of this, little progress has been made, or will be made in mass education. The Indian government claims that 10 per cent of the people are literate. This is a shocking figure, but it be-

comes even more astounding when it is considered that ability to sign one's name is considered literacy. If the test is to read and write, the percentage falls below 1 per cent.

Starry-eyed do-gooders occasionally visit India, but associate only with the governing group and come home to enthusiastically report much progress in health, education and social advancement. Men who have lived in, and made a study of the Orient for many years, are unanimously of the opinion that the situation is hopeless within the foreseeable future. With this many educated Indians agree.

**Little Progress**  
It is true that some little progress has been made in some of the vast centers of population. It is claimed that life expectancy has been

raised from 21 to 34 years. At the same time it must be realized that 70 per cent of the Indians live in villages, and, as pointed out to me by an Indian doctor of philosophy, there are more than 70 million tribesmen who are almost totally uncivilized, who still periodically engage in cannibalism and who offer up human sacrifices to their gods.

Under such conditions any additional grants and loans which may be the result of Eisenhower's visit will, in my estimation, be money completely wasted. This would be true were we guaranteed that our contributions would be devoted to their intended goal. Governmental corruption in India is rampant. It is estimated that at least 60 per cent of all foreign aid sticks to the fingers of the politicians whose hands it passes.

It is said that there has been an investment of more than \$200 million in India by American industry during the past two years. Indian laws are very liberal when it comes to turning profits into dollars and reducing those dollars to possession. The catch is that there is so little buying power among the Indians that markets are difficult. I discussed this problem with several American businessmen and in their opinion the only hope is to create buying power through employment of the Indians. It would seem to be the old problem of which comes first, the hen or the egg. It also would seem that with such an unpredictable government there would be danger of governmental seizure if the business should prove profitable.

(Next: The real India.)

## Tax-Deferral Bill Runs Counter To Objectives of Committee

Washington - To stimulate the flow of private investment funds abroad, the House Ways and Means Committee Feb. 9 approved a handsome tax-deferral bill, HR 5.

The only trouble with HR 5 is that it runs directly counter to what the committee has said should be the objectives of general tax revision. These include a broader tax base, greater equity and minimum interference in the investment process. All three goals are out of tune with the preferential treatment recommended in HR 5.

This is only the latest example of what has come to be known as "erosion of the tax base." On occasions Congress has fought back, as in 1959 when a new and tougher formula for taxing life insurance companies was enacted. More often, however, the legislators have heeded plans for "equity" by extending to some taxpayers benefits already enjoyed by others.

Thus the House in 1959 also passed a bill (HR 10) permitting self-employed persons to defer payment of tax income set aside for retirement purposes, on the plea that they should be on an equal footing with employed persons covered by pension plans. The Treasury opposed the measure (its cost: \$365 million a year), and there is some doubt that it will pass the Senate. But it highlights the pattern of tax erosion.

This is why many observers on Capitol Hill and elsewhere doubt that much will come of the Ways and Means Committee's current effort to rewrite the 800-page Internal Revenue Code in such a way that income tax rates can be reduced without sacrificing any revenue.

**What's Wrong?**  
No one has much to say for the present rate structure,

which runs up to 91 per cent on personal incomes and takes 52 per cent of most corporate income. But any chance of reducing the rates without cutting Federal revenues (of which 80 per cent are derived from income taxes) will involve taxing income that is not now taxed. That means broadening the tax base.

What is the base and how broad should it be? For individuals, taxable income in 1959 amounted to about \$150 billion. Total personal income, however, was \$350 billion. In short, less than one-half of what economists define as personal income was subject to tax.

Much of the tax-free \$200 billion, it is generally agreed, didn't belong in the tax base under any definition. Largest such item was \$77 billion in personal exemptions—the \$600 allowance for each taxpayer and dependent. From there on, however, there is anything but agreement on what can and should be added to the base.

Disinterested tax experts feel that most deductions (worth \$36 billion in 1957) shouldn't be allowed. Another favorite candidate for repeal is income-splitting, which discriminates against single persons. Other items, now excluded but proposed for inclusion in taxable income, are social security benefits, the imputed rental income of owner-occupied homes, interest on tax-exempt state and municipal bonds, and the untaxed half of net capital gains.

All told, say some experts, these and other changes would have added more than \$50 billion to the 1957 tax base and permitted a one-third reduction in rates without loss of revenue. Each of the suggested changes, however, faces the implacable op-

position of those groups benefiting from the preferential provisions.

**Whose Burden?**  
The practical difficulty of really reforming the federal tax structure is that most of the revisions would result in shifting some of the tax burden from one income group to another. Those who feel discriminated against would prefer, in many cases, to take their chance on getting special tax relief rather than risk the consequences of coming out on the short end of a thoroughgoing revision of the Code.

It was for such reasons that Walter J. Blum of the University of Chicago told the Ways and Means Committee last fall that "I always feel safe in predicting that next year the tax code will offer more special havens than last year—and I renew my prediction now." With the approval of HR 5, that prediction is apparently on course.

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## Touch of Hawaii Comes to City; Promote Airlines

A little bit of Hawaii came to Medford Monday, complete with a hula dancer, ukulele players, leis and artificial palm trees.

The visitors stopped at the Jackson hotel where they entertained some 76 persons attending the Medford Chamber of Commerce roundtable luncheon, with a half-hour of hula dances and Hawaiian folk songs.

The entertainment is part of a promotion campaign being put on by West Coast Airlines in conjunction with Pan American World Airways and the Aloha Airlines of Hawaii to advertise the fact that Medford is only six hours away from the islands by air.

None of the three entertainers, two ukulele players and a hula dancer, are professionals, and all are employees of the Aloha Airlines in Hawaii.

**Gives Short Talk**  
L. W. (Rusty) Rostad, district sales manager in Portland for the West Coast Airlines, preceded the act with a short talk in which he pointed out that Medford travelers can board the West Coast F-27 prop-jet in Medford, fly to either Portland or San Francisco and then to Hawaii via Pan American's Boeing 707; the total trip taking about six hours.

Rostad added that once in Hawaii, travelers can take advantage of Aloha Airlines F-27 prop-jets, which fly between the numerous islands. Joan Kehaulani Gandall, hula dancer and stewardess for Aloha, thanked both Don McNeill, manager of the Medford Chamber of Commerce and Dr. Ken Baker, roundtable chairman—for their efforts in bringing the group to Medford—in typical Hawaiian fashion with a lei and a kiss.

The group landed at the airport at 10:50 a.m. yesterday and were met by City of Medford and Jackson county representatives. Following their appearance at the roundtable they visited several local businesses and schools.

**HONOR MASARYK**  
Washington - (UPI) - The Post Office issued a new stamp Monday honoring Thomas G. Masaryk, founder of the Czech republic after World War I, as a "champion of liberty." The stamp was issued in four and eight-cent denominations.

**TERRITORY DATE**  
New Mexico became a U.S. territory in 1846.



**Trees . . .**  
By JOHN GRIBBLE  
(Editor's note: The following comments on trees, particularly those adaptable to street use in Medford, have been prepared by John Gribble, well-known retired forester, and will be run in a series during the "tree planting season" here, now under way.)

A city beautiful is a city with trees—beautiful trees. Without trees no city can be beautiful. Some day Medford may be one of America's most beautiful and healthful cities—for trees give both beauty and health to a city. They trade oxygen for nitrogen.

When early pioneers came West they brought with them some tree, shrub or garden plant, or seeds thereof, from their home place to start a new life in their new home. A start of gooseberry, currant, evergreen blackberry, came with some from the East, and many an old abandoned homestead was soon overgrown with evergreen blackberry briars. Fruit trees, or their seeds, were brought to the far West.

Likewise, some early Medford settlers brought with them, and planted, in their lawns, parking strips, or maybe in the back yard, "a tree from back home." So Rogue River Valley and Medford have quite an assortment of non-native trees, shrubs and plants, some of which are not suitable for present conditions in one way or another.

Root systems of some trees spread widely along the surface of the ground, spoiling the lawn. Some pry up and break walks and curbs. Some trees make excess litter, mussy fruit or seedpods on walks and lawn.

A few years ago some public-spirited, civic-minded citizens started planning for systematic tree selection and planting for the parking strip along streets. Working cooperatively with resident owners, wonderful improvements are being accomplished.

The Red Maple, Acer rubrum, also called Scarlet, Shoe-peg, Swamp maple, or Soft maple, has been selected for some street planting. A description of this tree will be given later. Even now buds are swelling and the beautiful flowers will soon burst forth on the more mature trees, of which there are a few in Medford. Two or three are on the south side of street diagonally across the street from the SE corner of the Court house yard, a couple are on the north side of Fourth st. in front of No. 618 about opposite Peach.

If interested, look at these flowers develop and the seed keys grow. Springtime is a nice time to make a pretty herbarium of flowers, seed and leaves.

## Young Democrats Form Club Here

Twenty-two persons, including 19 from Medford and three from Ashland, have made plans to establish a Young Democrats club here, it was announced Monday.

The group has applied for a charter from the club's state headquarters in Salem and expects to have about 50 members by the time the charter is granted, a spokesman said.

Acting officers are President Charles Langston, 21, of 256 Beatty st. Medford, Vice-President Gary R. Picard, 22, of 3400 West Main st., Medford; Secretary - Treasurer Mrs. Sharon Wheat, Medford. Club spokesmen said separate clubs may be chartered in Medford and Ashland at first, but that it is hoped the two clubs eventually will merge.

Any Democrat between 18 and 40 years old may join the club. Information may be obtained by calling Democratic party headquarters at SPring 3-4777, Langston at SPring 3-4263 or Picard at SPring 3-4356.

**TO VISIT U.S.**  
Dublin - (UPI) - Robert Briscoe, former Jewish lord mayor of Dublin, left by air Monday for a two-month tour of the United States. Briscoe said he hoped to attract American industry to Ireland, to increase tourist travel, and to sell Americans on Irish whiskey.

## Sending More Wheat To India Presents Problem for America

By YVONNE FRANKLIN  
Mail Tribune Washington Bureau

Washington - Many baffled Americans, concerned about mounting wheat surpluses, may wonder why the United States doesn't save some of the \$1 billion-a-year cost of storing surplus grains by shipping more of the food to needy India.

The problem is not nearly so easy of solution, according to J. R. Wiggins, executive editor of the Washington Post, who has just returned from a tour of India.

He notes that under Public Law 480, the U. S. since 1956

has agreed to furnish India surpluses worth \$959.73 million. These commodities have been paid for in counterpart funds, rupees expendable in India.

**May Step Up Program**  
Wiggins reported that this program may be stepped up. The Indian Minister of Food and Agriculture plans to place 130 million bushels in storage. This amount would not notably diminish the wheat stocks the U. S. is piling up at the rate of 400 to 500 million bushels a year.

What are the obstacles in India to funneling more U.S. wheat to this vital but un-

dernourished outpost of freedom in Asia? Wiggins found these:

1. There is fear that accumulation of counterpart funds in rupees might have an inflationary effect, or at least put into foreign hands too much control over Indian monetary stability.

2. Some Indian officials fear Indian farm output might slow down if relieved of the pressure of stark necessity.

3. In the Indian government there is an astonishing unanimity of belief that food grains should not be brought in under Title III in the form of grants for charitable distribution except in cases of famine and disaster.

4. Warnings about demoralizing the needy with free contributions which Wiggins hadn't heard since the relief bills of the 1930s were discussed in the U. S.

**Dangerous Dependence Seen**  
5. Worry was expressed by Indian officials that our surpluses will not last forever, and India might develop a dangerous dependence and then be suddenly left without American grains.

As Wiggins said, many of these objections to larger intake of wheat do credit to Indian prudence, pride and independence. They are, in part, considerations that a short diet for cabinet ministers would remove.

As he noted, the Indian majority subsist on a calorie intake of roughly 1800 a day, contrasted to the U. S. intake of 3000.

U. S. objections to stepping up shipments of surplus wheat are:

1. Shipping costs, plus the

## Youth Admits Part In School Burglary

Salem - (UPI) - John LeRoy Shobe, 20, West Slayton, arrested with two other persons Friday, has admitted in Marion county jail that he helped burglarize Cascade Union High school.

Arrested with Shobe for the grade school break - in were Earl Collier, 21, Salm, and Hollis Poplin, 27, of Turner.

## LEAD STATES

Missouri and Idaho are the top lead producing states.

fact that many ships return empty.

2. Skepticism about the adequacy of storage in India, and pest control.

3. Fear of offending other grain exporters.

**Objections Weighed**  
Wiggins weighs these objections against the fact that we have warehouses bulging with 1028 million bushels of wheat, Commodity Credit bins with another 39 million bushels, old Liberty ships with 37 million (late 1959 figures)—and all the hungry millions in India.

"It seems as though most of the legitimate fears of the Indians might be met by more formally tying the food imports and their counterpart funds to a program for improving Indian agriculture at the same time," observed Wiggins.

He concluded that if the rupee accounts were committed officially to building drainage ditches, irrigation canals, terraces, farm to market roads, storage pits, buying seed, building fertilizer plants and educating farmers, then the American surpluses would fill the current and impending gap between production and need. It would hasten the day when there would be no gap to fill.

## Rash of Traffic Accidents Reported To Medford Police

A rash of traffic accidents were reported to Medford city police last week end, one of them resulting in five injuries and another in three. None of the injuries were critical, police said.

Five persons were injured in a three-car accident on Highway 99 at Stewart ave. Saturday afternoon.

Police said the accident occurred when a car operated by Albert Kinney Cass, 77, of Grants Pass, hit one operated by Madison William Patrick, 17, of Trail, from behind as it was slowing for a red light, knocking it forward into a third vehicle operated by Donald Clifford Williams, 26, of Phoenix, which had stopped for the light.

Cass told police that he "bleeked out" behind the wheel of the car just before he hit the rear of the Patrick vehicle. Cass and two passengers, Mildred Moore and Mable M. Singleton, both of Grants Pass, were taken to the Rogue Valley hospital by Medford Ambulance Service where they were treated for cuts and bruises and released.

**Slightly Injured**  
A passenger in the Williams vehicle, Ronnie Hayes, Phoenix, was slightly injured, police said, but was not taken to the hospital.

Patrick was taken to Medford Osteopathic hospital with undetermined head injuries, according to police.

No citations were issued. City police cited Joseph Edwin Crawford, 72, of 103 South Holly st., for disobeying a red light following an accident about 3:25 p.m. Saturday which resulted in three injuries.

Police said the accident occurred when the Crawford vehicle allegedly went through a red light on Eighth

st. and was struck by a vehicle operated by Mildred Pauline Maben, 21, of box 398, Medford, which was traveling on Riverside ave.

Taken to the Sacred Heart hospital by Medford Ambulance Service with cuts, bruises and possible internal injuries, were Crawford and his wife, Eliette Moffett Crawford, 63.

A passenger in the Maben vehicle, Ellen Claire Maben, 44, of Molalla, sustained a forehead cut, police said, but did not request assistance.

Another accident occurred at Eighth and Bartlett sts. Saturday about 3:32 p.m. in heavy traffic which was backed up waiting for the accident at Eighth st. and Riverside ave. to clear.

**Girl Cited**

Anna Jewel Turner, 16, of 1327 Morrow rd., was cited by city police for failure to yield the right of way after the car she was operating collided at the intersection with a car operated by Michael David Reich, 26, of 2436 Capital ave. There were no injuries, police said.

Another accident occurred on Eighth st. Saturday about 2:05 p.m., between Bartlett st., and Central ave., when cars operated by June Rose Barlow, 33, of 1065 Ellendale dr., and Josephine Anne Vincent, 32, of 223 Willamette ave., collided, causing negligible damage to both vehicles, according to city police. No citations were issued.

An accident at the intersection of 11th and Hamilton sts. Saturday about 1:23 p.m. involved cars operated by Alie Maxine Poling, 21, of 827 West 14th st., and Paul William Elgin, 52, of 1221 Withington ave. There were no injuries and no citations issued, police said.

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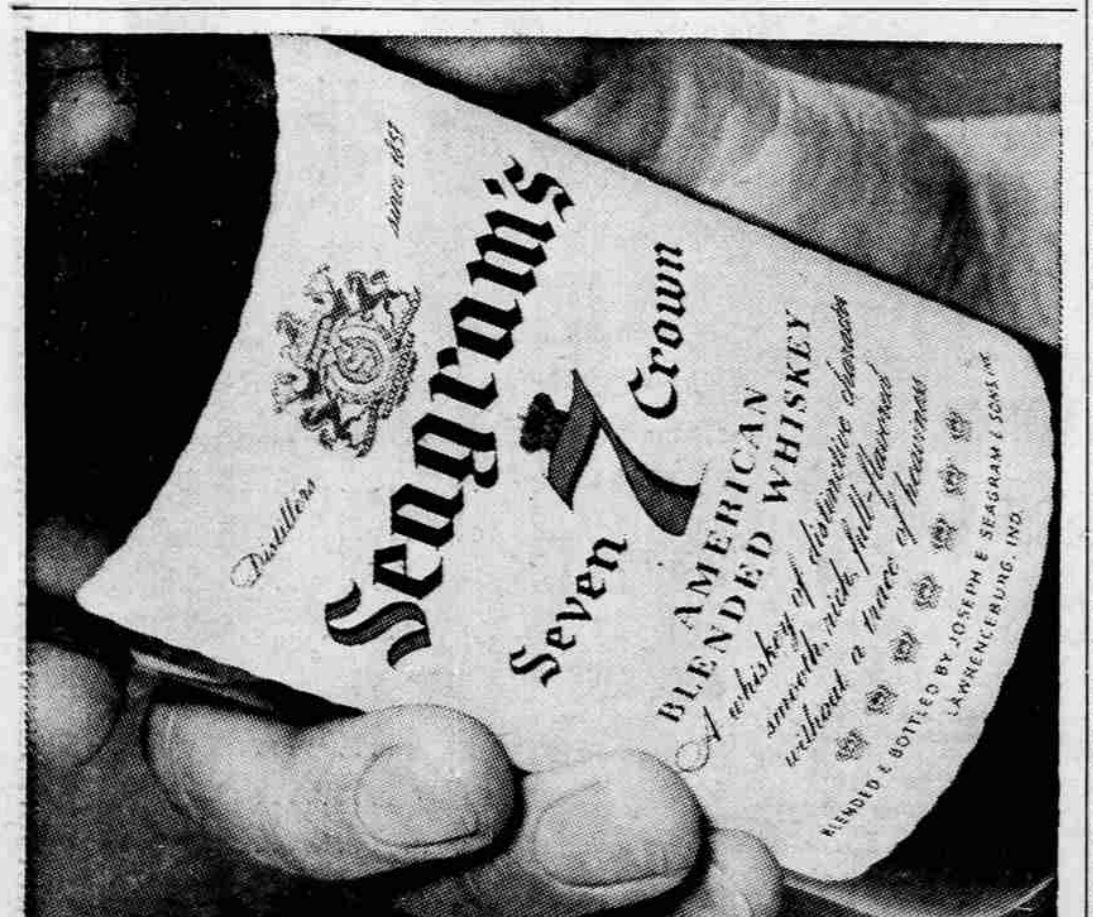
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