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Too High For What?

The Texas Co., makers of Texaco gasoline, has joined the petroleum industry's mighty effort to cut off its nose.

Enclosed with current credit card bills is a little pamphlet entitled, "Taxes on Gasoline Are Too High."

Too high for what? Too high for the consumer, the gasoline maker argues, and it urges that federal taxes on gasoline—4 cents a gallon—be reduced, and it implies that state taxes—6 cents in Oregon—should be cut back too.

FINE. But the petroleum industry, along with the rest of us, is constantly pressuring both the state and federal government for more and better highways. We are getting more and better highways. That's why gasoline taxes are averaging 10 cents a gallon over the country, and amount to exactly that figure in Oregon.

Does the Texas Co. want highway expansion or not?

Lowering the taxes on gasoline will not result in an increase in gasoline consumption, as the gasoline people argue, especially when you take into account a dark suspicion that the tax reduction will be promptly absorbed by an increase in gasoline prices at the manufacturer's level. A good case can be made, in fact, that gasoline taxes have no effect on gasoline consumption!

ALL that a decrease in the gas taxes will do is eliminate revenue used to build roads.

These new highways are far enough behind ideal schedules now. To delay the construction pace would be inconvenient to the point of foolhardiness.

Actually, the oil industry's campaign against "high gasoline taxes" should not be taken seriously. Almost certainly the campaign is based on the idea of taking the heat off the oil companies for the high prices of gasoline—a blame they may not deserve, but which they'll avoid at any rate.—Coos Bay World.

A Place to Leave No Mark

Among a normal man's higher ideals is the often expressed hope that he will leave the world a better place for having passed this way. The wilderness advocate is an odd ball, his chief hope is to pass and leave no mark by which those who follow will know he has gone before.

There is an increasing clamor by these people that a small part of the nation's remaining true wilderness be given guaranteed protection against loggers, road builders and others who would "harvest" the wilderness or scar its face. This clamor grows as more and more people realize how rapidly our true wilderness areas are shrinking—how little land is left in which a man can travel and find no sign that man has gone this way before.

We can sympathize with these people and their cause for these days they have no Teddy Roosevelt to lend a helping hand.—Portland Reporter.

View From Ashland

Frankly I am delighted that football here in Ashland has not reached the hysterical level it has in Medford.

Where they apparently begin grooming their high school teams in the fifth grade.

Winning a state championship can't be as important as that.

Many states, by the way, have long since abandoned state championships in high school football and I predict it will happen in due time in Oregon.

After all, high school boys are still boys and it is cruel to put them under such heavy pressure to win, win, win.

Football is supposed to be a game where 22 boys have fun with a lop-sided ball.

When it becomes such a savage business that the high school coach is paid a higher salary than the science and English teachers, then something is rotten upstairs.—Ashland Daily Tidings.

Dennis the Menace



Oh, yes, Mrs. Mitchell, I've already put him to bed. SIX TIMES!

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. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Count Your Blessings, No. 2

To the Editor: I see our Southern Oregon neighbor has been at it again. He says the communists will make it interesting for our next President. No doubt they will. But, how, is what I'd like to know. Certainly not by being peaceful.

Our neighbor says the communists have free swinging. Just how does he mean? The communist-controlled people don't have anything free. So he must mean the Communist government. All they can swing is lies, death and destruction. Just like they swung in Korea. By swinging their guns and bombs into the lives and homes of the free South Koreans. What did the South Korean people do to get such a surprise attack? They refused communism. The communists showed their desire for peace by murdering thousands of people who wanted only to be left free.

As for the communists being honest, they aren't. For example, some years back the government of India signed a peace treaty with Red China. It wasn't many years after the signing of this treaty, the Red Chinese showed their honesty with armed aggression against the India border. The Russians showed their desire for peace by furnishing the North Korean aggressors with arms and war materials. Again the communists showed their honesty by breaking the Berlin treaty.

I certainly would like to know something good about communism.

If communism is so great and wonderful, why are the East Germans leaving home by the thousands and moving to West Germany? Why have all the millions of Chinese peasants escaped and come to Hong Kong? Why did the Hungarian people try to free themselves?

With all this evidence against communism, how anyone can want it for their kind of life is beyond me.

All I can say about the communist leaders is they are power crazy fanatics, who have no concern for other human life or property. Just like Hitler was.

I think some people better quit feeling sorry for themselves, and as I said before, count your many, many blessings.

Don Turnbough, Box 18A, Applegate, Ore.

Realistic Policy

To the Editor: It is easy to throw bricks at elected officials who have initiative to think and courage to speak out. The Republican candidate for Congress and his supporters have been throwing wild generalities at Charles Porter because he is not content to let America lose the battle for men's minds.

Porter's opponents claim he is "soft" on communism because he once supported Castro, and weak because he had the courage to change his position. Their attacks show no knowledge of Cuba or the reasons Castro gained power. I visited Cuba twice during Batista's reign. It was a country without democracy or freedom, of midnight arrests, torture, graft and corruption. Batista did nothing to build the country's economy or alleviate its poverty. He was hated and feared in Cuba but honored and supported by our government.

When Castro's power he visited America seeking aid for Cuba's economy. He was not seen by our President or Secretary of State. He was given no aid. Only after the failure of his visit did Castro become belligerent toward

our government. Only then did he turn to the Russians.

A different attitude in Washington might have changed history.

For years our policy has been to support Latin American dictators. Our great corporations have reaped huge profits in these countries while the people have lived in squalor. Is it any wonder that America is unpopular in Latin America?

Too many congressmen support an ostrich foreign policy of sticking America's head in the ground and assuming everything will turn out well. They believe America can do no wrong and do righteously close their eyes to diplomatic defeats. Apparently the Republican candidate supports the ostrich approach.

We are fortunate there are some congressmen like Charles Porter who recognize the existence and aspirations of other people and are willing to challenge old concepts. Unless we treat other peoples as equals, we will find ourselves alone in a hostile world. Perhaps if we had listened to Porter two years ago Cuba would be friendly.

No man is perfect, but at least Congressman Porter has courage to think and fight for a realistic foreign policy which is our hope for survival.

Jonathan Marshall, 2186 University St., Eugene, Ore.

Lesser Evil

To the Editor: I am happy to see that you and your Newsway Newspaper have finally decided to get out of the middle of the road.

In answer to the lady from Lezier Lane, Mr. Kennedy and his brother keep bringing up the religious issue to show that they are not afraid of it and to beat others to it.

When I quote from a newspaper clipping I have before me, "The current farm support program is costing the taxpayers \$1,000 PER MINUTE," I am not too pleased with the past performance of either of the entries in the race.

Even though I have been raised as a Protestant, I am a Democrat, and of the lesser of two evils, I choose The Hon. John Kennedy, believing that he can work better with his predominantly Democratic congress.

Owen C. Gearhart Sr., White City, Ore.

Who's Next?

To the Editor: A few months ago I inquired of the Jackson county sheriff and state police office as to having our residential areas posted for speed and was told I would have to contact the state speed control board.

I wrote the state speed control office in Salem and received an answer. "Dear Sir: In reference to your letter, you will have to contact your local sheriff's office for information on this matter. "State Speed Control Board" Who do I see now? Hope you print this.

W. B. Burge, 2537 Robin Lane, Central Point, Ore.

P.S.—Maybe some of the prominent speeders out here will slow down.

Seriously Speaking

To the Editor: It was for my good that a friend warned me against writing lightly in these troubled times when serious thoughts should be upmost.

She made me a changed woman, though I do feel that I should help Nicketty Khrushchev to learn our ways. He simply shouldn't shake his pudgy little finger, pound doubtfully, or jumble

Foreign Notebook: Mideast Troubles; Tired Princess; French-German Training

By PHIL NEWSOM, UPI Foreign Editor. From the foreign editor's notebook:

Mideast Trouble

Fresh trouble is looming in the Middle East. The surprise reconciliation last week between King Hussein of Jordan and Premier Abdul Karim Kassen of Iraq when Jordan recognized the Baghdad revolutionary government sent Arab Republican President Gamal Abdul Nasser napping. The alignment between Jordan and Iraq spells potential danger for Syria. Iraq never has abandoned its ambitious plans for an alignment with Syria and has reiterated them several times since the overthrow of King Faisal.

Japanese Princess

They say Japanese Crown Princess Michiko is "worn out" from her hectic tour of the United States with Crown Prince Akihito. Palace officials in Tokyo have ordered a "complete rest" for the pretty young princess before she and Akihito leave in November for state visits to

Diplomats believe Nasser now will lighten his grip on Syria, and this could mean real trouble.

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Iran, India, Nepal and Ethiopia.

Outbursts are expected later this month when 3,000 West German troops go into Eastern France to train in areas allotted by the government. Victims of the Nazi regime are expected to join with the Communists in violent anti-German demonstrations. But the French police are likely to crush any demonstrations swiftly before any real trouble starts.

French-German Training

When, as, and if U.S. Gen. Lauris Norstad steps out next year as NATO commander, there is bound to be trouble over his successor. French President Charles de Gaulle is reported planning to demand the job for a Frenchman, possibly retired Gen. Jean Yessy.

West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer appears set to support De Gaulle. However, U.S. military men are not likely to let this plum get away from them without a terrific fight.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

UPSIDE DOWN

Washington—This might well become known to history as the year of the upside-down presidential campaign.



William S. White

It abounds with the odd and the incongruous. Little has gone according to old form. And if we do not know exactly where we are going, we certainly know we are going somewhere new.

Long tradition gave a Vice President nothing to hope for later, unless his chief, the President, should die. Having been a Vice President was, in fact, an excellent way never to be deliberately chosen for President. This time, the Republican presidential candidate, Richard M. Nixon, is not only a sitting Vice President but one who reached the top nomination with no real challenge.

Long tradition had it that vice presidential candidates should be far more seen than heard—and not even seen overmuch. This time, the vice presidential candidates, Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson for the Democrats and Henry Cabot Lodge for the Republicans, are campaigning with a no less loud vigor than their chiefs. They are stirring a public interest not incomparably smaller.

Long tradition has it that vice presidential nominees were in every way junior to the heads-of-ticket. This time, the older and more experienced men are running happily in second place. They are reversing the old order in which the younger were always crowding the footsteps of the older.

Cabot Lodge was powerful in the very senior Senate when Nixon was an unknown freshman in the very junior House of Representatives. Now Lodge takes every cue from Nixon. A year ago Lyndon Johnson, as Democratic leader of the Senate, had a relationship to Sen. John F. Kennedy like that of a president of a large corporation to its newest third vice-president.

Unchallenged leader, follows in every way the lead of his erstwhile follower, Jack Kennedy.

Yesterday has become to in here that doesn't come on until noon? Or this is the main question, are we being forced into it by our own channel coming on late?

Some won't like TV to be on early. Well, there is an off on, on my TV set and I hope there is one on your set too.

Iris Huff, Route 3, Box 186B, Medford.

day and tomorrow. Nixon used to hold the copyright on the "tough" campaign line. Now the elegant Lodge of yesterday is surely quite as "tough"—and often "tougher"—as he barnstorms for the G.O.P.

A little while ago Johnson, from his place of great power in the Senate, could disdain to speak at all. And when he did speak on any important matter he usually read from a carefully prepared text while Kennedy listened and ad-libbed from the back row.

Now it is Johnson who is ad-libbing his way across the country, sampling the past-trami in delicatessens, patting startled tots on the back, throwing away the written addresses and "giving 'em hell" like Harry S. Truman.

IN THE PAST, the wives of candidates were not "issues," but for the exception of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Now Pat Nixon and Jackie Kennedy are each reckoned to be a political force hardly less formidable than a national committee.

Finally, the most unassailable proof that we are indeed in changing times comes from the west. In a recent foray into Oregon Richard Nixon was brought up short by a sign, held by a small boy, reading "Dick and Hank."

"Dick," of course, Nixon knew pretty well. But "Hank" he had not thus far run across—in realization came that Lodge's first name was in truth "Henry."

It used to be said in Boston that the Cabots spoke only to the Lowells and the Lowells spoke only to God—or perhaps the other way round. Here is surely the ultimate change wrought by the campaign: The patriarch Cabot Lodge has now become just good old Hank.

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Students To Hear About NROTC Plan

Naval representatives from the various regular naval reserve officer training corps units and naval recruiting station will visit high schools this month to speak about the NROTC program.

According to Chief Murray J. Emmerich at the Medford Navy recruiting office, the students must make application for the program prior to Nov. 18, the date by which all applications must have been received at the educational testing service, Princeton, N.J.

The regular NROTC is a government college sponsored program in which the student takes a regular four year course including one naval science course per semester and participates in summer cruises on Navy ships.

Interested students may contact the local recruiting station for further information.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

AN INGENIOUS SOUL leased the languishing men's hat department in a big store and soon had the dismal sales figures perking up. He would edge up to every hatless man in the store and say, "Get on the job; stop stalling."

"What do you mean?" the indignant gent thus accosted would splutter, "I'm a CUSTOMER here."

"Pardon me," the hat man would murmur regretfully, "Without a hat, you look like a CLERK."

Three times out of four, the customer would hurry right over to the hat department and buy at least one hat to impress into immediate service.

Sudden thought by Cliff Trevor: "What a holler would ensue, if people had to pay the minister as much to marry them as they have to pay a lawyer to get them a divorce!"

"Flattery," warns William Inge (author of "The Dark at the Top of the Stairs") "is like perfume. The idea is to smell it, not swallow it."

In the Days News

By FRANK JENKINS

What of the second debate? Well, a professional TV measuring service (American Research Bureau, Inc.) says an estimated 62½ million persons viewed it—about 12 million fewer than saw the first one on Sept. 28.

It adds that about 25 percent of the sets turned on during the period were NOT tuned to the debate and 40 percent of all TV sets weren't turned on at all.

That is to say: The novelty tends to wear off.

THE Associated Press made another 100-person check immediately after the debate in ten cities from coast to coast.

It found that, in the vast majority of cases, Kennedy supporters REMAINED Kennedy supporters and Nixon supporters REMAINED Nixon supporters. Only 20 of the hundred reported that they had been influenced in any way by the debate, and none of the 20 changed from one candidate to the other.

HERE ARE three opinions, reported by United Press International: Former President Truman: "I think Kennedy got the best of it."

GOP National Chairman Thruston Morton: "Nixon was the clear winner."

Mrs. John Smith, Denver housewife: "I was making grape jelly, and didn't watch them too closely."

ANOTHER interesting opinion: John Roosevelt, Republican son of FDR, campaigning for the GOP ticket in Oregon, said in Portland: "The basic issue of this Presidential ticket is which party can do the better job in foreign relations. I think Vice-President Nixon is well equipped to handle foreign policy."

He didn't add, but could have, that Nixon has the advantage of having as his running mate Henry Cabot Lodge, who is growing rapidly in statesmanship stature. Kennedy has as his running mate Senator Lyndon Johnson, who was a pretty big man before he gave his strange and unexpected allegiance to Kennedy, but doesn't seem to have grown much since.

INTERESTING sidelight: Secret Service agents checked the vice-president's DRINKING WATER. Studio officials assumed a similar check would be made to protect Mr. Kennedy's drinking water, but when questioned the Secret Service said the law assigns them only to the President and the vice-president.

MMMMMMMMMM. We've all heard of doping horses before a big race, but who would have supposed the time would come when politicians would be suspected of doping a Presidential candidate's drinking water before a debate?

What's politics coming to? SPEAKING personally, it seemed to this writer that Mr. Kennedy had the edge all the way through. That isn't unnatural: He is the challenger. Mr. Nixon is the defender. The challenger always has the advantage in such a case. He can soar around in the upper blue, with no restrictions. The defender is restricted by his record.

These are troubled times... in our country and in the world. Few people are happy and contented with the way things are going. In such circumstances, the challenger becomes the knight in shining armor whose task it is to lead the people out of the darkness into the light.

That adds interest to his proposals.

SO FAR in these debates, fiscal policies of the candidates and their parties have scarcely been mentioned. To many of us, they seem important. Our total debt, public and private, is getting within shooting distance of a TRILLION dollars. That's a lot of debt. How are we going to handle it?

One can't help hoping that in the two debates that remain fiscal policies will become a major subject of discussion.



Medford Mail Tribune advertisement with subscription rates and contact information.

Flight 'o' Time advertisement for Medford and Jackson County.

10 YEARS AGO advertisement about Mexican nationals in the Jackson county jail.

20 YEARS AGO advertisement about Coach Bill Bowerman and the Black Tornado.

30 YEARS AGO advertisement about plowing and fall seeding in the Rogue valley.

40 YEARS AGO advertisement about Medford defeating Klamath Falls in a football game.

50 YEARS AGO advertisement about John F. Stevens and the Pacific and Eastern railroad.

What's Your I.Q.? advertisement with a list of 10 trivia questions and answers.