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Questions for Candidates

Several weeks ago the Eugene Register-Guard ran an editorial which said bluntly that the state of Oregon is in financial trouble. It suggested that the people of the state should ask their legislators, present and potential, what they intend to do about it.

The editorial (which was reprinted in this newspaper and several others) pointed out that the state will have some \$33 million less going into the next biennium than it did at the start of this one; that to maintain state services at their present level will require millions more, and that some state services — notably in education — must be stepped up to meet heavier use and demand.

The Pendleton East Oregonian agreed with the Register-Guard's analysis of the coming fiscal crisis.

IN SALEM, however, the Oregon Statesman took an unexcited view. It suggested that the cry of "wolf" has been heard before, but that Oregonians are phlegmatic about this sort of thing.

The Register-Guard retorted by saying that this time it isn't a false alarm. And the Pendleton paper rejoined with a specific suggestion — that a net receipts tax, a modification of the present state income tax and a broadening of its base, be devised to raise the added new income. Such a tax revision has the support of both Governor Hatfield, and the recent Democratic party convention.

WE NOW ask our candidates for the legislature these questions:

1. How would you propose to raise the \$33 million which was surplus going into this biennium, but which will not be available next year?
2. How do you propose to raise the additional \$10 million for basic school support called for next biennium in the existing law?
3. How do you propose to raise the additional \$21 million which the state system of higher education says it will need next biennium to care for the exploding student populations?
4. How do you propose to finance the additional needs of the community colleges program now provided for by state law?
5. If you believe that no tax increase should be passed, which state services, including those mentioned above, should be curtailed or eliminated?

IT IS unpleasant to contemplate a tax increase at the state level, but it is either that or cut back on state services.

We believe it is important, right now and before election, to do some basic thinking about what we want from our state government, and how we're going to pay for it. We believe it is important that we know the attitude of our prospective legislators.

The Mail Tribune will gladly print any responses to the questions above from any or all of the candidates for the state legislature. — E.A.

British MDs Hit Back

The American Medical Association, in its long running battle against the evils of "socialized medicine," has frequently held up Britain's National Health Service as a horrible example.

It has pictured British physicians as unhappy, and leaving the country in droves; it has described the level of medical service as inadequate; it has assailed the costs as too high and the administration as inefficient.

The British, by and large, have either ignored this type of propaganda, or politely said nothing. Now, however, it appears they are beginning to talk back.

A NEWS story from Washington, printed in the Oregon Labor Press, declares that the "staid, mild and well-mannered British Medical Society" is "exploding with righteous indignation." The story continued:

"The British Medical Journal, official publication of the British doctors, has finally had enough. In an editorial it bluntly charged that the AMA's attack on the British health program was 'vulgar, cheap and nonsensical.'"

"We watched with some dismay the mushroom growth of the AMA's public relations activities and the colossal sums spent by it to defeat what our American colleagues call 'socialized medicine,'" the Journal said. "This dismay is at the probably inherent weakness of American medical services if such a vast effort has to be expended on misrepresentation of what is happening here in Britain."

"The editor of the British journal acknowledged that there are certain weaknesses in the English medical program. But he is certain, he continued vigorously that 'a great many doctors in the U.S.A. deplore as we do the vulgarity and cheapness of its (the AMA's) past and present attacks on the National Health Service.'"

"The AMA," he said, "should understand that they have a lot to learn from Britain and Europe about methods of providing medical services — from our successes as well as our failures."

IT IS THE AMA's attitude — that it and it alone is qualified to tell the American people how they should pay their doctors' bills — that is so irritating.

The AMA, at first, was against health insurance plans, but finally accepted them when it saw it was going to have to. It was against social security when it was first adopted. Most recently, of course, it has worked diligently to defeat a plan for the expansion of social security to include certain hospital and nursing home services after the age of 65.

It has assailed these modest social and economic measures as steps toward socialized medicine, and then distorted the British health service plan to prove how horrible socialized medicine is. One wonders how long they're going to get away with it. — E.A.

Voice Crying in What's Left Of The Wilderness



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.

Litter Hurts

To the Editor: "Every Litter Bit Hurts." And imagine this hurt in two ways, pride and purity.

The Wisconsin state conservation department said Thursday, Floyd N. Johnson, 35, Red Wing, Minn., had a habit of throwing beer cans out of the window of his car, over a 30 mile stretch of highway.

Judge Paul A. Magdanz has ordered Johnson to clean up part of the road or forfeit \$75. Johnson has pleaded guilty to two counts in the case.

He paid a \$10 fine for possession of beer in a moving car, and \$25 for depositing debris on a public highway. The judge ordered Johnson to pick up beer cans and debris from both sides of the highway No. 10 for 7 1/2 miles. The judge ordered \$75 of the fine to be refunded, when Johnson had cleaned up the highway.

Johnson was arrested by a warden who testified Johnson made the trip from Red Wing to Ellsworth about four times a week, drank beer along the route and threw empty cans on the highway. How about trying this on our offenders?

The above was taken from the Red Wing Republican Daily Eagle, Red Wing, Minn. A. E. Smith, 1032 Winchester, Medford

How Long?

To the Editor: I enjoyed your good editorial, "America the Ambivalent," M.M.T. July 25. Will you permit me to add a few thoughts of my own?

You say, "we moan about the high and rising crime rate, and increases in juvenile delinquency." I add, while we support what our tax dollars the conditions in our government, J. Edgar Hoover recently said that crime is increasing five times faster than the population.

You say, "we brag about being the first 'affluent society,' where all are now able to reap benefits from the new industrial and technical age; yet somewhere between 30 and 50 million of our neighbors do not earn enough to provide decent housing, food and clothing."

You say, "we pay lip service to our democratic ideals and equality of opportunity for all; yet deny one-tenth of our people the right to equal housing and equal employment chances."

I say, shame on the leaders of a nation that claims to be Christian and the richest nation on earth, and more shame on the people whose lethargy has permitted such a condition to develop and whose tax dollars are supporting such a system.

Two and one-half months ago the voters in Jackson county voted down, three to one, a county manager form of government while they support with their tax dollars a city manager form of government which is molded by the same pattern and which operates in the same dictatorial manner.

A radio newscast July 26 announced that Congress has boosted welfare spending to \$3 billion for 1963. Welfare is supported with taxpayers' dollars. If the taxpayers in Jackson county could know how many people in their county have been and still are being forced onto welfare by having expensive curb and gutter pavings forced upon them, I wonder if those taxpayer would awake.

The council at their last meeting approved a curb and gutter paving for Newtown street between Belmont and Catherine. This block contains ten property owners, there are fifty low incomes, in-

sufficient to pay for a curb and gutter paving, Newtown is one street. There are many others. Curb and gutter paving is being successfully promoted with the beautiful sounding words, "the democratic way."

How long, O Lord, how long will the people sleep, while justice weeps?

Mrs. Alice I. Black, 812 Newtown st., Medford

One Brief Moment

To the Editor: In recent years the thirst of man is something supernatural. Always drinking to one thing or another, man is seldom seen with out a glass in his hand. He is uncomfortable unless he drinks before meals, with meals and after meals.

He drinks to his friends when they arrive, and to their health when they leave. He needs a drink when he reads or writes, a drink when he is thinking and a drink for relaxing at bedtime for sleep inducer. If there's any thing left in the bottle he'll drink to your mother and mine.

Some drink so they can drive an automobile, others to drown their sorrow or madden their thoughts. People drink to stay healthy, others to forget the illness they have, or the doctor's bill for their illness.

Another group drinks after their day's work is done, when it's time to go home to the wife and kids. The last group are men who actually crawl into the bottle and soak, men who drag along year in year out never getting any where, living in a crowded, noisy house where there are bawling, screaming children fighting. He is met at the door of his heaven on earth by an angel wife, cursing, nagging and reaching for his money.

In the mercy of God, let this man soak himself in liquor. Let him funnel the maddening fire down his parched throat. Let him in the name of a merciful God be able once more to go into his mansion feeling he is the king. Let this drink give him courage, to trample over his sorrows, to soothe his sweating brow. This one time be able to know they have lived for one brief moment before they die.

E. Dykes, Box 58, Eagle Point, Ore.

What's Wrong?

To the Editor: Your editorial on public forests and lumber was very interesting. Why don't we take a look at the farm problem, unemployment, juvenile delinquency, the crime wave, and take a look at business in general?

We have had moonlight sales, sidewalk sales, manager's sales, Blossom bucks, buy a new car and go to the World's Fair on us, and many, many more too numerous to mention. There must be something wrong somewhere. Why don't we just blame the Communists? They seem to be causing all of our trouble.

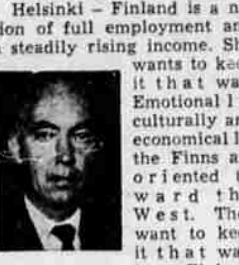
And again, after I think about it, there could be something wrong with our economy. Now I should have never said that, because we are the only country in the world with a surplus of everything and at least 50 per cent of our people on the fringes of poverty.

Eric Sevareid laid it on the line in the Sunday, July 22, M.T. Poor Eric, he should not think that way, he will be accused of being a pinky. Anyway, Eric gets my vote.

Ray Prichard, 414 South First St., Central Point, Ore.

Prosperous Finland Still Has Economic Worries; Now Biding Time, and Hoping

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst



Helsinki — Finland is a nation of full employment and a steadily rising income. She wants to keep it that way. Emotional, culturally and economically the Finns are oriented toward the West. They want to keep it that way, too. Finland, a nation of 4.5 million, lies in the shadow of the Soviet Union and its population of more than 200 million. The realistic Finns know that their relations with the Russians must remain cordial.

Even so, the Finns have managed to retain both their political and economic independence at a time when many other among Russia's neighbors simply has disappeared inside the Soviet bloc, Finland's trade with Russia

accounts for less than 18 per cent of her total. In recent years, Finland's gross national product has moved steadily ahead at an annual rate of better than 6 per cent, better than the United States and Great Britain, the equal of any country in the world except perhaps those in the European Common Market and Japan.

Her income per capita is around \$1,000. Less than Sweden's, better than any country in North America.

All this has been accomplished without the Marshall Plan aid which benefited other European nations outside the Iron Curtain and despite back-breaking war reparations exacted by the Soviet Union.

But despite this obvious economic success, Finland has nagging economic worries. Pulp and paper account for 79 per cent of her foreign exports. But Finland already is exploiting her forests at a rate slightly above the time

required for regrowth and is at the limit of expansion. While she has full employment now, the next few years will see 100,000 war babies come into the labor market. For these, jobs must be found.

Finland's hopes lie in its expanding metal-working industry, which ranges from manufacture of electrical cable to heavy-duty ice breakers.

But to do it, she must maintain her trade with the West. Here two conditions will be decisive. First she must have an association with the common

market in which France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg are the present members and which Great Britain is attempting to join. Britain is Finland's best customer and she dare not take the risk of restrictive tariffs closing her products out of the European market.

Second is the attitude of the Soviet Union and the punitive action the Soviets might take if their present hostile attitude toward the common market persists.

At the moment, Finland is biding its time and hoping.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

THE NEW PHASE

Washington — In the modern world, the economists have replaced the theologians of less enlightened ages. With infinite certitude but little certainty of accurate prediction, they speculate upon the first things and last things of our industrial-commercial society. By the same token, Sovietologists have now replaced astrologers. They read Pravda and Izvestia as their predecessors read the stars, and from these drab perusals, they cast the horoscope of this troubled world for the next months and years.

These reflections are inspired by the memory of a recent informal encounter between eminent practitioners of these two specialties or (in the old sense of the world) mysteries. The point that emerged from their talk, though it is not exactly news, is at least well worth recording.

ON THE one hand, the economists were worried, as all economists are nowadays. One of them had begun to suspect that the Western nations, with the U.S. in the lead, were entering one of the deflationary periods which have been characteristic of the second phase after great wars. These occur, he said, when the fuel of demand banked up in wartime at last burns out, and the post-war inflationary surge therefore comes to an end.

His colleague was less grim, but he too was alarmed, because he considered that the Western economies have now reached a stage where national economic policies must be, above all, extremely flexible and ruthlessly practical. And he saw a contrary tendency towards rigidity and impractical rubber-stamp thinking.

On the other hand, the Sovietologists were positively merry and bright, despite the Berlin crisis, the ferment in South America, the risky bet in Laos, and many another cause for apprehension. Their good cheer was based on their conviction that the troubles of the Communist part of the world were much worse than any current Western troubles.

THE picture the Sovietologists painted appeared to Czechoslovakia, the former showpiece, in deep disarray; East Germany, a hideous national shame, presided over by an obscene, universally detested puppet; all the rest of Eastern Europe stagnant in varying degrees, and suffering

ing as well from a seemingly incurable moral disaffection that was how their story began.

In the Soviet Union, too, they saw a disturbing failure. The U. S. S. R.'s rate of growth, they pointed out, had failed to do what Nikita S. Khrushchev once hoped that it would do — namely, provide enough resources to meet the competing requirements of a great military effort, a massive industrial effort, and an increasingly demanding population of consumers. They even suggested that the resulting problem of investment priorities might later turn into a political problem.

Finally, looking further eastward, they pictured Communist China in the grip of an economic-political-agricultural crisis so terrible and unprecedented that its outcome was unforeseeable. With decreasing hope of rescue by a good crop this year, China, they remarked, was a country where almost anything might happen, but nothing good. The point that emerged from these exchanges is simple but startling. The cold war, in brief, seems to be passing into a quite new phase, different in basic character from the long, stern postwar phase.

THE transition has been marked by the persistence, in this new phase, of the maneuvers and challenges typical of the former phase, such as the challenge at Berlin. But this continuing political-military competition seems to be losing importance, compared to another kind of competition. This is the competition between the performances of the Communist and Western forms of society on their home grounds.

This is true mainly because the Communist form of society has lately begun to perform very badly indeed. A breakdown or blow-up in Communist China, for instance, will become a clear possibility if the new harvest is as bad as now forecast. And whatever its other results, such a breakdown or blow-up would be a staggering cold war setback for the Communist cause.

Other developments which now seem possible or probable in the Communist part of the world, though less dramatic than a Chinese breakdown, would also be severe setbacks. But the trouble is that at the very moment when the Communist form of society has begun to perform so badly, the vigor and economic health of the Western performance is also beginning to be called into question. Maybe that flexibility and practicality the second economist hankered for should be regarded as necessary cold war weapons.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Dog Days news: As this is written, the weather bureau has just come up with its forecast for the next few days — which, it says, will be without precipitation and VERY warm under cloudless skies. Daytime temperatures will be in the vicinity of 90 degrees, with night-time lows around 50 degrees.

This prediction is for the high country. The forecast intimates that down at the lower levels the mercury may climb well over the 100 mark.

WHY call it "Dog Days" news?

The answer is that we are now at the season that for some time in the neighborhood of 20 centuries has been known as Dog Days. The term comes down to us from the ancient Romans, who called the half dozen hottest weeks of the summer CANICULARIS DIES — which, as you will recall if any of your high school Latin has stayed with you, means Days of the Dog.

ACCORDING to their theory the Dog Star, or Sirius, rising with the sun, added to the sun's heat — and so in the Dog Days (about July 3 to August 11) sweltering humanity had to bear up under the combined heat of the Dog Star and the sun.

Their theory wasn't too unreasonable. Sirius is the brightest star in the heavens. It radiates 30 times as much light as the sun, but it is so far away that its light (traveling at 186,284 miles per second) takes nine years to reach the earth.

AT TIMES during these long centuries, the mistaken belief has prevailed that dogs were likely to "go mad" from rabies during hot weather. As a matter of fact, the scientists tell us now, fewer dogs go mad in hot weather than in cold. So this particular superstition about the Dog Days has largely disappeared.

In the newspaper business we have a superstition that in hot weather there isn't much news but the weather. Hence comes that heresy? One suspects that it arose out of the reluctance of human beings to get out in sweltering weather and do the things that make news.

Anyway, Dog Days news is apt to be news that doesn't carry much punch.

HERE in the midst of Dog Days, here's a dog story from St. Louis:

Duke, a handsome German Police dog, is a member of the St. Louis police canine corps. Not only that, he is a member of the narcotics squad. His job is to spot narcotics — either when cached away or carried on the persons of narcotics vendors.

Carrying out his assigned task, Duke is called upon to investigate a refrigerator in a restaurant whose proprietor was suspected of narcotics dealings. When the refrigerator door was opened, an inviting display of frankfurters was exposed to view.

Did Duke wade into them hungrily? He did not. With his nose, he pushed aside the tantalizing heap of meat and exposed to view beneath it EIGHT PACKAGES OF MARIJUANA.

THAT'S single-minded and devoted dedication to duty. If we humans could, and would, do as well, think what a world this could be.

ONE more Dog Days weather tale: The U.S. Weather Bureau at Jacksonville, Florida, announces that the first official hurricane or tropical storm of the 1962 season will be named Alma — which, it says, is Latin for "spirit." Later storms will be named Becky, Celia, Daisy and Thora. Thora, the weather sharps explain, is the feminine version of

Thor, the ancient god of thunder. That raises a question: Who was the cynic who first conceived the idea of calling destructive hurricanes by women's names?

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris
c) Field Enterprises Inc.

NATIONAL CHARACTER

A note in the New York Times advertising column recently mentioned that "national characteristics have been playing a growing part in advertising lately." The new campaign for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, for instance, stresses the "sturdy reliability" of the Dutch people. And the new joint advertising campaign conducted by British Overseas Airways Corp. and Cunard Steamship Co. will emphasize the British national character as being "generous, impeccable, unobtrusive."

These traits are true enough as far as they go. But every nation has a public face and a private face — not hypocritically, but simply as a matter of historical fact. In one way or another, every country is slightly schizophrenic.

To tourists, the French give the impression of being debonair and romantic and sensual. Yet, privately, the French are immensely shrewd, practical, realistic and hold cold intelligence in higher esteem than the emotions. To the French, stupidity is the cardinal sin.

Likewise, the British are stolid, well-mannered and unobtrusive in their social relations — but not in the privacy of their clubs and pubs.

There is a wonderful vein of whimsicality and lunacy that runs through the British character. Lear's limericks, and the veneration of "Alice in Wonderland," are possible only in England; the rest of Europe finds them incomprehensible.

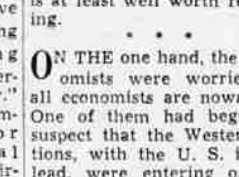
The starched shirt-front and the striped trousers are strictly for public consumption. In the private corners of his life, the Englishman easily gives way to eccentricity and even a little madness. The most extravagant and ambitious practical jokes have been perpetrated by Englishmen — along with the greatest tolerance of the idiosyncrasies of others.

Even in the realms of politics and diplomacy, the British display a note of levity, where the representatives of other nations would not permit themselves to unbend. No American statesman, for example, would dare to behave as drolly as Lord Halifax, Great Britain's former Foreign Secretary.

Halifax was traveling to Portsmouth one day, and shared a railway compartment with two very prim and militant-looking ladies. As the train passed through a tunnel, Halifax took advantage of the darkness and noisily kissed his own hand a couple of times. When the train drew into the station, he rose, raised his hat, and asked gallantly: "To which of you two charming ladies am I indebted for the delightful incident in the tunnel?" And he strode away, leaving them glaring at each other, "unobtrusively" indeed.



Alsop



Harris

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

CRITIC Brooks Atkinson confesses that when he wants to add some very unusual words to his vocabulary, he consults the works of S. J. Perelman. It was from this prolific source, for instance, that he borrowed, "a firkin of butter and a hectare of gherkins" to describe the fare served at a picnic.

Mr. P. shingled his country house, Atkinson discovered, with "second-hand waffles," and he "taps the dottle from his pipe" by "knocking it against the hob." He also frequently "muckles fibre towels" from airplanes that carry him hither and yon.

A fond mother, on the eve of her daughter's marriage, kissed her husband anxiously. "Do you really think our little girl is ready for the battle of life?" "If she isn't," snapped the husband unfeelingly, "she never will be. Remember, we've seen her through six engagements and heaven only knows how many close-range skirmishes!"

English author Evelyn Waugh is no great admirer of the master minds out Hollywood way. To a London journalist he seered, "Each book purchased for motion pictures has some individual quality, good or bad, that has made it remarkable. It is the work of a great array of highly paid and incompetent writers to distinguish this quality, separate it, and obliterate it."

In the lobby of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," a grateful patron presented Abe Burrows with a fine ham, thus giving Mr. B. the opportunity to remark, "Thanks: I'll smoke it later."

