

Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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TAX CUTS IN A RISING ECONOMY?

Q: In view of the way the U.S. economy is moving upward in 1963, why do we need a tax cut?

A: In order to keep it moving strongly upward in 1964, so we'll create enough jobs for our mounting numbers of workers and put our idle plants to use.

Q: Would a tax reduction effective not in 1963, but as of Jan. 1, 1964, be "safe", considering the brighter economic background?

A: Probably, for the economy is perceptibly gathering momentum on the upside. In fact, the odds are increasing that Congress may decide to schedule tax reductions beginning Jan. 1.

Q: What might these changing circumstances do to the \$11.9 billion budget deficit projected for the year starting July 1?

A: Reduce it. The government's tax take is likely to rise above original estimates because profits and paychecks are rising above original estimates. The expenditure side of the budget is due for some slashes. If tax reductions do not take effect until 1964, this timing also will cut the estimated deficit.

In Washington and in major financial centers across the nation, there is rising confusion about the timing as well as the details of the administration's tax reduction-reform program—the White House's primary legislative target for 1963.

The situation was confused enough before the economy began to perk up. From the start, the President's reform proposals were "poisonous" and most of them are dead. His submission of a multi-billion dollar hike in spending along with a substantial tax reduction program has aroused widespread concern about our record of budget deficits. Now comes this economic rebound.

Business is raising its plans to invest in new factories and equipment and the lag in this vital area of spending has been a key explanation for the sluggishness in our economy since 1957. Consumers are spending freely for goods and non-goods and every new survey emphasizes they intend to continue spending freely. As the economy enters its 27th month of advance, it is getting renewed vigor.

Why, then, in the face of certain budget deficits and an increasing public debt, should Congress vote tax reductions for individuals and corporations? Here are four basic reasons why:

(1) Despite the fact that business is increasing its investments in new plants and equipment, the record \$40.1 billion total just projected by McGraw-Hill for 1963 still is "short" of what it should be if we are to keep our industries fully competitive. Instead of running around 7 per cent of our Gross National Product, Douglas Greenwald, McGraw-Hill's chief economist, figures it should be around 7 1/2 per cent—which would raise the 1963 total to \$44 billion and greatly spur our economy's growth. Businessmen admit that over \$1 billion of their 1963-64 spending directly results from the investment incentives they were given last year in the form of liberalized depreciation rules and a tax credit against purchases of new plants and equipment. Now tax cuts would keep them increasing their investments—and this would be great news for all of us.

(2) Good as the economy's performance is, it still is not good enough to cut into our unemployment rate and then into idle plant capacity in many of our industries. Consumers will boost their buying of goods if more dollars are left in their pockets. Corporations will boost their investment in plants if their sales to consumers increase and more dollars are left in their cash registers. A continuing upturn after 28 months of advance is heartening, but the pace still is not strong enough.

(3) Our tax structure is obsolete, geared to war and inflation rather than today's realities, and a drag on our growth. Were we in a recession, the cuts would be urgent. As it is, Congress can vote a program with deliberation and move us into a period of solid, sustained upturn.

(4) Expectation of tax reductions has been a factor in the obvious improvement in confidence. Shelving the program could jolt confidence, abort this new upswing.

The fundamental argument for tax reduction always has been that it is needed to spur our growth, create enough profits and paychecks to provide the taxes to bring the budget into balance. The argument is as valid today as ever.



TALL WINNER — Marge Liedtke, 20, a secretary, has been named Miss Tall San Francisco. Miss Liedtke, who is five feet, 10 inches tall, will participate in the Miss Tall U.S.A. contest in San Francisco July 2-7. (UPI)

Correct Posture Week, May 1 to 7

May 1 through 7 is Correct Posture Week. Proclamations regarding the observance have been issued by Oregon Gov. Mark O. Hatfield and Medford Mayor James Dunlevy.

Dr. Stanley G. Ricks, Grants Pass, Southern Oregon district president of the Oregon Association of Chiropractic Physicians, explained that the week serves as a reminder that correct posture is a sign of good health and that good health is a strong contributor to the social and economic strength of the nation.

In his proclamation, Mayor Dunlevy said that it is hoped that civic organizations, educational institutions, and youth groups cooperate with the correct posture educational program of the chiropractic profession in making the public aware of the value of correct posture.

No local activities are planned, Dr. Ricks explained, but a contest for Miss Posture Queen will be held in the state during the week. She will later compete for the title on the national level.



Small Worlds Around Us
By Lynn W. Watkins
Register & Tribune Syndicate, 1963

Man Must Marvel At Mysteries of Creation

We all know mechanics who can tear apart a television set or an automobile or who can delve understandingly into the complex workings of an electronic brain, but no one, apparently, can tell exactly how, or why, a knee-hinge works in an insect's leg that is smaller than a speck of dust. This appears more mystifying than how a machine works.

The knee-hinge is only one of the many mysteries in Nature. The more we ponder, the more we should realize how very limited our knowledge is, when measured against the magnitude of living things.

Even our human ego must admit that the night itself is bigger than all the works of man put together. We must view with awe the regularity of the seasons; the morning, the day and even the rain that falls; the fluctuations of cold and warm air that cause the winds to blow.

We know that rain is little more than the condensation of moisture, a simple fundamental fact, the law of heating, cooling and condensing, but it's marvelous just the same. We know, too, that those raindrops, falling through the atmosphere are carrying more than just water.

A Timid Look
Timidly we look with bewilderment at the restless bosom of great waters and try to adjust our limited perspective to a thing of this magnitude and the complexity of the life that lives within it.

Even mountains are not as inspiring, for in time they can be worn and eroded away, but still the waters of the seas will be intact. In the presence of the ocean, we should stand aghast, for the sea is eternal.

Even the penetrating eye of the X-ray cannot explain the mysterious and silent changes that follow their measured course within the tissues of a worm as it changes its shape and character within the confines of a cocoon. Metamorphosis, we call it, but it's hard to understand the complex process.

The arrangement and growth of genes, and all the other peculiar things that change a fluid inside an egg to a living bird, is rather confusing. No thinking person can observe the result—the birth of a living bird complete with all its facilities—without wondering about the miracle of it.

How Frail a Life
How very frail a life glows within the tissues of a moth or a butterfly. How delicate and seemingly fragile, as though a light breeze could destroy it yet the creature lives, flies and is driven by a powerful force we call instinct, a more compelling force than a human mind can comprehend.

Pretty difficult to think that the fluids inside an insect egg can separate and reorganize themselves into nerves, legs, jaws, digestive organs and all the other parts that go to make up a living creature. But somehow or other it is all accomplished, effectively and silently.

A microscope can show us a cell growing, multiplying and dividing, but it can't show us exactly how or why. All these things and many more should amaze us. Even if we think we have it all figured out, we might glance up into the night sky or stand aghast at the edge of the sea, still pretty much a stranger to us, and marvel at the profound mystery of creation.

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvaraz*
Emeritus Consultant in Medicine
Mayo Clinic
Professor of Medicine
Mayo Clinic
(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1963)

Iodine in the Blood

People are sometimes puzzled because a "breathing test" for activity of the thyroid gland (the gland in the front of the neck which, when enlarged, is a goiter) showed a decided inactivity, while the P. B. I. (or measurement of the "protein-bound iodine" in the blood) indicated a decided overactivity.

A number of these people tell me that their doctor, when faced with these conflicting reports, gave them pills of thyroid substance to take each day. Most of these people—almost all of them women—say that all the drug did was to make them jittery and very nervous. This means usually that the thyroid function was normal, and hence the medicine was not needed and not tolerated. If it had been needed, the woman would have felt immensely better as soon as she started taking it.

Many readers ask, "But can the result of a laboratory test be wrong?" Of course it can; lab workers are human like the rest of us, and it is human to make mistakes. One of the sad features about modern medicine is that when we doctors are given a laboratory report that is fairly obviously erroneous, it does not occur to us to send the patient back for a check-up. We look on reports of laboratory tests as Holy Writ. But they aren't.

Especially reports of P. B. I. measurements can easily be wrong because in this test the amount of iodine must be measured in thousandths of a thousandth of a gram (a gram is a fourth of a teaspoonful). Obviously, only a well-trained chemist can hope to make such a measurement with accuracy.

A few years ago, I saw a woman whose physicians had been much puzzled by conflicting reports of her "basal metabolism" and her P. B. I. When I had these tests repeated in a laboratory run by men I trust, both of the reports were found to be within normal limits, and this explained why the woman could not take thyroid extract without getting jittery.

When I had a long talk with her, I found that her illness was due to such things as a hereditary tendency to a distressingly nervous bowel—now kept comfortable with codeine—a husband dangerously ill with a bad heart attack, and a poorly-adjusted daughter whose escapades kept her mother in a constant state of anxiety.

More information about thyroid gland irregularities is contained in Dr. Alvaraz's booklet, "Thyroid Troubles and Goiters." You may obtain a copy of the booklet by sending 25 cents and a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request for it to Dr. Walter C. Alvaraz, Dept. MMT, Box 957, Des Moines 4, Iowa.

Kennedy Urges Bond Purchases

Washington (UPI)—President Kennedy today urged every family to buy at least one government bond during the Treasury's freedom savings bond drive beginning May 1 and continuing through July 4.

"Because each one of us has a personal responsibility to help preserve freedom and to build a just and enduring peace, I heartily endorse this drive and ask all Americans to enlist in the cause of freedom by buying savings bonds," the President said in a special statement.

Choked by Own Choker

U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Hosts Washington Press at Luncheon

By DICK WEST
Washington (UPI)—Good solid citizen types who come here to fill high positions often go through a difficult period of adjustment. Getting acclimated to life in the capital isn't easy under the best of conditions. For some, it is a series of traumatic experiences, not the least of which is meeting the Washington press corps.



Such was the case of Ladd Plumley, an estimable Worcester, Mass., insurance executive who has just completed a year of service here as president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Plumley's term of office expires this week and as a parting gesture he gave a luncheon for a group of us newsmen who either had written something about his tenure or, as the invitation said, had "threatened to."

It was a most pleasant affair and was capped off by a short speech by the host entitled "Plumley's farewell to the troops."

As a sociological document, casting insight upon the tribulations of public figures, I think it ranks with another Plumley speech entitled "Cliches my grandfather taught me."

There are, Plumley told us, "two truly tense moments that came to me at Chamber of Commerce presidents. The first is when he meets the press and tries to answer their questions as frankly as good taste and a decent sense of responsibility will permit. The second is when he tries to explain to his friends that he didn't really say it that way." These denials, Plumley added, "take a little more skill" when the press conference is televised. Plumley recalled that "I made my Washington debut early last year before the National Press club, where I outlined the chamber's position on such noncontrover-

sial subjects as tax reduction, tax reform, foreign aid, medicare and federal aid to education."

"It was a memorable occasion," he said, and "I came away impressed by your grasp of public affairs."

What impressed him most, however, was a question about his haberdashery. A reporter noted that he was wearing a hard collar and asked if it were detachable.

"I assured him that it was, that I always wore hard, detachable collars, and that in Worcester they were considered most economical and not particularly newsworthy," Plumley said.

"That appeared to satisfy him but it left me permanently scarred—sort of choked by my own choker. To this day, I have not had the courage to wear a hard collar in public."

Girl Given Parole To Enter University

Nashville, Tenn. (UPI)—A correspondence course code was given a parole from prison Monday so she could attend the University of Tennessee.

The state parole board granted the freedom request of Sarah Jeannett Johns, 22, who was sentenced in 1959 to 10 years imprisonment for luring a man from a bar so two soldiers could rob him.

Miss Johns said she had earned 12 college credits through correspondence courses in her cell and the university said it would accept her application if she could get a parole.



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The Council: We've used Lola's private-life name. Her professional signature is flashed on theatre and TV signs regularly. We understand her answer to her sister. But we break it into two parts, and agree with only one. A woman can be "helibent" in only one direction. Lola refers to the "intense, one-track application required for success in a highly competitive field. She's right in saying that a marriage would quickly be starved during a woman's uncompromising fight for a career recognition. Marriage asks "equal" . . . But we disagree that a woman must stay in her original slot, not when it begins to feel like a rut. Gay's husband, more wisely than her sister, recognizes that marriage and children are not The Whole Story for Gay. There's another chapter clamoring to be written. If Lola won't listen—can it be envy?

Medford Unit Gets Superior Certificate

Vancouver, Wash. (UPI)—A Medford Army Reserve unit has received the Secretary of the Army superior unit certificate for training in 1961-62. Col. A. E. Blewett, commander of the Oregon Reserve sector, made the announcement.

The Medford unit is Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 414th Infantry Regiment, commanded by Lt. Col. Charles V. Housewife. Mrs. Charles V. Housewife was cleaning oysters for her husband's dinner when she heard something hard clatter in the pan. It was a pearl later appraised by a local jeweler at \$75.



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