

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

BUDDY HACKETT tells of a morning in Las Vegas when he entered a drug store to buy a packet of aspirin. The druggist, a true Las Vegasite, proposed, "I'll match you double or nothing." Hackett lost the toss and went out with two headaches.



At least some of America's juvenile delinquents have brushed up on philosophy. Here's a legend that one of them chalked up on the wall of the Times Square subway station: "Schopenhauer is a fink!"

After a long editorial conference, a book publisher in our town took one of his most productive—and thirstiest—authors for a spot of refreshment in a neighboring bistro. No sooner had they seated themselves than a waiter set down a tray nearby with twenty martinis on it.

The publisher and the author gratefully imbibed ten martinis apiece. Then they discovered that the tray was intended for a party of twenty in the next room.

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SUCCESS APPARENT — His success seems apparent as Britain's Lord Home leaves No. 10 Downing st. in London to report to Queen Elizabeth that he is able to form a new government. He was named Prime Minister to succeed Harold Macmillan, who resigned. (UPI)



How to get ready for a happy retirement.

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Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER

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TRADING WITH RUSSIA
Strictly from the viewpoint of jobs, paychecks, profits and our dollar, any significant increase in our trade with the Soviet bloc could only be a big, bright plus for all of us.

You may have plenty of reservations on other grounds about raising our trade with the USSR and its satellites. The risks in the spheres of national defense and politics (domestic and international) are obvious. But you cannot downgrade the impressive gains to us in the economic-financial sphere. To be specific, the increase trade would:

(1) Directly create jobs, paychecks and profits throughout the country. Trade is trade and any rise in our exports to any country willing to buy and able to pay has this stimulating impact.

(2) Ease our tax burden. We are spending huge amounts to store our commodity surpluses and support farm prices. As our surpluses were sold, our storage costs would decline and the effect of the sales on farm prices would eventually cut the costs of our farm price support program too. The estimate is that this one wheat sale to Russia will save us, as taxpayers, about \$225 million in storage and allied costs during this fiscal year.

(3) Reduce the federal budget deficit. As the funds from sales of surplus commodities came back to the Treasury, the budget would get a windfall. The wheat sale will illustrate this.

(4) Help stem the drain on our precious gold reserve and thus safeguard the dollar. Russia is paying and would pay us for her purchases in dollars. Thus contributing to closing the gap between what we spend abroad and what we earn abroad. Any factor narrowing the deficit in our balance of payments bolsters the dollar.

(5) Strengthen the currencies and trade positions of the Western world in general by adding to the West's supply of gold — the basis for all major currencies and the foundation for trade. Russia already has sold major quantities of gold in the West to get dollars to pay for wheat.

(6) Open new markets for our goods at a time of intensifying trade competition between us and the Common Market. There's a ceiling on what we could sell to the Soviet bloc, for there's not much we want to buy in return — and sustained trade must be a two-way affair. But even the near-term potentials for sales of our goods to the East are spectacular.

The giant wheat sale to the USSR has at last forced the issue of East-West trade into American homes — which is fine. For far too long, the hard facts about the extent to which Western Europe has been expanding its trade with the Soviets while the United States has been the outsider-looking-in have been buried by emotion and politics.

The key hard fact is that while we have been pursuing the equivalent of a next-to-nothing trade policy with the Soviets, our allies have been vigorously booting their sales to these areas. Whatever the virtues of our tough trade policy, the truth is that, as one of the nation's top experts on Russian trade put it in an interview:

"We are not depriving Russia of anything by not selling to her, for what we won't sell, the Russians can readily get in Europe. What we have been doing is depriving U.S. businessmen of tremendous sales while businessmen elsewhere have been moving in." Here's the evidence.

Item: In 1962, Western Europe sold the Soviet bloc \$2.1 billion of goods against our sales of \$125 million. To Russia alone, we sold a pittance \$15 million in the entire year. Most of the rest — almost \$95 million — was in sales of surplus farm commodities to Poland.

Item: In the area of machinery and transport equipment — the richest potential market for trade with the Soviets — we sold only \$7.6 million in 1962, one-hundredth of Western Europe's exports of \$756 million.

Item: While Western Europe's sales to Eastern Europe have jumped 21 per cent since 1960, United States sales to Eastern Europe actually have shrunk 35 per cent. While our total sales of manufactured goods to the Soviet bloc were a scant \$11.2 million last year, Western Europe's sales of manufactured goods were \$1.5 billion.

For many reasons, we may continue our embargoes on exports which the Soviets easily can get from our friends. But if so, we will be, in the words of the conservative Journal of Commerce, "Just biting our nose off to spite our face."

Vitamin Intoxication Often Mistaken for Tumor, Meningitis

By DELOS SMITH

UPI Science Editor

NEW YORK (UPI) — What makes a vitamin A intoxication a horror to a physician is that its signs can be confused with those of a brain tumor. And also with those of serious meningitis, chronic encephalitis and infectious arthritis—to name a few without mentioning neurosis.

The complaining physicians were Drs. Joaquin Soler-Bechara and John L. Soscia of New York's St. Vincent's Hospital, and theirs were the latest scientific voices raised in alarm at the fabulous rate at which Americans now dose themselves with vitamins.

They had just completed a 36-day hospital study on a 39-year-old female secretary who for years had been dosing herself heavily with vitamin A, in addition to multiple-vitamins, in the belief it would bolster her fading energy. One sign of vitamin A intoxication is energy loss.

Array of Signs
Her bewildering array of major signs were fatigue, weight loss, bone and joint pains, bone tenderness, loss of body hair,

itching, dry skin, enlargements of liver and spleen, anemia, headache and skin rashes.

The eventual cure turned out to be simple. She was deprived of her vitamin A.

Soler-Bechara and Soscia were so aroused they made an exhaustive study of what medical science has learned about vitamin A intoxication since the first case was reported in 1944. They reported this study to a technical publication of the American Medical Association.

There have been only a few cases of acute intoxication, in small children and in arctic explorers. The former got huge single doses of vitamin A from solicitous mothers; the explorers got their huge single doses by eating the liver of the polar bear.

Others Chronic Cases
The others were chronic cases "and these may exist for years without recognition," they said. "The present-day sales of vitamins emphasizes the awareness that must be exerted by physicians. Drugstore sales of vitamin products reached a total of \$250 million in 1960."

One good indication is a feeble enlargement of liver and spleen. The human liver is known to store vitamin A but not at the rate at which the polar bear liver stores it.

"Using fluorescence microscopy, vitamin A can be visualized in tissues," they added.

"A striking green fluorescence is imparted by this substance to the lipoids (fats or oils) which carry it; the degree of fluorescence depending on the amount of vitamin A present."

Zoomsi Auction Raises \$103,204

PORTLAND (UPI) — The annual Zoomsi auction at the Hilton Hotel here Saturday night raised \$103,204.

Rolph Fuhmann, auction chairman, said about \$85,000 will be net profit to be divided between the Portland zoo and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. This year's auction more than tripled that of the first one four years ago.

A home, donated to the auction this year, brought the highest bid—\$34,150 from Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Rowe. Auctioning lasted until 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

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THE Lighter Side...
BY DICK WEST
Mme. Nhu's Dance Ban Has Support

United Press International WASHINGTON (UPI) — In the past fortnight virtually every newspaperman with access to the public print has had a go at South Viet Nam's Madame Nhu.

There is something about this incredible and controversial lady that is journalistically challenging. She has the same effect on newsmen that Mt. Everest has on mountain climbers. Not being an expert on Asian affairs, I wouldn't attempt to weigh the impact of her U. S. visit on relations between her country and America.

There is, however, one facet of her career that I am more than qualified to appraise. I refer to her action in banning dancing in Viet Nam.

If Madame Nhu feels that some unkind things have been written about her, she might

Coast Areas on Tidal Wave Alert

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — For the second weekend in a row, an earthquake near Japan put the Hawaiian Islands and the California coast on a tidal wave alert.

And, for the second weekend

fox-trot, not to mention the highland fling, the rumba, the samba, the bossa nova and the twist.

Imagine a land where a man can take his wife out to dinner without first surreptitiously checking to make certain the joint doesn't have a dance floor.

Imagine being able to go home from a party without having your companion of the evening berate you for making her feel like a wallflower.

Imagine never again being informed that you have insulted the hostess by not asking her to dance.

I'll tell you, chums, if Madame Nhu's policy were universally adopted it would eliminate the singlemost sedulous source of marital friction.

Possibly she deserved some of the criticism sent her way, but any woman who takes a stand against terpsichorean torture can't be all bad.

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