

The Herald and News

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Gyp Artists

By FLORENCE JENKINS

The gypsies' Christmas haul runs into hundreds of millions of dollars annually in the United States, according to the Better Business Bureau.

Hugh R. Jackson, president of the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan New York, gives four commandments in dealing with the racketeers, especially those who are soliciting for a distant or unknown charity:

Don't even bother to listen to a telephone pitch for a handout unless you know who is calling. Seek full identification from any solicitor.

Slash away any merchandise (including odd-type stickers) of questionable character sent to you. If you didn't order it, you need not waste your money returning it. If the sender tries to get tough, make him come and get it. It is his responsibility.

Resist the temptation to be impressed by "name-dropping" over the telephone or by a door-to-door solicitor or when printed in a letter.

Perfume peddlers and photograph solicitors move about the country the year around. The Better Business Bureau head points out, but the Yuletide brings out the greatest variety and profusion of gyp artists.

Many of the charities — for such worthwhile causes as the solicitor's own bank balance — are nipped by postal authorities each year, but new ones come along to take their places.

Uncle Sam will be wanting more of every paycheck in 1960, so plan from right now on to heed the slogan of the Better Business Bureau:

"If you don't know the merchandise — be sure you know the merchant."

If you can't find what you want in a Klamath Falls store, ask the man who operates the business and chances are good he will be more than happy to order what you want for you.

Rotting Dollar

By LYLE C. WILSON

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Howard Buffett has come up with a better phrase for the all-American grand larceny commonly known as currency inflation. Buffett calls it the rotting of the dollar.

This maker of punchy phrases used to be a Republican member of the House of Representatives from Nebraska. Buffett is a conservative, a right winger.

Right winger Buffett is on fire right now because he believes the U. S. government is according shabby, shameful treatment to about 40 million good citizens. These 40 million good citizens are the owners of about 40 billion dollars worth of U. S. savings bonds.

These are the little bonds which the government began to put out in 1935 for purchase by the little people of the United States, the common man. Writing in the weekly "Human Events," Buffett estimates that the rotting of the dollar has cost these little investors about 21 billion dollars of their principal and interest. That is more than half, in terms of value, of their entire stake.

Their bonds still are worth the same number of dollars, of course but the rotting dollar is worth something less than 50 cents. What government-sponsored currency inflation has done to the little investor, the common man, over the past 20 to 25 years is plenty.

Government, of course, controls the return the little investor may have on his savings bonds. The last Congress authorized the Treasury to hike the interest rate a bit and the treasury did so, a rise from 3.25 to 3.75 per cent. That was a miserly rise and unfair, Buffett contends to the little investor.

To demonstrate this unfairness, Buffett compared government's treatment of the little investor with its treatment of four other groups hard hit by the high cost of living whose income also depends directly upon Congress. Congress recognized the impact of inflationary costs on these other groups. Congress was relatively generous with them, for example:

— U. S. Congress. Salary hikes and fringe benefits since 1940 have increased each congressman's income by 125 per cent.

— Federal Civil Service employees. Their income (medium grade) has increased since 1944 by 149 per cent.

— Social Security recipients. Since 1940 their take has gone up 111 per cent.

— Aid to dependent children beneficiaries. Since 1942 these have been favored with a hike of

approximately 196 per cent.

— U. S. savings bond investors, the politician's beloved common man. Since 1942 he has had a hike of 30 per cent.

These are Buffett's figures. They represent his calculations of the spread of discrimination by Congress between the citizen who saves his money and puts it in U. S. savings bonds and the citizens who draw their income directly from the treasury in the form of salary or benefits.

The great majority of these U. S. savings bond holders are in the low income group. They are not organized into a massive pressure group to put the whammy on Congress for a better deal.

Red Strategy

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor

From the foreign editor's notebook:

Soviet diplomats quietly are setting up the strategy Premier Nikita Khrushchev will use at next May's four-power summit meeting. He is understood to reject in advance any "package deal" which would lump Berlin and Germany together or any attempt to link a German peace treaty with disarmament. The Soviet diplomats say each are separate questions. The Soviet Premier also will take the position that withdrawal of troops from Berlin substantially was agreed upon in the four-power Foreign Ministers' conference in Geneva last summer. He will propose that Western forces in Berlin be reduced to "symbolic" status, that a Soviet "commissioner" be named and that United Nations observers be assigned to the city for a period of five years or so. The Soviets will not permit Communist East Berlin to be drawn into the picture at all.

Latest prediction for the date of the explosion of the French atomic bomb in the Sahara: no earlier than March. The explanation is that the bomb is ready but the scientific measuring instruments are not.

With trouble threatening in neighboring Laos, one of the things that give U. S. military officers in Thailand the "creeps" is the almost total lack of adequate radar installations. "They could hit you without your knowing it," was the way one officer summed it up.

Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's government does not intend to be stampeded into banning all right wing parties as result of the recent outbreak of anti-semitic acts in West Germany. Insiders say the government quietly will start work on stamping down the more hot-headed right wingers known to hold anti-Jewish views. Banning of the right wing parties, these sources say, merely would drive them underground and make them harder to control. At the same time, it would open the government to charges that the West German regime is not truly democratic. While retaining basic freedom of speech, the government is expected to make an example of half a dozen leading anti-semites the minute they step out of line. This would have the two-fold effect of showing the world that the government is determined to stamp out anti-semitic acts and of demonstrating the same conviction rather more forcefully at home.

Despite denials, there are persistent reports of deadlock which could delay scheduled independence for Cyprus on Feb. 19. Chief stumbling block for the treaty makers is a British demand that Britain be allowed to retain sovereignty over 126 square

miles earmarked for two British military bases. President-elect Archbishop Makarios is insisting that the area be no more than 36 square miles.

Hypnotism

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Things a columnist might never know if he didn't open his mail:

Do you ever brag that no one could hypnotize you? Well, the fact is that 9 out of 10 people can be put into a trance. But only about one out of four or five can be hypnotized deeply enough to undergo major surgery without an anesthetic.

Weather note: If you want to find which way the wind is blowing, look at the nearest cow. Cows always point their tails toward the wind. When a herd points its tails in several directions, there isn't much wind.

In Tibet they have an odd way of showing respect to a superior. They stick out their tongue at him. If your boss catches you doing this to him, tell him you're a Tibetan.

The good old days: Way back in 1885 the average American's share of federal taxes was \$1.98. Today it costs a lot more than that to get someone to help fill out your tax return.

Our quotable notables: "Forethought, which involves doing unpleasant things now for the sake of pleasant things in the future, is one of the most essential marks of mental development."

In America there are more phones than teen-agers. But Europe has only one phone for every 15 persons, South America one for every 45, Africa one for every 140, and Asia only one for every 250 people.

Few filaments in nature are stronger than a spider's web. A rope of spider silk one inch thick could hold a weight of 74 tons. Lo, the non-vanishing Indian! U. S. Indians have increased by 34 per cent since 1890. They now number about 350,000.

Death of a patriot: George Washington, who lived memorably, also died memorably. He drew his last breath in the last hour of the last day of a week in the last month of the last year in the 18th century. The time: midnight, Dec. 14, 1799.

It was Spinoza who observed that "sadness diminishes or hinders a man's power of action." So, if you want 1960 to be a productive and fruitful year, begin it by being happy!

Nixon's Control

By JAMES MARLOW

Associated Press News Analyst
WASHINGTON (AP) — In 1960 Vice President Richard M. Nixon will get the best test in a field in which he prides himself: self-control. It will be more than just the most important year in his life. It will be the toughest. Ever since getting into politics in 1946 Nixon has been an ambitious young man on the way up. The exact elevation was uncertain until he became vice president in 1953. There never has been much doubt since where he was aiming.

Now for a man of 46—he won't be 47 until Jan. 9—he has an incredible future: an almost certain grip on the Republican presidential nomination in 1960, without an opponent in sight.

Because of it this year he will be subjected to the greatest scrutiny of his existence, not only by Democratic foes and independent voters but by Republicans measuring him for White House size.

But it's the criticism which should test his self-control. He will be getting more of it from the Democrats in 1960 than in any previous year. Their dislike for him goes away back.

They condemned him for his campaign tactics before he became vice president and again for the way he performed in the 1954 congressional elections. Since then he has followed a less irritating line.

He is a good talker and a good showman. He is aggressive and quick on his feet. But above all he is an excellent planner of his own political future. No one in years has been able to tantalize him into impulsive statements which might hurt him.

But he is facing something special now.

Usually a political party can't concentrate its fire on the presidential candidate of the opposition until he has been chosen at the summer convention.

Since Nixon looks like the sure-shot Republican candidate, the Democrats can start on him right away. They will reach a peak in the campaign, of course.

So Nixon and everyone else ought to be able to learn just how deep his self-control runs. But no one knows better than Nixon, a shrewd politician, that letting himself be pushed off balance into one public display of temper could ruin him.

But even President Eisenhower may have some self-consciousness about Nixon this year. Eisenhower has made more use of his vice president than any president in history. It helped build Nixon's national stature.

No question was raised about it so long as Nixon was just the vice president. But now the use Eisenhower makes of him may be labeled politics by the Democrats, an effort to build up Nixon for the 1960 campaign.

Since Eisenhower is in the most active phase of his own presidency, with plans for wide traveling this year and even a summit meeting, Nixon may be left pretty much on the sidelines until convention time.

The Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Monday, Jan. 4, the 4th day of the year, with 362 more days to follow.

The moon is approaching its first quarter.

The morning stars are Venus and Mars.

On this date in history:
In 1642, Sir Isaac Newton, discoverer of the law of gravity, was born.

In 1809, French teacher of the blind and originator of the Braille System, Louis Braille was born.

In 1887, Thomas Stevens arrived in San Francisco, completing the first round-the-world trip by bicycle.

In 1896, Utah was admitted into the Union as the 45th state.

In 1902, the Panama Canal Company of France offered to sell its interests to the U. S. government for 40-million dollars.

In 1948, Burma became an independent republic.

A thought for today: Scientist Sir Isaac Newton wrote . . . "to myself I seem to have been only a little boy playing on the seashore . . . whilst as the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

"A mother's love is probably the only type of love which could make any woman protect such a horrible killer."

WASHINGTON — The staff of the Senate subcommittee on national policy machinery, in a report describing Red Chinese leaders as "knowledgeable and confident to the point of cockiness": "Survival of the fittest is the rule in Communist politics; only the boldest and most ruthless reaches the top. This fact tends to make for aggressive policies."

LONDON — Boston Record-American newsboy Frederick R. Hennessey, 14, who was paired with a British girl five inches taller than he at a dance and then invited to tea at the girl's home, declining an offer to swap invitations:
"I don't want to disrupt international relations."

DUNN, N. C. — Indian school-teacher Joseph H. Brewington, stating that he will continue to drive Indian children to a school 36 miles away despite threats against him and explosives planted in his bus:
"I'm afraid to do it, but it's my duty, and I'm going to drive that bus to school for the rest of this term unless they get me before then."

Book Refutes Ike Policies

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new book by a former Army chief of staff provided fresh ammunition today for critics of some of the Eisenhower administration's defense policies.

Retired Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor says the theory of massive retaliation has reached a dead end, but reliance on nuclear bombing continues to be the "basic concept which guides our military preparations today."

He contends that budget decisions and the massive retaliation theory dominate defense planning and account for what he calls the relegation of the Army to a minor role with reduced manpower.

Taylor's book, "The Uncertain Trumpet" published today by Harper & Brothers, renews the arguments for a stronger army and a more flexible fighting force which Taylor voiced as Army chief of staff.

"It should be made clear that the United States will prepare itself to respond anywhere, any time, with weapons and forces appropriate to the situation," he writes.

Among other things, he criticized the Pentagon decision to give the Air Force full control of ballistic missiles, among them the Army-developed Jupiter. He said the Jupiter should be restored to Army operation, and units sent overseas to areas within range of important targets within the Soviet Union.

Students Plan Mexican Trip

ROSEBURG (AP) — Forty-five Roseburg High School students, all studying Spanish, are washing cars and selling candy to help finance a trip to Mexico.

The students hope the tour will bring better understanding of Mexico and improve their command of Spanish.

They plan tentatively to leave Roseburg on a chartered bus in June for the 10 to 15 day tour of Mexico.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



GOP Selects Oregon Man

WASHINGTON (AP) — The appointment of Hal E. Short of Portland, Ore., as public relations director of the Republican National Committee was announced Saturday.

Short, 48, will replace William C. Strand, who quit in July. Short was assistant campaign director for the national committee in the 1956 campaign and was active in the 1952 presidential drive.

Until a few months ago, Short, 48, headed an advertising and public relations firm in Portland. He was born in Greeley, Colo., and educated in Astoria, Ore., High School. He was graduated from the University of Oregon in 1933.

The appointment of Short is the first of several changes expected in a staff reorganization of the GOP committee headed by Sen. Thurston B. Morton (R-Ky.).

East and West Pakistan are 900 miles apart through Indian territory.

Centennial Pays Encampment Bill

PENDLETON (AP) — A \$7,000 appropriation to help pay bills of the National Indian Encampment at Pendleton last summer was announced by the Oregon Centennial Commission.

The total deficit, encampment officials said, amounted to \$27,000. All but \$9,300 was made up by Pendleton businessmen.

The big loss, now cut to \$2,300, resulted from poor attendance at the week-long encampment.

Registrations Delay Noted

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon car and truck owners will get their registration cards later than usual this year, Vern Hill, director of the state Motor Vehicles Department, said Saturday.

When the department, shifted from manual to mechanical production methods, some production time was used to re-train employees, which put the processing of the cards behind schedule.

Decline Noted In Auto Rates

SALEM (AP) — New automobile insurance policy rates that will mean reductions in most rural areas and higher rates in the Portland area go into effect Wednesday.

Dean Musser, Oregon insurance commissioner, said an overall increase of 2.8 per cent will result.

"So far as we are concerned," he added, "it's a very moderate increase."

The new rate scales, he said, are being followed by some 95 per cent of the insurance companies that do business in Oregon. One reason for the increases, he said, is that juries are giving larger awards in bodily injury cases.

Musser said the rate increases will range from \$2 to \$10 in the Portland area, from \$2 to \$12 in some suburban Portland areas and will be reduced \$1 to \$3 in most rural areas.

An estimated 15½ million tourists visit Italy every year.

\$352,279.67 in earnings

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THEIR MONEY, set safely aside here works, building homes in the community, and returns to them a substantial reward — earnings!

Those earnings have just been credited to the savings accounts of thousands of folks in our community. It's money you, too, can count on, year after year, to build your savings and give an extra spark to your future. Because all the savings entrusted to us are put to work here in the community, savings benefit both local home owner and saver.

YOU can light up your future, too, by starting a savings account with us with any amount. You'll have a safe, fluctuation-free savings account that will bring you investment-size earnings every six months.

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SHORT RIBS

By Frank O'Neal

