

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Wrong Emphasis

Overemphasis on the wrong issues seems to have messed up the political campaign pretty badly thus far.

If ever there was a side issue which should not have been allowed to become a major talking point in an American presidential election, the Quemoy-Matsu business is it.

Getting involved in it at the height of the campaign weakened the United States by disclosing to the Red Chinese that there is a division of opinion on the matter in this country.

More attention has been paid in this campaign to the question of religious liberty, which everyone should now take for granted, than to civil liberties which are still denied.

The issue of civil rights has deteriorated into a minor brawl over whether there should be a Negro in the cabinet. This is strictly political window dressing which has nothing to do with basic rights in voting, education, employment and living.

There have been speeches on farm policy—generally rated the most important issue in the middle west. The two candidates have made long and involved statements on the programs they would advocate if elected president.

There is a catch in this in that it is Congress that writes the farm laws. But the main objection to the candidates' farm plans is that they seek to absorb or distribute the huge surpluses which they would encourage, instead of preventing them in such ways that the problem would be solved permanently.

Such debate as there has been on policy toward Russia has been reduced to a squabble over whether Kennedy would have advocated sending an apology or regrets to Khrushchev over the U-2 spy plane incident.

All this is nit-picking. It selects one minor point of a major issue and magnifies that minor point to such proportions that it obscures the major issue.

This is the result, perhaps, of the TV debate format. It is based on the assumption that the viewing and listening public's mentality is so low it can't concentrate on any one subject for longer than three minutes.

This isn't debate in which a subject is dealt with exhaustively in opening argument and rebuttals.

It is more like political batting practice. A lot of irrelevancies are tossed up in what the pitchers (questioners) hope are fast curves. The batters (candidates) swing at them and connect for grounders or high flies without ever trying to run around the bases and score.

On top of that, however, there seems to be a singular absence of color and zest in this year's competition. About the only race that offers much of that is the unique affair in Maine between incumbent Republican Sen. Margaret Chase Smith and Democratic Lucia Cormier. It is the first between two women.

Well-known men are in the lists. They include Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois, Sen. John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, Sen. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts, Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota (last spring a presidential aspirant), Sen. Clinton Anderson of New Mexico, Sen. Robert Kerr of Oklahoma, Sen. Karl Mundt of South Dakota.

Yet somehow they seem to have faded. Almost without exception, they are not the figures they were a few years ago. They do not have sharp national identity.

A good part of this seems due to the fact that their Senate activities of recent vintage have not kept them operating on center stage. And this campaign itself has tended to stress their secondary place in the election picture. The TV debates at the presidential level have put everything else into the shade.

The matter is not helped by the evident failure—with a few exceptions—of both parties to offer the voters new, exciting "name" personalities. Finding candidates who are both solid and interesting seems to be tougher than ever.

In the light of all the circumstances, the diminished interest in the 1960 Senate competition may be understood easily enough. We can hardly expect the voters to get excited about the unexciting.

Nevertheless, it is sad that things are this way. Attention and interest ought to be at high pitch when we are choosing a third of the membership of the nation's most important legislative chamber.

Forgotten Elections

One of the oddities of the 1960 election is that so little national attention is being paid to the races for the U.S. Senate.

Ordinarily there are at least eight or ten such races to command the spotlight. Either colorful figures or close conflict, or both, have lent an air of excitement to this phase of the campaign.

This time it is missing. There are 33 Senate seats at stake. Yet even among professional politicians few can recite the names and states involved.

Perhaps a key reason for this lack of interest is that control of the Senate cannot be changed this year. With Democrats now holding two-thirds of the Senate's 100 seats, the Republicans could not take the reins even if they won every contested berth outside safely Democratic South and border and other states.

The Town We Live In

Our true place as individuals in this big world is sometimes hard to realize, especially when we are told that its population is soaring toward the three-billion mark. An analogy, suggested by Dr. Henry S. Lieper of the World Council of Churches, may help to put things in perspective:

Imagine the world reduced to a village of 1,000 persons. In it there would be 60 Americans, who would receive half the town's income. The 940 other persons would share the other half. About 330 of the townfolk would be classified as Christians. Eighty people would be Communists and 370 others would be under Communist domination. There would be 300 white people; 700 nonwhites. The 60 Americans would have a life expectancy of 70 years; the other 940 less than 40 years.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—What was the Printers' Bible?

A—A Bible issued prior to 1702, in which "printers" appeared for the word "princes" in the 161st verse of Psalm 119.

Q—When did King Leopold II of Belgium acquire sovereignty over the now-independent Congo?

A—In 1885.

Q—How do Auks, birds of subarctic or arctic zones, get their food?

A—They seize fish and crustaceans by diving and "flying" under water.

Q—How old is the nursery rhyme about Old Mother Hubbard?

A—Mrs. Sarah Martin of Plympton, England, wrote it in 1804.

Q—Can the president order National Guard officers to active duty?

A—Yes, during any period of national emergency.

Video Comedian

- ACROSS
- 1, 4 Video comedian
- 10 Measure of paper
- 12 Fancy
- 13 Sphere of action
- 14 Rent lists
- 16 Heaped
- 17 Rot by exposure
- 18 1051 (Roman)
- 19 Hall
- 20 Part of the ear
- 22 Noun suffix
- 23 Color
- 24 Dawn goddess
- 25 Finisher
- 26 In addition
- 27 Qualified
- 29 Employ
- 30 Region (comb. form)
- 31 Search for
- 34 Important meal
- 35 Mistle
- 38 Light brown
- 39 God of love
- 40 Sea inlet
- 41 Agent (ab.)
- 42 Follower
- 43 Angry
- 45 He played second banana with Jackie
- DOWN
- 1 Reach destination

Answer to Previous Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54



EDSON IN WASHINGTON

Doping Election Percentages Adds Up To Total Confusion

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — With most political statisticians — the polite name for dopsters — still figuring that the election will be awfully close, they are keeping watch on every factor that might hold a balance of power and swing the result one way or the other.

Depending on whether you are talking to a Republican or a Democrat, there is a hope or a fear that one candidate might win the popular vote and still lose the electoral college vote.

This has happened only twice before in U.S. history.

In 1876 Rutherford B. Hayes got 4,033,955 popular votes to 4,284,757 for Samuel J. Tilden. But Hayes won the presidency with 185 electoral votes to 184 for

Tilden.

In 1888 Benjamin Harrison got only 5,444,337 popular votes to 5,540,050 for Grover Cleveland. But Harrison won the presidency with 233 electoral votes to 168 for Cleveland.

Though this hasn't happened for 72 years, there is a long chance it might happen again if, say, Kennedy piled up a much bigger popular vote than he needed in a few big states like Pennsylvania and Ohio but lost by narrow margins in enough smaller states to give Nixon a larger electoral vote.

This possibility brings the figure boys to studying the size of the vote and various elements that make it total.

U.S. Census Bureau estimates that just under 107 million Americans will be of voting age this November. Deducting three mil-

lion aliens, prisoners and other ineligible cuts it to 104 million. If the usual 60 per cent of them are registered to go to the polls, the total vote will be around 62.4 million. This is only a little above the 62 million who voted in 1956.

But registrations already indicate the vote may go well beyond that figure. The five most populous states—New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and California—have already accounted for an increased registration of 3.5 million.

Democrats claim that the larger the registration and vote, the better their chance of winning.

Using the Gallup estimates of 56.8 million Americans preferring the Democrats, 40.4 million the Republicans and 6.2 million independent or undecided, for a total of 103.4 million—close to the 104-million vote estimate above—the Democrats do have this advantage. It holds good, though, only if voters follow party lines which they did not do in 1952 and 1956.

Trying to break down the total to see how the minority groups may line up presents many imponderables.

Of the estimated 25 million Catholics of voting age, more than 60 per cent average or over 15 million are expected to vote. If two-thirds of them follow the expected pattern and vote for Kennedy it will give the Democrats a five-million vote advantage.

If a similar percentage of the estimated 37 million Protestants of voting age vote for Nixon—which is by no means as good an assumption—it would give the Republicans a seven-million vote advantage.

Of the approximately 10 million Negroes of voting age, far less than the average 60 per cent are expected to vote because of poll taxes and other restrictions on registering. And there is no known basis for determining how the three-to-five million who do vote will divide.

Organized labor's 18 million members cannot be counted on to vote as a bloc, even though their leaders may lean heavily Democratic. And the unions represent only about a fourth of the total labor force.

A farm voting age population of 12 to 15 million is even less predictable because there is no sharp farm issue.

There are, of course, overlaps in these various segments of the total vote which politicians try to analyze.



HAPPY TIMES

New Social Security Rules May Benefit

By MARIE DAERR

The new Social Security amendments, recently passed by Congress and signed by the President, won't bring about any general increase in benefits.

But they will help many people. Here is a brief summary of what the new legislation does. If you think you will be affected by it, get in touch with your Social Security office. Otherwise, you may be losing out on money to which you are entitled.

The new amendments:

Cancel the age 50 requirement on disability benefits. If you are a disabled worker under age 50, and if you never asked to have your Social Security record frozen, ask your Social Security office if you can receive benefits. Disability payment checks for workers under age 50 will be payable for the month of November, 1960. They will be mailed out in December.

Put the loss on benefits for workers under 72. Starting in 1961, a beneficiary who earns more than \$1,200 a year will have \$1 of his benefits withheld for every \$2 that he earns from \$1,200 up to \$1,500. For every \$1 that his earnings go above \$1,500, \$1 of benefits will be withheld. Also, many people who have not applied for benefits because they are earning amounts over \$2,000 a year now may find it advantageous to apply.

Raise benefits for some children. The monthly benefit of each child of a worker who has died will be three-fourths of the amount the worker would have received if he had lived and drawn retirement benefits. However, a maximum family amount still holds.

Admits survivors not previously eligible to the beneficiary lists. If you are the survivor of a person who died before 1951, and were told there was insufficient coverage, you are advised to get in touch with your Social Security office. Also, aged dependent widowers of women workers who died before September, 1950, now can get benefits if the woman work-

er had worked at least 18 months under Social Security.

Survivors of any worker who died between March 31, 1938, and June 1, 1940, and who had worked under Social Security for at least 18 months also may get benefits now.

Cut the amount of work required for benefits. For instance, if you reach 65 (for a man) or 62 (for a woman) in 1960, you now need three, not 4½ years of work. However, you can't get benefits if you have less than 18 months' work under Social Security.

Put work which a parent does for a son or daughter in the course of a trade or business under Social Security coverage. However, work done in the household of a son or daughter will not be covered. This is effective next January. First wage report is due on or before next April 30.

Still other changes affect employees of a nonprofit organization, state or local government workers, ministers, U.S. citizens working within the United States for foreign governments, and a few other special groups.

The new amendments are described more fully in a new Social Security booklet. I suggest you ask your local Social Security office if you may have a copy.

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Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 1, the 306th day of the year with 60 more in 1960.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The morning star is Mars.

The evening stars are Venus, Jupiter and Saturn.

On this day in history:

In 1763, the Stamp Act, levied by the British crown to raise revenue in the American colonies, went into effect.

In 1788, the final session of the Continental Congress adjourned.

In 1864, the Post Office Department introduced the money-order system as a means of providing convenience and safety for people who wanted to make payments through the mails.

In 1871, American author Stephen Crane was born.

In 1918, the Hungarian Republic was proclaimed in Budapest and a Republic of Austria was set up in Vienna ending the Hapsburg monarchy of Austria-Hungary.

In 1959, 26 were found dead in the crash of a DC3 in Virginia.

Thought for today: American author Stephen Crane wrote: "A man said to the universe: 'Sir, I exist!' 'However,' replied the universe, 'the fact has not created in me a sense of obligation.'"

NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

From Merrill, a subscriber writes: "I notice in your column that Louie Kandra had been leading the Potato Festival parade 24 years. I know that John Colwell led the parade every year until his death August 23, 1957. He rode a white horse. Mr. Colwell was a pioneer, and the first white child born in Klamath County—Oct. 11, 1873, in a log house southeast of Merrill."

Well, that gets that point straightened out. And it would appear that it offers our historical student, Floyd Wynne, an opportunity to develop a story.

A couple of chilly days these last week brought a new topic of interest to our house. All summer long, in the very early hours of the morning (5 o'clock or so) I noticed a covey (right term, Bill?) of quail on the street above the house. Apparently the mother and her brood would wander off the hill for gravel, etc. Anyway, the quail are now full-grown, fat and sleekly beautiful. And they are bold enough to walk right into our yard and Shaw's to eat flower seeds and whatever else is handy.

There are so dad-gummed many "weeks" that I wish somebody would invent a "Mind Your Own Business Week."

All of those Monday night Halloween costumes remind me of the guy who took to coming home several nights a week about six sheets to the wind. So his wife decided to teach him a lesson. She rented a costume, put it on, and stopped him at the door as he came staggering in one night. "Wash this?" he mumbled softly.

"This is the devil," came the answer.

"Shake, old horse," our hero countered, "I married your sister."

Aw now, girls.

Chet Langslet pointed out something the other day when he mentioned that most of us are inclined to think of post office buildings as great, huge things. Actually, they are not. For instance, of all of the post offices in the United States, the Klamath Falls building ranks 388th in size. Incidentally, one does not realize the tremendous job the PO department faces in getting the billions of pieces of mail properly sorted and distributed each year. For service clubs, etc., Chet has an excellent film depicting some of the problems and solutions to the problems the PO department has come up with in recent years.

I know a restaurant owner who hired a new waitress, a well-built and very attractive blonde. A male patron walked in at noon and got his first glimpse of this new dish, whereupon he got down on his hands and knees and began pawing the carpet. The owner rushed up to him with, "What's the matter?" Explained our hero, "My contact lenses popped out."

Which just goes to prove that every new invention doesn't necessarily bring progress.

We'll be eternally grateful to the many readers who took time out to drop a line in our "What Do You Like Best in the Herald and News" contest. We regret that we could not offer a prize for every person who entered. Someone has suggested that we have a contest for what readers "don't like"—and some of these days we might just do that.

Ev Ball, the Coke man, saved the day at the Ron Phair dinner at the auditorium Friday night. Seems that somebody had cranked up the old wood stove, and started the gold-dusted smoke pot you ever saw. Smoke poured from every crack in the stove and soon filled the kitchen, and part of the auditorium. Efforts to start a draft were unsuccessful, so the fire department was called. They were preparing to douse the smoking embers in the stove with water when Ev noticed the situation. He guessed what was wrong, grabbed a rolled up newspaper and jammed it to the far end of the burning chamber. The fire caught and created enough draft to send the smoke where it belonged—out the chimney. But for a while, it looked like the dinner was going to be short a few ingredients.



THE DOCTOR SAYS . . .

Medical Study Raps Needless Operation

By HAROLD T. HYMAN, M.D.
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Once again, an honest and courageous surgeon has taken what the diplomats call a "long, hard look" at the problem of appendicitis. And once again, the warning has been sounded that altogether too many operations are being performed for needless removal of that wholly useless structure, the appendix.

In a recent number of the Wisconsin Medical Journal, Dr. Harvey R. Sharpe Jr. reports on the findings of a committee set up to look into the appendectomies performed at a general hospital in his native Fond du Lac. Here is a brief summary of some of the findings, many of which you might bear in mind before submitting to operation on the basis of a single opinion:

In the year before formation of the investigating committee, a total of 178 patients were operated on. Three years after formation of the committee, the number fell to 79—a drop of 56 per cent.

Of 127 appendices removed from the first group of 178 patients, at least 46 showed no signs of inflammation. Thus, in more than one-third, the appendix was not the cause of whatever distress led to the recommendation of surgery. By contrast, the 62 appendices removed after the formation of the committee, the diagnosis of no inflammation fell to less than one in six. Thus, the per cent of needless removals was about halved (from 33 to 15 per cent).

With reference to so-called chronic appendicitis, the first series included 51 specimens of which 43 (84 per cent) were classified as non-inflammatory. Following formation of the committee, the number of patients operated on for chronic appendicitis fell to 13 and of these 14 (93 per cent) were reported non-inflammatory. In other words, while the number of patients op-

erated on for chronic appendicitis fell more than two-thirds, the per cent of needless removed organs remained unconscionably high.

Referring to these last experiences, Dr. Sharpe concluded that "chronic appendicitis is not a surgical disease."

Finally, in anticipation of cries of anguish from colleagues less self-critical than himself, Dr. Sharpe points out that increasing caution on the part of surgeons and referring physicians, due to the known interest of the committee in needless operations, produced no increase in complications or deaths due to perforation of an inflamed appendix.

In exposing himself to the criticism of colleagues, Dr. Sharpe has again given substance to Luke's opinion that "The most high cometh healing." And, if you are wise, you'll take to heart the lessons he has taught all of us.

For a copy of Dr. Hyman's leaflet "How to Choose Your Family Doctor," send 10 cents to Dr. Hyman, care Herald and News, Box 489, Dept. B, Radio City Station, New York 19, N.Y.

I would have been dead years ago if I had taken my friends' advice and retired for good when I was 65.

—David C. Austin, still working in Union, N. J., supermarket at 99.

How do they want the money—cash or check?

—Cincinnati Reds' second baseman Billy Martin, on being sued for \$1,040,000 for his swack on Chicago Cub pitcher Jim Brewer.