

Press-Herald

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A Choice on Taxes

Taxpayers of Torrance stand an odds-on chance of getting a break this week—for a change.

When the Board of Trustees for the Torrance Unified School District meets tomorrow evening, it will reconsider the matter of setting a tax rate, and the members will have a choice: They can cut the general rate to offset increases in bond redemption rates and thereby hold the line, or they can hold the general rate and let the total tax obligation rise.

When last considered, the four members of the board present deadlocked.

Goodness knows the taxpayer usually is the last to be considered when the bureaucrats begin cutting up the public pie, so the hope that some consideration will be given the guy who pays by the school trustees tomorrow deserves notice.

Retain Section 14-B

Just one month ago the Equal Employment Opportunities section of the 1964 Civil Rights Act went into operation. Under the terms of this new statute, it is now unlawful to discriminate in the employment of any person because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

However, if Congress goes ahead as it currently appears and strikes out section 14-B of the Taft-Hartley Act which grants states the authority to enact right-to-work laws, the laudable language of the Equal Employment Opportunities Act will be largely nullified.

Certainly the right of a man to work at a trade or profession should not be restricted by some accident of birth such as race, sex or national origin.

Just as certainly, the right of a man to work at a trade or profession should not be restricted by federal compulsion to pay tribute to a labor union. Nineteen states currently have right-to-work laws which would be abrogated if 14-B is repealed.

The argument that union benefits are spread to all is specious. Why not say God's work is spread to the benefit of all and make church membership (and financial support) compulsory?

The American working man does not need the compulsion to organize for his own benefits. And America does not need the concentration of power in the labor echelon that would most surely accrue if the Hoffas, Reuthers, and others had the federal government heading their membership drives.

Section 14-B is a good law and should be retained.

Opinions of Others

"There are 47 million families in the United States. One fifth or 9.3 million of these families have an income of less than \$3,000 a year and are classified as living in poverty. Federal, state and local welfare programs total \$44 billion which, if divided without all the bureaucratic strings attached, could be apportioned so that each family now making less than \$3,000 could have \$4,400. But then how would we support all those unemployed bureaucrats? There are undoubtedly many good things about the poverty program and if we ever wake up in a positive mood, we may recall some of them."—*Corvallis (Ore.) Gazette-Times.*

"Obviously, each generation should pay its own way in life. It is grossly unfair for one generation to pass laws that impose staggering burdens on the next generation. In the case of war, in which a country is fighting for its life, one can understand the accumulation of debt. But for a country to go deeper and deeper into debt, when it is at a peak of prosperity, is a cruel and unfair act directed at the young."—*London (Ohio) Madison Press.*

"More than 350 Americans have been killed in Viet Nam, and the total grows almost daily. . . . In the last three years, exports by America's allies to the Viet Cong aggressors have increased 25 per cent, and their purchases from North Viet Nam have nearly doubled. . . . What the United States needs more than sympathy is allies. Perhaps the welcome announcement by Australia that it is sending 800 troops to help U. S. combat forces will cause some soul-searching among those who speak one loyalty but practice another."—*Norwalk (Conn.) Hour.*

"If social security were ended by public choice there would be no money available for refunds. The money is not there; it has been spent. The total paid annually into social security is about equal to the outgo for that year. The program is growing larger. If social security is burdened with another complete new and growing program such as medicare, the combined costs would be prohibitive and would greatly complicate the social security program's future."—*Gooding (Idaho) Leader.*

Mailbox

Editor, Press-Herald

I have just read the editorial in your paper concerning the site for the college. I want to tell you how much I appreciate the point of view you have expressed.

I am certain if we all get together a site can be obtained quickly for the college, and the students

who need the facilities will have them available in short order.

Thanks again for expressing to the general public the need for providing for students.

Leo F. Cain
President
(California State College at Palos Verdes)



ROYCE BRIER

New Soviet Leaders Have No Sense of Showmanship

Nikita Khrushchev's way of leading the Soviet Union was bouncy. He was full of new and often startling ideas, and he was a phrasemaker, often in a wry peasant colloquialism.

He was a boaster and liked to threaten his antagonists with Soviet might, as in, "We will bury you." But he was given to bluffing, as when he set a deadline for changing the status of West Berlin, then backed away. The Cuban missile thing was his worst blooper.

He was basically a cautious man, and feared involvement in a ruinous conflict. The risks he took were more limited than those of Stalin, though Stalin always had an escape hatch handy in his experiments against the West.

The present Kremlin leadership offers the world a markedly different face from that of the Khrushchev leadership. It is more discreet, hence it is less exciting and protean than was Khrushchev.

Indeed, . . . the Kremlin seems rather gray in tone. Consider a recent speech of Premier Kosygin: "Our country is ready for any contingencies, but an adventurous, ill-considered policy is alien to us."

You cannot imagine such words coming from Khrushchev or Stalin. What the Premier had been saying was that the Kremlin was maintaining an alert in the Viet Nam war, and was not affected by Washington, nor yet by saber-rattling from Peking.

Kosygin in attitude is professional, and his colleague, Brezhnev, Party Secretary, is hardly impassioned either. He occasionally mentions "imperialist aggression" in speeches, but these allusions seem to be pre-emptive, like the flag-waving of our Fourth of July orators in the last century.

Kosygin and Brezhnev are almost alone in publicly expressing Soviet policy. Few underlings get out in the sticks and start ranting on this or that subject, a

method encouraged by Khrushchev.

Many Western observers believe this neutral shading is due to uncertainty and controversy in the Kremlin councils. They don't for a minute think Kosygin and Brezhnev are running a duumvirate, but that "collective leadership" is likely to rest with a score of individuals. Pravda recently noted that Lenin was sometimes outvoted by his advisors, and submitted to them—even if true, a curious thing for Pravda to bring up at this time.

Foremost problems in Moscow are the Viet Nam war, and what can come of it, and the steadily deteriorating relations with Red China. The domestic production problem is also of paramount importance.

Meanwhile, the Soviet "menace" which so long preoccupied the free world appears dormant for a time. It may be an individual leader will emerge, but no prophet is prepared to say when, or how.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Two Books Ask Question, What Happened to Barry?

With Theodore H. White's "The Making of the President, 1964" off to a runaway start as the non-fiction book of the summer, a pair of political also-rans are appearing in its wake. The first is "What Happened to Goldwater?" (Holt). Billed as the "inside story" of the 1964 Republican campaign, this could have been titled "The Non-making of the President, 1964."

The author is Stephen Shadegg, who has been closer to Senator Barry Goldwater than any other political associate. Shadegg managed Goldwater's successful senatorial campaign; wrote an admiring biography of him and still believes unwaveringly in his man. But Shadegg, who had no voice in the strategy or planning of the campaign, is very upset over its inept handling. He believes Goldwater might have had a chance if there had been more sophisticated brainpower behind the affair. This is a read-it-and-weep document, if you were a Goldwater supporter. Unvanquished, Shadegg believes the choice which was promised in 1964 and never validated "must be offered again."

"Campaign Fever," by the Richmond, Va., newsman Charles McDowell Jr., is the poor man's "The Making of the President, 1964." Due from Morrow, July 30, this is subtitled "The National Folk Festival from New Hampshire to November, 1964." Like Theodore White, McDowell traveled a great deal with the presidential candidates. His report emphasizes the lighter side of the struggle: the inept speeches; the spy on the Goldwater train; Mr. Eisenhower's beautiful confusion at press conferences. H. L. Mencken used to relish this ironic sort of political reportage back in the era of Dr. Harding, as he called him. McDowell's papers suggest a featherweight Mencken.

Shadegg's book may cause some stir, especially in professional Republican circles. And McDowell is just unlucky to have White running against him in the marketplace. For sharp as McDowell's talents may be as a po-

litical reporter, his book is no competition to White's.

White's performance deserved the kind of enthusiastic press it has received and the large readership it no doubt will amass. In reviewing "The Making of the President, 1964" for Saturday Review, the biographer Margaret L. Coit mentioned that it is something more than journalism; it may be literature. I agree.

Notes on the Margin—Stephen Potter, who coined the words "lifemanship" and "gamesmanship," has created another word for our language, "Anti-Woo," the title of his book due in September from McGraw-Hill. "Anti-Woo" is a primer for all potential lovers and its aim is to make them unlovers. A sort of do-it-yourself disentanglement manual.

Barbara W. Tuchman, author of "The Guns of August," has completed a new book, "The Proud Tower," which Macmillan will publish in the fall. This is a portrait of the world during the years 1890-1914, and covers, among other subjects, the Dreyfus Case, the emerging American imperialism, the transfer of power in England from the Patricians to the Liberals, the emergence of modern

Quote

"Discipline is one of the big problems of all schools. A teacher has to be a bastard."—Kingsley Moore, San Francisco private school teacher.

SACRAMENTO REPORT

Village Scheme Becomes Grandiose State Project

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District

In January, 1951, shortly after I received my first oath of office as a Member of the Assembly, 64th Assembly District, in a talk I made on the floor of the Assembly, I said that within less than 20 years the people of Southern California would receive the major portion of their fresh water from the Pacific Ocean. This was not fortune-telling or soothsaying. My remarks were based upon the expert opinions of many engineers and scientists plus my own studies.

It is now a generally accepted fact that Southern California in general, and Los Angeles County in particular, will need far more fresh water than can be obtained from the Colorado River. This need will become urgent long before one drop of water comes over the Tehachapi Mountains through the aqueducts to be built in conformity with the "California Water Plan."

Incidentally, the present California Water Plan started with some business men in the city of Oroville who wanted to attract summer visitors to the banks of the Feather River. Those merchants of Oroville first called it the Oroville Booster Plan. When they found that they would need money from the State of California they changed the name of their project to "The Feather River Project" and came to Sacramento asking for a dam across the Feather River which would create an artificial lake behind the dam. The dam was built long ago and now what started as a village scheme is a grandiose California Water Plan.

Near the end of Governor Brown's first term, some wag who thought he might coax an appointment out of the Governor came up with the idea of changing the name of the water project to "The Brown Water Plan."

This idea created many headlines until it dawned on some of the Governor's friends that he might be defeated disastrously if the people of Southern California thought that they were going to find dirty, muddy, brown water coming out of their faucets. The project suddenly got its original name back.

Many astute northern Assemblymen (including Assemblywoman Pauline Davis) have told me repeatedly that the people north of the Tehachapi Mountains will soon need not only all the water they have now but will have to tap the Eel River and other rivers to supply the needs of their own citizens. This means that Southern California should wake up and forget all about any dream of getting water from the California Water Plan, the Feather River Project, the Oroville Dam, or any other northern project.

The cost of converting the water of the Pacific Ocean to fresh water by means of nuclear fission (atomic energy) is rapidly dropping. If you have any doubt about this, you have not been reading newspapers.

When the nucleus (heart) of an atom is split, you have nuclear fission. This is merely one form of atomic energy and it produces tremendous heat for evaporating fresh water out of salty, ocean water. It is one form of sea-water conversion.

Everyone has heard of the powerful hydrogen bomb. It is also called a thermo-nuclear bomb. One very small drop of water contains two molecules of hydrogen and one molecule of oxygen. Ask any high school student about this. If he has opened his chemistry book he will tell you that the chemical symbol for water is H₂O, with H representing hydrogen and O representing oxygen. Since there are many molecules of water in one drop and each molecule has numerous atoms, we are rapidly getting near the head of the class.

When the nucleus of one atom of hydrogen is fused under great pressure with the nucleus of one atom of hydrogen, the result is a tremendous release of the energy of the universe. If this nuclear fusion is accomplished in one manner, the result will be the explosion of what can be called either a hydrogen bomb or a thermo-nuclear bomb. This can blow the

world to smithereens. However, do not give up hope!

There are many peaceful uses of atomic energy, such as the use of thermo-nuclear heat to convert sea water into fresh water. It has been done on a small scale in laboratories, but it not a good idea for a Boy Scout to get his merit badge in chemistry in this manner.

What can be done in a laboratory on a small scale can be accomplished on a large scale. Therefore, when properly handled, the energy in one spoonful of water can produce hundreds of thousands of gallons of fresh water from the Pacific Ocean and at the same time deliver enough light, heat, and power to put both the Southern California Electric Co. and P.G. & E. Co. out of business, unless they pull the caper first. This is no empty dream. Just keep breathing a few more years and you and I will see for ourselves. I am happy to report.

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HERB CAEN SAYS:

Tragedy Makes Quote Poignant

IN THE WAKE of the headlines: It didn't seem like a particularly memorable quote at the time, but after last fortnight's tragic news, the words became poignant. The scene was Robert Gros' dinner party for some of the dignitaries who attended the UN's 20th anniversary session. Mrs. Leone Baxter was seated next to Adlai Stevenson, and she asked: "How are you feeling, Mr. Ambassador?" "Terribly tired," he replied, drawing a hand across his forehead. Then, gazing into the distance, he added with that familiar wry smile: "You know, I won't live long enough to see our current problems solved. But I'm convinced the great solutions will come in my sons' time . . ."

My first opportunity to observe Stevenson's famous wit at close quarters came shortly after he'd been defeated for the second time by Ike. As he walked into the lobby of the Canterbury Hotel, for a Democratic meeting, a Little Old Lady in the lobby threw her arms around his neck and gushed: "Oh, Adlai, I love you so much I could vote for you TWICE!" Gently disengaging himself from her clutch, he smiled: "Didn't you?"

THE NEWEST parlor game—or maybe your parlor is more interesting—began when Barnaby Conrad said: "Maturity is when you no longer feel you HAVE to see Jose Greco." Other examples: Maturity is when you can cut an English muffin with a knife, read Time magazine from back to front without worrying whether you get to "Hemisphere," wear a cast on your broken leg without collecting autographs on it, and, when somebody admires an attractive girl, refrain from saying you had an affair with her 10 years ago, even if you had. Maturity is not giving a hoot about parlor games.

TRIPE A LA MODE: I admire John Gunther, but I can't read his "A Fragment of Autobiography" because the blurb on the jacket reads: "The FUN of Writing the 'Inside Books'!" Writing FUN? Sports writer Red Smith will tell you how much fun it is: "Every day I open my wrists and bleed all over the typewriter." Happy thought: "a go go" is already beginning to sound as dated as "23 skidoo."

BING CROSBY's severe arthritis is better after 12 weeks of devotion to one of the oldest old-fashioned remedies: massaging the fingers while bathing them in melted paraffin. However, he is now shooting a movie (the re-make of "Stagecoach") in the Colorado wilds, "where, alas, there is no paraffin or even sealing wax for miles around."

THE WORLD is divided into two kinds of people: Those who drop names and those who pick them up; those who think Switzerland is too dull to be beautiful and those who think it is too beautiful to be dull; those who walk faster in front of your car while you're waiting to make a turn, and those who walk slower; those who put the tissue on the bathroom roller so it unrolls from the top, and those who install it upside down; those who say nasty things about you behind your back, and those who say them to your face; those who run for a cable car so they can get a seat, and those who hurry so they can stand on the outside; those who think Greta Garbo was the most beautiful actress on the screen, and those with whom you simply can't have a civilized conversation.

Morning Report:

(Abe Mellinkoff is on vacation. His Morning Report feature will be resumed on his return.)

Abe Mellinkoff



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