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A Sure (Illegal) Bet

Were it not illegal to place wagers on election outcomes, we think we could give you a couple of sure things for the Nov. 8 biennial exercises.

Take the 17th Congressional District where incumbent Democrat Cecil King has held sway since he was first elected at a special election in August, 1942.

Now the second ranking Democrat on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee and a member of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, 67-year-old King has had a relative easy time at the polls every other November, winning most of the time in recent years without bothering to come home to campaign.

His major contribution in recent sessions of the Congress has been as co-sponsor of the King-Anderson Bill which ultimately became the Medicare program.

Opposing him this year is Dr. Don Cortum, a Torrance physician for several years and a national leader in the Citizens for Decent Literature program. The 42-year-old Cortum has lashed out at the incumbent's voting record which he charges has contributed to federal centered spending and inflation at the expense of the low income family and taxpayer.

Dr. Cortum has a strong backing, is waging a vigorous campaign, but his chances of upsetting the entrenched Ingelwood Congressman have to be rated as slim.

The neighboring 28th Congressional District — which stretches from the southern tip of the Palos Verdes Peninsula to San Fernando Valley — has been represented by Congressman Alphonso Bell since 1960. The 52-year-old Bell is a member of the Education and Labor and the Science and Astronautics Committees in Congress.

His opponent is a 42-year-old Democrat, Lawrence Sherman, who is a former advisor to the International Trade Development Committee of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Here again, the bets would have to go on Incumbent Bell.

In each office, we feel Torrance should have a stronger voice. Part of the city's trouble is apportionment where by it is thrown in with the interests of western Los Angeles County in the 28th and with the interests of the harbor area in the 17th. Somewhere in between, Torrance is lost, despite being one of California's major cities.

For the present, however, Torrance voters are obliged to content themselves with the situation as it stands, we fear.

Or to paraphrase Assemblyman Charles Chapel's oft-repeated tagline: "we regret to report."

Opinions of Others

Suddenly inflation has become big news again in this prosperous land of ours . . . Food prices go up. So does the entire cost-of-living index. Taxes are high, and promise to go higher . . . So more dollars are sought for the pay envelope, only they don't make everybody happy because they can't quite catch up with the price boosts that inevitably follow. The situation becomes dangerous when normal restraints are pushed aside. We seem to be in just this kind of predicament right now and our national leadership doesn't seem to have either the fortitude or knowledge to do anything about it . . . Devaluation of the dollars goes on as we create a "paper" economy. Who suffers? Everybody, but mostly the short end goes to those on fixed incomes, pensioners and widows, along with those wage earners who are not part of the big-union contract parade and must be content with the crumbs. Government employees at all levels fall into this category. Where will it all end? — *Waltham (Mass.) News-Tribune*.

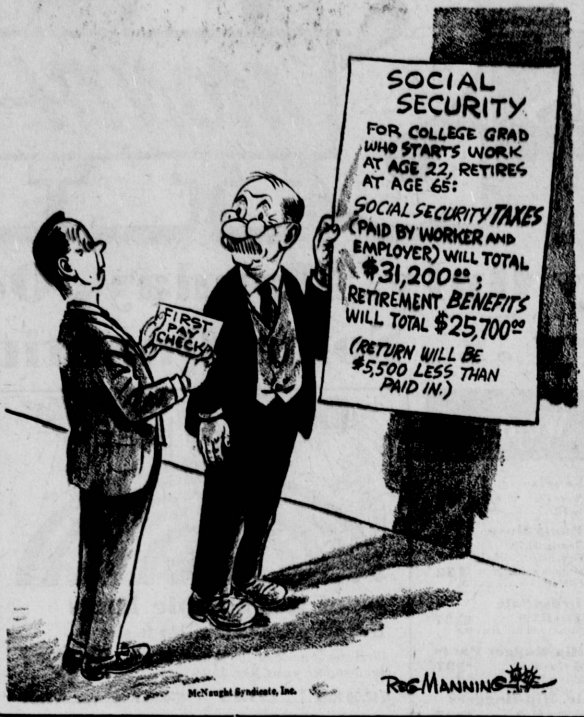
What many suspected, others knew and all of us imagined, has now been confirmed as the result of a study of the efficiency and effectiveness of the U. S. Congress . . . it certainly has great room for improvement . . . Poor scheduling, and poor management of time is robbing the Congress of its intended independence. More and more it is depending upon the budget and legislative requests of the executive without even having time and personnel to understand what it is all about. — *Reynoldsville (Pa.) Star*.

There are perils, of course, in the free economy. Gluts and famines can bring wide price and wage fluctuations. But after a 20-year trial run, it is difficult to see where the government-managed economy fares much better. Runaway inflation can be a depression turned upside-down. — *Dallas (Texas) News*.

LP stands for liquified petroleum gas. A good many city people who aren't acquainted with LP come into intimate contact with it during their summer holidays. Because it can be handled in containers, it is very useful in cottages, trailers, and even on boats. There's one thing that these people, and everyone, should know about LP gas . . . If you get into trouble, remember that it is odorized as a safety measure — you can smell it — and that accumulations in low spots are very, very dangerous. — *Ashtand (Or.) Tidings*.

Lots of students and young professors today are complaining, or rather just bellyaching, about how things are being run, how badly the world is treating them. We wish we could just take them back to the 1930s and turn them loose. Where there were no jobless payments, benefits of any kind. Where, if you wanted to eat, you worked . . . and where the boss was a boss, not the administrator of the demands of labor. — *Random Lake (Wisc.) Times*.

Y' Thought Maybe It Was Free, Son?



He Says Ballot Proposal Would Lower State Taxes

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District
By now you should have received from the Registrar of Voters of Los Angeles County an envelope containing a sample ballot for the election on Tuesday, November 8; a piece of paper telling you the location of your polling place; and a bound, printed pamphlet titled: "PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION, PROPOSITIONS AND PROPOSED LAWS, Together with Arguments, which we can refer to as the "voter's handbook."

Please turn to page 13 of that handbook, where you will find on the right hand column the beginning of Argument in Favor of Proposition No. 8. I wrote that argument myself. Notice that the first sentence reads: "This tax reform measure will increase state revenues by an estimated million dollars annually without imposing new taxes or increasing existing tax rates."

When I wrote that sentence on a typewriter in my office in the Capitol in Sacramento, I underlined and it is underlined in your handbook. I used the phrase "estimated million dollars annually" because estimates as to how much this will produce range from one million dollars the first year to as much as one and one-half million dollars. This is my effort on your behalf to lower your state taxes.

Proposition No. 8 on your ballot was originally by Assemblyman Constitutional Amendment No. 1 of the Second Extraordinary (Special) Session of 1966. It passed both houses of the Legislature and then went directly to the Secretary of State because a Constitutional Amendment does not require the signature of the Governor.

Then to clear up any possible legal question I introduced my Assembly Concurrent Resolution instructing the Secretary of State to place the amendment on the ballot. This, too, went through both

houses of the Legislature and to the Secretary of State.

Certain vested interests then hired a large number of lawyers and went before Superior Court Judge Irving H. Perlus, in Sacramento, in an effort to obtain from him a writ directed to the Secretary of State to force him to not place my Proposition No. 8 on your ballot.

Sacramento

This took place on Friday, Aug. 5, in Sacramento.

Judge Irving H. Perlus issued an official opinion which gave the blessing to my Proposition No. 8, and rejected the arguments against it by the vested interests and their lawyers. Immediately thereafter began the printing of the "voter's handbook" at the State Printing Plant in Sacramento, and at the same time the printing of the sample ballots began.

The argument against Proposition No. 8 is on page 14 of your "handbook." It was ostensibly prepared by E. Richard Barnes, whose name appears as a Member of the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation, which is true. Actually, it was prepared for my good friend Barnes by lawyers who opposed my Proposition No. 8.

E. Richard Barnes is, in private life, an ordained clergyman. As a Member of the Assembly he has a statewide reputation as an expert on pornographic materials, which he opposes. I also oppose pornographic (filthy) materials but it is not my sole interest in life.

Every state-wide organization of which I have any knowledge has come out officially for a YES vote on Proposition No. 8, and so have the majority of the recognized tax experts in California. As far as I know, every newspaper of any importance in California, which has taken a position on the various propositions on your ballot this year, has

come out for a YES vote on my Proposition No. 8.

How you vote on Proposition No. 8 on Nov. 8 will not affect me one way or the other except that it will reduce my state taxes, I am glad to report.

Quote

If college students run wild at their first chance away from direct parental control, the parents usually have failed to prepare them for the adult environment. — Tim Hemp, Berkeley, college freshman.

Respect for the dignity of the individual, and love for our brothers is the true morality. — Rod Silk, San Francisco, father of four.

Everyone wants to run a 12-month school, but no one wants to send his kids. — William T. Bode, Sacramento principal.

If we want the minorities to be reasonable and non-violent, we must be reasonable and non-violent toward them . . . and grant them justice. — Palmer Van Gundy, Los Angeles.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Early RLS Writings Put Into a 'First Edition'

Quite apart from the literary scholarship involved in "From Scotland to Silverado," edited by James D. Hart of the University of California English Department, the book entices one back to Robert Louis Stevenson's vivid travel reportage, especially that from Northern California in 1879-1880. I find it both pleasant and absorbing "escape reading."

On the other hand, when you consider the overly complicated, over-populated and in many cases dreary California of today, Stevenson's accounts of familiar terrain are enough to make you wince.

For example, the young, aesthetic Scotsman on his long walks in and around Monterey, still essentially a Mexican village: "The emptiness of the woods gave me a sense of freedom and discovery in these excursions. I never in all my visits met but one man. He was a Mexican . . . and carried an axe, though his true business at that moment was to seek for straying cattle. I asked him

HERB CAEN SAYS:

This Earnest Fellow Really Isn't So Bad

There is a certain kind of San Franciscan—not a bad fellow, really—who is forever sighing helplessly: "Why can't the Negroes be more like our Chinese?" I think he is the sort of person who says during the opera season, "If they just did 'La Boheme' and 'Butterfly,' I'd go every night," and who says, "I don't know what the younger generation is coming to" and "Some of my best friends are . . ."

"I respect the Chinese, I really do," this nice fellow continues, "and I think they respect me. They have dignity and a strong family sense and they mind their own business." He always stops short of saying "They know their place," but he doesn't have to verbalize it. "What I mean is," he finishes, "why can't the Negroes learn something from them?"

The most obvious answer is that the Negro is not Chinese. I quote a Chinatown scholar: "In the first place, the Negro was brought to this country as a slave. Even those Chinese who were imported a hundred ago to work on the railroads were free men who were paid wages. The Chinese have thousands of years of culture behind them, and a homeland of great history. The Negro—degraded by the white man, torn from his native land, denied a family role for generations — is just begin-

ning to find an identity, something the Chinese has always had."

But getting back to my friend, the earnest San Franciscan, with his illusions and delusions, I wonder if he knows how an earlier breed of San Franciscan acted toward the Chinese he professes to respect so much. I

San Francisco

assume he knows that even today certain residential areas are off-limits to all Orientals, not to mention Negroes, and that the so-called "Chinaman's Room" — for the servant — still exists in the nether regions of some of our finest houses, and that the good American who orders "fried lice" in a Chinese restaurant still considers himself a wit.

Quotessville: Prof. Gideon Schwarz of the University of California can't understand why all the critics are lambasting Der Blue Max Rafferty for saying the University is giving "a four-year course in sex, drugs and treason." "He's absolutely correct," points out Dr. Schwarz, "and it's listed in the University catalogue — biology, pharmacology and the History of the American Revolution."

Transitor Humor

Did you know that San Francisco has the only completely obsolete transit system in the

country? Public Utilities Boss Jim Carr laid the sad facts on the track during the American Transit Association meeting here: Item: Three Muni buses are 27 years old and have registered 800,000 miles each (only three?). Item: Not one of our 1,000 pieces of equipment is of a make still being manufactured. Ah-HA: The oldest and slowest of these — the cable cars — produce the highest revenue per car.

Among those fascinated and even flabbergasted by our transportation was Al Moore, the Topeka transit baron who's incoming Pres. of the American Transit Assoc. "I haven't seen buses like San Francisco's," allowed Moore, "since we stopped hauling horses in them back home. San Francisco may someday replace Topeka as the Queen City of the West, but not with THIS transit system."

Equally entranced was Robert Somerville, a Glasgow University professor who somehow became Pres. of Atlanta's public transportation: "The only modern conveyance I've seen around here is the cable car. I think I'll order a few hills built in Atlanta so I can buy some from you."

Culture Minister Andre Malraux of France, upon first hearing of San Francisco describe our town as the Paris of the West: "Ah, the touching arrogance of cities born only yesterday!"

ROYCE BRIER

Major Puzzles Confront Poverty War Strategists

Going on three years ago, when he was new in office, President Johnson announced a "war on poverty," his first major legislative effort.

In August, 1964, a bill called the Economic Opportunity Act was signed with an appropriation just under \$1 billion. Mr. Johnson said he would seek \$2 billion in 1965.

The "war" was popular with state and local politicians, who saw votes in available funds. In theory the funds are to be used to create jobs, rehabilitate decayed communities and aid the rural poor.

There were a good many sceptics about, and in every large American city actual potential funds were subject

to bitter political contention. There was long delay in making funds available, and in allocating them when they were in hand. In the over-all scene there was no notable alleviation of the lot of the impoverished. The program bogged — neither success nor failure.

World Affairs

There was ample evidence the government, despite its thousands of dedicated specialists in the field of human welfare, had grossly underestimated the task posed.

For the task involved at least 40 million Americans whose income and environment were in varying de-

grees below that of the remaining 150 million who had secure jobs and adequate homes. Nobody knew how to define "poor," and if he did, he was disputed. It was fairly obvious a large proportion were Negroes, yet economic opportunity was not invariably the answer. There was no appreciable effort to differentiate the "poor" — a poor farm family in Mississippi was held to have the same problems as a poor family in California.

But that was not the practical reality. Almost identical low income and substandard housing for a Mississippi and California family did not represent the same problem to the family, or to those pledged to help it.

Morning Report:

My military bit is behind me and I only have daughters. The former makes me an expert and the latter impartial on the draft. As an impartial expert, I say the present system stinks. And the first step to remedy things is to get rid of General Hershey, who runs it.

He talks too much. The other day he warned married 1-A's over 26 they will be drafted within 12 months. So they'll sweat for a year wondering. By October of next year, everything may be changed again. There are just too many ways to avoid the draft. This month, Hershey says fathers are exempt.

It's all a strain on young men. In my day, more people were shot at but nobody worried so much.

Abe Mellinkoff