

Press-Herald

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REID L. BUNDY Editor and Co-Publisher

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For Working Americans

Labor Day is dedicated to all working Americans, since our whole economic system depends on the reliability of the "laboring man and woman."

For this reason it is always a pleasure to reiterate the importance of this major holiday that pays tribute to those who earn their living either by "sweat of the brow" or through intellectual pursuits.

Today, in this era of social reform, it is even of greater importance to stress this holiday as one dedicated to the living. It is well time to remember our top priority to develop job opportunities for all through the regular channels of education, apprentice and other specialized training and through bootstrap assistance.

As Dwight D. Eisenhower once said: "American working men are principals in the three-member team of capital, management, labor. Never have they regarded themselves as a service class that could attain freedom only through destruction of the industrial economy."

It is only through productive work that we can hope to attain ever-growing opportunities for all.

OTHERS SAY

Everybody Does It

When Johnny was six years old, he was with his father when they were caught speeding. His father handed the officer a \$5 bill with his driver's license. "It's O.K., son," his father said as they drove off. "Everybody does it."

When he was nine, his mother took him to his first theater production. The box office man couldn't find any seats until his mother discovered an extra \$2 in her purse. "It's O.K., son," she said. "Everybody does it."

When he was twelve, he broke his glasses on the way to school. His Aunt Francine persuaded the insurance company that they had been stolen and they collected \$27. "It's O.K.," she said. "Everybody does it."

When he was fifteen, he made right guard on the high school football team. His coach showed him how to block and at the same time grab the opposing end by the shirt so the official couldn't see it. "It's O.K., kid," the coach said. "Everybody does it."

When he was sixteen, he took his first summer job at the big market. His assignment was to put the over-ripe tomatoes in the bottom of the boxes and the good ones on top where they would show. "It's O.K., kid," the manager said. "Everybody does it."

When he was eighteen, Johnny and a neighbor applied for a college scholarship. Johnny was a marginal student. His neighbor was in the upper three per cent of his class, but he couldn't play right guard. Johnny got the assignment. "It's O.K.," they told him. "Everybody does it."

When he was nineteen, he was approached by an upper classman who offered the test answers for \$3. "It's O.K., kid," he said. "Everybody does it." Johnny was caught and sent home in disgrace. "How could you do this to your mother and me?" his father said. "You never learned anything like this at home." His aunt and uncle were also shocked.

If there's one thing the adult world can't stand, it's a kid who cheats.—Jack Griffin in *Chicago Sun-Times*

Morning Report:

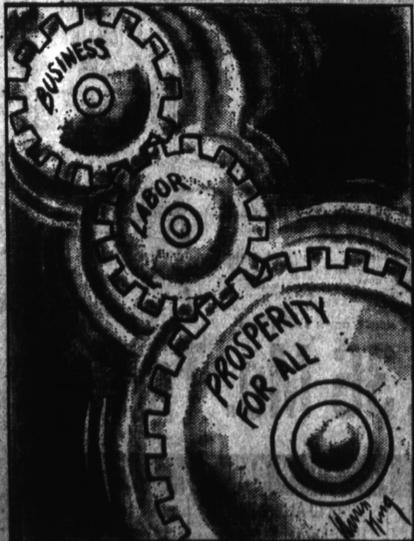
Sometimes when he wakes up in the White House, Lyndon Johnson must feel he is surrounded. And all the Indians are firing at the same time. It's very noisy.

There are the hawks, the doves, the Negroes, the racists, the various wings of the Republican Party, and even Robert Kennedy, who, however, is mostly firing blanks. Now, a new band of riders has joined the circle — the farmers. The National Farmers Organization is talking strike because farm prices are too low.

That's one outfit Ole Lyndon can handle. Sighting down a well-worn gun barrel, he's come up with hundreds of millions of dollars to buy up farm products and raise prices. It's old hat to be sure but at least it'll thin out the Indians — a little.

Abe Mellinkoff

LABOR DAY



HERB CAEN SAYS:

Gist of This Small Story One of Mistaken Identity

Item in the Daily Commercial News: "Cassius M. Clay has offered his services to the Secretary of War, either to raise a regiment or to serve as a private soldier in the ranks" (That's from the April 27, 1961, issue of a long-forgotten magazine). . . . And Zen I wrote: Poet Gary Snyder, once an ornament of the Kerouac-Corso cabal, married a Japanese girl in Kyoto, as Buddha smiles.

In Santa Rosa, Daryl Schloss stepped into a menz-room and found this sign posted over one of those hot air blowers for drying hands: "Push Button and Listen to a Short Message from LBJ." . . . Pot, yr magic smell is everywhere: Fifteen workers on a downtown project smoking marijuana during their coffee break? Absolutely. Two were sus-

pected, despite their complaints: "Coffee or tea — what's the difference?" . . . Molinari-Pradelli, the great Verdi conductor, is ducking the S. F. Opera this season because he's sore at the local music critic for writing the same "unkind" things about him that the N.Y. critics subsequently wrote.

Report From Our Man In San Francisco

It was front page news in London: Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip went to the theater on the spur of the moment — and had to sit on the main floor, in the 14th row! That's because the last available box was occupied by A. A. "Bud" Ehrenman, chief of Laykin's jewelry salon at San Francisco's I. Magnin. Shortly before curtain time, he was asked "Do you mind if some late arrivals sit with you?" Yes, I do," replied Bud, "I'm expecting friends." When he read the news the next day, Bud returned to the theater and complained "Why didn't you tell me it was the Queen? I certainly would have given her my box." "Because you're not a British subject, sir," came the reply. "If you were, we would have asked you to move — but you're an American." "All right, then, shrugged Bud, "but I wanted you to know that I'm not an Ugly." Oh, daddatall, sah.

Michael McClure's play, "The Beard," is shaving its local run short to go to N.Y.'s Evergreen Theater where Rip Torn will direct the original cast (Billie Dixon and Richard Bright) in what he hopes will be a long run. But is Manhattan ready for McClure? . . . The S.F. Film Festival has accepted C. Louis Davis III's ten-minute short on hallucinogenic drugs despite its title: "Frisco Freakout." . . . Speaking of which, Composer David Raksin postcards from Frisco, Colo.: "Did you know that here they get mad if you call it San Francisco?" . . . Forlorn footnote from Nina Armstrong Parker: "Remember 'All the Way with LBJ in 1964'? Oh, if we'd only known he really meant it!"



"A movie critic gets complimentary tickets so he can make uncomplimentary remarks."

of Fine Arts . . . Jeanne Gio's glospy description of Marshal Ky: "The little man on the Vietnamese wedding cake." . . . The recent debate about protective helmets for motorbike riders prompts this tart note from Mrs. M. W. Rawcliffe: "Any motorcyclist who opposes the law requiring helmets is an outlaw rider at heart who feels superior when he kicks his machine forward with as much racket as possible, exceeds proper speed limits, and rides too close to and cuts in on other vehicles. He also favors open pipes which are against the law, but unenforced by the police. In an earlier age he probably would have screamed in protest at windshields and bumpers. Ninety-nine out of 100 cyclists thrown off their bikes land on their heads. We have as a souvenir a sturdy helmet with a huge crack in it that nevertheless saved my husband's life."

AFFAIRS OF STATE

Medi-Cal Interim Study A Waste of Time, Money

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR
SACRAMENTO — Next month, the Assembly Public Health Committee, headed by Gordon Duffy, R-Hanford, will hold a hearing purporting to make an "investigation" of the cut-backs announced recently by Spencer Williams, health and welfare agency director for Governor Ronald Reagan, on the state's medical health program.

Williams said the originally planned program would have to be sliced an overall \$210 million to make up the deficits of over-spending by the Brown administration and meet the requirements set forth by the 1967 legislature, which limited the spending this fiscal year to \$800 million.

Duffy has expressed fear that the cut-backs will result in a "drastic reduction" in the health care of the state's needy children, the elderly, the blind, and the disabled. Even if Duffy's fears were well founded, there are some other considerations to be borne in mind, as far as cut-backs are concerned.

Of course, it is the prerogative of any assembly committee to hold meetings at the expense of the taxpayer, to investigate anything the

committee deems worthy of investigating.

But in this instance, it would seem that the public health committee's meeting on the health program, held at cost of \$25 per day per member, plus travel expenses, is out of order, and an unnecessary outlay of public funds.

News and Opinions On Sacramento Beat

The legislature itself curtailed the health program by limiting the fiscal year expenditures to \$600 million. The legislature is finished as far as its deliberations over budgetary matters this year are concerned, so whatever Duffy's committee does, it can't convince the solons that more money should be appropriated this year for the health program, generally known as "Medi-Cal."

So about all the committee can do, at public expense, is to castigate the administration for limiting its expenditures to the amount the legislature said it could spend.

It appears unfortunate that politics should be brought in when a subject like public health is under consideration.

CAPITOL NEWSMAKERS

General Cracks a Whip On Spending for State

SACRAMENTO — When Andrew R. Loll was drafted in 1940, he said he was considered a civilian in a military uniform.

But now, as a retired army major general, Loll said many people consider him a military man in civilian clothes.

"But I try not to be hard nosed," Loll said. "All I want is economy."

In his position as director of general services, Loll is in a post tied in more closely with the economy program of Governor Ronald Reagan than anyone else in state service. The department, a housekeeping organization set up only a few years ago, wields great power over state purchasing, use of state buildings, state automobiles, and other areas where economies can be made.

Loll, 55, retired from the army in August of 1966 and was assistant to the vice president of Hughes Aircraft in Fullerton before taking his position.

Loll is a combination of enthusiasm for his position and the economy program and a line of statistics. Over a hurried lunch, he was one string of figures on savings in government. Here are some of the examples:

Tires: "We found that there are wrong times for the state to buy tires. In the summer months, tire sales are high because of vacation trips. In the fall and early winter months, it's new car time and this is a major market for new tires."

"The lull is in the month of May," Loll said. "We bought 16,000 tires in May and saved \$141,000."

Drugs: "I thought we should try buying drugs by

the generic term, rather than by brand name. On one particular drug, we had been paying \$34.56 per thousand. We ordered by generic name and got the same drugs for 78 cents per thousand. And, the funny part was, when we got the drugs, they were the same brand that had cost \$34.56."

Automobiles: The Reagan administration, early in the

The Men in Action on the Sacramento Scene.

game this year, put on a freeze order as far as purchase of new cars. Exceptions were made when needed and the order has been somewhat relaxed by now.

But the net result is that the state will get by with about 2,000 fewer cars than it had in the past. The total of about 18,000 will be reduced to about 16,000. And there have been some modifications in the purchasing.

"One agency recently ordered seven pickups with the deluxe interior," Loll said. "This amounted to from \$400 to \$500 per car, quite a bit of money."

"I asked the agency what the problem was and they said there were seven employees who had bad backs and needed the deluxe interior," he said. "I'm not hard-hearted but I explained that, if people were physically unable to carry out their job, there were programs to take care of them."

Buildings and office space: Construction of one \$4 million office building in the Sacramento area already has been canceled because it was determined the space would not be needed until 1980, if needed then, Loll said the state currently has 9.5 million square feet of office

space and actually needs only about 6 million square feet.

"As a carry over from my days in the army, I like to make inspection trips unannounced," Loll said. "On a recent trip, I stopped in Bakersfield and inspected a building the state is leasing. The lease is \$5,000 per month on a 15-year lease. It was empty."

"In the Bakersfield area were eight state agencies using leased space," he continued. "When I talked to a deputy from one of the agencies, he said their present quarters were adequate and they did not care to move. It took some persuasion because the agency was on a special fund, but they finally agreed. Before I could call the other seven, they contacted me saying they were willing to move."

Some of the amounts saved in purchasing are not impressive, Loll admitted. But the total of state purchasing in a year amounts to some \$140 million.

"In March, I informed Governor Reagan we hoped to be able to shave 4 to 7 per cent from that figure," Loll said. "We already have reached the 14 per cent mark and our goal now is 20 per cent. That will be nearly \$30 million a year."

Loll said most of the state employees are cooperative in his economy moves but he meets some occasional resistance.

"In one agency, I pressed the (former) chief to save some money," Loll said. "He asked me what the state could do with the money if it were saved. The answer is that, in June, it gave me great pleasure to sign a check for \$400,000 in funds to be returned to the state's general fund."

ROYCE BRIER

Hawks, Doves Can Agree: Viet Peace Is Hopeless

The attitude of the Congress toward the Vietnam war has apparently been representative of the attitude of the people.

Two years ago this summer we had for some months been engaging in combat, having abandoned our advisory capacity. We had

philosophical discourse expounding the need for escalation.

Mr. Rusk was successful so far as concerned congressional troops at war, and our losses were small. The word escalation was just coming into use, and Secretary of State Rusk was opening what was to be a long signal support, for a year

Opinions on Affairs of the World

later, summer of 1966, he had made a fivefold increase of personnel to 270,000. President Johnson was getting his military appropriations, and Secretary of Defense McNamara was periodically saying we were winning.

In the ensuing year Mr. Johnson and his men began to talk of their vain efforts to interest North Vietnam in negotiation, and the war was stepped up with area bombing and a personnel rise to 465,000, with a ceiling of about 535,000 by next summer.

Mr. Johnson still had a majority support in the Congress, though there was a rising tide of protest among the people. The protest was largely based on the obvious reality that the war wasn't getting anywhere.

This was also the basis of protest of the hawks, so-called, that the war wasn't getting anywhere due to the limitations put on the military by the government.

This was answered by the doves, so-called, in effect that a stalemate was clearly permanent, that the war would go nowhere regardless of increased pressure.

Neither of the propositions could be proved, but Mr. Johnson and his men were plainly confused by them, and taxed to offer plausible explanations for the Vietnam realities.

dent's opponents in and out of the Congress increased their dissatisfaction, while spokesmen were faced with rising skepticism as they went over old ground calling for faith and hope.

An instant example of this is the President's plaintive appeal to those dubious of the coming election in South Vietnam not to demand "impossible standards for a young nation at war." Within weeks Republicans in and out of Congress have suddenly sensed the war as an issue in next year's national campaign. Governor Romney of Michigan, an un-declared Republican candidate, now finds that we shouldn't have been in Vietnam in the first place, and you wonder why he discovers this now, and not two years ago.

The trend of protest against our moral and material involvement in Vietnam, is steadily up, and there is no sign it can be arrested by a "more of the same" philosophy to which the Administration clings.

Alan Grey Says . . .

Shirley Temple told the press . . . It's not just tentative . . . Since she will not be running . . . For Representative . . . it seems her current goal . . . After serious reflection . . . Is the vacant seat of Mr. Younger . . . in a special November election . . . If she should be elected . . . She's apt to have detractors . . . With our government . . . fast becoming . . . A haven for retired actors.