

Proposition 7 Would Change State Finance System

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
Capital News Service

SACRAMENTO — For the next several issues, this column will deal with the propositions on the Nov. 5 general election ballot.

Proposition 7 constitutes a major change in government financing. Under the present constitutional provisions, the legislature is prohibited from allocating money to local government for local purposes. It may allocate funds to local government provided those

funds are spent for state purposes.

If Proposition 7 is adopted, the state may allocate funds to local government for local purposes, that is, local government may spend the allocated money for any purpose designated by the legislature.

This appears to be a simple enough amendment. Its supporters contend that it is merely a clarification of the present law, and in addition, is a step toward true tax reform.

They hold it is a matter

of justice to allow local government to spend allocated funds for local purposes, in that the state usurped some of the local tax sources, such as the in lieu motor vehicle tax, and the local cigarette tax, and in fact, the state allocations are merely a return of revenue to the cities and counties in reimbursement for what has been taken away.

The measure is supported by Assemblyman John G. Veneman (R-Modesto), chairman of the assembly revenue and taxation committee;

the League of California Cities; and the California Taxpayers Association.

For many years, the phrase "state purposes" has been loosely interpreted, and state allocations have been made which might be for local purposes only. The state constitution does not contain a list of "state purposes" as does the federal constitution which outlines "federal purposes." This too, has been circumvented in countless instances.

Consequently, Proposition 7 would eliminate the fine

line of distinction as it pertains to the purposes of government. Thus, if the amendment is adopted, it would constitute another step in furthering the dependency of local government on its big brother, state government.

Senator James E. Wetmore (R-Fullerton) says in opposing the amendment:

"One of the basic principles of our form of government, including tax collection and spending, is that powers of government be held and exercised as closely as possible to the people

most directly affected by them.

"Local governments retain final responsibility for providing local services. Proposition 7 goes directly against this cardinal principle of our governmental way of life.

"If cities and counties need more revenue, they should be required to raise it themselves, provided that city and county officials can convince their electorate that additional taxing and spending is necessary.

"If they fail to convince their voters of this, they

should not be able to go to a more distant, higher level of government, namely, the state, to get funds for projects their own people have voted against.

"The more government spending at the local level that is paid by state and federal tax collections, the more difficult it will be for voters to stop waste and overspending in their own hometown and neighborhoods, or in other words, the closer the collection of taxes is to the people, the greater control the taxpayer has."

Your Right to Know Is the Key to All Your Liberties

-Comment and Opinion-

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1968

Riots on the Campus

Colleges and universities are back in session. While the cracking of books is heard throughout the land, there are other rumbles that concern the safety and welfare of the institutions and their people.

Some universities already are on notice that they will be struck or demonstrated against if some demands are not met. A percentage of these universities will permit their rules of law and order to be violated.

A letter mailed recently to friends and alumni of the University of Denver sums up what we believe should be the formal policy of every college or university. We quote:

"This letter is to inform you that this university has dismissed more than 40 students on this day. Their dismissal is the result of willful disobedience of the rules and regulations for orderly and proper conduct.

"For several days now, a small group of students has made demands and issued threats to the administration of the university. Specifically, they have threatened to occupy the chancellor's office and administration building and to disrupt university activities.

"The issues on which these protests are based are improper, illegal, and go against the orderly process by which institutions can and should operate. This university will not be run by threats and intimidation. It will not respond to ultimatums from students, and it will not be intimidated by the pressures of groups who are dedicated to disorganization to the point where such institutions can be controlled by violence and run under constant threat of disruption.

"I write you in this way because you have been kind enough to provide support to this private and independent institution of higher learning. In accepting your support we have pledged ourselves to the growth and development of this university as a place where fine young men and women can join with scholars and teachers in the dissemination and ex-

pansion of human knowledge. It is our hope and always has been that the funds we have received can be used to produce responsible and law-abiding citizens. It is because we do not intend to abandon this hope in the hysteria that seems to have permeated many of the nation's campuses that we have taken the position that the most extreme disciplinary action — absolute dismissal from the university — will be applied to those who interfere with its operation by engaging in sit-ins or other improper and disruptive actions.

"I deeply regret the need to disfigure the image of the university by summarily dismissing large numbers of students, but there is not now and will not be in the future any alternative to this handling of this kind of situation. My hope is that we will not have occasion to make a report of this kind to you in the future, and that you will, in the meantime, recognize that in acting as we have done we have tried to discharge our obligation to the high principles which have always been characteristic of free and independent higher education.

"The time has come to make the stand, and we are doing it in the very beginning. We want no Columbia University or Berkeley or Howard or Wilburforce situation on this campus, and we simply are not going to have it."

In this courageous and clear-cut statement of policy, Chancellor Maurice E. Mitchell makes the point that time has come for society to take back control of its functions and its destiny, adding, "If we condone the abandonment of the rule of law in the university, we have no right to expect those who attend it and later move on into outside society to conduct themselves in any other manner."

The whole issue of campus disorders has never been better stated. Chancellor Mitchell's letter should be compulsory reading for every chancellor and president of every university.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Off-Campus Cooks Get a Cookbook They Can Use

More and more college students are living off campus in their own rooms and apartments these days. The majority of them try to cook their own meals, although some do not know how long it takes to boil a potato. They have little time, little money, and meager equipment. Although they express a strong interest in food, they subsist chiefly on hamburger, which can become pretty boring. This is the situation behind a surprise best-seller in student book stores this autumn, "The College Cookbook: After Hamburgers, What?"

This is a collaboration of two Berkeley women, Ruth Horowitz, a psychiatric social worker, and Gertrude Khuner, a gym teacher in

the public schools. Between them they have seven children (five of whom are off-campus cooks). We asked Mrs. Horowitz to tell us something about "The College Cookbook." Her reply, in part:

"When we began to get frantic telephone calls from our children at college asking what to put between the

Browsing Through the World of Books
French bread and wine when a date came to dinner, Gertrude Khuner and I decided that the kids needed a cookbook. The fine, fat books for the housewife wouldn't do — they were both too comprehensive and insufficiently explicit for

this 'absolutely totally ignorant cook.'

"For two years, Gertrude and I struggled to construct a text for male and female students who were living in their rooms and apartments. Research on the Berkeley campus showed us that this unique cooks had few skills in the kitchen.

"So much attention has been given to student unrest, the Pill, drugs, and dropouts that we believe the adult world has failed to notice a social revolution in campus living, a surge away from the dorms and approved residences. Hundreds of thousands of young people all over the country are keeping house and seeking an independent personal life."

People Who Build Bridges To Russia—



ROYCE BRIER

Stalin Kept the Secret Of How Hitler Took Life

It is of no historical consequence whether Adolf Hitler committed suicide by gun or poison, but it is significant that Josef Stalin knew about it and never peeped.

Indeed, during the Potsdam meeting in July, 1945, he told Churchill and Truman he knew nothing about Hitler's death. This is pretty odd, but not, perhaps, if you are a paranoiac.

If you were in Berlin in late 1945, you could visit the Fuehrer-bunker where Hitler and his bride, Eva Braun, spent the last days. Out in the Chancellery garden was a bomb crater where the bodies of the two were soaked in gasoline and burned by Hitler's valet.

H. R. Trevor-Roper, the English historian, made a thorough investigation and reported Hitler shot himself, while Eva took cyanide. But the bodies were long since gone when Trevor-Roper was there.

The Russians captured the Chancellery early in May, and a Red intelligence team found the bodies and developed a scientific autopsy. The results were published recently under the name of L. A. Bezymensky, one of

the team and now a Soviet historian.

There was positive identification by dental work in jaw-bones. In the mouth, as in Eva's, was a cyanide ampule and bits of broken glass.

This information was conveyed to Stalin a week after the suicide. During May the team interviewed scores of

Opinions on Affairs of the World

persons, including surviving witnesses. The bodies of Josef Goebbels, his wife and several children, all in the bunker and all cyanide victims, were also in the garden but there never was a mystery about them.

There is natural speculation as to why Stalin suppressed the autopsy report. Some have thought he wanted to conceal the record in case someone appeared masquerading as Hitler. In a sense, this fits the time and circumstance.

Hitler was in fact a medieval figure, and ghoulish myths are appropriate to him and his Nazis. But Stalin was no less a medieval

figure, with a medieval outlook on his contemporaries.

For instance, he was uncomfortable with civilized men like Churchill, and he may have thought it a jolly idea to mystify them, and all the Western peoples, over a demonic event like Hitler's death.

In any event, the Nazis developed a prevailing demonology. They lived by the death of others, and in some vague way they knew they were doomed. You would hardly call this conscience, but perhaps it was perception. So many of the leaders carried potassium cyanide capsules on their persons to cheat retribution if it appeared to them suddenly.

Beside Goebbels, Himmler and Goering took cyanide. So did Field Marshal Rommel, but this was forced on him by Hitler when it was discovered Rommel was implicated in the 1944 bomb attempt on Hitler.

For two thousand years tyrants and conspirators, when not slain by their enemies, have taken poison when the going became rough. But poor, honest Nero fell on his sword. Maybe he wasn't as weird as many of his modern counterparts.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Vietnam Brass Get a New Mess

Good day fellow taxpayers! . . . We finally received the most recent issue of one of our favorite newspapers, "Viet-Nam Builders," published by the mighty combine of construction companies Raymond, Morrison-Knudsen, Bown, Root, Jones) doing all the heavy building over there . . . As usual, it was a meaty issue. Prominently displayed on Page One is a story listing "the two hottest items on the Joint Ventures construction agenda." The first would be a 1,000-man mess hall and a 100-man "command mess" for General Creighton Abrams and his senior officers. Second is "rehabilitating a 32-unit trailer park for top MACV staff and building a recreation area that will include a gym, a crafts center, tennis courts and an Olympic-size swimming pool" . . . I don't know if nothing's too good for our boys, but as usual, nothing's too good for the top brass and civilians. Good night, fellow taxpayers.

You won't believe this: Penn Arnett, the underwriter, was strolling Montgy. St. the other day when he noticed a businesslike-looking envelope in the gutter. The addressee was illegible under the treadmarks, but he could make out the address — 640 Sacramento, where HE happens to have his offices. He gave the envelope to the receptionist in the lobby, said "This must be for somebody in the building," and started to get into the elevator. At this point the receptionist opened the envelope and yelled "Hey, it's for YOU!" — and so it was: an insurance check for \$2,100, a month overdue. You don't believe it? "I don't either," chuckles Arnett.

Advertisement for myself: Occasionally, when I make favorable mention of a restaurant, bar, or whatnot, the place blows up the plug and displays it in the front window which is okay with me, up to a point. Recently, I have come face-to-face with Herb-blurbs I must've written ten years ago, and in most cases, they don't apply any longer. (Places change, generally for the worse.) This is to announce, then, that any plug older than six months is hereby rescinded and is to be studiously ignored. Proceed at your own risk.

Odds without end: The Jones-Stanley pet importers in Oakland ordered 1200 finches from a dealer in Lagos, Nigeria, via Swissair. They didn't arrive. What did: two eagles, six hawks and two vultures, which were returned as not adding up to 1200 finches, any way you look at it . . . Mildred Coulter, visiting in Salt Lake City the other day, heard this radio commercial — "Visit the Sky Room of Hotel Utah. While enjoying the fine food you'll also have a breathtaking view of the Tabernacle!" — and observes, "We San Franciscans are just spoiled rotten, that's all."

Parlous Times: Chase Webb has been chacking his Chinese astrological charts and finds that LBJ was born in 1908 The Year of the Monkey. Other notables and their Chinese years: Dean Rusk, the Rooster, Nixon the Ox, McCarthy the Dragon, Romney the Lamb, de Gaulle the Tiger and Reagan (1911) the Pig . . . Jim Richards, owner of The Embassy on Polk, is an avid collector of antiques, his latest acquisition at auction being a handsomely framed portrait of an elderly gentleman. This he hung in his bar, whereupon several old customers called him a traitor and a Commie and vowed never to come in again. That's how Jim found out the elderly gentleman was Karl Max.

Charles Surendorf, the sormy artist of Columbia, Calif., is now living in Queenstown, New Zealand, and herewith his first all-too-short report: "This is the ultimate in landscape, people and beer. Food lousy. Beer is 8 cents a glass, milk 5 cents a pint. Haven't tried the milk. Women, lovely and robust, a dime a dozen. Almost bought an old church for a studio but couldn't figure out what to do with the steeple. More later, as the beer allows."

Press-Herald

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Publisher

Reid L. Bundy

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Published Each

Wednesday and Friday

3238 W. Sepulveda Blvd.

Torrance, Calif. 90510

Other Opinions

Zebulon (Ga.) Pike County Journal: Some weeks ago it struck us that a vast amount of mail was crossing our desk bearing the return address of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Our first thought was to tally the cost of mailing of all these pieces, but that possibility was thwarted by the fact that the envelopes bear no stamps. In lieu of the familiar six cent stamp there is a little box edged in black (an appropriate color) which states, "Postage and Fees Paid — Office of Economic Opportunity." How much has been paid is not stated . . .