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WASH Post 11-4

Bob Dole

What If Jerry Ford Had Won?

"Games," George Bernard Shaw once wrote, "are for people who neither read nor think." The game of "What If" is a hallowed tradition in Washington, where dashed ambitions are as common as press releases, and some Republicans remain convinced that Alf Landon was the nation's 33rd president.

The hard fact is that Republicans are particularly vulnerable to the charge of aggravated nostalgia. We've been accused of being born looking over our shoulder. We've not always welcomed ideas quite so much as we preached ideology.

But man does not live by bread alone. The fact is, things would have been different had Jerry Ford been elected in 1976. The Ford administration wasted no time with allegations involving amaretto, pyramids or Hollywood parties. No one mistook the White House for Animal House.

Malaise then was something you felt after partying late, or in confronting the national debt. The Cabinet was not subject to ouster at the first sign of individual talent. No one ousted Betty Ford with Madame LaFarge.

The only thing that President Ford was interested in whipping was inflation. And he was doing a pretty fair job at it. 100—the inflation rate for his last full year in office was 4.8 percent, compared with 13.2 percent for the first half of 1979. By contrast, Jimmy Carter may leave the White House with a job approval rating lower than the rate of inflation during his term in office.

With Gerald Ford in the Oval Office, we could have maintained a national defense equal to the challenge of Soviet imperialism, while negotiating a SALT II treaty against a backdrop of diplomatic cohesion. We would not have canceled the B1 bomber or delayed the MX missile. We would not have significantly reduced our overflights of Cuba, thus avoiding the seriocomic "crisis" of recent weeks. We would have pursued a measured policy of rapprochement with mainland China, rather than abrogating our treaty commitments to Taiwan by presidential fiat—a power grab that has rightfully been ruled unconstitutional in federal court.

I suspected we might have problems abroad the first time I heard Jimmy Carter refer to his great friends, the Egyptians. It's been downhill ever since.

Under Cy Vance and Zbigniew Brzezinski we've behaved like one of Doctor Doom's pushmi-pullyus, that mythical two-headed creature determined to go in opposite directions at once. We've been for human rights—sort of. We've cut aid to friends in a naive quest for good intentions prevail over cold strength. In Iraq, Afghanistan, Indochina, the Horn of Africa and Latin America, we've reversed Teddy Roosevelt's old maxim to "speak loudly and carry a cudgel."

Of course, foreign policy isn't a big concern at the White House these days. Bob Strauss reiterates our support of Israel in Miami condominiums. Then he returns to Capitol Hill to blame the Reagan government for "intrusiveness" and imply that American patience with Israel is running low. It might evaporate altogether—after the Florida primary.

Sen. Dole is a candidate for the 1980 Republican presidential nomination.

The Topeka Daily Capital

Viewpoints

Wednesday, November 7, 1979

In God We Trust

Dole should target on re-election

The big game — the presidential campaign — has scarcely begun, but it's fourth down and long yardage with time running out for Sen. Bob Dole. It's time to punt for better field position.

The Kansas senator's presidential bid was considered a long shot from the start, with the Republican field already crowded to overflowing. And now at least four other hopefuls are regarded as ahead of Dole.

The latest sampling of the political waters, a straw vote in Maine, shows a decided lack of support for Dole. However, he probably will stay in the race long enough to find out if all the time and money he spent in New Hampshire can give him a boost.

It's not impossible for a dark horse to win it all, as Jimmy Carter has proved. But the Dole presidential campaign appears to be headed nowhere.

The election countdown is now entering its final 12 months, and Dole has other problems which

demand attention. His second six-year term as U.S. senator expires next year, and he already has opposition, John Simpson of Salina, a former state senator.

In 11 years in the Senate, Dole has been a strong spokesman for Kansas. He gained national prominence as Republican Party chairman and as Gerald Ford's running mate in 1976. He now has considerable leverage on three important Senate committees — agriculture, budget and finance. His re-election would add to that leverage.

When he first began discussing the idea of running for president, Dole said he would run a "two-track campaign" aimed at insuring his re-election to the Senate if the presidential campaign faltered.

It looks as if the A-train is about to run out of track. It is time for Dole to switch his attentions to the Senate race rather than risk a derailment.

SAL JRNL 11-8

Opinion

The Salina Journal

Bob coming back?

We received a telephone call this week from an old friend who currently is an unpaid volunteer staff worker with Sen. Bob Dole's campaign for the presidential nomination.

He asked some questions, but they didn't involve Dole's presidential candidacy. They were about former Kansas State Sen. John Simpson, Salina, who is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Dole's Senate seat.

The call may or may not have been a straw in the wind, but it does appear that the New England winds aren't blowing favorably for Dole's presidential aspirations. He wound up far back in the pack in the recent straw vote in Maine, and at least four other Republican hopefuls are regarded to be ahead of him in popularity nationally.

A dark horse can win, of course.

Jimmy Carter proved that. So Dole undoubtedly will stay in the race at least through the primary in New Hampshire, where he has spent a lot of time and money.

But if he doesn't show well there and perhaps in one other primary, he'll probably drop out and switch his campaign to Kansas and the Senate seat he holds.

That won't be the best news in the world for Simpson and, perhaps, Rep. Dan Glickman who reportedly has been eyeing the Senate race. Dole is a formidable campaigner and has been a strong spokesman for Kansas. He now has considerable leverage on three important Senate committees — agriculture, budget and finance, and at least four other Republican hopefuls are regarded to be ahead of him in popularity nationally.

He won't be an easy man to beat on his home turf.

TOPEKA CAP JRNL 11-11-79

Paulsen warms audience for Dole

WASHINGTON — Comedian Pat Paulsen still looks like he should be selling Hush Puppy shoes.

Remember Paulsen, the skinny guy who was a regular on the Smothers Brothers Show way back when? The slightly nervous — well, to be honest, shaky — fellow with the hanging look who tackled Richard Nixon for the Republican presidential nomination way back when?

He's back, briefly surfacing at a GOP dinner here last week with a series of stories and one-liners unfortunately unfit for a family newspaper.

Facing what seemed to be a subdued gathering, he ground down Jimmy Carter fairly well. In a momentary lapse among the GOP he said, "I'm sure Ronald Reagan is a man for the '80s — the 1880s."

It was one of those nights, even if the party faithful had to pay \$1,000 a plate. The dinner was one of five Countdown to Victory gatherings held across the country a year before Election '80. Attendance fell far short of expectations.

A Republican National Committee spokesman said 350 paid the thousand bucks to attend, but 1,100 were being fed, including several members of Congress who got in free. Rep. Keith Sebelius, R-Kan., was one of them.

One thousand dollars-per-plate dinners are a rare event, and the trite comment for the night was, "What's so unusual about that? It's the cost of an average meal these days."

The man of the evening, the guest speaker, was Sen. Bob Dole of

Kansas, an announced presidential candidate, who could hardly be encouraged by Paulsen's earlier comment that Republicans need "a memorable man like, um, like, um, what's his name... Robert Dole."

Dole's brand of humor hardly needs a warm up, but on this evening it lacked something. He scanned the crowd and said gratefully, "I understand John Connally is eating alone in New York. I saw Howard Baker in Maine and he looked Bushed. I saw Ronald Reagan and he can't speak until next week."

Connally was the dinner speaker in New York. The Washington dinner was the best draw of the lot. Only 180 showed up in New York despite earlier estimates that 750 would attend Connally's speech. Reagan is announcing Tuesday and was not one of the speakers at the Republican dinners. On the night of Countdown to Victory, Reagan was in Los Angeles at a \$10,000-per-person fundraiser. Now that's expensive steak.

Dole is at his best when he is whipping up the partisan spirits and the crowd of well-heeled Republicans should have been at his command. The Republican audience laughed nervously at some of his darts. At times it appeared the audience wasn't sure what Dole was doing.

He left his prepared remarks to give his usual speech about the need to counter the unfair image many Americans have of Republicans. Their moneyed interests, their lack of concern for minorities, and so on. It was Dole's best rouser of the night when he proved once again that he is at his best in off-the-cuff remarks.

"We are up to the challenge whether it's named Kennedy or Carter," he said, adding a bit later, "We're not a perfect party. I'm not certain we have a perfect candidate."

Republicans can win in 1980, he said, because citizens want a change. And Pat Paulsen did get 1,272 votes in the New Hampshire primary in 1972, it should be noted.

Capitol comment

Backers urge Dole to stay in Senate

By Cindy Schwartz

Kansas correspondent for The News

TOPEKA — A Topeka newspaper in an editorial this week urged Kansas Sen. Bob Dole to drop out of the presidential race and seek reelection to the U.S. Senate.

Apparently a substantial number of supporters believe the same if contributions to Dole's U.S. Senate campaign are any indication. Dole has raised nearly one-third as much money for the Senate race as he has for the presidential.

Schwartz. According to the most recent campaign reports filed in Topeka, Dole has raised \$176,785 for the Senate race. Campaign reports filed with the Federal Election Commission in Washington indicate Dole has raised \$517,745 for the presidential campaign.

Although few details are available, Dave Owen, the Stanley banker who is Dole's Senate campaign chairman, said the majority of the \$175,000 was raised through a mail solicitation with a letter signed by former President Gerald Ford, who picked Dole as a running mate in 1976.

The mailing was conducted in late spring by Response Marketing, a Washington, D.C. consulting firm

which Dole has since fired over disagreements including expenses.

The firm has yet to turn over details of the receipts, Owen said, but added that most of the contributions came from "past Ford supporters from across the country." He said some of the contributions came from Kansas, but primarily from those who have been Ford supporters in the past.

Owen said the money raised for the Senate campaign has not been used to pay presidential campaign debts — and does not intend for that to happen in the future — other than the fact the consulting firm, which did work for both campaigns, has not turned over all of the proceeds. The matter is pending in court.

Reports filed in Topeka indicate \$18,000 was paid to the firm for "management" expenses from the Senate receipts. All but \$7,500 of the \$175,000 has been spent thus far, according to the report.

Owen admits there "is a little bit" of trouble raising money from Kansas for the Senate race while Dole is still a presidential contender.

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DOLE'S ONLY announced opposition for the Senate seat, John Simpson, the former state senator from Salina who resigned and switched parties to run as a Democrat, has collected \$27,430.

The majority of that collected — \$26,800 — is Simpson's own contributions. Included in that amount is the



THERE IS "a little bit of trouble" raising money from Kansas for the Senate race while Bob Dole is still a presidential contender.

first \$10,000 installment of a \$100,000 personal loan Simpson obtained by placing a trust as collateral. Bob Kennedy, Simpson's campaign manager, said Simpson obtained the loan rather than going through liquidation procedures on his oil, farming and real estate investments. Simpson has spent all but about \$4,000.



Ken Peterson
Washington-Kansas line

WHILE LAST Tuesday marked one year until the 1980 elections, it also marked the first anniversary of John Carlin's election to the office of governor. Carlin's campaign staff celebrated the occasion.

CARLIN, a Kansas State University graduate, had to swallow some purple pride at the annual meeting of his alma mater and the University of Kansas football teams at Lawrence last weekend.

Although he reportedly has been given three "Jayhawk" neckties, Carlin remained neutral and dressed in gray for the big game. He reportedly has promised KU Chancellor Archie Dykes that he will wear one of the Jayhawk neckties at the the KU-University of Oklahoma game at Norman, however.

WHILE ON the subject of sports, The Wall Street Journal in an issue this week informed its readers that the Hutchinson "Broncos" semi-pro baseball team has won a Tax Court decision recently. The battle with the Internal Revenue Service was whether the organization could qualify for a tax-exempt status. It can.

But an interesting sidenote is the way the Journal identified Hutchinson — a town of 36,000, roughly 150 miles from Oklahoma City.

Having grown up in Hutchinson, I had never thought of it that way, but I'll keep that in mind next time someone asks.