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160. 1979

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 com-

mon as press releases, and some Republicans remain convinced that Alf Landon was the nation's 33rd president. The harsh fact is that Republicans are particu-

larly vulnerable to the charge of aggravated nostalgia. We've been accused of being born looking over our shoulder. We've not always weicomed ideas quite so much as we preached ideology. But man does not live by dread alone

The fact is, things would have been different had Jerry Ford been elected in 1978 The Ford administration wasted no time with aliegations 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 controuting the national debt. The Cabinet was not subject to ourge at the first sign of individual talent No one confused Setty 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, too-the inflation rate for his last full year in office was 48 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 racing lower than the rate of inflation during his terra in office.

With Gerald Ford in the Oval Office, we could have maintained a national defense equal to the challenge of Soviet militarism, 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 "cruis" 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 flat-a power grab that has rightfully been ruled unconstitutional in federal COULT

I suspected we might have problems abroad the first time I heard Jimmy Carter refet to his great friends, the Eye-talians. It's been downhill ever

Under Cy Vance and Thig Briedinski we've be haved like one of Doctor Doouttle's pushmipullyus, that mythicai two-headed creature determined to go in opposite directions at once. We've been for human rights-fort of. We've cut old friends, in a naive belief that good intentions prevail over cold strength in ican. Afghanistan, Indochina, the Horn of Africa and Latin America, we've reversed Teddy Roosevelt's old maxim to read: "Speak loudy and carry a toothpick."

Then there's what the Carter people call their energy policy. Most of us scan it closely, yet in vain, for anything more imaginative than new taxes. Jerry Ford plugged solar energy in his first year in office. But he believed, rightly in my opinion, that the federal government was in no position to compete with private enterprise in overcoming the numerous obstacles to development of this potentially crucial new energy source. The same goes for other alternative fuels. The search for new oil is hardly the sort of initia-

tive that Washington does well. You only have to examine the disaster of the Strategic Oil Reserve to sense just how incompetent a bunch of bureaucrats can be when it comes to producing anything beyond memos and regulations. It's hard to escape the feeling that, if it could, the Carter administration would be content to have people buy gas from the Postal Service. Candidate Carter said be would streamline the

federal apparatus-cut out all that red tape and ledygook that cost the average American \$2,000 a year. In fact, he's given us two new Cabinet officers and would have imposed a Consumer Protection Agency had the Congress not rejected a poorly drawn proposal. Having spent a quarter century in the Congress, Jerry Ford knew that if Americans need protection from anything, it is Washington's rapacious and smug assumption that only it knows what is best for every individual.

Under President Ford, we might have adopted at long last a hadly needed program of catastrophic health insurance. We could have procured imaginative new tax incentives, such as indexing and accelerated depreciation. Given four years in which to enact policy rather than explain away Richard Nixon, we could have carried out promising new alternatives in federal-state relations, block grants as a vehicle for welfare reform and a host of other innovations aimed at maximiz-

ing individual responsibility. Now let's be fair. If Jimmy Carter has made most of us feel nostalgic for 1976, he's induced millions of his fellow Democrats to pine for even more distant pleasures. A generation ago, Adlai Stevenson roused Americans of both parties with his proclamation, "We must look forward to great tomorrows." Today, Democratic kingmakers seem anxious to anoint a man who says we must live off great memories Edward Kennedy preaches not renewal, but restoration. Charisma will get us through. What worked for FDR will work for the grandchildren of those who stood in bread lines. Such a campaign reinforces the belief of those who argue that costaigia isn't what it used to be.

If you'll remember, the Ford campaign slogan in 1976 was "He's making us feel good again." Obviously, we didn't feel quite good enough. But I defy based

The Topeka Baily Capital

Wednesday, November 7, 1979

Dole should target on re-election

Viewpoints

The big game - the presidendemand attention. His second tial campaign - has scarcely besix-year term as U.S. senator exgun, but it's fourth down and pires next year, and he already 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 far ahead of Dole. The latest sampling of the po-

litical 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 darkhorse 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

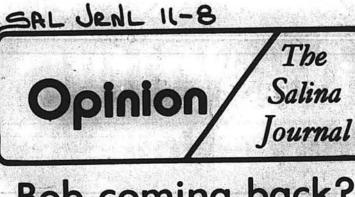
has opposition, John Simpson of Salina, a former state senator. In 11 years in the Senate, Dole has been a strong spokesman for Kansas. He gained national prominence as Republican Party chairman and as Gerald Ford's running mate in 1976. He now has considerable leverage on three important Senate commit-

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tees - agriculture, budget and finance. His re-election would add to that leverage. When he first began discus-

sing 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



Bob coming back?

week from an old friend who currently is an unpaid volunteer staff worker with Sen. Bob Dole's cam- in New Hampshire, where he has paign for the presidential nomination.

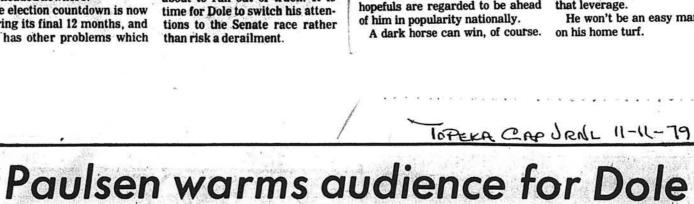
He asked some questions, but they didn't involve Dole's presidential candidacy. They were his campaign to Kansas and the about former Kansas State Sen. Senate seat he holds. John Simpson, Salina, who is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Dole's Senate seat. The call may or may not have been 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.

We received a telephone call this Jimmy Carter proved that. So eek from an old friend who cur- Dole undoubtedly will stay in the race at least through the primary 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

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 his re-election would add to that leverage.

He won't be an easy man to beat



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 Begin government for intransigence and imply that American patience with Israel is running low. It might evaporate allogether-after the Florida primary.

Sen. Dole is a candidate for the 1980 Republican presidential nonano 103

nomic productivity and a forceful, intelligible foreign policy, with Jimmy Carter's litany of national limitation, and come away unconvinced that a mistake was made in opting for grits over guts. Of course. I may have selfish reasons for so gra-

ciously accepting our loss in 1976. As senior senator from Kansas, ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee and a former GOP national chairman. I'm occasionally noticed in Washington restaurants. I have no trouble hailing a cab. Had Jerry Ford won, all that would have changed. I would have been vice president.

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 . Ken

the hangdog look who tackled Richard Nixon for the Peterson Republcian 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 faith-Washington-Kansas line ful 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 thou-

sand bucks to attend, but 1,100 were being fed, including several mem-bers of Congress who got in free. Rep. Keith Sebelius, R-Kan., was one of 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, un, like, un, 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.

Backers urge Dole to stay in Senate

By Cindy Schwartz

Capitol comment

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

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

Schwartz dential. According to the most recent cam paign reports filed in Topeka, Dole has raised \$175,785 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 1970

The mailing was conducted in late spring by Response Marketing, a \$26,804 - is Simpson's own contribu-Washington D.C. consulting firm

which Dole has since fired over dis agreements including expenses. The firm has yet to turn over de tails 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 Kansans, but primarily from those who have been Ford supporters in the 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

past.

\$16,000 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. trouble" raising money from Owen admits there "is a little bit" Kansans for the Senate race while Bob Dole is still a presi-

of trouble raising money from Kansans for the Senate race while Dole is still a presidential contender.

first \$10,000 installment of a \$100,000 DOLE'S ONLY announced opposipersonal loan Simpson obtained by tion for the Senate seat, John Simplacing a trust as collateral. Bob Kenpson, the former state senator from nedy, Simpson's campaign manager, Salina who resigned and switched said Simpson obtained the loan rather parties to run as a Democrat, has colthan going through liquidation prolected \$27,430. The majority of that collected

cedures on his oil, farming and real estate investments. Simpson has spent all but about tions. Included in that amount is the \$4.000

dential contender.

THERE IS "a little bit of

WHILE LAST Tuesday marked one year until the 1980 elections, it also -0-

sity 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.

given three "Jayhawk" neckties, Carlin remained neutral and dressed in 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 Hutchin-. . .a town of 36,000, roughly son 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.

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 Univer-

Although he reportedly has been

gray for the big game. He reportedly has promised KU Chancellor Archie Dykes that he will wear one of the