

VIEWPOINT

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Smoke dope? Not my staff!

BY DONALD E. MULLENS

United Press International

Asking a state governor if he knows of any pot smokers or cocaine sniffers on his staff is like asking him if he has stopped beating his wife.

In state after state, the mere mention of narcotics triggers the "who, us?" syndrome — complete with the viewing-with-alarm at such goings on, followed by the pointing-with-pride that they don't exist.

Booze is still the king catalyst of socializing, according to a UPI survey of state capitols on narcotics use.

ANY POT SMOKING seems to be well away from official duties. Cocaine? Not a trace.

Most governors' staffs are loaded with men and women in their twenties and mid-thirties, many of them liberals on so-

cial issues. If any of them smoke pot or sniff cocaine they weren't crazy enough to commit professional suicide by admitting it.

In Illinois, an aide to Gov. James R. Thompson said she knew of no drug use, but, "of course, I don't doubt individuals, just as in all walks of life, try some drugs, especially pot — haven't you?"

And from Oregon, where nobody on Gov. Bob Straub's staff even smokes cigarettes, came the comment: "Cocaine is either too expensive or too chic for people in the boonies."

The survey was generated by the recent resignation of Dr. Peter Bourne, President Carter's adviser on drug abuse, after he wrote a prescription for a powerful sedative using a phony name for the patient.

He later said he knew of White House staff members who had smoked marijuana and sniffed cocaine.

STATE LEADERS INSISTED that President Carter's problems are his alone,

and that no one on their staffs has ever been caught, arrested or prosecuted for drug use.

Some officials greeted the questions with humor or incredulity. Said Nevada Gov. Mike O'Callaghan: "How do you react to something that isn't happening? It might be an Eastern disease."

Commented one of O'Callaghan's staff members: "All we do is — and drink."

Jim Gilchrist, press secretary for Tennessee Gov. Ray Blanton, said, "This is just not a marijuana and cocaine crowd and like they say in the song 'Okie from Muskogee': White lightning's still the biggest thrill of all."

In Pennsylvania, Gov. Milton Shapp's legislative secretary, William B. McLaughlin, was offended at such a question.

"I think the governor's executive staff would be willing to participate in a survey on marijuana use if UPI management and its employees participated in the same survey and published the results of both polls," he said.

The reaction generally was that anyone caught faced immediate dismissal.

IF STATE EMPLOYEES have to be told to quit breaking the law they shouldn't be working for the state," said an aide to Nebraska Gov. J. James Exon.

However, in Washington State, Gov. Dixy Lee Ray said if she caught any of her staff using drugs "I would certainly require that they go immediately for treatment and I would suspend them."

Even in Madison, Wis., where there is only a maximum fine of \$25 for possession of small amounts of marijuana, none of Gov. Martin J. Schreiber's staff has been singled out as a user.

In Kentucky, Gov. Julian Carroll's press secretary Gary Auxier said he didn't know of any instances of usage, but added: "That's not saying unequivocally it does or doesn't happen, but I don't know. Nobody has ever been busted on the governor's staff."

MURPHY



In California, where Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. denied ever using marijuana after the issue came up during his gubernatorial campaign, the answer was the same: no knowledge of such activity.

MANY STATE GOVERNORS and their staffs keep their public image so straight-laced as to be almost Victorian.

For example, Florida Gov. Reubin Askew has been described as a non-drinking, non-smoking man whose idea of a good time is drinking apple juice at a church social.

Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe doesn't serve liquor at public receptions and New York Gov. Hugh Carey doesn't like his staff to smoke cigarettes.

Asked about marijuana and cocaine, an aide to Wyoming Gov. Ed Herschler commented: "Hell, he doesn't even know what it is."

Some replies to the smoking and sniffing survey:

— Utah: "The governor's office is clean,

although we do have a coffee maker and a coke machine — maybe you better make that a pop machine."

— Iowa: "Most of the people on the governor's staff don't even drink."

— Ohio: "The governor doesn't even tolerate his staff drinking while on duty."

— Indiana: "All the pupils of our eyes are the right size."

— Hawaii: "We're squeaky clean."

— Missouri: "The governor's people are the straightest across this side of Robin Hood's quiver."

— Virginia: "Hell, no!"

And in Georgia, Gov. George Busbee, who succeeded Jimmy Carter in 1975, said, "I don't know of any, holdovers or new people, Carter or Busbee people, that are using drugs."

Commented a veteran statehouse reporter: "When Carter was governor, we never knew Jody (Powell) or Hamilton (Jordan) to use anything you couldn't spit down the front of somebody's shirt."

here at the courthouse."

Asked how many San Antonio klansmen there are, West said, "I'd never tell you that," but he claims the Invisible Knights number more than two million nationwide.

He said the KKK was a vigilante group in the old days and did not limit its discipline to blacks. It tarred and feathered white people when they did not live up to the clan's expectations, he said.

"The Klan has turned its cheek a little bit. They're not after these Negroes or anything like that like they used to be," he said. "They're going after these politicians. I mean they're not going after them. They're watching them to see what kind of bills are being drawn up and which ones are not being drawn up — whether it's going to hurt the white people or not."

West said his Klan movement was a "backlash on this discrimination thing," and his group was "highly fed up with this police brutality thing" and "all you hear is minorities, minorities, minorities."

Another big gripe of the klansmen, he said, was interracial marriage.

"There's a bunch of Negroes right here in town that calls themselves the Deacons," West said. "They don't believe in it (intermarriage) either. I can get out here and say I don't like a Negro and that makes me a racist. But a damn Mexican-American, Mexican or Negro can get out here and say honkeys, this, that and the other; that they're going to kill the honkeys. Doesn't that make them a racist?"

"I ain't ashamed of letting nobody know I belong to the Klan."

TOP OF THE NEWS

CAMPUS

Art show to open

"Eleven Artists," an art show in the MSC gallery features the paintings and sculptures of 11 Texas artists. The exhibit is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through August 26. The show is being sponsored by the MSC Arts Committee and the Moody Gallery in Houston, where the artists normally display their works.

STATE

Farmworkers to continue protest

Members of the Texas Farmworkers Union, almost midway through a second week of protesting for collective bargaining rights, Tuesday huddled on the steps of the Capitol in Austin to escape the rain but still vowed to stay until the end of the special session. About 10 of the protesting farmworkers nestled in a corner, reading newspapers. The group has staged a vigil since July 24 and has lived solely on water and juices since last Wednesday. Some of the protesters were displaying weary, tired faces but all said they would continue the hunger strike.

Crawford questioned

American businessman F. Jay Crawford was questioned for five hours by Soviet authorities about alleged currency violations and ordered to return Wednesday for more questioning at Moscow's LeFortovo prison. Crawford, 37, of Mobile, Ala., said he encountered no direct hostility in the session Monday, although authorities refused to allow a U.S. Embassy official to sit in on the interrogation.

Senate to vote on posts

Senators will make crucial decisions today on patronage prerogatives with their votes on Gov. Dolph Briscoe's controversial appointments of two men to powerful state posts. The Senate Nominations Committee in Austin voted Tuesday to forward the appointments of Hugh C. Yantis and Dorsey Hardeman to the full Senate, which is required by the constitution to approve or reject all appointments. Sen. Lloyd Doggett, D-Austin, has announced in advance he will invoke senatorial courtesy Wednesday to block Yantis' confirmation to the \$38,600-a-year job as chairman of the State Insurance Board.

Skylab astronauts named

Veteran scientist-astronaut Owen K. Garriott and rookie Robert A. Parker have been selected for the first Spacelab flight in the early 1980s, a Johnson Space Center spokesman announced Tuesday in Houston. Spacelab is one of the early missions scheduled for the space shuttle. The lab will ride into space in the shuttle's 60-by-15-foot cargo bay. Garriott flew on the second Skylab mission for 56 days in 1973. Parker has not flown in space but has worked in ground control and communications during Apollo and Skylab missions.

Four arrested in skirmish

Four men were arrested Tuesday in a skirmish between San Antonio police and 15 supporters of a wildcat garbage men's strike who were trying to set up tents on the City Hall lawn. Those arrested included Chris Gutierrez, vice president of the San Antonio Refuse Collectors Association, and Mario Cantu, an activist restaurant owner who grappled with former Mexico President Luis Echeverria during Echeverria's visit to San Antonio two years ago.

WORLD

Slowdown snarls air traffic

Thousands of would-be vacationers Tuesday sprawled on airport floors instead of Mediterranean beaches, hoping for an end to a six-day slowdown by French air traffic controllers that has snarled European flights. Britain was one of the hardest hit areas, with airports reporting flight delays of up to two days to popular Spanish resorts. Delays of 24 hours were common.

Artillery fire renewed

Israeli-backed Christian rightist militiamen unleashed fresh artillery fire early Tuesday to bar the Lebanese army from reaching its headquarters near the southern border with Israel. A Beirut newspaper said Israel was behind the militia resistance. An army communique late Monday had said Israel actually was doing the shelling, but on-scene reports said it was the militia inside Lebanon.

Christina Onassis married

Christina Onassis Tuesday married an out-of-work Russian in an assembly-line ceremony and left her privileged life behind her to become plain Mrs. Sergei Kazov, resident of Moscow. She immediately confronted the frustrations of everyday folk when her husband had trouble starting the car waiting to take them home. It was the third marriage for Christina, 27, one of the world's wealthiest women, and the second for Sergei Kazov, 37. The couple was married in a 10-minute ceremony at a Moscow state wedding palace.

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy today and tomorrow with thundershowers for today and Thursday. High today in the mid-80s and low in the low 70s. High tomorrow in the upper 80s. South wind at 15 mph. Probability of rain today 40% and 50% tomorrow.

GOP waiting to pick Carter's bones

By ARNOLD SAWISLAK
United Press International

WASHINGTON — The leaders of the Republican Party met last month in the Star Wars setting of Detroit's Renaissance Center to look into the future. For a lot of them, it looked good.

With the Democratic president's opinion poll approval ratings way down; with the Democratic-controlled Congress unable or unwilling to march in step with anyone; with lots of campaign money coming in for what looks like an attractive crop

Washington Window

of Republican candidates this fall; and with pundits talking about the public turning toward the right, the GOP elders would seem to have reason for at least cautious optimism.

Republicans traditionally are hard-headed folk, and very few of them are predicting a top to bottom return to power for the GOP soon. National chairman Bill Brock, for example, has a six-year plan to achieve majority status and openly concedes that 1978 is not likely to be a big year for the GOP in Senate contests.

At the same time, some flamboyant talk was heard during the meetings in Detroit.

For example, Lynn Lowe, the Arkansas Republican chairman and the long-odds GOP candidate for governor, told the na-

tional executive committee he expects to win. And if that wasn't enough to rattle the teacups, Brock himself said it was entirely possible for Art Fletcher to win the mayor's seat in Washington, D.C.

Brave talk for public consumption is cheap in underdog politics, but there is a professionalism at the national committee level that usually cuts down wishful windjamming. So it is worth notice that the two contests Lowe and Brock were talking about would involve upsets so breath-taking as to suggest the Republicans have discovered the political equivalent of nuclear weaponry.

Brock apparently does believe that. He thinks the tax cut issue is going to be the Republican atomic bomb.

After what he concedes was quite a job of selling orthodox GOP economists on the idea of deficit financing, Brock has put all of the GOP's 1978 campaign chips on the Kemp-Roth and Steiger tax reduction schemes. Both would keep a lot of money in taxpayers' — for which read voters' — pockets, and Brock believes that will be the key to GOP resurgence this fall.

There is in all this a potential catch, described at the Detroit meeting by California GOP chairman Mike Montgomery and state Senate Republican leader Paul Priolo. Reporting on the Proposition 13 phenomenon in their state, both men said the danger all Republicans should guard against in tax cut politics is Democrats stealing the issue. That, they said, is what Democratic Gov. Edmund Brown Jr. is

Denham Springs, La., and all the officers of the organization voted to go public.

"It has changed a little bit. They don't get out there and tar and feather them anymore — which, by God, some of them needs it, you know what I mean? I'd like to see the old hanging tree come back down

trying and apparently having some success with in California.

It wouldn't be the first time such a thing has happened. It wasn't many years ago that Republicans thought they had the issue to ride to victory in law and order.

Heads, tails on new coins

By DICK WEST
United Press International

WASHINGTON — The flap over whose likeness should adorn the proposed new dollar coin has tended to obscure a more vital question, namely: Will it play in Peoria?

Sad to say, the Treasury Department's recent record in currency design does not inspire confidence in that regard.

There was, to cite one notable flop, the new Eisenhower metal dollar. That coin, in terms of circulation, has been a real turkey.

Then someone decided the country needed a new \$2 bill. Which, if possible, has been an even bigger bomb than the Eisenhower dollar.

Now someone has decided that what we actually needed was a new dollar coin that would be less bulky than the cartwheel. A lawn-mower wheel, you might call it. Or maybe a skateboard wheel.

Anyway, it would be only slightly larger than a quarter and, as proposed by the Treasury Department, would have had Miss Liberty on one side and an eagle on the other.

But at Senate hearings this week it appeared sentiment had shifted to the design

After a period of panic, a number of Democrats realized that they did not have to concede the issue to the opposition, and in the memorable phrase of one observer "pinned on the sheriff's badge" for the duration of the campaign.

favored by women's groups — i.e., supplanting Miss Liberty with the stern visage of Susan B. Anthony, the well-known suffragette.

What was not apparent at the hearing was any assuring evidence that the coin would gain wide public acceptance either way. Which surely is the crucial point.

After two straight duds, the Treasury can ill afford to lay another egg.

One problem may be that coin designers are much too "heads" oriented.

The Lighter Side

After all, when you flip a coin there's a 50 percent chance it will come up "tails."

Yet that side of the coin customarily gets short shrift.

If "heads" of the new coin is to be dedicated to one of the pioneers of women's equality, I say this would be a fitting time to give "tails" equal prominence.

How about a coin with Ms. Anthony's face on one side and the famed World War II pinup of Betty Grable on the other?

That would make it popular with male chauvinists as well as women's libbers, thus avoiding the risk of another fiasco.

