



ELEPHANTINE SHELTER—A South Vietnamese soldier, one of those who have recently occupied the Ming Mang tombs on the outskirts of the Imperial city of Hue, South Vietnam, takes a midday siesta under a huge stone elephant. The elephant is a symbolic guardian of the tombs, which date from the 19th century. Troops have occupied the site of the tombs as part of the outer defenses of the city of Hue. (AP Wirephoto)

HHH says McGovern almost dropped out

WAVERLY, Minn. (AP) — Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey says Sen. George McGovern was close to pulling out of the White House race in advance of the Wisconsin presidential primary April 4.

"I know a lot about the background on this," Humphrey said in an interview. "We kept pretty good tabs on each other. He was almost ready to drop out in Wisconsin."

Humphrey, taking his first weekend off since early January, made the comment in connection with statements that he would continue his own drive for the Democratic presidential nomination despite some setbacks. He begins an intensive stretch run for convention delegates today with a trip to San Antonio for a meeting with Texas Democrats on the eve of their statewide party meeting.

McGovern won in Wisconsin, boosted by "a good Republican crossover," and got a "new life," Humphrey said. "And that compounded with the fact that (Sen. Edmund S.) Muskie was dropping out...the media attention and public attention dwell on this so-called new face, even though George has been around a long time."

Mayer John V. Lindsay of New York who had been considered McGovern's chief rival for more liberal support also left the race after the Wisconsin presidential primary.

McGovern has since moved into position as the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination.

However, Humphrey insisted he had a chance to pull out the nomination in Miami Beach, Fla., next month on a late ballot.

Overweight women plug in for shocking solution

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — Several overweight Miami women have discovered that the best way to take it off is to plug in.

A team of Miami psychologists is helping patients diet by attaching a portable electric "shocker" to their forks to discourage rapid eating.

"We're aiming for a change in eating behavior and we're even doing things like timing the intervals between forks to the mouth and the number of chews of food," said Dr. Michael S. Stokols of the Center for Psychological Services Inc.

"We may ask a patient to bring a portion of her usual dinner right here to our office and then we hook her up with electrodes and the shocking mechanism," he said. "One of us may sit opposite her and eat ourselves. If the patient picks up the fork too soon, she will get a shock."

Stokols said the psychologist sets a timed waiting interval for the patient after analyzing her eating behavior.

The patient soon begins to "chain together" non-eating behavior to take up time at the table instead of simply eating.

"She may take a sip of water, dab her mouth with a napkin, speak to us, instead of wolfing down the food," he explained.

"Most patients at first say they're bad at guessing time intervals, but within a few trials they're approximating the length of time we set for them," he said, adding that if some patients try to "wait

Humphrey said he advised McGovern last weekend that "if I got out now, it would destroy any effectiveness" he might have in convincing governors and other Democratic leaders to support McGovern's candidacy later on.

Even if he fails to win the nomination, Humphrey said, "I'll still be a senator and have a good deal of freedom. It's not like 1968."

Humphrey said many Democrats, including some senators, "rightly or wrongly feel that he would cost them local seats, cost them legislative seats, cost them seats in Congress."

That concern now enhances his own chances for the nomination, Humphrey said, "and this is the reason I have a feeling of encouragement. A lot of people, once you get down to the convention, once you get away from the primaries, are going to make their judgment on the basis of which candidate will be better for them back in their home state."

"Let's say it doesn't look too favorable for any Democrat against Mr. Nixon. They'll ask 'Which one will cost us less?'"

"Now, in 1968, I didn't cost the party any losses, even though I lost."

Humphrey added, however, that he would not encourage the notion that McGovern would hurt the party, but would instead tell conservative Democrats in his upcoming travels that McGovern is more temperate than they might think.

At the governors conference in Houston last week, Humphrey said, "I think I even helped ease that for George. I told them that he's a decent man, he's not radical."

out" they'll get a shock that way too. "The shock is painful but never injurious," he said.

"We're not shocking the eating itself—just rapid eating. And often we shock only when the patient eats the 'wrong' thing—maybe cake, ice cream and so forth," he said.

The weight loss itself is usually the principal "reinforcer" to change the eating behavior, the psychologist said, noting that some women patients have lost as much as 80 pounds using the center's technique.

And in case a patient begins to backslide into her old "food addiction" approach, there are even portable shockers available.

Demos pick Droney to oppose Brooke

BOSTON (AP) — It took more than 10 hours of balloting for the Democratic state convention to decide on John J. Droney as the prime candidate to oppose the nation's only black senator.

The convention's endorsement puts Droney's name at the top of the ballot in September's primary battle to determine who will challenge Republican Sen. Edward W. Brooke.

Although Droney, 61-year-old Middlesex County district attorney, is regarded as a law-and-order candidate, the convention adopted a liberal platform at the weekend convention.

\$1.2 billion more

AT&T seeking new rate hikes

NEW YORK (AP) — Telephone rates are going up in most of the country and American Telephone & Telegraph Co., last year the world's top money maker, is seeking another \$1.2 billion in 18 separate cases.

Critics claim the communications giant doesn't need or deserve the money. And depending on where they live, they may also have a harsh word to say about service.

"The reason AT&T needs so much money is because of poor management," says Asher Ende, a Federal Communications Commission attorney appointed to defend the public interest in one rate case. "If regulation merely covers up these mistakes, efficiency doesn't improve."

American Telephone says telephone charges have not kept pace with increases in other consumer prices, while inflation has bitten deeply into earnings. This reduces the attractiveness of Bell System stock and bonds, the company says, making it increasingly difficult to raise money to meet service demands.

"The increases are necessary so we earn enough money to provide first class service," says F. Mark Garlinghouse, an AT&T vice president.

Since 1970, AT&T has boosted its rates some \$1.7 billion a year or 10 per cent. It is now seeking another \$1.2 billion a year in 18 separate rate cases around the

country. American Telephone is a giant holding company which owns or participates in 24 separate Bell companies and a long distance division. It operates about 100 million telephones in 48 states, 10 times the number of phones of its nearest competitor, General Telephone & Electronics, and handles about 80 per cent of the nation's telephone calls.

With profits from its manufacturing and research subsidiaries, it netted \$2.2 billion in 1971, up 2 per cent from 1970. In comparison, General Motors, the world's largest industrial corporation, earned \$1.9 billion last year. AT&T's first quarter profits this year were up 6 per cent to \$592 million.

Telephone rates are set by local, state, or federal agencies, which try to strike a balance between consumer demands for reasonable rates and investor requirements for a fair rate of return. The Price Commission has decided to leave rate decisions in the hands of these agencies, within certain guidelines.

From 1960 through 1971, local telephone charges rose 11 per cent and long distance rates dropped a little over 4 per cent, while consumer prices rose nearly 37 per cent, AT&T claims.

Despite this, the rate of earnings during the first part of the '60s was climbing. Technological improvements, such as conversion to the direct dial

system for long distance calling, produced sharp economies. Telephone usage was increasing at a pace that could be handled, explains one industry analyst.

But beginning in 1969, telephone traffic nearly doubled its growth rate from that of the previous couple of years.

To meet the unexpected burst in demand, AT&T pumped vast sums of money into new plant construction. While inflation was rampant and interest rates were soaring, financing expenditures in 1969 jumped 56 per cent as the company gulped down \$2.5 billion from bank loans, notes, and bond issues.

Since then, "Ma Bell's" appetite for new money has increased. AT&T raised \$4.8 billion in 1971, accounting for about 11 per cent of all the new capital raised from stocks and bonds by American industry.

Interest expenses in 1971 more than tripled 1968 levels, while wage costs among the 24 Bell companies rose 70 per cent, AT&T says. Total expenses during the five-year period, it adds, increased by about two-thirds.

Service which had deteriorated at key cities around the country began to improve, according to a 20-city FCC survey. While New York and Boston still had problems and Atlanta, Milwaukee, and Pittsburgh developed new ones, the

quality of service during the first 10 months of 1971 showed "a significant over-all improvement," over 1970, the study says.

In little over two years Bell companies have won rate increases in 35 areas of the country and now seek boosts in 18. Fourteen of these areas already have had one rate hike in the same period and Wisconsin has had two.

In explaining the need for rate boosts AT&T Chairman John D. deButts said recently that "only by providing reasonable return to their investors can utility companies, our own included, attract the capital it takes to expand capacity to meet the public demands."

"Regulators and the telephone industry have the same goal—good service," says AT&T's Garlinghouse.

But if the goal is the same, there is disagreement on the way to achieve it.

"In seeking higher rates, AT&T is trying to bail itself out for its ultraconservatism and past planning mistakes," says the FCC's Ende, head of the trial staff charged with opposing the interstate revenue request.

American Telephone says it couldn't have predicted the sudden upturn in demand in the late '60s and insists its financing steps were necessary.

Boston schools face decision this week on racial imbalance

BOSTON (AP) — Faced with the possible crippling loss of nearly \$70 million in education funds, the Boston city schools must take action this week to fight the federal government's first major action against a northern city school system.

The city is charged on state and federal levels with discriminating against black and Spanish-speaking children and with dismal failure to racially balance all public schools.

At issue here is how much school busing the city is willing to undertake and how long officials can do without funds which either have been frozen, withheld or threatened.

Sometime this week the school committee, which once solved a racial imbalance problem by declaring Chinese-Americans to be white, must respond to the federal charge of non-compliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Some officials, such as school committee member Paul Tierney, advocate the immediate formulation of a plan to racially balance public schools, an idea which probably will mean more busing. Others, including school committee chairman James W. Hennigan, believe the problems may simply disappear if the school system can fight holding actions in the courts.

The most immediate dilemma is the federal government's intention to freeze \$10 million in education funds. Already in effect is a freeze on federal funds for new school programs and buildings.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has charged the system with discriminating against black and Spanish-speaking children.

In addition, the state has withheld \$14 million from 1971 appropriations and has said it would withhold the \$43 million from the 1972 budget. These actions result from claims that 66 schools in the city have nonwhite enrollments exceeding 50 per cent, a violation of a 1965 state law.

"We'll get the federal money eventually because they're going to see it's a stupid action," Hennigan says. "It's inconsistent with (Nixon) administration policy because what they want can't be accomplished without busing, to which I am opposed. The courts are beginning to see it my way, too."

Tierney disagrees with Hennigan's contention that the problem will go away in time, claiming "there's too much at

stake here for the taxpayer who is already facing a crushing burden."

He believes property tax rates, which already levy bills of \$125 a month on persons with \$35,000 homes, could skyrocket out of sight unless something changes.

Hennigan says part of the problem is the funds the school committee can't get because of various legal actions. The city is prepared to comply with HEW requirements for new middle schools as soon as the building funds are unfrozen, he said.

Also, Hennigan said, the school committee is seeking \$930,000 to institute bilingual programs for thousands of Spanish-speaking children which HEW claims are being totally ignored and uneducated.

What it all boils down to, Hennigan says, is increased busing. He opposes that and admits that "quite technically we're in violation of the law" in some cases.

Last fall, Hennigan said, the school committee and the state agreed on a plan to racially balance a new school in a largely black neighborhood by busing 400 white students in and 300 blacks out.

That agreement was dropped after some of the parents involved either kept their kids out of school or enrolled them in neighborhood schools. The new school now is 79 per cent black.

HEW civil rights chief Stanley J. Pottinger, who initiated the federal action after the school committee failed to come up with a balance plan earlier in the year, says the enforcement action is "totally consistent with (Nixon) administration policy."

He said compliance would not mean more busing, but he declined to say what would have to be done.

"They should let us alone, free that money and let us get to work," says Hennigan of the HEW officials.

Hennigan also feels that state funds will eventually be released. "First of all, they know the lack of funds hurts the deprived areas most."

"And they know they'd have to make it up with a huge tax that would cause the city to collapse. Why kill your city when you find out in a year and a half that you didn't have to—that the problem might go away."

What Hennigan refers to is a proposed

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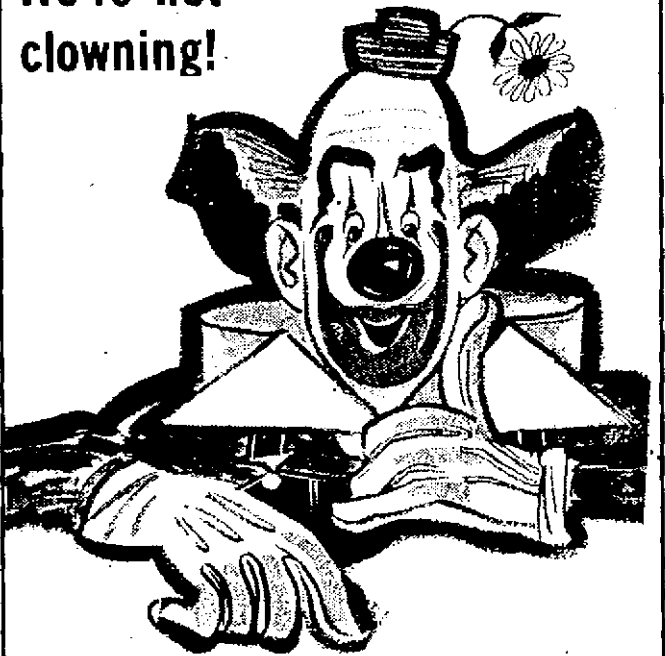
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