

Subsidizing Flight

EVEN before the public disclosure last week of a plan to shift more of the cost for airport and airline modernization from the federal government to aviation users, congressional critics were denouncing it. This reflex action on the part of aviation's leading spokesman in the Capitol (Senator Monroney of Oklahoma), fronting for a potent lobby, shows clearly what the plan is up against.

Nonetheless it merits full study and fair judgment. As outlined by Secretary of Transportation Alan Boyd, the proposal would end federal grants to airports that serve major airlines. Communities and airlines themselves would be obliged to finance the expansion that air travel's growth is demanding. Smaller airports mainly handling local service still could get grants.

A billion dollars in loans would also be available to those unable to borrow at reasonable interest from private lenders. Taxes on passenger tickets, business and pleasure flyers' gasoline and freight shippers' waybills would be raised.

The purpose, according to Boyd, is to let those who principally benefit from air facilities carry more of the expense load for them: Airlines would shoulder 100 percent of the cost of services they receive instead of 85. Private or business flyers in turn would pay 20 percent in-

stead of the 4.5 they do now. (Currently the federal airline cost-load is about three-quarters of a billion dollars yearly.)

All of this, of course, could bring effects that would be felt heavily in operations even such as Cedar Rapids', where federal grants in the millions have helped our airport grow. A sizable chunk of locally paid federal taxes came back home this way, and stopping it would have an impact not to be invited blindly. Still, the question boils down to one of need-priorities. Should everybody's taxes subsidize the airlines—and a lot of other ventures indirectly, as well as a relatively limited group of airliner users—when many other, broader segments of society need urgent help too, in basic personal and human terms? In which arena can the deepest long-range interests of society and broadest service to our people draw the greatest benefit for the money?

No one we know of has all the answers, senses all the ramifications, or can immediately weigh all elements in true perspective to best serve the national interest. That is why snap judgments in the negative to Mr. Boyd's proposal are both premature and mercenary. And that is why the voices of the knee-jerk lobbyists need the due-course balancing we hope they get.

Residence Ramified

IN deciding to follow only the state law's basic dictates as to age and length of residence on voter eligibility for students, Iowa City's city council has elected not to mess with several other facets of a person's long-range residence intent. This takes a commendably broad view of people's rights of citizenship, gives a boost to "participatory democracy" and sets a good example for other cities with a sizable student population.

The policy, of course, regards as a bona fide Iowa resident any student of voting age who wants to register to vote and has lived here long enough. In fairness and consistency, those who do thus qualify should also be prepared to count themselves as residents in other ways under Iowa law as well. Automobile licensing and drivers' licensing are two of the items legitimately cited by officials as calling for different compliance by Iowa residents than nonresidents.

The law exempts nonresidents from getting an Iowa drivers' license if they have a valid license from their own home state. If an Iowa resident attempts to drive without an Iowa license, he violates the law and is subject to penalties, as well as de-wheeling, when caught. Iowa law also permits nonresidents to operate a vehicle here without register-

ing or Iowa-licensing it if the vehicle is duly licensed elsewhere. Failure on the part of residents to comply subjects the vehicle to a lien for the amount due in fees—a sticky legal complication for the owner if he wants to sell or trade it.

Thus a student who becomes a resident in order to vote can fairly be expected to accept a resident's responsibilities for car ownership and driving—or take the consequences if he won't. City and county officials would be upholding the law all around if they check out both of these points in the background of any student from outside who assumes a resident's status to vote.

Further complications may ensue, of course, concerning the anomaly of a student's resident-status for voting and possibly his nonresident status when it comes to paying tuition as an out-of-stater at the university. But that is a policy matter within the domain of campus officials rather than civil authorities, without a close connection under the law.

One further point tempers all the potential repercussions: In those who take advantage of a freer opening of doors to vote, the city's action presupposes a sense of fairness and responsibility which should minimize whatever conflicts might occur as an offshoot of the action.

The People's Forum

Maynard Rebounds

To the Editor: The first human moral in life is "Thou shalt not kill." Humanity has raked over it tremendously. The people in Vietnam need not be killed or maimed. They need our love and so do the children in Vietnam, North or South. Do bombing raids accomplish anything? Yes, the burning of villages and maybe the killing of innocent people.

The "black wall of propaganda" must be vanished and the small ray of light, "hope," now flickering uneasily in the future, shall shine through. Right will prevail over wrong — wait and see.

Diana Hines
Route 1, Toddville

Tornado Work

To the Editor: The Linn county chapter of the American Red Cross wishes to thank all those who assisted or offered their assistance during the Northeast Iowa tornadoes.

Volunteers worked round-the-clock during the emergency, bringing some measure of comfort to the hundreds of tornado victims and their concerned families. Red Cross is now entering the rehabilitation phase, helping families in returning to their pre-disaster ways of life.

The giving of one's self and the sharing of one's resources in time of disaster is in truth a fine expression of the good that is in people—for which Red Cross is most grateful.

Thank you.
C. Max Widmer, Disaster Chairman
Roger K. Loving, Chapter Chairman
327 Granby Building

Patrol's Trip

To the Editor: I would like to take the opportunity to express our thanks for the financial assistance given to the Cedar Rapids School Safety Patrol on our recent trip to the Wisconsin Dells.

We were able to take 73 boys and girls on a two-day trip. These boys and girls were outstanding representatives of Cedar Rapids and of the state of Iowa. We had numerous compliments on the way they conducted themselves.

We want to thank publicly the many business organizations that made this trip possible.
R. C. Birr,
Cedar Rapids Auto Club
517 Fourth Avenue SE

RFK Cuts Humphrey Lead as Demo Choice

By Louis Harris

DESPITE the primary election victories of Sen. Robert Kennedy in Indiana and Nebraska, Vice-president Hubert Humphrey still is the preferred nationwide choice of Democrats for their party's nomination for President.

However, on the strength of his primary wins, Kennedy has cut Humphrey's lead from an 11-point margin before Indiana to a 4-point lead today.

A special nationwide Harris Survey immediately following the Nebraska primary shows this trend in the three-way contest for the Democratic nomination:

	Mid-May Percent	Late April Percent
Hubert Humphrey	36	33
Robert Kennedy	32	27
Eugene McCarthy	24	25
Not sure	8	10

In addition to the three-way test, all Democrats were asked to make a show-down preference between each of the men pitted against each other. In these pairings, Humphrey leads Kennedy 46 to 42 percent, Kennedy leads McCarthy 46 to 39 percent, and Humphrey is ahead of McCarthy 49 to 37 percent.

These separate tests, therefore, bear out the overall order of preference among Democrats at the halfway mark in the primary election contests.

Respect for Jack

This latest survey shows that Sen. Kennedy's wins in the primaries are making a positive impression among the rank and file of voters. The number who feel that he is "an inspiration to a new generation in politics" has risen from 48 to 55 percent nationwide.

By the same token, the criticism that he is "trying to get elected on the memory of his brother, John F. Kennedy, and that is wrong," has diminished from 57 to 48 percent.

However, by 55 to 31 percent, a majority of the public does not feel that Kennedy's victories in the primaries "prove that he can get elected in November." And by 45 to 38 percent voters believe that Kennedy is "trying to buy the Democratic nomination."

Each voter in the national cross-section was asked:

"Let me read you some statements some people have made about Sen. Robert Kennedy. For each, tell me if you tend to agree or disagree."



OPINION
© 1968 HARRIS SURVEY

	Mid-May Percent	Late April Percent
Positive statements		
He is courageous and unafraid to follow his convictions.		
Agree	60	55
Disagree	24	26
Not sure	16	19
He is an inspiration to a new generation in politics.		
Agree	55	48
Disagree	33	34
Not sure	12	18
He has many of the same outstanding qualities as his brother, John F. Kennedy.		
Agree	40	39
Disagree	51	52
Not sure	9	9
His victories in the primaries prove he can get elected in November.		
Agree	31	X
Disagree	55	X
Not sure	14	X
Negative statements		
He is an opportunist in politics.		
Agree	67	67
Disagree	21	14
Not sure	12	19

He is trying to get elected on the memory of his brother, and that is wrong.		
Agree	48	57
Disagree	42	32
Not sure	10	11
He is too ambitious to be President.		
Agree	46	54
Disagree	43	32
Not sure	11	14
He is trying to buy the Democratic nomination.		
Agree	45	X
Disagree	38	X
Not sure	17	X

(X-Not asked in April survey)

It is apparent from these results that Sen. Kennedy evokes deeply emotional feelings among the electorate, both pro and con. Surveys of the primary states show that when he campaigns in person, the prevailing view of him is more favorable.

The cumulative impact of his victories to date leave him somewhat behind his standings when he first entered the race, but better than the low point he reached just prior to Indiana.

A comparison of Humphrey and Kennedy strength reveals sharp differences in their current patterns of appeal. Ken-

edy does well with voters on the West Coast (where he has been campaigning), Negroes, low-income voters, women, young people and the less-well-educated.

Humphrey's strength is in the East, among suburbanites, with older voters and among affluent voters. Senator McCarthy still has a rather substantial following among the young and the college-educated.

Party Makeup

The pattern of support for Humphrey and Kennedy is similar both within the Democratic party and among the electorate as a whole. But within the Democratic party there are higher proportions of the so-called "gut" or traditional lower-income voter.

Therefore, Senator Kennedy is on his strongest ground when campaigning in the primaries. His problems multiply when he has to compete for the votes of independents and Republicans.

However, Kennedy has demonstrated that he can gain momentum from primaries and improve his standing among all voters to the point of edging out Richard Nixon today. But he must continue to win the primaries to keep his momentum going, and there are still three to go.

Conservatives for 'Radical' Idea

New Plan for Poor Ups Urge To Earn

By Roscoe Drummond

WASHINGTON — A most radical idea is attracting quite notable conservative backing.

There is impressive conservative support for a negative income tax to provide guaranteed minimum annual income for the very poor.

This is no Republican scheme to slash federal spending, to cut back the role of the federal government, or to shunt responsibilities for the poor to the states.

It is a new and different way to deal with the whole social welfare area—so different that many liberals look askance

so much since 1933 that they have little intellectual or political vested interest in the status quo of federal programs and can embrace change with greater ease.

As Daniel P. Moynihan, former assistant secretary of labor, has pointed out, it is his fellow Democrat liberals who have become moored to the past and have a hard time bringing themselves to open their minds to new ways of doing things.

Instead, it is men like Rep. Melvin Laird of Wisconsin, one of the most influential conservative Republicans in congress, and Dr. Milton Friedman, economics professor at the University of Chicago and an adviser to Barry Goldwater in the 1964 campaign, who are doing most to promote the negative income tax.

Laird gives prominence to a favorable discussion of the plan in a book he is supervising on Republican positions on major issues, to be published soon.

Part-Way Gift

The negative income tax would supplant present welfare programs, including their bureaucratic costs. Payments would be based on family size and income.

If a family earned less than a fixed "poverty line" income, it would receive only a percentage (say 50 percent) of the difference between its income and the poverty line, thus providing an incentive to earn more.

Under a 50 percent rate, for example, individuals or families whose taxable income falls below a certain amount, say \$3,000 a year, would be entitled to a negative income tax that represents half

of the difference between their taxable income and \$3,000.

Thus, a family of four whose taxable income is \$1,500 would get \$750 in federal payment under the plan. If that family's income were zero, under the 50 percent rate it would be entitled to \$1,500.

Speaking with the prestige of his post as chairman of the House Republican Conference, Laird recently called the negative income tax "one of the more promising proposals for replacing our present hodge-podge of welfare programs."

It is attractive, he says, "because it would concentrate public funds on those who are actually poor and would provide a better incentive for people to get off of welfare."

In the Laird book of "Republican papers," Friedman views present welfare

programs as "costly and inefficient and destructive of incentive" because for every dollar earned by a relief recipient a dollar is taken away from him unless he succeeds in concealing his earnings.

Offset

Under the negative income tax the incentive to earn would be stronger. Friedman believes that ending present welfare programs (which are a form of guaranteed annual income) would save enough to pay for the costs of the negative income tax.

Will it work? With the approval of congress, the University of Wisconsin and the war on poverty office will try out the plan on a small scale in a few New Jersey cities for about three years.

Maybe then we'll know. In any event, credit the conservatives with open-mindedness.

This Day

10-20-30
Years Ago

1958 Pete Coffeen of Decorah, known on the Cornell college campus for his roles in Shakespearean plays, won the \$25 top prize in the molasses recipe contest, sponsored by the Cornell Home Economics club.

John Moschkau of Waterloo, Iowa and national rifle champ, was pictured in The Gazette with gun, he would use in the coming national meet. May 25 he had topped all shooters at the Izak Walton grounds in Cedar Rapids.

Phyllis Dau Schmidt of Traer was crowned 1958 Iowa Jersey queen to reign over the Jersey shows at the All-Iowa fair, the Iowa State fair and the National Dairy Cattle Congress.

1948 A spot check of 705 vehicles in the Cedar Rapids area by the highway patrol resulted in tickets being issued for 413 violations concerning faulty equipment, Lt. Clarence Day reported.

Safety Commissioner Gordon Hughes and Police Chief Tom Condon were named co-chairmen for the first Cedar Rapids Halloween Mardi Gras parade to be staged in the fall.

Ed Preston, assistant export sales manager for Link-Belt Speeder, returned to Cedar Rapids after a 19-week goodwill tour of South America and South

Africa. He said the U.S. did not buy enough from countries in those areas and that they were tending to trade elsewhere.

1938 Dr. James H. Means of Harvard medical school, who had attracted nationwide attention when he publicly attacked the American Medical Assn. for its apathy in social problems, praised the Linn County Medical Society in Cedar

Rapids for attacking those problems on its own.

The recently organized Young Republicans League of Linn county adopted a resolution asserting that the Republican party was the only practical vehicle for preserving the fundamental principles of American democracy, and that the repressive measures of the New Deal were not beneficial to business and industry.

The Neighbors

By George Clark



REP. LAIRD
Positively for a 'negative'

Against an RFK Man

Meany Retaliates

By Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

WASHINGTON — The intensity of AFL-CIO President George Meany's backstage maneuvering for Vice-president Hubert H. Humphrey became vividly clear when he abruptly cancelled a private luncheon here with John J. Gilligan, labor-backed Democratic senate candidate in Ohio.

Meany was furious over Gilligan's decision to ride in Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's convertible from the airport in Columbus to a meeting between Kennedy and Ohio's delegates to the Democratic presidential primary.

That was on the evening of May 14. Gilligan, who topped Sen. Frank Lausche in a notable upset in the Democratic senatorial primary, had a scheduled lunch with Meany in Washington several days later. But when Gilligan arrived in Washington (for the convention of the Americans for Democratic Action), Meany canceled the lunch. Meany wants Gilligan to endorse

Humphrey for the presidential nomination. Gilligan had also been pressed hard by labor to come out for President Johnson before the President withdrew from the 1968 race.

Gilligan refused. Despite his refusal the AFL-CIO gave him all-out support

against Lausche, without which he could not have won the primary.

Now even stiffer pressure is being applied to get Gilligan, himself a delegate to the Chicago convention, to endorse Humphrey. But Gilligan is staying neutral, and Meany is fuming.

George Meany

