

Other Editors

PORTLAND, MAINE, PRESS HERALD

High Cost of Politics

As the cost of politics grows, politicians and their parties adopt novel and often desperate measures to finance election campaigns.

The talk of Washington recently has been the gala put on by the Democrats to pay off a million-dollar debt left over from the 1962 elections. This was not the ostensible reason for the double-decker affair; party faithful who gathered from all over the country assumedly were celebrating the second anniversary of President Kennedy's first inauguration. Moreover, they paid handsomely for the privilege. Seven hundred Democrats paid \$1,000 each for a dinner at the new International Inn in the national capital. At the Washington armory another huge throng paid \$100 each to see a floor show, but no dinner. The President and Vice-President and their entourages showed up at both occasions, and the whole thing was an apparent success.

Massachusetts, on the other hand, which produces more droll politics than any state we can think of, is still chuckling over the testimonial dinner the insurance industry planned for State Insurance Commissioner C. Eugene Farnam.

This was apparently a good-will affair intended to improve insurance firms' relations with the state government and the legislature. But sponsors overlooked the fact that only recently the lawmakers, fed up with purely political "testimonial" dinners intended to pay election debts or build a campaign fund for the future, enacted legislation against the practice. So, after a ruling by the new Attorney General that the dinner would violate the law, it was called off and ticket money returned to about a thousand Bay Staters.

It should be noted that Republicans raised the question of violation of federal law (the Hatch Act) against Kennedy's gala, but were only laughed at for their presumption. (The GOP is now planning a \$500,000 Goldwater dinner of its own.) This does not necessarily prove that the Kennedy administration's ethics are showing. It does, so far as we are concerned, ring an alarm bell over the increasing cost of running for public office in this country, meanwhile noting for record that hardly anyone is doing anything about it, in a constructive way.

Perhaps this is tiresome repetition, but the nation ought not to drift into a situation whereby only rich men can afford to run for high office, in the states and the federal government, unless they are willing to accept help from special interests that inferentially has strings attached.

There is something of a Roman circus atmosphere about a lush Washington affair that attracts 700 persons able and presumably willing to shell out a thousand dollars each for the privilege of saying "I was there." It causes us some anx-

ety, looking toward the future, but it and similar events will continue until public opinion recognizes the potential risks involved, too.

Veterans Corner

Q — What is the present maximum amount of a GI home loan the Veterans Administration will guarantee?

A — That part of a GI home loan guaranteed by the government may be up to 60 percent of the amount of the loan or not more than \$7,500. The limit on direct loans made when no loans from private lenders are available is \$15,000.

Q — How does one get the free American flags for use at the funerals of veterans?

A — These free burial flags are used to drape the casket during funeral service of a deceased veterans with wartime service, discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, or with peacetime service for at least one enlistment unless discharged or released from duty for disability incurred in the line of duty. They are then presented to the next of kin. Flags may be obtained from VA offices and some post offices as well as from U. S. State Department offices overseas.

Q — Can any wartime or peacetime veteran get a free physical

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MANCHESTER, ENGLAND GUARDIAN

Newspeak

The BBC has introduced a New method of disseminating the spoken word at any rate we think it is new because we don't. Remember hearing it until a week or two ago it consist of. Putting the fullstops in the middle of sentences instead

of at the end as we were. Taught at school as a corollary to this new sentences are run on without a break.

The practice seems to have started as a. Means of enlivening the reports of otherwise tedious football matches on a Saturday afternoon now it has spread to the. News columns as it were and the effect

is to make the subject matter. Confusing the interest of the listener is directed to the. Events recounted we tried to discover whether the ellipses or hiatuses followed a. Definite pattern or whether the breaks were made. Arbitrarily a pattern did emerge it seems that most of the breaks come after the. Definite or indefinite article or after a. Preposition sometimes they follow. Verbs but they always come when you. Least expect them and they constitute an outrage on what. We in the trade call the. Genius of language.

examination from the VA? A — To be eligible, he must have been discharged or retired under conditions other than dishonorable and must need the medical or physical examination to apply for certain Federal benefits. For example, the VA gives medical examinations for determination of the presence of a condition claimed to be service-connected, for Government life insurance purposes, and when application is made for hospital or domiciliary care.

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Top—Corvette Sting Ray Sport Coupe and Corvair Monza Spyder Club Coupe. Below—left, Chevrolet Impala SS Convertible; right, Chevy II Nova 400 SS Convertible. (All four available in both convertible and coupe models. Super Sport and Spyder equipment optional at extra cost.)

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