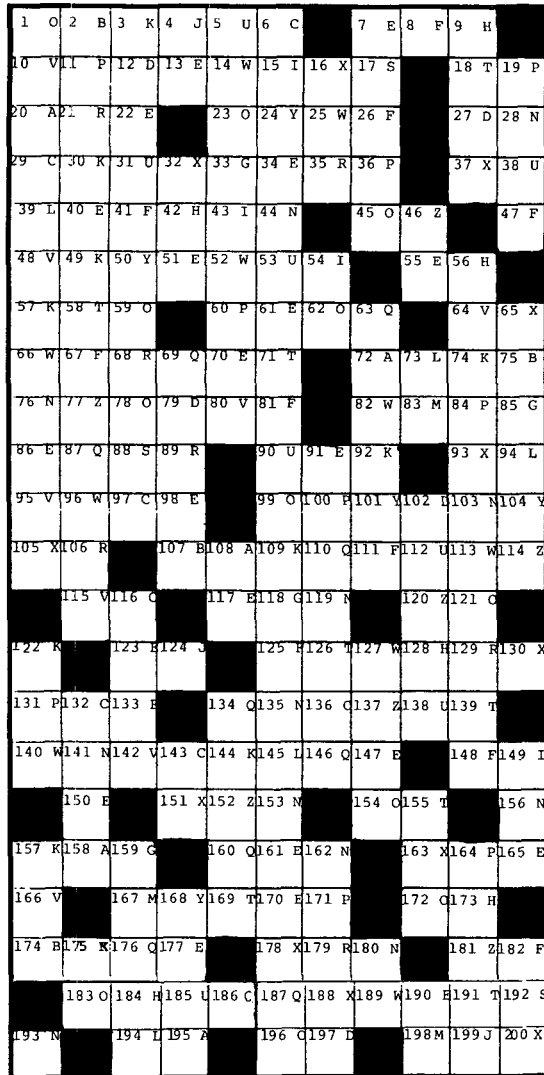


The Political Double-Cross

by Alisa Belinkoff



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Solution next month

CLUES

A. Agenda item #1.

72 158 20 108 195

B. Tax proposed by State Transportation Board.

2 174 75 107

C. Fit name for a woman in government.

97 186 6 143 29 132

D. Mori's generation.

12 79 27 197 102

E. Platform for Sinclair.

13 170 133

40 55 190 98 147 7 22

86 161 51 150 177

61 117 91 165 70 34 123

F. Upholder of the Right.

111 148 125 8

41 26 67 182 47 81

Instructions: Although this looks like a crossword puzzle, the words read only across, not up and down as well. The solution spells out a quote from a book about California politics. Fill in the answers to the clues and transfer the letters to the corresponding spaces in the diagram. You may also work backwards, guessing at words in the solution and transferring the letters to the clue spaces. The first letters of the clue words, taken in order, spell out the author and title of the book from which the quote is taken. Most of the clues refer to the California political scene.

G. Santa Claus for Leggett and McFall?

159 118 33 85

H. What you run for.

173 56 184 42 128 9

I. With O; what you don't see any more on PSA flights.

54 15 43 149

J. Labor Commissioner Quillin's union.

4 199 124

K. With S; what L.A., Oxnard, and Point Conception may have in common.

57 175 92 109 122

144 30 74 49 157 3

L. What the campaign firm creates.

94 39 194 145 73

M. Regional decision-making body.

198 83 167

N. Architect.

156 135 180 76 141 103

162 28 119 153 193 44

O. See clue "I."

154 23

99 172 136 196 45 62

1 59 116 78 183 121

P. Bored legislators can take the tree tour around the _____ Capitol Park.

60 84 36 11 100 171 164

19 131

Q. Symbol of U.C.

187 160 63 134 110 87

69 176 146

R. Redundant legislative name.

35 68 179 89 21 129 106

S. See clue "K."

192 17 88

T. Alan Sieroty is running in Beilenson's old district. _____ to the Senate, there will be a scramble for his Assembly seat.

169 155 58 139

71 126 191 18

U. Sacramento restaurateur.

185 138 53 5 112

90 38 31

V. With W; Koupal's group can now be found under the name _____

80 48

64 166 142 95 10 115

W. See clue "V."

96 25 82 189 127 140

14 113 52 66

X. Home of the unlikeliest Democrat.

200 105 163 93 32 130 188

151 16 65 37 178

Y. Living quarters for North Slope explorers?

50 104 101 24 168

Z. Diamonds are her best friend.

181 114 137 77 120 46 152

Solution to last month's puzzle: A. Posey's Cottage; B. Angst; C. Tam o shanter; D. Bear; E. Roast; F. Or Winner Wagner; G. Womens restroom; H. Nit wit; I. RISE fell; J. EIER CEQA; K. At Modoc; L. Grimes; M. Alioto; N. Nine years to life; O. Antonovich; P. NIH ssh; Q. Delta; R. Reston; S. Ed Davis; T. At DMV; U. Little Hoover; V. Insurance Financial Institutions; W. Touchie feelie; X. Yiddish Mom.

From Edmund G. Brown Sr., *Reagan and Reality*, page 29: "There are moments . . . when the words don't come out quite as the politician intends. I'm still trying to live down a comment I made about a series of devastating floods in Northern California several years ago: 'This is the worst disaster in California since my election as Governor.'"

A WASHINGTON PERSPECTIVE . . .

By Lou Cannon

A pair of losers

Gerald Ford looked foolish, and Ronald Reagan made the least of his opportunity. This would seem to be a fair summation of the way the nation's two most prominent Republicans conducted themselves in the process leading to selection of a new GOP national chairman.

Despite advice from numerous Republicans not to risk his shaky titular leadership in an intra-party fight, Ford could not resist the opportunity to back a friend nor a chance to thwart the man who had challenged him for the presidential nomination. The friend was James A. Baker III of Texas, Ford's campaign manager in the general election race. Ford wanted Baker so badly he was blind to the fact that Baker did not want the job. Baker is a highly competent attorney with a distaste for political infighting, and has a large family and a wife who doesn't like Washington. Furthermore, he was almost unknown to most members of the Republican National Committee.

Still, GOP officials are a docile lot, especially when confronted with a Republican President, and there is little doubt that the national committee would have chosen Baker had he stayed in the battle with Ford's backing. When Baker pulled out, he angered or embarrassed influential national committee members who had gone out on a limb for him out of loyalty to the President. The effect was so devastating that Ford's fall-back candidate, Ohio State GOP Chairman Kent B. McGough, received only 20 votes out of 161 on the first ballot and was never a factor in the race.

* * *

Baker's withdrawal created a real opportunity for Reagan, whose supporters were hoping he would use the vacancy in the top GOP post as an opportunity to exercise political leadership. One course open to Reagan was to swing his supporters toward the man who eventually became chairman, former Tennessee Senator William E. Brock, a capable organizer with a conservative record. Brock, uncertain of his own election, would have welcomed Reagan's support. Instead, Reagan tried to stop the Tennessean by sticking with the hopeless candidacy of Utah GOP Chairman Richard Richards, who was suspected by some committee members of being a doctrinaire conservative and by others of being too lightweight for the job. Richards was such a lost cause that the man who nominated him was moved to defensively describe his candidate as "not an ideologue but an engineer." Richards lost, after three ballots, and Reagan lost with him. Instead of being dependent upon national committee conservatives for his election, Brock wound up owing his victory to moderates in the East and Midwest and to such anti-Reagan Republicans as California GOP Chairman Paul Haerle.

The day afterward, a few miles away, Reagan spoke to a conservative academic group at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington. He gave a well-crafted speech, urging conservatives to stay within the Republican Party and "start acting to bring about the great conservative majority party we know is waiting to be created." But the speech disappointed those Republicans who had hoped that Reagan had tired of being a party outsider and would reach for a leadership role. Instead, an increasing number of national Republicans now regard Reagan, with his soon-to-be-formed political action committee, as a rival GOP center that will divide the party along conservative-moderate lines at a time when it can least afford to be divided. And some of Reagan's own staunch national supporters are making the same complaint that was heard from party regulars in California in the fading days of Reagan's governorship.

"Ron's a great speaker, which is swell," said one of these backers at the national committee meeting. "The trouble is we need a leader, not a speaker."

* * *

William T. Bagley, the former California assemblyman who is now the chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, provided an exceptionally useful act of leadership when he sent a letter to 45 federal multi-member agencies or commissions detailing the myriad ways in which public bodies had tried to circumvent California's open-meeting laws.

Bagley's purpose was to warn his fellow commission chairmen that the new "Government in the Sunshine Act," which goes into effect March 12th, won't work unless the agencies want to follow the spirit as well as the letter of the law. His letter described various evasions of California laws and explained how courts had ruled on them.

"Seeing the much more pervasive atmosphere of secrecy in Washington, I just have to think that the same pattern is going to be attempted here," Bagley said. "Why not use the California experience to head it off?"

* * *

The much-traveled Hale Champion, onetime reporter and onetime California state finance director and onetime University of Minnesota vice president, is leaving the Harvard vice-presidency to come to Washington as assistant secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. All of which recalls Champion's long-ago reply to a reporter from Madison, Wisconsin, who asked him how he had begun his varied career. "I got out of Madison," Champion replied.