

Monologue

Idle Hands

J. Dana Haynes
Editor In Chief

Last year, the voters of Oregon were presented with a novel bill, called Measure 3.

The bill was designed to drastically cut back the amount of property taxes paid in this state. It was a long, hard battle but in the end the voters nixed the measure.

Ballot Measure 3 was the brainchild of Ray Phillips, who is now chairperson of the Oregon Taxpayer's Union (whose motto is "Fightin' Mad! Fightin' Back!"). And the natural enemy of the OTU was the Oregon Education Association, since a great deal of school fundings come from property taxes.

All right. You know all that already. But what many people do not know is that the fight is still going on hot and heavy. The taxpayer's union has a newsletter, called Oregon Vox Populi, and they use it to attack their favorite target, the education association.

In truth, Oregon's system of taxation is unfair, and definitely needs to change. But Ballot Measure 3 was not the way to accomplish this, and the next bill, which OTU calls Son of 3, may not be any better. The problem lies not so much with the government or with the schools, but with the OTU itself, and their mentor Phillips.

Ray Phillips is the voice of the OTU and he has chosen to vent his anger at the Oregon Education Association, not the State Legislature. His newsletter is laced with all sorts of wonderful diatribes, referring to the OEA as "The Many Eyes at 6900 Haines Road," which is the headquarters of the teacher's union.

The newsletter further goes on to say that 6900 Haines Road is where the education association "plots its devious moves." He calls OEA President John Danielson the "Boss of bosses," and makes comments about Danielson's nebulous "underlords" who are allegedly "busy fighting election law reform and keeping their lackeys in the Legislature in line," as well as "hoarding a good part of their million to do battle with (OTU) again in '84."

This is paranoid ramblings. Sure the teacher's union is tough, and they are probably responsible for some of the unfairness of the tax system. But they are not Baron von Evil and his Minions of Doom. Phillips' literature sounds like a Marvel comic book, or the script from a 30's adventure serial. "The Teacher's Union is fighting against our noble cause... Meanwhile, Vic Charisma and the lovely Sarah Sue Simpson are trapped in the Maze of Death."

The Oregon Taxpayer's Union must learn a very difficult lesson soon. That lesson is learning to pick your fights. The OTU currently suffers from the same malady that crippled the National Organization for Women, and which buried the Equal Rights Amendment. The NOW always had trouble picking their fights, and consequently presented a jumbled, militant and chaotic image to the voters.

Image may seem like a trifle thing to worry about when one is trying to right the wrongs of a society. However, ours is a nation of image-makers and image-watchers. It seems funny to think the ERA was defeated (temporarily) last year, since most every American believes in freedom and equality. Yet defeated it was, because the opponents were better organized than the proponents.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is an unpopular organization. Amazing! NASA is not only the most farsighted arm of our truly myopic government, but it is one of the few departments that actually pays for itself. Yet, once again, no clear-cut image has ever been presented to the voters, and nearly every year the funding for NASA is cut.

I am not sure I'm in favor of a Measure 3-type bill, but I agree that something must be done. I think the vast majority of Oregon voters agree. However, as long as Ray Phillips and his Oregon Taxpayer's Union is leading the fight, I'm sure they will be able to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory.

Enterprise Courier aids in publishing The Print

On Monday, May 16, a malfunction arose in the typesetting machine in the graphic arts department. The Compugraphics typesetter is the device which helps create this newspaper.

The Enterprise Courier newspaper in Oregon City

donated the use of their office, computers and time to allow us to get **The Print** out by deadline.

The editorial board of **The Print** would like to thank the Enterprise Courier, Editor In Chief John Kanelis and Publisher Jon White for their help.

Editorial by Shelley Ball Eulogy to a comedy classic

It has been 12 years since the television comedy show 'Archie Bunker's Place,' previously known as 'All in the Family,' first aired on CBS. Just last week, the network gave the show its walking papers. That's right, after 12 seasons "Archie Bunker's Place-All in the Family" has been officially canceled.

Although character Archie Bunker will be missed by many, the cancellation of "Archie Bunker's Place" came as a tearful surprise to none, including myself. The series won't be missed, because to me the show had already been canceled several years earlier, when two, and eventually three of the four original actors took their bows and said goodbye.

What have been missed for a long time were the earlier years of the show, when it was initially titled "All In The Family." Back in January of 1971, television viewers were introduced to creator Norman Lear's original four-person comedy team of bigot Archie Bunker (played by Carroll O'Connor), his "dingbat" wife Edith Bunker (Jean Stapleton), daughter Gloria Stivic (Sally Struthers) and Polish "meathead" son-in-law Michael Stivic (Rob Reiner).

Under the direction of Norman Lear, these four actors broke the mold for television comedy shows,

by combining real-life issues with laughter, sometimes even tears.

The Bunker household was the battleground for many an argument between Archie and son-in-law Mike, politics and racism being two popular subjects. Women's Lib, transvestitism and rape were a few of the countless subjects the Bunker family dealt with during prime time every week.

Archie's unique usage of vocabulary is another element that is sure to be missed by "All in the Family" fans. Who else but Archie could come up with such sayings as "stifle yourself," "meathead," and my favorite, "crappola."

Another element of the series that made for good viewing was watching the characters themselves develop over the years. Archie the bigot grew into a sensitive, caring man, who despite his many prejudices and talent for muddling facts, became quite lovable.

Edith, labeled "dingbat" for years by husband Archie, proved she was more intelligent than people gave her credit for. Gloria, once a crybaby, gave birth to son Joey, and matured into a self-supporting woman. And as for Mike, my last recollection is that he learned to live without Gloria, and went off to join a commune.

The initial cancellation of "All in the Family" really began when actors Sally Struthers and Rob Reiner left the show. Things weren't the same without Archie and Mike arguing anymore.

To make up for Struthers and Reiner's absence, a variety of characters were brought in to interact with Archie and Edith, and the show was titled "Archie Bunker's Place." It was hardly what you could call a good replacement, and when Jean Stapleton bade farewell, it was made clear that the last remnants of "All in the Family" had been swept away.

A new decade has befallen us since "All in the Family" first aired, and along with it new discussion topics. I can almost hear Archie and Mike going at it again, only this time they would be arguing about El Salvador, Reaganomics or test tube babies-the list goes on and on.

If anything should be said at all about "All in the Family," it's that O'Connor, Stapleton, Struthers and Reiner work best when they work together. It's been awhile since Stapleton and Reiner have appeared in anything for television. Struthers tried to make it on her own with last year's "Gloria," but it has also been canceled by CBS.

In any case, reruns of "All in the Family" have been played on cable. For the moment, they appear to be an Archie Bunker fan's only compensation for the end of a once-pioneering, well-rounded comedy show.



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