

Monologue



Boycott of Coors brewery worthy of support

By Doug Vaughan
Editor in Chief

Coors beer might taste good, but there are numerous reasons why it doesn't appear in Oregon grocery stores. Mainly because Oregonians don't want it.

The two biggest knocks against the brewing company are the fact that it isn't pasteurized, and it is non-union. Push those two aside, and there are better reasons. Ones that spurred a nation-wide boycott.

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) is the main group who supports the boycott.

Why is the boycott so active? Because comments such as "Blacks lack intellectual capacity" made by Coors chairman and chief executive, William Coors, while addressing a group of Denver minority business-owners. Maybe a slip of the tongue? Sorry! He continued to say, "one of the best things they (the slave traders) did for you is to drag your ancestors over here in chains." These quotes were two of several which ran in a Feb. 24, 1984, *Rocky Mountain News* article.

The AFL-CIO is sending information on the Coors company to college campuses across the nation.

According to the labor union, Coors pays students large sums of money in order to persuade them to drink Coors. The AFL-CIO thinks students should know the facts behind the beer company before money takes them towards Coors.

The brewing company has already sponsored many "chug-a-lug" parties and "get drunk" functions as well as campus wet T-shirt contests.

Their non-union activity is also harmful. Such practices as lie detector tests (which sometimes asks about employees' sex lives and preferences), search and seizure raids, forced physical exams and no seniority rights are common.

These practices led to the brewery workers' strike in 1977, but the conditions still persist.

The AFL-CIO also said that Joseph Coors, brewery executive, is being considered by President Reagan as a presidential advisor. Both agree on almost every issue and would destroy unions, collective bargaining, organizing rights, protection for elderly/handicapped/minorities, health and safety laws and the future education opportunities for our youth among other things, according to information provided by AFL-CIO.

While the rest of America boycotts Coors, Oregonians can continue to deny the beer entry into our state. Coors business practices and attitudes are notorious. Do something for your country and state, don't support Coors.

Need a nuclear warhead? Mail-order weapons cater

By J. Dana Haynes
Arts Editor



First off, this is *not*, repeat: *not*, a pro-gun-control or all-NRA-members-are-crazy editorial.

Oh, I am in favor of gun control, and although most of the gun-enthusiasts I know are wild-eyed maniacs, the majority of National Rifle Association members are sane, honest citizens.

No, this is an editorial about the wonders of mail-order weaponry.

I have a friend at work who sells weaponry. He receives a trade publication called *Shotgun News*, of which I borrowed a few issues recently. I expected to see advertisements from people wishing to buy, sell or trade guns, and that is what I found. Among other things.

Sure, there were literally thousands of handguns, rifles and shotguns for sale, enough to keep a lynch mob the size of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir happily blasting away for years. However, it was the more...outré ads that caught my attention.

One of the first interesting bits of ordnance paraphernalia to catch my eye was a matching, black lace corset and garter belt with hidden pistol holster and knife sheath. Now this is truly an unusual gift idea (I hope my wife, Peggy, isn't reading this. She has a birthday coming up).

Another interesting segment of the newspaper was the survivalist market. You know what survivalists are, I trust? They're the guys with automatic weapons and camouflaged leisure suits who

sit at home awaiting post-holocaust, mutant rapists/plunderers to swarm over their land.

Paladin Press is a publishing house with a fairly unusual stock of books. One for sale is called (as I live and breathe) "I Hate You," by M. Nelson Chunder (subtitled "An Angry Man's Guide to Revenge").

"Make fun where there is none, and get your revenge at the same time," the advertising copy reads. "...over one hundred sixty schemes show how to strike out at those who have done you dirty."

Another book is entitled simply "Up Yours," with a cover illustration of a human hand making a symbol not recognized by the American Sign Language Council. This book is touted as "All-new, advanced revenge techniques and original dirty tricks from the author of 'Get Even'."

Amazing. Paladin Press also sells such novelty items as guides to building silencers in your own home, how to obtain false identification and a book called "Secrets of the Ninja," which claims to teach one the ancient art of "...invisibility, covert entry, escape and evasion, assassination, sentry removal, meditation, mind clouding and much more!"

Shotgun News also handles lots and lots of ads for people buying or selling automatic weaponry, such as Uzis and Tommy guns. Other ads offer flame throwers (a handy item, that, for those times when the charcoal briquettes just will not light), a "wallet gun" that looks like an ordinary wallet, and chipmunk rifles (with a cartoon of a cuddly, little chipmunk holding a gun. An interesting thought, all things considered).

Personally, I like the

more unusual killing devices offered, including shiruken (Oriental throwing stars), cane swords, blow guns and belt buckle knives.

One ad that intrigued me—more for the syntax than weaponry—was for the Mark 45 semi-automatic carbine gun. The ad says "Hunter's brush gun. Plinker with a big 45 caliber plunk. Eight rounds of prudence off the road. Or on the water." Did you understand any of that? If so, seek professional help.

Non-weapon paraphernalia is also popular with the machismo crowd. There were two different ads for men's and women's rings (you may choose from either the popular "Death's Head" or the "Death Sentence" design. Simply devine, that one. And so *you*). I also liked the T-shirt with the inscription "Kill 'em All: Let GOD Sort 'em Out."

However, my favorite offer, far and away, was the one for a nuclear warhead, sans fissionable material. Yes, now you can be the first on your block to own an atomic bomb, perhaps the ultimate conversation piece. But wait! There's more! (as they say on T.V.). What I liked best about the ad was the promise: "New! Never Been Used!" Finding used nuclear warheads is so tough these days.

Yes, America is truly the land of enchantment. Where else on earth could one buy and sell whole arsenals to perfect strangers? Of course, I only borrowed the two issues of *Shotgun News* to browse through. I have no intention of buying any of that stuff. I am, after all, a pacifist.

(Note to Economics Instructor Ed Mills. Gee, Mr. Mills, I sure would like a good grade on that last mid-term. If you know what I mean.)

Letter to the editor

Voter absentee ballot use urged

To the Editor,

Voters should be aware that it is possible to vote by mail the old-fashioned way if, for any reason, they are unable to make it to the polls on May 15th.

Oregon law is very lenient in its requirements for voters who need to vote by mail using the absentee ballot. Oregon law says "any reason"

is sufficient to apply for an absentee ballot.

Voters should apply directly to the County Clerk by mailing their request now. In Clackamas County the address is County Clerk, County Courthouse, Oregon City, 97045. Although a simple letter will suffice, absentee ballot application forms are available in your voters' pamphlet or from the County Clerk.

In the last two months I have met countless voters who thought they might have to miss this important election because of their difficulties. They were greatly relieved to know that they could still vote by mail the old-fashioned way, with an absentee ballot.

Sincerely,

Dave McTeague

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