

an end to the war. Many civilian leaders welcomed the bombings in order to rid their nation of their military's tyranny. Koichi Kido, a Hirohito adviser, said, "We of the peace party were assisted by the atomic bomb in our endeavor to end the war." Hisatsune Sakomizu, the chief cabinet secretary, called the bombings "a golden opportunity given by heaven for Japan to end the war."

The Japanese people simply reaped the bitter harvest of the whirlwind that their nation sowed and began. They have only their fellow countrymen to blame.

Lance Jacobs  
Springfield

**SERVERS ARE WHINY**

The author who wrote that article about tipping that was on your website ("The New Etiquette," *Chow!*, 1/25) intrigues me. What fostered that tone of peevish entitlement? I sense the person is relatively new to the world, and not just the world of business. For the longest time servers made a couple of bucks less per hour than the minimum wage, and tips were de rigueur to bring them up to the minimum wage. Servers now make minimum wage; tips have been built into the price of meals, you could say. Any tips left on the table now are truly a gratuity and should be appreciated, not expected — that is unless the server was called upon to perform more than the standard.



That some servers expect a 20 percent tip as standard is troubling. It is a fact of economics that all businesses can provide jobs that pay a family wage. Some jobs that pay minimum wage, like serving tables, were often held by students as an after school job, or for people looking for some part-time work; the job was often an introduction into the working world and not expected to be a career choice. Old habits die hard, but the fact is that the minimum wage should have abolished the expectation of a tip. Any tip is generous, and if no tip is left, these days it should not be taken as a reflection on the service.

Lisa Johnson  
Portland

**SEND SMITH PACKING**

I remember well the first time I read about Gordon Smith. He was running for the U.S. Senate and wealthy enough to buy the election. I remember being turned off when it was stated he paid a million dollars for an antique golf club.

Now I read that he was instrumental in



diverting the water flow in the Klamath, leading toward the largest fish kill ever in the Northwest, some 60,000 salmon. In the interim, Smith, Rove and Cheney took care of the wealthy area farmers — great contributors to the Republican cause.

Last year I took a group of young people to Washington, D.C. One of our stops was Sen. Smith's office. A PR person came out and asked us to sign up for a photo opportunity with Smith. I declined. He came out like a rock star, hair with a comb-over and a smile that wouldn't stop.

You take the combination of Smith, Rove and Cheney, and you have a combination for disaster. Their belief is that we hard working middle class people were put on this earth to service them and their millions.

Election will be upon us soon. Like the last election, it's the best way to show discontent to undesirables. Let your elected officials know of your feelings. I believe it was Martin Luther King Jr. who said, "The opposite of love is apathy." Amen.

Arthur Golden  
Eugene

**FACTS VS. INNUENDO**

The "fate of Palace Bakery," as depicted in the Slant section of the Aug. 9 edition of the *Weekly*, implies that a giant, mega-chain corporation, Full City Coffee Roasters (which is in fact a locally owned business with all of two stores), was responsible for the closing of the Palace Bakery. Well, the facts would seem to contradict that this was part of some evil "grand plan" by Full City Coffee Roasters.

If the person responsible for this article had read the business section of *The Register-Guard* earlier in the week, he/she could have stuck to the facts instead of innuendo — the previous owner of Palace Bakery is the one who closed the business, stating it was too much for him to oversee while also managing Café Zenon.

Then the Slant went on to make an ominous sounding suggestion that Full City Coffee would undoubtedly choose to switch to Full City brand coffee instead of Wandering Goat coffee. Well, DUH! I mean, does *EW* share articles or ad revenues with the *R-G*? I don't think so.

This article also decries such mergers and acquisitions because of displacing workers and depriving customers of shopping options. Is that to suggest that a vacant storefront where Palace Bakery had been would be a better?

Finally, two articles along in this section, dealing with the "possibility of a downtown theater," the Slant states the *Weekly* is excited about the idea of a downtown theater: "Another two or three-screen independent art house theater would be an interesting option," going on to add, "The new Regal Theater at Valley River Center should have been built downtown." Well, excuse me, but wouldn't either of these dis-