

ALTON F. BAKER JR.  
Editor and Publisher  
EDWIN M. BAKER  
General Manager  
RICHARD A. BAKER  
Managing Editor  
ROBERT B. FRAZIER  
Associate Editor  
A. H. CURREY  
Associate Editor

The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements on news. On this page, the editors of the Register-Guard offer their opinions on events of the day and matters of importance to the community, endeavoring to be candid but fair and helpful in the development of constructive community policy. A newspaper is a CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY.

Published every evening and Sunday morning by the Guard Publishing Co.

## Bumpkin or City Slicker, So What?

One of the tiredest and most dangerous of political gimmicks is the old attempt to drive a wedge between citizens who live in the cities and citizens who live in rural areas. It is unfair to drive such a wedge, especially if the wedge is in the form of assertions that one group is "smarter" than the other. We're seeing a little of this sort of thing now, in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision on legislative apportionment.

The fact is that people are people, and there are all kinds of 'em. Some are smart, and some are not so smart. Some are narrow and provincial in outlook, others broad and sympathetic. It seems to matter little which environment, urban or rural, nurtured them. From both environments we have drawn our best people. From both we have drawn the phonies and demagogues and crackpots. The hare-brained schemes that have been hatched in our history have been hatched in both places.

Abraham Lincoln, born on the frontier, was a railroad lawyer, and a pretty successful and sophisticated one, by the time he had his chance at the presidency. Benjamin Franklin was, for his day, a city slicker, born and bred. Jefferson, one of the most urbane men in our history, was a farmer to the end of his days. He was many other things, too. Eisenhower, born in rural surroundings, returned to the farm. Barry Goldwater is a city boy. So is Adlai Stevenson, despite his "farm" at Libertyville.

America's demagogues, and we have had our share, have appeared in both en-

vironments. The Talmadges, the Longs, the Pitchfork Ben Tillmans and the Bilbos found their support in the rural areas. But don't forget Jersey City's Frank Hague and Boston's Mayor James Michael Curley. City slickers.

The politics of protest, without which we wouldn't have much of a country, has been the politics of the farm and the politics of the city. Andrew Jackson and his rough westerners revolted against the urbanity of the early American government. So did William Jennings Bryan and the Populists and others of simple mind. However in other fields, notably labor, education, and race relations, the changes have been inspired by the city.

True, there are people in the rural areas who don't know much. The hick, almost gone from the landscape, survives here and there. But don't forget urban hicks, fellows who have never been west of the Hudson or north of the San Fernando Valley. The great rimrock canyons of the West are no more confining than the concrete and steel canyons of the Loop.

More than place of birth or place of upbringing, what really counts is the depth of the person himself. Both environments produce many Americans of whom we can be proud, as well as many we can do without. There is nothing inherently "better" or "smarter" about either one.

When a politician begins driving that wedge between city and country, beware. He's after something, and he doesn't want to tell you what it is.



David Lawrence

## Red China in Deep Trouble

GENEVA — The Communist delegation from Peiping which is attending a 14-member conference here on the Laos problem is worried, mainly about the possibility of an invasion of Red China. This is indicated, too, by a recent speech by Soviet Premier Khrushchev.

The truth is that Red China is in deep trouble. This could erupt into revolution this year or next—in fact, any day now. High British officials believe that the build-up of the Red army on the coast opposite Formosa, supposedly to ward off a Nationalist invasion, is, in fact, a mobilization against an expected uprising on the mainland itself.

For a population estimated at 700 million persons cannot be kept in subjugation when nearly everybody is hungry. Official information is that the Chinese people generally are lacking at least 500 calories a day of normal nutritional needs.

The gravity of the situation inside Red China has been described in authoritative reports which this writer examined before leaving Washington. This was supplemented by information from a few prominent Chinese residents of Hong Kong who were aboard the ship on which this writer traveled to Europe. They said word coming from the interior of China tells a tragic story of human suffering.

The most interesting phase of it is the way the Red China government has tried to placate the 6 million-man army. First, the soldiers were told there was no famine. They themselves were well fed. But, when letters came from their families telling of the widespread hunger, the army became restive. So the Communist authorities decided

to let them bring their wives and children to the various points where the army units are stationed. This means the Communists are feeding nearly 18 million persons in order to keep the army satisfied. But even this is not enough, as all the Chinese have relatives back home who keep writing about the terrible conditions that prevail in the interior.

### Teachings Proved False

The significance of all this is that the Communist teachings have been proved false. So long as the Communist regime promised prosperity and a better way of life for the Chinese people, many persons, particularly the younger generation, believed in the new ideology. Now, however, that communism has failed to bring even the necessities of life, the government faces a dangerous uprising which could be the signal for Chiang Kai-shek's army to move to the mainland. When the psychological moment for the revolution arrives, the Red Chinese army may be expected to turn against the government and welcome with open arms the Nationalist troops from Formosa.

The latest information about Red China is so significant that it has recently resulted in lengthy discussions by high officials, especially among a group of experts in the State Department. A memorandum from a person well informed on the Far East says that the internal affairs of Red China have reached a critical stage, and that the Communist agricultural policies have turned out to be a source of weakness which may portend disaster.

### A Growing Cancer

The whole Communist program in Red China, the memorandum adds, was centered on agricultural production for the people of the cities, where workers were to be the core of new industries. Peasants in the rural areas were kept under tight control. The farm system began to suffer in 1958, and now the malignancy has reached into the whole internal life of the country like a growing cancer.

Hunger, however, is only part of the dilemma. Lack of food production has wrecked Red China's export capabilities. Food was all that China had to sell. Since 1958 there has been a 60 per cent drop in Red China's export earnings. This, together with the departure of Soviet technicians, crippled industry. Then came a coal shortage, due to the failure of the miners to produce. They were kept on subsistence diets and were not physically able to mine the coal needed. Over all, industrial output dropped 30 per cent last year, and that's quite a decline.

But this isn't all. People have been forced out of the cities, and, of course, they can't be fed in the country. There is a scarcity not only of food but of jobs.

The Red China government could, to be sure, go back to the private system of farm management, under which the peasant knows his efforts will be turned into profits for himself. He recalls that, under the old method, he was working his own land for himself and for his children and his children's children. To return to this now, the Communists would have to abandon a basic tenet of their philosophy. They would also have to put more emphasis on light industry. They would have

Ralph McGill

## America's Meaning Evident in Hawaii

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ralph McGill is en route to the Orient, where much of the front-page news is brewing. He will be in the Orient upwards of three weeks, interviewing persons there with much to say of interest to U. S. readers.

Items Remembered from Honolulu: There was a cute young Chinese girl in the fifth grade whom the visitor addressed.

"And what are you studying about today?" he asked. "I'm studying about the meaning of America," she said. "We are studying about our Pilgrim Fathers."

The visitor, momentarily nonplussed, found himself thinking that, after all, they are her Pilgrim Fathers and that before him was one of the wonderful examples of the meaning of America. All over this country, there are children of Chinese, Japanese, Italian, German, French, Negro, Portuguese, Hawaiian, and many other ancestries who are American children. And, of course, they learn about their Pilgrim Fathers.

At a book store a young secondary school student, Japanese-American, looked over the facsimile copies of sections of the original copy of the Constitution of the United States. It was his Constitution and he was learning about it in school. He looked and looked. Finally, he chose that section which we call our Bill of Rights. He went away reading it.

At the library in Honolulu, upstairs where the new books are, it is mostly the young Japanese secondary and college students of our 50th state who swarm about to examine, discuss, and select. They have a drive to know and to learn. The young people of foreign ancestry are almost unanimously enthusiastic about being Americans and aware of the opportunity of citizenship.

### No Racial Question

Hawaii has an old tradition of civil rights. The Hawaiians were lucky, in a sense, in the missionaries who came. They did, to be sure, take nearly all the land, either by early purchase or by strategic marriages with princesses who, in a way, claimed title to vast territories. But the New England Congregationalist missionaries brought with them a belief in the rights of the individual and in his right to vote. Hawaii has many races, but no racial question.

The 50th state is confronted with problems common to all states and all countries—growing population and cities. In a drive around the island of Oahu, one sees bulldozers tearing out

banana and sugar cane plantations to make housing developments. Developers have rows of small homes reaching far back into the beautiful valleys which, a few years ago, were considered remote. Prices are high. But the buyers come.

Automation of most of the plantations growing cane and pineapple has produced some unemployment.

A struggle goes on for control of the political soul of the 50th state. Its people are mostly crowded on the island of Oahu. Honolulu is the one big city. There are serious human and economic problems. Hawaii has been, in an economic sense, a colony just as were the Southern states when they were merely suppliers of raw materials.

These issues have produced the inevitable competition in politics and philosophic outlooks. Although only willful extremists could any longer insist that government has no obligation to intervene in the serious problems of its people, they do so argue.

### Inspiring Experience

It is an inspiring experience in Hawaii to sit over coffee and talk with Patsy Takemoto Mink. An attorney and housewife, she has a record of dedicated activity in civic and political affairs. Hawaii has long needed, she and others insist, legislation in land and crime law reform, consumer protection, and tax adjustments.

Mrs. Mink has announced herself as a candidate for the state senate. She is a Democrat. An attractive and intelligent lady, she is the first woman of Japanese ancestry to practice law in Hawaii. She became active in politics as a member of the Young Democrats organization.

In the 1960 national Democratic convention, she attracted nationwide attention with a brilliant, televised speech in behalf of the civil rights platform. A graduate of the University of Hawaii, she earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Chicago and took her law degree at the same institution. In Chicago, she met and married John Francis Mink. He is a geologist for Hawaii's Board of Water Supply. They have a daughter, Guendolyn.

The small Chinese girl who was studying about her Pilgrim Fathers, the boys and girls of Japanese ancestry examining the new books, the tremendous growth and bustle of Hawaii, and Patsy Mink are merely some of the symbols of the meaning of America in the island of Hawaii.

(Distributed 1962 by The Hall Syndicate, Inc.) (All Rights Reserved)

## Break It up, Boys

Gov. Mark Hatfield and Atty. Gen. Bob Thornton are going at it, hot and heavy, as they seek the governorship. The governor said the attorney general's office issues "lousy, phony opinions." The attorney general says the supreme court upholds more of his office's opinions than it does the judgment of the circuit judges Hatfield has appointed. So there!

This is less a battle of wits than a battle of spleens. What the Oregon public needs to know is not which official can be nastiest, but which gives promise of giving Oregon the better state government.

## School Law

A lot will be said about the proposed repeal of Oregon's school district reorganization law between now and November. Particularly, opponents of the law, who have circulated petitions to force a repeal-or-retain vote in November, will contend that it tends to take local schools out from under the control of local voters.

Right now let it be understood that this argument is a false one.

The central purpose of the reorganization law is to promote the consolidation of small, inefficient school districts into large, better and more economically stable ones. No such consolidations can be carried out, however, without the express approval of the voters of each district involved.

It is true that a small district whose voters approve the idea of joining a larger district or a group of other small districts may thereafter be unable to dictate precisely how its schools will be operated within the new system. But it is difficult to understand why this can be considered a telling disadvantage. The schools of a consolidated district are operated under the direction of popularly elected representatives of the people of that district. It is absurd to assume that these representatives will act in any but the best interests of all the youngsters the district has to educate.

In Lane County, alone, the number of separate school districts has been reduced from 47 to 18 since 1957. For not-so-rich smaller communities many of

these consolidations have been especially advantageous. Youngsters from such districts have been able to get the sort of education they never could have had otherwise. And overall school costs have been better distributed so that poorer communities have not been forced to assume back-breaking tax loads.

Instead of taking control of local schools away from local voters, the reorganization law has worked to promote the effectiveness of such control. It has helped to forestall moves by the state or other higher authority to attempt control of public education "for reasons of dire necessity."

## The Influence

Now, a year after the death of Ernest Hemingway, critics are asking if he was really a great writer. Will his stuff be read forever?

Well, nobody knows. Contemporaries are so often wrong. Sometimes a writer who is lionized in his own day (Longfellow) is thought of less highly as time goes on. Others, almost unread in their own time (Melville), are later thought to be better than the ones who enjoyed their own fame.

But one thing can't be taken away from Hemingway. He influenced so many other writers. Hardly a book has been written in this country in the past 35 years that does not owe something to "Farewell to Arms," "The Sun Also Rises" and the rest.

## He Was Kidding?

An advertising agency was assigned to find a sales stimulating name for a new all-purpose first aid cream. Waggishly, one copywriter suggested: "Medicare." A promotion campaign, he said, could be easily based on name familiarity. While the product would not be endorsed by the AMA, the public might buy it wholesale.

## Improvement.

Department of Agriculture experts have discovered a way, they say, to make mutton taste like beef or pork.

So we come full circle. A gumbo of Army cooks were experts in making a perfectly good steak taste like a slice of old sheep.

## Carmichael



## In the Editor's Mailbag

Letters intended for the Editor's Mailbag must be signed with the correct name and address of the writer. No anonymous letters will be published. Letters of less than 350 words in length will be given preference, as will those in which the writer confines his letter to one topic.

### Likes Mailbag, But

EUGENE (To the Editor)—I find the letters in the Mailbag very interesting and I do hope you will continue printing all views of whatever subject seems to be in controversy. At least there is a turnover in subject matter — tho sometimes slow. Nevertheless, I would like to state my views on the subjects in last night's (July 9) Register-Guard.

The Supreme Court decision on prayer—I am now wondering how this great country got along so many years (and had so much FREEDOM before the Supreme Court decided that our liberty must be preserved by declaring prayer in school unlawful.

Every true Christian is offended at this decision. It brings dishonor to a country that was founded on the freedom of worship! We have been pruned at the top! In comparison, I would like to use a tree for an example. I planted tall, spindly cut-leaf birch trees three years ago. I pruned them severely from the top down. They grew new branches, strong trunks and their root system became wide spread. These trees are now beautiful specimens, clipping back Christianity will make it grow longer than ever!

One evening last week, after watching and viewing the Billy Graham crusade on T.V. I read in the Guard an article on one of our highly esteemed college officials declaring his approval of the Supreme Court's decision on prayer. What a contrast! Strange—how thousands go to

hear Billy Graham, Supreme Court decisions or no.

Thanks to Mrs. Grace Kompp for her letter on our Pioneer Cemetery. The City of Eugene should be ashamed for ever having the thought of "giving away" our Pioneer Cemetery. The solution—clean it up and make it a spot of beauty! Our grandfather's grave is there too—he fought in the civil war to preserve our freedom!

Mrs. L. B. (Minnie) Schmidt 2605 Lawrence St.

### Misunderstood

EUGENE (To the Editor)—In a recent letter to the editor attention has been called to the fact that Baptists have been negligent and confused in appreciating the recent Supreme Court decision on prayer in schools. The point of the letter is well taken, but I should like to suggest that perhaps the reason for this confusion goes much deeper into the intellectual atmosphere of our present time. This is especially so when one considers that even two former presidents of our nation have failed to appreciate or understand the decision. These were Presidents Hoover and Eisenhower.

It would seem to this writer that the basic reason for our failure to understand the decision lies first of all in simple ignorance of the reason for the amendment in the Constitution and what it means to remain consistent with one's principles. Many people have been reported opposed to the decision without even having read it in detail.

The second, and perhaps even more dangerous basis for the confusion, is the contemporary identification of nationalism and religion. We somehow conceive that God is on our side and against the Communists who are atheists. We must above all be different from our enemies. If they are atheists, we must believe in God. By the logic it would seem that the founding fathers should have been atheists to be good Americans since the King of England ruled by "the grace of

God." Further we should all have to stop eating and drinking, because Communists do the same. Communists may be atheists, but not all atheists are by virtue of that fact Communists as many people in our country are trying to make out.

It should, and probably will, be realized in the long perspective, that the direction against prayer in school as a state-formulated and generally compulsory feature, was really a blow for freedom of religion, dignity of the individual, and the application of the LIVING Constitution to contemporary problems in our nation.

Of all the institutions in our society, the Supreme Court has held to its original principle, frequently in face of misunderstanding and ignorance, to the ideal of the Constitution, of extending the rights and benefits of our free society to the greatest number of people in it. Not all people in our society enjoy their rights as defined in the Constitution. It has only been the Supreme Court which has point by point awarded these rights and protected individuals from the inhuman barbarity of prejudice. The President and Congress have not been able to do it effectively. We should all be thankful that we have such an institution occupied by such dedicated men who cannot defend themselves against criticism lest they cheapen the justice they dispense. Thank you.

ALFRED BLOOM  
1595 Walnut St.

### MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper.

### MEMBER OF THE AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Services United Press International

WILLIAM WASMANN, News Editor  
DONN L. BOSMAN, City Editor

ROSS G. JOHNSON, Advertising Director

JARL FUGLE, Circulation Manager  
ROBERT K. BERTSCH, Promotion  
W. B. JOHNSTON JR., Auditor  
ARNE STROMMER, Production