

Heppner Gazette-Times

MOBROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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An Editor's Report on Moral Decay

After Jenkin Lloyd Jones, editor of the Tulsa Tribune, Tulsa, Okla., addressed the convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in New Orleans recently, his remarks have been reprinted in national magazines and other newspapers. He attacked an "erosion of principles" in America, and his words might well be considered with soul-searching by every citizen.

The address was reprinted in the Sunday Oregonian for those who may have it and may have missed it. We have a copy here for any who would like to drop in and read it.

The talk is too long for us to print in full but a few quotations from it will, perhaps, give the gist of Jones' point. It is the Tulsa editor's contention that America has slid into a period of moral decay and he refers to a similar condition that beset the Holy Roman Empire many centuries ago and resulted in its downfall.

"Nearly 1,000 years elapsed between the fall of Western Rome and the rise of the Renaissance, and in between we had the Dark Ages in which nearly all of man's institutions were inferior to those which had gone before," he said. "I don't want my children's children to pass through a couple centuries of dialectic materialism before the sun comes up again."

A change has come over America in recent years, Jones declares. "We have decided that sin is largely imaginary. We are bemused with behaviorist psychology which holds that abstract things like insight, will and spirit are figments of the imagination. . . . Man is a chip tossed helplessly by forces beyond his control and therefore not responsible. There are no lazy bumps of any more—only 'deprived' persons. It is impolite to speak of thugs. They are 'underprivileged.' Yet the swaggering duck-tailed young men who boldly flaunt their gang symbols on their motorcycle jackets are far more blessed in creature comforts, opportunities for advancement and freedom from drudgery than 90 per cent of the children of the world. We have seen the dragon's teeth of pseudo-scientific sentimentality, and out of the ground has sprung the legion bearing switch blade knives and bicycle chains.

"Clearly something is missing. Could it be what the rest of the world's children have been given—the doctrine of individual responsibility?"

The editor pointed out that "relief (welfare) is gradually becoming an 'honorable career' in America. The state will give a mother a bonus for her illegitimate children, and if she neglects them sufficiently she can save enough out of her ADC payments to keep herself and her boyfriends in wine and gin," he said.

As to entertainment and literature, Jones asks, "Can anyone deny that movies are dirtier than ever? But they don't call it 'dirt.' They call it 'realism.' Why do we let them fool us? Why do we not awfully when they tell us that dirt is merely a daring art form, that licentiousness is really social comment?"

The Tulsa editor said that Bill Diehl, entertainment editor of the St. Paul Dispatch, ran down the list of present and coming attractions one day and found these: "Walk on the Wild Side" (set in a brothel), "A View from the Bridge" (incest), "The Mark" (a strange man trifles with little girls), "All Fall Down" (a psychopathic attacker of females), "Cape Fear" (about a crazy rapist), "Lolita" (a middle-aged man's affair with a 12-year-old), and others.

As to literature: "The old eye-poppers which tourists used to smuggle back from Paris under their dirty shirts are now clothed in judicial blessing. . . . Lady Chatterley's Lover and Ulysses are on the paperback shelves right next to the comic books. . . . Let's all over at the corner drugstore where your kids hang out."

"Who is tampering with the soul of America?" the aroused editor asks.

"Parents who are afraid to lay down the law have the most miserable children. Children want honest direction and a set of sensible rules to live by. . . . Much juvenile delinquency springs from a deep hunger for rules."

The time is here to "dust off the rule book," he asserts. "It's time to quit seeking learning without effort and wages without work. It's time we got mad about payola. We should ask the Lord's forgiveness for our inflated expense accounts and quit pretending that goonery is a human right."

He added, "Do not let me overdraw the picture. This is still a great, powerful, vibrant, able, optimistic nation. Americans do believe in themselves and in their country. But there is rot, and there is blight, and there is cutting out and filling to be done. . . . We have reached the stomach-turning point. . . . Let's have the guts to say that a book is dirt if that is what we think of it. . . . Let's blow the whistle on plays that would bring blushes to an American Legion stag party. . . . in short, let's cover up the cesspool and start planting some flowers."

Discriminatory Postal Regulation

In recent days southern Morrow county has been saturated with advertising pieces mailed to all postal patrons on a boxholder basis. These have come from some of our larger neighboring towns and are in competition with local business.

One large chain grocery distributed propaganda announcing free bonus stamps in an effort to entice local trade, and another grocery sent reprints of a full-page ad telling of "hot" bargains. A third was a section of a Washington paper announcing a big sidewalk sale in its city.

These merchants apparently feel that Morrow county consumers are ripe for the picking and that they are willing to drive 50 to 75 miles to come clamoring for these attractive offers.

Now our local merchants, retailing under the system of free competition that we enjoy, might arise and circularize the neighboring cities with offers of their own, except that they are not permitted to because of a postal regulation that is nothing short of discriminatory.

The regulation permits boxholder distribution of mailing pieces to a second class post office, and the postmaster is obliged to stuff one in each box as long as they last. It also permits sending the mailers to every rural patron.

This type of boxholder distribution is prohibited, however, in first class post offices. That includes Hermiston, Pendleton, Walla Walla, and others. In order for Heppner merchants to announce a spring opening or any other type of promotion that they may care to undertake, they would have to individually address each mailing piece. Those going to post office boxes must have the box number on the mailing piece, and those going out on city delivery and to rural patrons must carry individual addresses. One can readily see that it would take considerable effort and expense to obtain addresses and even more to individually address the mailing pieces.

This regulation was apparently designed to save a city carrier from carrying a load of "junk" mail as he goes from house to house, which is well and good, but the result is purely discriminatory. A business firm of a larger town is thereby privileged to seek a market that a business firm of a smaller town is not—at least without a great deal more effort and expense.

Some small comfort may come to local merchants when they look at the waste baskets in the post office after these mailings have arrived here. They are heaped to the brim as most patrons do not bother to take them out of the post office door. (It gives us some satisfaction to say that another advertising medium—the Gazette-Times cannot be found in the waste-basket after its distribution each Thursday).

By the way, a check of the prices on the sheet distributed to boxholders as compared with advertised prices in the Gazette-Times last week showed, in the instances where both had similar items, that local prices were lower on all but one item, and that was subject to question because of a possible difference of grade.

It should be brought out that second class post office patrons

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

AN OUTSTANDING event on Al Lamb's trip to Central Africa, and a privilege that comes to very few, was a visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer at Lambrere, Gabon. Dr. Schweitzer, who has dedicated his life to work with the natives, is spoken of as one of the world's greatest men and has been an inspiration to many. He is now 87, having been born in 1875, and has been in Africa for most of the time since 1913.

He won the Nobel Prize for peace and is an outstanding musician, as well as a clergyman, philosopher, writer and medical missionary. Much of his attention has been devoted to his famous hospital in Gabon.

Al, accompanied by several others who were on the U. S. Trade Mission, made the trip to see Schweitzer by chartered airplane. They had a fine visit with this eminent man, visited his hospital and the leper colony there.

Apparently Dr. Schweitzer, though humble as he is, radiates his greatness, and Lamb came away with the feeling that he is every bit as distinguished as he is reputed to be.

Among treasured souvenirs that Al brought home are pictures with Dr. Schweitzer and an autographed picture of the medical missionary alone, written personally to Lamb.

"The visit is a complete story in itself, and the Heppner mayor may be prevailed upon to tell it before some local groups."

AT COUNCIL meeting Monday night, the mayor recounted a traffic problem faced in Cameroon and how the government sought to solve it. Their solution, if attempted here, would either kill you or scare you to death.

In French Cameroon, vehicles keep to the right as in the U. S., but in the other section, vehicles keep to the left. Recognizing that this caused some confusion, they tried to get all to agree to one system, but there were those who didn't want to change. So they decided on a compromise. Trucks would keep to the right and autos and other vehicles would drive on the left. Naturally, that didn't last long—only long enough to cause a few bad accidents—and they went back to the old system.

How would you like to drive down the left side of highway 30, go around a curve at 60 m.p.h. only to find yourself heading into the front of a huge oil tanker approaching at a similar rate of speed?

ELKS ARE wondering how long the circuit court jinx will beset their exalted rulers. Last year, just as Exalted Ruler LeRoy Gardner was getting ready to attend national convention, he received a summons for jury duty. It took some good explaining and some delicate understanding, the latter on the part of Judge William Wells, to be relieved of the obligation.

This year, Exalted Ruler and Mrs. Conley Lanham are planning to attend the convention in Chicago. But while they were making preparations, he was notified to report for jury duty Thursday, July 5, the day before time to depart for convention. Again, the judge was kind enough to excuse the exalted ruler, and so the Lanhams expect to leave Friday. But they

had some uneasy moments until the judge granted the permission.

ONE OF the obligations imposed on members of the Soroptimist club here is to earn \$5 outside of the regular mode of employment to contribute to the organization's scholarship fund. Each year the members publicly report on their earnings. Mrs. Jim (Madge) Thomson took the prize for the most novel method this year. She baked children's Christmas cookies in all manner of holiday designs and sold them for her scholarship money. Others knitted sweaters, did yard work, painted, papered rooms and so on.

This year, we understand, did not produce some of the dandies that have been reported in the past. We hear that one member once collected beer bottles to get the \$5 and another spent some time shoveling manure. Regardless of how humble the work, however, it could hardly be for a better cause.

THE FIRM of Mahoney and Abrams ran quite a risk here recently, and it is a story that now can be told. It was due to Phil Mahoney's son, Bob. The young man attends Pacific University where school spirit and enthusiasm is manifested in the form of an ancient Chinese idol brought from the Boxer Rebellion many years ago and known as "Boxer."

Boxer is a treasured possession of all Pacific students, but many go through four years of college without ever seeing it. Holders of Boxer keep him well hidden and only occasionally "flash" him for a brief moment at chapel or some other public gathering before whisking him away again.

Occasionally, however, the holder decides to give him a toss and toss him out for all to see. There ensues a bloody, rough-tough free-for-all that all join in, and perhaps after battling for hours, one person or a combination representing some fraternity, may succeed in breaking away and getting the old idol secreted to end the melee.

Well, somehow this spring Bob got Boxer. This occurred sometime in the wee hours one morning. He didn't dare keep the idol in his room and didn't dare try to hide him in Forest Grove, so he and a friend drove all the way to Heppner, took him to the office of Mahoney and Abrams and locked him up in the safe.

After being steeped in the tradition of Boxer and knowing the extent to which he is treasured, we are not at all sure that he would even have been safe in the attorney's safe if other students had known about it. But Phil said Monday, Bob took the old battered idol back and he is now secreted somewhere else by some fraternity brother or some other student.

MICHELLE MORRISON of Lone didn't win the right to go to the Miss Universe contest in Miami, Fla., at the contest in Chicago. Last week, but she carried the banner of her home community proudly and brought honor to Morrow county.

When it comes to staging contests, it appears that the Lloyd Center Lions club of Portland could learn a lesson of spirit

have some privileges in other areas that first class patrons do not. They may mail and receive larger packages, for instance, than the maximums of the first class offices.

But this discriminatory regulation on third class mailings should be changed. What is fair to one is fair to all. Either second class offices, too, should require mailers to be addressed, or no post office should require them to be addressed.

Here, then, is another matter for our congressman to consider. It is our intention to contact them, and we think merchants should do likewise.



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TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Mr. Editor:

Once again is time when so many of the letters to the editor are full of insinuations and so forth of dirty politics. May I please use your column to answer Bob Chandler, whoever he may be?

First, Mr. Chandler, I am not registered in the same party as the man I think you referred to, our incumbent congressman, so I must be registered in the same one as you. As my husband is registered in the same party as he, we receive mail from all of the incumbents. We did not get this offer of help from the source you speak of, but if it is available at the county agent's I wish you would so inform the other incumbents and save us poor taxpayers four times the amount!

Now you would have us believe none of the others have home offices? I do not doubt the expenses of this office but you would infer that this is the exception. Now really, you must know it is not, nor is it the first.

I can also spell this man's name, and will gladly tell you of a very kind service he performed in 24 hours which if it had been done by two others when their offices were visited would very possibly have saved or prolonged a life. I am sure that when I called him from his bed in the late hours that his thoughts were not on any vote he might get. This man and his wife both have more dignity, honesty, humility, faith and courage than any of our elected servants that I have ever met and I have met several as co-workers in Boy Scouts, Camp Fire, 4-H and PTA. They are a family to be proud of.

If you know someone more concerned with the peoples' wishes as a whole, and I mean

and enthusiasm from the lone club.

At a luncheon prior to the contest with Mayor Charles O'Connor attending, tickets to the pageant were distributed to be sold by members, and each was asked how many he could sell. Mayor O'Connor spoke up for one, and he asked for 100 each night. The Lloyd Center gang thought he was kidding, but he wasn't, and the tickets were all sold.

The auditorium at the center seats about 500. The event had not been publicized or promoted in Portland very well and only about 400 spectators watched the finals Saturday night, O'Connor said.

Of them, more than 100, or more than a quarter of the audience, were from Morrow county.

regardless of party, I would appreciate your sending it to me before the next election. In the interim I and several others will be looking forward to next hunting season, out where everyone is an equal regardless of party affiliations or income bracket, and to a good fireside, home and family talk with both he and his lovely wife.

Your letter reminds me of the people here who were invited to meet him and express their views to him but would not do so because he was registered in a different party than they. Did you miss the boat too? Can you not see that we need to keep all of the good honorable people we can, who are more interested in their home, country and family than a gay social whirlpool?

Also it reminds me of some people here in our own county whom I have heard say our good sheriff should not have any help in caring for the problems of the whole county! Although he does, and has done such a good job, I do not see how he has stood up under the hours he keeps. I am sure his unquestionable concern is a major reason why we have better than average teenagers. I am sure this public tribute will cause him some embarrassment but it would be wonderful to have more kind, uncomplaining, honest and dedicated elected servants!

Come to think of it, I am not sure he is registered in the same party as I. Maybe I shall consider a change although we do have some good candidates left. Oh, well, we can always vote for the man unless the Supreme Court decides that too, is illegal! Bernice Wihlon Lexington, Oregon

Dear Editor:

I hope you will be astonished when you receive this letter. I got your name and address from my best friend in Lagsos, so I decided to write you.

My hobbies are: football, table tennis, swimming, jumping, and to exchange Africa goods to America goods.

The reason why I write you this letter is about publish. I shall be very grateful if you can help me to publish my name and address who wanting pen pals.

I have brown eyes and with dark complexion. I attend at E.B.H. school in Lagsos.

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ceive letter from those who are going to write me.
Yours faithfully,
Saka Salawu
35, Anikantamo Square
Lagos W. Africa

Tibbles Makes Honors

Larry Lyman Tibbles, son of Dr. and Mrs. L. D. Tibbles, was included on the spring term honor roll at the University of Oregon.

A total of 386 students were named to the spring term honor roll, with 47 of these students achieving a perfect grade point average of 4.0, or all A grades. To qualify for the honor roll, students must earn grade point averages of 3.5 or above on a study load of 12 or more term hours.



Coming Events

HEPPNER SWIMMING POOL
Open daily, except Mondays
Swimming lessons daily
from 9:00 a. m.

LEGION MOVIES
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