

Horse sense

By ERNEST V. JOHNER



I am delighted that Atty. Gen. Lee Johnson has ruled invalid the high-handed order of the State Health Division that all Oregon drinking water be fluoridated. While it is pretty well settled that fluoride in water inhibits tooth decay, it is equally settled that the people of Oregon are not ready to spike everybody's drinking water with the stuff. The legislature has repeatedly turned down bills for compulsory fluoridation, and if the legislature can't do the job, where does the State Health Division get its authority to do it? Obviously, the SHD attempted to do what the legislature refused to do. This action, the attorney general says, is unconstitutional. Cities may by ordinance fluoridate their water supply, but the SHD cannot legally order statewide fluoridation of water.

There are two satisfying conclusions to be drawn from Johnson's ruling. First, his opinion strikes at the growing gaggle of government bureaus, commissions and agencies that make their own laws and enforce them. Often in opposition to the purpose for which such departments were created. Prime examples of agencies that exceed their powers in this fashion are the Environmental Protection Agency, OSHA, Consumer Protection Agency, et al. ad nauseum. Second, while it may be the duty and responsibility of the State Health Division to educate the public in matters of dental hygiene and to the benefits of fluoridation as a tool for dental health, it has no legal or moral obligation to force dental hygiene upon the people of the state. If a man has a constitutional right left, it is that he can have cavities if he wants them. After all, cavities are not contagious. Kids with cavities don't start epidemics of tooth decay. The SHD is right in that poor dental health impairs a person's general health. Still, it is an individual's right to enjoy poor health if he wants it. The SHD might as well argue that slivers impair a person's health, therefore everybody must be placed on a diet of pabulum and goat's milk. There is no doubt but that booze contributes to cirrhosis of the liver. Must SHD order people not to drink it?

Personally, if there were to be an election in Heppner on the question of fluoridating the water supply I would vote against doing so, because your dental problems are none of my business, and vice versa. If I want to load myself up with fluorides for whatever reasons, I can always add this chemical to my own drinking water without forcing it upon my neighbors. If your teeth fall out from ignorance and neglect, that's your problem. If mine fall out, that's my problem. Fair enough?

The State Health Division's arbitrary decree on fluoridation reminds me of the drunk cowboy down in Texas who got on a train at Fort Worth. When the train pulled into the station at Sweetwater he pulled both six-guns, fired them through the top of the coach, and bellowed, "Alright, you bastards! Everybody off! This is as far as I'm going!"

Bob Rose, Hermiston contractor, has a unique plan for handling requests for contributions from organizations. Because a contractor does business with mayors, councilmen, county officials and commissioners, he is a sitting duck for tickets to the policemen's ball, county workers' parties, and advertisements in house organs for city and county employees. And once in a while the contractor gets a chance to donate a refrigerator or a septic tank to the mayor's lakeside lodge. But whenever Rose gets such a request, here's how he handles it. "Sure, I'll be happy to make a donation. How much do you suggest? Fine. I'll make out a check for that amount and donate it to the Salvation Army in your name."

A urologist at the Medical College of Virginia has made an exhaustive study of George Washington's health and is convinced that our first president was sterile. This is a terrible thing to happen to a man who has gone down in history as the "father" of his country.

"You are standing on the threshold of a new life," intoned the high school commencement speaker. The same thing could be said with equal certainty to the condemned man standing blindfolded on the trapdoor of a gallows.

Back in 1964 the Surgeon General of the United States declared that smoking cigarettes is hazardous to one's health. Cigarette manufacturers were forced to imprint that warning on each package of cigarettes. The advertising of cigarettes was banned on television. To the delight of the tobacco industry, more people began smoking more cigarettes. Undaunted, Big Brother has now moved into another area to protect us from ourselves. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is banning the sale and manufacture of firecrackers as of June 17. But if you have plans to celebrate July 4 in the traditional American way, you can still do it. There will be plenty of bootleg firecrackers and they will probably cost less than ever because of the increased demand brought on by the federal prohibition against them. If you know where to buy stock in a fireworks company, grab it quick. By the way, what is the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission?

JOINER'S DICTIONARY. Modern father—One who allows his daughter to stay out all night. Modern grandfather—One who allowed his daughter to stay out all night. Presidential Candidate—A recent visitor to Moscow. Presidential Front-runner—The most recent visitor to Moscow. Axe murderer—An emotionally disturbed figure shaped by society's failures; usually found in state-supported "facilities" because of faulty facilities, none of which he is responsible for. Legislator—Serving the people best by best serving himself. Truth—(1) Black is beautiful; (2) Your check is in the mail; (3) I never even kissed the girl. Public utility—A woman who has gone through four husbands, five lovers and now has a protege in barber college. DEQ—q.e.d. spelled backwards. Quaker—4.5 on the Richter scale. Ms.—(A whatever of uncertain marital status; a repentant Mrs. (See also Manuscript and Master of Science). Political awareness—Cracking skulls for Cesar Chavez. Student of sociology—Smokes grass, lives with a broad in a tree house with two or more unregistered children all on welfare, and has a \$50,000 Ford Foundation grant to study the sex habits of midgets who wear elevator shoes.



The mail pouch

EDITOR:

Mr. Johnnie E. Hill made several statements in his letter to the editor which appeared in the May 23 issue of the Heppner Gazette-Times which are not factual.

The local Scout Troop 661 undertook a service project to improve Hager Park. Consequently, the grass has to be mowed and raked.

I obtained permission from the owner of the hay rake to use it for this purpose. As Mr. Hill indicated in his letter it was parked on the Clair Cox property. Wood was placed on both sides of the pipe before crossing it so as not to cause any damage. The owner of the pipe, Mr. Bill Scott, is satisfied that no damage in fact occurred.

I entered the property through an open gate and removed the hay rake through the same open gate. Every effort was made to avoid any damage to the weeds and cheat grass along the fence line and where the hay rake was parked.

Mr. Hill has never talked to me by phone. As a result of Mr. Hill's letter to the editor, I have been advised by the Mayor that the Personnel Committee of the City Council consisting of Rita Hedman, Clyde Allistott, and Jerry Holloman have placed me on a probationary status until June 17, 1974. I trust Mr. Hill is now satisfied. However, I do not feel I can accept such conditions.

I regret that Mr. Hill feels my actions "flaunted" his rights as a taxpayer to a hay rake he didn't own, to an irrigation pipe he didn't own, and for any damage to his cheat grass and weeds. I can assure him I was acting with good intentions and solely for the purpose of using the hay rake to help the Scout public service project.

BERTE CORBIN, Heppner.

EDITOR:

If I had your chili recipe I would give it on the air, then you would be famous for something besides Horace, the Mule.

JIM EASON, KGO Radio, San Francisco.

(ED NOTE—The recipe is being hand-delivered by personal messenger. Should it fall into the hands of an Unbeliever, may ten thousand fleas infest your armpits!)

EDITOR:

When this letter appears in the paper the May 28 primary election will be over and the fate of ballot measures one and three will have been determined.

I fully expect both measures to be defeated by substantial margins. My purpose in writing this letter is not to discuss the merits of ballot measure one and three, but rather to clarify the story that appeared in the May 23rd issue of the Gazette-Times, which stated, "Daniels Supports Measures 1 and 2."

The article is accurate, but the headline could be misleading in that it does not clarify the extent of my support. My statement to the Chamber of Commerce was that as an educator I felt that both measures were sound in principle, and did provide some equalization of tax levies, and some stability for financing schools. On that basis I would personally vote yes on both measures.

I did, however, point out very carefully that ballot measure one would have an adverse affect in Morrow County. It would increase personal and corporate income taxes and return only a nominal sum in additional state school support.

On this basis I would not expect the voters of Morrow County to support ballot measure one nor would I ask them for this support.

As for ballot measure three, I have always felt there were sound reasons for establishing tax bases for schools and other taxing agencies.

However, I am realistic enough to know that the majority of voters share the feelings you expressed in your "Horse Sense" column last week and that new tax bases for schools are unlikely.

You stated in your "Horse Sense" column that Morrow County had never rejected a proposal to exceed the 6 per cent limit. I would suggest as punishment for this inaccurate statement that you show the opposite end of the horse at the heading of the column in this week's paper.

RON DANIELS, School Superintendent.

(ED NOTE—My apologies. Morrow County has indeed rejected several proposals to exceed the 6 per cent limitation in the past.)

Crossroads Report

DEAR EDITOR:

I see where it is still customary in some circles to measure a citizen's culture and brain horsepower by how many books he has read.

Which is sort of like judging how drunk a man is by how many bars he has been in, even if some of them are snack bars.

The pro-book people rarely mention quality. Just "books." Any assortment of words in book form is culturing, they pontificate. Even if you feel like taking a physical and spiritual bath and an emetic after you read it.

D. E. SCOTT, Crossroads, U.S.A.

Quote/Unquote

"The truth about government of the people, by the people, and for the people is that we are all being billed in triplicate. Which is not what Honest Abe had in mind." —Oren Arnold

EDITOR:

What is the evangelist, pastor, rabbi, priest and churches accomplishing? Have we forgotten the message, lost our vision, or just compromising? Are we influenced by what we observe, read, hear, think and preach?

Statistics are accurate today and obsolescent tomorrow. Less we forget.

The World Council of Churches has appointed a Buddhist as executive secretary. Thus, the World Council of Churches regards the Buddhist as eligible for membership in that apostate organization. Buddhism does not even recognize the existence of God, let alone believe in the Trinity. This is another fruit of universalism and syncretism. It is preparing the way for One World Religion.

According to the Sword of the Lord, April 27, 1972, it is reported that a registered nurse said, "I think the public should be informed that many of the so-called unwanted babies are very much wanted in some circles. Today we find the medical technicians claiming the organs and bodies of aborted babies for experimentation while some are still alive."

An article in Science, Aug. 27, 1971, cites experimentation in keeping alive fetal tissue. From Dr. Forrest C. Stevenson of Brighton, Mich., comes confirmation that live aborted babies are being used to develop serum for immunization. He says, the baby is injected with a live virus and kept alive for several hours until his body is filled with disease. They then slaughter him, his blood is drained out and manufactured into serum! Dr. L. Hayfick at Stanford University, where the process was developed, justifies it as an alternative of the "senseless slaying of animals from which vaccines were previously made."

Note the emphasis is on the "senseless slaying of animals" and nothing is said about the senseless slaying of human beings - Murder in the name of Medical science. Should we strive for moral standards by legislation or just "Preach Jesus"!

REV. ROBERT E. ALLSTOTT, Hermiston.

Others say . . .

"Sometimes I fear that we may already have compromised too much (on environmentalists). For example, the National Environmental Policy Act has become a club in some cases to halt timber sales in the national forests, to stop use of herbicides in building firebreaks in my own State of California, and in others to foreclose mining and recreation development. Groups like the Sierra Club have arbitrarily and unilaterally decided what national recreation should be and are trying to impose their verdict on the rest of America. I think this is outrageous. It's ridiculous to take the definition of a limited special interest group and say it necessarily applies to the interest of all Americans." —Robert W. Long, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, in a speech at Jacksonville, Fla., April 18, 1974.



Christain Science's 'Truth Squad'

By LESTER KINSOLVING

The function of the Christian Science Committee on Publications is described in the Yearbook of American Churches as follows:

"Corrects in a Christian manner impositions on the public in regard to Christian Science."

Early this year, Rollyn E. Mayer of the Christian Science Committee on Publications for Indiana, wrote one of this column's Indiana publishers:

"Mr. Kinsolving . . . refers in a wholly misleading way to Christian Science. It seems necessary therefore to state that Christian Scientists are law-abiding and responsible members of the community."

This column has not mentioned the fact that currently among the nation's best known Christian Scientists are H.R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and Egil Krogh.

Nor is there any implication here intended that the average Christian Scientist is capable of the criminal charges for which these three former White House leaders have just been indicted.

What this column did report prior to Mr. Mayer's charge of "wholly misleading" was the case of Cora Sutherland — the facts of which Mayer does not (and cannot) deny, except by way of innuendo.

For Cora Sutherland was a school teacher who exposed thousands of students to tuberculosis because, as a Christian Scientist, she refused to have an X-ray examination. She died in 1954, despite treatment by a Christian Science practitioner.

But, rebuts Mayer, "They report all communicable diseases . . . Any Christian Scientist known to be suffering from a communicable disease would naturally report it."

Is it possible that the 1964 case of Cora Sutherland has now brought about such a reform that Mr. Mayer is accurate in his statement that "any Christian Scientist would naturally report" disease?

When the five-year-old daughter of Christian Scientist Dorothy Sheridan contracted pneumonia in 1967 she reported it, all right — but not to medical authorities. Mrs. Sheridan reported it to a Christian Science practitioner, who prayed — while the child died. A Massachusetts jury found Mrs. Sheridan guilty of contributing to the death of her child.

On Oct. 19, 1972, the Connecticut State Department of Health received a report that at the Daycroft School, a Christian Science boarding and day school in Greenwich, there was a suspected outbreak of polio.

The Health Department's Dr. DeWayne Andrews immediately launched an investigation of the report — which, he told this column, was not received from the Daycroft School authorities, but rather from an M.D. in Greenwich. (The first of the polio victims became ill on Sept. 29, Dr. Andrews subsequently learned.)

When tests confirmed the report, Dr. Andrews ordered a quarantine as well as mass immunization of the 128 students and 35 faculty — a number of whom complained that this compromised their Christian Science faith.

Eleven of these youngsters suffered varying degrees of paralysis. Five of the victims had been sent home — thus exposing children in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and New York to the terrible disease.

The other polio victims were sent to the school infirmary. Since some of the boys played football, Dr. Andrews inquired as to how a compound fracture is treated in this Christian Science infirmary. Answer:

"A compound fracture can be healed with 30 minutes of prayer."

When Dr. Andrews contacted another Christian Science school, Principia in St. Louis, in order to discuss the possibility of a similar epidemic, he recalls:

"They wouldn't even discuss the subject."

Neither would the national headquarters of the Committee on Publications, at Christian Science's "Mother Church" in Boston, when I telephoned to inquire.

Meanwhile, the Connecticut State Legislature still allows exemption from immunization to private schools with "strong religious objection."

It is fortunate therefore that in the Nutmeg State there are no religious fanatics who practice child sacrifice — only those who allow their children to be paralyzed, rather than inoculated.

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

The fellers got to talking about old sayings at the country store Saturday night, and the session turned out kinda like the cowboy that jumped in the saddle and rode off in all directions.

Bug Hookum said he had saw where this country spent \$115 million on the Presidential campaign two year ago, making it by far the most expensive race in history. He said we spent two and a half times more getting a President in 1972 than in 1968, according to the General Accounting Office. Bug said he couldn't figger whether the report proves America got the best President money can buy, or you allus git what you pay fer.

Clem Webster was of a mind that all the 1972 race shows is what he allus had heard, that in a Democracy the people git the kind of Government they deserve. If we're willing to accept a system that forces a candidate to spend \$500,000 to git a job that pays \$40,000 a year with no guarantee beyond two year, Clem allowed, we'll have to git use to the idee that them that dances pays the fiddler.

General speaking, Mister Editor, the fellers was agreed you can't trust the old sayings. Fer instant, Zeke Grubb said he allus had heard that the three hardest things to do in this life is to climb a fence leaning toward you, kiss a gal leaning away from you and live up to yore compliments. All that is turned around now, Zeke said. The old pasture fence now is two strands of barb wire, the gals is chasing the fellers and you don't hear nobody complimenting nobody these days.

Furthermore, went on Zeke, living up to yore compliments still would be a heap easier than trying to make sense out of American politics: Ever man that run fer public office went in on a promise to change everthing fer the better, Zeke allowed, and ever one after he got in explained that he was jest one of many and he couldn't make no changes by hisself.

About the best we can hope fer out of Congress, Zeke said, is that some brave soul will sponsor a bill making it a crime to solve a problem by sponsoring a bill, stead of using some we already got.

Even Ed Doolittle was agreed with Zeke on that. Ed said it allus has bothered him that ever state legislature and ever Congress measures their work by the amount of laws it gits on the books during a session.

Fer onct, Ed said, he would like to see where a legislature reported that it had managed to cut 400 pages out of the general statutes, and had trimmed out 20 per cent of the words in what was left.

If that approach caught on in the legislative branch, Ed said, think what it could mean to the country if the idee spread to the executive and the judicial. We might some day even git a court ruling a feller with no more than a high school education could understand, was Ed's words.

Yours truly, MAYOR ROY.

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