

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

The fellers at the country store Saturday night took note that politics is getting thick around the country early in this national election year, and it was Bug Hookum that lamented about all the new faces saying the same old things. Whatever you read and whoever you listen at, Bug allowed, you still hear that the country is at a crossroads with its back to the wall, its head in the noose and with the tide running out. Bug was of a mind that no politician in the past 100 year has come up with a new way of telling folks the world is done fer if they don't elect him.

General speaking, the fellers was agreed with Bug that the more campaigning changes, the more it stays the same. But Zeke Grubb pointed out that Bug allus has been a strong believer in the idee that if somepun can go wrong it will, and Zeke said Bug ought to be right at home with the devil brand of politics. Bug can find a devil behind ever problem, Zeke declared, so he ought not to fall out with the politicians when they do.

The fellers was in mighty fine voice, Mister Editor, and when the talk got around to politics, Ed Doolittle and Clem Webster locked horns like they allus do. The first move Ed made when he got the floor was to remind the fellers that this is the month of the birthday of the kind of man America needs to lead her out of what Ed called "a moral and fiscal wilderness," and jest to be sure we all follered him he held up the picture of Honest Abe he carries in the back of his watch. Ed said we got a good man in the White House, and as soon as Mr. Ford decides to run his job instead of run agin Mr. Reagan we're going to git the country back in shape.

Clem Webster demanded equal time. He laid into Ed's speech by calling to mind President Ford's remedies for the country's ills that he prescribed to Congress last month when it final come back from Christmas. Everthing Ford wants, allowed Clem, will help them that don't need it. The tax credit fer buying stock is fer them that can afford to buy stock, Clem went on, and investment credit is only good if you got somepun to invest. The hike in Social Security payments will hit the feller hardest that is on the low end of the income scale, Clem said, and the added benefits fer long sickness will mean higher Medicare payments fer old folks.

It was Isaac Cornfodder, that is known more fer his expert listening at our sessions, that put the stopper in the jug of the Ed-Clem debate. Isaac said we git back to the same old difference between Democrats and Republicans. Democrats want the good of Government to start at the bottom and bubble up, while Republicans think it ought to begin at the top and trickle down, was Isaac's words. Either way, Isaac declared, you pays your money and you takes your chances. And either way we may have to change politics to mean the art of the impossible.

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY.



"Our Authority In Life"

(Mark 1:21-28)

By Rev. Mark Johnson
Hope-Valby Lutheran Church

We often hear people claiming to be an authority. An authority is someone who is suppose to know what he is talking about, and has a vast amount of knowledge in a particular area of life. When Jesus began his public ministry, the first thing he did, after choosing his twelve disciples, was to enter the synagogue to teach. While in the synagogue, the people listening to him were amazed at his authority. Mark's Gospel says, "And they were astonished at his teachings for he taught them as one who had authority..." What does it mean that Jesus spoke with authority? It is important to distinguish between power and authority. Power denotes the idea of control, force, and manipulation. The style of Jesus was not one of power, but rather authority. What does the word "authority" mean? In the Greek language, the translation is "an assurance of truth and trust." Jesus spoke and acted not through the use of manipulation and force (power), but rather through an assurance of truth and trust in who He was and what He was to do.

It seems as though some sort of authority is what we are lacking today. As we look at our times, there isn't that one person or institution to which we can turn for the answers. Thirty or forty years ago, it might have been different. Back then, people believed that there were authorities in their lives. Today, however, the situation has changed because there do not seem to be any authorities who have the answers. All we need to do is look at any area of life to see this to be true. In politics, one group tells you one thing and the next group tells you another. In farming, one organization has one correct farming procedure while another group opposes this first method. One person tells you to raise your child using one set of techniques and then someone else comes along and tells you to use a completely different method. As we look at all of these varying opinions and all of "the authorities" disagreeing with each other, we become confused and wonder what and who to believe.

The question is "Is there an authority in life?" I believe that the only authority is God himself for it is the only one which seems to endure all of the others. Nations rise and fall, differing philosophies come and go, varying fads are endured, but the Christian Gospel continues to thrive throughout the world. The good news that the one who created us also has come to us in Jesus of Nazareth to reveal his love and faithfulness to all people. This faithfulness is specifically seen through the death and resurrection which offers us new meaning, purpose, and hope in life. The authority of life is seen in the authority of God himself. That does not mean that as a Christian, we are then led around by the nose and given a perfect blueprint for life. We are always asked to walk by faith and not by sight. Remember what authority means—"an assurance of truth and trust."

Looking to God as an authority, therefore, means having the ability to walk by faith in the confusion of life with the assurance that at the center of our lives is God himself. It is believing in the faithfulness of God no matter what happens. All else might fail, but God ultimately will not fail. All else might wither away, but God remains constant. Most of us have seen a figure skater on an ice rink. During a routine, a figure skater will spin around like a top. How does a skater do that without getting dizzy? It is done by picking a point to look at so that as the skater is spinning around, this point is constantly seen. This gives the skater a point of reference as he spins. Perhaps this is what it means to look to God as an authority in our lives. Picking a point of contact which is constant in the midst of the confusion and change of our lives. It is looking to God so that we do not become dizzy and disoriented as we spin around in life. The authority of God seems to be the only constant thing in life. For in the midst of trouble and strife, sickness and death, sorrow and heartache, and a life filled with surprises, we can look to God as an authority. Seeing Him as an authority is having the ability to live our lives in faith and trust in the assurance that no matter what happens in our lives, we can look to the faithfulness and love which God has for each of us.

FROM THE CORNER

By ERNIE CERESA

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

Situations Wanted

My name is George. I'm an all-around handyman, and I'd like you to feel free to use my services for any and all chores, errands, duties which you may be too busy to perform. Anytime there's anything that needs doing and you'd rather not, you just let George do it. I'll write to your Congressman for you; I'll write your newspaper editor; I'll serve on the school board in your place; I'll do anything you're too tired to do or preoccupied to do. With me around, you can be as lazy as you like. Or you can just have fun. The more the merrier, I always say. My services are available to you for all the tedious, time-consuming things which you'd rather duck doing. You haven't time to vote, let George do it. You haven't time for jury duty, I have. You don't want to accept committee assignments and extra responsibilities, anyway. You let old George tend to those things. Maybe I'm not as famous as Kruschchev was, but if it hadn't been for me you'd never have heard of him. And that goes for Mussolini and Stalin and Hitler, too. I made those guys! And the big time racketeers in the United States. You name 'em; without me those guys would be nothing! Why do I want to run errands for you? When I'm the guy who runs all these "Big Wheels" why do I want to run errands for you? Don't you see? I get a kick out of electing presidents for school boards and countries. All these things you used to do before you took up chasing dollars and golf balls and things. Don't feel like you're imposing. I'm glad to be of service. Helping you, I'm really helping myself. How do you think I was able to take over and run a third of the world already? Because nobody else wanted to bother. They said, "Let George do it," so I did. Now I'm taking over in lots of cities and counties in the United States, and I figure it's just a matter of time until I'll take over this country too. I want to thank you for making it possible. Remember now, if there is ever any way in which I can be of help, I'm at your service. You just have fun and don't worry about a thing. I'll do your worrying too. I'll bill you later.

Sincerely,
George.



THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

The mail pouch

EDITOR:

This message is for "Name Withheld" whose letter appeared in the Jan. 22 issue.

What do you mean by old-time sportsmanship? In sports, the team consists of all the members whether they play forty minutes, ten or none at all. Players who sit on the bench are just as important as the "chosen few." During practice all the members contribute to the strength of the team preparing the team for the coming games. How well the "unchosen few" practice during the week will reflect in the play of those on the floor. Working toward achieving a goal as a team is a greater reward than playing. The value of practice and fellowship with the team is unmeasurable to the individual. Since winning is an object of the game, why shouldn't those with the best ability and efforts play? If winning wasn't important, why keep score?

If a player is unhappy in a team situation, perhaps that person should try an individual sport like tennis, golf, track, wrestling or swimming.

Perhaps your real gripe is found in your statement, "... it is hard for the 'unchosen few' to sit on the bench while their parents and friends come to watch them play." Well, the game is not being played for the parents—and yes it is hard for the "unchosen few" when their parents are grumbling and complaining because their child is not playing. You do everyone a favor by staying home if you can't support the whole team! Perhaps you parents ought to re-evaluate your own feelings and comments. Are you the ones knocking the spirit out of the "unchosen few"? Are your comments after the games the type that would make your child feel like a failure because he didn't play?

Today's "chosen few" were yesterday's "unchosen few." Their spirit apparently isn't dead.

Mike and Evelyn (Jepsen) Elder
Eugene, OR.

P.S. The Bicentennial Forum is delightful reading.

Bank reports earnings

First National Bank of Oregon reported a decline in earnings for the year 1975, compared with a record high the year before. Strong deposit growth and a nominal decline in loans were noted for the period ending Dec. 31, announced Robert F. Wallace, chairman of the statewide financial institution.

The bank reported income before securities transactions for the fourth quarter of \$5,002,000 or 95 cents per share, down 7.9 per cent from \$5,434,000 or \$1.02 a share, a year earlier. Income after securities transactions was \$4,524,000 or 85 cents a share, compared with \$5,430,000 or \$1.02 during fourth quarter 1974.

For 1975, income before securities transactions was \$20,125,000, off 5.8 per cent from the prior year's \$21,366,000. Earnings amounted to \$3.79 per share compared with \$4.02 per share for 1974. Net income after securities transactions was \$19,664,000 or \$3.70 a share. This compared

with \$20,792,000 or \$3.95 per share last year.

First National continued to experience favorably low net loan losses with 1975 total of \$1.4 million, the lowest for the bank in the last seven years, representing only 0.10 per cent of average loans. The bank's reserve for loan losses, modified to meet new reporting requirements of the Comptroller of Currency, was increased by \$1.0 million to a total of \$16.4 million.

Deposits at year-end totaled \$2,312,881,000 compared with \$2,178,444 reported at the close of business in 1974, an increase of \$134,437,000 or 6.2 per cent. Total assets amounted to \$3,022,547,000.

Loan totals at the end of the year were \$1,429,141,000, off \$12,548,000 or 0.9 per cent from \$1,441,689,000 reported on Dec. 31, 1974.

The Heppner Branch reported deposits of \$12,614,000 and loans of \$10,404,000 as of Dec. 31. Comparable totals for the branch a year ago were \$9,852,000 in deposits and \$8,957,000 in loans.

Child development

By Terry D. Hirn, ACSW

Last week's article explained play therapy, a method of treatment used with children. This week we'll discuss some of the phases in early childhood development.

In the first year of a child's life, the most important thing for him to learn is that the world around him is warm, secure, constant, and loves him. It is impossible to spoil a child in the first year of his life. As the child learns that he is loved and wanted, he learns to trust his environment, so he feels secure enough to depend on those around him to meet his needs. The infant needs to know that when he cries, his parents will respond to his needs even though they may have to guess to figure out which need it is. An infant can also tell if his parents feel secure by the way his parents handle him and respond to him. Theoretically, the less trauma a child experiences in the first year of his life the better off he'll be the rest of his life.

Again let me use an example of a child I worked with who never received love, security, consistency, and warmth. His name was Jeff (not his real name), and he was born in Italy. The first year of his life included severe beatings, prolonged periods without food, at which time he'd cry for hours and then received the punishment of being put in very hot or very cold water. Needless-to-say Jeff never learned to trust, hence would not allow himself to be dependent on another human being.

If a child develops trust, he will allow himself to be dependent. At the time the child starts learning morals and values at about age 1½, he will accept the structure provided by his parents more readily. Being dependent upon his parents for the continued security and love the child gained the first year, the toddler will want to continue to receive this, thus conforms to his parents wishes. This dependency and conformity can be very healthy for the child depending upon how the parents use this process. If the parents are not too rigid and demanding, too lenient and/or too inconsistent, the child will continue to grow while feeling secure and good about himself.

Let's jump back to the example of Jeff. From age one until age 4 he lived in sixteen different homes, ranging from very rigid and demanding foster parents to overindulging foster parents. In some homes he was beaten and literally chained to his bed and starved for hours as punishment. In other homes Jeff could do anything he wanted and eat anything he wanted. Needless-to-say, this harsh and inconsistent environment only developed a deep hatred in Jeff. At the age of 4 he suddenly found himself jerked out of another home and placed on a plane to the United States where he was to live with relatives. At this point, Jeff was not manageable because relationships only meant cruel, harsh, inconsistent and disappointing events. He had absolutely no trust or dependency. His new foster parents were afraid this four-year-old child might kill them. This was a well-founded fear.

Jeff is a good example of how a child will respond if he doesn't obtain any trust and dependency and thus gain certain morals and values so that they can continue to relate to their environment in a healthy manner as they grow older. Frequently in therapy, if the patient has not learned to trust, and will not allow himself to depend on others for appropriate needs, causing the patient to become dependent on the therapist to meet some of his needs. It is only when the patient learns to trust and allow himself to become dependent that he can relearn more appropriate responses to certain situations. In other words, he learns how to respond independently in more appropriate ways and allows himself to trust and to be dependent when appropriate, thus also making the person feel better about himself.

Referring back again to Jeff. In the nine months I saw him, he was only beginning to develop some trust and some dependency. At that point I was the only person with which he had any trust or dependency. He never learned to trust me because I moved from the area, but hopefully he was able to continue his progress with another therapist.

At the Morrow County Mental Health Clinic, a frequent example of people who never learned to trust or be dependent are those who cannot work for anyone else because of their lack of trust, hence, will not allow themselves to depend on their employer. Another frequent example is people who cannot trust their spouses.

Our next week's article will deal with limit setting, fairly effective way to teach people appropriate ways of behaving, compared to punishment, an alternative method.



Legend has it that if a butterfly lands on a girl, she will get a new dress!

Gleanings

R.A. Maxwell

Try this on for size... You want to build an "A" frame home on one of the coastal views of Oregon? Well you better have your walking shoes on because you may have to make as many as 50 stops to get the required permits.

How's that for "make work", waste paper etc.? Nothing like good old government to figure ways to spend money.

It seems like Father is still pretty important in the family plan. Oregon State University research says that contrary to some sources the father is important in rearing children. He spends up to 50 hours a week with his children. Now that's pretty good when you consider he spends an average of 60 hours on his job.

The study also showed that the fathers who expected respect from their children and regarded the family as a sacred institution were at the top of the list. Fathers take note.

Hostility from native Oregonians!! I had people tell me Oregonians didn't want anyone moving to Oregon. Their experience was mostly in the Willamette Valley and perhaps, in that respect, they were right. I have not found any hostility in Eastern Oregon. In fact, just the opposite. We have many new friends, for which we are thankful.

Guessed who: Raised congressional salaries? Created automatic pay raises by tying salaries of

congressmen to the cost of living?

Increased the annual stationery allowance for members of congress by \$1,250? Increased the congressional district office allowance by 42.8 per cent?

Increased the size of permissible office staffs from 16 to 18?

Who...? You know, and it's no fun going on.

All right, it was Congress. Congressional Action, legislative newsletter of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, reports Rep. Alphonzo Bell (R-Calif.) reminded his colleagues the other day of how "we can act decisively when it comes to feathering our own nest." He listed 12 such decisive actions as taken by Congress in the last 24 months.

Rep. Bell also reported that the cost to the average American taxpayer of maintaining each member of Congress has risen during the last two years from \$376,505 to \$488,505, or approximately 30 per cent.

Running out of oil? Saving the environment? Putting head in sand? Cutting off nose to spite face?

Maybe it would be well to face facts. To my knowledge there has never been a serious nuclear accident in the field of producing electricity.

The nuclear plants now in operation saved 750 million barrels of oil last year.

The cost was 63 per cent less than oil and 27 per cent less than coal. Just plain common sense.

Gas line (Continued from Page 1)

The Environmental Impact Statement to be prepared jointly by the FPC and the Department of the Interior is expected to be the largest such statement ever prepared by the federal government.

Presently natural gas supplies more than 50 per cent of the energy used for US industry. A large new gas supply would help keep these plants in operation for 160 million consumers.

Based on a 1974 cost the project would require more than 2 million tons of steel pipe at an estimated cost of \$2 billion; \$506 million in compressors and chilling equipment; \$91 million for operating and maintenance facilities; \$91 million for communication facilities; \$26 million for measuring facilities; and \$386 million for ancillary facilities such as air strips, freight roads, etc.

It is estimated the 6,000 miles of gas transmission line will cost \$9 billion when completed.

Although application for the line was made in 1974, Congress is still studying the proposal. If Congress should approve the proposal within the next two years the pipeline could possibly be in operation by 1981.

The proposed route through Oregon would follow the existing oil pipeline and would be in the same right-of-way.

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