

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Overburdened Taxpayer

To the Editor: Why is one opposed to fluoride treated water more of a zealous fanatic than one who so determinedly works for it? Since when are a few caries in a few children's teeth of such momentous concern that the water supply of over 20,000 people should be treated with an insecticide?

It is just as silly as having to brush the teeth of a neighbor's child because the parent wants to shift his own responsibility. The taxpayer is already burdened with the care of neglected, deserted and delinquent children, most of them products of irresponsible parents. When I was a child most every home had a grandparent or elderly relative as a revered member of the household. Now these old people are farmed out in convalescent homes and county hospitals financed by welfare funds, also from taxpayers' pockets.

Where is our pride? Do we want to live in a welfare state?

One thing leads to another. Soon someone will be advocating the addition of a laxative to our water supply because some kids are constipated.

Let those who want fluoride treated water fix their own. Let us not burden the overburdened taxpayer further.

Mrs. Docia Jones
Barnett road
Medford, Ore.

Better Teeth

To the Editor: Thanks to the Mail Tribune for pointing out to the citizens of Medford the simple way to help prevent tooth decay of its youngest citizens. It is hoped more people can become informed of the safety and economy of the method involved.

The Jackson County Public Health association has been working for better health of children since its organization in 1917. One of its interests has been dental health. For many years it supported a dental clinic. Shortage of dentists forced the closure just before World War II. The one frustrating feature was the small number of children helped when the need was so great.

Now we have a new and safe method for the prevention of tooth decay, one that helps rich and poor alike, namely adding one part of fluoride to one million parts of water. There are over 50 physicians in the county who are endorsing this method and who say so publicly. Dr. A. Erin Merkel, director of the county health department, has investigated the question extensively and urges the city council to pass the proposal at the earliest possible time.

Paying for dental care is a real problem to many families. The dentists of this county are aware of this and are working hard to help people understand that fluoridating a city water supply is a safe and effective way to insure a decay-resistant enamel covering the teeth of the young child. They also tell us frankly that painting children's teeth with fluorides, taking tablets and brushing teeth is less effective as compared to using fluoride in the drinking water. A recent survey indicated that the average cost of yearly dental care per Medford child was \$58.96. The cost of adding fluoride to the Medford City water supply would be 13c per water user per month, and that includes the \$30,000 building and upkeep.

Here's to the health of Jackson county children. May we all join hands to insure their future well-being.

Mrs. Henry Padgham
President, Jackson County Public Health Association

Neck Stuck Out

To the Editor: Haven't you stuck out your neck on this fluoridation business?

To me the medical association's recommendations mean money in fair chunks in some one's pockets, for I, for one, do not believe such a plan would be advanced except there is.

I was a United States patrolman during the times that the 91st and 96th Divisions were at Camp White taking military training. At that time fluoridation was 100 per cent forced upon the men of those divisions.

In so doing the water was changed from sweet and pure to a nasty and vile liquid. So much so that I carried water from my well that I should not be compelled to drink of it.

The words 'nasty' and 'vile' fully describe it.

Do we want our 'pure' water, of which Medford is so proud, and has so long advertised as a 'mountain spring in every home' changed to the taste of the seepage from a sewer? Personally, I do not.

Regardless of the Medical association or the editor.

Andy L. Unger,
634 Pennsylvania ave.,
Medford, Ore.

(Editor's note: An officer who was stationed at Camp White in an engineering capacity during the war advises the water in use

for the Army never was fluoridated. Our correspondent may be confusing it with chlorine, an entirely different chemical, which was used to kill bacteria in the wartime water supplies at the camp, and which does have a distinct taste and odor. Fluorides, on the other hand, have no odor and no taste in the concentrations recommended.)

Authorities Identified

To the Editor: Congratulations on your recent editorial pointing up some basic facts on the issue of fluoridation which have long needed clarification.

It seems to me, as a result of the welter of controversy concerning this subject, that the water consumer may be truly confused. The anti-fluoridation group uses statements calculated to increase this confusion by quoting various dentists and physicians on statements as to the harmful effects of fluorides. In part, these quotations are taken out of context from articles on fluorides which have nothing to do with the subject of fluoridation of water supplies for prevention of tooth decay.

A more serious confusion is created by the quoting of various writers from the professions, who purport to have independently discovered harmful effects from the consumption of fluoridated water. These articles would, on the surface, seem to indicate that there exists a real division of opinion among the dental and medical professions and allied groups on the subject of the efficacy and safety of fluoridation. Such is far from the truth; as is shown by the endorsement by the thousands of members of these groups, each one of whom is professionally qualified to express a studied opinion, but has usually done so only by his endorsement. It is the case of a practically microscopic vocal, minority opinion being magnified thousands of times; to create a false impression of "division of opinion among the authorities."

Who are the "authorities" on this subject?

1. They are, especially, the health officers of the hundreds of cities where fluoridation has been used, successfully, for years.

2. They are the hundreds of thousands of dentists and doctors of America, who have gone on record, through their national and local organizations as favoring fluoridation.

3. They are the Federal, State and Municipal health agencies, who have made exhaustive and unbiased studies over ten years' time.

The authorities do agree. Fluoridation of drinking water reduces incidence of dental decay in children up to 65 per cent. Fluoridation does not cause harmful effects, in the concentrations used, to children, adults, animals, fish, birds, vegetation, or inert objects.

John L. Welch, M.D.
Doctors Clinic
1032 West Main St.
Medford, Oregon

Leave Sugar Alone

To the Editor: For many years it has been known positively that a high sugar diet and high incidence of dental caries (cavities) go hand in hand. Other degenerative diseases, less obvious and probably more significant, also accompany a high sugar diet. Many of us parents are aware of these relationships and try to guide our children away from deleterious foods.

But what a time we have! Parties and sweets are almost synonymous. Well wishing adults offer candy to the youngsters.

The wisdom of our researchers, which usually precedes popular knowledge by many years (too many, too often) is not even felt in our schools. The schools foster sales of carbonated beverages and their sugar products. Even some medical doctors give suckers to little juniors for being good during a shot!

Thank heavens for our Southern Oregon Dental association which flatly recommends cutting out sweets entirely.

Please, kindly well wishers, eat the suckers and other sweets yourselves, for you, no doubt, are beyond hope dentally—and spare the little folks, that they may have a better chance of reaching maturity with 32 beautiful teeth in a healthy body!

Irving S. Thomas
Box 428-A, Route 1
Medford, Ore.

Expense Compared

To the Editor: Thank you so much for your editorial on "Fluoridation."

I have two daughters, age 7 and 3. Both have been going regularly to the dentist since they were 2½ years old. If some people think fluoridation would be expensive, they should see the average family's dentist bills.

I am delighted that the Mail Tribune is giving the public the facts.

Thank you, it is appreciated.

Mrs. Paul Norris
1481 Ridgeway dr.
Medford, Ore.

Replies to "Sinner"

To the Editor:

From One Sinner to Another: I thoroughly agree with you for I have had some of the same experiences.

My gripe is this, if you do not give large donations to the church, or in other words keep up with the business man, you are not considered a Christian family.

We receive records from our church telling us just how much we have given through the year, and we are also considered not a Christian family. Why? Because our donations are small. They are just what we can afford to give without taking the food out of our mouths, or the shoes off our feet.

I always thought church was a place for everyone, regardless of wealth, a place to go to pray and sing and meet friends and make friends, a place to go with your troubles, and to give what you feel you can. Nowadays one can't afford to go to church. I would like to start my child in Sunday school, but should I, if he is going to be pushed aside because his Mother and Daddy are on the non-Christian list? We sinners ought to get together, we might find we have a friend after all.

Sinner No. 2
(Name on file)

Bouquets

To the Editor:

We are in a "bouquet-tossing" mood, and since, far too often, people are prone to air only their verbal brickbats, we'd like to publicize, instead, our praises. They're tagged for the countless public utilities crews that are working day and night, long, cold, wet, and miserable hours, to provide us, against stormy odds, with those facilities we accept so casually—our roads, our phones, our power lines. All of these men deserve more than just their pay checks in the way of appreciation.

Specifically, we're grateful tonight to the Copco crew of four friendly, cheerful fellows who, though they'd been bucking the elements since very early morning, stayed up in the hills for long and weary hours tonight, trudging through knee-deep snow up and down the mountainside, until they harnessed their little pal, Reddy Kilowatt, and put him back to work for us. The phone crews and the county road crews have been equally cooperative, and to each we are grateful.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. Peterson
Route 2, Box 430
Ramsey Canyon rd.
Gold Hill, Ore.

Passenger Trains

To the Editor: That we do live in "a changing world," is to be taken for granted. Read an article in a midwest paper, "The Kansas Corporation Commission announced Jan. 11 it will hold a new hearing on the Missouri Pacific Railroad's application to discontinue operation of two daily passenger trains between Atchison and Downs. The M.P., along with other R.R. lines, has been endeavoring to cancel local trains for a long time. Towns most affected have generally fought a losing battle to hold the trains."

We remember quite well when we rode one of above named passenger trains, before highway buses were invented. One of the manifest trains was nicknamed "Calamity Jane." We never knew for sure why the train got the name. What our wonder is, that the passenger trains held up as long as they have since modern times have changed the ways of traveling.

Bert Kissinger,
520 Boardman st., Apt 1
Medford, Ore.

Seeks Her Rights

To the Editor: Since we are all certain that we cannot fail to get our rights here in America, will someone tell me why I was cheated of mine?

Laws say that working conditions for women must have a certain temperature, yet for seven years I worked when called, exposed to rain and snow and freezing temperatures. When my husband protested I said "why not work, we are safer than at home, because we have accident insurance and sickness benefits, railroad retirement and sickness benefits. But alas! It was only on paper. Came the day of "great economy" and I worked with only one helper instead of the usual five. Fruit rolled through the window uncontrolled, knocking us and covering us, as we were in a small corner. There was no escape. Finally in desperation I pushed at the tumbling boxes and when it was over I grew very ill. I reported to the doctor, but was told to help fill the next car and go see the doctor in the morning. I could only walk the floor in agony. After 20 hours I was able to see the doctor, who immediately called for an operation, and after 18 months another. I was called by the company to come and get the money due me from an error in 1950 wages. Blinded from hot glue that had splashed in my face I signed the supposed receipt. Guess what? It was a work sheet naming the days and hours of labor, on those days and many more. I was in bed curing a fever. But now they say I worked, but didn't earn enough for benefits, since supposedly

In Medford's Schools



MEXICAN VISITS — Raul Noris (above, left) will leave for his home in Mexico City Feb. 25 after a two-month stay at the home of Gary McGill, (right) 116 Black Oak drive, while a student at Hedrick junior high school. His father is a Mexico City doctor. —(Hedrick Junior High Buzz-ette photo)

Mexican Student Returns After Visiting in Medford

Raul Noris, a 12-year-old ninth-grader from Secundaria I military school in Mexico City has been an exchange student at Hedrick junior high school for the past two months. He left Saturday, Feb. 25. A guest of Gary McGill, 116 Black Oak drive, the youngster is paying his first visit to the United States. His father is a doctor at Hospital General and his mother is a chemist at Maternity hospital in Mexico City.

Complaint Filed Against Dentist

A complaint seeking a temporary restraining order against Lee Poirier, Jacksonville, was filed in circuit court Feb. 23 by Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton for the state board of dental examiners.

The board charges that Poirier is practicing dentistry without a certificate from the board and is "openly, publicly, repeatedly, persistently and intentionally violating . . . provision of . . . statutes . . . detrimental to public health and welfare."

Poirier, who has been ordered to appear before Circuit Court Judge Orville Millard March 3, was fined \$200 in district court June 13, 1955, for practicing dentistry without a license after approximately a year's battle in the courts.

His attorney, O. H. Bengtson, filed an appeal which is expected to be considered soon.

Cub Scouts

Pack 8 of the Cub Scouts held a blue and gold dinner celebrating 46 years of cubbing and scouting at the Jackson school cafeteria Thursday night.

Dr. G. A. Dierdorff, local ventriloquist, provided entertainment. Pack Dens were presented and Pack committee was introduced.

Wilson Smith was master of ceremonies, and John Lynch portrayed "Akela" in full Indian dress.

Den 3, of which Mrs. Byron Griffith is Den mother, retained the attendance trophy cup for having the largest group present. Harry Barneburg, neighborhood commissioner, spoke briefly on the importance of active parent participation in cub scout activities.

4-H Club News

Antelope 4-H Sheep Club
Antelope 4-H club now has a complete sheep club. We have five members, and will welcome anyone interested. The members are Mike Higday, Donald Higday, Jim Williams, Jim Berg and Tommy Perdue.

The next meeting will be held on March 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Antelope Valley school.

Jim Berg
Reporter

MILLWORKER KILLED

Klamath Falls — (U.P.) — Eugene Mayfield, 41-year-old Klamath Falls millworker, was killed Saturday when his car skidded at a stop street and rolled into the path of a truck on Highway 97 just south of here. Driver of the truck was Harry Mollotte, Seattle. He was not injured.

one must earn \$300. We all know that U. S. Railway Retirement and Sickness begins and ends in July. And I had seven year's credit.

The president should have received a letter, Congress knows it, and I believe U. S. Railroad Retirement has heard of it, all legal. So why does a polio victim get cheated of benefits and have to pay doctor bills that are supposed to be covered?

Harriette Hagerman
(maiden name)
1375 South Columbus ave.
Medford, Ore.

Forestry School To Observe 50th Anniversary at OSC

Corvallis — The school of forestry at Oregon State college — oldest forestry school west of the Rockies and fourth largest in the nation — will celebrate "Fifty Years of Forestry at OSC" March 3.

Hundreds of the 1,411 graduates of the school during the 50 years are expected to attend ceremonies. The forestry school was made a four-year institution in 1906, although classes in forestry had been taught since 1892.

The school is considered one of the better in the nation with demand for its graduates far ahead of supply. A major reason is that "graduates are men ready and competent to work as foresters," according to W. F. McCulloch, dean of the school.

OSC owns, forests covering 13,502 acres which serve as vast outdoor laboratories. McDonald forest, seven miles north OSC, covers 6,761 acres, and is the center of daily student instruction.

Specialized Fields
Courses in the school are in three specialized fields—forest products and forest engineering. In all three, emphasis is on west coast forestry.

Coupled with the four-year program, students must have six months of satisfactory field work in some phase of forestry before graduation. OSC was the first of the nation's 35 four-year forestry schools to make the requirement.

McCulloch, who has been with the school since 1937, is its fourth dean. The first was George W. Peavy, dean from 1913 to 1941, who established most of the policies now in effect. He was followed by E. G. Mason, acting dean until 1942 when Paul M. Dunn was appointed. McCulloch succeeded Dunn in 1954.

Enrollment in the school of forestry is going up steadily. In 1951, 273 students were registered. The figure was up to 321 last year and to 362 this year.

Grange

Phoenix Grange
Phoenix Grange will celebrate its silver anniversary Tuesday, Feb. 28. Charter members and 25 year members will be honored.

It is hoped all Phoenix Grange members will make an effort to be present. There may be some who have not been contacted by the calling committee, but a real

High School News Notes

By NELLIE RAWLINGS

Final elections for Student Government day are over and Dave Bosworth will act as



Nellie Rawlings

mayor-for-a-day. The following students were elected as councilmen: Ward I, Mira Frohnmayer and Katherine Gott; Ward II, Monty Holst and Honor Stansbury;

Ward III, Sonja Peterson and Gary Shaffer; Ward IV, Janet Jamison and Sheila Spence.

Many students recently competed with other schools in various types of competition. Some of the school's artists have won honors in the regional division of the National Scholastic Art Awards held in Portland. Dorothy Allen, Pat Crofoot, Ron Wisdom, Jim Gordon, Carol Ballard, and Betty Jamieson won gold keys. Johnnie Jones, Bill Henderson, Pat Callaway, Linda Robertson, Lorita Jennings, Greta Rippl, Marilyn Clearwater, Bob Mitchell, Barbara Cox and Ann Stimson won Exhibit Awards.

Medfordites came back from the Linfield Tournament with the following results: Bruce West, second in Interview; Mary LaBarr and Ted Lawson from Hedrick Junior High, second in Junior Oratory; Eric Eitrem in Impromptu; David Frohnmayer in Extemp; and Harlow Head from Hedrick Junior High in

effort has been made to notify every member.

Members attending the potluck supper are to bring either a salad or vegetable unless otherwise notified.

The supper will be at 7 p.m. A short business meeting will follow, and the program will follow the meeting.

Junior Division Storytelling.

A group of student delegates from Medford attended the I. R. L. Convention in Eugene. John Van Dyke, Bill Isaacs, Marilyn Olson, Deanna Campbell, Nancy McKeown, Jim Boyd, John Reeder, Bill Frake, Kaye Christian, Dianna Russell, Marilyn Parsons, Sue Donna Doolen, Don Christenson, Mira Frohnbayer, Larry Gents, and Janet Perry, were the students attending from Medford.

Outstanding orchestra members were selected to play in the All-State Orchestra, to be held in Portland March 14, 15, and 16. The following musicians will be attending: Deanna Campbell, Betty Hershiser, Doris Ryn, Karen Lytle, Shirley Stafford, Patricia Kahle, Terry Brereton, Carol McKinley, Freda Rawster, Nancie Walstead, Molly Walker, Ruth Phillips, and Sonja Peterson.

This orchestra will present a concert for the Oregon Education Association which will be broadcast over the radio and televised from Portland.

Representatives of the Oregon's state-supported colleges and universities were at the school on Wednesday, Feb. 22, and all seniors attended meetings of the different college groups. This program was planned to help the seniors find out about the college of their choice, and also tell them a little about other colleges in Oregon.

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Porter Heaps

Although professional organists are welcome to attend, this program is primarily for home organists and people who just like organ music.

Here are some of the worthwhile things Mr. Heaps will discuss and demonstrate on the Home and Spinnet Organs:

- How to play a simple piece in one lesson.
- How to play and arrange popular music—chords, counter-melodies, special rhythms.
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Time:
Monday, Feb. 27th
8:00 P.M.

Place:
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1108 West Main — Medford

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