

Communications Is That So?

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.

Significant Parallel
To the Editor: I have been following with considerable interest the arguments for and against fluoridation of our water supply and I would like to add my "two cents worth."

First of all I would like to call the attention of your readers to a fact which seems to me to be a significant parallel. When I began to practice in Jackson county in 1906, this was known as a goiter belt because there was not enough iodine in the soil and water. When I was county health officer in 1921, serving until 1925, I helped with the examination of the school children and have been doing the same work ever since that time. During the early years we used to find many goiters, but since the use of iodized salt in many homes and the use of iodine in small quantities the incidence of goiters has greatly diminished. As a matter of fact I have spoken of this change several times. In my opinion, the same thing may be expected from the use of fluorine in proper amounts.

There has been quite an outcry that fluorine is a poison, which is perfectly true in sufficiently large doses; but the same thing is true about iodine. However, there has been no case of iodine poisoning in Jackson county from the use of iodized salt, so far as I know, in about 35 years. Also, I have not found any report of poisoning from properly fluoridated water. On the contrary, there has been unquestioned benefit, as attested by many reliable investigations, so far as healthy teeth are concerned.

Wm. W. P. Holt, M.D.,
Medical Center Building,
Medford, Ore.

Too Personal
To the Editor: This fluoride business is far too personal to be had on the majority basis.

Any one that says that it is constitutional and not mass medication is not honest with themselves.

Our constitution says each of us has a right to seek prosperity, health, happiness and safety. Those that are really interested in their children's teeth can make it a personal matter, since it has been pointed out that fluoride is on the market. They would also do well to withhold those things and drinks which they put in their stomachs for pleasure. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

If those of us who object to taking someone else's medicine could boil this chemical out of the water, it would be a different story. But we cannot.

A couple of times, not too many years back the medical profession tried to have a vote on a measure making it unlawful for a person to do his own doctoring. If it had become a law the doctors would have had more guinea-pigs than they could use.

And long ago, in our early history there was a law against taking a bath. Probably some group of persons had a lot of perfume to sell.

Our bodies are our own personal property; there's nothing on earth as personal.

So when something is forced on us, that is trespassing, and against constitutional rights.

Anyone that is tired of reading these pro and cons, let him skip the page.

Mary E. Atkins,
1634 Orchard Home dr.,
Medford, Ore.

Jungle Water
To the Editor: When a certain Irish soldier went peacock-hunting he complained the only water he had to drink was "jungle water." (Why not reread Kipling's "Reincarnation of Krishna Mulvaney"?)

And in "Gunga Din," the regimental bhisti brings the wounded the only available water. It was an "arf-pint of water green" and "it was crawling" and it stunk." Carrying that drink under fire cost Gunga Din his life, for "a bullet came and drilled the beggar clean."

One wonders if every American at least once yearly could not profitably reread both above Kipling yarns. He might thus remember how grateful he should be for American Know How as to the purity of every glass of water he drinks.

Jungle water is no picnic. This writer was in Hindustan's wild peacock country. In fact it was our only poultry. There came times in those days when one might be forced to drink even "jungle water"! Writer once was in such an emergency. His weight dropped from 180 to 130 in 2 weeks.

C. M. Goethe
Seventh and J sts.
Sacramento 14, Calif.

Decide on Facts

To the Editor: As I read the daily columns about the question of fluoridation, several impressions come to mind. I for one cannot see the improbable connection between cases of leukemia of twins in Grand Rapids,

Mich., and the drinking of flourinated water. What about the cases of leukemia here in Medford? Are they caused by drinking the pure waters of the Big Butte?

The many comparisons stated in these columns, from "Rat Poison" to other horrible items, are as factual as stating that we should not drive cars because the exhaust of carbon monoxide gas can be fatal, or not eating mushrooms because certain species can be poisonous.

Thought and opinion should be based on knowledge and FACT, not on hearsay and panic. Science has proven the effect of fluoridation by such FACT, and the people should study these FACTS before making any opinion.

When supposedly intelligent people have to resort to the personal abuse as (has occurred) of the professional men of our community, by writing insulting crank letters, I believe it shows their own ignorance of both subject and approach to an important problem.

Lola Milhoan
3043 Delta Waters rd.
Medford, Ore.

Dangerous Crossing

To the Editor: On March 15 at 10:35 p.m., my husband and I were driving east on West Jackson st. At the railroad tracks we heard no train coming, and no signal lights were on. Just as we were nearly on the tracks, the bell started ringing, but still no signal lights. There were none until the engine was part-way across the street.

We had to stop very suddenly, although we were not driving fast. This is a bad blind spot, and if a person had been excited, it could have caused a car to become stalled on the tracks.

We hope this can be looked into before we do have more crossing accidents.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Heeter,
Route 2, Box 493,
Gold Hill, Ore.

Venus and The Moon

To the Editor: I hope you remembered to view the unusual sight Thursday evening in the western sky. It was the thrilling view of Venus and the moon, so near to each other that the brilliant star seemed to have dropped from the edge of the moon—as a drop of dazzling milk from a cup.

I searched in vain for a reminder in Thursday's Tribune. Not that we needed one, but for those who did not remember an article in a previous paper.

Perhaps your Tribune staff was too busy with earthy things to stop and gaze at the Heavenly sight—or could it be that the moon has not the place in minds, as when "you and I were young Maggie?"

Am sure it was an unintentional oversight not to print a last minute reminder and I hope that the majority of our citizens did as our family was.

This makes us realize the part in our daily living which our evening newspaper plays, even in such seemingly small matters.

Thanking you for such a fine paper, and the pleasure it gives.

Mrs. K. J. Knutson,
615 N. Columbus ave.,
Medford, Ore.

(Editor's note: It was, as Mrs.

Kyoto, Japan, with Japan Air Lines—Because good timber—pine, oak, maple, arbor-vitae, beech, cryptomeria (a huge, cedar-like redwood), bamboo and cypress—could be obtained with such ease in Japan, the wooden structure has been the basic form of architecture since ancient times. In addition to buildings, wood in Japan has been put to more than 4,000 dis-



inct uses. Wood, in truth, is part of their life—and its lovely grain runs through the life of the people.

The durability of properly-seasoned wood is indeed amazing. The oldest wooden carving, now preserved in the Cairo museum, is a life-sized statue of a man dating from 4,000 B. C.—roughly 6,000 years old! Old Egyptian coffins, made of fig wood, exist too. More recently, specimens taken from the piling of a Tiber river bridge, driven by Caesar's men about 2,000 years ago, are still sound. In Norway, viking ships used as sepulchres have been found, well preserved.

In Japan where wood-working has been a continuous craft—in some instances handed down from father to son for more than 1,800 years—one finds bridges that are 300 years old; pagodas over 500 years; and temples well over 1,400 years old—and all of these wooden structures in all of these vied and cherished by the people.

One of the most beautiful wooden structures in the world is—or perhaps I should say was—the Kintai-bashi bridge (the bridge of the brocade sash) some 200 miles southwest of Hiroshima. A 900-foot structure, it was made up of five arches and the 20-foot wide surface was shaped in line with the swelling arches.

Kintai crossed the limpid Nishiki whose banks are thickly lined with tended cherry trees. Need I say more?

This bridge withstood the vicissitudes of centuries and then during the flood which came in the wake of the disastrous typhoon of September 13, 1950, was partially carried away. Fortunately, because the Japanese cherish old structures, however impractical, each arch was replaced timber by timber and once again its graceful curves invite the populace to tarry atop or to view the beautiful bridge and its reflections from the river bank, through the tracery of rigidly-pruned branches.

If age and fine workmanship of 1,500 is your dish, then go to Nara, Japan's first capital and cradle of hearts and crafts. Standing there, only seven miles from the city's center, in the midst of scenic and restful surroundings is Horyu-ji temple, consisting of 33 wooden buildings. Five of these date back to the sixth century!

Among these five are the Kondo (golden hall), the dream

Knutson suspected, an unintentional oversight. A discussion of the Heavenly phenomenon appeared in last Sunday's paper.)

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

hall, and the five-storied pagoda. Not only are these three of surpassing beauty but the golden hall is today recognized as the world's oldest continuously-used wooden building. Perhaps that should be qualified by "largest, oldest, continuously used." At any rate, it was started in 593 A.D. and finished in 10 years.

Why do these wooden buildings last so long in Japan? The secret is in the selecting of good wood—using heartwood, mainly; proper seasoning—when a tree is cut it is from 20 to 60 per cent moisture; and the prompt replacement of decayed parts—which calls for the frequent changing of timbers which rest on the moist ground where insects, bacteria and fungus may attack.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

FREE: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best true-life nature observation, or the best nature observation, or the best question on nature and wildlife a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding.

Each week new submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your letter to: IS THAT SO! c/o Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

Deny Terroristic Tactics in Chinatown

San Francisco—(U.P.)—A government attorney denied Saturday that "terroristic tactics" had been used in investigation of an alleged Chinatown immigration racket.

Robert H. Schnacke, chief of the criminal division of the district U.S. attorney's office said charges leveled against the investigation by leaders of the Chinese Six Companies were "entirely unwarranted by the facts." In fact, Schnacke said, federal agents haven't even entered San Francisco's Chinatown except to serve subpoenas.

The truth, according to Schnacke, was that federal process servers "met in many cases with a total lack of cooperation, a uniform refusal to admit identity, a persistent denial of knowledge . . . and an attitude of arrogance and contempt."

Leaders of the powerful Six Companies called a rare press conference Thursday to accuse the government of conducting a "blanket fishing expedition" involving "even our children at play."

The federal Grand Jury here is investigating an alleged racket which brought alien Chinese to this country on fraudulent identification papers.

DUKES ELECTED

Salem—(U.P.)—Delores Dukes, Klamath Falls, was elected president of the Distributive Education Clubs of Oregon at the group's three-day convention which concluded last night.

Two Bibles Among Articles Now On Display at Museum

Two Bibles once owned by the father of the late H. U. Lumsden, Medford, were among articles received during February by the Jacksonville museum. The books were loaned by Mrs. Bessie Lumsden, Medford.

The museum also received a bayonet which eight-year-old Mark McBarron found on Myrtle Creek, two miles up Evans creek; the original Oregon pressure tester for pears used in the valley since 1919, presented by County Horticultural Agent B. C. Cordy; and county school records for 1884 and 1886, from Mrs. Una B. Inch.

Journal Ledger

Mrs. Veatbelle Carter, granddaughter of E. K. Anderson, one of the Ashland Woolen Mills founders, donated to the museum a journal and ledger from 1885 to 1900, an old music rack owned by her mother, Lena Anderson Phillips, a dictionary, and other school books.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Thomas, Ashland, presented the museum a picture.

A total of 1,367 persons visited the museum during February, according to the monthly report. Daily attendance averaged 54 and the total since the opening July 10, 1950, was 205,409.

Student Visitors

Visitors included the 80 pupils enrolled in West Side school, accompanied by Mrs. Bertha Haskins; 39 pupils from Fruitdale school in Josephine county, accompanied by Mrs. J. A. E. Fowler; 11 from Crater Lake school, with Mrs. Jacki Pool; 29 from Sams Valley seventh and eighth grades, Roland Smith; and 150 from Grants Pass junior

Medford Men Are Apprentice Council Position Nominees

Eight men from the Medford area are among nominees for 120 vacancies on 42 state and local committees who will be selected at the State Apprenticeship council's quarterly meeting Monday in the Forest Grove armory.

Nominated from the Medford area are Harry W. Steelman and Lindsay M. Vinsel for the Medford Apprenticeship committee; William G. Werner, Carl Peterson, James W. Stevens and James V. Knapp, for the Jackson and Josephine Counties Bricklayer apprenticeship committee; and John Voorheis and Robert Faux for the Jackson and Josephine Counties Allied Printing Trades apprenticeship committee.

The council will consider approval of 27 trade-training standards, almost double the number reviewed in any quarter of 1955.

On Increase
Labor Commissioner Norman O. Nilsen, chairman of the council, asserts trade-training is on the increase in almost every section of the state. One statewide and 15 area standards are included in the new training programs formulated by various trade committees.

Each standard sets an ascending wage scale, classroom studies and required work cycles for learning the trade's skills. Average training time is four years,

and Mrs. Arden R. Pinkham, Central Point, and Mrs. Donna Williams, Jacksonville.

4-H Leaders Take Sewing Training

Fourteen Jackson county 4-H clothing leaders have been divided into two groups and are attending a series of four training meetings here this month. Final session will be March 26.

Training in "Getting the Most Out of Your Sewing Machine" is being conducted by Miss Marjorie Hattan, Jackson county 4-H club agent. The meetings are held in cooperation with the local Singer Sewing Machine company store and Mrs. J. D. Neil, instructor at the store.

Topics covered in the course include "Know Your Sewing Machine," "Adjustment and Care of the Sewing Machine," "Machine Adjustments for Various Weights, Textures and Thicknesses of Fabrics" and "Use of Machine Attachments."

Leaders taking part in the course are Mrs. E. A. Malloroy, Mrs. James Edge, Mrs. W. M. Hunting, Mrs. Clifford Roush and Mrs. Francis Putman, Eagle Point; Mrs. Vivian A. Miller, Rogue River; Mrs. A. A. Smith, Mrs. Tyla Smith and Mrs. Paul Gasparotti, Medford; Mrs. Harold Grubb, Mrs. Paul B. Snook

Commission Agrees To Maintain Screen

Portland—(U.P.)—The Oregon State Game Commission Friday reached an agreement with the Grants Pass Irrigation District on maintenance of a proposed screen in the Savage Rapids area of the Rogue river.

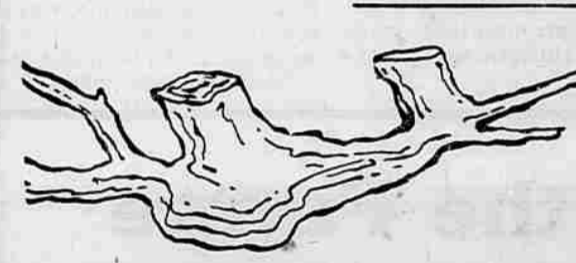
The commission also approved installation of a boat hoist at DePoe Bay on the central Lincoln county coast. The commission will install the hoist, but local boatmen will maintain it.

Improvement of fishing sites on Sauvies island near Portland was voted by the commission. Two public access sites along the Rogue river were abandoned. One at Conway was given up because the site is now away from the river. The Peyton Bridge site was abandoned because of bad rapids which have developed below the bridge.

The commission reduced its 1956 pheasant production from 40,000 to 31,000 birds because of overcrowding on the game farms.

The commission also approved and allocated funds for construction of the Bellinger boat landing on the McKenzie river.

NOW YOU CAN OWN
the magnificent
Magnavox
television
for less than ever before



COMPARE THESE
OUTSTANDING
QUALITY FEATURES

- Magnapower TV Chassis for best reception
- Full Transformer Powered for maximum dependability
- Largest 265 sq. in. Screen with optical filter
- Top Controls for easiest tuning
- Smart Compact Cabinet acoustically designed.
- This striking new example of console styling...distinctively smart and different...offers largest picture area in a beautiful compact cabinet. It requires no more space, costs no more than most ordinary table models...yet offers superior console performance and world famous Magnavox quality features throughout.

THE CONSTELLATION 21
now only \$199.50 (VHF) In Cordovan slightly higher in Syntex Mahogany or Oak

THE MAGNAVISION 21
Here is eye-catching 265 sq. in. television beauty at an amazingly low budget price. "Magnapower" full transformer chassis provides clearest, sharpest pictures and maximum dependability. Magnavox extra-value quality features such as optical filter, reflection barrier, larger Magnavox speaker... all combine to create outstanding viewing pleasure and performance.
\$179.50 (VHF) In Cordovan, complete with stand slightly higher in Syntex Mahogany, Oak or Cherry

Other Magnavox Quality TV priced as low as \$149.50 (VHF)
high fidelity instruments from \$99.50

**PURUCKER
PIANO HOUSE**
111 North Central Medford Phone 2-5702

So Easy to USE!

You can color-style a room for only a few dollars with easy-to-apply SUPER KEM-TONE colors. Come in and use our free color service.

You can have a "new" room in a day with

Super Kem-Tone

- Super durable, super washable.
- No thinning—just stir and apply—dries in one hour.
- Luscious pastel, high-fashion deep tones, gorgeous intermediate shades.
- Easy to apply—over painted walls, wallpaper or plaster.

LOWEST PRICES FOR HIGHEST QUALITY!

ACME HARDWARE CO.
SPECIALISTS IN HOMEWARES!
MEDFORD CENTRAL POINT

GIANT SIZE OVEN
yet fits smallest kitchens!

Deluxe Model 3EH14 Complete with 1956 Features!

- 4 "Dial Any Heat" Surface Unit Controls
- 4 Superspeed Micro-tube Surface Units—Left Front "Hot Spot"
- Automatic Electric Timer Clock
- Automatic Oven Floodlight
- Full-Width Storage Drawer
- King-Size Rotary Roaster optional
- Sea Mist Green, Primrose Yellow optional

Model 6134

New 1956 **Admiral** 30" ELECTRIC RANGE

"Dial Any Heat"...

You can own an Admiral Electric Range for as little as \$285 a week Your old appliance may more than cover down payment

"We Service What We Sell and Then Some — Others"

Open Wednesday Nights 'Til 9 P.M.

COUEY'S Appliance Store
225 East 6th Next to Penney's PHONE 3-5433