

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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An Easter Sermon

"... We have known humiliation, we have known abusive language, we have been plunged into the abyss of oppression, and we decided to rise up only with the weapon of protest. It is one of the greatest glories of America that we have the right of protest.

"If we are arrested every day, if we are exploited every day, if we are trampled over every day, don't ever let anyone pull you so low as to hate them. We must use the weapon of love. We must have compassion and understanding for those who hate us. We must realize so many people are taught to hate us that they are not totally responsible for their hate. But we stand in life at midnight; we are always on the threshold of a new dawn."

We are indebted to Dave Shaw of Gold Beach, candidate for congress this year, for the above extract from a talk given in a Methodist church in Montgomery, Alabama, by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., a few hours after his arrest as a leader of passive resistance against color discrimination in the city bus-lines.

Naturally under such circumstances the emotional content was high but as an appeal to the true spirit and essence of Christianity on this Easter Sunday we can think of no better text for a most timely and impressive sermon.—R.W.R.

'Who Killed Cock Robin?'

It is not a matter of world-wide importance but we would still like to know what it was that persuaded ex-Governor McKay to change his mind so suddenly regarding the race against Wayne Morse for the U.S. Senate.

Forty-eight hours before he decided to make the race he declared emphatically he would not make it. Obviously something happened in those 2 days, that completely changed his mind. What was it?

THE only incident reported at the time that could have changed his mind on such an important subject was a "call to the White House."

But when it was stated President Eisenhower was responsible for his Secretary of the Interior resigning to enter the Republican primary, Mr. McKay showed signs of resentment and stated the "White House" had nothing to do with his decision. The ground swell from the people of Oregon, demanding that he come to the aid of his party, and save his state from the blight of a certain G.O.P. "apostate," who at one time was dean of the Oregon Law School, was the cause.

FOR the time being that seemed to settle the \$64 question. It was Oregon calling, not the White House. The former claim was supported by an "impartial poll" taken in some section of the state not specified, which showed the following result in percentages:

McKay 47%, Morse 42%, undecided 11%.

This survey gave Oregon's former Governor a 5% advantage, but how about that 11% still undecided? If they should decide on election day they don't want the Secretary of the Interior in the Senate, for six years, it seems fairly obvious he would not get there.

BUT the mystery is how a poll of this kind, not statewide, not taken by any of the recognized poll-experts, and showing at best only a slight advantage for the Interior Secretary could have changed his mind, when all other pressures exerted both in Oregon and Washington (except that "White House call") failed to do so.

AND now comes Attorney General Brownell to add to the mystery. In denying to our Washington correspondent, A. Robert Smith, that he ever said Secretary McKay failed to satisfactorily refute charges of "give-away," he did directly and by implication, support the claim that what changed Mr. McKay's mind was that "White House call."

Mr. Brownell did not say exactly what happened during that "White House call"—he would not spill the beans if he knew. But he DID know the call was issued, he did know the pressure put on McKay by Sherman Adams and Republican Chairman Hall on March 8th, to make the race and he did not deny that 3 or 4 hours thereafter, and only 12 hours after he had emphatically denied he would be a candidate for the Senate—he WAS!

SO WHAT?

Well, as stated above, the matter is not of world-shattering importance. Politics is politics. And what Secretary McKay is trying to do is quite obvious. He is trying as so many politicians try to do—have his cake and eat it too.

That is, he wants of course, the 100% White House endorsement, on one hand, he doesn't wish on the other to give his opponent the chance to follow the Kefauver technique, and maintain that the "Big Boss" in Washington, dictated as to who should represent the people of Oregon in the Upper House and who shouldn't.

It involves quite a balancing act. It will be interesting to see how successful "Dear Doug" will be in making a success of it.—R.W.R.

Names Obtained for Reapportionment Measure

Bend, Ore. — (U.P.) — Giles French, Moro publisher, said here Saturday that 25,000 signatures had been obtained on petitions to put a federal reapportionment proposal on the November Oregon ballot.

Proponents of the move to reapportion the state legislature have until July 1 to obtain 40,000 signatures. French heads a statewide group seeking to reapportion the legislature on the basis of 36 senators—one from each county—with 60 members of the house of representatives elected on the

Husband Snatches Wife's Purse

Grand Rapids, Mich. —(U.P.)—Police who answered a purse snatching call in a downtown store found the "thief" was the complainant's husband. He said he took his wife's purse to prevent her from buying anything more.

basis of population. There are now 30 members of the Oregon senate. If approved in the 1956 general election, the new system would become operative for the election of senators in 1958.

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.

Who Are the "Experts"?

To the Editor: The opponents of fluoridation evidently mistrust their own Jackson county doctors and dentists, as the "experts" they quote are always from some remote point. This is not peculiar to Medford—in every area where fluoridation is needed, the opposition "experts" are shipped in. The people of Palo Alto, Calif., referred to them as the "Merchants of Fear" and requested they peddle their superstitions elsewhere.

On examination we found the following: 1. None of these "experts" has done original research on fluoridation, and therefore must get his material from the same sources our own doctors and dentists use.

2. Few of these itinerant practitioners can put an M.D. or any other degree after their name. One, a "Dr." E. H. Bronner is an escapee from an Illinois state mental institution; another, a Dr. Royal Lee is a graduate dentist but has never practiced, instead sells vitamin preparations for which he was indicted (March 11, 1945) by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission for product misrepresentation. Dr. Leo Spira quotes himself as his own authority and maintains we're all being poisoned by cooking in aluminum pots and pans. Etc., etc. A few of the opponents' "experts" are deceased. Sometimes reputable men are misquoted; and sometimes, as in the case of the Smiths of Arizona, erstwhile opponents are now proponents of fluoridation.

Dr. F. B. Exner of Seattle has appeared in about every state in the union, and one wonders how his radiology practice supports this junketing without his presence. Dr. Exner's theories have been discredited from Florida to California. A well-known biochemist in the latter state writes: "... while most of the opponents of fluoridation are misguided, but honest, in their beliefs, I cannot help but feel from the way in which Exner distorts the facts that he is well aware of what he is doing." And, regarding Dr. Exner's statements, "... there is always a point which he left out which entirely changes the meaning." The most questionable item regarding Dr. Exner is his "patient who died of fluoride poisoning," when the examining physician in Honolulu and the physicians who autopsied the case indicate the man died of pyelo nephritis with acute pyelitis, and had nothing to do with fluorides.

In short, there are a handful of medical opponents to fluoridation, a quantity of quacks, and some who simply have been frightened and misled by the former. Mrs. Edward Sickels, Chairman, Dental Health Committee, Jackson Co. Public Health Assoc.

Claims Answered To the Editor: The dental health committee of the Public Health association has had occasion recently to investigate the claims of those opposing fluoridation, and to check on the identity of their "experts". As most of these claims and many of the "experts" have been publicized in this column, a few of the findings may be of interest. Anyone can obtain this information for himself by writing the American Dental Association, American Medical Association, the State Board of Health or to other responsible groups whose interest is the nation's health.

The claims opposing fluoridation always seem to fall into these categories: 1. Material that is out-of-date. Example: A letter appeared in this column on March 7 concerning blood clotting time relative to fluorides. It was practically a verbatim quote from a New Mexico bulletin, long since out of print, dated 1938, including material dating back to 1889. The University of New Mexico writes concerning this bulletin: (March 15, 1956) "Such preliminary information is now hopelessly out of date and should be accepted by no one as authoritative."

2. Material taken out-of-context. Example: Statements listing fluoride as a poison, disregarding the quantity involved. This is like running an ad warning that hydro-cyanic acid is poison and asserting that cabbage, and cauliflower should not be eaten as they contain cyanogens. 3. Material that is unsubstantiated by scientific fact. Example: Opponents have endeavored to connect the incidence of leukemia with fluoridation. Both the American Cancer society and the Leukemia society write (March 16, 1956) that this charge is completely false. In conclusion, so far our research has turned up no facts that discredit the advisability of fluoridation. The opponents have raised unsubstantiated fears in many towns among the gullible and those who didn't have the time to look into the matter themselves. The Health association's dental committee is endeavoring to do a research and educational program so that the people of Medford will not

be sold a bill of goods by the "merchants of fear."

Dental Health Committee Jackson County Public Health Association By H. Dewey Wilson, Vice Chairman

Who Will Profit?

To the Editor: I am one of the lucky people who have deep wells full of wonderful water, but I do enjoy a swig of good cold spring H2O while shopping in Medford, and think it would be a shame to spoil it as this water is a well advertised drawing card to Medford and really quite famous.

I hear the expense of fluoridation is high and so much of this expensive water would be wasted in baths, floor scrubbing, garden and lawn watering and such a fraction ever goes through the mouth for drinking purposes.

If fluorine is not harmful, why do the latest tooth pastes which contain it make a point of saying "not recommended for use by children under 6"?

When I was small my mother bought an inexpensive bottle of lime water from the drug store and added a few drops to my drinking water. No taste and no smell. Probably fluoride can be bought that way for those who want it.

Why inflict this stuff on all the children under 6 and all the many who do not care if their false teeth are soaked in fluoridated water?

Some of the great wonder drugs have done miracles for a great many, while they have proven very harmful to others, even causing death.

Think of who will be really profiting from fluoridation? And who will be the one to pay, and pay.

Sincerely, Mrs. Ray Doran Table Rock

Still Decay!

To the Editor: Tooth decay is increasingly becoming more of a problem. I have a daughter nine years of age who already has four fillings. I plan well balanced meals each day for my family, have the children brush their teeth regularly. Still tooth decay!

Let's have fluoridation and children with pretty smiles. A smile takes you a long way, so let's keep them as attractive as possible!

A Concerned Mother, Bettie (Mrs. Wm. E.) Ruffner 2512 Lyman Ave., Medford, Ore.

Effective and Safe

To the Editor: In "Communications" for Sunday, March 25, a correspondent asked questions about water fluoridation for the purpose of cutting down tooth decay. In all fairness, her questions should be answered. This information is available to anyone who is looking for the answers.

The United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare's report of "Medical Aspects of Excessive Fluoride in a Water Supply" on a controlled 10-year study comparing Bartlett, Tex., (which nature has fluoridated with eight times the recommended amount) with Cameron, Tex., (which has a fluoride lack) disclosed no significant differences in death and disease rates from cancer, kidney and other ailments except that there was a slightly higher rate of cardiovascular abnormalities in Cameron and a mottling of teeth in Bartlett because the water had so many times the recommended amount of fluorides.

A report in the February, 1954, issue of Missouri Medicine by a committee of the St. Louis Medical Society says that the ideal daily dose of any substance is the amount which will produce benefit without doing harm. For fluorides, the ideal dose is about 1 milligram per day which is achieved by human use of drinking water containing an average of 1 part per million. This intake is calculated as the proper addition to the small amount contained in various solid foods. In the ideal amount fluorides are not stored in the body except for the very small amount that enters into the hardening of enamel of developing teeth. The rest has been proved in scientific experiments measuring ingested and excreted amounts in animals and in humans.

The margin of safety with higher than ideal amounts is so wide that no ill effects have been found even in residents of Bartlett, Tex., which has used eight parts per million for several generations.

Dogs were fed daily (by a scientist named Largent) 65 milligrams (65 times recommended dose) of sodium fluoride from age 11 months to after 5 1/2 years. No noteworthy changes were found in microscopic examination of organs and bones. Similar studies have been carried through several generations of dogs without discernible effects on their health.

The amount proposed to correct Medford's fluoride deficiency is 1 part per million, which

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

A group of beauticians from one of Medford's better establishments for the improvement of feminine good looks make a practice of attending the Northwest Beauticians' Trade show in Portland.

Last year when they attended, they had a room at a hotel near where a fire broke out. And on the way home, their car caught on fire just south of Roseburg.

This year, brave souls, they ventured north again. There was no hotel fire, thank goodness, but just south of Roseburg, in almost exactly the same spot, their car caught fire.

Wonder if they're looking forward to next year?

J. B. Gossett, of the Cargill Court apartments, was working on a wall there recently, and tacked away, apparently undisturbed for many, many years, he found an old "ice card," printed way back when, maybe 1915 or so, by the Medford Printing company, which in those days did job work.

It had a dial (remember em?) for telling the ice man how many pounds of ice the householder wanted that day, and it invited everyone to call the Jackson County Creamery, telephone Medford 51.

Col. W. H. Paine, one of Medford's most-respected citizens, admitted the other night that he's just a bit behind in his Grange dues. He said he thinks he is one of the earliest Grangers hereabouts, having joined the organization in 1888.

But he stopped paying dues two years later, and now figures that he's just 66 years in arrears.

The colonel has been a dues-paying member of the local chamber of commerce, however, for something like 30 years. The board of directors tried to make him an honorary member the other day, but found they couldn't. He already was one.

A local elected official, who shall here be nameless, dozed off during a talk at a meeting in Medford last week. He was jolted awake, though, when the speaker concluded a portion of his talk by asking: "Isn't that so, judge?"

An intense interest in the mysteries of science was noted among the young and single female population last week when the GM Parade of Progress was in town. Lecturers for the parade are all young, single and male. And they're under contract to stay that way during the tour, too—single, that is.

A young man we know (young, personable and single) was familiarizing himself with the outskirts of the city recently, and dropped into an eating and eating and drinking establishment. When he left he inadvertently left his favorite cigarette lighter there. A week later the friendly bartender advised him he'd found the lighter, but had left it at home that day. If the young man would come back next day, he said, the lighter would be there. The young man arrived, but the lighter was still at home... but if he would drop in Sunday evening... This continued for nearly two months until it dawned on our young man that this was a new type of sales promotion.

The same bartender, by the way, extinguished a fire in the front seat of a Cadillac after one of the waitresses spent considerable time circulating through the crowd asking quietly, "Does anyone own a red Cadillac?"

A local family has a pet goose, which has learned to knock on the door for attention. The other day the lady of the family was making a hasty dash through the house without benefit of clothing, en route to a bath, when she heard a knocking at the door. She hid in a corner of the living room for quite a time, afraid to go past the window, before she discovered the knocking was being done by the goose.

Jimmy Dunlevy, manager of KYJC, arrived late at police headquarters for his part in a weekly driving program recently, and admitted he'd been delayed when he ran out of gas on route.

APPOINTED CARETAKER

Washington — (U.P.) — The White House Friday announced the appropriately pre-Easter appointment of A. E. Rabbitt as caretaker of President Eisenhower's putting green.

trace amount has been proved safe and effective in reducing tooth decay. William J. Thompson, O.D., 209 Fluhrer Building, Medford, Ore.

Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

THE NSC SYSTEM

Washington — The National Security Council, the nation's top policy-making body, was formed for the soundest of reasons and has often performed most usefully. Yet it is time to ask whether, on balance, the whole governmental system which has grown up around the NSC has not proved a dangerous failure.

The laudable purpose of the NSC was to provide the government with a single, coherent policy, instead of half a dozen insanely competing policies. The idea was that the principal policy-making officers would meet regularly to hammer out policies on the major issues, for submission to the President.

The idea worked well at first. But as the years have passed, certain unanticipated consequences of the NSC system have become apparent.

IN THE first place, the Council has tended to become an instrument, not for reaching hard decisions, but for reaching the lowest common denominator of indecision. President Eisenhower, as in the matter of Quemy and Matsu, will occasionally take matters into his own hands and over-rule the NSC. But, like President Truman before him, and for understandable reasons, he heartily dislikes "split papers." Thus the NSC system generates a heavy pressure for unanimity at all costs.

Unanimity often boils down to gassy generalities — many NSC papers these days are reliably reported to consist of meaningless couched in impeccable governmentese, and nothing else at all. And when real decisions cannot be avoided, unanimity is almost always achieved simply by splitting the difference. Do we, for example, make a major effort to overtake the Soviet lead in missile development, or is it more important to balance the budget? In the NSC, difference is split. The missile effort is stepped up somewhat, but not enough to throw the budget out of whack — or to catch up with Soviets. This difference-splitting is about as useful as building a bridge half way across a river.

THE NSC system has, moreover, seeped relentlessly down through the whole government. Inter-departmental committee is piled on inter-departmental committee in a vast squirming pyramid, so that decisive action is impossible, and officials at all levels waste their weary lives away at committee meetings, with no time left to think or act. The results were neatly summed up by Dr. Wal-

SURELY THE NSC system explains at least in part the queer public apathy which has greeted the many authoritative warnings that the world balance of power is shifting rapidly in favor of the Soviets.

What to do about this sort of challenge to our national security is, according to the NSC system, not a fit subject for public discussion. So the public can hardly be expected to get very excited about it. Copyright 1956 New York Herald Tribune Inc.

In The Day's News

I'm a little surprised to find this morning in the editorial columns of one of our most estimable and most respected Western newspapers this statement:

"We are certain that a good many loyal and reflective citizens will be somewhat disturbed by the government seizure of Communist party property, including that of the (New York) Daily Worker, on back tax claims."

That seems to me to indicate a fundamental misunderstanding of the ruckus between our government and the Communist party and its New York newspaper, the Daily Worker.

The facts in the case are about like this:

THE government says the Daily Worker owes \$46,049 in income taxes for the years 1951, 1952 and 1953 and HASN'T PAID IT.

The Daily Worker says it actually LOST MONEY in those years, and so doesn't owe any tax.

In answer to this contention, the government says: "How come? If you were losing money, how did you go on operating? It takes money to operate a newspaper, just as it takes money to operate any business. Where did the money come from?"

TO THIS, the Daily Worker replied in effect: "We lost money on our newspaper, but our friends GAVE US MONEY to keep on going."

The government then says: "Well, that was INCOME. You must report it. You must report how much it was and WHERE IT CAME FROM."

THE Daily Worker refused to report it.

So the government cracked down on the Daily Worker's property—just as it would crack down on this newspaper if it refused to report essential facts about its income.

That's about the situation. HERE'S the rub: SUPPOSE THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF RUSSIA, WITH HEADQUARTERS IN THE KREMLIN, HAD TO PUT UP THE MONEY TO KEEP THE DAILY WORKER GOING. Or at least a part of it. It would be EXTREMELY embarrassing to the Communist

ter Dornberger, creator of the V-2, when asked why American industry had fallen behind in missile development. "The industry has to convince at least 200 different people in twenty different offices and committees before a new project can start. Most of these people change every two years. They have different opinions and they have to be convinced again. Too many people, too many questions, too many answers."

These consequences of the NSC system are serious enough. But there is another consequence which is very much worse. The system has tended to cut off communication between the American government and its real masters, the American people. A wall of sacrosanct immunity has been built around the NSC, so that government officials tremble and turn pale, as though a blasphemy has been committed, when they hear the august, unmentionable initials pronounced.

"POLICY decisions of the National Security Council," one member of that body has loftily stated, "are not a fit subject for public discussion." This is another way of saying that policy decisions of the American government are not a fit subject for public discussion. For the NSC is the government these days.

The Cabinet, already shadowy under Franklin Roosevelt, has become the merest shadow of a shadow, since all real power has passed to the NSC. But when the Cabinet was the principal policy-making body, it never occurred to anyone to suggest that its policy decisions were not a fit subject for public discussion. They were discussed freely and heatedly, inside the government and out, in accord with the traditional American system.

Almost without a nybody noticing, the NSC system, of secret decisions secretly arrived at, has been replacing the traditional system. Obviously there is an area of the government's policy-making process which is properly secret. But the NSC system goes much further than that. It is a system in which the government's policy on the great central issues is regarded as none of the public's business and, increasingly, none of Congress's business either.

What to do about this sort of challenge to our national security is, according to the NSC system, not a fit subject for public discussion. So the public can hardly be expected to get very excited about it. Copyright 1956 New York Herald Tribune Inc.

Editorial Comment

LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN

The Portland-Salem freeway returns some of the pleasure to what used to be called pleasure driving. It is uncrowded and uncluttered.

There are no eyesore roadside stands, no rusting car bodies, no shanties 10 feet from the shoulder.

But there are a few billboards and "prospects for more. The freeway is one of the 18 roadways in Oregon classified as "throughways," and as such the law prohibits billboards more frequently than every 1,000 yards and specifies setback.

In that open country signs so placed would be visible by the dozen from almost any point. One advertiser took a look at his board and promptly ordered it removed to preserve "the beauty of our native state."

We are going to add our upstate voice to that of the Portland Journal and ask that other companies follow suit. That highway's beauty still can be preserved.

There's a place for billboards. It's in cities and towns which already are marred by neons and irregular buildings and all the other jumbled paraphernalia of commerce and industry.—Albany Democrat-Herald.

WEATHER By United Press Northern California: Mostly fair through Sunday.