

A Second Call

As we have often remarked "You get just what you vote for." A corollary to that might well be: "If we refuse to work for a cause, there is not much chance of its success."

WE ARE convinced a vast majority of the people of Southern Oregon want teeth put in legislation so the office of Public Utility Commissioner can have SOMETHING to say about what the "Friendly Southern Pacific" should do in the way of rendering decent public service.

There are two bills presented by State Senator Phil Lowry of Medford which if passed would go far toward bringing about such a desirable condition. They come up for a hearing before the Senate committee on Wednesday, March 20.

The "S.P." lobby, always on the job, is flooding the state with letters and propaganda opposing any such action and some of its prominent shippers are, on urgent request, giving their assistance.

NOW it is up to the people who want passenger service returned to Southern Oregon to do their bit, get busy and let their representatives in the state legislature know how they feel about it.

And this should be done so the information will reach Salem before Wednesday, the 20th.

THIS is the second call. There won't be time for a third. If the people of Southern Oregon don't care enough about getting decent transportation service to do something about it, one thing for sure,—they will NEVER get it!—R.W.R.

Porter versus Trujillo

Congressman Charles Porter is a striking contrast to his predecessor, Harris Ellsworth.

Congressman Ellsworth scrupulously obeyed the unwritten law about House Freshmen being seen and not heard.

The only trouble with Harris was that he followed that procedure long after he had ceased to be a Freshman. In fact he was more or less a silent and inactive partner in the business of government as a representative of the Fourth district, throughout his many terms.

He was very sincere and conscientious, answered his letters promptly and was always willing to listen to advice, but he was never one to stray from his well-beaten path of orthodox and approved G.O.P. philosophy, procedure, and behavior.

As noted above Congressman Porter is a very different type. He had hardly taken the oath of office and settled down in his seat before he proceeded to get busy.

And nothing daunted, in a short time he took on one of the most absolute, unprincipled and blood-thirsty despots in the western world, none other than Generalissimo Rafael Leonidas Trujillo, the strong and ruthless ruler of the Dominican Republic. Porter called him—and quite accurately—"the little Caesar of the Caribbean," a man who runs his country as if it were his private plantation, is permitted, again and again, to outrage every code of decency, trample beneath his spurred boots every human right, and last but far from least, he has the effrontery to send his hired thugs to Washington, D.C., New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Miami to revenge himself upon his personal and fugitive enemies.

THE smug and humorless traditionalists in the Lower House were horrified at such presumption, and flagrant violation of congressional mores. They were also "regardless of party" scathing in their denunciation of a behaviour some of them charged might lead to serious international complications.

BUT there is one thing about Congressman Porter he isn't easily awed or scared. He refused to quit. He came back, in fact, with more charges, asked the House Foreign Affairs committee to investigate the mysterious disappearance of Dr. Jesus de Galindez, a professor at Columbia University in New York, who just a year ago walked from the university to the Manhattan subway entrance, and was never seen again.

He also suspected Dictator Trujillo of ordering the murder of a fellow citizen of his, Aviator Gerald L. Murphy of Eugene, who it has been claimed was hired to fly the missing Columbia professor back to the Dominican Republic and to his own death. This only added fuel to the flames of denunciation particularly among the Republican "Old Guard." But going his way serenely, Congressman Porter declared he was carrying a gun for protection against a similar fate, whereupon loud were the reprimands, followed by derisive laughter.

WE WONDER if these deriders really knew anything about this man Trujillo and how long his arm reaches when it comes to his enemies, not only at home, but abroad? Well, according to the always reliable and objective "Editorial Research," here is a partial list of recent victims as claimed by his critics, quote:

- "Sergio Bencomse and Andres Requena, writers, who were shot to death in New York City; Pipi Hernandez, a labor leader, stabbed to death in Havana; Mauricio Baez, also a labor leader, who disappeared in Havana; Clemente Savinon, farmer, who disappeared in Haiti; Luis Arias, journalist, murdered in Haiti."

And now we have added to the gruesome list Messrs. Galindez and Murphy. Far from criticizing Congressman Porter for this frontal attack on the Dominican tyrant, and packing a pistol as he roams the streets of the national capital, we commend him for his courage, his initiative and his wisdom. Had Professor Galindez taken the latter precau-

Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

THE STOLEN SOUL

Washington—There has been a sudden spate of soul-searching among the Democrats, with advice and admonitions from Adlai Stevenson, Sen. Jack Kennedy, and lesser luminaries. The reason for all this soul-searching is simple. The Democratic party has lost its soul. The Eisenhower administration has deftly snatched it away.



The administration's "modern Republicanism" has, in other words, taken over the heart and soul of the Democratic program, so that the Democrats are left with nothing to talk about. Consider three specific examples. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Marion Folsom is currently defending before Congress a program calling for a 23 per cent rise in his department's expenditures, and including almost half a billion dollars for Federal aid to education. Secretary of Labor James Mitchell is defending a program, bitterly opposed by some business interests, for extending the minimum wage to two and a half million more wage-earners than are now covered. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson is defending a budget approaching \$4 billion, including direct payments to farmers of more than \$1.2 billion under the soil bank.

FEDERAL aid to education, minimum wage, and the soil bank were all Democratic ideas in the first place. If the Eisenhower administration had not taken them over—which it would certainly not have done in its earlier, more conservative

phase—the Democrats would be having a fine time making issues for 1958 and 1960. But now that the Administration has kidnapped these issues, and many others, what are the poor Democrats to do? One liberal northern Democrat recently gave this answer: "The Republicans have usurped the center, and in that case the opposition can either go right or left. I choose to go left."

When this answer to the Democratic dilemma is examined in the light of the political realities, two questions arise. First, where is left? The Democrats can, of course, demand more money for the farmers and the school children, further extension of minimum wage, and so on—and some are doing so. But asking for more money when the Administration has already asked for a lot is not very dramatic. It is not even very politically profitable, when the main weight of political pressure is all the other way. And, at least in this time of prosperity, the kind of massive Federal intervention in the functioning of the economy which a really sharp turn to the left would involve is just not practical politics.

Moreover, if "the opposition can go either right or left," won't the opposition be badly split? That is, of course, exactly what is happening. The split in the Democratic party is no new thing, of course, but the split these days is sharper and deeper than ever. It has, moreover, taken on a new dimension. For the sharp division on foreign policy which has developed among Democrats is an essentially new phenomenon. Until recently, foreign policy was one area in which northern liberals and southern conservatives

could agree. But this is no longer so. The new tendency toward economic isolationism in the South, which is being spearheaded by the revered Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, has split the party wide open in this area too.

Of the 18 Democratic Senators recorded in opposition to the Eisenhower Doctrine, all but three were from the South or border states. This split will be further accentuated by the forthcoming battle over foreign aid. And the long bitter fight over civil rights which is also in prospect will of course further dramatize the division in the party.

IN SHORT, the Democrats are divided on foreign policy, and they have not a single important domestic party issue with which to belabor the Administration. It is about as unhappy a situation as the Democrats have found themselves in since the 1920s.

It is a situation, moreover, in which the Republicans, if they can hold together, have a golden opportunity to make their party again the majority party in the nation. Those Republicans who are muttering and grumbling about the Eisenhower administration's "modern Republicanism" should surely bear these facts in mind. (c) The New York Herald Tribune, Inc.

THIS answer to the Washington Post's inquiry, impressed this department as rather inadequate. Why DID it take such a long time for officials both in the city administration in Portland, and in the state, to act?

Long before the Oregonian's "expose," the "tie-up" between crime and the Teamsters union was common gossip. In both state and national elections, vague rumors of something rotten in Denmark—and in Portland—were bandied about, but nothing was done about it. Nor was any wrong-doing specified.

THE "Post" inquiry, we believe, was entirely warranted, and had nothing to do with whether "rats" are, or are not gnawing in the walls of the national capital or elsewhere. The Oregonian quite properly takes credit for breaking the "big news" but the mystery to the Washington paper, and to many others no doubt, is WHY the "big bust" did not come long before, and why so little HAD been done in the direction of cleaning house and convicting the culprits in and out of office, since then.

The Oregonian thinks the fact the state legislature was not in session until January of this year, and the laws are "fuzzy," provides another "alibi."

WE CAN'T see it. All we can see is No. 1: a general public apathy in our state metropolis. A tendency to drift and let well enough alone, politically; and most important of all the fact that two key offices in the city and county in the realm of law enforcement, that of District Attorney and Sheriff (later Portland Mayor) were occupied by gentlemen either in actual cahoots with the underworld racketeers, or at least, so involved and sympathetic with them, there was no chance of any initiation of legal action.

We have no doubt, that the Washington Post would be shocked into a clearer comprehension of the Portland "mess," if it knew that the District Attorney of Multnomah county, is now and for some time has been under indictment for participation in this unsavory Portland scandal, and yet is still allowed to exercise the all important duties of that office.

We can't believe there are many states in the country, where any such effective road block to justice and decency in government, municipal or state, would so long be tolerated. Instead of chiding the Washington Post for asking "What's the matter with Oregon," the leading paper of the state, and the one responsible for the disclosures of corruption and crime, should, we think, have welcomed the inquiry and proceeded to give a more complete presentation of all the facts, which make up the answer.—R.W.R.

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.

The Arab Point of View

To the Editor: An increasing number of confusing letters have appeared in recent weeks in the American press concerning the Middle Eastern crisis. As a Middle Easterner I would like to make a few comments.

Forty years ago Palestine was thoroughly and completely an Arab country. Ninety-five per cent of its population was Arab, and Arabs owned 99 per cent of the land. There were only 50,000 Jews in Palestine. Most of these were Arab Jews, that is to say, Arabs of Jewish faith.

Today four-fifths of the land of Palestine constitutes a Jewish state, the State of Israel. Instead of the 50,000 Jews, there are today 1,600,000 Jews who have come into the country from various parts of the world. The overwhelming majority of Arabs who were in Palestine have been expelled from their homes; a million of them are today refugees in camps, living on international charity at the rate of 7 cents a day per person and subsisting on 1,500 calories a day.

Israel has been maintaining a policy of constant military aggression. It is the avowed purpose of the leaders of Israel to expand Israeli territory and to occupy the whole of Palestine and Jordan.

Regarding the status of the Suez Canal, the contention that in nationalizing the Suez Canal Company, the Egyptian Government nationalized or seized the canal itself is utterly wrong. The canal has never been international; it is and has always been

Egyptian property. The Suez Canal Company was but one of those corporations with multinational stockholders. It was an Egyptian company, operating under an Egyptian act of concession and subject to Egyptian laws and sovereignty.

In nationalizing the company on July 26, 1956, the Egyptian Government was exercising a sovereign and legal right, a right upheld by the International Court of Justice. The same right has been exercised by many other nations, including Britain and France. The contention that the nationalization of the company will result in interference with its freedom of navigation is evidently intended for confusion. Egypt had always respected the neutrality of the canal and never interfered with its freedom of navigation.

The charge that Egypt is already interfering with the freedom of navigation in the canal by refusing the passage of Israeli ships is false. Israeli non-strategic goods are allowed to proceed without interference. Only Israeli-bound strategic materials and Israeli ships are barred from the canal, because it should be remembered that Israel is technically at war with Egypt, and Article 10 of the 1888 Convention regarding the neutrality of the canal upholds Egypt's action in this respect.

With reference to the position of the Soviet Union I should say that the Middle East is predominantly Moslem and the Moslems believe that communism is a replica of Marxism with a touch of tartar sauce. The first principle of Islam is the oneness of God. This article of faith has been the rallying point of all Moslems. Belief in God and the oneness of God is the heart of Islam as is the submission to the will of God, Islam and communism are like oil and water—the two never mix.

Saifur Fariborz, 1120 1/2 Stewart ave. Medford, Ore. Mother Carey's Chickens To the Editor: From a European correspondent comes news of the establishment of Rona Nature Reserve in islands off Scotland. This, to protect the rare Atlantic Grey Seal in its principal home.

What interests writer is that a by-product of above is conserving Leach's stormy petrel. These seabirds are what the sailors call "Mother Carey's chickens." (Mother Carey was a sea-witch who caused most of a tar's troubles.) The bird is circumpolar and ranges south to St. Helena in the Atlantic, to Peru in the Pacific.

When "we-2" were birding in the North Atlantic up the Polar Ice Carrier North of Spitzbergen, we found this petrel used as a candle on Faroe Island and on Iceland. The bird is very fat. When dried, a wick drawn through the body makes a fairly good candle.

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

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Being part Irish ourselves, we weren't quite sure whether to laugh or be mad when we heard this one. You be the judge: St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, we are informed, because he invented the wheelbarrow to teach the Irish to stand on their hind legs.

See what we mean? Sure, and 'tis a happy St. Pat's day we're wishin' ye, none-theless.

The 1957 World Almanac, worthy and helpful reference book that it is, is not infallible, we've found out. Gregg Milnes was thumbing through it the other day and found that in one spot the county seat of Jackson County, Oregon, is listed as Nedford. What's more, he wrote 'em and told 'em, too, and they wrote back and promised never to do that again.

Bill Crowder, the local arm of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has a reputation as a good and efficient agent, so the story his boss told on him last week is probably apocryphal. Anyway, the story goes that Bill drove to Portland for a conference, finished the job, climbed on a plane and got almost to Medford before he remembered he had driven his car there.

Former State Rep. Ed Mann, who visited his old haunts in the Capitol in Salem recently, is authority for the story that one representative got up on the floor and in the course of a speech referred to "this august body." Whereupon another member jumped up and asked if he was talking about the kind of members in the house, or predicting when they'd finish and go home?

Following the recent reorganization of the Medford police department in which a captaincy and a couple of lieutenant's posts were created, and a slew of men were upgraded, someone was heard to remark that the title "chief of police" hardly seemed sufficiently impressive any more.

"Maybe," the thoughtful one pondered, "we should change it to 'admiral' or even 'commander in chief'."

Speaking of the police, officers here recently, and our photographer, happening by, called the office to ask "Shall I take a few shots at the police school?"

This younger generation! At a certain Medford school the other day, a group of girls was to see a movie about what used to be called the facts of life. Prior to this, one brash young man approached one of the girls and, in a fit of daring, said "What's sex?"

The young lady, rather startled for a moment, recovered to reply: "You can find it quick in the yellow pages."

A typewritten story recently (which was corrected before it got into print) told about the "Siskiyou Knife and Cork Club." In that version, it sounds like an interesting organization, anyway.

Officers who won substantial sums of cash Friday night while compiling evidence for an arrest for pinball gambling had a ready (but hardly believable) explanation for their success: "Beginners' luck."

The following two tales are from Conrad Prang's "Comes the Dawn" column in the Oregon Statesman:

A local photographer swears to this one. Says he saw a guy standing on the Capitol steps the other day in deep thought. He tells the photog he came to town to help quash a bill in the Legislature. Ask what he can do. Well, says the shutter-banger, go into the committee room, get a copy of the bill, put it in your pocket, take it home and tear it up. And that'll take care of that. The guy dashes into the building, comes out a minute later with his hand in his pocket and a smile on his face.

A bulletin from someone who has looked into the situation says that atomic fallout is less harmful in the city than in the country. Because in the city the air is hotter, rises faster and carries away the fallout quicker. In that case, the Capitol area should be the safest place in Salem these days.

groups of Americans are voting for objectives larger than their immediate interest. Certainly the Eisenhower administration did not win the majority of the labor vote, as it did last fall, by being a "labor administration." If both parties face next year's fight for Congress aware that the other can win, this means that either can win.

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Gross value of the catch by Australia's five whaling stations in 1955 was \$4.4 million, slightly above 1954's mark.

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10 YEARS AGO March 17, 1947 (Monday) Pipe for an irrigation-sprinkler system for the new park is delivered, according to Tom Higgins, park superintendent.

20 YEARS AGO March 17, 1937 (Wednesday) State executive committee of Disabled American Veterans will meet at Eagles Hall to plan the annual state convention at McMinnville.

30 YEARS AGO March 17, 1927 (Thursday) Boy Scouts of Troop 2 present work and special exhibition stunts at Woodmen lodge meeting.

40 YEARS AGO March 17, 1917 (Saturday) Eight large clubs and fifteen smaller ones have been organized in the county for the purpose of exterminating gray digger squirrels, gophers, moles and jackrabbits.

What's Your I.Q.? 1. Were wire-ropes first introduced in the U.S. by an American or Frenchman? 2. In what mountains is the Simpson Tunnel located? 3. Bible: God selected a "Chosen Family" from among the Ancients to fashion the world's salvation through them; true or false? 4. In war, what does the term "open city" mean? 5. Were Danlos and Black, or the Curries, the first to use radium to treat humans? 6. What is the gardener's rule for depth at which bulbs should be planted? 7. Where is the Dnieper River? 8. Do sponges belong to the animal, vegetable, or mineral kingdom? 9. Does "alibi" mean "another place" or "any excuse"? 10. "Hell is the wrath of God—His hate of"—what? Answers: 1. American. John A. Roebling (1842). 2. Swiss Alps. 3. True. 4. An undefended city. 5. Danlos and Black, 1901. 6. As deep as twice their diameter. 7. In the Ukraine, Soviet Russia. 8. Animal. 9. Another place. 10. Sin.—P. J. Sully.