

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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What "We the People" Need

One of the urgent needs of the country is a Public Prosecutor and Defender. The need is for an able, experienced attorney, with a large staff of assistants and researchers, REPRESENTING NO POLITICAL PARTY, but the people — ALL the people — of the United States, and dedicated absolutely to their interests.

THE Public Prosecutor and Defender should get a salary comparable to the salaries paid lawyers representing Big Business—U.S. Steel, General Motors and What Have you — and he should be subject to removal only for cause.

After all, the biggest single business in the "USA" is the "government of the people," and when their interests are threatened by the big private "Vested Interests" they should not have to go into court with two strikes already against them.

AS THE situation is today, they seldom have the money to get to court, and if they do, by the reason of being completely outclassed in the matter of counsel, financial resources and political power, they are lucky to get to first base, much less to second, third or home.

THIS is wrong. And if we might be so bold as to say so — it has for too many years, been the "American Way" with the time long overdue, to bar it for what it IS—100% UN-American.

TAKE the Friendly Southern Pacific, for example. But for the public-spirited and unremunerated services of State Senator Phil Lowery of Medford —aided by his fellow state senators, Messrs Geddes and Brown of Roseburg and Grants Pass—nothing would have been done officially to protest the SP violation of the spirit of its franchise in depriving Southwestern Oregon of all passenger service.

It is at a great sacrifice of time and money now that this action is being continued, and because of the practically unlimited resources of the "Billion Dollar" S.P., its powerful lobby at Salem, its tremendous political influence even extending to the COURTS, it would take a hardy optimist indeed, to predict the "case for the people" will be won.

As this involves interstate commerce, if there were a "Public Prosecutor and Defender" in Washington, he would at once place all the power of his office "financial, legal and factual" against the S.P. and in favor of the people of Oregon, and needless to say the situation as of today would be very different.

THERE are all sorts of cases that would, if we had a "Public Prosecutor and Defender" in Washington come before him.

Take "Pay TV" as another example. As a correspondent in last Sunday's paper stated, there is a tremendous amount of confusion surrounding this issue. And this confusion is a direct result of the millions of dollars put into anti-pay "T.V." propaganda, as well as political pressures at Washington via the powerful lobby of the billion dollar Television industry.

THIS, too, is wrong. All that has been asked is that "Pay TV" be given a 3-year TRIAL. As William M. Stringer of the Christian Science Monitor Washington Bureau has well stated, "WHY NOT LET THE PUBLIC DECIDE."

Why not? That's the democratic way. But thanks to the terrific power, financial and political of this industry, and the fear, (we believe unfounded) that if the people had a chance to get better TV pictures at very slight extra cost they would drop free "TV"—a committee in the congress has already voted against even a "trial" and as the situation now stands it appears the big vested-interests will have all the guns, legal political and financial, while the people (who we believe if they clearly understood "Pay TV" would heartily welcome it) will, as usual, be powerless.

WHETHER such an issue could properly be brought before such a department of the government only the future could determine. But there would be no doubt that here would, as in the SP case, be a clear example of the need of such a department.

IT ISN'T a new question, of course. Teddy Roosevelt pointed the problem out in his crusade against what he called the "malefactors of great wealth."

But it seems to this department that it has, in recent years, taken on a new and extremely timely significance.

TAKE the so called "Tidelands Oil case" for just another example. There is no doubt, as we see it, that had the people ever had a chance to vote on the question whether the billions of profit from this offshore oil should go to three or four states—(and eventually on a lease-basis to a few of the big oil companies) or be divided among all 48 states as an aid to national education the people would have voted almost unanimously for the latter.

But under the circumstances what chance did they have? Not the chance of the well known snowball. And for reasons as above indicated.

Had a strong, well-financed department of the government dedicated to the protection and promotion of the PUBLIC WELFARE, been in operation, how different the result would have been!

—R.W.R.



Matter of Fact

THE FRENCH SITUATION

Paris—In a tragic manner the bombing of the little Tunisian village of Sakiet Sidi Youssef has underlined all the anomalies of the present French situation.

Here was a military operation whose political penalties were out of all proportion to any military reward. According to French Foreign Minister Pineau, this heavy attack upon Tunisian territory was never authorized by the French government.

One's first reaction to such statements is simple amazement. It is easy enough to understand the feelings of the French professional soldiers, who have lived through the long and bitter war in Indochina and now find themselves involved in a long and bitter war in Algeria, with Tunisia playing the "protected sanctuary role" that China played before.

BUT what of the fantastic indiscipline that is revealed by the triumph of these feelings, by the actual commission of a fairly major act of war, without the slightest authorization from the French cabinet? Who should bear the responsibility of this?

As every American knows who had read foreign comment on the problems of the United States, diagnosing other nations' inner ailments is a pastime which wise men will generally forego.

But in the present instance, this reporter would like to suggest that the fault lies, not really with the soldiers, but chiefly with the politicians.

The defects of the French political system are frequently exaggerated. The ability of France's political leaders is widely under-rated. But with the possible exceptions of Gen. de Gaulle on the Right and Pierre Mendes-France on the Left, almost every French political leader is flagrantly guilty of the same flagrant sin of omission. None of them will get up on their hind legs, in the Chamber of Deputies or elsewhere, and say in so many words:

"France cannot have her cake and eat it too."

SEVERAL grave issues of policy were posed, for example, when the Algerian rebels began to use Tunisia as an out-of-bounds base.

The most obvious was the simple issue of peace or war. As lately revealed by this correspondent, the French Cabinet finally put this central issue up to the French General Staff. The military had been saying the Algerian rebellion could not be crushed while the Tunisian base existed. So the civilians asked the military whether the Tunisian base ought to be eliminated by the reconquest of Tunisia.

The French Chief of Staff, Gen. Paul Elv, replied unequivocally that the venture could not even be considered, for want of men, the munitions, and the money for the job. The one efficient course of military action against Tunisia was thus ruled out. Logically, that left only a single other alternative, leaving Tunisia alone and strengthening the measures against border-crossing inside Algeria.

But this degree of toleration was in fact insupportable. Hence a kind of creeping border war against Tunisia was begun, which has now produced the Sakiet Sidi Youssef bombing. No one who has much familiarity with situa-

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.

Consider Picketing?

To the Editor: I, for one, read the article of Feb. 10, on brutal slaughter and agree with it that if we can convince our F.F.A. people and the 4-H Clubs to open eyes and ears to the fate of their pets that we might reach through the callousness and indifference practiced by many butchers today.

I was employed a number of years by a meat firm which owned and operated a large slaughter house in connection with the business. There humane methods were not provided. At the close of the day I often heard employees discussing incidents of horror and cruelty that could have been avoided if proper methods had been employed.

Feelings ran high about an old cow, a family pet, that was about to be butchered. Terrified by the screams and groans of dying animals and seeming to realize her fate she broke loose, jumped fences and ran until she fell exhausted.

How many would want a steak from an animal that had been heated for running and the meat tensed from fear?

Some of our big companies like the Hormel plant at Austin, Minn., are helping our cause by proudly displaying a large sign along the highway stating, "Every animal in our plant is killed humanely."

Should picketing be considered in this business, too? (Name on File) Medford

Urges Humane Trapping

To the Editor: Few women who wear furs are aware of the method by which they are produced. The coats, stoles, and other wearing apparel made of wild mink, beaver, muskrat, raccoon, and pelts of many other species represent many hundreds of hours of suffering for animals.

The commonly used method of taking furbearers is the steel jaw trap. When an animal steps on it, the powerful jaws clamp shut on its leg. The spring is so strong that the leg is often broken when the jaws close on the helpless animal.

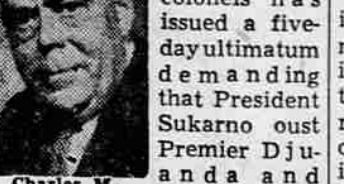
Trappers often find that to escape the pain, fear, hunger, thirst, and other agonies they undergo, animals gnaw off their own legs to escape. After gaining freedom, they succumb to gangrene, hunger, or shock from blood loss.

Those that do not escape must wait until the trapper, visiting his trap line, arrives to free the animal from its suffering by killing it, usually with a club. The torment of trapped animals lasts for many days, and often for weeks, before death finally

Indonesian Politics Nearing Explosion; Ultimatum Given

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The Indonesian political situation seems to be nearing the explosion point. A "revolutionary council" of young army colonels has issued a five-day ultimatum demanding that President Sukarno oust Premier Djuanda and name former Vice President Mohammed Hatta in his place.



The ultimatum expires Saturday. The alternative to its acceptance apparently will be the proclamation of a rebel government.

Sukarno himself is visiting in Japan. In his absence, the Djuanda government has ordered the dishonorable discharge of Col. Ahmad Hussein, leader of the revolutionary council, and three fellow-officers.

The rebels charge that the Djuanda government is pro-Communist and is plunging Indonesia into economic chaos.

President Sukarno, himself a "neutralist" with the usual neutralist slant toward the

Communist way of thinking, is not threatened—so far. But behind the rebel movement is long-brewing, widespread discontent with Sukarno and the politicians with whom he has associated himself.

Part of the dissatisfaction is due to the feeling in Sumatra and other important islands of the Indonesia group that the government is being run for the benefit of Java, on which the capital, Jakarta, is situated.

Set Up Own Regime This dissatisfaction led Col. Hussein, commander in central Sumatra, to set up an autonomous regime in the island in December, 1956. This regime is using Sumatra's rich resources in rubber, coffee and other products for

Sumatra's own use by conducting foreign trade direct with other countries.

The Communists have made strong gains in local elections in Indonesia in recent months. They always have had a voice in the government.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, in a most unusual statement, said at a press conference in Washington Tuesday that the United States would like to see an Indonesian government "which is constitutional and which reflects the real interests and desires of the people."

He intimated that the present regime under Sukarno and Premier Djuanda did not meet this specification, and he mentioned the growing Communist strength.

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

TURNING POINT IN NORTH AFRICA

It is not clear whether the bombing of the Tunisian town of Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef was authorized from Paris or was done on orders from military headquarters in Algeria. If it was a local action, the bombing, which which

Lyle C. Wilson resulted in a massacre of civilians, can be disavowed and reparations offered. But if Paris accepts responsibility, the event marks a turning point in the international relationships of the Algerian war.

For while it is being argued that the bombing was carried out under the doctrine of "hot pursuit" to silence an anti-aircraft battery in Tunisia which had fired across the frontier at a French plane in Algeria—it is hard to reconcile this with the fact that the planes attacked the market place of the town, machine-gunning and bombing so many men, women and children who could not possibly have had anything to do with the anti-aircraft battery. It was a reprisal to terrorize the Tunisian population and deter them from aiding and encouraging the Algerian rebels.

THIS will have long consequences. For it goes to show that the Algerian war is not an internal affair of France—Algeria being juridically a part of France—but an international affair which it is impossible to isolate and ignore. It is clearly impossible for the United States to ignore it, and to adhere to the position that the Algerian struggle is purely French business like, let us say, a riot in Bordeaux or Marseilles.

The United States is involved not only because American planes, intended for the collective defense of Western Europe, were used. The United States is involved because the whole of North Africa, with which we are greatly concerned, is threatened.

IF there is to develop out of the conflict on the Algerian border something like a state of war with Tunisia, it will be impossible for the United States to remain disengaged and neutral. We cannot, on the one hand, supply the French government with arms under NATO, with foreign exchange under the cred-

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Mouse Control Man May Stay in Field

Portland—Continued assignment of a federal specialist to keep watch on southeastern Oregon's mouse infestation will be sought, state health officials said today.

Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer, said the decision was made after three Public Health Service experts warned of possible disease outbreaks when farmers go into infested fields next spring.

The report said several outbreaks of tularemia and other diseases among the mice, plus low winter birth rates, may reduce last fall's infestation as much as 75 per cent by spring. But it said the population may increase again during the spring and summer months. Ground water shows evidence of contamination with tularemia in some areas, posing a potential threat to health, the report said.

Cargo-Liner Fire Reported Extinguished

Wellington, N.Z. — The 13,000-ton cargo-liner Persic which reported a serious fire aboard Wednesday radioed today the fire was out and it was proceeding as planned to Callao, Peru.

The Persic carried no passengers.

Byrd Not Seeking Reelection; Will Trim Conservatives

By RAYMOND LAHR United Press Correspondent

Washington — The retirement of Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) will open a conspicuous hole in the conservative ranks of the Senate.

Until and unless his power is inherited by a man of comparable stature, conservative influence on budget and tax policy will be weakened in the Senate. The voice of Southern conservatives will be muted.

Byrd, who announced Wednesday he will not seek reelection this year, has been the outstanding congressional foe of big government spending for a quarter of a century. But he fought a losing battle while the peacetime federal budget expanded more than tenfold during his 25 years in Washington.

Holds Purse Strings He is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee which handles tax, tariff, social security and other legislation having great impact on the economic state of the union.

If the Democrats retain control of the Senate his successor will be Sen. Robert S. Kerr (D Okla.) who has never been aligned with Byrd in the economy bloc.

There will still be conservatives on the committee after Byrd retires. But none wields power comparable. Liberals and middle-of-the-roads

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. For what purpose is a carafe used?
2. Bible: Did Cain, son of Adam, have a wife?
3. The painting "Elderly Man Seated in an Armchair" was the work of which master?
4. What is the opposite of Optimism?
5. A person affected by hypochondria would have utter disregard for his health or fear of riding in an elevator?
6. Is Charles Town, Charleston, or Charlestown, the capital of West Virginia?
7. Germany declared war on Russia on June 22; was it in 1940, 1941, or 1942?
8. Does the United States, Canada, or Chile, produce the most copper?
9. Which American general instituted the Purple Heart award?
10. If your friend was well versed in goniocranometry, would he be an expert in the measurement of footprints, fingerprints, or the angles of the head?
Answers: 1. As a container for liquids (wine, water, etc.). 2. Yes. 3. Rembrandt. 4. Pessimism. 5. No. (he would have morbid anxiety about his own health). 6. Charleston. 7. 1941. 8. United States. 9. General George Washington. 10. Angles of the head.

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