

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 letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Was the "Poem" Vulgar?

To the Editor: In reply to George W. Rode's letter:

Governor Mark Hatfield does not have a sterilization "program." Because a subject appears on the agenda, it does not mean it is advocated by the Governor.

Mr. Rode's attempt to vilify our Governor in the manner that he chose certainly does not lay credit to his obvious professional education, supposed intelligence and shows an apparent lack of common decency.

Personally, I found the letter in extremely poor taste to the point of vulgarity.

Mrs. Joseph D. Walsh, Chairman, Jackson County Young Republicans, 3274 Bursell rd., Central Point, Ore.

Lincoln Again

To the Editor: Continuing our Lincoln Day Odyssey, west on Main st. a large window display of women's wear drew us inside. A friendly greeting for "Mr. Lincoln" was accompanied by a slightly lifted eyebrow as to what such a homely, ungainly critter would want in there. To our comment that the hoop-like skirt dress in the window brought wistful memory of the long ago, especially the red-faced desperate efforts of ladies to get her hoop-skirt stuffed down in the narrow confines of the old horse-drawn buggy without too much exposure of her cotton stockings, er, limb above the strictly limited buttoned shoe-top.

To our surprise, the smiling saleslady explained that it was a real hoop-skirt, having at least one wire hoop. Hm-m-m, a life-time cycle completed and some more hm-m-m as we ambled on up the street to friendly, "Hi, Abe, howdy Mr. Lincoln." To the last apothecary shop, where we had to wait a bit for that worthy's attention. There was no time to this time to our quest of "tix-ik." A quick step aside to pick up a couple containers, and then a crisp, "here it is, Mr. Lincoln. Moderate in price and the maker's recommend it for asthmatic condition of the throat."

So we asked him if much of his busy time was spent in putting up powdered and rolling pills. "Very rarely," he replied, but it still is occasionally required. With face in a scheming grin, he asked, "Mr. Lincoln, if your neighbor came to borrow some saleratus, what would you give her?" And equally brisk and assured was our reply, "soda" to which he gave smiling assent.

Continuing north on Fir st., near "newsboy alley," we were stopped by a merry-faced small boy who said something about a picture being wanted "down there" at the same time a request was being made to call at the bank just across the RR tracks so "all of them there could see what the loney Lincoln looked like." Telling the small messenger to get his picture snapping in order, for day was dying and we were already late for another date, we ambled back to the money safe-keeping reservoir where we received a right welcome and friendly questioning from typists to main-deskers.

Too dark for street pictures and no one in sight at "newsboy alley," we hurried on to our Hot Stove League headquarters at the NW corner of Fir and Sixth where we gathered to discuss happenings of the day in "Boston" (English) and Chinook jargon as the shoe-maker with hammer, awl and sewing, repairs the soles of men's ware and kindly comment to troubled souls. And so to the car and home. What a day. Hoping it was as worthwhile to others as it was to us.

F. J. Clifford
Route 2, Box 200F
Central Point, Ore.

On Fundamentalism
To the Editor: This is an answer to Mrs. Jean Cunningham's letter of March 2. The man making the statement is Mr. Harold J. Quigley of Haverstraw, N.Y., who resigned as Presbyterian minister there because he no longer could accept the divinity of Christ or the Bible.

He said that a sincere social religion emphasizes social themes, ideas, and goals, while orthodox Christianity is "insincere, egocentric," and anti-social.

"In view of its emphasis on withdrawal, persecution feelings, delusions of grandeur and social impotency, (Orthodox Fundamentalist Christianity) must be described as psychotic."

He advises Christianity to refuse to tolerate Fundamentalists, to "create a new climate of intellectual freedom—to reshape society." (Note: A

U.P.I. account of this appeared in the Mail Tribune, complete with wirephoto, in January.)

This man is not original. In the 19th century three "medical authorities" "proved" that Jesus of Nazareth was a paranoic, with morbid delusions of grandeur and persecution. Long before these men, the scribes of Israel claimed Jesus was insane.

It is a shame Mr. Quigley belonged to a denomination which would not allow these views. Most members of the National Council of Churches preach this from their pulpits and teach it in their Sunday schools. Their program is designed to destroy forever the idea that Christ really was God, born of a virgin, dying for your sin and mine, and rising from the grave three days later to prove Himself.

Maybe they are right. I hope not. I look for Christ to return in the clouds as He promised (John 14:3), to show once and for all who are fools.

Parker Bailey,
542 1/2 'A' st.,
Ashland, Ore.

What Good Is A Cat?

To the Editor: We have a cat, cunning critter. So cute when she bats a ball of knitting yarn around nobody can scold her. She caresses us with soft and gentle purring—when hungry.

Seldom hungry though. She consumes quantities of canned cat food and for dessert she has fresh meat — birds. She kills about 365 birds per annum. We have observed in her menu various song sparrows, purple finches, many juncos, towhees, doves, quail, killedeer, and a blackbird.

We plant sunflowers and put out chopped corn and suet for our birds, put up nesting boxes and thrill at all new arrivals. Birds are fun and they are indispensable to us all. They destroy myriads of crawling, creeping, flying pests as well as many noxious weed seeds. Without them we would all perish.

But what good is a cat? Did your cat ever catch an English sparrow, a starling or a jay?

O. D. Martin
208 Vashiti Way
Medford

Bible Justification
To the Editor: I read in the Wednesday issue of your paper that un-wed mothers and their illegitimate children are costing the state of Oregon one million dollars per year.

This is another reason for a law authorizing the sterilizing of offenders — especially chronic offenders.

I have long been an advocate of sterilization for both men and women who cannot, or will not, live within the bounds of legitimate sexual decency. Perhaps the first offense should not be compulsory sterilization, but the second offense most certainly should be.

A law of this kind would prevent a lot of other crimes such as kidnapping and murder, but what I want to say is that the Bible favors such a law.

In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Mat. 5:27-32) he tells us we are to get rid of any member of the body that offends, or causes us to offend

or do wrong. Verses 29 and 30, which say "pluck out the eye," and "cut off the hand" are the middle verses in a passage dealing with divorce and sex crimes. If we read these verses in their context it is hard to see how they can mean anything else than sterilization.

I hope we get such a law, and that it will apply to both men and women, and whether married or single.

John C. Stille
Shady Cove, Ore.

Just Ignorant

To the Editor: Is Governor Hatfield's first name Adolph or was that Hitler's first name? Seems I'm confused so thought I'd ask.

If you print this you may also print my name.
Martha N. Sikes
Trail, Ore.

Hold-Up

To the Editor: A San Francisco newspaper says: "San Francisco Barber held for hold-up."

Aye vunder vot der San Francisco Barbers would call it, ven dey charge some peoples \$2.25 to trim der hair from yust vun doorknob?

Everett Acklin,
Ashland, Ore.

Deplores "Vulgarity"

To the Editor: After ten years as a medical secretary I am not easily shocked by plain talk, but I am surprised that you would print the poem about Governor Hatfield's proposal written by George W. Rode.

I know that you are not overly fond of Governor Hatfield and the Republican party and do not hesitate to give them a "dig" wherever possible, but that does not excuse the publication of such vulgarity in your communications column. Even there the Governor is entitled to a little respect for the dignity of his position.

Mrs. Lawson Scott, Jr.
Route 3, Box 240-C,
Medford.

She Is Shocked

To the Editor: The news story concerning Governor Hatfield's program for sterilization of unwed mothers, and the letters in the Mail Tribune in support of it, shocked me beyond words. It is incredible that this matter should even be considered worthy of momentary consideration; that it should be placed as the number one item on the agenda in the Governor's letter to the State Welfare board is incomprehensible.

Since there are already laws permitting sterilization of men and women who are likely to become menaces to society (ORS 436.030 and 436.040) the Governor can only have had in mind unwed mothers who are mentally and physically normal. These, of course, include girls who, because of a mistake or lack of parental guidance, were unfortunate enough to bear a child out of wedlock. Many of these girls would eventually marry and become contributing members of society.

A program of this kind is a pernicious thing: why stop with unwed mothers? Why not include everyone on the relief-rolls? Anyone who is in any way dependent upon the State for support because of inability to work? Who is to draw the line?

Hatfield denies supporting this program. Why did the idea ever enter his mind? It is reminiscent of Hitler and the methods he used to promote a master race and is a prime example of man's inhumanity to man.

Marjory E. Madden,
P. O. Box 476
Medford.

One Question

To the Editor: One question—Who or what is an undesirable child?

The children whose mother is a recipient of welfare funds seem to be selected.

The children whose mother is not a recipient of welfare funds seem to be the chosen

ones, desirable.

One could stop and think that there but for the Grace of God go I.

How can a person or group of people take it upon themselves to play God and decide who may or may not have children?

The education and care of the so called undesirable child seems to be resented. Why? The monetary situation? What better way to spend money than educating the young people? But what is education? Surely it consists of more than reading a few well chosen books, and marble wash basins at school.

The statement referring to the increase of costs for the education of desirable ones, Good heavens, if the monetary situation is so bad a decision to deprive a woman of her God-given ability to bear children must be made, it is time to back up and take a nother approach to the monetary situation.

The so-called undesirable children are and will be capable of helping to solve any problems arising in the future as the chosen ones are and will be.

How can we not afford to educate all of our young people?

I have no children to educate but I've never complained about helping to educate other people's children.
Minnie G. Grigsby
824 Summit st.
Medford.

Some Questions

To the Editor: I for one, and I am sure many others, do not agree with Mr. D. W. Robertson about sterilizing the unwed mothers that the welfare is helping.

It is true we have a good welfare program. If we didn't have such a program the welfare wouldn't be supporting the families when the men are unable to work and support said welfare families.

Yet Mr. D. W. Robertson has the nerve to suggest that all unwed mothers be sterilized when the mothers and babies are not able to care for themselves.

The people of Oregon are asked to contribute to helping families overseas. Well, I believe charity begins at home. So let's take care of our own. If all the unwed mothers of the welfare were sterilized, the population of Oregon would surely go down. What man would want to marry a girl who had gotten in trouble and had to ask the welfare for help, but in order to get it would have to submit to be sterilized, and that man knowing that he could never have any children by his wife.

Talk about the problems Oregon has now—it would have a much bigger one with the girls that had to pay all of their lives for one mistake. They would be nothing but street walkers. Why would they even bother to get married when they couldn't look forward to a happy normal life? And most unwed mothers do marry later on.

Mr. D. W. Robertson might suggest they be rounded up and shot for being prostitutes. He wouldn't want them sent to prison because the state would have to feed and board them. I don't believe Mr. D. W. Robertson is paying any more money to the welfare than the rest of the taxpayers.

Personally, Governor Hatfield, I think you are way off base, and think you are not in a position to decide such an important issue.

Floyd R. McCabe,
Mt. Pitt Sar Rte.
Butte Falls, Ore.

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Car, Truck Involved In Highway 99 Mishap

A two-vehicle accident was reported south of the state line on Highway 99 in the Siskiyou last night, state police said. No injuries were reported.

A car driven by Abelardo Zalenzuela, 26, of Clint, Tex., was southbound behind a snowplow, which was forced to brake to avoid colliding with two vehicles which started to pass on a curve, police said. As Zalenzuela braked to avoid hitting the snowplow the car slid across the highway and struck a northbound truck driven by Archie Vernon Ellis, 44, of Milpitas, Calif., state police said.

Runaway Fathers Nicked For \$21,000

Salem — (UPI) — The welfare recovery division of the state attorney general's office collected more than \$21,000 in February from runaway fathers. The largest sum was taken in Multnomah county, \$14,713.

The division was established in 1955 and since then has collected a total of \$321,483.

So if we really want to cut down the welfare program let's get the men that are on welfare that hang around Front st. and make them work and support their families and stop taking it out on the unwed mothers that have no place to turn to except the welfare.

I don't approve of unwed mothers but if all the mothers of grandparents that had children out of wedlock had been forced to be sterilized, I wonder what the population of Oregon would be today.

Mrs. Bert Cooper
2025 College Way
Medford.

Why Women Only?

To the Editor: Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have written to Mark Hatfield, Governor of Oregon, in regard to his proposal to sterilize unwed mothers.

Floyd R. McCabe,
Mt. Pitt Sar Rte.
Butte Falls, Ore.

My dear Mr. Hatfield:
In view of the fact that you have proposed that unwed mothers be sterilized to prevent their having children in the future, I would ask you why should not some of the men who are just as guilty as some of the unwed mothers.

After all, that is one situation where it takes two persons to be at fault.

Where, may I ask, did you get the idea that one group, the unwed mothers, should be the only members of society, (and I'm sure you will concede they are members of society), who are to be sterilized? Why not extend the idea to all who violate the moral rules laid down by our saviour, Jesus Christ?

I'll agree it would be very difficult to make that rule stick.

Personally, Governor Hatfield, I think you are way off base, and think you are not in a position to decide such an important issue.

Floyd R. McCabe,
Mt. Pitt Sar Rte.
Butte Falls, Ore.

Mt. Angel College Loan Approved

Washington — (UPI) — The Community Facilities Administration has approved a \$660,000 loan to Mt. Angel College in Oregon towards construction of a dormitory and a student union building. Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.) said today.

The dormitory will house 120 women and the student union building will include kitchen and dining facilities for 275 students.

BEATS SUGAR RAY

New York — (UPI) — Mrs. Luna Robinson, an interior decorator, Thursday won a round from Negro boxer Sugar Ray Robinson. She was awarded \$1,750 damages in State Supreme Court in her \$100,000 suit charging the former midweight champ, made remarks reflecting on her morals when she tried to collect a \$378 bill.

SPEND \$346 MILLION

Tokyo — (UPI) — U.S. military forces last year spent nearly \$346 million in Japan.

Lumber Price Index Upturn Registered

Portland — (UPI) — A slight upturn was registered by Crow's lumber price index during the two week period ending March 3. Most of the increase came in the green fir segment.

But despite the rise, Crow's reported trading this week as extremely slow due to bad weather in the eastern half of the country.

Mill prices so far have been unaffected.

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