



HORSE GETS DAY OFF - Why should I work like a horse, says Tommy, a horse who pulls a fruit and vegetable cart all day. His owner found him in the cellar of the stable and he refused to come up the narrow stairway from which he either fell or walked down. Here Victor Brazinskas of the Chicago Anti-Cruelty society ponders the problem. The floor may have to be broken to rescue Tommy, he says. (UPI Telephoto)

We Give
GRASS STAMPS
ELLIS MARK
820 Crater Lake Avenue

Scientists have succeeded in teaching cockroaches to find their way through mazes. However, the insects forget the lessons overnight and have to be retaught the next day.

Capitol Memo Prickly Issue of Reapportionment Coming Next Year

By DOUGLAS GRIPP
Salem — The prickly issue of legislative reapportionment in Oregon, a byproduct of the 1960 U.S. census, is coming up next year. It has been five years since seats in the Oregon Legislature were reapportioned, and the 1961 Legislature is sure to tackle the question. If it doesn't, the alternative under present law is for the secretary of state to do it. It seems likely the lawmakers will want to do it themselves. Some counties may lose legislative seats and some may gain. The next session, faced with a problem of length as it is, is sure to find figures for this out a long and touchy topic.

Possible Gainers
No county wants to lose any state senators or representatives. Several see gains on the horizon. Possible gainers include Multnomah, Lane, and Clackamas counties. Possible reductions, at least according to the census, may be in the offing for Polk and Yamhill counties.

The new census statistics reflect roughly a ratio of one seat in the house for every 29,000 persons; for every 58,000 persons, one Senate seat. Sam Haley, legislative counsel, says any formula the Legislature comes up with does not have to be approved by the people. So there is no question of the Legislature having a free hand in the matter.

Bigger Districts Possible
Reapportionment prior to 1955 went back to 1910. Haley says the total make-up of the Legislature — 60 members in the House and 30 in the Senate — is not expected to change. But if the 1961 session calls for a change, legislative districts could be made bigger. In this case, the number of legislators would be cut down. An attempt to alter the borders of Oregon's four congressional districts could be a bitter fight. They are out of whack now as far as the population balance is concerned.

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*
Emeritus Consultant in Medicine, Mayo Clinic
Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic

Can Psychopathic Criminals Be Cured by a Psychiatrist?

Today, many very dangerous criminals are escaping punishment because the judge labors under the delusion that sending the man for a few months to a mental hospital will result in his cure. Actually, a judge is a higher court.

Dr. Alvarez in Massachusetts recently was distressed to learn that in the usual overcrowded State Mental Hospital, the patients got no treatment to speak of. There are too few psychiatrists for hundreds of persons.

A few weeks ago I attended a big psychiatric congress and listened with pleasure to an address by Dr. Melitta Schimideberg of New York, who is an expert on the problem of treating psychopathic delinquents and criminals. Some of the courts in New York keep sending patients to her.

I was much interested in the statements of this woman who is so obviously honest. She said that criminals can rarely be treated in prison. They aren't interested in such treatment unless it will serve to get them out of jail. If it won't get them out quickly, then why should they be bothered talking to a psychiatrist? Actually, as I just said, in most prisons, facilities are not available for the psychiatric treatment of many persons.

Temptation Lacking
Also, as Dr. Schimideberg pointed out, if a psychiatrist were to treat a psychopath in a prison, how could he tell if the fellow was any better? In jail, the man hasn't either the temptation or the opportunity to get into mischief. It is silly, then, for a psychiatrist to say that a sex offender has been cured by two or three months of psychotherapy. There is no girl around that he can attack and rape and kill. Recently, I saw in the paper that a sex criminal had been dismissed "cured" after three months of treatment. A few days later — true to his usual pattern of behavior, he raped and beat almost to death another girl.

Dr. Schimideberg said of one good reason why the superintendents of many prisons and mental hospitals quickly let dangerous men out to prey again on the public — the place is just too crowded. In the wards the beds are placed side by side, and there is no room for more.

Dr. Schimideberg said that the patients she gets from the courts have been sent her by a judge or a parole officer. These delinquents have no interest in coming to her, and so they keep breaking one appointment after another. They keep constantly lying, even when the truth would serve them better than their lies do. They will come to see her only when the parole officer gets after them and scares them enough. They come only because of fear that they will again be thrown into prison.

As Dr. Schimideberg says, these men are unfit for any psychoanalysis. About all one can do for the man is try to do for him something that his

parents should have done for him when he was a boy. Dr. Schimideberg has found that the delinquent does not want a job; he hates work of any kind, and he particularly dislikes the only type of job that can be found for a man like him. The only reason why he may try a job for a while is because, if he does not take it, he will have to steal or cheat, and then he may land back in jail.

Number Astonishing
The doctor says it is astonishing the number of these delinquents who are practically illiterate. As boys, they wouldn't go to school and learn. They wouldn't settle down to anything that would do them any good. Naturally, an illiterate man who refuses to work as a day laborer has only one job open to him, and that is stealing.

Some of these delinquents who have been around psychiatrists a while will tell Dr. Schimideberg that they are criminals because their father rejected them for a brother. But, as the doctor tells them, this excuse will not justify them in their stealing; and society will not forgive them because of their childhood "trauma."

Dr. Schimideberg says that practically all of these criminals she sees are not just neurotic; they are psychotic. They were made wrong, and born wrong. Many of them are schizophrenics. They are so constituted that they just cannot fit anywhere into our civilized type of life. Hence, they must constantly be getting into mischief, and having to steal and rob and swindle. But, she says, being a criminal is a tough job. There is so much strain to it, constantly having to avoid the police.

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