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Bear Creek: Job for All

Little drops of water, Little grains of sand, Make a mighty ocean And a pleasant land.

This doggerel, familiar to school children, has elements of a truth beyond the obvious.

One might paraphrase it thus: Little drops of sewage, Dissolved in solution, Make for dirty rivers And waters with pollution.

This is in essence the finding of a committee which for the past year has been studying the problem of water pollution in Jackson county, with emphasis on the waters of Bear creek.

There isn't any one, single source of pollution which makes Bear creek the unpleasant, dirty, unsafe stream it is today. No one individual or firm can be blamed for the condition.

But there are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of small sources of pollution, which, when combined, do the dirty job.

THIS situation makes it easy for anyone to say, indignantly, "Who—Me?" when his contribution to the overall pollution problem is pointed out.

The answer is "Yes—you, and you, and you, and you." No one person is fully responsible; almost all are partly responsible.

And a clean-up which could make Bear creek a pleasant, attractive stream once again, is also a job for many people, and one with many phases and approaches.

THESE thoughts are stated plainly in the really excellent report the committee issued last week.

Here are some pertinent excerpts from the report:

The problem of pollution in the streams of Jackson county can be attacked from the following standpoints: 1. Law enforcement 2. Public education 3. Clean-up campaign 4. Increased streamflow

Present laws appear to be adequate. The main problem in some areas seems to be the absence of sufficient supervisory personnel to enforce respect for the anti-pollution laws.

In the case of certain of these agencies, there seems to be a reluctance to rely upon the provisions of law in force to gain a proper respect for the anti-pollution laws.

Public education affords one of the best opportunities for gaining public support and respect for anti-pollution laws.

Clean-up campaigns sponsored by various service organizations within the county could be helpful in improving the present condition of the streams insofar as mechanical pollution is concerned.

Increased streamflow, while not an abatement of pollution as such, could serve to lessen the effects of continuing pollution.

IN ADDITION to those general conclusions, the report goes into some detail on the various types and sources of pollution.

These are far more extensive than the average resident would ever suspect, until he sat down to think about it a bit.

For instance, the report lists three types: Mechanical (tin cans, car bodies, mattresses, tires, gravel and sand siltation, and so on), organic (animal or vegetable matter which will decay or oxidize upon exposure), and chemical (herbicides, insecticides, gases, oils, acids, etc.).

And it lists five principal sources: Industrial (including lumber processing, gravel washing, concrete plants, slaughterhouses, fruit packing, canneries, vegetable processing), municipal (sewage wastes from cities not properly disposed of), agricultural (orchards, irrigation ditches, livestock), private (outhouses, uncontrolled sewers, habitual dumping of trash and garbage), and casual (vacationers or picnickers).

PROBABLY no one, if you asked him, would say that Bear creek as it now is, is much of an asset to the community.

Nor would he, if you asked him, have much of an idea how it could be cleaned up—except, perhaps, a vague idea that people should stop dumping things in the creek—other people, that is.

And yet, come right down to it, if we any of us care, it is the responsibility of all of us.

RESPONSIBILITY: To: encourage our police agencies (and this includes the district attorney's office) to make arrests and to prosecute when circumstances warrant.

To: Realize our own individual roles in discouraging abuses and keeping ourselves from contributing to them.

To: Participate as we can in any clean-up efforts which may be launched by civic-minded organizations.

To: Work toward a fuller and better-rounded use of the valley's water resources, aimed toward the benefit of ALL the people, and for the multiple purposes to which they can be put.

We all own Bear creek, and the others. And it's up to us to take care of them. It isn't "George's" job. It's ours.—E.A.

G. M. Farfan, in an irate letter appearing elsewhere on this page, makes a point we have attempted to make here before, about the thoughtlessness of litterbugs, a point which is also involved in the problems of Bear creek, discussed above.

Each of us is responsible for his own conduct. If we each accepted that responsibility—and if we followed the oldest precept of them all, the Golden Rule—there wouldn't be any problem at all.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"WE DON'T WANT ANY 'NICE CARROTS' FROM YOUR OWN GARDEN! WE HATE CARROTS! . . ."

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.

The Word Is Love To the Editor: In my opinion, Senator Kennedy and Senator Johnson promise a better way of life, and will bring it about faster than has ever been done before - New Deal, Fair Deal or any other change in history.

I believe their love will be for their fellow man first, and money second; more schools, better homes, and I also believe if they had to make a choice between their wealth and their fellow man, their choice would be their fellow man, and 1960 will be the greatest change in history.

There was a king not long ago that gave up his throne for the love of a woman, and there is a promise for this world and the world to come. God made bees, and bees made honey. God made man, and man made money.

Why the United Nations police force in Leopoldville? If the peoples of the Congo could in 1910, and had schools and proper education, there would be no police force there in 1960.

Marshall H. Waggoner P.O. Box Central Point, Ore.

Elephants, Donkeys, Etc. To the Editor: Hello everybody, especially fellow Democrats.

I want to tell you that we Democrats have been insulted. Yes sir, and by one of 'em elephant trainers.

Do you know, they've got them there beasts a-doin' a new trick? They're crawling in right outta their jungle habitats backwards right in our faces.

An elephant man showed me a picture of such doings this very week.

I was so shocked at 'im I had a notion to grab that card and send it to Khrushchev, then that 'ere whole elephant party would have got trampled on.

He didn't dare show that monstrosity to any but a forgiving, kind hearted ol' Democrat like I'm.

I ain't goin' to turn the other cheek for he may have another elephant back there somewhere, but I'll be totally cow-kicked if I would let any elephant do mud-slinging for me! No sir, I've had experience along that line.

A flooding rain caught me in a circus tent, dressed for sultry weather - and no umbrella along.

I fed popcorn to a big pachyderm 'til my change gave out. Then he filled his trunk with soft black gumbo slush and gave me a make-up for Topsy in Uncle Tom's Cabin.

I wouldn't ever have one of 'em 'ere critters for a trade mark.

Now donkeys; they're nice on their front ends, but when one gives you the horse-laugh - you've had it!

But look out for their east ends. I feel sorry for any Republican they ever backed outta the woods at. I owned two - Burdocks and Sasafra, and could they kick!

E. A. mentioned the "crack-pots" (unquote) who wrote to the editor, but I am too cracked to rate dishonorable mention. Woe is me!

He didn't think Mr. Reece's article should have been for anything Russian. Instead of getting all steamed up, let's believe there are some good Russians.

Khrushchev is so like a jealous, retarded child, and hard to win over, but sometimes a little praise goes a long way. So far, we can't

Civilian Police To the Editor: Your editorial of July 14 about "Traffic Wardens" carries me back to the early thirties when I was in Washington, D.C.

Congo Emergency May Provide Strength For United Nations Not Before Possible

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

Some good may come out of evil in the Congo situation. It may place the United Nations on the high road to the world eminence its founders saw for it.

When the Security Council voted last week to send U.N. emergency forces into the violence-torn Congo, it was acting under pressure of the knowledge that if action were not taken quickly, the new state might quickly fall apart and, worse, become a very hot point indeed in the East-West cold war.

It was a history-making event in two ways. It was only the second time that U.N. emergency forces had been called into action. The first was the U.N. force that took up positions along the truce line separating the United Arab Republic and Israel.

It was the first time such a force had been considered to take action in what must truly be considered an internal situation, as opposed to an external threat to international peace and security.

To get the Congo before the Security Council at all, it was necessary to stretch a point

At that time I was a member of the Traffic and Safety Committee in the District of Columbia.

The police officials told us that they were having a time with those drivers that had diplomatic immunity and they came to us for ideas.

After several meetings a citizens group was organized and sworn in as special civilian police.

These men were equipped with credentials and a police whistle and had the authority to stop anyone who violated the traffic laws or were not driving safely.

They had no authority to arrest nor issue citations; however they did have a book of the traffic regulations and it worked this way. An offender, diplomatic or otherwise, would be stopped and the civilian officer would show his authority for stopping the car.

He would then take out the traffic regulations and proceed to read to the offender as many of the rules and regulations as he thought pertained to the present situation and those in the future. The offender could not run away as he would be resisting an officer of the law so they just had to take it. True, it was just an annoyance to the individual and of course it was recorded in the police traffic files as a count against that individual should a anything serious happen.

This worked out just fine in spite of the howl that went up for a while after the news of the scheme worked out.

After a while these men were gradually disbanded so that no one knew just when they ceased to exist.

Perhaps it would work, if great care was taken in the selection of responsible and well known citizens.

Robert H. Worrall, Route 1, Box 285-A Rogue River, Ore.

Perhaps I Am To the Editor: This is a request that you will print the text of the "civil rights" plank in the Democratic platform, and also that in the Republican platform when the latter is published.

Also I am wishing that as many thinking people as possible will read the first article in the July Atlantic Monthly. It is called, "To Live and Die in Dixie," by Gerald W. Johnson.

If it is permitted, I shall quote from the article. "See the happy moron; He doesn't give a damn. I wish I were a moron—My God, perhaps I am."

Horace W. Thompson, 3642 Hilsinger rd. Medford.

Editor's note: The civil rights plank of the Democratic platform would run to a couple of columns of type. In essence it calls for active, effective, forceful and imaginative enforcement of existing civil rights laws, and enactment and enforcement of any others deemed necessary to insure full racial equality in all public segments of society.

We'll Vote For Her To the Editor: Thanks to "my many friends" who recognized my picture on the front page of Sunday's Mail Tribune, "and if I'm elected ah promise" better recognition for young models.

Priscilla Roberts daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Roberts 3451 Oakpine Way Central Point, Ore.

and consider it on the basis of Belgian "aggression" against Belgium's former colony.

The aggression consisted of Belgium's decision to call her troops into action to protect Belgian citizens in the midst of a chaotic collapse of Congo authority and mutiny among Congolese native troops. Belgium had a perfect right to do so under a Belgo-Congolese friendship treaty.

The swift U.N. action could point the way to prevent further troubles as other unprepared areas gain their independence.

Former colonial powers, willingly or not, gradually have abandoned the territories they formerly administered, and have left behind vacuums which inhabitants were prepared neither by education nor training to fill.

Thus it was with an eye to the whole of Africa, that Soviet Premier Khrushchev, at the peak of the Congo disorders, accused not only Belgium, but the United States and the NATO nations as well, of aggression against the new government and of an attempt to restore it to colonialism.

With it was the threat of direct Soviet action which could have plunged the Congo into the midst of the Cold War.

This is the threat which future U.N. action can prevent. It is within the premise of the U.N. charter to provide, at any new government's request, administrative and other personnel which can assist in the training of the new officials who must take over administrative duties.

If necessary, an emergency force of troops can assure the peace and prevent one-sided action by any outside nation.

To the ill-prepared, independence too often means unbridled license to destroy. Too late comes the realization that independence is not a free ride to utopia.

'Stop-Kennedy' Movement Now In Chicago; Nixon in Charge

By LYLE C. WILSON

Chicago - (UPI) - The stop-Kennedy movement, which broke its back in Los Angeles, is reforming here under new management with Vice President Richard M. Nixon as head man.

Nixon will be in charge unless the impossible happens, as it sometimes does in politics. The Republican impact of Johnson's nomination, Nixon and the Republicans will have to pull a truly remarkable rabbit out of the hat. A two-headed animal, maybe, or one with six legs.

At present, it functions as one of the world's most unusual employment agencies, the sole purpose of which is to find a new job for a down-trodden multi-millionaire.

As I was standing on the sidewalk, waiting to help old ladies who like Nixon get across the street, I was struck by the youth of the Rockefeller campaigners. One youth struck me in the eye with a pennant.

Seizing him by the arm, I conducted a sidewalk interview during which I learned that he was a 13-year-old high school freshman before he became a politician.

"Why are you for Rockefeller?" I asked as he pierced my lapel with a campaign pin which almost penetrated my left lung.

"I think he's been a successful governor and I think he'll make a successful president," the lad replied pontifically before darting across the street to stab another undecorated adult.

Questions Three Others Then I stopped three more juvenile Jim Farleys who were wearing pith helmets with the word "Rocky" stamped across the crown. I figured they were touting a comeback for Rocky Marciano.

"You fellows are really Democrats, aren't you?" I teased.

"Not necessarily," the spokesman retorted. "We intend to reserve judgment until the Republican platform is finished."

It was plain that the youngsters really wanted to help Rockefeller even if they couldn't vote, and this was what made me think of old John D. and the dimes.

You've heard the parable of the bread upon the water and I think there's a lesson in this story, too. The moral is:

Give all your dimes to little children and invest the rest of your money in Standard Oil.

INTEREST EARNINGS HIGH Salem - (UPI) - Interest earnings credited to the Oregon General Fund during the first six months of 1960 were \$1,152,581 more than for the same period of 1959, according to State Treasurer Howard C. Belton. This represents an increase of 92.5 per cent in interest earnings.

Hatfield To Leave For GOP Convention Salem - (UPI) - Gov. Mark Hatfield will leave Sunday for the Republican National Convention in Chicago.

Hatfield, head of the Oregon delegation, will travel with his wife and his press secretary, Travis Cross.

Oregon GOP delegate Otto Wilson of Salem, state GOP treasurer, cancelled his trip for business reasons and announced that his alternate, State Rep. Douglas Helder, Salem, will take his place.

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Rockefeller insists that he will not accept a draft for vice president, and one must believe him. He has been adversely critical of Nixon as President Eisenhower's heir apparent. Moreover, Rockefeller has been sharp-shooting the Eisenhower administration and its works. The official Washington line is that like rather likes Rocky.

Insiders doubt this. The President was furious last month when Rockefeller made a big thing of visiting the President in his office. Immediately thereafter, Rockefeller publicly challenged Nixon on basic policy issues. This maneuver made it appear that the challenge had been discussed with and endorsed by Eisenhower.

Whatever Ike may say publicly, there is no reason to believe that he stands among those Republicans who yearn for a Nixon-Rockefeller ticket. Some thoughtful politicians believe it would be easier for Rockefeller to adjust his ideas to the presidential platform adopted last week in Los Angeles than for the governor to adjust to a Republican platform going all-out in support of the Eisenhower administration record.

Sees Platform Pressure Rockefeller could, unquestionably, stand on the Democratic platform with less danger than Johnson of embarrassment or slippage. The governor's pressure, however, likely will have considerable effect on the Republican platform to be drafted here.

A big decision yet to be revealed is whether Nixon and the Republicans will make a grab for labor support. Big labor can be counted as of now against the Republicans just as the South was moving away from the Democrats after Kennedy's nomination and before the Johnson bombshell.

The Republicans could mightily shake up the political situation, for example, by naming a big time labor boss to run for vice president. That would not be much more astonishing than the Democrat's nomination of Johnson.

No such is likely, however. The Republicans in 1960 are likely to nominate a ticket of Republicans for president and vice president - for a change.

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