

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 initials 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.

"Sabotage" Deplored
To the Editor: The efforts of those attempting to control the Democratic party, to sabotage the effort being made to streamline our county government, is being deplored by responsible Democrats and Republicans alike.

The job of designing a workable plan for the administration of county government, which will be responsive to the needs of this community today and in the future, is an arduous one and will require the dedicated efforts of our most capable citizens. Certainly ability should be the first and foremost criterion in selecting the members of the committee charged with this responsibility.

In making our appointments, Senator Durno and I were not concerned whether we named one, two, three or four Democrats. We did defer to Representative Duncan's request that we divide our appointments and name two Democrats and two as Republicans. However, we selected people who have not been active in partisan politics and who, besides being outstanding in ability, would, we knew, approach this job in a completely unbiased and intelligent manner. We are all highly satisfied with our appointments.

I have heard a number of Democrats express disgust with the present political furor being raised over a matter which is in no wise political, and several of those appointed to the committee have stated that they will be unwilling to serve if the present attacks continue.

It seems apparent that it is high time that the responsible Democrats in Jackson County regain the control of their party if it is to play the part of which it is capable in this community.

Evelyn Nye
State Representative for Jackson County, Medford.

Too Personal
To the Editor: Mr. Mrs. or Miss (Name On File) is a little rough on Cartoonist Herblock and the Editor. But that is what we expect and desire of a file. There seems to be some objection to Herblock being on the front page. But this file person confesses that not being a psychologist... is at a loss as to the reason. As an erstwhile newspaperman we would be in a position to shed a little light on the scene or picture.

There are various reasons why an editor designs his makeup the way he does, the main reason is a personal preference, due to whim or caprice. This writer, if we were editor, would o.k. Herblock on the front page to induce the purchaser to buy the paper. Herblock does not, as some seem to think, ballyhoo any particular philosophy, politics or dogma, but rather is a crusader for justice. It is the purpose of a thematic cartoonist such as Herblock to make people think on very important matters. Being a senile senior citizen, we note one of Herblock's cartoons that we shall never forget. It was the president receiving a report of his physical checkup from the Walter Reed hospital with smiling approval while he vetoed a bill for health insurance for the aged.

Readers will note that Herblock points up timely topics in the news of the day. It was suggested in one letter to the editor that Dennis change places with Herblock. That would not do because Dennis is employed to call attention to letters to the Editor. There is such a close relationship between the two that they harmonize and give balance to the editorial page.

As for people climbing the Editor's frame, it must be realized that an editor writes to be damned and not praised. In our complex society an editor is bound to bump someone's corns. He can't be all Pollyanna or everything to all men. There is always some on to infer that he is "too darn personal."

(Name on file)
Galice, Ore.

More Boundary Arguments
To the Editor: Following is a copy of a letter sent to the Boundary Board, which we would appreciate your putting in the communications column.

Dear Sirs:
At the hearing August 11 concerning the transfer of children and property from the Phoenix-Talent consolidated district to the Medford School district, Mr. Higgins, executive director of the Rogue Valley Manor, made the statement that the people bought their apartments in the Manor expecting to live in

of Aug. 16, stated that he bought his property in Medford and took it for granted his children would attend Medford schools. Mr. Calison should have checked on the school district before he bought. He was assuming too much. It isn't at all uncommon for city and school districts to cross lines, particularly in metropolitan areas. "Caveat Emptor" - Let the buyer beware!

Margaret G. Wilcox
Route 4, Box 441 A
Medford.

Esther Smith
Route 4, Box 454
Medford.

Keep off the Grass
To the Editor: Your recent editorial on Hyatt Lake was a minority report of at least one, but it failed to take into consideration the wishes of the majority.

Some two years ago the Fish and Game commission circulated a rumor that they were planning to poison Hyatt Lake and restock it with trout. They really stirred up a hornet's nest because within a few weeks almost 3,000 people had signed a petition demanding that the commission leave the lake alone. In view of such opposition, I doubt that the commission would be stupid enough to go ahead with their poisoning plans. Many of us would like to see a trial planting of walleyes, blue gills and northern pike in Hyatt. We hope the Fish and Game commission gives it a try soon.

Regarding your request that the snags and logs be cleaned out of the lake - I, and 3,000 others, say NO! Leave it alone. The logs, roots, etc., make excellent feeding, breeding and fishing spots. It is the only lake remaining where kids, unschooled in the more difficult art of trout fishing, can go fishing and have a ball. I have taken four or five of my kids up there and after tying up to a snag and having fun fishing for an hour or two, we would drift slowly into an inlet and observe among the rocks, weeds, and sunken logs the myriad underwater marvels of nature. Quite a profitable nature study for kids. If a few snags and logs hurt your eyes I would suggest that you go fishing at any of the other clean, neat lakes where you can catch expensive, large fat and lazy hatchery-reared 8-inch trout.

However, I believe I can see the handwriting on the wall. You and a few others in a like position, will keep hammering away at what you call "progress," and in the foreseeable future, I can see each of our lakes clean and neat with a 200-yard wide band of beautifully manicured lawns and flower beds surrounding them (at taxpayers expense, of course) and every 10 yards or so will be an exquisite and expensive gold leaf sign stating "KEEP OFF THE GRASS."

M. J. Olsen
Route 4, Box 325
Medford.

What We Need
To the Editor: We are entering the space age, and what we need in America is a quickie electric razor with the speed of a gasoline lawnmower.

Everett Acklin,
Ashland, Ore.

Republicans Plan To Attend Picnic

A charter bus service will be arranged for Jackson County residents who plan to attend the mammoth Republican picnic at Portland slated for 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28, it was announced by Jackson County Republican Central Committee Chairman Joseph D. Walsh.

Twenty thousand persons are expected to attend the affair. A free barbecued beef dinner will be served. Nationally prominent speakers will include Sen. Barry Goldwater, Gov. Mark Hatfield, ex-Gov. Elmo Smith, candidate for the U.S. senate, and State Sen. Edwin R. Durno, candidate for the 4th congressional district. Among Hollywood personalities who will take part in the event are George Murphy, Edgar Bergen and Irene Dunne. Confirmation on a possible appearance by Vice President Richard M. Nixon is being awaited by picnic officials. Reservations for charter bus service can be made by calling Republican headquarters, SPring 3-7561.

Medford, not Phoenix. This is a ridiculous distinction, since, as they have no children who will attend either grade or high school, they will be living in Medford for every other purpose.

Mr. Higgins further stated that some of them may wish to take adult education or extension courses as offered by the Medford school system, and that Phoenix does not offer such courses. We are informed by Mr. Lindsey Vinzel, director of the adult education program in Medford, that these classes are open to residents of the whole county without distinction.

Members of the Medford school board have stated they are not interested in annexing this property unless they receive the Manor and the taxes therefrom. Mr. Higgins stated that the issue of taxability of the Manor is not decided yet, that they have the case pending in the Supreme Court, and implied that there could easily be no taxes from the Manor. The Phoenix-Talent School board has stated that they wish to keep this property and children, as before, whether the Manor is taxable or not.

It is evident, that until the Supreme Court has made its decision, it would be hasty, to say the least, to transfer this property to the Medford School District. However, the Manor is not the main issue, which is: Is it fair to injure the Phoenix-Talent School district and all the children in it by removing needed property and students because a few people feel they made a mistake in buying property within this district?

People all over the county are interested since your decision will establish a precedent which vitally affects the welfare of all the smaller districts under reorganization. Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Long, Route 3, Box 239, Medford.

Hyatt Action Planned
To the Editor: I wish to congratulate you on your timely editorial of Aug. 16 regarding Hyatt Lake.

As chairman of the Jackson County Parks and Recreation commission, I have discussed this matter with our director, Mr. Haworth, and we are arranging for all members of the commission to visit the site next Wednesday to familiarize ourselves with the situation. We will then recommend to the County Court that appropriate action be taken to improve this situation.

R. J. Keeney, A.I.A.
310 Medical Center Bldg.,
Medford.

Caveat Emptor
To the Editor: The people south of Barnett Road have asked the people of Medford to help them get out of the Phoenix School district by attempting to make it appear that Medford taxpayers have some interests to protect.

In their letter of Aug. 14, they asked the Medford taxpayers to help them "hold the Manor in Medford," and inquired whether Medford people wanted the tax on the Manor to help their tax burden or whether they were willing to let Phoenix keep it. The letter is a blatant attempt to enlist the vocal support of a portion of the public who are not involved. This could only pressure those elected officials whose responsibility it is to decide the matter.

The police, fire, water and sewer services which Medford will provide the Manor will be covered by a city of Medford tax levy, separate and apart from the school levy.

By their reasoning, if a group of Medford businessmen decided to construct a project in the Central Point School district, the Medford School district could claim the area inasmuch as Central Point people "put no effort or money into it."

The purpose of school reorganization was supposedly to give better education to all the children in Oregon. How can this be accomplished if the larger, wealthier school districts are urged and permitted to chip away at the smaller ones?
Mr. Calison, in his letter



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