

... 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.

Animal Care
To the Editor: From a news item it seems that the county court is deliberating on the appointment of a member to the Dog Control board. May an ordinary tax-paying citizen suggest that they use common sense and appoint a person who is actively interested in animal care?
Mary Swieger
1940 Orchard Home dr.
Medford.

I will remind the governor of these words by Thomas Jefferson, "I have never been able to conceive how any rational being could propose happiness to himself from the exercise of power over others."
Robert A. Freeman
4625 N.E. 117th ave.
Portland, Ore.

Gift Project
To the Editor: Thank you very much for the excellent coverage your newspaper gave the Mental Health Association of Oregon Christmas gift project for patients in the state mental hospitals. It was a happy holiday season for 6,000 patients because of the tremendous response to our appeal for gifts through news media.
Mrs. Thomas T. Denison
Christmas Gift Chairman
Mental Health
Association of Oregon
Portland, Ore.

A Letter
To the Editor: Because the writer had written a letter of criticism (Mail Tribune, Jan. 7) about the excessive noise in our mess hall, he was called before the domiciliary officer and subjected to a gestapo type of close questioning. He was asked whether he had any friends at White City; how many brothers and sisters; where he got the typewriter to typewrite his letter (it had been written in long hand); why did he not like the food? (The letter was in reference to noise.)
It was bluntly suggested that maybe he would like to live elsewhere. A threat was made to take his sleeping room from him and move him into a ward with 16 other men. (The writer gets the room for putting in seven days a week, every week of the year, at managing the jigsaw puzzle center, for which work he has never asked nor received a penny compensation.) And so it went on and on, all because of that horrendous letter.
But the noise complained about was stopped.
It seems that veterans of the last three conflicts fought for freedom of expression for others but not for themselves. I call upon the veterans organizations in Jackson and Josephine counties to get busy and do something about it.
David Frisch,
P. O. Box 292,
White City, Ore.

Shorty
To the Editor: Shorty (Reynold Rider), well-known and beloved musical devotee of Jacksonville, is gone. But like old John Brown whose soul goes marching on even to the day, so does the soul of Shorty go marching on, very much alive in the beautiful word melodies he left for others to share, to enjoy.
They will be heard on occasion from the wild-rose perfumed Applegate valley, echoing from the 100 year old gold-mining camp Jacksonville buildings to the Dreamland Ballroom, where old-timers gather of a Wednesday afternoon to lift an extra lightened heel with liting cadence of Shorty's compositions, and also to be enjoyed at the Senior Center out Jackson st. way. All this by Shorty's loyal disciples and who, we hope, will hand the torch to others when their own hands can no longer release the melodies we love to hear.
Admittedly, there was some physical change or defect in Shorty's earthy self that severed that tenuous survival line we know as life, ere he had scarce reached the three score mark. To me, the real reason is more obscure. It was in the trips that Shorty made to our home. Each time his face would be lighted with new hope. "Got a music publisher this time who will put one of my songs on big-time," he would gravel-voice to us. Our one and only questioned answers would be, "Does the guy want money from you to fix it up for proper presentation?" "Well, er, yes," Shorty would admit with fading hope. "Then he is admittedly a faker, a chiseler on 'the living end' of music 'promoting.' Don't waste your not too plentiful money on him," we pleaded to Shorty with hopeless gray bowed head, repeating, "It's a safe bet" that his publishing business is a cheap second or third floor room with a chair, a desk and a typewriter. That's all, save a dust gathering monument in a corner of the room, a pitiful slow growing stack of sheet music with covers showing the hopeful music-writer's name. That's where it ended, save for a copy to the waiting music composer.
So Shorty decided to start up a music publishing business, and rounded up a couple hundred dollars for a tape-recorder. (To be completed.)
F. J. Clifford,
Route 2, Box 200F,
Central Point, Ore.

Wide Road
To the Editor: It is my understanding, subject to correction, that when Medford Corporation ceased to operate railroads and railroad equipment and changed to trucks above Butte Falls, that Medford Corporation entered into an agreement with the county court for a right to use ten foot banks on that portion of the county road which extends between Butte Falls and the State Fish Hatchery, in exchange for which Medford Corporation was to widen the Fish Hatchery grade to four lanes.
I am wondering if perhaps Medford Corporation is dragging its feet, or if by delaying action they plan to get out of their part of the agreement.
Of course I will concede my information may be wrong. However, on Dec. 4, 1959 I

Becken, Semon Coauthors of School Study Council Bulletin

Elliott Becken, assistant superintendent of Medford schools, and Robert Semon, chairman of Medford High

school English department are coauthors of the January Bulletin of the Oregon School Study Council. "Using Reader-Aides in the English Composition Program of Medford Senior High School." The chief objective of the plan for using reader-aides in grading compositions is to improve the instructional program in writing. It was pointed out that an overworked teacher with insufficient time and energy to grade carefully and effectively all composition efforts of students would make it impossible for the teacher to do a good job of teaching writing skills.

Because it was found to be financially impossible to reduce the teaching loads to such an extent that enough writing assignments could be given, it was found that hiring reader-aides could effectively fill the gap much more cheaply.

A careful study of the matter was made during the 1958-1959 school year, with the assistance and direction of Dr. Arthur Kreisman, director of general studies and chairman of the humanities division at Southern Oregon college.

Dr. Leonard B. Mayfield, superintendent of the Medford schools, and members of the Medford school board, realizing the imperative need for using reader-aides in the English composition program, worked out the details in a series of conferences attended by Dr. Kreisman and members of the high school English department.

For the program, it was necessary to enlist the aid of a number of well-qualified adults in the area and to train them in the techniques and procedures to be employed. From more than 300 applicants, 53 were judged well-qualified to serve as aides. Of this number, according to Becken and Semon, 24 were selected as assistants to the Medford High school-aides to each of the 12 full time English teachers. The remainder were to be used by other high schools in the area.

City Police Get White Patrol Cars
Medford city police Friday put the first of five new police cars into service. Three of the new cars will be all-white, a change from the black cars used by Medford police for many years.

The three white cars will be used for regular patrol. Of the remaining two cars, one will be used by the detective division and the other will be used by Chief of Police Charles P. Champlin.

All five cars are Studebaker Lark - Marshals. Police have been using the plain Studebaker Lark for the past several years. The new cars have a wheel base of approximately 113 inches, which is five inches bigger than the wheel base of the Lark.

The cars were purchased from DeLeigh Motors of Medford which had submitted the lowest bid. Five older police cars were traded in on the new models. The police department has nine cars.

The department will put the remaining four cars into service as soon as the proper modifications of the motor can be made and the radios installed.

Hans Sachs, a German shoemaker who died in Nuremberg in 1970, was the real-life hero of Wagner's opera, "Die Meistersinger."

Each year 400 to 500 bicycle riders are killed in traffic accidents.

Supreme Court Grants Stay of Execution

Portland-EP-The State Supreme Court Thursday granted a stay of execution on a ban preventing Multnomah County employees from working after-hours.

The high court granted the additional time so that attorney Howard Lonergan may prepare an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Driver Fined After Truck Hits Boy

Ashland - The driver of a pickup truck that hit a 9-year-old Ashland boy Thursday was fined \$50 in Ashland municipal court Friday for failure to heed a red light.

George H. Robinson, 51, of 247 Sixth st., Ashland, pleaded guilty to the charge.

Police said Jeffrey Walters, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Walters, 395 Helman st., was crossing Main st. near Briscoe school Thursday morning when he was struck by the truck driven by Robinson. Police Chief Herb Hays witnessed the accident and said Robinson ran the red light at the crossing, knocking the boy to the pavement.

Hays took Jeffrey to Ashland General hospital where he was treated for minor injuries.

County Court Makes Final Appointments

The Jackson county court has completed its list of appointments for the new year by naming three men to the county dog control board.

W. H. Arnold, Medford, was reappointed for a one year term; Homer Jeffries, Central Point, two years, and

Henry Owens, Eagle Point, reappointed for two years. County Commissioner Chester Wendt explained that the county court originally thought it had only one appointment to make.

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