



"I do hope the first man in space has a bit of the poet in him."

Poets Corner

Conducted by
Arnold Eugene Jenny

Editor's note: Arnold Eugene Jenny, who today inaugurates the first issue of the Mail Tribune's new "Poets Corner," is a "retired" YMCA official. The quotation marks are used deliberately, for though he is technically retired, he has already become active in a half-dozen activities in his brief residence in Medford. He takes up residence at Rogue Valley Manor in about two weeks.

A native of Switzerland, and a U.S. citizen since 1911, he has travelled widely, in 46 of the United States, and in 45 countries on five continents, in the course of 39 years with the YMCA in many different capacities.

His list of activities is far too long for reproduction here, but he has been executive, lecturer, historian, business manager, author, editor, educator, interpreter, librarian, purchasing agent, school registrar, teacher, tour organizer, and so on and on.

He has been active in Methodist church affairs, both on a local and national level, and has received a number of awards from relief organizations, PTAs, and other groups.

An outline of plans for this feature appear in the editorial column. Today's "corner" includes some introductory material proposed by Mr. Jenny, and, as a starter, a poem of his own.

WHAT IS A POET?

"What is a poet? To whom does he address himself? And what language is to be expected from him?"

"Not that I always begin to write with a distinct purpose: all good poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings. Yet poems to which any value can be attached were never produced by a man who, being possessed of more than usual organic sensibility, had not also thought long and deeply. Poetry takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquillity. The emotion is contemplated till, by a species of reaction, the tranquillity gradually disappears, and an emotion, kindred to that which was before the subject of contemplation, is gradually produced, and does itself actually exist in the mind."

—William Wordsworth
"... You will be saying ... that poetry is about as remote from the urgent con-

cerns of our generation as anything could well be.

"The fact, however, is otherwise. The fact is that nothing is as close as poetry, as the poet's vision, to the tragic dilemma in which we live ...

"The end and aim of any true work of art is precisely the achievement of the relationship between man and world — between man and man's experience in the world ...

"Rightly read, any poem is a recreation of common experience, the effect and action of which is an uncommon understanding of that experience. Rightly perceived, the power of poetry is the power to make the truth 'come true' — to give it the form which will endow it with the meaning which will make it true, and true not only for our minds but for ourselves as men."

—Archibald MacLeish

To Eugene E. Barnett
Around the world with utmost speed

You flew to succor men in need,
To heal the wounds of war and strife
And offer youth new hope and life;

Gave of yourself without reserve
Thought only how you best might serve
The cause we love, how to empower
Its leaders for this greatest hour

Of opportunity that calls
Us ev'rywhere to break down walls
Of ignorance, distrust and fear
And in their stead to plan and rear

New centers of good will, fair play,
Thus help to usher in the day
When each man seeks the other's good
In proof of his true brotherhood.

Your embassy for Christ-and us
Proved true and most illustrious.
All honor, praise and hearty thanks:
We're glad you're back among our ranks.
So, welcome home, good comrade, friend,
As now you've come to journey's end.

Arnold Eugene Jenny
(Written to Mr. Barnett, Executive Secretary, International Committee of YMCAs, upon his return from a world-circling mission of reconciliation and rehabilitation of Y.M.C.A. movements following World War II, New York, Nov. 21, 1947.)

Offer Answers

To the Editor: As I read communications Wednesday night, I find that Walter Reece has attempted to answer some questions. Since I do not think that he did a very good job, I would like to try.

The first question was: Why should a pay raise for organized labor be considered in the face of an economic nose-dive? When people have more to spend they spend it. This puts money into circulation. This increases business. This raises profits, in turn raising the stock market.

Contrary to what Mr. Reece would have us believe, we do have free enterprise. That is one reason for our revolution. We did not like British interference in our business. I have a feeling that what Mr. Reece means is that all people do not have the capital to start a new business. However, if you can convince people that it is a money making proposition, they will be willing to invest in it. After you have the business going, stocks and bonds, plus profits, can keep it going.

The second question was: Why should organized labor get an annual raise in pay in view of our economic crises with general hardships? There are two angles from which we can view the recession. Former President Eisenhower refused to admit that a recession existed. A more realistic view is that it does exist, and is pretty bad. We must, then, realize that if wages are raised for millions of union members, they will buy more. This money will go to both factories and farms. Raised wages for union members must not be too extensive, so as not to be inflationary, but the economy needs a shot in the arm.

The last question was: Please justify the farmer putting in 12 to 16 hours a day to save his home and business from sheriff sale, and organized labor asking for a six-hour day? The answer to this is very simple. The farmer owns a home and farm. Why work all hours of the day for somebody else's business? The farmer is working for his own gain, with nothing else in mind. The working man must provide gain for other people too. Is man going to work so hard for other people's gain as for himself? Why should he?

As to the rather derogatory remarks of Mr. Reece about democracy, we have used the democratic system to great gain for the farmer. As for instance, take price supports. The total price supports of fiscal year 1959 was \$2,448,512,160, and much more went to the farmer as loans (\$3,524,514,079).

We must not make the mistake, of thinking that our economy is an end in itself. Our greatest treasure is our democracy. It is worth all the gold or jobs that Communists, Fascists, or others may offer.

Richard Coulter,
900 Murphy Rd.,
Medford

What Is "News"?
To the Editor: I was at some friends' home last night and they showed me a paper that was mailed to them from Kansas. This Hollow Tree article was on the front page. I would like to know why it is that the Medford Mail Tribune did not have it? Is it that it was not an unusual sight in southern Oregon or did the paper feel that we Oregon residents should not know of such things? I am ashamed of our own local paper. I will expect a better job in the future.

Paul B. Wilson
Route 11, Box 457E,
Medford.

Editor's note: Don't be silly. You can see hollow logs every day on the log trucks going along Front street. A hollow log may be news in Kansas, but hardly in Medford. Why print that picture out of the 100 or so we receive each day?

Costly Civil Defense
To the Editor: In a few days the Oregon legislature will determine how much of our tax dollar will go for Civil Defense. The proposed \$288,380 for the biennium is a staggering sum of money to

be spent for a program that offers no guarantees for survival. Civil Defense is, as Governor Meyner of New Jersey states, "a cruel deception" since it seems to offer help for survival when, in truth, there is no real defense against an all-out thermonuclear attack. Anyone who doubts this should start reading the abundant literature on the subject. (Contact me for a reading list—pro and con.)

But is there no effective alternative to civil defense? Yes, difficult as it may be to attain, controlled disarmament under international law would seem to offer the only stable solution to the arms race. It is folly to assume that our society will survive in anything like its present form if subject to an all-out thermonuclear attack—even with the most elaborate civil defense preparations. The appeal of civil defense is largely emotional and illusory. Each individual imagines that he and his loved ones will be fortunate enough to survive the holocaust.

If you think civil defense is a waste of money, write your state legislator soon to let him know your feelings. Mrs. Myrna S. Martin
235 Cal Young Rd.,
Eugene, Ore.

Criminals Defended

To the Editor: More and more the stink arises from the recent district court ruling that sent some 30 electrical executives to jail, one put in a cell with a prisoner awaiting execution, others jailed as common criminals, some out on parole subject to good behavior (whatever that means), all heavily fined, garnished with a court tongue lashing. But this is not all.

Thursday's Mail Tribune ran a news story telling how these business men, some well known in cooperative civic betterment, who came to serve out their jail sentences, but first, had to be properly handcuffed like some desperate criminal. This, I, F. J. Clifford, do protest as being totally unfair, uncalled for, and to my way of thinking, vindictive, until positive evidence proves it otherwise.

Of course, this stench will be sweetest aroma to the snickering Hoffas, Bridges, jailed reds released on court order by technical error, loophole, etc., as well as the anti-Wall-Streeters, anti-big businessers, anti-most everything that makes it possible for the rank and file of America to ride around in new shiny cars and enjoying a standard of living next to no other nation.

What was the "sin" of these electrical companies? Collective bargaining. Agreement as to how high a bidder on government contracts can go with risk of union-labor strikes, court ruling in damage suits that makes a mockery of today's insurance, etc., etc.

All this takes me back to Spokane, Wash., when the highly renowned Judge Stanley Webster in instructing us federal grand jurors, said in part: "Although you citizens sitting in judgement here must listen well to the testimony offered as well as evidence submitted, in making your rendering a true or not true bill, you must ever keep in mind the intent of the accused."

We wonder if our new Attorney General had this in mind when he reportedly remarked that the sentences on the electrical executives were not heavy enough, also, what if anything he had to do with hand-cuffing those electrical industrialists appearing to serve out their jail sentences?

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

No Pioneer

To the Editor: It wuz a beautiful summer's day when I left Ashland in a one cylinder Brush car and headed for the summit of the Siskiyou. There wuzn't anything wrong with the weather when I reached the summit, some 5 years later. It wuz a lot later than you would think. There wuzn't nothing wrong with the summit, except gettin' there. I could have made it to the top in two days with my old streamlined wheelbarrow full of rocks, but I traded it for the Brush.

I finally reached the summit in a Reo. It had one extra seat and three more cylinders. There wuzn't anyplace to put accessories on the Brush. There wuzn't anyplace to put necessities. We didn't need a baggage rack for a suitcase, we never got far enough away from home to need one.

I never arrived in Oregon soon enough to be called a "pioneer." I didn't even get here in time to get a free fishing license, just barely made it in time to start paying taxes.

Everett Aeklin
Ashland, Ore.

Fruit Workers
To the Editor: Has Mildred Engman ever tried to hire these poor out-of-work men? They give you a blank stare and continue to hold up the building on which they lean.

The orchards for which we

have worked for 27 years and where I spent a good many years as a picking boss, does not hire Mexican labor but it is certainly a temptation when you are begging for help and these good Americans refuse.

Wages have always been tops in the Rogue valley, so I don't see how a union can hope to improve it, but Mildred sounds like a hired agitator for a union which is threatening the peace of this valley.

Americans can also fill boxes with dirt, pick pears up off the ground, steal his neighbor's boxes and leave a few empty boxes on the bottom. I am talking from hard experience.

These men who draw \$40 a week unemployment would laugh if you offered them a job that would interfere with their paid vacation. Who will work when they raise it to \$80?

If the real truth were known in California, the Americans wouldn't work at any price.

As it is now we have very few local folks, outside the school boys. Most of the labor comes from out of state—people who do nothing else but follow the fruit harvest and like it that way.

Most of the "local" help only work long enough to afford a bottle. Even when transportation both ways is offered they refuse.

The neighboring orchard does fire one crew of Mexicans who receive the same treatment as Americans but with far better results, because the Americans are off smoking, gabbing or laying on a Union job they can't be fired from. The Mexican laborer is steady and does a very good job at anything he is put to.

If the pear decline keeps up the orchardists may pull out all the trees and go into cattle where one or two men can handle a large outfit. Then what would happen to the pickers, swappers, packing house crews, truckers and many more who now derive a livelihood from the fruit?

As for our local out-of-state workers, I can't feel sorry.

Mrs. Ray Doran,
Route 2, Box 257,
Central Point, Ore.

Not the FBI

To the Editor: You stated in your editorial of Feb. 19 that the Un-American Activities Committee provided documents for a private firm to produce a defensive and twisted film called Operation Abolition. We take it that you are referring to the FBI and its Director, J. Edgar Hoover, who we all know are defenders of our democracy. Is it any wonder that the Communists have launched on an all out attack against the organization in an attempt to weaken the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to discredit its great Director, J. Edgar Hoover, and render sterile the security laws of our government? This private company (F.B.I.) has sold numerous copies to the Defense Department, another branch of our government. It occurs to us that no better backing of the movie Operation Abolition could be enforced than that of our own government.

The United States Government being the basis of our democracy would certainly not endorse any activity that would not be to the betterment of its people.

In reference to your question on what is the purpose of the Un-American Activities Committee doing, we would like to refer you to a letter written by Mr. L. C. Powell. We think that no better answer could be given to this question.

As he has stated this committee is a bulwark against Communism. Could you ask for a better explanation? It seems to us that it would be more beneficial to our democracy to improve this Un-American Activities rather than to abolish it completely.

In closing we would like to state emphatically that we take exception to the endorsement of this St. Louis Dispatch Editorial that casts a slur on this authenticated exposure of Communism.

Mary Jo Batzer,
933 South Holly st.,
Dolores Cooper,
125 White Oak dr.,
Both Medford

Editor's note: The FBI has nothing to do with this. We quote from the Feb. 15 issue of the Christian Science Monitor:

"TV newsreel movies of the city hall rioting were subpoenaed by Rep. Francis Walter (D) of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and turned over to a private studio in Washington (Washington Video Producers, Inc.)."

"The studio then pieced together 'Operation Abolition' and reportedly has sold some \$200,000 worth of prints at \$100 each ..."

What Should He Do?
To the Editor: Regarding "Maybe They Have a Point" in the editorial column of

Feb. 23, what would you advise this particular "brother-in-law of the President of the United States" do?

Now that he is a member of America's "First Family," should he be required to retire from his chosen profession of motion picture actor and television entertainer, and following the example of Great Britain's Royal Family, should he be content to live off of his wife's money?

Mrs. Dorothy Winchester,
111 King st.,
Medford

Editor's note: We propose no solution for Peter; we were just expressing mild dismay at actions which, to us, seem to reflect on the dignity and prestige of the office of President.

Officer Criticized
To the Editor: A few days ago four youths were charged with vagrancy and put in jail. Had it not been for this one certain police officer this would never have happened. It seems that they were sup-

posed to have been following his patrol car around town, and in view of the fact that they pleaded innocent to that charge, his word was taken and they were put in the city jail.

The boys said they were not following his patrol car and were perfectly willing to go on home for the night where they were heading when they were stopped.

Should the charge of vagrancy been charged on them, especially at 1:20 a.m. when a lot of people were still out,

including boys their own age? I also don't think this certain policeman has the responsibility of a policeman and is certainly not helping the younger generation.

Don A. Langston
717 North Riverside ave.
Medford.

Editor's note: Donald A. Langston was one of the four youths involved. Each pleaded innocent, but later forfeited \$10 bail on the charge of "late and unusual hours" (vagrancy).

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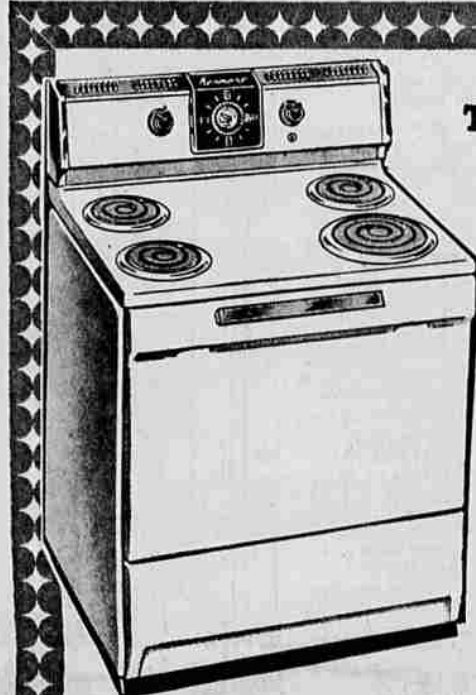
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Communications

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.

A REMINDER

Editor's note: No communications will be considered for publication unless they bear the full and correct name AND correct address of the writer. We have received several excellent letters in recent weeks which have gone into the wastebasket because no address was given, or the full name and signature were lacking.

Rally 'Round!

To the Editor: Class of '46, rally 'round! Three cheers for Medford Hill! Let's have a big reunion this year!

Start the ball rolling by coming to the meeting next Tuesday evening, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. in the Fireplace room, First Methodist church, Medford, Ore. Bring pencil, paper, and any addresses you may know. Anyone (members, relatives, friends, enemies) with addresses but unable to attend the meeting please call me at SP 3-5498.

Charmaine (Brault)
Hawkins
208 Summit
Medford

Instant Homesickness

To the Editor: Believe it or not, folks, our Gold Hill IS an attractive place!

Homesick! Quick! We been away for three-four days.

Each day brought fresh memories—

And when we headed Gold Hill way,

You know what the driver heard us say?
"Home James! An' DON'T spare the horses!"

"Gold Hill Billy"
Gold Hill, Ore.

Hospital Grateful

To the Editor: We at Sacred Heart are extremely appreciative of the extensive space you have given the Crater Lions Auction on behalf of the hospital.

If everyone in the valley responds to this appeal with as much enthusiasm, we feel confident that the building fund will continue progressing.

Sister Luke of the Savior
Administrator
Sacred Heart Hospital
Medford.