

Poets' Corner

Conducted by
ARNOLD EUGENE JENNY

Creativity

(This poem is recognized as one of the oldest Chinese folk-poems which has come down to the present time. It is the first poem recorded in the book, *Origin of Ancient Poetry* (Chinese). It may be roughly dated 2500 B.C.)

When the sun rises, I go to work;
When the sun goes down, I take my rest;
I dig the well from which I drink;
I farm the soil that yields my food.
I share creation; kings do no more.

—Translation by Y. S. Han

Outwitted

He drew a circle that shut me out—
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But Love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in.

—Edwin Markham

Those love truth best who to themselves are true,
And what they dare to dream of, dare to do!

—James Russell Lowell

Precious Freedom

The hard won precious freedom,
Our long and proudest boast,
May not be ours to spend again,
In peace from coast to coast.
If we who can, refuse to do
Our duty to our land
And find our feet are treading
On a road of shifting sand.

"God bless America"
Is closed in another prayer
If all we do is stand and chant
"Let freedom ring." The air
May soon be filled with
lethal bombs,
A hellish, fiery flood;
The clean wide sweep of
grassy slope
May turn o'er night to
blood.

Then bend our every sinew
To the tasks that lie ahead.
Let's do that first, then ask
our Lord.
"Give us our daily bread."
For if we shirk we cannot blame
The Lord for our travail
And we find that we must travel
Down a weary, shameful trail.

W. A. McKettrick
Medford

Home in Alaska
I must go back again to find a dream
I left beside a river, long ago
I must go back again to hear the night birds
Serenade to ripples of the river's flow.

There I shall listen while
deep shadows whisper
Their message of years, between
the "then and now."
The night bird's voice will
speak their names as
I walk familiar paths, beneath
each bough.

The old dam, the mill race,
the pond above, will
Have changed. Other things
will be new and strange.
But there'll be the old river
flowing out to set,
And distant hills whose
familiar faces never
change.
Owen C. Gearhart Sr.
("Malmute Slim")
White City, Ore.

Spring Song
Do you smell the coming of
spring in the breeze?
The strange, sweet tang
of the upturned soil,
The fragrance distilled from
the budding trees
While ferns grow greener
and grass uncoil?
Can you think of anything
nicer to smell
Than little brown buds just
beginning to swell?

Do you feel the coming of
spring in your heart?
The ancient call of the
wakening earth
To come out in the open
and have your rapture of
her rebirth?
What tonic the care-fretted
spirit restores
Like sunny spring days in
the great out-of-doors?

—E. M. Hurl

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.

Good News

To the Editor: Good news. Splendid in its hopeful economic stability trend. It is a news story, Mail Tribune, Feb. 23.

"Plasterers' Union Refuses Pay Hike. Los Angeles (UPI)—A local plasterers union kicked off what it hopes will turn into a nationwide anti-inflation move by turning now a wage increase.

"Local 2 of the AFL-CIO union, by majority vote to its 1,376 members, passed up a 12.5 cent wage increase to support President Kennedy's campaign to stop inflation—and to set an example for other unions and businesses across the country.

"I hope some others will follow through," President Bert Chapman said today. Under terms of a two-year contract with Southern California contractors, the pay increase was due to go into effect May 1. Chapman said the members generally felt their present wage of \$4.25 an hour was sufficient.

The printed word is indeed revealing. But more so that between the lines. It grimly tells that there are labor unions, who with their own strength of conviction and thinking, are refusing to go along with an obviously collective agreement in demanding wage increases, even though backed by President Kennedy. And this, believe it or not, against a two-year contract between the plasterers union and the contractors. One of the unpredictable bidders contractors must seriously consider.

Evidently some or many of the 15,445 businesses that closed in 1960, as given in the Wall Street Journal Jan. 3 by Dun & Bradstreet, highest since the 19,859 in 1933, did not do this.

All this, men in position to know tell me, is the reason why the 29 electrical executives did make a practice of meeting in secret collective agreement to measure and guard against such disasters to industry, for the sole purpose of survival as a going institution. That there was no INTENT to defraud the government or anyone else, doing this to guard and promote trade. Yet, by some strange reasoning, a U.S. District court judge branded them as criminals and sentenced accordingly. But when powerful black-voting labor unions demand in secret to arbitrarily meet wage rises by threat of strike, plainly in restraint of trade, what happens? Nothing.

Who was it said something of sauce for goose and gander? Or it is no longer in the Constitution?

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

Information, Please!
To the Editor: In your editorial, "Freedom and Security," Feb. 22, is the statement that, "To call a man a Communist is, in the United States today, libelous per se."

Would the editor please make clear just what idea he intended to convey? Did he mean that the "call" is libelous in itself, or did he have reference to some statute, law or decision making it libel to call a man a Communist, "today"?

If there be any such law, the editor would be doing a public service by explaining just what it is.
A. E. Bliss
Route 2, Box 34-A
Jacksonville, Ore.

ter rights granted the cities of Medford and Grants Pass. The tributes also are open to appropriation for industrial use.

The pulp and paper industry will bring many serious problems to this valley: 1. Air pollution created by this type of industry is exemplified in the plant at Albany. With our local temperature inversions our populations would find no escape.

2. A 500 ton kraft type mill has the daily pollution equivalent of a city of 236,000 population.

3. A 500 ton sulphite type mill has the daily pollution equivalent of a city of 1,910,000 population.

4. Since the Rogue river already has a critical streamflow - temperature situation the withdrawal of a large amount of water would be disastrous to a fishery that is seriously threatened.

5. This effect on the fishery would jeopardize the benefits potentially possible through any future plans of river development such as a dam at Lost Creek.

The Rogue fishery supports a tourist industry of at least \$13 million.

Until the pulp and paper industry is able to resolve its pollution problems beyond question, all conservationists should oppose any possibility of their establishment on the Rogue river.

The State and Federal Affairs committee of the House has their first hearing on this bill at 8 a.m. March 8. The committee members include John Dellenback of Jackson County.

Jack Hanel, President Jackson County Chapter Izaak Walton League 200 Erie st.
Medford.

Version of History
To the Editor: Appended to Mr. Howard's letter of Feb. 24 was an editorial comment questioning if he could name "One country which had fallen to Communism solely from within."

The phrase, "Solely from within," is of course, susceptible of legalistic interpretation. Marxist Communism has achieved its conquests in two ways; by force of Communist arms; by boring from within. It is at work in every country of the world, with varying degrees of success. Our country is the great prize of all. Therefore the forces of evil are at work. Its dopes and dupes, its apologists, are to be found in some colleges and universities, among students ignorant of history and lacking in the basic anchor of religious belief.

The Council of Churches, when infiltration into some pulpits was exposed, reacted violently, "did protest too much," abused the HUAC as if it and not Communism were our deadly enemy.

The Baltic states fell to Russian brutality. Roumania was geographically not in a position to resist. Hungary's strong Communist party

quickly formed liaison with Russia, and rather than betray his country Masaryk committed suicide. Inre Nagy "fell out of a window." A brief interlude of freedom was crushed by Russia, and Hungary is now cowed and hopeless.

Albania was delivered to Russia by its own traitors, and Czechoslovakia likewise. Yugoslavia (sic) boasts of its own brand of Marxism, but it is homegrown Communism. Tibet was brutally crushed.

Cuba's revolution was cheaply captured by Communism.

And China. Japan had two enemies, the forces of Chinese Communists and those of Chiang Kai-Shek. After Japan's defeat, Chiang turned on the Communists and pursued them clear across the geography book. But then Secretary of State Acheson and some fellow travelers, bemused by the innocuous words, "agrarian reformers," pulled the rug completely out from our staunchest Far Eastern ally, withheld munitions and aid. Now look at the mess, and the menace of Red China.

General Marshall was sent to China to try to work out a union between the Communists and Chiang Kai-Shek. His efforts came of course to naught. When the full enormity of the inherent futility of his mission and how he had himself been duped was evident, that noble old soldier was overwhelmed by grief and tears.

Yes, Mr. Editor, countries have fallen from within, and the people of our country look to the press, the pulpit, the courts, the Congress to be alert to the insidious dangers of creeping Communism, and not to waste efforts in downgrading the enemies of it.

John Q. Stewart,
933 NE 12th st.
Grants Pass, Ore.

No Muss, No Fuss
To the Editor: This is an open letter to Speaker Bob Duncan.

Dear Speaker Duncan: You have seen my name occasionally in the Mail Tribune. I have managed to get my long nose into some one's business, also to get out.

I rooted for you to get the speaker's job and do believe that you are on the way up, politically. I can still argue with you.

Old Malmute Slim, must however, disagree with you in the statement you made to the Washington County Central committee: "Vindictive justice has no place in the Oregon Penal Code."

Neither does justice, as I now see it, Mr. Speaker. If one is paying a just debt to society, does it have to be "vindictive justice?"

The death penalty might not only add "one whit," but "two whits" to the public's protection, if that death penalty was made as horrible as that which the murderer inflicted upon his victims, such as rape, stab, strangle, shoot, beat the head in, etc.

You will have to excuse me, Mr. Speaker, but I have lived for the past 24 years in the largest state in the Union. Up there we are not used to such things happening three times in one week or so.

I will bet you a piece of muck-tuck, Mr. Speaker, that I know of an Eskimo tribe who would have all three of these last cases all disposed of by this time. No fuss, no muss and wouldn't have cost an 'ell of a lot, either.

Malmute Slim
White City, Ore.

Myths
To the Editor: At long last proof of the old adage: "When one waits long enough all things will be revealed providing patience lasts."

After waiting for a satisfactory answer for over half a century from some distinguished prelate on ancient myths, we now will relax and repose our imaginary inquiring mind since reading the editor's editorial in Thursday's Tribune. According to Webster's unabridged dictionary a myth is a noun meaning a legend or a fabulous narrative.

Now, "unidentified flying objects," have been recorded by scriptural writers over a period of several hundred centuries. We assume that also can be attributed to a myth, even though there are actual sightings made by reliable persons and recorded over the past 15 years the real truth is, as far as evidence is concerned.

The fact remains, anything not subject to proved existence is still a myth and allegory.

Bert Kissinger
520 Boardman st.
Medford.

Drifting With The Tide
To the Editor: Last evening I stopped in to chat for a few moments with some friends. The whole family was watching the cartoons on TV. What was being portrayed on the screen was too fantastic

and absurd to have ever happened. Yet I suppose that raucous laughter and chuckles were going up from thousands of homes in this area. The mother of this family out and said, "TV is the best baby sitter I ever had." She went on to state how she could go on and get her work done without being disturbed.

Just the evening before I chanced to view a rather scene that this modern "baby sitter" is putting out. Two women were shown in a bar room. They were not accustomed to such places. They were there in search of a painting of, I believe, one of their relatives. This painting of a near nude reposing female had through some fantastic mistake found its way to a position right back of this bar. These women were offered service by a bartender. They refused on the grounds they'd have nothing to do with the "devil's cup."

That last statement was not made to portray the truth that it should, but in such a way as to make light of the facts.

Now I am not an old sour, somber, long faced fuddy-duddy. I enjoy a hearty laugh and good humor. Yet I am reminded of a scripture text that states "the thought of foolishness is sin."

What are we parents thinking, anyway, when we allow our children to absorb all of the low, vile, obscene and suggestive degenerating material being flaunted before us today?

Think for a moment of that little innocent 4-year-old tot whose lifeless, mutilated form was found in New York the other day. On the floor were 35 beer cans plus numerous cigarette butts.

No thinking parent would turn their child over to a known sex degenerate, yet in thousands, yes, millions, of homes we are laying the foundations for just such crimes.

TV is not the only offender. The blaring de-mop-crash-bang-be-bop rhythms blaring from radio speakers alike urge their listeners on to what?

Why can't we do some thinking instead of drifting with the tide?

Henry Johnson Jr.
2315 Highway 66
Ashland.

CARE Needed Here
To the Editor: My business is the preparation of income tax reports, and has been for the past 20 years. I feel this gives me a good idea of conditions in the county.

I was amazed to read in your paper, Tuesday, Feb. 23, that Judge Miller had decided there was no need for surplus food allocation in the county.

I can't see how anyone can know of the conditions in the county and not think that we should provide this surplus food for those needing it.

If they lived in a foreign country we would be very much concerned about them.

Many elderly people and widows trying to make their own way are living on such low incomes that they should have the use of this food. It would relieve the taxpayers of the \$1,000,000 cost of keeping it in storage while it rots.

A news letter from Mrs. Edith Green, nearly a year ago, stated that Oregon was one of the three states not taking advantage of this surplus food for the low income group.

A widowed friend with a child, living on Social Security, had to have surgery twice last year. When surgery was needed again this year, I suggested that she go to the Welfare and see if they could not help her with the hospital bill, and if the county doctor could do the surgery.

She was informed they could not help her, because she was not on Welfare.

Following a tour of ten countries of Europe last summer, we decided Europe should be sending CARE packages to the needy of America.

Cleo Canoose,
55 Ross Court,
Medford.

"Granny" Is Irritated
To the Editor: Have been somewhat wryly amused from time to time by the attitude of news writers toward, of all things, grandparents in the news. Items noted included, for instance - "Grandmother hikes from coast to coast"; "Grandfather rescued from high ledge in mountain climbing attempt"; and, more recently - "Flying grandfather takes off into the wild blue yonder," and all that old jazz.

But no one even hinted that (1.) Grandmother was, in all probability, perfecting a new reducing technique, or maybe attempting to prove that high heels are really beneficial for long-distance hikes - (2.) Grandfather No. 1 was seeking publicity for his used car lot, or any one of a dozen other good and valid pursuits, and Grandfather No. 2 might well have been merely trying to get away from Grandmother!

No. The implication was plain. The attitude of the press is obviously that once one is so blessed as to become a grandparent, one automatically sinks into one's wheelchair and starts croaking reminiscences about the Gay Nineties - and that is whether

one was born in the Gay Nineties or in 1920!

What a field day some enterprising reporter could have in our neighborhood - items such as "Grandfather teaches young daughter to water-ski!" Or "Grandma plays basketball at the Y.W." or - here's a real gasser for you - "Grandmother rides Uncle John's bicycle to Super Market - wears SHORTS!"

Really, I do have news for you, Big Dad, (Oh, I beg your pardon, that should be Grandson!) The fact that there are a great many people indeed, born in the Gay Nineties or out, who are grandparents, and who go about the business of living, working, and playing in this world in such a quiet and casual manner that one can hardly tell them from ordinary citizens!

So what? So they lived good, clean lives. Cheer up, darling, your dreams could come true, too!

Forever Granny,
Gold Hill, Ore.

Well . . .
To the Editor:
The chimp didn't know it
Till they plugged the socket
Into the rockit.
That it wasn't just a bucket.
He never had a tickit.
For riding in a rockit.
He only had a pocket.
When the rockit, hit the
pocket.
JED went sailing through
the orbit.
Now his problem wuz
explicit.
And he dare not miss it.
He's got to git
That old cotten pickin'
pocket.
Back in that thar rockit.
Everett Acklin
Ashland, Ore.

Jubilee

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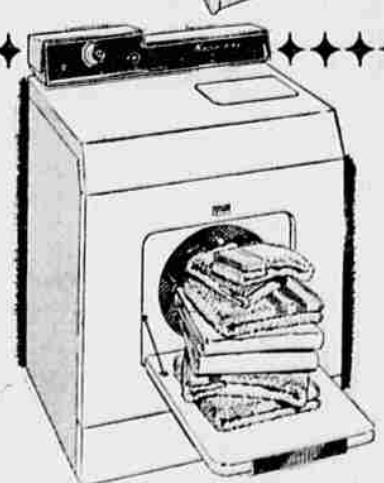
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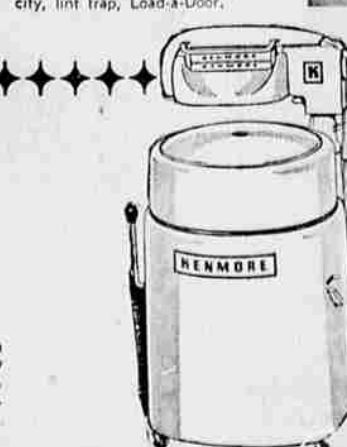
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