

Poets' Corner

Conducted by Arnold Eugene Jenny

Probably few Oregonians are aware that one of our State's most illustrious sons was Edwin Markham, born in Oregon City on April 23, 1852.

The Place of Peace

At the heart of a cyclone tearing the sky And flinging the clouds and the towers by, Is a place of central calm;

Two At a Fireside

I built a chimney for a comrade old, I did the service not for hope of hire— And then I travelled on in winter's cold— Yet all the way I glowed before the fire.

Victory in Defeat

Defeat may serve as well as victory To shake the soul and let the glory out. When the great oak is straining in the wind, The boughs drink in new beauty, and the trunk Sends down a deeper root on the windward side.

A Creed

Here is the Truth in a little creed, Enough for all the roads we go: In Love is all the law we need, In Christ is all the God we know.

Earth Is Enough

We men of earth have here the stuff Of Paradise—we have enough! We need no other stones to build The Temple of the Unfulfilled— No other ivory for the doors— No other marble for the floors— No other cedar for the beam And dome of man's immortal dream.

To A Friend

I cannot keep the chilling winds from blowing; I cannot keep the sorrows from your way; But would it help you any, just the knowing That one heart holds you dearer every day?

Love's Answer

Love is the poet's eternal song, But love unsung may be as strong. Does the poet's need To sing Love's deed Sometimes expiate a wrong?

Conflict begins with Cupid's dart And the Caliban in each human heart. Love, silent, pure, May well endure Beyond the poet's facile art.

—Carl Bjordahl Medford

Local Ministerial Association Appeals Against Licenses

Three members of the Medford Ministerial association appealed to the Medford city council last week to stop approving new liquor license applications.

The appeal came during discussion on a request for a liquor license from Ping's Garden's, 2330 North Pacific highway. The council heard the appeal, then went ahead and approved the request. But at the same time it asked the ministers to prepare a report for the council on the number of places in the city where liquor is "misused to a serious extent."

The Rev. John Reynolds of the Westminster Presbyterian church was the first to speak. While emphasizing that he had nothing against Ping's in particular, he asked: "Are there not enough (liquor) outlets already?"

Councilman Stanley Stark explained that the council does not issue licenses, but only approves them if the applicants meet certain standards. He pointed out that the state liquor commission does the actual approving of the licenses.

Stark added that if the council were to "arbitrarily" turn down all liquor license requests, the council would probably lose its power to even recommend against approval or disapproval.

Asked how many liquor outlets there are now in the city, City Manager Robert A. Duff said there are about 18, including private clubs.

Mayor John W. Snider, while admitting that liquor is a problem, asked the ministers to support the League of Oregon Cities in its attempt to get an additional 5 per cent of liquor receipts for use by cities. Cities already get 10 per cent of liquor license revenues, but Snider said more is needed because cities spend nearly 40 per cent of their police budgets to take care of problems caused by liquor.

Other ministers speaking at the meeting were the Rev. Lawrence Krause of the Bethel Assembly of God church, and the Rev. Harold Sanner of the Church of the Nazarene. On the motion to approve the liquor license, Councilmen Robert Bacchus and Fred Robinson voted against it.

The council also approved transfers of liquor licenses for S and S Stores company, which will assume ownership of the Big Y Market, 1920 North Pacific highway, and for Kimmey's Korner, 630 Crater Lake ave.

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 his column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Calamitous Proposal

To the Editor: Let's get the facts straight!

First I want to thank the Jackson County Home Owners Protective association for taking the time in expressing their concern with our wrecking yard problem, at a time when they are so concerned and unhappy with their own problem. We now know just what you are up against, and sincerely sympathize with you and are rooting for you.

The proposed wrecking yard is a cause of very great concern in our area. Most property owners in the area have been planning home, business, and property improvements which cost a great deal of money. In order to do these things, most of us have to get loans against our property in order to accomplish and complete these improvements. We feel that construction already in progress, and that which is planned in the very near future, will total a far greater amount than the wrecking yard people plan to spend, and the property owners will continue to improve their holdings each year, where the wrecking yard will invest once and the whole area will be degraded thereafter.

We have been informed by banks, loaning concerns, and appraisers that in an area where wrecking yards are allowed to come in, it is almost impossible to get building loans and that the valuation of property immediately depreciates up to 50 per cent.

We have a great many other reasons and objections to the proposed wrecking yard, such as drainage, sanitation, and so forth, too numerous to mention in this letter. We are not opposed to residential, business, and agricultural endeavors.

We expect to have a very large group of persons who are opposed to the wrecking yard, present to voice the feelings on the matter, at the public hearing held by the County Court at the Courthouse Auditorium Wednesday, April 26, at 8 p.m.

Are we going to be compelled to have this calamity and monstrous degrading eyesore placed in the midst of our hopes, ambition, and progress? South Talent Rural Property Owners Association, W. Smith (Chairman), Board members: Harry Flynn, B. Carmichael, Richard Klimek, C. Robertson, Dorothy Hunt, Goldie Davis, secretary.

Rocking Chair To the Editor: Everybody is talking about rocking chairs in the White House, on television, on radio and in the theater. I had a rocking chair and a telephone in Julesburg, Colorado. I wuz about six years old, but I wuz rich. It wuz before the Republicans got in.

The telephone wuz made out of a green cottonwood tree, and it shrunk. My rocking chair wuz made out of South Platte River Pussy Willows, and it always blossomed in the spring. The rocking chair ain't never been in the White House, but it wuz in a lot of sod houses.

The Telephone Company installed the telephone on the bathroom chimney six feet from the floor. The bathroom wuz the space between the cookstove and the chimney. I kept my rocking chair on top of the marble-top dresser, so I could sit down and telephone. A South Platte River Pussy Willow Rocking Chair wuz just as comfortable as any rocking chair in the White House, after I got my cotton pickin' pants in it.

Everett Acklin, Ashland, Ore.

Unknown Benefactor To the Editor: We wish to take this opportunity to thank the kind gentleman who saw and reported the fire in our chimney. Also we wish to thank the fire department for its prompt and efficient response.

Marion and Raymond Smith, 101 Reddy ave. Medford

Final Answer To the Editor: Of the writer's many responses to the numerous letters in communication's column pertaining to cougars and their scream, our answers were all favorable in that regard, and our final answer to the age old question is: most likely no one has ever seen a cougar visibly out in their wild haunts screaming.

We have the evidence from good authority that a wild animal zoo keeper will admit freely to anyone inquiring

about the mountain lion of the North American species that any and all the "cat" family even do scream in captivity sometimes.

Bert Kissinger, 520 Boardman st., Medford.

Loss of Freedom? To the Editor: Wake Up, People!! If we allow the Jackson County Planning Commission to pass their latest "Dream Child," the Building Code, in its present form we will lose our rights as free people.

Why Write? To the Editor: A communications writer wonders just why people write to a newspaper. Gosh, that's a good sixty-four dollar query. I guess I can't think why.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

HARRY HERSHFELD tells about a wealthy widow who boarded a taxicab and announced that she was off for Europe. "Set me down as close to the ship as possible," she ordered. "My tootsies ache."



The driver worked his way directly alongside the liner just as a crane was lowered from the top deck. It gripped the cab and lifted it into the hold of the vessel before either the wealthy widow or the cabbie could say, "Foufel and Poufel."

"Be of good cheer," counseled this merry widow. "Now that I've gotten you into this pickle you can drive me through Europe. Keep the meter clicking, I'm loaded!"

So they drove all over the continent, and when they landed back in Gotham, the taxi cab came to about \$9,000. "Take me home now," the widow directed, "and I'll pay you in full."

"Where's home?" asked the cabbie. "Flatbush," said the wealthy widow. "Not on yer life!" scowled the cabbie. "You never can get a fare back from there!"

New Statute Allows Local Contribution To Help Association

Signing of House Bill 1358 by Gov. Mark O. Hatfield Thursday afternoon marks a new step in the development of the Oregon School Boards association, Jack Duff, OSBA president, Pendleton, said.

The OSBA can be an effective means to exchange information between school boards. The school board represents the taxpayers in development of educational programs, Duff said, and the state wide association will work toward assisting board members in carrying out their responsibilities of providing high quality educational programs in an economical fashion.

The new state statute allows local boards to contribute to the financial support of the association. The legislative action will enable the association in future years to employ a full-time secretary to assist in carrying out the association's objective of strengthening local school board initiative.

Executive Committee Duff, school board member from Pendleton, heads an executive committee consisting of Dr. Howard Cherry, board member, Portland; Frank Bash, board member, Medford; Bert Tousey, Tigard; and Eugene Fisher, Elkton.

The OSBA became an effective organization under the leadership of S. E. Brogitt, current chairman of the state board of education, who served from 1952 to 1954 as president.

Members include the state board, rural school boards and local school district boards from throughout the state. More than 85 per cent of Oregon's school children are educated in districts belonging to the OSBA. Membership in the

association is voluntary on the part of the local school boards. The association hopes to offer research and consultation services for local districts as well as serving as a clearing house on education also represents local school boards before the legislature in matters affecting local school district activities and finances.

Pear Handlers To Elect Members

Winter pear handlers in the Medford district are scheduled to elect representatives to the Winter Pear Control committee here April 27 at 1 p.m. in the Rogue Valley Country club.

The committee, which has headquarters in Portland, administers the winter pear marketing order in Oregon, Washington, and California. In addition, the control committee establishes each year the minimum grade, size, and quality standards under which winter pears are marketed from the Pacific Coast states.

Persons who handle winter pears are eligible to participate in the Thursday meeting, providing they do not participate in the grower election meeting to be held later, according to WPCC officials.

The handler positions to be filled soon are now held by R. W. Gray, member; Joe Naumes, first alternate; Harold A. Holmes, second alternate. Names of those elected will be submitted to the secretary of agriculture for official appointment to the WPCC, and will serve for one year.

Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins (Register and Tribune Syndicate 1961)



Birds Use Ants As Delousers

While we have been asking ourselves, "What are ants good for?" it seems that some of the birds have known all along; they have not only known, but apparently, they have gone ahead and used these insects to their own advantage.

It, too, always has been a pretty well-known fact that, with the exception of the bird called the flicker, ants are obnoxious to all birds. For a very long time this reluctance to eat ants has puzzled the student of bird behavior.

Extensive tests revealed a peculiar fact regarding this social insect. Ants were found to contain a great deal of formic acid in their bodies, which would make them disagreeable tasting to an insect-eating bird.

This formic acid ejected by ants is strongly similar to formalin, which itself is made by dissolving formaldehyde in water. Formic acid will kill most bacteria. Just what purpose it serves in the life of the ant is not too well understood. Perhaps it helps to keep the ant free from harmful bacteria, as well as acting as a repellent to save its life from birds or other animals that might want to eat them.

Fussling Behavior Then some observant people noticed that many birds often visit an ant-hill and either dust their bodies with dust from the hill, or even catch ants, crush them slightly and rub the ant-body under their wings. Knowing that the birds did not eat ants, they wondered why at times the birds would carry the insect away with them.

Students of bird action watched and found a surprising fact; the birds found a comfortable perch and rubbed the dead or in some cases live insect under their wings. The very obvious explanation for this action seemed to be the bird was infected with body lice, and the formic acid in the ant's body killed the vermin. After the treatment the bird appeared more comfortable, which appeared to indicate the acid either killed or drove away the lice.

Granting that this is the reason why birds perform the strange rite known commonly as "anting," the logical question in the thinking person's mind is, "How did the bird learn that formic acid was an effective insecticide?"

How did they know that this poison on their feathers would free them of what was bothering them? The complete story of "anting" has not yet been written; neither has the question of bird intelligence been answered.

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