

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.

Bus-stop Protest

To the Editor: A former newspaperman doing some editorial research on alcoholism among the veterans domiciled at White City found a vocal majority of them in aggrieved protest over the position of the Evergreen bus-stop in front of a tavern in downtown Medford.

The great majority of veterans in the White City Domiciliary are serious, sober and temperate men who are often grievously burdened with the drunkenness and alcoholic antics of the offending inebriate minority. The present bus-stop has become almost a part of the tavern and our temperate majority is continually embarrassed by intoxicated riders climbing in and on and out of the bus for another drink and so are the ladies of the VAVs often in transit to their neighborly duties at the Domiciliary.

We have no "voice" at White City for such worthy protests, due to a national Veterans Administration ruling which will not allow or permit station newspapers such as our "Dominions" to participate editorially in controversial matters such as alcoholism, religion or politics. This is most embarrassing when militant members desire a crusade for the good of the station and often reminiscent of the way of the ostrich for alcoholism is a (or THE) major problem in all veterans affairs.

The City of Medford assigned the tavern area for an Evergreen bus-stop when some Domiciliary members became a nuisance at Trailways. The report of the former newspaperman doing the research has been read to, and seriously discussed by, the Domiciliary Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. The regulations of A.A. will not allow the group to take up any "cause" either, and the problem was transferred to White City Post 192 of The American Legion. We not only considered and debated the protest and problem at our last Post meeting, but it was ordered that we write the Editor of the Mail Tribune asking editorial expression on a proper solution of the problem.

White City Post 192, with its 86 members, thus representing the respectable majority of our Domiciliary members, invites the City of Medford to move the benches and present Evergreen bus-stop from in front of the offending tavern to an orderly and decent position elsewhere in downtown Medford. Our majority of members will be

deeply grateful—even the same among our inebriates.
M. E. Prevost,
Commander, White City Post 192, The American Legion, V.A. Domiciliary, White City, Ore.

Be Informed

To the Editor: Can you afford annexation into the city? I CAN'T. Your property will be reassessed soon after you are annexed. Naturally your taxes will be considerably increased as you are not paying any city taxes at the present time.

If you do join the city for sewer services, which is the only advantage that most people can see, how do you expect to get that service when some of the previously annexed areas have petitioned for sewer service for from three to five years without any success? Talk to some of the people in the Berrydale District about this prohibitive expense. Be informed.

Talk to some of the people in the Lone Pine District about the prices they have been quoted on their petition to get a sewer in their district, and their taxes that have been increased, not only once, but some of them three times. Ask them what they were quoted at the time they were being annexed too. Ask these people about the sewer (?) at the Lone Pine school. Investigate. Know what you will be voting for.

Don't forget that all city laws, rules and restrictions, building codes, inspections, licenses, etc., will all apply to you once you join the city. Do you want that?

Your insurance rates will not be lowered as some people are inclined to believe. What do you gain by annexation if you cannot get sewer service? If these people who are already in the city have been unable to get these services, what makes you think that you, coming into the city from three to five years later, will get these services? Will the additional expenses, including taxes, for five or ten years be worth waiting in hopes of getting sewer service? Can you afford it? Is it worth the cost?

The county is obliged by state law to help those people in the county who need sewer services. This can be done with very reasonable and just expense. Read State ORS 451 at your Public Library.

Be informed. Talk to various people who have been affected by annexation and find out just exactly how much it has cost them and just exactly

ly what they have gained and what they have lost by being taken into the city. Investigate. Be informed. THINK. Then go vote!

Marella Luschen
2325 Stewart ave.
Medford.

For the Little Man

To the Editor: When a fellow knows how conscientious Charles O. Porter was about his constituents, through actual dealings with him, and having received valuable aid from him, it is hard for one to sit back and listen to a few crackpots making remarks about him, without coming to his defense, by presenting the actual facts.

I am a small mine owner, I had some trouble with the B.L.M. over an access road, I was not given a fair test of the ground, I lost the case at a hearing at Medford. I contacted Congressman Porter before his chair seat got warm in Washington, as he wanted to know the truth. The case was appealed. The appeal was in my favor. So I got a fair and proper test. The settlement was for \$5,500.

Being an ex-Congressman, Charles O. Porter knows the rights of the people, and he will see to it that they have their rights. The people do not realize how vast this Government is. It takes the knowledge to get things accomplished. He sent me 20 letters—letters that he wrote and received from other officials, so I could know the progress that was being made in my case. In order to prove that Charles O. Porter is interested in the little miner and small people, as well as good government, these letters will be available at my home.

We need his experience, our interest is his interest, don't be misled.

Samuel L. Dickey,
Route 1, Box 271,
Rogue River, Ore.

Festival Bands

To the Editor: Though slightly late this year, I wish once more to repeat a loud burst of applause for the wonderful school bands of our valley who added their contribution to the 1962 Pear Blossom Festival Parade. Without them the parade would not be the same.

This year's parade was bigger and better than ever and there is every reason to expect it to continue to grow as years roll along.

Thanks to everyone who participated and in this group are some from outside our immediate vicinity. But very special thanks to the bands and their directors.

Bill Dugan
1962 Vice President
Rogue Valley Pear Blossom Festival Committee
Medford

Duncan a Winner

To the Editor: Through the hurricane of last minute campaigning, flying charges and counter charges, hurtling political bodies and drifting vapors from confusing issues, there emerges one solid footed image of a winner. It is Robert B. Duncan, Jackson county's candidate for the Fourth Congressional District seat.

It is easy now to see why Bob Duncan was elected and re-elected for three terms in the state legislature, why he broke Oregon precedent by being twice elected Speaker of the House, why he was recently appointed by the President on his advisory committee on inter-governmental relations, and has continued to land in positions of leadership and prestige.

A naval aviator during World War II, Bob has the toughness, the stamina, the courage and the know-how to battle his way to victory, not only in a political campaign, but against all odds to win the best for his District and his State. I am proud to vote for Duncan for Congress.

Jean A. Mills
924 Alta st.,
Medford.

Same Charges?

To the Editor: Two years ago, Dr. Durno, in campaigning against Porter, called attention to Porter's remarks and actions against Nationalist China, our ally, and favoring trade and closer relations with Communist China, our cold-war enemy. For this honest presentation of facts, he was assailed for "smear tactics" and "dirty politics" by the Democrat politicians supporting Porter. Among those supporting Porter was Bob Duncan. Now Duncan repeats these same charges in trying to prove that Porter lies in saying that there are no important differences between them.

Can it be that Porter has changed since 1960? No, for the dates that are given for the two statements by Porter, quoted by Duncan in the Mail Tribune of May 10 are both in 1959, before the Durno-Porter race. It certainly seems either that Duncan is running a "dirty, smear campaign" now, or that Durno did not in 1960, what of the dishonesty of Porter's supporters in 1960 who tried to smear Durno by claims of a smear campaign by him? And remember now, Duncan

was one of Porter's supporters.

It seems evident, based on apparently factual newspaper reports of Porter's public statements, one of them a deplorable attack on an ally in a foreign country, that Dr. Durno in 1960 and Duncan in 1962 were some important facts they were entitled to, and needed to know. It also seems that Dr. Durno comes out of this "clean as a whistle", as most of us always knew, and that Duncan's shield is tarnished, not by his present charges against Porter, but by his part, or at least acquiescence, in the dishonest attack on Durno in 1960 and ever since then.

D. H. Barber
Trail, Ore.

Think Carefully

To the Editor: One of the U. S. Senators said, "The American people should be aware of soft spoken Communist propaganda." Khrushchev said that if Communists could work into churches, political gatherings and social affairs, and spread Communist propaganda, world war III would not be necessary.

Remembering the above statements one wonders if, perhaps, unbeknownst especially to present Home Rule advocates, there might have been some Communist influence in Home Rule when it first originated back east. It seems so extremely un-American to me to have people ask Americans to vote to annihilate their power to vote for the seven county officials who are to spend the county tax money. I believe they said it was to save money, and get more efficient officials. Wouldn't that be like saving grocery money by not eating altogether? It certainly would save grocery money, but how about the funeral expenses?

They said five men, who would receive only \$50 per month, or \$100 per month would be able to scour the country for the very finest brains in the county. Wouldn't they be working pretty hard for \$100 per month? Wouldn't there be a powerful influence to appoint their friends, regardless of qualifications?

For the small sum of \$100 per month, not many would run for commissioners. It might be easy for the unscrupulous to enter the race. Remember they have a tremendous power after election, i.e., appointing seven very important county officials. These are the officials who will superintend the spending of your tax dollars. If unscrupulous men could get elected, and if they appointed unscrupulous men, couldn't they plunge Jackson county into financial chaos? Wouldn't the taxes then drive people out of their homes?

The Home Rulers say they will cut taxes, but where Home Rule has already been established, taxes have jumped up from two to three times what they were under preceding government.

The State Police have said that Home Rule gives too much power to too few people. I think they are not only right, but that they are in a position to know what the dangers are.

Voters of Jackson county think carefully before you sign away your American Heritage, namely the power to vote for county officials. Think very carefully before you vote "yes" to an issue which has boosted taxes to the skies in other localities where put into practice.

M. F. Robinson
Box 18
Talent, Ore.

Let's Keep Sal

To the Editor: An old gentleman from the mountain hinterland, a Hill Billy, if you please, visited the State Fair. As he roamed about he saw a sign over a door, "Woman's Exchange."

He entered and saw a buxom blonde sitting behind a desk. "Be this the woman's exchange?" he asked. "Yes, what can I do for you?" she said. "Be you the woman?" "Yes."

The old gent eyed her critically for a moment, then said, "Well, Sal ain't much for looks, but she's dependable. I reckon I won't exchange for a while yet." Exit the H.B.

That is how I think about the so-called Home Rule. Why trade a system we know, even if it is imperfect, for something untested though full of promise? Who and what guarantees those promises?

No system is better than the people who serve it. Good men can improve a poor system, but bad or weak men can ruin a good system. Do we have good men in Jackson county, or must we import experts? One definition of an expert is "an ordinary man away from home."

Besides, the charter denotes too much departure from the American constitutional plan of checks and balances in separate legislative, judicial and executive departments. It sounds too much like "Democratic Centralism." Let's keep Sal till we see assurance of a more dependable change.

L. G. Weaver
301 Haven st.
Medford.



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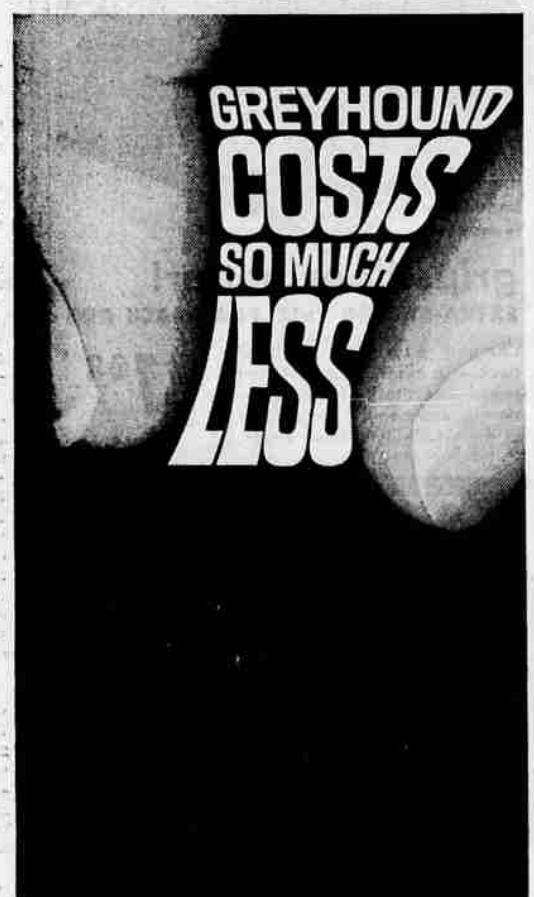
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