

A Reporter

Every once in a while we meet someone who, through traits of personality and mind and habit, can truly be affectionately called "a character."

Such a man was Wayne Pettit, who died the other day in Salem three years after retirement as Capitol correspondent for the Oregonian. He had served in that post for 40 years, watching generation after generation of younger men come and go.

A Eugene Register-Guard editorial writer says of Pettit:

"He was the close friend and friendly critic of 14 Oregon governors. He covered 29 executions, first on the old penitentiary gallows, then at the gas chamber. He covered prison breaks, the fire that destroyed the old Capitol, and 26 legislative sessions."

It WAS our privilege to serve an apprenticeship with Wayne Pettit in the Capitol press gallery, first as a very youthful colleague, later as a state employee in an office Wayne looked into every day.

He could scare the dickens out of a youngster, just by chomping his cigar at him. But, under exterior—an odd mixture of the rough-and-tough and the cherubic—he had a big soft heart.

There were many who have benefited from his generosity, which few knew about, for he never talked about it.

And we recall once his tipping us off on a story, just so we wouldn't be beaten on it by more experienced competitors. He was a veritable fountainhead of advice, which he gave willingly when asked, but never volunteered.

PERHAPS he wasn't one of the great reporters of the age. He didn't worry too much about the social impact of what he was reporting, or about the political implications of this or that situation. He was neither pundit nor columnist nor "opinion moulder." He was a reporter.

And according to the lights of a reporter, he was a journeyman and an expert, reporting the doings of government in clear, uncluttered uncomplicated words.

The service which is rendered by a good reporter may be too little appreciated by the public, but they gain most of their insights into the world around them from the jobs the reporters do. For 40 years Wayne Pettit rendered that service, and the people of Oregon are better off for it.—E.A.

By the Numbers--Dial!

The telephone company is taking quite a beating from those who object to the incursions of automation and all number calling and direct distance dialing.

Professor S. I. Hayakawa, internationally famous semantist, is informal leader of a group in the San Francisco Bay area who are protesting the impersonality of the indispensable instrument.

The heart is with the rebels, but the head is with the telephone company.

Numbers a machine can deal with; sentimental words it cannot. And if telephone users are to be served, it will be the machines which do it.

RARE is the Medfordite who has yet become used to dialing 77 instead of SP (although the effect is exactly the same). And rare is he who remembers automatically to dial 77 (or SP) at all, since until recently it wasn't necessary.

Seven movements are needed to dial now; eight if your phone is served (as is ours) by a switchboard. Come the middle of next month, and making a long distance call will be an exercise in forefinger durability.

From our office telephone, to call a Seattle number, we will have to dial thus: 9 (to get past the switchboard) 1 (to get the DDD equipment) 206 (to get the western Washington area) and 232-1345 (to get the party we want). That's 912062321345. Or, put another way, nine hundred twelve billion, sixty two million, three hundred twenty one thousand, three hundred forty five.

ALL this, however, pales into insignificance compared to the telephone company's latest transgression.

Here is how our Phoenix correspondent, Mrs. Bertha Hanscom, put it recently (slightly revised):

Where is the hole in the telephone book? If you don't believe me, just take a look: There are seven digits, as you can see, and All Number Calling and DDD.

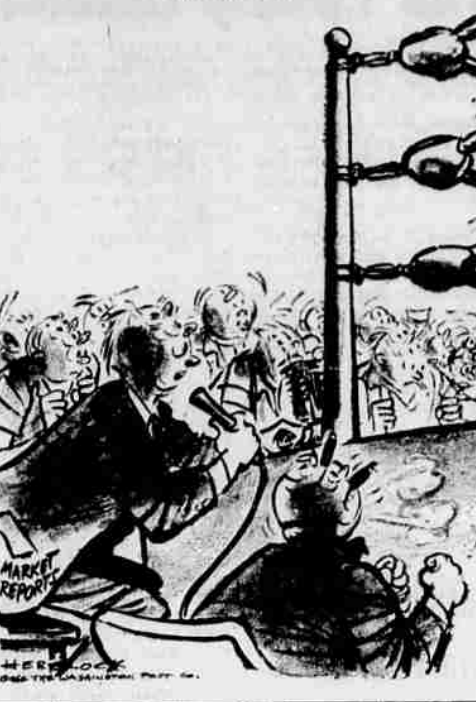
There are area codes, maps of the zones, and information on how to use phones, Pictures of rivers and boats are galore. But who wants to hang his book on the floor?

A calendar's printed from way back when, and Mt. McLoughlin has a snow-top again. I wish someone who knows would tell me true: Where did the hole in the phone book go to?

Still, what would we do without the darned things?—E.A.

Poor old Charlie Shibbitz didn't graduate last night. We understand he flunked his American Problems examination.—E.A.

"He's Up Again! He's Down Again! He's Halfway Up—"



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.

Unused Talents

To the Editor: I wish someone would enlighten me as to just why our President Kennedy, usually so excellent and well-versed in the true values of good counsel, has passed up our own fount of Oriental wisdom and knowledge in relation to the pitiful plight of the Chinese people.

San Francisco, Chicago, New York and a few other of our major metropolises boast sizeable Chinese-American quarters. Most of all our cities have some citizens of Chinese ancestry. And the majority of the present sons and daughters of these citizens of Oriental origin are well-educated, many just as culturally conversant and spiritually concerned with charity as any other ethnic group. And many are keen, capable intellectuals who have graduated from our best colleges and universities.

The recent bringing of a few refugees from China to America and the resultant publicity savors of an unformed press-agency. When there is something wrong with your physical body you seek a doctor, and so with the world body—we need learned counsel and have ignored and passed up our own natural oracles on Oriental affairs.

Not one of our own Chinese-American men and women have been courteously consulted or interviewed or given a voice in advising the Administration as to the most excellent way or ways to aid the starving Chinese.

While they were born here and know America as do all our children, they also know China and are inherently aware of its native problems. President Kennedy and our diplomatic and state staffs reveal a "blind spot" in our relation to suffering China. Bret Harle did not miss when he wrote "damn clever, these Chinese" but it surely does not apply to us in our handling of their hungry, somewhat distant, countrymen.

And where, in these good works our nation is doing in the love of God and neighbor, is the Voice of our Missions—the enlightened opinion of our priests and ministers who studied the Orient first-hand until driven out?

There is, as yet, no scientific or technical cure for hunger; no computer capable of classifying counsel, or directing charity. Let us hear from Charles Ying Chin of San Francisco, graduate of the University of California, and from Nancy Nam Toy of New York City, graduate of Fordham University, in our higher councils as regards the Orient from now on.

William T. Cuddy, V.A. Domiciliary, White City, Ore.

Widow's View

To the Editor: I agree with Mr. Corey we do need a hospital at Camp White. It won't help my poor husband, he's already dead, but maybe it will help others who need treatments. Why not take part of that money which is being used to bring those Chinese over here to feed and take out jobs.

I say we need what money there is for our own. If there is too much, raise the veterans' pay, also the widows. We all want to live, too, and eat. We still get hungry even if we are old. I know, I don't get enough to live on. Oh, well, we aren't supposed to live, I guess.

Why don't they pay the widows the veterans' insurance? There were thousands that weren't able to keep them up after they got out of

Resentment Bitter Against U.S. Over Laotian Policies; Stability Is Hope

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

Vientiane, Laos—UPI—The government of Laos conducts its business in a high-ceilinged building of yellow stucco and brown trim just across the street from the walls of the Royal Palace and its adjacent Buddhist temple.

The man in charge during the frequent absences of Premier Prince Boun Oum and his strongman overseer Gen. Phoumi Nosavan is a small, compact man who stabs the air with a finger to emphasize his current indignation with the United States.

He is Acting Foreign Secretary Sisouk Na Champasak. Among his other jobs, Sisouk also is the permanent Laotian representative to the United Nations in New York and has the respect of Western diplomats here even though now they find themselves on opposite sides.

For, like Phoumi and Boun Oum, Sisouk bitterly resents United States action switching its support from the weak but pro-Western Boun Oum government proposed by the once-deposed Prince Souvanna Phouma.

He charges that when the United States withdrew its economic support from the

Boun Oum government, it deprived the government of its greatest bargaining card at the conference table.

"Now," he shrugs, "we will go and we will sign. There is nothing else we can do. For this the United States bears a heavy responsibility."

Government troops fought well before their rout at Nam Tha, he maintains, until they found the Pathet Lao and Communist Viet Minh troops at their rear as well as in front.

U.S. officials here agree that the Royalist forces could hold their own against their fellow-countrymen, the Pathet Lao, but have proved themselves no match for the disciplined Viet Minh.

As for the bargaining, by which General Phoumi hoped to hold the defense and interior ministries for his own right wing forces, allied officials point out he had many months in which to negotiate before being forced to do so by lack of U.S. support and on the advice of Thailand.

In any event, Western representatives now have their highest hopes in a year that the feuding Laotian princes will reach agreement on a coalition neutral government and that some stability may result.

This stability, they believe, could have come about earlier had Phoumi agreed to join his right wing forces to the neutrals of Souvanna Phouma, which, together, would

easily have outnumbered the Pathet Lao.

Western hopes for a stable government here depend upon Russia. The argument is that Russia intervened with its air drop support to the pro-Communist rebels to prevent drastic Red Chinese action which might have set off a worldwide conflict.

They argue, further, that if Russia fails to enforce Communist agreement to a neutral government in Laos, it loses all hope of agreement on other issues, including Berlin.

To this, Sisouk replies with an expressive, unbelieving shrug of the shoulders.

Washington Report

By William S. White (c) United Feature Syndicate

PAUSE NEEDED

Washington—Every present major factor in the world suggests that the time has come for a creative and healing pause in routine politics in this country.

If this notion is right, then Congress should quit picking fretfully at a

mountain of second-priority work on a calendar which could keep it here until the snow falls. It should simply act on two or three really big disputed matters—final approval of the president's low-tariff world trade program and perhaps enactment of some relatively rational farm subsidy plan and then go home.

Likewise, President Kennedy should halt pressures for a good deal of doubtful welfare legislation, including addi-

tional medical care for the aged. He should shut content himself with a congressional record which would be long on quality, if not on quantity.

THIS would be a "do-nothing" course only to those who believe that unless President and Congress are forever "doing something," however dubious that something might be, they are somehow not "providing national leadership."

In some circumstances national leadership can best be fulfilled by taking the long, calm view; by concentrating on the essential and skipping the secondary and overly argumentative. Such circumstances, one suggests, now surely exist.

ITEM: Business anxiety at what much of business believes is a hostile climate within the administration is an undoubted reality. Justified or not—and this columnist personally believes it to be based more on the academic rhetoric of lower-placed functionaries than on any action or purpose of the president—the fear is there.

The best way to relieve the fever is to get Congress out of town and to let up on administrative clamors for more welfare legislation. (Most of it wouldn't pass anyhow if Congress remained until Christmas; but that is neither here nor there.)

ITEM: The pre-conditions for a massive leap forward in the American economy do, in plain fact, exist. First, there is the approval of the House Ways and Means committee by vote of 20 to 5 of the bill to give broad and flexible tariff-cutting authority to the President so he may bargain fully with the powerful European common market.

It is not in the least fanciful to say that once Congress as a whole has said "yes" to this bill, American business will find a world market vastly richer than it has ever known. The only thing that could now beat the bill would be a progressive embitterment of relations between business and the administration.

And, second, there is the promise of a "top-to-bottom" income tax cut for next year. This could be an immense spur to expansion; it could not be otherwise unless the sensitive factor of business "confidence" should intervene.

ITEM: Every reliable indicator or points to the gravest of economic trouble in Red China and to hidden unrest within the Soviet Union. Though this is good news for the West in a way, it is dangerous news, too. For dictatorships are far more likely to strike out when times are bad at home, if only to divert the people.

This being so, the most ordinary prudence counsels us on this side to two things most of all: (1) steadily to improve our economic and our deeply interrelated military posture; and (2) carefully to avoid all avoidable divisions and anxieties and cross-purposes within the nation.

Indeed, the hour of the acid test for Mr. Kennedy's presidency may be approaching; the test of his capacity to govern, as distinguished from merely to stay ahead in immediate popular favor, in times when vague fears and discontents and intimations of emerging and imminent changes walk this land and the world.

Medford Physician Replies to Blasts In Medicare Debate

To the Editor: We doctors seem to be getting a bloody nose in your newspaper. Within the last two days there have been six separate attacks against the AMA, physicians in general, and in favor of the King-Anderson Bill. In Sunday's issue there was a light cross by E.A.'s editorial, a left cross by Eric Seavard, an indirect "Jenny punch" directed at John Casterline, and Herblock's cartoon presumably alluding to the infamous "200 New Jersey Doctors".

Tuesday night there is the headline and a final blast from E.A. in the editorial again. In the face of all the adverse criticism about, and in spite of being a newcomer to this valley, I for one intend to stand up and be counted as being on the opposite side, and I would like to tell a little about the other side of the coin.

Firstly, in regard to the above-named articles, the Propaganda Techniques editorial—e.g. "glittering generalities"—"The King-Anderson Bill will lead to socialized medicine." E.A. is well versed in all seven of the devices listed, having used them all himself numerous times; I suspect that E.A. was standing at the lectern, rather than sitting and listening.

Eric Seavard's article is unfortunately true, the respect for our profession is indeed ebbing. He points out that medical students and premeds are not trained in the social sciences, and seem contemptuous of those who are. It wasn't very long ago that only one out of twenty or thirty applicants eventually was accepted in medical school, and once there, the competition to stay there was keen. Already medical schools are beginning to lower their standards, and take students with "C" averages rather than "A" or "B", because higher quality students do not want to get into a profession that requires long years of training only to ultimately become a government flunkie. Acceptance to medical school is largely based on maintaining high grades in many technical, scientific, and admittedly later useless subjects while in the four years of pre-medicine. Later in medical school there are four years of concentration on the basic sciences and the ills of the human body and mind. We are admittedly poorly trained in philosophy, sociology, and political science. However, if I were ill, I would prefer to be cared for by a well trained physician, rather than a sociologist or a politician, for I fear that I would receive a transfusion of my own blood; from the right arm to the left with half my blood spilled in between.

Regarding the cartoon and the 200 New Jersey Doctors, unfortunately the reporting in this case headlined "Refusal to Treat Patients Under King-Anderson". That is a fine headline but is improper reporting and a misquote. These men said that they would treat patients for free rather than under King-Anderson; they did not refuse treatment. This same thing has been done elsewhere; patients have been treated for no charge

rather than fill out all the Welfare forms. If you are looking for a cause of increased medical costs, you might start here, by the way: the paper work is terrific. I can think of several instances where a one dollar procedure has required four dollars of paper work.

In answer to Mr. Jenny's attack, he says that the medicare under Social Security is insurance. If he will name one insurance company which provides more in benefits than it takes in in premiums, that is, one which is fiscally unsound, I will show him a company no longer in business. The Social Security system now has 20 million dollars in the till, but owes about 150 million dollars in ultimate benefits. The only outfit which can run chronically in debt is the Federal Government, if private individuals or companies did this they would be in jail.

Now about the Tuesday blasts, I'm not a member of the AMA, but the AMA isn't the only bunch of propagandists. Kennedy and his welfare boys have been doing pretty well at it, and using the taxpayer's money to try to put across a program that will increase the cost of medical care and further subjugate the people of this country, making them even more dependent on the Federal Government. Costs of medical care have gone up, so has the cost of every other item, food, housing, and of course most of all, taxes. I think the best argument against King-Anderson, and other compulsory social reforms, is that we can do this cheaper by ourselves. Any time we get the government to do something for us, it is more expensive, because they don't do it for free. Somebody has to pay. If an item costs twenty dollars, then having Uncle Sam buy it doesn't make it any cheaper; on the contrary it costs twenty dollars plus the Washington brokerage fee.

Would King-Anderson be the first step toward "socialized medicine"? This depends on the definition of socialized medicine. Britain started in the 30's with a similar program for the aged and progressed to their present status. The proponents of this bill, Kennedy included, say it is not enough. Basically this bill says: "Because you are over 65, and have worked in a job providing Social Security, you are entitled to certain items of medical care." Which of these phrases would be changed first? Why age 65, why not 60? 40? 20? Why medical care only, why not shoes, groceries, advice on legal matters, why not everything? Why work?

Make no mistake, this bill is but another intrusion of the Federal Government into the free enterprise system. The fight of the medical profession and the private insurance business today is the fight of the lawyers tomorrow, the grocers and loggers and maybe even the newspaper editors the day after. It puts the Washington bureaucracy squarely in your hospital.

Charles A. McAdams, M.D., 838 East Main St., Medford

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris (c) Field Enterprises Inc.

When most people think of the word "education," they think of a pupil as a sort of

animate sausage casing. Into this empty casing, the teachers are supposed to stuff "education." But genuine education, as Socrates knew more than 2,000 years ago, is not inserting the stuffings of information into a person, but rather eliciting knowledge from what is in the drawing out of him; it is the mind.

"The most important part of education," once wrote William Ernest Hocking, the distinguished Harvard philosopher, "is this instruction of a man in what he has inside of him."

And, as Edith Hamilton has reminded us, Socrates never said, "I know, learn from me." He said, rather, "Look into your own selves and find the spark of truth that God has put into every heart, and that only you can kindle to a flame."

In the dialog called the "Meno," Socrates takes an ignorant slave boy, without a day of schooling, and proves to the amazed observers that the boy really "knows" geometry—because the principles and axioms of geometry are already in his mind, waiting to be called out.

So many of the discussions and controversies about the content of education are futile and inconclusive because they are concerned with what should "go into" the student rather than with what should be taken out, and how this can best be done.

The college student who once said to me, after a lecture, "I spend so much time studying that I don't have a chance to learn anything," was succinctly expressing his dissatisfaction with the sausage-casing view of education.

He was being so stuffed with miscellaneous facts, with such an indigestible mass of material, that he had no time (and was given no encouragement) to draw on his own resources, to use his own mind for analyzing and synthesizing and evaluating this material.

Education, to have any meaning beyond the purpose of creating well-informed dunces, must elicit from the pupil what is latent in every human being—the reserves of reason, the inner knowledge of what is proper for men to be and do, the ability to sift evidence and come to conclusions that can generally be assented to by all open minds and warm hearts.

Pupils are more like oysters than sausages. The job of teaching is not to stuff them and then seal them up, but to help them open and reveal the riches within. There are pearls in each of us, if only we knew how to cultivate them with ardor and persistence.

Gets Promotion Klamath Supervisor

Yreka—Charles A. Yates, supervisor of Klamath National Forest, Yreka, has been promoted to assistant regional forester in Denver, Colo., according to Regional Forester Charles A. Connaughton.

Yates, whose new assignment started last week, will be in charge of fire control and state and private forestry. Born in San Francisco, Calif., Yates received his forestry degree from the Oregon State college school of forestry. During his 25 years with the U.S. forest service, Yates served as fire control officer on the Goosenest, district ranger, Orleans, on the Six Rivers Forest and fire control staff officer on the San Bernardino Forest,

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Persons in Southern Oregon
Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
35 North Fir St., Ph. 712-8141

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time
Medford and Jackson County
History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO
June 8, 1952 (Saturday)
Anti-hill pilots flew a total of 5 hours 27 minutes yesterday; seeding took place for about 3 1/2 hours.

20 YEARS AGO
June 8, 1942 (Sunday)
Dr. R. E. Green seeking reelection as only candidate in Medford city school board election.

30 YEARS AGO
June 8, 1932 (Tuesday)
Medford Mayor E. M. Wilson calls on all civic and service organizations to send representatives to meeting to discuss help for unemployed.

40 YEARS AGO
June 8, 1922 (Wednesday)
Used car being demonstrated by Medford dealer catches fire and is "virtually demolished" while being shown to a prospective customer.

50 YEARS AGO
June 8, 1912 (Thursday)
Experimental planting of farm and truck crops between trees in Rogue valley orchards tried for first time.

What's Your I.Q.?
Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. Who was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic?
2. Who wrote "The Pilgrim's Progress"?
3. Which of these is larger in area—Mexico or Colombia?
4. Are eels born in salt water or in fresh water?
5. In which New England State was President Calvin Coolidge born?
6. What is known as the "Eternal City"?
7. Where does former President Harry S. Truman make his home?
8. Do mosquitoes have four, six, or eight legs?
9. According to the Bible, what was placed at the entrance to the Garden of Eden to guard it?
10. In what once-popular game is there talk of winds, flowers and seasons?
Answers: 1. Amelia Earhart, 2. John Bunyan, 3. Mexico, 4. Fresh, 5. Vermont, 6. Rome, Italy, 7. Independence, Mo., 8. Six, 9. A flaming sword and cherubim, 10. Mah Jong.