

... 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.

Fed Up
To the Editor: Mr. Paul A. Terry, director of education of the Copely Newspapers, has released the following letter from a resident of San Francisco, Calif.:

I am one of the Americans who heard Mr. Khrushchev tell our nation that my great-grandchildren will grow up in a Communist world. For some time now, this has bothered me. I am not a brave man — not even a big one. I suppose I would have to admit that I am, among my own neighbors and in my own culture, the typical, average well-educated, genteel suburbanite to whom family, the mortgage, and security have been the all-important items. . . .

My wife had me cleaning out an old trunk in the storage room the other day, and I ran across the huge old family Bible I hadn't thought about for years. My great-grandmother had kept a journal of the trip across the Great Plains with a wagon and oxen when she and great-grandpa were youngsters coming out to settle in California in the great migration. Great-grandma wrote about it as the wild, new land, rich and abundant in mythical proportions. . . .

On the trail she wrote of sickness and hunger, and heat and cold, and dust and thirst, and the deaths and births like heads strung together on a thread of hope — hope of freedom and a land of plenty for their children yet unborn. And when she viewed the new land, she wrote in simple words pictures of the cities and farms and schools, and happiness that would some day bloom in the greatness of the vast new land. She wrote of her tomorrow and my today. . . .

The ink was badly faded, but the message was clear. As I read, I began to think about America and being an American and what it all stands for; and I thought about our enemies and what they intend to do to America, to those rich lands and farms, to the cities and the people, to its freedom and its hope. . . .

And suddenly, I realized I am a sick American. I mean really sick. I am sick of panacea and backing up. I am sick of reaction where there should be initiative. I am sick of bureaucrats who tell me that my enemy is not really my enemy and that I should live together with murderers and tyrants. I am sick of government that hasn't the guts to clean traitors out of its own office. And I'm sick of my country being ridiculed all over the world. I am sick of pink-fingered diplomats and lily-livered politicians who place personal career above the fate of the flag. . . .

Poets' Corner

Conducted by Arnold Eugene Jenny

Good Poetry
Good poetry seems so simple and natural a thing that when we meet it we wonder that all men are not always poets. Poetry is nothing but healthy speech.
—Henry David Thoreau

Prayer
Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace, that
Where there is hatred, I may bring love;
Where there is wrong, I may bring the
spirit of forgiveness;
Where there is discord, I may bring harmony;
Where there is error, I may bring truth;
Where there is doubt, I may bring faith;
Where there is despair, I may bring hope;
Where there are shadows, I may bring Thy light;
Where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

Rain
I do love rain!
Its cheerful pitter-patter on my window pane
And on my face, while strolling down our country lane—
That lane so lately parched and scorched, all blooming slain.
Comes now rejuvenating, gayly lavish, freely falling rain—
Reviving drooping flowers and sprinkling sparkles in the
grain.
Do you love rain?
—Ethelyn Evans
The Manor, Medford

Weeping Willow
Why weeps the weeping willow so?
Doesn't it know the sun will go
Not down till the rising moon
To light the hills at lunar noon?
Why weeps the maid 'neath that same tree?
And moans of things she fain would be
If war had not of men's bestial might
Blighted her dreams of human right?
Why weeps the weeping willow so?
—Ralph McKinnis
Ashland, Oregon

The Zest of Life
Let me but live from year to year,
With forward face and unreluctant soul,
Not hastening to, nor retreating from the goal;
Not mourning for the things that disappear
In the dim past, nor holding back in fear
From what the future veils, but with a whole
And happy heart, that pays its toll
To youth and age, and travels on with cheer.
So let the way wind up the hill and down
Through rough or smooth, the journey will be joy;
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,
New friendship, high adventure and a crown,
I shall grow old but never lose life's zest
Because the road's last turn will be the best.
—Lawrence C. Jones
(Submitted by Miss Clara Hinz, the Manor, Medford;
received by her from the author, founder of Piney Woods
School, Mississippi.)

Note: We would like to acknowledge the contribution entitled "Liberation" if the author will send us her address.

Fifteen Students Get Perfect Averages
Ashland — Fifteen Southern Oregon college students attained perfect grade point averages of 4.0 during the spring term while carrying 12 or more hours of academic credit, Mrs. Mabel Winston, registrar, has announced. . . .

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Doesn't Blame Them
To the Editor: I guess I'm going to have to start another controversy. . . .

Amicus Curiae
To the Editor: On your editorial of 7-5-62 — If the prayer declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court is truly an establishment of religion, please tell us quickly, what religion? . . .

School Prayers
To the Editor: I go along with Thelma Carson; I think religion should be taught in schools, also, children should be made to speak a state prayer. . . .

Later Than We Think
To the Editor: Some of the greatest events concerning the times we are living in was shown to John, the apostle Jesus loved so much. . . .

Field Trip
To the Editor: With my all-so-naturalist-born wife and the Earnest Santos, who helped us obtain surplus seats in the big Greyhound bus provided by Southern Oregon . . .

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NOTICE

Noble Shoe Store formerly Buster Brown Shoe Store will be closed all day tomorrow (Monday) preparing for Gigantic Clearance Sale, starting Tuesday at 9 a.m!

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