

... 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.

Very Strange
To the Editor: Your editorial, Thalidomide: Two Questions (MT 8-2-62), is half sound, since it is only reasonable to expect protection from harmful drugs.

The second answer you offer violates reason, justice and the natural law. It ignores the horrifying psychological effects on women who submit to abortion.

It is not of prime importance to argue when the soul and body first exist together (is it implied in your editorial that you doubt the existence of the soul at any time?), though we doubt if you can offer any proof this soul

exists only after birth. Of necessary importance is the intent, and the intent of abortion is the destruction or prevention of natural life, human life, as there is no evidence to conclude that the unborn child is anything but human. It is human life, innocent human life that would be destroyed.

Since when, Mr. Allen, is deformation (physical), the criterion of whether life is justified? And where is the line drawn? How deformed must a person be before life must be considered as being worthless? And is a person, through accident or sickness, resulting in deformation later in life to forfeit that life? Of course not!

To activate your plan would result in the degradation of women. The woman is the heart of the family. The family is the basic unit of society. When the family is degraded, so is society. When society falls so does civilization.

Through all recorded history, civilizations have fallen when they applied this process. You would call this ancient degrading error social progress. Very, very strange. Robert J. Howard, 828 B West 14th st., Medford.

Midnight Message
To the Editor: It took a pretty brave man almost half a century ago in the small town of Rogue River to carry a night letter telegram message on foot on a two mile mountain trip to a miner who resided in a log cabin with present writer. At that time not many self-propelled vehicles were available to render assistance to the telegraph operator, who slept in the Western Union office of the friendly Southern Pacific depot, and also acted as "second trick" operator at night. After making inquiries for a message carrier,

our good friend, James W. Breeding, hearing the request volunteered to run the night errand. It was 11 p.m., and being fast asleep, it was somewhat alarming to be awakened by a familiar voice unexpectedly out of the darkness of a moonless winter's night.

The message, incidentally, was of a business nature from a California firm desiring information on use of mining equipment needed. It was a deep relief to know the message was not a serious report, and so our sleep was continued after a few minutes of meditation.

The moral of this story is to point out the good deed performed by a friend, like "the message carried by Garcia" through the night in the wilderness of Cuba during the insurrection of 1898. Yes, it takes a brave individual to carry through all obstacles that may or may not be met on the path of life.

Incidentally, our friend, J. W. B., a miner, won the gold panning contest at Jacksonville Gold Rush Days in 1937, time one minute 15 seconds, probably the International championship. Bert Kissinger, 322 So. Riverside ave., Medford.

Law Enforcement
To the Editor: OK re your recent editorial on capitol punishment. Do away with the thing. It's been delayed, torn with trumped-up technicalities, disgraced by wobbler-kneed governors that, shorn of its power to deter, it has become meaningless as administered today.

But what of the harvest, what is taking its place? As reported by FBI's Hoover, crime is increasing four times as fast as population here in America. Big city churches to the east, south and west are discontinuing evening services due to attacks on wom-

en by purse-snatching gangs some 85 per cent by Puerto Rican and American Negro youth. Tuesday's Mail Tribune told of a woman attacked, knifed and robbed in a Roman Catholic house of worship by a Negro youth.

Law enforcer Hoover also reports of more than 2500 law officers attacked in New York City the past year, with minor injuries to hospitalization and the funeral parlor. The public takes such attacks with a shrug. If any action is taken it is to help the hoodlum their protector is trying to apprehend. Why this sympathy for the lawbreaker? For what purpose is the officer's gun?

We stopped recently at police headquarters in Medford to get an answer. We were told the officer's pistol was primarily to protect the public. Mostly in Medford it is used as a remote control on getaway cars. But the great fear is that the bullet might glance off a tire and injure the driver, or others. Then the police officer is in for it. All concern seems to be for the car thief, traffic violator, gangster, etc. To protect his own life, the officer's gun is his last desperate resort.

Grain evidence of this is in those stone markers along our highways that mark the death-spot of a traffic officer, and the many, many other such death-spots, unmarked.

What's the answer? Let those answer who would do away with capital punishment, that is but a law-enforcement progression from butt-spanking by wise parents, that even the Bible warns should not be spared. F. J. Clifford, Route 2, Box 200 F, Central Point, Ore.

Letter Disputed
To the Editor: The information contained in your newspaper issue on July 26th, "Refuge Bill" and signed by Col. Paul H. Weiland, is very much in error.

1. Opposition is NOT the Klamath Irrigation District. Opposition stems from City, County and 24 other organizations, and the land lies within the boundaries of Klamath Drainage District.

2. The 6,447 acres in the Klamath Straits Unit is not now and never has been in refuge status.

3. The Klamath Straits Unit would be retained as a public shooting ground in perpetuity.

4. The Upper Klamath

Refuge would be enlarged with additional wetlands from 4,378 acres to roughly 26,000 acres of nesting, resting and public shooting grounds.

5. When you read Col. Weiland's testimony before the committee on July 29, in Washington, D.C., you might request that he show you the "hot springs in Tulelake".

6. Oregon will gain in acres and habitat under Klamath amendments to S. 1988.

It is a sad situation when people are allowed to testify before congressional committees without being subject to cross examination. Colored testimony adds to the confusion.

Incidentally Col. Weiland might concentrate on obtaining refuges in his domain. We already have over 200 square miles within a radius of 50 miles of Klamath Falls, and this does not include parks, monuments, state refuges or 200 square miles of other water areas.

Klamath Basin Water Users Protective Association, John A. Marshall, President, Crystal Springs rd., Klamath Falls, Ore.

Correction
To the Editor: I do not know if I made the mistake of leaving out a part of my letter in Thursday's paper, or if the mistake was made while preparing the copy. This is the part I am referring to:

"We came into this life by a living seed through a body, we enter our spiritual life by a living seed (word) of God through His Body."

I would appreciate very much if you make the correction. Thank you. Helen Prevost, 222 West Jackson st., Medford.

Editor's note: A line of type was inadvertently dropped from the earlier letter prior to printing. Sorry.

Wrecking Yards
To the Editor: Regarding an article that appeared in the Mail Tribune 8-2-62 about wrecking yards: I am wondering why this law doesn't include the City of Medford. The wrecking yard on North Riverside is an eye sore and looks worse than anything on a highway. (Name on file) Medford.

Minor Children Entitled To Pension Payments

Portland — Minor children of deceased veterans may be entitled to pension payments even when their mother, the veteran's widow, is not eligible, according to R. J. Novotny, manager of the Portland Veterans administration regional office.

Most frequent examples occur when the widow becomes ineligible due to remarriage or receives income in excess of the legal limit. Non-entitlement of the widow does not affect the eligibility of the minor children.

No problem arises when widows on the pension rolls

become ineligible. Novotny pointed out, because pension payments are stopped to the widow but continued to the minor children.

But if the widow has not applied for a pension, knowing that she is not eligible, or if her application was not allowed, the VA may have no record of the minor children.

Unmarried children of deceased veterans are eligible for pension payments until they are 18, or until age 21 if attending school, provided their own personal income would not bar them. Additional information may be obtained at any VA office.



Teacher Attending Math Institute

Medford High School Math Instructor Gatewood G. Smith, 2665 Springs dr., Medford, is participating in a special mathematics institute at Alameda County State college, Hayward, Calif., this summer under a National Science Foundation study grant.

Purpose of the session, which ends Aug. 10, is to strengthen instructional methods in mathematics. Winners of the grant were selected for their potential as math teachers.

Smith is taking three college level courses as well as working closely with the 39 other math teachers in the program in seminars, workshops, study halls and "bull sessions."

Members of the institute were drawn from 16 states throughout the nation.

Circuit Court Jury Awards Damages

A Jackson county circuit court jury Thursday awarded \$2,350 to Vern and Clara Smith, Ashland, for damages he received in a fire on forest land Sept. 8, 1960.

The suit was brought by the Smiths, Park st., Ashland, against John Reid Jr., Siskiyou blvd., Ashland. The trial started Tuesday.

PLANS VISIT

Norman O. Nilsen, Oregon labor commissioner, will be in Medford Thursday, Aug. 23. While here he will be a guest of the Medford Chamber of Commerce Greeters committee at Medford hotel, and will attend a Democratic Social club dinner at Ping's Gardens. Tentative plans are being made for a no-host luncheon in 1947, after two years of employment by the U.S. Department of Labor, he was selected to be state director of apprentice ship. He served until 1952. In 1954 he was elected labor commissioner for Oregon and was reelected in 1958. He is presently seeking a third term to the same post.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

AFTER British humorist Ronald Searle returned home from his first comprehensive American tour, he reported, "I asked a mountaineer in West Virginia who was 103 years old how he passed his time. He told me that in winter he mostly sleeps, in springtime he chases a likely female cousin around the rocks, in the summer he makes moonshine whiskey out of potato peels and coffee grounds, and in the fall he drinks it."



Distinguished Publisher Ben Huebsch entertained recently an authentic absent-minded professor. It was a hot evening and both gentlemen peeled off their jackets. About eleven the good professor sought to show Mr. Huebsch a document. He extracted a handful of papers from the inside pocket of the coat hung over the back of his chair, and hastily examined the lot. Unfortunately, he could not find the paper he wanted, and in some annoyance, threw the others in the trash basket. Mr. Huebsch protested mildly, "Hey, that's my jacket!"

When Will Rogers confessed that he never had met then-President Calvin Coolidge, a friend marched him right over to the White House, commenting, "I'll bet you can't get a chuckle out of old Cal in twenty minutes." "You're on," said Rogers. "I'll do it in twenty seconds."

"Mr. President," began the friend, "I want to introduce our great Oklahoma wit, Mr. Will Rogers."

Will held out his hand, frowned, and said, "Excuse me, please, but I didn't quite get the name."

Coolidge laughed out loud—and the friend paid the bet!

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Poets' Corner

Conducted by Arnold Eugene Jenny

To Ralph Vaughan Williams
In Memoriam—August 1958
Your music breathes Elizabethan air. With moonlit glades where lovers come in May—Or boisterous laughter of a village fair. Where jolly country people dance and play. A shepherd's modal song from highland grass Depicts, in calm adagio, the hues That filter through an ageless Gothic glass Of red and emerald to the saintly blues. A workman's song of joy, or widow's tears, Or vendor's call along some peopled street, Pervades your harmony. The endless fears Of war are hushed by melody. We meet, And for a moment are as one, held by The sound of music lifting to the sky. —Lloyd B. Halverson Medford

Renewal
I picked a yellow daffodil. The first that bloomed this Spring: Whoever thought a pain would still At such a simple thing.

I heard a bird's sweet, joyous call. I felt the gentle breeze; I didn't know that things so small An aching heart could ease.

The daffodils will always bloom. The birds will always sing. And God will always lift man's gloom By the wonders of each Spring. —Carmen Adams Medford

Far Up On The Mountain
We're camping far up on the mountain. Way up where the skies seem so near. In a land full of sunshine and shadow And air that's refreshing and clear; We're camping way up where there are pine trees That whisper old tales that are true. Where the leaves of the aspens are dancing And flowers are smiling through.

We're camping far up where the squirrels Have secrets in every nook, Where the deer roam and foxes are playing And trout lurk in pool and brook; We're camping far up where the robins And bluebirds sing strong and true. Where the woodpeckers ever are drumming And honey-bees buzzing through.

We're camping far up where the summer Is cool and the days a delight. Where the zephyrs blow friendly and often And Elysium's portals in sight; And though sometimes the angry storm clouds Send rain and the lightning, too. Soon the stars with the pine trees are playing And the moon beams come shining through. —George Milton Babcock The Applegate, Ore.

Laughter
Laughter is such a lovely word. In print it smiles at me. And so, of course, I find myself Laughing happily!

Laughter is such a lovely sound. Musical and gay; Oh, laughter is a lovely sound, And a lovely word to say! —Pearl Riggs Crouch Ashland, Ore.

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