

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily except Sunday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 33 North E St., P.O. Box 772-6141

Subscription Rates: By Mail - In Advance, Copy 10c Daily and Sunday - 1 year \$15.00

By Carrier - In Advance - Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, Medford, Phoenix, Shady Cove, Rogue River, Talent and on motor routes

Official Paper of City of Medford Official Paper of Jackson County

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On Morality

A minister in Kansas has written a letter upbraiding me for a column a few months ago, in which I mentioned the pleasures of sitting up all night in a poker game.

He feels that I am using my "influence" to corrupt young people into the ways of gambling, instead of attacking such "immoral behavior," as he thinks I should be doing.

His letter points up one of the biggest flaws of the clergy in American life—and that is equating "immorality" with gambling, drinking, smoking, or looser sexual habits than our grandfathers practiced.

THESE activities—damaging as they may be in extreme cases—are only a minor segment of the whole field of morality. The real, the basic, the pervasive, immorality of our time is a wrong relation to other people. And this aspect is rarely dealt with by the clerical fulminators against poker games and cocktail lounges.

Greed, bigotry, smugness, indifference, the calculating use of another person for one's own end—all these are the sins of the spirit; and they are the sins that Jesus preached against. These sins, indeed, are found more frequently among so-called "respectable" people than among the thieves, prostitutes and wine-bibbers that Jesus mingled with.

The sins of the flesh are relatively innocuous; they do not corrode the whole social order, as the sins of the spirit do. Jesus was gentle with the woman taken in adultery; those he railed against were "upstanding" members of the congregation, who prayed loudly in public and were cold-hearted and self-satisfied in their personal relations.

IT IS a sign of our social pathology that the word "morality" today has come to mean the equivalent of "sexual morality." The modern Pharisees are thus able to vent their anger against prostitutes, homosexuals, and purveyors of pornographic material—while at the same time ignoring the profound immoralities of the marketplace, the political arena, the arms race, and the perversion of science for destructive purposes.

We are living in an immoral age—or, more frighteningly, in an amoral age. It is a spiritual malaise we are suffering from: a corruption of the idea of "right relations" between one person and another. This is the only morality that great religious teachers have ever bothered about.

Jesus' parable about the mote and the beam was never more vividly exemplified than by the preachers and reformers who agitate themselves about gambling and boozing and necking (which are trivial symptoms of our boredom and our aimlessness), while passively accepting the jungle-credo that passes for "civilization" today. Christianity should be a radical criticism of the secular order, not a thin-lipped clean-up crusade.—Sydney J. Harris.

Sister Cities

When Forest Grove, Ore., enters into a sister-city affiliation with Bornova, Turkey, soon, it will bring to seven the number of Oregon cities having such overseas affiliations.

Portland and Medford were the first, and Medford was one of the first smaller towns in the nation. She joined Alba, Italy, in a sister-city relationship 2 1/2 years ago. Others to date include Portland and Sapporo, Japan; Klamath Falls and Rotorua, New Zealand; Milton-Freewater with Wainmate, N. Z.; Eugene and Chinju, Korea, and Corvallis and Antofagasta, Chile.

Twenty-one other Oregon communities are making plans for such affiliation, and two or three more are expected to be in effect before the end of the year. Among them are Ashland, Astoria, Coos Bay, Cottage Grove, La Grande, Pendleton, Roseburg and Springfield.

OREGON is recognized as a leader in sister-city affiliations. The state itself is in the process of working out a state-province sister affiliation with Hokkaido, Japan. And Oregon's lead is being followed by other states, notably Virginia, where the "Oregon Plan" of action in establishing affiliations is being adopted.

John W. Snider, mayor of Medford, is chairman of the League of Oregon Cities' committee on sister-city relationships, and has travelled widely throughout the state explaining how to go about the project, and encouraging cities to begin. Later this month, at the annual convention of the American Municipal Association in Philadelphia, Pa., Mayor Snider will participate in a panel discussion of sister-city projects, and will outline the "Oregon Plan."

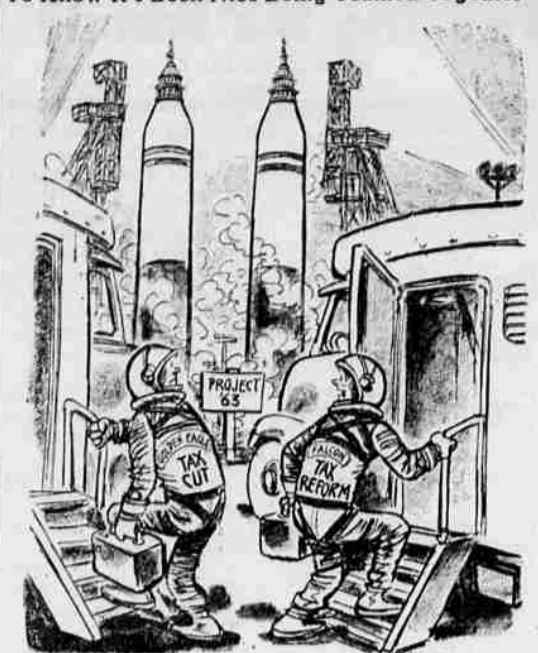
In the case of Medford and Alba, the sister city relationship has proven heartwarming in many ways. A number of Medford people have visited the northern Italian city, and a young attorney from Alba, Pino Dutto, is now in Medford.

THE high point in the Medford-Alba story to date was the recent Telstar telephone conversation between Mayor Snider and Mayor Osvaldo Cagnasso of Alba. Alba has named a street Via Medford, and early next month Medford will rename a city park "Park of Alba."

Other cities have had similar experiences. Klamath Falls residents have visited in Rotorua, and folk from there have visited Klamath Falls. In this case, of course, language was no barrier, as it is in many instances, although it has never been an insuperable one, Mayor Snider reports.

The dividends from the program—increased interest and understanding, a real people-to-people interchange, a growth of respect and affection—make it a gratifying experience.—E.A.

"In Case Anything Should Go Wrong, I Want You To Know It's Been Nice Being Teamed Together"



By JOSEPH W. GRIGG. United Press International. Paris — The "log cabin to White House" tradition may apply in Washington. But it became clear again to Europeans this week that it does not always work when it comes to representing the United States abroad.

High Cost of Being U.S. Ambassador Complicates Finding Best Men Available

By JOSEPH W. GRIGG. United Press International. Paris — The "log cabin to White House" tradition may apply in Washington. But it became clear again to Europeans this week that it does not always work when it comes to representing the United States abroad.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop. (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate. Notably the "savvy" ones.

THE SAVVY AMERICAN

Those are the soldiers who have learned that this war involves not only battalions and machine guns, but also politics, economics, minority factions, civic action, and that group in each nation of the world to which most armies heretofore—despite pious platitudes to the contrary—have been strangers: the people.

The United States Army is not engaged here as a military machine in direct conflict with the Communists. Officers and men assigned to duty in South Viet Nam are advisers only. They sometimes briefly become commanders, in effect, of the units they advise, notably during combat operations with South Vietnamese companies or battalions having inexperienced leaders.

But the Americans' main job is not to fight (although they can shoot back if shot at) and not to lead. It is to advise.

"If I think the commander of this regiment is doing or planning something haywire, I can advise against it," one American explained. "But, if he doesn't like my advice, he can tell me to climb a rope—and sometimes does."

THIS responsibility without authority irks some American soldiers here, convinced their advice—if taken—could mean more defeats for the Communist guerrillas.

But the restraints on their authority, plus experience in the field here and much close-hand study and reflection on Communist tactics and ways to thwart them have widened visibly the politico-military knowledge and understanding of many American soldiers here who previously were concerned with war and the profession of arms only in their most restricted, military sense.

Thus, a veteran American paratrooper major pounded the side of his jeep on a Mekong delta road recently and exclaimed, "It's not artillery or jumpers or airplanes or tanks that's going to win this war."

"We can win this one only if we get these farmers and the Saigon clerks behind this war, really on the government's side. And we can do that by making life a little better for them, not much, just a little, maybe by curing their kids' yaws or seeing the old man keeps a little more of what he earns or grows, giving them something they want to keep, some incentive to side with us."

He grinned, a quick, mirthless grimace, his teeth flashing white in his dusty face. "The psychologists have a word for it, don't they?—motivation."

"This war isn't going to be won only with guns or propaganda or carbolic soap for sores, though. We have to use them all, of course. But we have to remember this: this is a people's war. If we get the people, we win; if the Communists get 'em, we've had it here."

THIS is the kind of "savvy" found increasingly among American soldiers here, from the farm villages of the mountain tribesmen on the cool, misty high plateaus, among men who six months or a year ago thought of war as regiments and bombs and rarely if ever in terms of children's yaws or a village's rice crop.

These are the Americans, wearing guns, who worry and scheme for a new well or a medical dispensary for a village, who insist South Viet Nam's army must be presented to South Viet Nam's people as a friendly and helpful force concerned first with them.

This is the kind of "savvy" which is difficult to translate into action through the South Vietnamese government, however, given the restraints on authority within which an American adviser can suggest but not order, plead but not dictate. And difficult to translate into action also because of the South Viet Nam government's thus far sluggish attempts to get its people on its side in the war here.

Nobody can tell yet if the broadened politico-military knowledge acquired by many Americans here will speed or even bring victory in South Viet Nam's war. It should help. If the South Vietnamese government responds to it and the people respond to the South Vietnamese government.

Our heartfelt thanks to all of you! Rogue Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Gamma, Medford.

Dr. Chu and Ancestors. To the Editor: Dr. Ng Png Chu was vice president of a large Chinese-American steamship company flying its trade between our Pacific coast and the Orient. He had resided in San Francisco twenty years and spoke perfect English, even better than comes out of Hollywood. He was called the Chinese Mark Twain.

Among other things of interest he said, "I understand that many of you Americans are proud of your ancestors who came over in the Mayflower about 300 years ago. Well, the Chu family trace their ancestry to a prime minister who lived about 1500 B.C. A prime minister is a good place to start your family tree. We do not trace back any further than that lest we find one of our ancestors swinging from the limb of a tree by his tail!" (Laughter). Then he added, "I understand that some of my American friends can trace their ancestry to one who swung from the limb of a tree by his neck." (Laughter and some groans).

Then Dr. Chu proceeded to give us a vivid picture of conditions in his native land. At that time Japan was trying to weaken and destroy the independence of China. He concluded by saying he feared the day when Japan would have a severe stomach ache from trying to digest too much broken-up China.

But unfortunately, with all his prophetic vision, the good man could not foresee the ruin and destruction of China by a more sinister and evil power than Japan.

Irrelevancies. To the Editor: Mrs. Delbert Casey's letter (MT 8-15-62), is an unusual collection of irrelevant remarks. 1) The number of children (four) previously born of Mrs. Finkbine has no bearing on the justification for taking the life of the fifth. 2) There is no question of a bad seed. The possibility of malformation arose because of

High Cost of Being U.S. Ambassador Complicates Finding Best Men Available

peans this week that it does not always work when it comes to representing the United States abroad. Gen. James M. Gavin flew home with his family after

less than a year and a half in the critical job of United States ambassador to France. Gavin reiterated to reporters that his main reason for giving up this front man job for the United States was "urgent personal considerations." Chief of these was that he simply could not afford it.

The same problem will face his successor Charles E. Bohlen, a career U. S. foreign service officer with a highly distinguished record—including ambassadorships in Moscow and Manila—but no sizable personal fortune.

Unlike Gavin, Bohlen does not have a family of young children to put through school. But he will feel the strain nonetheless.

The U. S. ambassador to France receives the highest foreign service salary of \$27,500—all of it taxable. He also receives an annual expense allowance of something more than \$25,000.

But it is not difficult to see why he has trouble simply making ends meet.

It is not a question of the ambassador living high off the hog. It is not only the official dinners and July 4 open house receptions.

Every senator, every congressman, every big business executive who arrives in town expects to

visit the ambassador and to be invited to a meal at his residence. Even ambassadors like Gavin who cut out the Fourth of July open house and invite only a ruthlessly-pruned list of guests find the cost prohibitive.

When Gavin was appointed, President John F. Kennedy instructed the State Department to pay expenses over and above his blanket expense allowance.

But that meant that Gavin had to turn in an expense account for just about every taxi he took.

There were many items he could not charge up at all—such as the wardrobe needed by his wife for official entertaining.

It has been estimated, without contradiction, that Gavin's predecessor, Amory Houghton, a millionaire industrialist, spent \$50,000 annually out of his own pocket over and above his salary and official allowances.

Gavin could not afford that, nor will Bohlen be able to.

Since Gavin's resignation was announced Europeans have been asking just how long the high cost of representing the United States abroad means that the best man for the job will not necessarily be able to afford it.

Washington Report

By William S. White. (c) United Feature Syndicate. REPORT CARD. Washington — As the first full Congress of the Kennedy administration draws to a

painfully hurried close, it seems reasonable to evaluate the performance to date of the President's foreign policy team.

This is such an evaluation, based mostly on the opinion of this columnist but influenced by the trusted opinions of certain others, inside and outside Congress.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk — "A" for his basic job, which is to help the President prepare high policy and to see that policy through; "B" for congressional relations, which, through some other diplomatic types have never learned it, are very important.

Under Secretary George Ball — "A" for his top function, which is to oversee all the high-level wheeling and dealing through which we hope to associate usefully with the European common market; "C" for congressional relations.

This latter mark, while poor, is not Rostow's fault. Actually, he has no special business having any congressional relations. And those he has had have been thrust upon him by a few congressional suspicions that because he is a professor by trade, he must be as dreamy about the nature of the Communist challenge as some professors are.

In truth, he is a good, thinking anti-Communist, as distinguished from the sort of anti-Communist who is largely occupied with crying out how very anti-Communist he is.

McGEORGE Bundy, White House foreign policy adviser — "A" for a kind of work similar to Rostow's. No mark for congressional relations for the reason that Bundy really has none, and should have none.

Adlai E. Stevenson, head of our delegation to the United Nations — "A" for the very debatable function of "getting along" with others in the UN, particularly the Asians and Africans; "C minus" for the responsibility of representing the views of the United States government at the UN; "D minus" for congressional relations.

Assistant Secretary of State (for foreign affairs) Harlan Cleveland — "A" for tireless devotion to a poor cause, which seeks a UN of usurped and meddling power over the affairs of sovereign nations; "F" for the wisdom of his advice to superiors on same; "D minus" for congressional relations.

Assistant Secretary of State (for foreign affairs) Mennen Williams — "A" for the same devotion to African "dependence" aspirations; the same falling grades on the other two points as for Cleveland.

Far East Averell Harriman — "A" for courage, initiative, and willingness to take personal responsibility and risk in a tough diplomatic area; "A" for candor; "C" for congressional relations.

Summing up, the principal weakness in the President's foreign policy team is found in that section of the team which was forced upon him by the Stevenson wing of the Democratic party and which deals primarily with UN affairs — Stevenson himself and his associate, Harlan Cleveland. (Ball, though also a "Stevenson man," is less passionately in the Stevenson cult and is, moreover, an excellent man on foreign trade questions.)

WHICH is to say: If the old boy would STOP SPENDING for about TEN MINUTES, he'd have it all back. It's really quite simple.

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

Aug. 21, 1952 (Thursday). Donald P. McNeill, manager of the Seaside Chamber of Commerce for the past 2 1/2 years, has been named manager of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

20 YEARS AGO

Aug. 21, 1942 (Friday). Two-way traffic is restored to Crater Lake highway and Midway rd. between Medford and Camp White; roads were made one-way during cantment construction.

30 YEARS AGO

Aug. 21, 1932 (Sunday). At request of chamber of commerce, the city council considers possibility of adopting commission or manager form of government for Medford.

40 YEARS AGO

Aug. 21, 1922 (Monday). Portland Journal editorially fears that Ku Klux Klan religious debate will become the overshadowing issue in the Jackson county election of a circuit judge.

50 YEARS AGO

Aug. 21, 1912 (Wednesday). Three-dollar market is foreseen for Medford Bartlett pears in New York; over 40 cars shipped to date.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior, seven or eight is excellent, five or six is good.

- 1. What major physical effect on the earth is caused by the gravitational pull of the moon?
2. In what U.S. city did Elias Howe invent the sewing machine?
3. Who was the first Vice President of the United States?
4. What is the literal meaning of adieu?
5. In which American war did Sir Henry Clinton fight?
6. For what purpose is a reamer used?
7. What river forms the northern boundary of Kentucky?
8. In what war was the battle of Fort Dearborn fought?
9. In the metric system is a meter longer, or shorter, than a yard?
10. Correct the following: "My wife and myself left the party early."
Answers: 1. Tides. 2. Cambridge, Mass. 3. John Adams. 4. "To God." (Shortened form of I commend you to God.) 5. American Revolution. 6. To enlarge a hole. 7. Ohio River. 8. War of 1812. 9. Longer. 10. "My wife and I..."