

... 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.

Iodine and Fluorine
To the Editor: Much is being written about the "fluoridation" of drinking water. I remember back about 1913 when the same arguments were being stressed about putting iodine in the drinking water of the city of Minneapolis, Minn.

Because there is a lack of iodine in the soil, and consequently the water of the central states, there is a greater incidence of goiter there than in the Western states. One man wrote to the editor of the Minneapolis Tribune asking why should they make "dope" of the city water. The editor answered in a footnote that water as it came from the ground was "dope" because it lacked iodine enough for body requirements.

I do not know if they still put iodine in the water there but they now put iodine in salt for public use. Maybe a way can be found to put fluorides in salt or other commonly used seasonings. It says right on the bottle that iodine is a "poison."

Henry Corbin,
Box 195,
Rogue River, Ore.

Cruelty
To the Editor: The following letter I took from the Oregonian. It expresses the sentiments of every human being I have talked with in the years I have lived this side of the Mississippi river.

The crowd goes to Pendleton just because it's something to look forward to as we used to go to the county fair.

Clara Donelson
Rogue Valley Manor
Medford

The letter follows:
To the Editor: Along with Mrs. Winham, and many others, I hope that the Pendleton Round-Up will soon be a thing of the past. However, the brutality to animals exhibited at this particular rodeo is typical of all rodeos. I happened to be in Lakeview during the Labor Day week end while that community's rodeo was in progress and was told by an owner of rodeo horses that it is necessary to "toughen up" gentle horses by strapping and spurring them." The official publication of the Lake County Roundup states that horses trained for rodeos "either give up or give out" after one or two years of performances.

If it were not for the cruelty involved, the desperate attempts of some humans to prove their "superiority" over animals would be ludicrous. Man's only superiority to animals lies in his possession of certain intellectual and emotional qualities, one of which is kindness to other living beings - including animals.

Thelma Bosowski,
3412 SE 28th Pl.
Portland, Ore.

Disgusted Hunter
To the Editor: Attention Hunters - unsportsmanlike conduct by the Oregon State Game commission.

Did the area where you hunt seem surprisingly short of deer this year? Maybe yours was one of those where the game commission sold deer tags allowing extra deer for a \$5 fee. These special hunt tags allowed the holders to hunt not after the regular season but three weeks before regular deer season.

The area where we always hunt was one of these. Where we normally see 10 to 15 deer at a time, we saw not one. Eight hundred tags were issued in this area. The holders of these special tags had a field day. No competition, no sweat, no strain.

I personally believe that this was one of the most flagrant abuses of public trust ever perpetrated on the Oregon deer hunter. If the game commission feels that this type of hunt is necessary let them have them after the regular season so that everybody has an equal chance. If your area was one of these, write the Oregon State Game commission or their local representative and tell them about the unfairness of this type of hunt.

Glenn M. Wilkins
1503 Kings Hwy.
Medford

Thy, Morse Record
To the Editor: My good neighbor and friend, Mrs. Edith W. Braley, appears to have been carried away with the ardor of her loyalty to the Republican party and campaign

fervor, in her attack upon Senator Wayne Morse in the 10-2 Communications. Citing certain "facts" from Harrison Spangler's book about the Senator, she then essayed a pretty broad jump to conclusions which do not necessarily follow or which, at least, need considerable qualification.

Mrs. Braley asserts that Mr. Morse never served as chairman of a regular standing Senate committee. While unable to verify this without further research, it is pertinent to point out that such chairmanship is not of itself a test of influence. Many a legislator has exerted great influence without ever having achieved committee chairmanship.

As a matter of fact, Senator Morse has been hailed by colleagues of both parties for his outstanding job as chairman of two Senate subcommittees: on Education, and on Latin American Affairs; and he also has chaired the Senate's legislative committee on small business.

The Mail Tribune's Washington correspondent, A. Robert Smith, wrote in the 2/13/62 issue: "For the second successive session, Sen. Wayne Morse has completed a legislative assignment in a remarkable fashion. . . . He steered the Kennedy Administration's federal aid for colleges through the Senate without mishap, just as last year he managed Senate passage of the public school construction bill. . . . (without) crippling amendments."

In addition to congratulations from fellow Democrats in the Senate and from President Kennedy, Smith also reported "even admiring observations of Republicans who by ideology and partisan instincts should be the last to concede a point in the year of his re-election test. Probably no senator . . . could be unaffected when a colleague stands up in the Senate and says out loud: 'I have great affection for the Senator from Oregon; I have great respect for his ability, courage and perception.' That came from no partisan well-wisher but from the conservative chairman of the Republican Policy Committee of the Senate, Bourke Hickenlooper."

Senator Neuberger declared (5/22/61): "As one who has presided over the Senate during many of the hours of debate on the aid-to-education bill which the Senate has just now passed. . . . I join in the encomiums which have been expressed by so many Senators in commenting on the great skill displayed by the senior Senator from Oregon."

and, added Senator Mansfield. . . a measure which truly deserves the name 'The Morse Bill'." Arnold Eugene Jenny, Rogue Valley Manor, Medford

Fluoridation Viewpoint
To the Editor: Until reading Mr. Powell's letter of 9-30-62 this writer was under the impression that cities such as Coos Bay, North Bend, Corvallis, Salem, McMinnville, Pendleton, Newport, etc., were communities of foresight and vision, communities which were willing to take the lead in matters of public health. In fact the writer has often wondered if perhaps attacks on fluoridation were "red" approved if not inspired. It seemed reasonable that something which benefitted our youth to such a great extent would be bitterly fought by "reds."

Before the statement "the Communist plan to use fluoridation in America for outright poisoning, or for reducing the mentality and the will to resist," is taken too seriously it might be wise to do a little basic arithmetic. By various means the amount of fluorides required to kill an adult has been fixed at about 4 grams by research scientists. Assuming 1/4 of this amount or 1 gram to be fatal to children the following relationships can be set up.

First it must be understood that ordinarily 1 part per million is added to the water supply. This is equal to 1 milligram per liter which in turn is approximately equal to 1 milligram per quart. Assuming that the Medford water system must treat 7 million gallons per day and knowing that 14 pounds of sodium silico fluoride (most commonly used chemical) will treat 1 million gallons 1 part per million, we find that approximately 18 tons of chemical will be needed each year.

There are three reservoirs at the only logical location, having a total of 12 million gallons storage. To bring the fluoride concentration to the danger level of 1000 parts per million would require 84 tons of chemical, or enough for 4 to 5 years. It is doubtful that one-half year storage would be available. Fluorides above 5 parts per million impart a definite taste to the water and 30 to 40 parts per million is hard to even choke down.

As far as "reducing our mentality," it should suffice to note that both Corvallis, where that great school known as Oregon State university is located, and Salem, where our legislators meet every two years (as well as being the Governor's home), fluoridate their water supplies.

Folks, a vote for fluoridation is a vote for better health for today's children and tomorrow's leaders! Sherer for Fluoridation Committee. Keith Sherer, President, P.O. Box 172, Eagle Point, Ore.

Albino Birds
To the Editor: How many readers of natural history and wild life of the Oregon country have had the occasion to view an albino bird or wild animal in its natural habit or haunts?

Well, we had the rare experience nearly half a century ago to find a covey of mountain top-knot quail, and among them was a pure white one, in fact we could view them at short range and discovered the one lone freak also had pink eyes. Being on a low ridge we passed over frequently on the trail to a small gold quartz mine, the covey of quail became almost a daily sight, and also quite tame the rest of the season.

One other time before that, we had the rare chance to see a white blackbird or so-called cow-bird among a flock that were migrating south for the winter season. The lone freak somehow seemed to be almost segregated.

Bert Kissinger
322 S. Riverside Ave.
Medford

Nature's Make
To the Editor: I've been asked to write about fluoridation of drinking water, a subject about which I can say very little that hasn't been said before by everybody who has tasted the darned stuff.

We know that water purifies itself while running in brooks or creeks, and in the old days of overland travel, I often drank with my hounds and horses right out of stagnant buffalo wallows. Ignorant, wasn't I?

Nothing happened to my health and now in my eightieth year, I'll bet I can play ball (with my glasses on).

I raised poultry at one time and sodium fluoride was used to keep lice and mites off my hens. Used by pinch-dust method and by dipping.

May be used on ol' Rover only in one place - the back of his neck, for if he can reach to lick it, or even breathe it - Good bye, Dog.

The Bible tells us that people once lived much longer than we do. Just think of Noah's granddad, Methuselah, living 969 years, and he drank from wells and springs.

If a well is too near a toilet, typhoid germs may be taken; and I wouldn't want to drink from Bear creek, nor would I want to draw water out of either copper or other metal faucets that are corroded by fluoridation, and use it to prepare hot beverages.

I had to drink San Antonio's drugged water 12 years ago and I moved to the Valley. There, I bought five gallon jugs of water for 75 cents. I got through that ignorant stage, but you may not if you vote for "doping" that fine Medford water. Yours for Nature's own make.

Pearl Spackman
Jacksonville, Ore.

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Poets' Corner

Conducted by Arnold Eugene Jenny

Watch the Winds Blow
Watch winds puff to round a flower blown back; then touch petals ground with stem bent to snap.

So rare the rose denying death when the wind blows its strongest breath.

But rose and flower too have roots beneath the soil that steadfast stay their hue when sudden winds despoil.
W. Arthur Boggs
Oswego, Ore.

The End of a Journey
The pink and gold that light the western sky. Slow lengthening shadows that toward the eastward lie. Speak softly of a journey nearly done; But with your hand in mine, adown the darkening way We'll go together, you and I, to greet the closing day. And night beyond the westering sun.

The riches that we've garnered with the years. Our comradeship, our love, our pain and burning tears. Shall softly light the shadows while we wait And while the sun slow sinks in western sea: These treasures shall sustain us, you and me, While night is closing up the gate.
Frank Roberts
Medford

Behold the Night
Behold the silent night and soon The mute mosaic of the moon In silver tracings on the ground Through shadowy leaves without a sound.

How calm the wood! - How stilled now The violence of wind and bough Since tumult rent the hour, and peace Took flight among lamenting trees!
Charles Oluf Olsen
Portland, Ore.

On a Friend's Birthday
Today I hear the fairy anvil ring; With merry stroke, another golden link Is added to the measure of your years And yet, dear friend, I would not have you think That life will be less sweet, or friends less true, Or, by this measure you are growing old. 'Tis but a little farther from the morn of life, A little nearer to the gates of gold.
Jack Finel
Phoenix, Ore.

Apathy
How the whirlpools go - Down, down, Catching the careless raft of unconcern. Down to rot In the depths of unforgiveness. Kindness is dealt a slow Death by inaction, nevermore To return in her solitary state. O, Sleep, come quickly and Heal the mutilated kindness. All the fibers of human Decency seem waterlogged.
Jahet Miller
Ashland, Ore.

(From Anthology published by Jackson County Committee for the Study of Able and Gifted Children)



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