

Communications

For Dellenback

To the Editor: John Dellenback is conducting a campaign for reelection as representative of Jackson county in the Oregon State Legislature.

Medford is fortunate to have an editor who has looked into the qualifications and knows the potential of every candidate for the legislature. We are editorially informed that every candidate in this race would likely be an excellent public servant.

Our editor's reasoning in his current recommendations has stressed the value of experience. Oft quoted has been the position that a qualified incumbent deserves the vote of the public he serves. There seems to be no question that the diligent and intelligent work of incumbent John Dellenback has been most effective in attacking problems dealing with education, taxation and desirable public services as advocated in the Medford Mail Tribune editorials.

Should not the reader chide an editorial voice which abandons a high principled position by omitting a positive endorsement well earned by Jackson county's incumbent, John Dellenback?

Jim Johansson
2133 Dellwood ave.
Medford.

Muddled Minds

To the Editor: I sometimes read "Letters to the Editor" for ideas about sentence structure and grammar, as well as for the logic expressed, or for examples of garbled thinking.

A recent letter concerned Wayne Morse. The content was emotionally expressed, the thinking was illogical, and the ideas and material garbled.

Here is one sentence: "A party which doesn't support freedom of the press in its philosophy, believes in government control of communications." Yet, this same person puts forward the idea that a person should start running if his name is placed on some sort of list — a list that is supposed to frighten people, a list that may arbitrarily and without any sort of hearing label people and organizations "subversive."

Either America is a free country, or it isn't! Free speech and free thought are permitted and encouraged, and punitive measures are visited upon those who still believe that the Bill of Rights is the back bone of American law. A "list" that is supposed to send people scurrying to cover, frighten them into remaining silent over "controversial" issues, or cost them their jobs, is anything but a Constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech, press, and thought! The same letter attacking Senator Morse's candidacy

contained a paragraph mentioning the "Institute of Pacific Relations", a "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications"—arbitrarily listing organizations as "instruments of Communist policy" and "Who's Who in America" (volumes from 1934 through 1932). This woolly paragraph, after mentioning these various ideas and references, concluded with this reference: "... lists Wayne Morse as a member."

Member of what? Member of the "Institute of Pacific Relations"? Member of "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications"? Member of "Who's Who in America" volumes from 1934 through 1932?

It is obvious that people who write and think in such a muddled fashion will never get into "Who's Who"! People who expect others to start running when someone mentions a "list" are very muddled thinkers, ignorant of the meaning of English, as well as of the Bill of Rights; or else as contemptuous of the principle of free speech and press as they are of Constitutional rights for anyone who holds these ideas which differ from those of very muddled minds!

Kenneth F. Osthimer,
3761 South Pacific
Highway,
Medford.

We Need Morse

To the Editor: How anyone who is concerned with the welfare of this nation could now contemplate sending anyone but Wayne Morse to the United States Senate from Oregon is beyond me.

We need him now more than ever before. The knowledge he has gained during 18 years in the Senate will be of incomparable value during the coming months. His experience as chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Latin American Affairs and as a long-standing member of the Foreign Relations committee will be invaluable.

In making their choice between the two candidates for U.S. Senator the voters should evaluate both men with the utmost care; compare their qualifications and consider how much each can contribute to his state and nation in these dangerous times. Personal likes or dislikes should have no bearing upon a decision of this magnitude; the welfare of the United States should be the sole consideration.

A truly objective appraisal of these men will, I'm sure, convince the vast majority of voters, Republicans and Democrats alike, that Senator Morse is the only possible choice.

Phyllis Christian
Wagner Creek rd.
Talent, Ore.

Streams and Horses

To the Editor: I heard a New Frontier Senator say, "Now ain't the time to change horses in the middle of the stream."

Now don't tell me the New Frontier stubbed their toe and fell in the creek faster than the New Deal. The New Deal fell into the creek just before every election and started yelling, "Now ain't the time to change horses!"

You can't get re-elected by just jumping into the creek. You gotta have an emergency. WELL! We got one. We've had it for years, but it took a sudden turn for the worse. It got bad right in the middle of a campaign speech and the New Frontier rushed back to Washington and started yelling, "Now ain't the time to change horses!" I do not oppose the blockade on Cuba, but it should have been done a year ago, not just a few days before election.

Everett Acklin,
Ashland, Ore.

Eagle Point Group

Plans Halloween Party

Eagle Point — A family Halloween party will be sponsored by the Eagle Point Jaycees and Jaycettes for members and invited guests Wednesday, Oct. 31 from 8 to 10:30 p.m. at the Community building.

Costumes are in order, but not required, it was reported. All types of games have been planned for the youngsters and refreshments will be served.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

W. C. FIELDS was host one evening at his Hollywood hacienda to a group of convivals that included Robert Benchley, Roland Young, and Jack Barrymore—all past masters at the gentle art of bending an elbow. The liquor supply gave out—scant wonder—and the party decided to move on to another oasis down the road.



Fields' swimming pool lay in their path. "Let's walk across," suggested Mr. Fields. The entire gathering thereupon walked solemnly into the pool, sank like plummets, and were rescued from drowning by kindly and totally unsurprised neighbors.

Veteran raconteur Harry Hershfield tells of a dictator who ordered one of his victims to receive fifty lashes on his bare back. The victim bribed the lash-wielder to take it easy. For forty-nine strokes, the wielder stuck to his bargain, but the fiftieth stroke was so wicked that it sent the victim reeling. The victim screamed, "You broke your bargain! Why?" The wielder told him, "I wanted you to realize what a bargain you got!"

The late Sam Hoffenstein once sent these lines to a lady love who was beginning to bore him:

"When you're away, I'm restless, lonely,
Wretched, bored, dejected; only
Here's the rub, my darling dear,
I feel the same when you are near."

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Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

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THE CORNER

Washington—In the breathtaking Cuban crisis, one fact is already beyond dispute.

Having hoped to take the United States by surprise by the rapid clandestine installation of offensive missile bases in Cuba, the Soviets themselves were taken by surprise when the U.S. caught them at it and reacted firmly and boldly.

If the Soviets' hopes had been fulfilled, their gain would have been past calculating. On the cheap, with the medium and intermediate range missiles which they have been producing in great quantity, the Soviets would have created the same strategic imbalance that they might have created if they had paid the heavy cost of quantity production of their earliest intercontinental missiles.

It is easy enough to see why they wanted to gain the same advantages, by this last-minute trick, which they would have gained from the famous missile gap, if they had been shrewd enough to invest in a wide range in long-range missiles when they had that opportunity. But it is not at all easy to see why they thought they could get away with this last-minute trick in Cuba.

In part, beyond much doubt, the answer to this riddle lies in the peculiar character of the Soviet Defense Ministry. Imagine a Pentagon wholly controlled by higher military officers, all of whom serve until they drop. Imagine a Pentagon, furthermore, in which the scientists have almost no say, because there is no Russian Robert McNamara or Robert A. Lovett to back them up against the ruling phalanx of aging marshals and colonel-enerals.

Such a Pentagon, we may be sure, would make all sorts of backward-looking mistakes in practical military judgment. Generals who have won a great war are always, so to say, encapsulated in the epoch of their victories, unless there are rude civilians ready to break the capsule. And the Soviets have had just this kind of Pentagon since the last controlling civilian, poor old Bulganin, was forced to resign as Minister of Defense to make room for Marshal Zhukov.

Thus it is reasonable to suppose that the Soviet military planners considerably underestimated the all-seeing efficiency of modern, scientific air reconnaissance. It is pretty clear that this underestimate, if made at all, was powerfully reinforced by another underestimate of quite a different character.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris
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THE TWO TIMES

The strange, nightmarish quality of living in the world today comes from the odd juxtaposition of two kinds of time. For we are living both in "real" time and in "psychological" time.

In terms of "real" time, we are living on a globe no bigger than a walnut, and just as easy to crack. Or, to change the metaphor, modern science has packed us all into a tiny rowboat in the middle of a large sea, and a hole drilled under anybody's seat will drown us all.

But in terms of "psychological" time, most of us are still living in centuries past, stirred by ancient grudges, controlled by obsolete prejudices, driven by buried fears.

What brought this shocking contrast most vividly to mind was a recent item in the newspapers about riots between the Flemings and the Walloons in Belgium. When I read the item, I felt like Mark Twain's Yankee pulled back abruptly into King Arthur's Court.

This bitter dispute between the Belgians of Dutch ancestry and those of French descent seems as unreal and irrelevant as the fight between the Guelphs and the Ghibellines, or the Yorkists and the Lancastrians.

In "real" time, it is not only far too late to be a Fleming or a Walloon (except on commemorative occasions), but it is too late to be a Belgian. It is almost too late to be merely a European—and Europe is just getting around to that idea in "psychological" time.

In an article not long ago, a scientist remarked that he had been accidentally locked up all night in a museum room with exhibits of dead crabs and lobsters. The experience so unnerved him that when the guard opened the door in the morning, the scientist embraced him, saying, "Thank God—you don't know how good it is to see a vertebrate again!"

It is too late to be anything but vertebrates, but members of a species called homo sapiens—the only species that seems bent upon its own destruction. We now have the tools to do what no other living creatures have ever been able to do before: to arrange our own extinction.

This is the prime fact of "real" time today; in the light of which, the rioting Flemings and Walloons seem as anachronistic as the Battle of the Frogs and Mice. Mankind is haunted by its past—like a neurotic patient, it cannot throw off its bondage to infantile memories, and remains fixated in an attitude of childish antagonism—living compulsively in psychological time, and unaware that real time is fast running out on all of us.

with this Cuban trick would have led, very rapidly, to a brutal confrontation at Berlin. One may also hope that the converse will be true if all goes well. As these words are written, we are very far from having got round the Cuban corner.

But if we do get round this crucial corner, every prospect will be altered, every calculation will need to be done over again. Above all the prospects at Berlin will change, both radically and favorably.

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

Washington — To many, the forest is being hidden by the trees. Preoccupation with the dramatic details of daily moves and counter-moves is obscuring the profundity of this government's new, hard, all-national policy in the cold war.



What it amounts to is a world-wide test of strength and determination with the Soviet Union, a test postponed through a decade and a half of trying by every means to avoid a showdown.

Sovietized Cuba is the immediate area of this immense struggle. But it is not the central theater — because there is no central theater. The crisis is universal, and it is being dealt with by President Kennedy and his advisers precisely on these limitless terms.

JOHN Donne wrote centuries ago that no man is an island to himself. Now there are no islands of any kind. There are no degrees of crisis. For it is, simply and exactly, a total crisis everywhere, demanding and receiving from American leadership a capacity for solitary decision which has no counterpart in mankind's long life.

Thus it is that the voices of the second-guessers, whether of ordinary people here or of allied statesmen and United Nations officials, are now only the voices of men shouting down the empty rain barrel of history. What they say may be interesting, but now it is largely irrelevant. The wheel of fate has turned and there can be only one of two ends to the crisis. The Soviet threat of nuclear aggression, which has Cuba as its immediately discernible focus but which in fact is spread across the globe, will be brought under control. Or there will be war.

Thus, United Nations negotiations are helpful in a small sense but can never be decisive. If such proposals should provide some forum — summit conference or otherwise — in which Khrushchev might

return to sanity, they would do that to extent be useful. But if he does return to sanity, it will be in but not because of that forum.

RATHER, it will be because he has recognized that the power of the United States is too great for successful challenge. Intermediaries may be useful; they may provide house room for the making of decisions. But a hundred UN resolutions in support of the United States — in the highly unlikely event that the UN will ever do more than give bare and partial understanding to our problems of survival — will solve nothing at all.

Khrushchev will bend, if he does bend, because he has recognized that the United States has at last put its true trust in honorable power honorably used for the ultimate and unarguable purpose of self-defense.

Seen in this light, the new Kennedy doctrine is far more than a sanitization of Cuba, as it is far more, even, than a signal of a confrontation in the cold war everywhere. Invasion of Castro Cuba to clear out the Soviet missile sites would be only an incident in a vastly bigger design. Even the proclamation of Khrushchev, "thus far and no farther" does not tell the whole story.

FOR this is a turn in national policy dwarfing in both danger and grandeur the national decision of the late '30s away from isolationism. This is a conscious reversal of what since the sadly inconclusive end of the Korean War has been an American rejection of the whole concept of power, even power rightly used.

Even if others will not see it, America sees at last that the present world cannot be saved by good intentions. This is a new and true internationalism of responsibility. In saving ourselves we shall save those who still believe it possible to talk the world away from that abyss toward which international communism has so long been pushing it.

Death, it is true, is sometimes the companion of risk; but life without risk is possible no more.

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