

... 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.

Qualifications Noted

To the Editor: Your Nov. 28 editorial on Ecumenicity was, on the whole, an excellent exposition of relations between the Roman and non-Roman churches over the years and of the prospects of better understanding between them as a result of the current Vatican Ecumenical Council. However, a few qualifications should be noted.

Certain developments in the Council to date amply confirm your assertion that the Roman Church is "far less monolithic than most non-Catholics have been led to believe," and that "there is room within the church, as the debates have shown, for a considerable diversity of opinion, even on doctrinal and dogmatic matters." Students of church history have been well aware of this for a long time.

The facts that Pope John XXIII invited Protestant and Orthodox churches to send official observers to the Council and afforded them favored seating and special briefings, and that some Catholic fathers have sought out non-Catholic observers for personal dialog—both with happy results—is no small gain. However, most Protestants in attendance (or at home) probably would be inclined to share your doubt "that the Ecumenical Council will lead to any significant inter-church unity"; and they also would share your hope that, nevertheless, it may "broaden the understanding and respect accorded by those of one faith (or none) to those of another."

You state that "the Roman Catholic church ... is probably the most heterogeneous in the world," but all evidence you adduce would apply equally to any of the major Protestant churches. You also say that "religious persecutions in some Catholic countries are becoming less frequent and less bitter," without citing proof. Would that this were so! Sadly, the evidence contradicts you, for much severe persecution of Protestants persists, notably in the Iberian peninsula, in Colombia and elsewhere in Latin America.

In its November 21 issue "The Christian Century" reports that "28 Spanish Protestant churches ... have been closed by the Franco government in recent years, and what Protestant churches do exist in officially Catholic Spain are not permitted to resemble churches outwardly or to have listings in telephone directories; evangelism and dissemination of Protestant literature are forbidden; Protestants may not have schools, hospitals or orphanages of their own"—and more grim facts are cited. Two eminent Jesuits, "asked if the Franco government was responsible for the restrictions," replied, "Emphatically not. It was the church."

Progress? Yes. But we still have a long way to go.

Arnold Eugene Jenny
Rogue Valley Manor
Medford

Driver's Seat

To the Editor: We do not know who said it, a phrase that goes like this: One never misses what one never had.

How true, yet the wealthy class misses most high taxes paid on their fabulous incomes, when already their incomes are much larger than they can "live up" in an average life time.

Then too, how do the many of the wealthy class compare in productive capacity? When any one individual pays a high amount of taxes, it can be safely assumed and taken for granted that somewhere along the feather bedding way, other people either in a direct or indirect way have been responsible for the other one's so called success. Do you remember a certain erstwhile oil tycoon who raised his product one cent a gallon? He gave a million dollars course the credit all went to the one in the driver's seat.

Bert Kissinger,
322 South Riverside ave.
Medford

Save the Beauty
To the Editor: Recently my husband and I spent several days touring Oregon, during which time we often remarked on the absence of billboards and the resulting serenity and beauty of the countryside.

As we drove south into our home state we were most unhappy—the billboards were more numerous than we had ever seen—Nixon, Brown, Jensen for Supervisor, et cetera, et cetera, almost outnumbered those for Wrigley's gum, Harrah's Club, and Seven Up.

Please use all your editorial powers to save Oregon's delightful beauty.

Mrs. Francis C. Kellogg
123 East Micheltorens st.
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Thanks and Questions

To the Editor: We are new in your part of this beautiful country, having come here less than two years ago. We came from the southern part of California where we lived for 40 years, and then retired up on Thompson creek. For our part I don't think we could have found a more beautiful spot.

We started your paper as soon as we came, and last September sent in our yearly due, but by doing so, we never get to see the paper that delivers the paper, and we wish at this time to give her (as it is a lady now) our thanks for the wonderful job she has done, and they all have done, in helping us get our paper rain or shine. We never got such good service in the little city I lived in in California, and I talk to some of the old timers here and they are thankful too to who ever delivers our paper now. We sure get good service. Again thanks.

Here is a question maybe some of your readers can answer. They tell us a written will is no good here by us living in Oregon, that we have to go to a lawyer here. I'd like to know if that is so. That would run into money if you had to have a lawyer draw it up. Some places they have wills all printed and all you have to do is fill them in and record them. They even tell us we have to get a lawyer to get a renter out of a house after you have served 30 day notice. I would like to know if they are right?

Again thanking you for such wonderful service as your employees put out, and for a wonderful paper that brings us so much news and joy throughout the year.

Mrs. J. E. Black
RFD 1, Box 22E
Applegate, Ore.

It Is Written

To the Editor: In my first attempt to answer you in regard to your support of those who say that part of the Bible was a fable or myth, verse 2:2 of II Peter was included in the reference but I

failed to include it in my letter. The verse, speaking of false prophets says, "And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of."

Paul in II Timothy 3:16 wrote, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." The fact that God through the Holy Ghost gave us all scripture is also indicated in II Peter 1:21, Hebrews 3:7 and Acts 1:16.

All of the New Testament writers quoted or referred to Old Testament scriptures. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path," Psalm 119:105.

"The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." Psalm 124:6, 7.

Jesus quoted and referred to the scriptures on many occasions. In fact, in all three times when he was tempted by the devil, he answered the devil by saying "It is written" and quoted an Old Testament scripture (see Matthew 4:1 to 11). Jesus at one time answered an argument that on the surface might seem quite reasonable by saying, "We do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Matthew 22:29. In fact, many errors made on matters regarding the Bible and God still arise from this very same source.

I do feel that when ministers deal lightly with the authority of the Bible and call any part of it myth or fable, they should also tell their congregations that they do not agree with the Apostle Peter, Apostle Paul, all writers of the New Testament, and most of all with God's only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thelma Malott
1691 S. Peach st.
Medford.

New America

To the Editor: Without a doubt we are living in a new America. Old timers have passed into the background who died for the ground we stand on, replaced by a new society, new laws, new religion and taxes beyond the heavens in our space ships. Horse and buggy outmoded by fast cars, and speedy jet planes. Isolated deserts and mountains are now suburban homes. Religion once was held teaching people fear of God, replaced by modern religion, where the majority go to sponge away last week's sins in order to have room for the load of the coming week. Once the Church was a hospital for sinners, now a club house for saints. The sermon is about coming events. With every heart beat, beats the devil's drums.

The forest, wild life and stunts will soon be past history. The bones of the doe will be found in the museums alongside the dinosaur.

America will never be so modern it can't afford the town drunk, known in society as an alcoholic. The sight of liquor will always make man's mouth water but there's a difference in drinking and drunkenness.

In modern America the style is fluoride water. Everyone is drinking it. People who dislike our good water can always put a jug of liquor on the shelf. When not drinking to excess it is not harmful. Even water could harm you, should you drink to excess. There are those people born dull and stay that way by nature, but it takes great pains to become what we see them to be. Such an excess of stupidity is not natural. A reputation some carry is but a bubble which he himself bursts when he tries to blow it. There are some folks so absent minded they wouldn't

know what they were drinking as long as it was wet and maybe if people are allergic to fluoride in water, better put whisky in it. I hear it kills germs. Besides, you won't give a hoot if you get toothache or not.

E. Dykes
Box 58
Eagle Point, Ore.

Poets' Corner

Conducted by

Arnold Eugene Jenny

Only One King

In arrogance and vanity
Kings sculptures regal words and creeds
On granite, that posterity
May marvel at their mighty deeds
Of war and conquest; time and rust
Grind these memorials to dust.

Only one King came scorned power,
Walked with the humble of the land
And served mankind his willing hour:
And he wrote only on the sand!

—John Richard Moreland

Dawn

Dawn is the newborn day's defender,
Sign of the tired night's surrender.
Expendable dawn in day's endeavor
To vanquish the foe of its light forever.

—Charles Oluf Olsen
Portland, Ore.

Woodland Retreat

Let fall no careless word.
Let no irony of sound
Disturb this hour.

Here in this sentient dusk
Silence is complete,
And all possessed.

Deep as the unplumbed depths
And high as heaven's arc,
The silence reigns.

Even a bright leaf's fall!
Or hare's impulsive leap
Would break this spell.

—Mildred Moon Howell

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Memory Lane

There is a lane that wanders 'neath the trees,
And sometimes o'er the fair and open ground,
Where flowery fragrance scents the cooling breeze;
Where neither thorn nor thistle e'er is found.

Spring's earliest verdure shines along this lane
And autumn's richest red and gold and brown;
While rosy tints of gorgeous morn remain
To mingle with the twilight, soft as down.

There are no cripples in this fairy lane,
No aged ones to shuffle down its way;
No need of crutches or canes;
For all who wander here are young and gay.

The rose in gorgeous colors is arrayed,
And only joy is here; all pain forgot;
For glad hearts only seek the grateful shade:
There is no sorrow in this hallowed spot.

And oft, when cares oppress this heart of mine,
When days seem bleak and labor but in vain,
I tread again that way where beauties shine—
The blest, unchanging path of Memory Lane.

—Jack Finel
Central Point, Ore.

Penny-bright and Tree-top High

Penny-bright and tree-top high,
His fine young dreams leap across the sky.
With a white-hot heat they scourge and sear
The cloud of my shoddy and dismal fear.

—Anne Beebe Smith
Ashland, Ore.

Educators Leave for Trip to California Schools

A group of school administrators, supervisors, department heads, and at least one board member from School District 549C were scheduled to leave this morning for the San Francisco Bay area on the second in-service visitation.

Accompanying the group from Medford were representatives of Southern Oregon college, the state department of education, the Phoenix-Talent school district, the Eagle Point school district, two architects, and a representative of the county school office.

The party will visit schools in the San Francisco area to observe various teaching techniques and inspect buildings with innovations which could be adopted in this area. Members of the group also will study educational programs offered in the schools.

The trip is part of a study-research project being conducted by local school officials in connection with the district's participation with Southern Oregon college and the state department of education in the Oregon Program to improve education.

Early last month, a group of educators from this area visited schools in the east and mid-west to study educational programs.

Findings from both trips will be discussed and reviewed to determine if some of the programs can be adopted in this area. Local school officials pointed out that the district is not obligated in any way to adopt any of the programs observed, but local educators have indicated that many of the programs viewed in the east and mid-west have aspects which may be seriously considered for adoption here to improve the educational offering.

Financed By Grant

The trips, since they are being made in conjunction with the Oregon Program to improve education, are financed by the Ford Foundation grant as part of the study involved in the program, and no tax funds are used by representatives of the Medford district.

Several schools in the San Francisco area will be visited. However, not all members of the party will visit all of the schools. Members of the party

STAR GAZER			
By CLAY R. POLLAN			
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars			
To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.			
ARIES MAR. 21 to APR. 19 7-12-24-34 45-57-78	Taurus APR. 20 to MAY 20 30-41-42-71 74-77-83-89	GEMINI MAY 21 to JUNE 20 5-15-23-33 47-56-67	CANCER JUNE 21 to JULY 20 3-8-9-53 54-55-66
LEO JULY 21 to AUG. 20 17-18-27-28 29-32-82-87	VIRGO AUG. 21 to SEPT. 20 2-32-44-63 65-72-81-84	LIBRA SEPT. 21 to OCT. 20 4-6-19-26 48-68-80-90	SCORPIO OCT. 21 to NOV. 20 10-23-33-52 54-73-83-90
SAGITTARIUS NOV. 21 to DEC. 20 11-13-25-37 45-58-69	CAPRICORN DEC. 21 to JAN. 19 1-16-29-40 50-62-76	AQUARIUS JAN. 20 to FEB. 18 14-26-38-49 59-60-70	PISCES FEB. 19 to MAR. 20 20-21-31-32 51-61-79-84
Good	Adverse	Neutral	

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