

... 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.

First Principles
To the Editor: Several weeks have passed since Mr. Jenny had his final word on what he called my limited concept of Brotherhood. Since then I have compared this concept with the Scriptures, and can only say that I will neither bind nor loose Brotherhood any further than the Scriptures do.

Mr. Jenny throws Brotherhood open to everyone with no strings attached. He is not satisfied to endorse the opening of the gates as done by our Lord's inspired apostles, he must tear down the walls as well.

The Apostle Paul states in Galatians 3:28 and 27 the only true basis of Brotherhood. The gates are open here but the wall still stands. Jesus is the door, but of what need is there of a door if the walls cease to exist? We are told to "try the spirits whether they be of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." (I John 4:13). How will we know a false prophet? "By their fruits we shall know them." The fruits of the flesh and those of the spirit are plainly set forth in Galatians 5:19 to 26. Read them, lest we forget.

I don't ask special favors, Mr. Jenny, just that you try Communists and Conservatives alike with the same standard.

I do not mean to provoke you with my letters but to reason with you. This is hard to do when you automatically label all I write as irrelevant, irrelevant. Remember also that respect for our elders is not based on their longevity, education or the strength of the poison in their pen, but on their maturity and wisdom of discourse. Elders who neglect first principles and launch out in to theoretical flights of fancy in economics and untried systems of government will not hold the respect of younger more diligent students of history for long.

James K. Shafer
Route 2, Box 210X
Medford

Boring Meeting
To the Editor: I don't know how so many voters attending the recent public hearing of school budget for 549C could take the weak explanations without protest.

lieve, fought for additional One school, Jefferson, I beams. The last bond issue for \$750,000 included rooms for this school. As they asked, I ask, where are the rooms? More important, where did the \$750,000 go?

The meeting was so boring to the school board members one could not stay awake. However, they met with the budget committee as soon as the hearing closed and put the usual "rubber stamp" approval on this top heavy budget.

Is this the way the taxpayer is to be treated when they ask questions?

Remember the date and get out with your vote.
Dick Peterson
330 North Front st.
Medford

How To Do It

To the Editor: Who can deny that the things you mention in your editorial of March 28 are not desirable? Most people would agree that they would be wonderful to have. The big question would be, who is to pay for the construction and maintenance? It would seem to me that some of these items should fall on the voters of the city of Medford, some on the voters of the county, and some should fall on the group or groups particularly interested in the item in question.

To be specific, it would seem to me that air pollution is a valley if not a county problem, billboards are a county if not a state problem, and arterials, parks and downtown parking appear to be more of a city need.

When I think of a stadium and an auditorium, I think of the pride the people of the whole county and area can feel for such things as the Rogue Valley Memorial hospital, the Shakespearean Festival facilities, the grandstands at Medford High school and the soon-to-be new Sacred Heart hospital. You remember how these things were accomplished - by a group of individuals who wanted something enough that they raised the money through pledges and built them; and when they were completed, everyone was proud. I would not be an unwilling contributor to an area auditorium built in Medford or a well-designed multipurpose stadium built on other than county lands, but I would find it most repulsive to see county funds spent on

such things, because these things are frills, and those of us who want them badly enough should pay for them. I, for one, certainly abhor such fringes as the National Guard Armory, built with public funds in excess of what was voted and then built on public lands.

Yours for a great R. R. Valley.
(Name on File)
Phoenix, Ore.

Battle Score
To the Editor: So Evelyn W. Reith (3/26) thinks you've given me too much space? Could be. Certainly, your policy of according space to all writers, however wise or foolish, is very generous and eminently fair—which I, for one, greatly appreciate. I hope I have not taken undue advantage of the privilege.

To be sure, I have been one of your most frequent contributors since coming to our valley, this being my 90th letter (a surprise to me as it may be to you and our readers).

However, 12 of my letters dealt with noncontroversial subjects, e.g. in praise of Medford, in behalf of CARE and other help to the needy, and the like. The other 78 were in defense of freedom of speech, brotherhood, our churches and church leaders, the UN, UNICEF, etc.

Many of my letters were in response to 112 (not counting others of which I kept no record) by 38 different persons, some in legitimate opposition to my points of view; more of them, however, also abusive—not a few even dangerously close to being slanderous and libelous. So, my opponents have had much the better of it, almost 2 to 1. Individual high scorers had, respectively, 23, 11 and 10 letters, the rest 1 to 5, in opposition to me (not counting other letters they had in Communications) each; quite a formidable opposition!

Though a retired preacher—in my denomination at that! (though I do not recall his identifying himself in any of

his letters), L. G. Weaver can be pretty mean, and not always careful of the truth—as expert with innuendo and insinuation as any: a pretty sorry spectacle!
In his latest broadside (3/27), he appears at his cleverer worst. "As to the Russians who are visiting the United States in the guise of Russian Orthodox priests..." he writes: ignoring the fact that the 16 include also Baptist, Lutheran and I believe Armenian clergy; without either first-hand acquaintance with or knowledge of any of them; and in complete disregard of the fact that distinguished American churchmen, lay as well as clergy, who have known these men as devout Christians had invited them as such to visit this country. For shame! Rev. Weaver.

Arnold Eugene Jenny
Rogue Valley Manor
Medford

A Lesson in Brotherhood
To the Editor: To Arnold Eugene Jenny: To you, everything but your own deductions are "out of context, or irrelevant." Good outs but not proof. You had to take the whole Bible out of "context" to get what you teach.

No, Dan Smoot did not happen to be my informant, but he is entirely reliable. The House Committee on Un-American Activities informed us of these wolves in sheep's clothing. Bob Duncan voted to abolish this fine committee. Your defense of the RSV

couldn't help it, his home life was bad."
There was a day when men were men, men who knew something, believed something and stood for something.
Ella Powell,
Box 621,
Central Point, Ore.

The Use of Figures
To the Editor: When one uses figures it seems one can arrive at any answer to serve one's purpose. Let's look at the Medford School District budget for '63-'64 as it relates to last year's budget:

The '63-'64 Budget calls for a total expenditure of \$5,150,618.47, and, after deducting receipts and cash balance of \$1,521,988.17, we find the amount of \$3,628,632.30 needed to balance the budget.

Last year, 1962, the district received \$1,380,830.69 from the tax levy; and \$85,556.18 from previous year's tax levy; and \$81,902.66 from rural delinquent taxes. Add these together and we have a total of \$1,548,289.53, actual tax money received in 1962.

This year, 1963-64, the assessed valuation of all taxable property in the Medford school district has been increased by not less than 20 per cent overall, therefore, higher valuation for taxation which should bring in to the tax office a larger return unless, because of the increased valuation, a smaller millage is assessed. In any event, tax receipts for 1963-64 should equal 1962-63 tax receipts.

Jesus said "other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold and one shepherd. (John 10:16).
"Time" could hardly be used in defense of Betancourt, being as how it is owned by Henry Luce, owner of Life and Fortune. An anti-Communist sounding article from Time is Henry Luce talking from both sides of his mouth, but then, we've had that for 30 years. Seems like people would learn this double-talk sometime.

Funny thing how these liberals will stand up for the Communists regardless of the fact that they have murdered, tortured, made slaves of millions. They stick up for the writers of smut books, they stick up for murderers and never a word of condemnation for any of them. "Love them," they cry! Love is all for the murderer who stamps out the life of a small child after having had his will and desire upon that little body—yet-the cry goes up, "He

Thus the school district should receive not less than \$1,548,289.53 tax revenue. Add the other "sources of income" which is \$1,284,184.36 making a total of \$2,832,473.89. Take the total budget of \$5,150,618.47, less income of \$2,832,473.89, leaving \$2,318,144.58 as the amount necessary to balance the budget. The budget makes a showing of \$3,628,632.30 to balance. From my figures, an excess of \$1,390,487.72, and to top this off—\$170,295.97 is added to the tax levy to cover "rebate" and "unpaid" taxes.

Reviewing the published personal and real property delinquent tax list, the total thereof, of the property within the school district does not equal the amount by far the estimate of the budget committee, \$170,295.97.

If my figures are correct, the voters should take a second good look at the proposed budget before approving it. In fact a reduction of some \$1,560,683.69 before it should be approved.

Ray O. DeMarrs
708 West Second st.
Medford

Editor's note: Mr. DeMarrs is correct in saying "When one uses figures it seems one can arrive at any answer to serve one's purposes."
The tax levy is the last source of revenue determined for a school district, and is not included in the known sources of revenue, as Mr. De-

Marrs has done here in assuming the district "should receive not less than \$1,548,289.53 tax revenue."
The school district budget procedure goes like this: 1. Expenses are determined; 2. known revenues are determined; 3. known revenues are subtracted from the total expenses to find the amount necessary to balance the budget; 4. other sources of income, such as state basic school support and any support from the county more than the \$10 per census child required by law, are deducted from the amount necessary to balance the budget.

Then what remains is levied against property in the form of taxes to make up the difference between known and actual income and the amount needed by the district to operate the schools.

Since a large share of the money will come from property taxes, some allowance is provided in state budget forms

for unpaid taxes and for the rebate if the taxes are paid before Nov. 15. The estimate of unpaid taxes has no connection with present delinquent taxes.

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Poets' Corner

Conducted by
Arnold Eugene Jenny
Character of a Happy Life

How happy is he born and taught
That serveth not another's will;
Whose armour is his honest thought
And simple truth his utmost skill!

Whose passions not his masters are,
Whose soul is still prepared for death,
Not tied unto the world with care
Of public fame, or private breath;

Who envies none that chance doth raise
Or vice; who never understood
How deepest wounds are given by praise;
Nor rules of states, but rules of good;

Who hath his life from rumours freed,
Whose conscience is his strong retreat;
Whose state can neither flatterers feed,
Nor ruin make oppressors great;

Who God doth late and early pray
More of his grace than gifts to lend;
And entertain the harmless day
With a well-chosen book or friend;

-This man is freed from servile bands
Of hope to rise, or fear to fall;
Lord of himself, though not of lands;
And having nothing, yet hath all.

-Henry Wotton, 1568-1639

For Robert Frost: After Reading His Now Classic Couplet!

Dear Robert Frost:—As always, you have hit the nail upon the head, and doing so have titillated some with your wry wit and left the stragglers stranded in the snow. There's rank confusion as to what He's like: some call His name "Compassion" or "Sweet Love," and others fear the day when He will strike the damned to Hell as trumpets blast above. Whatever course He deems for you and me He's sure to get a chuckle from your verse, and I'm so confident He'll never see a better couplet penned, as keen or terse, that He might well forgive your levity but tolerate no wiser brevity.

-Lloyd B. Halverson
Medford.

"Forgive, O Lord, my little jokes on Thee
And I'll forgive Thy great big one on me."
(From Frost's "In The Clearing," Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York, c1962. P. 39)

Medford, January 1963

Steel-encased
An intent human form
Rides suspended
In misty opaqueness.

Gray-seeing eyes
Coax twin beams
Of dispossessed power
To pierce the monochrome swirl.

Orchards, homes, billboards, buildings,
trees, bushes, fences, signs, sidewalks,
streets, signals, shops, sun
Effaced!

Only
seeping, silent, smothering vapor.

-Marguerite Armstrong
Medford.

Worm's-eye View

Delectable strawberries have found in me
An underground king - I pamper, you see.
My tunnels carry their precious water.
And I till the soil for my foster-daughters.
The underworld, my home, is little known,
Yet strawberries flourish in my deep loam.

-Marjorie S. Wiseman
Portland, Ore.

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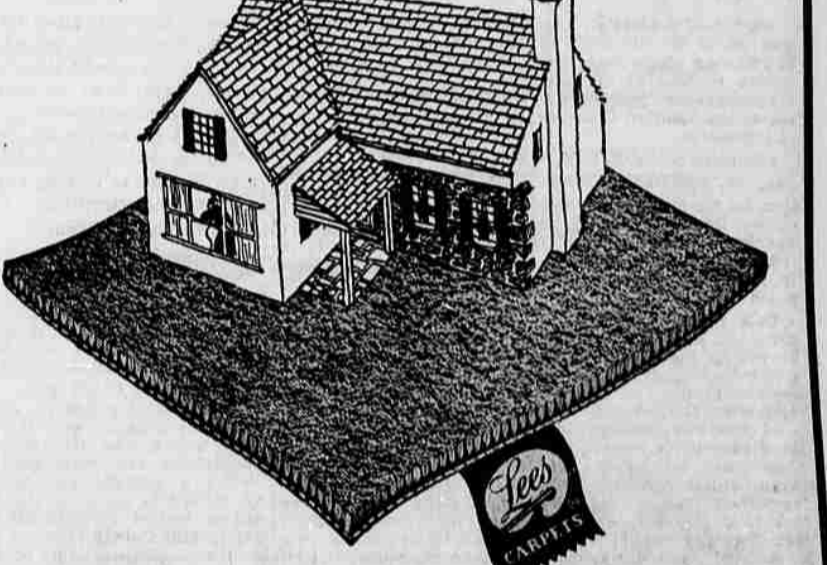
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