

... 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.

The Finest Park

To the Editor: The false and distorted statements about the Oregon Dunes National Seashore in the recent letter of Jack Parker are so gross that they cannot be ignored. It is too bad when personal interests lead a man to make such statements about a major recreational development which would have widespread benefits for Oregon, for the nation and for future generations.

First, the TV documentary on the Oregon Dunes was not prepared by an advertising man, but was a public service feature prepared by the U.S. and right here in this column - particularly during the Kennedy crack-down on the steel manufacturers - also during the invasion and crushing of state's rights in Mississippi.

Our President appoints over 90 key men to positions of power in our government, a huge bureaucracy which owes no allegiance to the American people and over which the voters have no control. This places altogether too much power in the hands of our President. And this is exactly what we DON'T want in Oregon, as Mr. Fritz has so ably told us.

The new Oregon constitution is not a streamlined, rearranged version of the old constitution. It is a completely

don't use my name as it might bring more economic repercussions than this already has. Thank you for your patience.
(Name on file)
Eagle Point, Ore.

A View of Subversion

To the Editor: In your "editor's note" under the letter of D. Ivan Fritz (4/18/23) you ask why there are no cries of "dictatorship" concerning the federal government. It may be a shock to you to learn that there have been all over the U.S. - and right here in this column - particularly during the Kennedy crack-down on the steel manufacturers - also during the invasion and crushing of state's rights in Mississippi.

All those who want to know who it is that plans and prepares the laws for state and national lawmakers, and pressures them through law-making bodies - who it is that is changing our traditional Republican form of government into the alien, socialistic monster of centralized power now in Washington, D.C. - and soon to be in many of our states - should send to Tax Payers Action, P. O. Box 148, Woodland Hills, Calif., for the book, "Constitutions Be Damned."

new concept of a constitution such as has been, or is being, pushed in ever other state in the union. Some parts of it sound familiar - a few parts are exactly as in the present constitution. But the bulk of the revised constitution is based on and copied from the "model constitution" put out by the National Municipal League which allegedly is the "model law" and "model constitution" writer and distributor for "1313," Chicago, Ill., home of the "metro monster government." The commission members who wrote the new constitution admitted this before the Joint Senate and House Constitution Committee, according to March, 1963 "Serve Our State" News Bulletin.

Due to weakness in Oregon state laws, the blood test was not admissible in court. Despite medical testimony and blood tests, the jury declared this man not guilty. There is a bill (S.B. 348) before the state legislature now, which would compel a driver to submit to blood, urine, breath or saliva tests for alcohol, or automatically have his driver's license suspended for 90 days.

It is universal knowledge, confirmed in hospital emergency rooms and police stations, that alcohol is a tremendous factor in the cause of a great number of automobile accidents.

Therefore, I would urge our legislators, lawyers and Oregon editors to consider seriously Senate Bill 348. It is almost impossible to convict an offender of drunken driving under the current laws of our state.

J. R. Watson, M.D.
832 East Main St.
Medford.

The M-T Goals
To the Editor: April 15 - "The Week in California" - Jesse M. Unruh (D-Englewood), ENGLEWOOD, New Jersey or INGLEWOOD, Calif.?

April 11 - "Recipe" - Page 8 - "1 pkg. of cake years." Thanks for a million laughs. Like the store last Thursday who had BEEK on sale and Thunderbird usually sells SHERBIT.

I send them all over the country to poor bedighted (sic) people who only have nice same papers to read. If you haven't already, you'll surely make the Reader's Digest soon.
Dorothy J. Gungl
Gold Hill, Ore.

Spoiled
To the Editor: Mistah Kennedy had his whole damned Easter vacation spoiled with steel raises.
Everett Acklin
Ashland, Ore.

How Long?
To the Editor: How long must we go on living under a law that is out-of-date, ineffective, and inhumane - the law of capital punishment? No one who knows anything about the history of capital punishment can argue that its abolition will destroy law and order in society. This argument has been made by distinguished and uninformed persons for hundreds of years and has been refuted by the facts of history for precisely as long.

Capital punishment is on its way out. It has already been abolished in Alaska, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Rhode Island and Wisconsin. Only 16 states in the United States actually inflicted capital punishment in 1959. Twenty states have not used the death penalty for more than 10 years. Most of the South American countries have abolished it and those which retain the death penalty have become more and more reluctant to use it.

If one lives or travels in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, West Germany, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Norway, Portugal, Rumania, Sweden, Switzerland, Travancore in

Say the Internationalists," price \$2.
This book will also tell you why and how our educational system is being subverted - why school text books promote socialistic ideas and discredit free enterprise - why our government favors Communist governments and is soft on Communists in the U.S.A. - and many other gripping and fascinating things. You won't be able to lay it down once you pick it up.
L. C. Powell
316 S. E. Eighth St.
Grants Pass, Ore.

Drunken Driving
To the Editor: Recently I was called to testify in court in the case of a man who was accused of drunken driving. This man was being chased by police officers at speeds up to 70 m.p.h. He ran into a Volkswagen at the Dodge bridge area. One of the Volkswagen occupants, a surgical nurse, was permanently injured in this accident and will never be able to serve as a nurse again. After proper medical examination and blood alcohol tests, the fact that this man was drunk was ascertained.

India, and Queensland in Australia, and is safe without the protection of capital punishment.

One cannot find an eminent sociologist, criminologist, penologist or psychologist who supports capital punishment. Dr. Glueck, Professor of Criminology, Harvard University, said: "The presence of the death penalty as the keystone of our penal system bedevils the administration of criminal justice all the way down the line, and is the stumbling block in the path of general reform in the treatment of crime and criminals."

If the state kills, it gets an example for doing the very thing which it condemns. The use of force and violence against criminals teaches the lesson of force and violence. The death penalty discredits the whole reformatory program. The finality of the death penalty is totally inconsistent with the philosophy of correction and rehabilitation. It does not save the state money. In six years, without the death penalty, California would have saved \$150,244 in administrative costs alone, plus savings in court costs.

The majority of the wardens in the United States favor abolishing capital punishment. Executions actually appear to stimulate murders, just as public executions of pickpockets once provided the occasion for more pocket picking.
Lydia Burnham
814 Warner St.
Prescott, Ariz.

She Likes People
To the Editor: Normally, when I read a Communication that disturbs me, I consider the fact that we all have many different opinions - none of them necessarily right or wrong. However, the lady from Eagle Point, whose name is 'on file', repeated a remark I have heard once too often in my 15 years in the Rogue river valley.

When I arrived here, a nearly broke and a not very attractive mother of three small children, I didn't expect a red carpet welcome. I did expect people to be people, just as everywhere. I like people.

At times, during periods of economic stress, I've been tempted to leave Utopia, but the thought of leaving my many friends too always holds me here. I can't walk down the street without meeting someone I know - and I love it! During a recent personal tragedy, dozens of these "dear natives" demonstrated their affection for me and mine in countless ways. In fact, my friend from Eagle Point, the many Medfordites I've met seem to be just people, with different tastes and desires, but with a great capacity for love.

I am not a "socialite". My acquaintance with the Country Club is limited to attendance at Safety Council meetings and Christian Women's Club luncheons. Both of these groups are open to the general public. Many of my friendships were formed through my attendance at a local church and my participation in its activities. Membership in this organization is also available to the general public.

Next time you are in town, call me, and I'll brew you a cup of coffee.
Not a member of the Chamber of Commerce.
Carol Waltermire,
3335 Forest,
Medford

Family Squabbles
To the Editor: "Home is where the heart is," says one. "Home is where the laughter is," declares another. Indeed, Home is where a lot of things are - including, on occasion, A WAR OF WORDS. In view of the variables that beset matrimony nowadays, it is something of a miracle when one finds a long-lasting union.

Recently I was privileged to help celebrate the Gold wedding anniversary of a couple. After the other guests had departed, I ventured to ask the proud husband: "Could you name any one thing that has helped to keep you folks together for so many years?"

"Yes," he responded. "I started out in the business world by owning a store. As I sold largely on credit, I had to set up a bookkeeping account entitled, 'Reserve for Bad Debts.' When I married, I carried over somewhat the same idea in an account, 'Reserve for Bad Days.' A squabble never got us down - we usually locked ourselves in a bedroom and didn't come out until we had solved our problem on the basis: 'Not my way; not your way; but OUR way.'"

Then, noticing the knowing expression on his wife's face, he added, with a twinkle in his eye: "Actually, we more often settled on HER way."

rather than mine! The sweet reasonableness of my logic was usually drowned out by her tears. A man, you know, 'leads with his chin' as they say in boxing - only to have a woman knock him galley-west with a counterpunch to the heart."

One early-spring day I strolled through enchanting Lithia Park and eventually found myself upon an old stone bridge that spans Ashland Creek. I stood contemplating the rushing stream - how the water ran readily over some boulders in the bed of the creek, but had to dis-

unite to get round others. Then I noticed that always the flows came together in a brief calm just below a boulder and raced on as though nothing unusual had happened.

It was then that I became happy with the thought: "The flow of the River of Marriage should be like that - dividing

on occasion to get round an obstacle, but always REUNITING not too far downstream."

George M. Backcock
427 Hospital Dr.
Ashland, Ore.

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Poets' Corner

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Arnold Eugene Jenny

Death's Emissaries
Devouring Famine, Plague, and War,
Each able to undo mankind
Death's servile emissaries are,
Nor to these alone confined.
He has at will
More quaint and subtle ways to kill.
A smile or kiss, as he will use the art,
Shall have the cunning skill to break a heart.
—James Shirley (1650)

The Old Oregon Trail, 1863
How many bones lie
decayed in this dust
where innocent trust
of women and children
held to this trail
in Conestoga wagon
with spun flax veil?

How many arrowheads
of wicked black jet
are buried yet
where the desert clay bakes
in the valley kiln
and the wagons didn't make it
over the hill?
Not yet obliterated
by erasures of time,
erosion and slime,
wheel ruts record testimony
on the Grande Ronde floor
where wagon trains mired
a century before.
—Winifred Heiskell Layton
Salem, Ore.

The Tear-Drop
So very nearly did I reach my mark—
Scaling carefully, the rainbow's arc:
Clinging to the bright-hued dreams,
Resting now and then on love's moonbeams.

Just one tiny tear-drop made me slide—
A tear born of self-pity and of pride.
And weariness from clinging, climbing, crawling:
One shiny, tiny tear-drop sent me sprawling.

The rainbow's curve I could no longer tread
When lubricated by the tear I shed.
I lost my grip and landed, bruised and shattered,
In the dust where rainbow dreams lay shattered.

When once again the heights I would attain
And tears would come of weariness or pain,
I'll have a little sunbeam at my beck and call
To dry away my tears before they fall.
—Verna Slane
Grande Ronde, Ore.

Lines Of Protest On Widening a Small Town Street
Denuded lies Broadway—
The axe of Progress swings aloft and chops away
Where folk once strolled
And children prayed:
No more the gentle soothing of the leaves,
No more the quiet beauty of the street.
The town of Bethpage stands aside and grieves
As Progress smirks
At God's retreat!

—Leo E. Shottland
Bethpage, L. I., N.Y.

"The trees—their quiet, shade and beauty: God's retreat."

Note Of Nostalgia
Dear child of mine, though winter's dead,
Spring's greatest thrill you'll never share:
The ecstasy the day you shed
That itchy, long-legged underwear.
—Anne Beebe Smith
Ashland, Ore.

Schools' Needs
To the Editor: I am not a writer of letters-to-the-editor, but I have been aroused and am venting my spleen while the dishes stay dirty, the clothes unironed and the floor unswep.

Wednesday the people of the Eagle Point school district voted down the budget for the operation of the school this next school year. I have heard from several sources that people were called and asked to vote against a large bond issue which the schools were trying to put over on the Good People of the district. I wonder how many people took this as they were told and went to the school and marked their little "no" vote without even reading the ballot.

Is there any better investment in this country today than the education of our children? True, they don't learn the exact same things in the exact same way that we older folks learned them. The teachers are too busy trying to take the parents' places in moral and social training. Many mothers now seem to be more concerned about popularity than they are about morality.

Was this budget overly excessive this year? I personally know of several things which were needed by the schools and were omitted from the budget. Will the cuts now be made in the athletic program or will they be made in good instructional materials and personnel? Let's not be naive. We must keep our display on field and court for the good townspeople!

The teachers don't complain too much about using old desks and torn books. Or perhaps no desk at all. There isn't too much objection to the pupils' desks that were used by their parents, except when they are so scratched and scarred that they require several sheets of paper for padding to get a shabby writing surface. The only reason they need new desks is to enable them to cram more into a room.

There were things in the budget that I didn't like, but the board can't put in or take out enough to please everyone. Somehow I feel the schools, imperfect as they are, are doing a pretty fair job of teaching our children, but they can't do it without money.

I guess I am vented. Please

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