

Strengthening the Churches

There is considerable evidence at least some churchmen believe the ruling of the U. S. Supreme Court last week regarding religious observances in public schools will be a long-range boon to the nation's churches.

The ruling should strengthen, not weaken, American religion. The court's ruling was not unexpected. The eight justices who signed the majority opinion were true to the American constitution and to the court's previous decisions on related matters.

THIS NATION HAD, at last count, 258 different religious sects, and even then nearly 70 million American people have no formal affiliation with any religious group. In view of these facts no other court ruling was possible. There was no other manner of preserving the freedom of conscience of our people, and preserving the constitutional separation of church and state.

There are some things the court's decisions does, and some things it does not do. Among the latter:

- 1. The court does not prohibit the reading of the Bible in the study of literature or history in public schools.
2. The court does not impair the right of any American—in or out of school—to pray and read the Bible.

WHAT THE court decision does do is to:

- 1. Curb the authority of public officials in the area of religion, just as they are curbed in many other areas by the constitution.
2. Prohibit authorities from selecting a prayer and requiring it to be said in schools. Nor can they require regular ceremonial reading of the Bible.

There has been, in recent years, a tendency for some churchmen to use schools as a crutch. The court's decision will once again bring the proper relationship between church and state into clear focus.

IN THIS CONNECTION a recent policy position of the Presbyterian church is worthy of some note. Adopted prior to the court's ruling, the Presbyterian statement puts that church firmly into the position of advocating further separation between church and state.

The Presbyterians expressed their belief that Bible reading and organized prayer in school is wrong. Even if it is not wrong, they say, it's not a worthwhile religious exercise.

The church expressed concern over tax exemption for church properties, and said churches should seek some method of making contributions to government in lieu of taxes.

THE REMOVAL OF religious observances such as prayers before lunch and opening prayers, from the public schools should serve to strengthen religion in this country, rather than weaken it.

The court's decision should help spur a strong effort by the churches to give religion a deeper meaning in the family and home than it has had in many families and many homes in recent years.

And if this can be done our churches will all be better off than they are at present. — The Bulletin, Bend.

Man the Predator

Looking cautiously into the future the late Carl Jung once said that we had nothing to fear except man.

Man is the giant predator. In a brief historical period of rapacity, he can destroy the natural riches that millions of years have created. It would be foolish to dismiss this destruction as only carelessness or ignorance. For we face a fact of awesome size. The natural growth of human population makes a natural demand on natural resources. Three billion people in the world will be six billion in 2,000 and their needs will be incalculable. — Brooks Atkinson in the New York Times.

Big Project

Most of the attention paid to the United Nations is paid to the news of conflict, what "they" say about "us" and what "we" say about "them." However, much of the real worth of the organization lies in its daily, undramatic programs for a better world. A case in point is the UN's proposed campaign to reduce illiteracy.

In the United States few realize the true magnitude of the illiteracy problem. More than 700 million people, probably half of all the adults in the world, are illiterate. In Haiti and Sudan, 90 per cent of the people are illiterate. Other countries where more than two-thirds of the adults are illiterate include Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, India, Turkey and the United Arab Republic.

UNESCO, WHICH IS promoting the attack on illiteracy, thinks that within 10 years two-thirds of the world's illiterates can be taught to read and write. The program would cost just short of \$2 billion.

It has always been essential to decrease illiteracy if the standard of living is to be raised. Illiteracy and poverty always go hand in hand. So do poverty and unrest.

But the urgency of the problem is greater now. So many of these illiterates vote, helping guide the programs of new and potentially powerful nations. — Eugene Register-Guard.

Message To Congress



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 initials 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.

Commercial: To the Editor: Radio announcers are very gracious. They warn listeners of commercials to come, so that they may use that precious minute to do some little chore. Many minutes a day are saved in this way. A few examples: One moment, please. I'll be back in a moment. More news after this message. Now listen to this. Just one moment. Hint to housewives and others: Learn to time yourselves. Question: What in your opinion would be the ideal number of commercials per hour?

David Frisch, P.O. Box 292, White City, Ore.

Prayers and Smoking: To the Editor: We hear so much of Evangelist Billy Graham's criticism of the Supreme Court's decision on prayers in public schools. He must have read Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's book "The Power of Positive Thinking." How else could he get that way?

He says, "I am shocked at the supreme court's decision. Prayers and Bible reading have been a part of American public school life since the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. Now a Supreme court in 1963 says our fathers were all wrong all these years." If that proves anything, according to his line of reasoning, then the fact that white men had made slaves of the black people and have mistreated them so badly all these years must make that right, too.

It is this form of immaturity which our courts continuously have to remedy to preserve the freedoms that our forefathers fought to gain in the first place. In my opinion the insisting on prayers in public schools can be common smoking in someone's home when he knows these people don't care to smoke themselves, nor to inhale the smoke from those who do. He is free to smoke somewhere else, but he is so selfish, he reasons that anyone who doesn't like his smoking can leave the room.

John P. Glascom, Route 1, Box 319-B, Central Point, Ore.

Tax Referendum: To the Editor: I wonder how many voters, especially those on very limited incomes, are familiar with the provisions of the assessor tax bill passed by those bright shining lights in Salem.

If this bill is the best they could come up with after 141 days of muddling, the good Lord only knows what they will hatch up if allowed to return. Frankly, if I had a two-year-old with such tendencies I'd be tempted to stake him out with the pigs till he got over it.

This bill is designed to catch everyone, regardless of how small their income, as it applies to all income which will be taxed from the first dollar, and added to that is a \$5 filing fee. The \$500 personal, the credit for Federal taxes, in fact all exemptions went down the drain so a family of five will be taxed the same as a single person.

Mr. Howard, publisher of the Albany Greater Oregon weekly, has filed a referendum petition in Salem so if Mark-O doesn't act on the bill by June 28 he plans on getting enough signatures to place it on a referendum to be voted on Oct. 15.

I hope those who read this will be interested enough to do as I am doing, write Mr. Howard for a petition, and have all the friends and neighbors sign it. As Sept. 2 is the deadline, quick action is essential.

Claude M. Hall, 2860 Placer rd, Sunny Valley, Ore.

Consistency: To the Editor: Consistency has been called a great virtue. This section of the paper reveals the opposite condition quite consistently.

In the Thursday, June 20, issue, an Editor's note states

Foreign News: Kennedy-Adenauer Talks; Tory Outlook Dim; Japanese Politics

By PHIL NEWSOM, UPI Foreign News Analyst. Notes from the foreign news cables:

Kennedy Trip: France's President Charles de Gaulle will seek to pull some of the sting out of President Kennedy's trip to Europe when the general visits Bonn July 4 and 5 after Kennedy leaves De Gaulle will try to convince the Germans that their real interests lie with the United States. However, French officials concede that De Gaulle will be talking somewhat in a vacuum since there is no guarantee that Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's successors will follow the

British Outlook: The poor Tory electoral outlook has caused dissident Conservatives to rally around embattled Prime Minister Harold Macmillan. But look for Macmillan to step down, probably just before next October's annual Conservative party conference, in order to make way for a new leader to take the party into the general election which must be held before October, 1964.

Young, 46-year-old Chancellor of the Exchequer Reginald Maudling is now the front runner in this contest. But this edge could turn quickly in favor of Deputy Prime Minister R. A. (Rab) Butler or, more remotely, Lord Hailsham, Lord president of the council and minister of science. Look for Macmillan to

work especially hard on getting a United States-Soviet-British nuclear pact which would do two things: one, cap his long drive for peace-through-summitry and shine up his tarnished political name, and, two, aid Tory political fortunes.

Buddhist Riots: No final settlement has been reached between South Viet Nam's Roman Catholic President Ngo Dinh Diem and the Buddhist majority of his countrymen, who object to what they consider restrictive measures against their religious freedom. Observers in Saigon put the chances of another outbreak of ritual suicides or rioting, or both, at better than even.

Hassan Visit: This week's state visit to Paris by King Hassan II of Morocco will mark a further strengthening of French influence in North Africa. Hassan, who is due in the French capital Wednesday, is likely to leave with promises of additional French economic and technical aid.

Japanese Politics: Eisaku Sato, brother of former Japanese Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi, has been mentioned for the past year and longer as Japan's next prime minister. Sato's drive for power, which is expected to culminate in the campaign for the Conservative party presidency a year from now, was accelerated with his recent statement demanding a party conference before next month's annual cabinet reshuffle. He also has demanded clarification of the party's alleged election law violations in the recent Tokyo mayoralty campaign and has criticized Prime Minister Hayato Ikeno's low interest policy. On

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris, (c) Field Enterprises, Inc.

SOLEMNITY: One of the interesting psychological sidelights on Gordon Cooper's space flight is that he nearly didn't get to make it. After his flight was successfully completed, a wire service story from Cape Canaveral reported: "His kidding on the ground since the program started is such that some of the humorists and Space Administration were against his selection for such a serious assignment." It was only the "strong intercession" of others, the story went on, that eventually won him the assignment.

It is a common mistake of ponderous and humorless men to equate mere solemnity with "seriousness." The Rev. Sydney Smith, one of the wittiest and most erudite clergymen of his time, once explained why he never attained a bishopric while inferior men did: "I sink by my levity," he marked, "while others rise by their gravity."

In our time, Bernard Shaw was perhaps the most deadly serious of writers—yet in many quarters he was considered flippant and frivolous because he wrote in a sardonic and humorous manner. At the other end of the philosophical spectrum, G. K. Chesterton was long suspect for his mirth, while being a passionate and profound religious commentator.

"A solemnity of behavior," wrote La Rochefoucauld, "is often a trick to disguise the deficiencies of the mind." Most of the serious-sounding men I have listened to, in various fields, have used solemnity to conceal their poverty of thought; they apparently feel that a heaviness of manner masks an emptiness of substance.

There is no more serious educator in the United States than Robert M. Hutchins—nor one who has given deeper thought to the basic problems of education in a democratic society. But because he has been a wise-cracker, an irascible stepper on academic toes, he has sometimes been dismissed as the mere Peck's Bad Boy of education.

"A monkey looks terribly serious and thoughtful," he once said. "But the monkey is just thinking where to scratch himself next."

Mark Twain suffered much the same fate for many years, and was regarded as little more than a high-grade parlor entertainer, because of his irony and jokes; while some of the dullest and stuffiest writers of his period were regarded with hushed veneration for their pompous platitudes.

At his life's end, he felt quite bitter about this evaluation. Many men who seem to be taking their subjects seriously are simply taking themselves seriously; they cannot afford the luxury of laughter, which would threaten to shatter facade of their false dignity. Solemnity is not an intellectual weapon, but a psychological armor.

British Demand Recall of Czech

London—UPI—The British Foreign Office announced today it is demanding the recall of a Czech diplomat for attempted espionage.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Parliamentary Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Peter Thomas summoned Czech Ambassador Zdenek Třihlik to the Foreign Office and demanded the recall from London of Third Secretary Premysl Holan.

The spokesman said the recall was demanded on the grounds "Mr. Holan had been detected in trying to persuade a member of the public to obtain secret information."

that a certain letter submitted by a man in the Butte Falls area cannot be printed in this column because it would use the Main Tribune to express "vicious and possibly libelous sentiments" about members of his community. Yet a few weeks ago the editor of this paper defended in the name of freedom of the press a controversial novel which places Jesus Christ on the level of a sex pervert.

If Jesus Christ were one of the residents of the Butte Falls community would this paper defend the circulation of a book which contains, and I quote, "vicious and possibly libelous sentiments" about Him? Would we have an equal right under our freedom of the press to circulate novels that impugn and slander the characters of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln because they are not here in person to take us to court on the grounds of libel?

O consistency—how rare, and how precious! Duane M. Corwin, 30 Portland ave., Medford.

A Soviet Challenge We Must Meet, Baby

By Arthur Hoppe

Somewhere over Utah—Greetings, Comrade President, from inner space. I look forward to embracing you, John Fitzgerald, when I descend to stand once more on the soil of our great Washington, D.C. Please shave.

As I sit here strapped to the seat of my Boeing jet airliner (tourist class), I am filled with pride at the goal I have set for me: to meet the new Soviet challenge and rendezvous high above the earth with a true American woman.

Already, Comrade President, I have made my first historic attempt as she passed close to my position. And while it is still too early to announce success, I have high hopes. For she has opened communications with me in these epic words which will be remembered by posterity: "Coffee, tea or milk?"

Somewhere over Nebraska—I am proud to report, Comrade John Fitzgerald, that our mission is proceeding according to plans. I, a true American man, have her under constant observation. And I say with patriotic pride that she is a typical American woman. About 36-24-36. I would estimate. And her trim tan uniform is not alien to her beauty.

Many men who seem to be taking their subjects seriously are simply taking themselves seriously; they cannot afford the luxury of laughter, which would threaten to shatter facade of their false dignity. Solemnity is not an intellectual weapon, but a psychological armor.

Another way to help: Write to your friends. Tell them about Oregon—especially about lovely Southern Oregon.

TRY this little experiment: Unscrew your fountain pen. Squeeze a drop of ink from it into a glass of water. Then watch how rapidly the ink SPREADS through the water in the glass.

Tourist dollars spread in the same way.

YOU may ask "What can I do?" You can do a lot.

HOW? Well, just keep alive to every possible opportunity to step up to a tourist who looks like he may not know just what to do and where to go to do it, and in your friendliest and most hospitable manner WELCOME HIM TO OREGON.

Just be courteous and friendly. Make the visitor to our state feel that you are genuinely delighted because



As one young American to another, I'd like to apologize for some of the members of my race!

Medford Mail Tribune subscription information and contact details.

1963 Newspaper Publishers Association logo and membership information.

Flight 'O' Time advertisement for Medford and Jackson County.

10 YEARS AGO: Confirmation of Secretary of State Earl T. Newby.

20 YEARS AGO: Riverside USO to open Sunday.

30 YEARS AGO: Nearly 1,000 CCC enrollees arrive for assignments.

40 YEARS AGO: Contract let for building of bridge across Applegate river.

50 YEARS AGO: European scientists to visit Crater lake and inspect forests.

What's Your I.Q.? Test results and instructions.

Answers to the I.Q. test: 1. Does the U.S. produce 25, 50, or 75 per cent of the world's suppler? 2. Four states border on Lake Erie: name them. 3. Carbohydrates are found in what food substances? 4. Did President Truman ever have a face to face conference with Stalin? 5. What part of speech must always agree in number and person with its subject? 6. Of these three islands in the Mediterranean, which is the largest: Sicily, Sardinia, Crete? 7. Is the recognized name for Peralta now Iraq or Iran? 8. Oberammergau is most famous for what? 9. Name the famous Kansas newspaper editor who was known as "The Sage of Emporia." 10. Correct the following: "Each of us have our own problems." Answers: 1. 75 per cent. 2. Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, New York. 3. Sugar and starch. 4. Yes (Potdam). 5. Verb. 6. Sicily. 7. Iran. 8. The Passion Play. 9. William Allen White. 10. "... has his problems."