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Those "Classrooms"



"Alma Mater"?

The new "temporary classrooms" built on the lawn in front of Medford High school—one of which is pictured above—are probably the ugliest public buildings this side of an Army barracks. They have absolutely no redeeming features—save, of course, economy and a certain marginal utility.

Now we know the pressures the school board is under to save money and at the same time provide for the education of our high school youngsters. And we have heard the arguments which led up to the decision to locate these abominable crackerboxes on the high school lawn—arguments which make a certain amount of sense.

BUT do they have to be such eyesores? Or (our suspicious mind inquires) did the school board and administration make them as ugly as possible on purpose? On the theory that they would impress the voters with their efforts to save money, and of the need for new school facilities?

These suspicions are, we hope, unworthy and unfounded. But the fact remains that Medford high now has some of the worst-looking classrooms in recorded history. And the destruction of several large trees in the process simply adds injury to insult.

The least that could be done would be to paint the school barracks barn red so that future generations of MHS alumni could boast that their Alma Mater was, indeed, a "little red schoolhouse."—E.A.

Responsible Self-Government

More than 13 months ago—on July 31, 1962, to be precise—the Mail Tribune had this to say:

"It is unpleasant to contemplate a tax increase at the state level, but it is either that or cut back on state services."

That statement is just as true today as it was then. At that time, the editorial in question was directed, in part, to candidates, as well as to the voting public. Today it is directed at the voting public. So is the following paragraph from the same editorial:

"We believe it is important, right now and before election, to do some basic thinking about what we want from our state government, and how we're going to pay for it..."

LAST year it was the forthcoming Legislature which had to come up with the answers. They did so, after a fashion, in a 141-day record-breaking session, which was also featured by partisan in-fighting, pay raises for legislators, and other things which have not pleased the public.

But be it recalled that, as long as 13 months ago, the franker and more honest of Oregon's politicians, plus many newspapers, were warning of the problems.

It was pointed out that the state was some \$30 million poorer than it had been two years previously; that basic school support (or, phrased differently, property tax relief) was due to increase; that higher education needed added funds just to stay abreast of the needs, and that community college expansion was called for.

HOW did the legislature solve these problems? It cut the budget for higher education far below that requested by the Governor, which in turn was below what educational officials said was needed.

It virtually eliminated any expansion in the junior or community college programs. It sliced other budgets. And it came up with a compromise tax plan which pleased no one, and displeased many greatly.

NOW the people will vote on that tax plan next month.

If the legislature's admittedly unpopular tax plan is approved, the state (meaning, mostly, education) will scrape through the biennium.

- If, however, it is defeated, it will mean, without question, one or more of the following things:
1. Chaos in public finance.
 2. Drastic cut-backs in higher education.
 3. Drastic cut-backs in local school programs, which can be off-set only by sharply increased property taxes (see picture and editorial above).
 4. Cuts in other state services—perhaps including old age assistance, aid to dependent children, aid to the blind and the handicapped, institutional care, and so on.

WE ARE not saying that all these things will happen. But some of them will, probably several, no matter what the Governor does, no matter what the Legislature (if called back into session) does.

But the choice is between responsible self-government and an invitation to anarchy.—E.A.



"We all know candidates are selected in smoke-filled rooms, but remember, the fire starts at the grass-roots level!"

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.

"Classic" Letter
 To the Editor: The following is a Communication that appeared in the Oregon Journal Monday, Sept. 2, 1963.

It is a classic and I feel it should be printed in every paper in the United States.
 Lella A. Morrow
 531 North Bartlett St.
 Medford

Editor's note: The letter follows.
 To the Editor: Dear Colored People—Since the 30s, I have been an ardent supporter of any cause that promised Negroes their full rights as citizens. I am finally beginning to wonder if that is an answer. Could we be wrong in wanting to see the law force white people to fully accept you as their equals? It can't do it. Only you can get us to want you as friends and neighbors.

The prime fact, one that no one seems to feel should ever be discussed, is that we are white and proud of it and you are colored and not proud. You can live in our districts, work side by side with us, and eat with us, but we still continue to regard you, at best, with smiling patronage and feel righteous in accepting you, as things stand now.

By forcibly coming into our white districts, school and residence, you make us feel how strongly you want to be one of us. Don't do this to yourselves. Where is your pride of race? Find it! You are beautiful people. You are gifted in many ways we do envy. You are naturally athletic, a great deal of musical. That you are also, as a race, intelligent, sensitive, and thoughtful you must teach us.

Raise your children to be proud of their race. Color is not important and no man should be humble before anyone but God, but you make us conscious of our physical differences. Like yourselves as you are. Don't meet us with insolent, angry resentment. It just makes us feel superior. Don't push your helpless children, unwanted, into our schools. Be too proud to do this. What is overt acceptance, angry or patronizing, worth? If you win the bitter fight to join with us now, it will be in the same way one man on one end of a rope in a tug of war was — if the 10 on the other end let go.

Don't come to us, please. Change yourselves, your attitude toward yourselves, so that some day my child will say to your child, "I wish I looked like you." Then, instead of your coming to us, we'll meet.

Margaret Abbott,
 Vancouver, Wash.

He's Proud
 To the Editor: The Birch Society has really been getting "combed with a curly comb" in your Communications column recently. But do these anti-Birchers know what they are talking about? One of them ends his letter by saying, "I believe in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. I have faith in President John F. Kennedy. I support my country and my President in this crucial hour. Can you Birchers say as much?" Another "anti" applauds and agrees 100 per cent with this eloquent stand.

I just want to ask this question. How can anyone believe in our Constitution and at the same time support a President with an insatiable appetite for more and more unconstitutional power? More questions. Do these men also support our President in his withdrawal of promised vital air cover from the Cuban freedom fighters at the Bay of Pigs? In his allowing the Berlin Wall to be built in violation of five treaties? In his support of Russian-backed subjugation of pro-West, anti-Communist Katanga? When he urges greater aid to Communist Poland and Yugoslavia? When he ships untold millions of dollars worth of America's military jet planes to Communist Tito and trains Ti-

to's pilots at our U.S. flying schools against the violent objections of the American people? When he orders Communist propaganda to be delivered by U.S. mails free? And when he actually uses our own U.S. Navy to protect Castro from exile Cuban patriots trying to take back their home-land? Do they support our President and his administration in their plan to totally disarm America and turn all our Armed Forces over to the UN? (See State Department Document 7277 and Public Law 87-297).

In answer to the anti-Birchers' question, "Can you Birchers say as much?" — the John Birch Society does NOT support the Kennedy administration's cowardly appeasement policies. At this moment this particularly includes their latest disarmament trap, the Test Ban Treaty, which the eminent scientist, Dr. Edward Teller, father of the hydrogen bomb, calls a step towards war, and which the distinguished military strategist, Admiral Chester Ward, declares is a plan for the certain destruction of the United States, and which, never-the-less, the anti-Birchers claim they support.

But we not only BELIEVE in our Constitution and Bill of Rights, we are making a desperate fight to preserve them. We not only SUPPORT this great republic of ours, our beautiful, beloved America, we are fighting tenaciously and doggedly to prevent its sovereignty, its Armed Forces, its freedom, and the freedom of its people from being swallowed up in UN world government and Communist slavery. For these reasons I am very proud to be a member of the Birch Society.

L. C. Powell
 316 SE Eighth St.
 Grants Pass, Ore.

Down, Fung!
 To the Editor: Premier Khrushchev's time is spent wondering where the "yellow" went, and to whitewash his banalities.

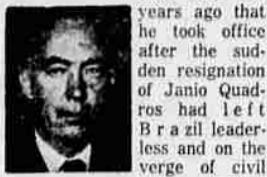
He cries: "Tito, look, no cavities!"

Name on File
 Medford

Peace Conference
 To the Editor: It is hardly necessary to mention the need of reform, or a house-cleaning, for it easily speaks from many lips; and yet to our shame too few are doing scarce anything about it, although God's ordained means are at hand for appropriation. Will we stand acquiescent at His bar if we are weighed in the balances and found wanting?

Brazilian President Nears Second Year In Office, But Problems Still Unsolved

By PHIL NEWSOM
 UPI Foreign News Analyst
 Brazil's President Jango Goulart observes an important anniversary on Sept. 7. It was on that date two years ago that he took office after the sudden resignation of Janio Quadros had left Brazil leaderless and on the verge of civil war. Goulart has regained for his office the powers stripped from it two years ago by a



combination of conservative politicians and military leaders. But it has been a rough two years and Brazil, torn by extremists of both left and right, continues to march toward an uncertain future.

The independent foreign policy first proclaimed by Quadros has been maintained, and Goulart and a succession of foreign ministers have continued to cultivate friendly relations with the Communist world.

Pressing Brazil to the right has been the United States, with occasional hints of a cut-off of badly needed financial aid. Pushing to the left are the

well-staffed embassies of seven Communist nations.

Goulart himself has attempted a moderately leftist stand which has brought him under fire from both right and left.

In mid-August, Goulart spoke before a leftist workers rally and asked support of his land, tax, banking and other administrative reforms.

Hecklers shouted at him, demanding "Where do you stand?" The Communist-controlled General Labor Confederation has charged that Goulart has "bowed to Yankee pressure" and warned that "the workers can wait no longer for their emancipation."

But the same policies attacked by left-wing labor are not going far enough also are attacked from the right as proof of charges that Goulart seeks to make himself a Brazilian copy of former Argentine dictator Juan Peron.

Leftists also are angered by Goulart's negotiations with American and Canadian power companies for purchase of their

public utility subsidiaries in Brazil. They accuse him of surrendering Brazilian sovereignty to please the United States.

Meanwhile, the land and tax reforms which Goulart seeks and which were a condition of continuing U. S. aid, remain stalled in congress, caught between right and left.

Despite Goulart's attempts to establish financial stability through a three-year austerity plan, both the cost of living and the treasury deficit continues to skyrocket.

In May of this year the treasury deficit was \$1.8 billion and by year's end is expected to be a third again as much. The cost of living so far this year has gone up nearly 50 per cent.

Cotton, sugar and iron exports are up this year but coffee earnings are down and the first half of 1963 showed the country with a trade deficit of \$90 million.

So far, Goulart successfully has walked his political tight-rope. But so far also, it must be said, his efforts to solve his nation's vast problems have produced unimpressive results.

Strictly Personal

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

WHO IS TO BLAME?
 Every so often, with almost predictable regularity, some judge breaks into the newspapers with the firm announcement that henceforth he intends to hold the parents "strictly responsible" for cases of juvenile delinquency.



Loud applause from the galleries, sage shaking of heads by the older generation, murmurs of approval from the editorials—but only a weary sigh from the parents who happen to have a wayward or difficult child.

Society is a collective coward. It refuses to take the blame for its own ills, but prefers to parcel them out to smaller segments of the population. No matter what is wrong, we never blame ourselves as a people, but always indict a selected portion of the public as the Devil.

Children may become delinquent for any one of a dozen reasons: because the father is too strict or the mother too possessive; because of under-privilege or over-privilege; because the family is too puritan or too permissive; because too much is expected of the child, or too little demanded; because of a hundred different combinations of influences—over many of which the parents have little or no conscious control.

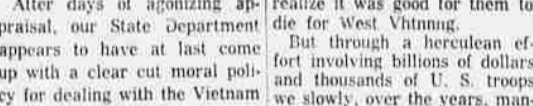
Of course, in a few flagrant cases of drunkenness or brutality, the corroding effect can easily be traced. But how many thousands of decent, well-meaning and perplexed parents wake up one morning to find that somewhere along the line a cable has broken, an emotional wire has snapped, and their little boy has become a strange and sullen exile from the family!

There are menacing currents in the modern world that tear people from their moorings, that turn standards upside down, that threaten to capsize even the most stable craft. Juvenile delinquency is perhaps the most dramatic example of the tremors convulsing society; to point to the anguished and frightened parents as the prime cause is a cheap and wicked evasion of the facts.

Now we have the Lax Parent added to the list of social evils. All we have to do is punish the adults, and juvenile delinquency will diminish to a harmless prank.

No Nhus Is Ghod Nhus

By Arthur Hoppe



After days of agonizing appraisal, our State Department appears to have at last come up with a clear cut moral policy for dealing with the Vietnam crisis: We're going to try to overthrow that discredited civilian dictatorship in order to install a forceful military dictatorship so that we can get on with the business of saving the South Vietnamese from dictatorship.

I think that's a great moral policy we've got there, all right. But so far we've been having a little trouble stirring up a military coup. I guess it's part of the basic problem we've faced in South Vietnam for years. We just can't get the Vietnamese army to fight.

But I'm confident the policy will succeed eventually. After all, it worked admirably in nearby West Vietnam, the nation on which I'm the leading expert because I made it up.

Indeed, civilization got so widespread that our CIA approached General Sher Mahm "Mac," said the CIA, "if you'd care to seek the presidency, we could promise you the support of Democratic-loving peoples everywhere, plus 52 tanks and two infantry divisions."

"U.S. troops?" inquired General Sher Mahm. "No," said the CIA, shocked. "You know we cannot interfere in the domestic affairs of a sovereign nation, Loyalty Royal Army troops."

"What are you, some kind of nut?" said General Sher Mahm. For it's a wise general who knows his own troops.

But civilization kept spreading and finally seven people were hurt. The Loyalty Royal Army, which never could stand the sight of blood, was so unnerved that it rose from its trenches to the man, over-threw President Ngo Mahm Ngo and installed General Sher Mahm, who, through a "Great Leap Backward," managed to utilize everybody in 11 weeks and restore order. And the war effort continued. For another 7 years.

So I've got confidence in our State Department's policy. If Mr. Diem's regime gets any more violent, I'm sure the army will overthrow him. As anybody who's observed the army's fighting spirit will tell you, it's the greatest force for non-violence in the world today.

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann
 (c) 1963, The Washington Post

THE FRENCH ADVICE

Since South Vietnam is fogged in by censorship and propaganda, it is impossible to know for sure whether there is in fact a great crisis. President Ngo Dinh Diem and his family have certainly made themselves violently disliked in the Buddhist countries of Asia, and indeed all over the world.

But at this distance we do not know whether power, such as it has been, to rule the country is substantially less than it used to be.

Their power does not rest upon popularity and election but upon force, patronage, corruption and intrigue. While their will to wage the guerrilla war has never been strong, there is nothing to show that there is any decided change.

The second thoughts were more realistic for this view in the varying reports last week about the Administration's line of policy toward Diem and his family.

At first it was that they must be made to go by withholding American aid until a junta of army generals overthrew them. But on second thought, presumably as a result of reports from Saigon, the line was changed to one of living with Diem and trying to reform him by diplomacy.

More realistic than the first, not because there is much chance of reforming the Diem government, but because a government of Vietnamese generals, installed by the United States, would hardly be better or more popular than Diem, and might well be worse.

And so, since we cannot reform the Diem government, since we cannot replace it, and since we cannot abandon it, we have to put up with it for the time being.

How long, we ask ourselves, might this be? Long enough, I suppose, for a change to take place in the complex balance of forces in Southeast Asia. As of now, at least, there is a military and political stalemate in the whole region. None of the powers involved has the military and political strength to impose or to bring about the negotiation of a settlement that all concerned could live with.

However annoying, De Gaulle may be right that the ultimate objective of policy, though enormously difficult to attain, is a reunited, independent and neutral Vietnam. No other kind of settlement is possible. We shall not permit a Chinese conquest of Indochina. The Chinese will not submit to an American-supported conquest of Communist North Vietnam. If there is no settlement such as De Gaulle proposes, then a protracted and indecisive war of attrition is all that is left.

I SEE no reason why the Administration should resent the President of France speaking about the pacification of what used to be French Indochina.

The French must know some things that we, who are newcomers and novices in the region, do not know. They have been present in Indochina for generations. They have educated the leaders of Vietnam. They have fought a long and difficult war and have tasted the bitterness of defeat.

We should welcome the advice of the French and, since there is no possibility that they can restore their old colonial empire, we should welcome their help.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

LON TINKLE tells of the ludicrously wealthy Dallasite who caught his 7-year-old son lighting a cigarette with a \$1000 bill. He gave the boy a whack and belted, "How often do I have to tell you you're too young to smoke?"

One minute little Warren had a big, fat, candied apple in his hand, the next minute it had vanished. "A man took it," he wailed to his father. "Imagine a man mean enough to steal an apple from a kid this size," exploded the father. "What did the man look like, son?"

Little Warren pointed promptly to a tall, dignified gentleman who was eating an apple from the fruit basket.

One of the most common of human errors is to judge a man by his appearance. The vendor of high quality goods who is a complete set of samples under his arm.

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