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The Wound Inside

The mounting and worrisome statistics of juvenile delinquency are of immediate concern to everyone. How do we account for them? What, if anything, can we do about them?
A certain portion of "juvenile delinquency," of course, is a matter of definition. In the "good old days" some of what we now classify as criminal or potentially criminal was laughed off as youthful "high spirits," plain "cussedness," or just mischief. We assumed the young people would grow out of it. And, usually, they did.

BUT IT is a grim fact that there is a lot of criminal activity by young people going on, and it seems to be getting worse, rather than better. Why?
Each case, obviously, is different. Each has differing motivations, reasons, underlying causes. The distinguished columnist, Ralph McGill, recently pondered this. In part, he said:

"Is it found somewhere in all the piled-up fears of adolescence? Was it recorded there, at the school when the class laughed at an awkward child or when the votes were counted in the election of the most popular member of the class and hearts ached that never got a vote? Is the answer there on the tape of the mind which recorded that time a hesitant child, near tears, sought to tell the story of a deep and turning hurt and was brusquely told to shut up?
Is it recorded only in cruelty and neglect, brutal and callous? Or in the more subtle cruelties of never understanding that recognition is an objective for which we all strive until the grave claims us, and that somehow, in some game, or play, or home, recognition must come or it will be attained in some mad and reckless folly which makes all the shaken, sorrowful adults wag their heads and ask, through tears, 'Why? Why? Why?'"

"Is it caused by lack of education or job training which makes a youngster feel despair and hostility toward all about him?
No one knows..."

NO ONE does, not even, in most cases, those most directly responsible—the ones who caused the hurts and fears and frustrations which led to the breakdown.

What McGill is saying, it seems to us, is that all of us who deal with children—parents, teachers, uncles, aunts, friends, counselors, leaders—have an exceptional responsibility and an exceptional opportunity.

"As the twig is bent, so is the tree inclined." Like all maxims, there is much truth in this. For, while it may or may not be true that "There is no such thing as a bad boy," certainly villainy is not inherited. It is learned.

IT MAY be learned at home, or in the streets, or even in school. All of us learn it. But not all succumb to it. Relatively few do. And it is almost impossible to put one's finger on the weakness, the hurt, the fear which, when confronted with temptation or frustration or rage, causes the individual to strike out with whatever weapon may be at hand.

We need to know a whole lot more about motivations in young people; more about how they react, and to what; how to encourage them and guide them into fruitful channels; how to detect when something starts turning sour.

Maybe we'll learn, but it won't be soon. Meanwhile, perhaps we can bring ourselves to remember that the callous young punk we so despise has, somewhere deep within, a grievous wound that neither he nor anyone can heal.—E.A.

Whoopers En Route South

Happy with the unofficial title of the "Whooping Crane Editor," we can now report that the great birds are en route south from their Canadian nesting grounds to their summer quarters at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the Texas coast.

It is possible that the total world population of wild Whooping Cranes may have increased by about 10 per cent—from 30 to 33. At least, crane-watchers hope so.

And wildlife agencies are issuing their bi-annual pleas to hunters and others not to shoot at any large white bird which might be flying over North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

IN 1941-42, Whooping Cranes outside zoos (there are seven in captivity) totaled 15. Gradually the number climbed, with occasional setbacks, to a high of 38 in 1961-62. But this dropped to 30 last year.

Canadian biologists, checking the nesting grounds this summer, reported seeing at least three young birds. So it is possible that the count may be on the way up again.

We fondly hope so, for, although we have never even seen a Whooper, it occurs to us that the worth of the world will be diminished if still another species succumbs to the forces that have killed off the carrier pigeon and a thousand other races of wild things.

Sentimental? Impractical? Foolish, even? Probably so, in a world where there are so many other serious things to worry about. Unabashedly, however, we worry about the Whooping Crane, and hope his numbers will increase until extinction no longer threatens the great, white, awkward birds.—E.A.

Sales Tax Talk Just Talk

There's a lot of talk about a sales tax these days, and some plan to vote against the income tax measure hoping it will bring a sales tax. Don't count on it. The Grange and labor both are opposed to a sales tax, so are a lot of others. And it would be certain to be referred to again prolonging Oregon's current economic...

Latin-American Showcase



DOMINICAN DEMOCRACY

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The story is loose in Washington that the Russians are interested in buying an additional three million tons of American wheat.

How much wheat is that? Out in the wide open spaces of the U.S.A. we think of wheat in terms of bushels. There are 32.3 bushels of wheat in a ton. So the Russians want to buy about 100 million bushels of American wheat.

WHAT to do about it? Let's put it this way: If you had wheat running out of your ears... if all your storage space was full of it... if you didn't want to go in debt for the money with which to build more storage space... if a lot of your land was better adapted to growing wheat than other crops... if you had a LOT of money invested in equipment for growing wheat...

In that event, you would be very much interested if a big wheat buyer showed up in your neighborhood, wouldn't you? That seems to be just about what has happened.

THERE'S more to the proposal than just getting rid of the wheat... of which we have a huge surplus. The Russians, if they buy our surplus wheat, will PAY FOR IT IN GOLD.

WE NEED to get rid of the wheat. If, for no better reason, we need to get rid of it because getting rid of our huge wheat surplus would give us a lot of storage for FUTURE surpluses if we go on subsidizing wheat in order to get farm votes.

And... We also need the GOLD that the Russians will pay for it with.

WHAT do our farmers think of the deal? Secretary of Agriculture Freeman says in Washington this morning: "About two out of every three farmers I have talked to favor UNLOADING the wheat."

QUESTION Why does Russia need the wheat? ONE answer, of course, is that this has been a bad crop year all over Europe. The weather has been cold and wet and generally unfavorable.

Another reason is that the Russian farmers aren't very good farmers. Kroosh is urging them to PRODUCE MORE WHEAT "The way to do this..."

We were told that by approving the salary increase for the legislators it would attract better qualified candidates. It would really be a riot if the salaries were increased to the \$20,000 as suggested by the gas...

man from Denver. If that happens, by gum I'll throw my old seven year potmarked lid into the ring.

Claude M. Hall 2800 Placer rd. Sunny Valley, Ore.

THE INCOME TAX MEASURE

This is one of a series of brief presentations of some little-known aspects of the income tax measure on which Oregon voters will decide at a special election on Oct. 15.

QUESTION I am a married wage-earner with two children. I make \$5,000 a year. How will the tax law affect me? ANSWER Your taxes will go up \$2.30 a month, or \$27.80 a year.

QUESTION Why? ANSWER Oregon has had no major tax increase since 1955. This year's budget deficit arises primarily from education, mental health and penal budgets. 33.4 per cent of the General Fund budget goes to basic school support and by law cannot be cut. Elementary and high school enrollments increased over 7 per cent in the last biennium while college enrollments increased nearly 26 per cent over the same period, as the post-war babies continued their schooling. Higher education claims 22.9 per cent of the budget, correctional institutions account for 8.2 per cent and mental health services account for 3 per cent. About 61 per cent of the state's budget goes for education, and of that less than half could be cut under existing laws. Any cuts in the budget by the Governor would have to come from education, mental and penal institutions, police, state police, the tax commission and natural resource budgets. No reductions can be made in the regulated fields, such as utility for highways, industrial accidents or unemployment.

QUESTION Can legislators pay no cut? ANSWER No state salaries can be cut. Legislators' salaries are not lower salaries.

Sukarno Trying To Keep Best of Three Worlds While Dominating Southwest Asia

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst In hot and dusty Jakarta this week the price of rice had doubled over that of two months ago. In two years the cost of living had tripled and a month's pay for the average Indonesian could be expected to last less than two weeks.



None of this seemed likely to be of great concern to Indonesian President Sukarno who long ago proved himself a man of nine lives so far as Indonesians were concerned and who early proved to himself that in a world dedicated to peace, the role of swashbuckler has many advantages. But both the price of rice and Sukarno himself were of concern to the United States. There was a mounting suspicion that Sukarno intended to eliminate not only Dutch and British influence from Southeast Asia but U. S. influence as well.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

IN OTHER words, as one of the wisest men of this city has put it, "The Chinese Communist leaders have been frightened by the disaster of the great leap into accepting a no-exit situation."

A stagnant agriculture, an industry whose wheels are barely turning over, and no serious program of current capital outlays to give hope of future progress—this is a "no-exit situation" in the most literal sense of the phrase. Yet this is the present situation of Communist China today.

Furthermore, the doors that might provide an exit appear to be locked and barred. This year's harvest will be about the same as last year's, which was not particularly good, and there are reasons for thinking that the harvests of subsequent years may grow worse rather than better.

Western businessmen are flocking to Peking, seeking trade opportunities created by the Sino-Soviet split. But the Chinese meanwhile are preparing to pay for imports with exports of cheap textiles, soybeans, and canned meats.

In sum, there is no margin now for investment in growth, and there are almost no prospects of such a margin being created in the future. Yet China cannot indefinitely bump along at the bottom, at the present level of wretchedness. The truth is that the bottom is not yet in sight.

THIS is true because just about everything in China, from the clothes on the backs of the people to the more complex weapons of the armed forces, is in more and more urgent need of replacement. Yet no replacements are in sight.

For a matter of five years, the people have been patching their garments and replacing their cloth shoes on a ration of about two yards of cotton cloth per year. Since 1959, the armed forces have been patching and cannibalizing the airplanes and tanks and other higher weapons that used to come from Russia but come no longer and are not produced in China.

Transport is another area of dangerous non-replacement. Above all, there is the entire Chinese industrial plant, almost exclusively designed around Russian or Eastern satellite equipment, with no spare parts sources, let alone replacement sources, for any of the factories' machines.

If there are no replacements, and if there is not even enough margin to provide replacements, further deterioration, gradual but cruel and remorseless, must unavoidably occur. And so the doubts are heard, simply because wretchedness, stagnation, and deterioration, all combined, do not appear a very good recipe for stability.

Strictly Personal

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

PERSONAL PREJUDICES To justify our dislikes, we generally say that what we dislike is contemptible or valueless; it takes a rare and large character to acknowledge that what he dislikes may be admirable but he is incapable of such appreciation.

People in villages are both kinder and crueler than people in cities; they are kinder to those who suffer misfortune through no fault of their own, but crueler to those who violate the rigid canons of the community.

Each class has its own "key words" which must be decoded in order to be fully understood; for instance, when the upper class calls a man "civil," it doesn't mean merely that he is polite—it means that he tacitly accepts the superiority of those born above him.

All genuine progress depends upon not more than a dozen individuals in each generation; and the best argument for democracy is that we can never tell from which segment of society they will arise—therefore, that system which most encourages talent to come to the surface is best, despite the clumsiness and abuses and dangers inherent in the democratic process.

The self-righteous person who is secretly proud that he does not need to ask God to forgive his sins should, from time to time, remember to ask his neighbors to "forgive my virtues." As Santayana once acutely remarked, "It is easier for a libertine to become a saint than for a prig."

Very often the woman whose ambition inspires a man to great deeds is the same one whose limitations prevent him from enjoying the fruits of his accomplishments.

The barbarism that precedes civilization is never as vicious or corrupt as the barbarism that follows it, for real bestiality, primitive societies can't compete with those that have rebelled against the restraints of civilization.

Speaking of this, it would be wise to keep in mind Ortega's astute warning: "In history, as soon as the 'man of action' puts in an appearance and is discussed and pampered, it means that a period of rebarbarization looms."

The great fallacy that most people make is in assuming that by opposing the "wrong," they are guaranteed of being in the "right"; but most wrongs are opposed by different kinds of wrongs, and it rarely occurs to ordinary minds that two conflicting principles can be false at the same time.

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

Oct. 3, 1953 (Saturday) The electrical rate hearing on a requested 20 per cent increase in California Oregon Power company's rate changes ended Friday after reconvening for a four-day session in Medford; a PUC decision is expected by Nov. 1. The Grants Pass Cavemen edged the Black Tornado last night 13-12.

20 YEARS AGO

Oct. 3, 1943 (Sunday) City expected to share in post-war aviation boom. From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "One of the mighty nimrods invaded the rural regions yes, after the elusive deer and bagged two pounds of country-churned butter without firing any .16 caliber rations points."

30 YEARS AGO

Oct. 3, 1933 (Tuesday) City work urged for development of park on Roxey Ann. John C. Mann leads Chamber of Commerce football forum in rally at high school; funds for new equipment for team to be provided.

40 YEARS AGO

Oct. 3, 1923 (Wednesday) County tax levy to be mill less than last year. AFL convention at Portland asks pardon for Tom Mooney.

50 YEARS AGO

Oct. 3, 1913 (Friday) Man caught in Grants Pass after swindling hotels with COD orders. S. S. Bullis triply franchisee cancelled, declared illegal.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. Who issued the Emancipation Proclamation?
2. Correct the following sentence: "She dove gracefully into the lake."
3. Do the Maoris inhabit Yucatan, Peru or New Zealand?
4. What do the initials S.P. on an armband worn by some Navy men mean?
5. Which state is nicknamed "Tar Heel State"?
6. The city once named Byzantium and later Constantinople now bears what name?
7. Poi is a native dish of what islands?
8. Is the circumference of the earth greater when measured around the poles or around the equator?
9. Does the white shelled egg or the brown shelled egg contain the higher vitamin content?
10. Was Ann Boleyn shot, hanged, beheaded, or guillotined?
Answers: 1. Abraham Lincoln. 2. "She dived..." 3. New Zealand. 4. Shore Patrol. 5. North Carolina. 6. Istanbul. 7. Hawaiian. 8. Around the equator. Both the same. 10. Beheaded.

Nine Fires Noted

State Protected Lands SALEM (UPI)—Nine fires, all man caused, were reported Wednesday on state protected forest and rangelands. Four of the blazes were caused by careless smokers. Largest was a 15-acre grass fire in the Douglas district. A six-acre grass blaze occurred in the Klamath district. All were put out.