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Here and There, This and That

The meeting notices for this week's session of the tourist and convention committee of the Medford Chamber of Commerce told where and when the meeting would be, then added that the first person who said a word would have to pick up the check for everyone else.

The meeting convened—and there was complete silence. The committee members smiled and nodded at one another, and occasionally passed a note back and forth.

But no one cracked; no one said a word. And each paid his own meal check.

"Finest and friendliest meeting I've ever attended," one of the members reported later. "Successful, too. If we didn't make any progress, at least we didn't go backward either."

Why is it that similar events seem to come in bunches?

No sooner do we have one mine disaster than we have several more. One major airplane crash is almost certain to be followed by others. A disastrous fire seems to be the signal for another disastrous fire. A gas explosion in one part of the nation is followed by another.

And multiple births: a set of quintuplets in the U. S., another set in South America, and several sets of quadruplets, all within the space of about a week—and all against terrific mathematical odds.

It leads one to wonder, a bit uneasily, if perhaps there was some peculiar type of radiation in the air nine or ten months ago.

Speaking of radiation and bomb testing and so on, we know several people who are absolutely convinced that the "unusual" weather we've had for the past year and more is the result of such fooling around with the atmosphere.

The storm of Oct. 12, 1962; the long dry winter; the long damp spring and summer—all of these were sufficiently remarkable to persuade many people there must have been a reason for them. And what more "logical" reason than upper-air radiation, which could affect the things that affect the weather?

Irving Krick, the non-governmental meteorologist, thinks so. So, so can you if you wish. You're in good company.

Washington, D. C., newspapers have a little box each day which lists the activities of the President of the United States for that day.

London newspapers print something similar. It is called the "Court Circular," and is published under the heading of "Court and Society" in the Daily Telegraph and Morning Post.

Here are some excerpts from a recent issue:

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Oct. 23. His Excellency Mr. Abdul Rachman Al-Bazzaz was received in audience by The Queen this morning and presented his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Iraq to the Court of St. James.

Sir Harold Caccia (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs), who had the honour of being received by The Queen, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Walter Cheshire had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon his appointment as Air Aide-de-Camp to The Queen.

Her Majesty held a Council at 12:40 o'clock this afternoon. There were present: The Viscount Hailsham (Lord President), the Right Hon. John Boyd-Carpenter, M.P. (Chief Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster General), the Right Hon. Sir John Clayton (Chief Justice of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland), the Right Hon. Robert Carr, M.P. (Secretary for Technical Cooperation) and the Right Hon. Anthony Barber, M.P. (Minister of Health).

The Right Hon. Sir John Clayton having been appointed a Privy Councillor on January 17th, 1963, was sworn in a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

CLARENCE HOUSE, Oct. 23. Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. I. Rome, Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, this morning had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, on relinquishing his Command.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. R. Saltonstall also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty on assuming his appointment as Commanding Officer of the Battalion.

One may be amused or offended by this sort of thing, but one thing about it: They do it in style.

We wish it were possible to understand what goes on in the mind (?) of someone who finds pleasure in vandalism—in the deliberate and knowing destruction of property.

What kind of warped and twisted personality is it that finds satisfaction in breaking, smearing or cutting?

All of us at one time or another, no matter how well balanced and self-controlled, have felt like lashing out and hitting something or someone. And probably that is the answer to vandalism, a violent release of frustrations.

Still, it is difficult to imagine the combination of frustration, hatred, mob spirit and lack of self-control and self-respect which leads to deliberate destruction of the property of others.

Often, in a discussion of the population explosion and the threat of overcrowding of the earth, someone comes up with the idea that space exploration and colonization will solve the problem. Just ship off enough people to the other planets, and that's that.



"Rockefeller is cute and Goldwater is so handsome—I don't care who gets the nomination. I love 'em both!"

Cease-Fire Violation in Border Conflict Throws Spotlight on Algeria's No. 2 Man

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

Col. Houari Boumediene is a blond, lean, mustached man who has been called the lancehead of the Algerian revolution. Backed by his army of 40,000 men, he put Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella in power and he has kept him there.

signed in the Mali capital of Bamako by Algerian President Ben Bella and Morocco's King Hassan II was to have taken effect at midnight Friday. But five minutes after it began mortar shells began falling around the Moroccan border town of Figuig.

of defense minister and army commander. French sources closest to both sides had two possible explanations. One was that the Algerians, whose noses had been bloodied in early stages of the desert conflict, regarded Figuig as a good spot to counter Moroccan pressure on the cases of Hassi Beida and Tinjoub. Figuig is on the border, which at that point juts into Algerian territory.

has no objections to being labeled a "Marxist, Socialist or Castroite." Among Ben Bella's followers, he has been the one most impatient to carry out promises to seize land from the former European settlers and divide it among his own ragged soldiers.

... 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.

PFFT? To the Editor: Poetry and rhythm tie This world together— You and I And flora, fauna Firmament All loving all Good earth and God— All His intent.

But if this Plan We fail to see— How we must dwell In harmony All loving all High forms and low In gracious union— Pfft!—we go. Thelma Carson Star Route, Box 60 Prospect, Ore.

Taxpayers' Woes To the Editor: I have sent this letter to Jackson County's legislators: We would need no more taxes if our state government would stop this relentless race to see what department can spend the most money. There is no need for guards for the Governor; worthless trips for parties in Hawaii; unnecessary running around in Government cars; lawn watering crews along freeways (we counted 65 men watering lawns between Medford and Portland on one trip). There is not one person in 750 who can tell you if there are any trees or lawns along the freeway, or where they are. If you don't believe this just ask the people. We also counted as many as seven state cars on single construction jobs with one man in each car. What's the necessity of this? Can't they travel together? We had business which took us to some of the state offices in Salem. One of the offices had 11 women employees in it—out of those 11, three were working, the others were fixing their hair, or their fingernails, or just plain loafing. And we, the taxpayers, were paying their salaries. Taxpayers have to work long hard hours to foot the bills for this waste. Why not cut out these unnecessary employees? These are just a drop in the bucket of the added expenses of the taxpayers.

Put a stop to all state elected men from running around at the taxpayers' expense to further their own political ambitions. I am a sure private employer would be tickled pink to pay their employees and families their expenses to Hawaii to get themselves better jobs. Allow state employees reasonable wages—no excessive ones, and limit their expense accounts. I will never set up a business here on account of the inventory tax. That is the most discouraging tax there is, as businesses are penalized for having a stock of merchandise to supply customers with parts when they are needed. This could be handled by a sales tax—when the merchandise is sold to the customer. Several businesses here have their head office in some other state, and others have been looking into other states with the same thing in mind, including me.

The main thing my entire family and I feel you should do is: Spend 1/2 the energy you put out trying to find ways to spend money in trying to save it. Then we would have a \$60 million surplus instead of needing \$60 million more. Cut out all state taxes and put in a state sales tax—this will get everyone, plus the tourists from our neighboring states who collect from us when we go into their states.

You want to slice something, try slicing your own wages, because that is what you are doing to the taxpayer. Larry F. Starks P.O. Box 993 Central Point, Ore.

Gas Prices To the Editor: I think the following would be an interesting subject for your readers. I would like to see it entered in the letters to the editors column.

Open letter to our legislators: Discrimination: I wonder if you realize how you, the people of Oregon, and the service station operators of Oregon, have been discriminated against. For instance, the people and the service station operators of Eugene are paying higher prices for their gasoline than the people of Springfield. Is this discrimination? It seems that the major oil companies give subsidies (lower prices) in any area they see fit. I think you will find the people of the eastern part of our state never benefit from these lower prices. Do you think this is discrimination? Evidently there is too great a profit for the major oil companies, but I am sure that they will deny it and claim that their retail operations are losing money. I think this is true, but where they make their money is in production and the 27 1/2 per cent depletion allowance, which has to be spent within five years or it will revert to the government. This is one of the reasons you see such a large increase in very elaborate service stations in our area. This also makes it almost impossible for the largest percentage of service station operators to make a living. Yet, if you will check the financial pages of your newspaper you will always find that the major oil company stocks pay a good dividend even though they lose money at retail.

Did you know that approximately 30 per cent of the major oil company service stations are successful, 30 per cent are marginal and require extra long hours of labor to eke out a living, and that 40 per cent of the service station operators GO UNDER EACH YEAR. It is rare that you hear of any of the 40 per cent group going bankrupt. The reason is that the major oil companies require from \$2,000 to \$6,000 capital to take over a station, but when their capital is gone, after working extra long hours, they are replaced by another sucker, sorry, I mean operator. The major oil company representatives are very convincing in selling a new operator that the previous operator hadn't been handling his customers right, and they always know the new one will be a winner.

Discrimination—We have the situation again in the Springfield area. A so-called independent from a national chain opened some time back and passed the word around that they were going to undersell the other independents in the area by one cent a gallon. The major suppliers of these other independents advised them to go along with this... DISCRIMINATION. There is a very simple answer to this: The wholesale price of any product should be the same to ALL retailers, with freight differential based on a central delivery point, which is generally Portland, with stiff daily penalties as long as the wholesaler continued to discriminate. I am sure that with the legislature re-convened this would be a very simple law to pass to eliminate DISCRIMINATION against the people of Oregon. Roy Copping, 112 E. 11th St., Eugene, Ore.

and facts speak for themselves, how did these misinterpretations come between the nationalities and races? No thinking man can pass this crisis of civilization without becoming affected.

The worldly system of thought that is upon us today has sprung from desperation and lack of understanding. Civilization of mixed races or unmixed are of service and value or God would not have made it so. Simple ignorance, imagination and double contempt are the cause of the inability and willingness to act like grown up individuals.

Those who call themselves Christians act like monsters and dragons and are far from being free of wickedness and willful distortion of God's creations.

The colored man has developed a certain degree of immunity to the ignorance of the white man. Still they shiver and grow cold when presented before this sophisticated ignorance. Their infantile jealousy and bad sportsmanship is their virtue.

The white man has a more mixed nationality than the Negro ever thought to have. There are very few white men living that are all of one nationality. At best their true identification could only be partial. The Negro is Negro.

The Negro did not participate in the development of sin. It was passed on to them by white folks. Instead of condemning the colored people and discouraging their hearts, and damning their souls, try the culture of friendship, help them learn law, to read and write and behave like a human being before the scientist again claims we all come from apes.

E. Dykes 2412 Spring St. Medford.

Pet Shelter To the Editor: Please allow me to thank you for using a Sunday magazine (see Family Weekly, Nov. 3, the inside cover page) which is interested in compassion.

I hope your readers will not miss this poignant article captioned "Are you cruel to your pet without knowing it?" by the executive director of the American Humane Association.

In particular I would direct attention to the first paragraph, which states, in part: "Putting the cat or dog out at night is so common most of us think it is right. The truth is, millions of animals spend winter nights huddling for warmth in frozen corners. Your pet deserves a place in your home. Fencing him in is not cruel, but turning him loose, away from your protection, is." An animal on a comparatively short chain (outdoors in winter) is a pitiful sight. He is lonely and miserable and he cannot even keep himself warm through exercise. Take pity on him!

Strictly Personal

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

TOWN & GOWN "A university does great things," wrote Cardinal Newman a century ago, "but there is one thing it does not do: it does not intellectualize its neighborhood."

Little has changed in the intervening years since he penned his famous book, "The Idea of a University." We send our children to college, in increasing numbers; and they return home, presumably educated to a greater or lesser degree. But nothing happens to the neighborhood.

I visit dozens of colleges during the year, many of them situated in small or middle-sized towns. In most of them, there is an absolute minimum of contact between town and school; what goes on at the school rarely affects the townspeople, unless sex or drinking are involved.

One of the purposes of a university is not to turn out technicians, like a trade school, but to change the climate around it, to permeate the surrounding atmosphere with some of its attitudes and values.

But what is the point of sending a young person to college if the world he returns to has no continuity with the world he has just been graduated from? It only serves to make college seem frivolous, irrelevant, and "academic" in the most sterile sense of the word.

Of course, colleges put on plays and hold art shows and offer lectures to the public; but these are just the cultural trappings for parents and alumni and possible donors. "Look how well the children are doing," such projects seem to say. "Don't they deserve a pat on the head?"

And one reason that college students do not take the institution seriously (except for getting passing grades and a diploma) is the isolation in which the university exists: a make-believe world for four years, sealed off from "reality," and to be visited only on Class Day, if at all.

This is not the students' fault, nor the townspeople's. The university itself seems afraid of propagating ideas, of challenging accepted beliefs, of involving itself in the actual life of the larger community. Rather than a preparation for life, colleges too often seem an avoidance of it; as a result, students are graduated not only ill-prepared in their subjects, but also totally unprepared to cope with reality.

If universities cannot intellectualize their neighborhoods, at least to some degree, then their influence on the social current is negligible, and their pretension to significance is absurd. If they refuse to exercise their force on society, then society will sweep them away disdainfully in times of crisis, as the Nazis swept away the proud ruins of German scholarship with contemptuous ease.

Labor Day week end. It is a pretty town of about 15,000 people. A few blocks from the center of town is Bidwell Park, consisting of 2,400 acres. In the park is an enormous free municipal swimming pool, made by damming up a creek about the size of Bear Creek. It has a cement bottom and cement sides and ranges from diving depth to a chained area for little tots to wade in. Trees and grass border it on one side and bath houses on the other.

Why can't Medford have something like that? Why let smaller towns show us up with their imagination and initiative? Ashland has its Lithia Park and Klamath Falls has its Moore Park. Just look around. Let's make Medford something for visitors to talk about back home. Dolores (Mrs. V. N.) Bell 37 Quince St. Medford.

Nothing's more important. You see, they send truly brilliant experts down from London for each session—ministers, scientists, economists and the like. The expert opens the session with an hour-long extemporaneous address. And then the Warden of Wilton Park, Dr. H. Koeppler, who is kind of our den mother, invites us to ask the expert questions. And while our Warden is not only a highly intelligent but very kindly man, he dearly loves us to ask questions. Or else.

Unfortunately, when his eye lights sternly on me, the only question I can think of putting to the expert might be phrased: "What, Lord Curmudgeon, in hell were you talking about?"

This would be very bad form. It's not so much the question. It's the way I put it. The proper method is to begin by telling the expert what you think. Like: "There is a considerable body of opinion in East Peoria, Sir Jocelyn, as confirmed by 16 Gallup polls, a WCTU survey and the entrails of a love-sick sheep, that..." And so forth. And if you go on for at least ten minutes, you can then ask him what the hell he was talking

about. Because nobody will be listening. Including the expert. Who will use his turn at the microphone, anyway, to make a point he forgot to make in his speech. Such as the increased egg production in western Oxfordshire.

Of course, how you ask your ten-minute question depends on your nationality. If you are Spanish, you must include a defense of Spain's economic development. The Portuguese are different. They must include a defense of Portugal's colonial policy.

The Italians just get emotional and never, ever mention statistics. The French are precisely the same except they're very belligerent about it. The Germans, on the other hand, must do nothing but cite figures in their ten-minute questions. Which invariably take 20 minutes to ask, due to the length of German verbs and the requirement that any public statement in German must be soporific. As for the British, they don't care what they say as long as they phrase it properly.

That leaves us Americans. Well, we just kind of bumble along, asking brief questions out of native curiosity and usually unintentionally offending one group or another. Honestly, with the way we conduct ourselves at these international conferences, I can't understand how we Americans could possibly have a friend left in the world.

And yet every night at the bar after the sessions our European friends gather warmly around us. Such surprisingly forgiving people! Really, it's a privilege to keep on buying them drinks.

as water from Northern California would cost \$44 per acre foot.

WHAT would Idaho think of the project? Well, so far, that doesn't seem to have been even considered. The idea appears to be just to go up in Idaho and take it.

One suspects that Idaho's opinion of the project might not be printable.

We Americans Are Unquestionable

By Arthur Hoppe

WILTON PARK, England — It's high time I got back to telling you what an international conference is like. And you'd like it. It's a lovely life.

We have breakfast at 8:30; read the newspapers; have tea; attend a two-hour morning session; eat lunch; chat, stroll or play tennis; have tea; attend a two-hour afternoon session; and chat and drink until 11. It's not only pleasant, but stimulating. Because if you've never attended an international conference before, you've got a lot to learn.

Nothing's more important. You see, they send truly brilliant experts down from London for each session—ministers, scientists, economists and the like. The expert opens the session with an hour-long extemporaneous address. And then the Warden of Wilton Park, Dr. H. Koeppler, who is kind of our den mother, invites us to ask the expert questions. And while our Warden is not only a highly intelligent but very kindly man, he dearly loves us to ask questions. Or else.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The news could be more exciting. But, in its way, it is interesting.

ON THE strategic Berlin freeway (which the Germans call an autobahn) the Russians stopped another of our Berlin-bound convoys.

They claim they have the right, whenever they choose to exercise it, to order U. S. troops to get out of the trucks and line up along the highway to be counted.

Our story is that it is OUR SIDE that has the right to determine under what circumstances we will order our troops to get out and be counted.

WHAT'S it all about? It's a good guess that the Russians are TESTING US OUT to see how far it is safe to go in the way of stirring up another Berlin ruckus.

If they think they have us scared, there will be no limit to how far they will go.

THERE'S a new water diversion program in the wind. The general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is urging construction of a 519-mile aqueduct to tap "surplus" water in the Snake river, a tributary of the Columbia. The water would be taken out of the Snake at a point 20 miles northwest of Twin Falls, Idaho, and would be carried southward to Lake Mead, near Las Vegas, Nevada, and dumped into the Colorado, whence it would be delivered to Southern California.

He claims the water from Idaho could be delivered to Southern California for approximately \$32 an acre-foot, where-