... 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.

Veterans Day

To the Editor: Veterans Day, Nov. 11, is more than a day set aside to honor men and women who served their country in time of war. Citizens everywhere will join with the 22 million living veterans in rededicating themselves to preserve the blessings of peace for which America has fought, and, although in many circles these days it is thought to be corny to have patriotic thoughts, this is one of the times, corny or not, that we should all show a little pride.

On this 45th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War One's hostilities, we of that war marvel that so many people do not think of the day as having any significance. To veterans of the war that occurred in those long past years, because of the title change to Veterans Day, there is nothing left but our memories, and the veteran of World War One has to withdraw to himself, to trot out the image of Kaiser Bill, Hindenburg, Ludendorf, etc. They were so important then that who would think their imprint on so many millions would become so dim as it is today?

Much was accomplished by that little fracas called World War One, although the World was not made "safe for Democracy" as the aim and purpose was declared. But a turning point in our thoughts came with our victory on that at Nov. 11 morning when the guns were hushed on the battlefields of France.

To change the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day seems appropriate, because the old name was a misnomer. Peace was never realized on a world wide scale from that day to this, but the fact remains that Nov. 11 is, or should be, a day of commemoration of the bravery and sacrifice of many young Americans of the Fracas of 1917 and 1918. The suffering was just as intense then as it was on any battlefield, before or since.

Pat Graham, Commander
District No. 7
Veterans of World War I
Medford

Through the Kaleidoscope

To the Editor: Those of us who have reached the age of threescore - and - ten have welcomed and taken part in many changes; but today, when we look through the kaleidoscope and see so many grotesque ethical patterns, we wonder what the world is coming to!

In our day, juvenile delinquency was unknown; regular chores tended to keep us out of mischief and free from the the costly acts of vandalism now prevalent.

As for our health, we didn't need fads to keep us in trim. "Jogging" was well taken care of — on the farm by following the plow and in the city by working a newspaper or other route. No psychiatrists were required — father took care of our mental problems in the woodshed!

Nor did we go in for beauty contests to titillate our jaded senses. A girl's beauty of character was more prized than her symmetry of face and form. The title "Mrs. Homemaker" was what every young woman sought — "Miss Universe" would have been meaningless. And certainly we never wasted our talents on such idiotic contests as the one recently reported from North Carolina: "Watermelon Seed Spit Mark Broken!"

What a complex and chaotic world our children and grandchildren have inherited! Morals are lagging far behind scientific knowledge; half the world is trying to "stop" something which the other half wants to do or believe in; and governments are urging their people to be honest citizens while they themselves are plagued with "conflict of interest" and other scandals, threats of war, and even undeclared wars.

And is it any wonder that today's youth are resentful when they find they were rushed into a good education, only to be informed later that millions of them will never be able to obtain jobs? As one government official put it: "Teen-age employment could develop into one of the most explosive social problems in the nation's history." In spite of this warning, Congress is still dragging its feet in passing public-works legislation to forestall such a catastrophe.

It would seem that about the only "job" a young man of today can be sure of getting is a "hitch" in the armed forces. And even there he may not be needed, for we have already been assured that our atomic arsenal can destroy all possible enemies by just pushing a few buttons!

George M. Babcock
Route 2, Box 63-B
Jacksonville, Ore.

Our Business

To the Editor: Re the letter of Mr. Gascon, M.T. 10/30/63. I do not disagree with what you have said, but it does prompt a question or two. How may the legislators ascertain just what the voters want in advance?

For many years it has been my conviction that our political system is about as hodge-podge as possible, and I marvel that we do as well as we do. The legislator gets very little guidance until things come to such a pass as they did by this latest tax law.

I don't believe that even 10 per cent of the voters tell a legislator, in advance, what they expect of their lawmakers. It is true that the candidate expresses his own views by means of posters, radio, T.V. and newspapers. He speaks before open meetings where only a small portion of voters take time to attend and then the only guidance he gets is the applause or the lack of it.

The number that ever write to their representatives, I will wager, is pitifully small, and when they do write their views are so divergent as to form no pattern. Most of us who do cast a vote seem to think we have done our duty. We have but only part of it. The representative is left to assume what is expected of them.

How will he know? Another question, why don't we form some sort of a club or at least have get-togethers of the individual voters and prepare a report of what the majority wants? In Government, we have the greatest gift man can have, a voice in his own destiny. It will be just as good or bad as we make it.

Too many take too little interest in politics until our toes are stepped upon, then great expense is incurred to correct the situation, when in reality politics is most vital to all of us.

I am not trying to remove all the blame for the latest boo-boo but I would like to be fair and to encourage better handling of public affairs.

Government business is your business and mine. Let's tend to it as we would any other business.

C. R. Burrill,
834½ Cherry St.,
Central Point, Ore.

Railroad Gates

To the Editor: The picture on the center of the front page of the Mail Tribune, Nov. 7, has brought a question to my mind as I'm sure it has to many other citizens. As long as we have to tolerate a railroad through our lovely city, why can't we protect our citizens from such accidents by installing automatic gates? The gates would come down with reflectors on them so all drivers can see them plainly.

Medford tries in most every other way to help the drivers' safety. So why not prevent such accidents by making sure the motorist sees the railroad cars and signal, and install a gate in front of him?

Mrs. L. J. Rentz,
317 Lynnwood Ave.,
Medford

Taxes Vs. Church

To the Editor: Your article in M.T., Nov. 3, is very well placed and should give us all a chance for some serious thinking on our spiritual world. I myself have reached beyond the age of earning power and have to be satisfied on the small amount of Social Secutity I receive, but my taxes on my home, which is 15 years old, raised $85 last year and $40.09 this year. Where will it end? Church taxes might help us.

History is repeating itself. Look in the history of dark ages and see how the church seized properties tax free.

I think it would be a good idea for those who are supporting the church to read the article in Readers' Digest, November, 1961 (Should churches be exempt from business taxes?).

Also it would be very helpful if we would search the scriptures for a little more of the truth which I will give you here.

Born again, laying on hands, speaking in tongues, rapture of the Church, chosen remnant, coming of Christ, anti - Christ coming soon, message going around the world, false Christ, Christ's Kingdom on the earth, saved by grace which was given to the Gentiles.

Who are we in the United States? If you hunt carefully you will find we are part of the ten lost tribes of Israel, and many others, but the most astonishing fact that will rock the spiritual world is that I would like for someone to point out in scriptures where we have to belong to some church and tithe in this period to be saved.

If you wish answers to these and any other biblical problem kindly write enclosing self addressed envelope.

No doubt you will wish something about our future and ending. One important fact I wish to state here is the present outcome with our difficulties with Russia. There will be two important wars first, we will participate in one before the final conflict with Russia. Yes, those that we have poured out our money to will turn on the hand that fed them. After reading this have you made a good investment in your spiritual world.

R. E. McManus
Route 1, Box 339
Gold Hill, Ore.

To End Wars

To the Editor:

O, I remember many slain so
young,
Mine eyes, all tears, scarce
tell that I am strong,
Flowers cropped untimely,
that now are stars in Heaven
Because of whom this bad
world is forgiven,
An host of saints, not least
our holiest pride,
Who adorned Ashland-town
and in Deutschland died,
Saint Robert of the lilies,
the good child,
All crystal, the wise rose, the
undefiled,
So white: O may we all, as
he, drink up
Christ's burning Wine out of
the precious Cup . . .
War, why?

Essentially, war is caused by economic rivalry. This rivalry is a certain product of the capitalist system as well as the Russian despotism because, under both systems, the workers receive in wages only a fraction of what they produce. Hence, they can buy back only a fraction. What the workers cannot buy back, and what the capitalists and bureaucrats cannot use up in extravagant living, or use in expanding industry, must be sold in foreign markets. This is the reason nations will do anything, even to the point of waging war, to preserve and extend their foreign markets, spheres of influence, and to obtain sources of raw materials.

So the society that exploits its working class is a society, or nation, that is heading for war.

Manifestly, prevention of war then requires the abolition of the exploitative society. That means the abolition of capitalism and the abolition of the Russian state despotism.

The workers of America have more than the necessary numbers to vote capitalism out and Socialism in as proposed by the Socialist Labor Party. We urge all workers to organize into an integral, mighty Socialist Industrial Union, with the goal of taking, holding and operating the industries for the benefit of all society.

In a Socialist society there would be no need for war because we would produce for use instead of for sale and capitalist profit. The Socialist society, resting on a basis of economic freedom, can be brought into being by the workers alone who have the interest and power to forever put an end to war.

Henry R. Korman
Box 541
Longview, Wash.

Church and State

To the Editor: President Kennedy promised that if elected he would observe the constitutional separation of church and state.

He has, as I suspected he would, broken his word.

Not only has he compromised on the question of church and state when it comes to church colleges, but he has permitted $15,783,164 worth of government land to be given or sold at a discount to Catholic institutions.

The total amount paid for this $15,783,164 worth of property was $319,014.

He appointed three Catholic men to be in charge of these give-aways. They are Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Anthony Celebrezze; ex-congresman Jim Quigley of Pennsylvania and General Services Administrator Bernad Boutin.

One of the most important discount give-aways of federal property was 22 choice acres, part of Mitchell Field, L. I., deeded to Cardinal Spellman's archdiocese for a parochial school and convent. The property, valued at $540,999, was sold to the church at a 70 per cent discount.

The New York regional director of H.E.W. who handled this was Joseph B. O'Connor, also a Catholic.

The public school district of East Meadow applied for part of the Mitchell Field acreage, as did Nassau County, which wanted the land for a community center.

However, G.S.A. Administrator Boutin declared the land in excess to military needs, turned it over to Secretary Celebrezze, who acted on the recommendation of Regional Director O'Connor and alloted the coveted 22 acres to Cardinal Spellman's archdiocese for school and convent.

I sincerely hope the Kennedy dictatorship is not so thoroughly entrenched in this country that we will not be able to tear it out and also every one of its blood sucking roots.

Leila Morrow
531 N. Bartlett St.
Medford

Reptiles and Mice

To the Editor: Regarding a recent article in your paper about rattlesnakes, I would like to put in my little bit. Reptiles, lizards, and mice — maybe we could start a bigger argument.

I was born and raised in Oregon Rogue River territory. There we had six different kinds of snakes and it seems to me I was told by my folks that some kinds of snakes bear young, while other types lay eggs and hatch their young, so I would assume the rattlesnake would bear its young and not likely take its young into its mouth for protection, more or less on account of the poisonous fangs in its mouth.

However, when I was a small boy about 11 years old, I was playing in my grandfather's placer mine one summer day, walking up the sluice race which was lined with rock walls on either side. I was looking for a little gold the old folks might have missed and as I came around a bend I came right close to a rather large garter snake, and it made a kind of a little hiss and opened its mouth wide and three or four little tiny snakes about three inches long ran right into her mouth and she disappeared into the rock pile. Now, I actually saw this happen. I assume the little ones turned around and their heads were in or near the mother's mouth, and as soon as she got them out of danger, they smugly crawled back out.

Now encyclopedias or not, I think there are some things wrong in them. Those little dark lizards, and I imagine several other types, lay eggs and hatch their young. The eggs of the little fence lizard look quite like a small jelly bean and are white, and curved. And now, I have also discovered a rare mouse that I have never been able to find listed in the encyclopedia. I have seen four of these mice in my travels in a period of 63 years. I saw one near Grants Pass, Ore., in 1900. And one in the upper regions of the Trinity River in 1941, and two on the north side near the top of the Siskiyou mountains in 1932. Their habits are about the same as the muskrat and beaver. They live in and around the water and swampy places and go under the water and dig into the bank and up to above the water line, where they make their nests just like a muskrat does, and they look so much like an ordinary house mouse for size and color that I suppose most people that have seen one just considers it a house mouse and paid no attention to it, so I suppose it has never been listed.

Jim Cook, the bugologist.
P.O. Box 123,
Marysville, Calif.

Claptrap & Flapdoodle

To the Editor: Anna M. Streed accused you (11/7) of having "made many false statements" in your recent editorial on "Birchers and Believability." About the kind of response to be expected from Birchers or other extremists of the right. These people always cry "false" or "unfair" whenever anyone exposes the claptrap, flapdoodle, and sometimes plain lies, peddled by their mentors—Hargis, Schwarz, Smoot, Welch, and others of their ilk.

Miss Streed's diatribe can evoke only pity for her misguided zeal. What constantly amazes me is that she and others like her are so gullible that they accept as gospel the nonsense preached by these hatemongers and prophets of doom, without ever subjecting their preachments to critical analysis as to their historic authenticity or truthfulness.

Her latest screed consisted mostly of an attack upon General Eisenhower. To impugn his patriotism on the basis of the "facts" she cited is just too ridiculous for anyone to take seriously. However, if only to confirm the complete unreliability of her sources, I wish to give but one illustration. She asserted that in a deal with Stalin, Eisenhower "returned all refugees in Western Europe to the land of their origin," thereby consigning "2,000,000 men, women and children . . . to torment, slave labor camps and death" in Russia; and that "thousands of these men had fought in our armies." Incredible falsehoods!

In the first place, dealings with Stalin could have been made only on higher, civilian levels — and no such deals were ever made. On the contrary, upon our government's insistence, no displaced persons were to be repatriated against their will; and most certainly, none who might have served in our armies (and I know of none such). Moreover, we had relatively few DPs of Russian origin in the U.S. Zone of Germany; most were from other countries.

I can testify to these facts from first-hand knowledge. As District Secretary for YMCA-YWCA Service to Displaced Persons in the U.S. Zone, and in that capacity also an official of UNRRA, I had occasion to prevent several forced repatriations of DPs to Poland, attempted by erring young U.S. Army officers. I quote from my official report to my headquarters, dated 11/25/45:

"(These attempts) were clearly out of line with American policy announced a few weeks ago by General Eisenhower, both in letter and in spirit."

Arnold Eugene Jenny,
Rogue Valley Manor,
Medford

No God, No Satan

To the Editor: Henry Johnson Jr. wonders how thinking individuals can deny the existence of God and also say there is no devil. The answer is simple. It's because they ARE thinking individuals. Contrary to the belief of so many people that the "proofs" for the existence of God are "so evident everywhere," the facts are the exact opposite.

Science and reason and human experience combine to prove that no supernatural power exists to which the name "God" could properly be applied. The physicist has demonstrated that matter - energy, the basic substance of all natural objects and processes, is indestructible; and that which cannot be destroyed could not have been created. It is therefore both illogical and absurd to assume that the universe had a maker.

This holds true, not only of the belief in a God that is omnipresent and "impersonal," but also the belief in a God that is omnipresent and also "personal." That is to say, the belief in an intelligence without a body that sees without eyes, hears without ears, and thinks without a brain. The "supreme ruler" of the universe is nature. Every effect is the result of some natural cause, and the same conditions will always produce exactly the same effects.

Some call attention to the so-called order of the universe — beauty, love, etc. — as evidence of a Creator. This is a delusion. That which holds the planets in their orbits and establishes what appears to be perfect order, is not the power of a God, but the power inherent in the sun and the planets themselves through the natural forces we know to be gravitation and centrifugal action. These forces exist only because the planets they affect exist. There is no attraction without something to attract and to be attracted, proving that such powers are inherent in the objects themselves and do not exist outside of them.

As for the supposed existence of an evil entity called "Satan, the devil," no thinking individual could for one moment subscribe to such an utterly nonsensical belief. The fact of the matter is that a thinker is never a believer, and a believer is never a thinker. Therefore, it would be a waste of time to try to cure Mr. Johnson of his many delusions as expressed in his letter. But I can't help wondering when he speaks of the Bible "with all its truths" whether he ever really read it.

Lydia Burnham
814 Warne St.
Prescott, Ariz.

Irish Patriot

To the Editor: During the school year of 1961-1962, I taught at the Medford Senior High School and during that time I spoke to a number of service clubs and organizations of citizens in the bonnie Rogue River Valley. In a number of my speeches, I referred to an Irish convict who escaped from Tasmania to the U.S.A. and who eventually became a state governor. However at that time I was unable to document this strange story and I should like to supply details for your readers.

The convict in question was an Irishman named Thomas Francis Meagher, M.P., who had been elected to represent Waterford in the House of Commons at Westminster. Nevertheless, Mr. Meagher was an Irish patriot and his patriotic activities led to his being arraigned for high treason at Tipperary in the year 1848. Mr. Meagher was sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered, which sentence was eventually commuted to transportation for life in Tasmania. In the year 1851, Meagher escaped from Tasmania in an American ship named the "Elizabeth Thompson," which ship took him to New York, where he received an enthusiastic welcome from the Irish community in that city. Mr. Meagher next proceeded on a lecture tour of the U.S.A., the profits of which were applied to the study of law, which he successfully practiced for some years. On the outbreak of the American Civil War, he played an active part in the formation of an Irish brigade. Leading this brigade, he attained the rank of Brigadier-General, serving with distinction at the battles of Malvern Hill and Antietam on behalf of the Union cause.

At the close of the Civil War, President Andrew Johnson appointed General Meagher to the post of Secretary of the Territory of Montana as a reward for his services in the Civil War. Since the Governor was absent, Mr. Meagher automatically became Governor of Montana and as such he organized a militia in order to resist the Indians. He was very active in the purchase and delivery of arms to the Montana militia.

His death did not seem to match the heroic character of his life. On a visit to Fort Benton in the year 1867, he lived aboard a riverboat. Late one evening he emerged from his cabin and tripped over a coil of rope. He was thrown against a deck rail which collapsed under his weight. Governor Meagher fell into the flooded river and disappeared.

I hope this information may be of interest to your readers.

E. R. A. Miller
Frankston Teachers' College, Cnr. McMahons and Hastings Roads,
Frankston, Victoria,
Australia.

Poets' Corner

Conducted by

Arnold Eugene Jenny

Who Writes Poetry?

Poetry is not written by sentimental old ladies (or young ones) oozing self-expression, but by sensitively alive, clear-headed, technically skilled craftsmen who write poems because it is their way of experiencing life. . . . One thing is certain—one will never write a poem by determining to do so. This merely ties in knots what must be relaxed and free. — Jean Burden, in August 1963 "Author & Journalist."

—◇—

Delight in Disorder

A sweet disorder in the dress
Kindles in clothes a wantonness:
A lawn about the shoulders thrown
Into a fine distraction,
An erring lace, which here and there
Enthrals the crimson stomacher,
A cuff neglectful, and thereby
Ribbands to flow confusedly,
A winning wave (deserving note)
In the tempestuous petticoat,
A careless shoe-string, in whose tie
I see a wild civility,
Do more bewitch me, than when art
Is too precise in every part.
— Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

—◇—

Metamorphosis

I saw a bud with petals pink
Unfold with stately grace and drink
The sun and dew and sparkling air
That washed across its petals fair.
With subtle power beyond the ken
Of stupid, boasting finite men,
The bud did lure and garner up
Within its coral tinted cup
The nectar'd sweets of summer days,
Of wind and dew and solar rays.
When summer days were done and o'er,
I came but found the bud no more;
Where it had been, I found instead
A luscious apple, sweet and red.
—Frank Roberts
Medford

—◇—

For a Birthday

Do you remember how we used to play
"Fairies and magic" on the patchwork spread,
And from the colored square create a world
Of castles, feasts and costumes for us all?
We used whatever patches came to hand,
Light shades or somber, gay designs or plain;
There was no thought of "Trade you mine for yours,"
Each share of that small quilt was fixed and set.

Since we have grown into a larger world
And Life has brought its patches gray or bright,
You've made good use of those which came to you,
Lightened the dark and shared with us the fair.
Now take the year's reward—be gay—
Accept these words of love and praise today.
—Amy M. Rehmus
Palo Alto, Calif.

—◇—

Studio of Shade and Light

Only God's majestic brushing —
Studio of shade and light —
Paints for all suspended pictures
Unframed blue and wafting white.

Only He towers floating cities:
Bright, celestial of plan,
They are soundless as His footfall
Passing over head of man.
—Vesta Wells Gustafson
Portland, Ore.

3 DAY HOLIDAY IN PORTLAND

SAVE THIS COUPON

3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS for 2 people

ALL FOR $11.50 Mail Coupon Today for Reservation

See Hockey or Basketball Games
See Big Shows
Enjoy Shopping

• Swim in the sky
• Free sauna baths
• Free garage...phone
• No tipping for luggage

THE PARK HAVILAND
A MOTORIST'S HOTEL
S.W. Park at Salmon in Portland

Enjoy the swimming pool in the sky... sun deck... Top of the Park Dining and refreshments... the beautiful Aloha Room with music for dancing (no cover charge)... the Finnish Sauna ... all in the theatre district, just 100 feet west of the new Hilton. Phone 226-7831.

Mail or Phone for Reservations. Valid thru April '64

MARIANNE MUENTSCHNER

the German alpiniste, wore her diamond wrist watch when she conquered Katmandu.

Marilyn Murphy got hers when she conquered William Schultze.

Is there any gift more suitable for a *really* special event?

All over America girls (and their young men) are falling in love.

Zale's has a perfect diamond design watch for every one of them. *And,* at a suitable price.

William only paid $99.00 for Marilyn's. There are others from $29.95 to $995.00.

He used Zale's convenient credit terms, too.

Why don't *you?*

Twelve shimmering diamonds enhance 14K gold case, precision 17-jewel Elgin. $99 plus tax

Illustration enlarged to show detail

Park Shop ZALE'S JEWELERS
218 East Main Ph. 779-1331

SEARS ROEBUCK AND CO.

Our Greatest Portrait Offer!

6 Days Only

November 11 thru 16 only

"Duette" Portraits are taken at Sears by nationally advertised Pictureland® . . . specialists in photographing children . . .

COMMENDED by PARENTS' MAGAZINE AS ADVERTISED THEREIN

10"x8" Bust *Duette* Portrait

6 beautiful camera studies are taken of your child. From the 2 best poses of your choice, we will make you a lovely bust Duette Portrait as shown above...unmounted, suitable for framing. You get all this for only . . . 99¢ PLUS 50¢ handling, wrapping, insurance

Photographs taken of babies of 5 weeks up to children 12 years old. No appointment necessary. Limit: 1 Duette Portrait per child, 2 per family. Children's group pictures taken at 99¢ per child. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

SEARS
Satisfaction Guaranteed or Your Money Back

IN THE MEDFORD SHOPPING CENTER
Open Mon. & Fri. till 9 p.m.