

...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.

God's Temples
To the Editor: The other evening I read that Jackson County had received so many dollars as its quarterly kickback from liquor revenue. At the time I wondered what Jackson County's cost was for taking care of liquor problems? How many broken homes, liquor caused, have individuals on public welfare rolls. Frankly I believe the individual who causes the trouble should be made to pay.

The attitude now is, if a fellow is ignorant enough to get drunk it's his own hard luck. Yet if some cunning male seducer lured a local underage girl into his clutches and mangled her, you'd see the ire of the local population at a fever pitch until he was apprehended and justice was meted out.

Yet we foster, pamper and coddle the greatest killer of all time. Supermarkets display the poison as if it were perfectly all right. Radio and T.V. extol its merits and newspapers help the propaganda along.

Yet with some professed church members condoning liquor and tobacco, how can one expect much less?

Francis Soper, editor of Listen Magazine, recently visited with high Indian officials. He personally told me that in India we Americans have a very poor name. Students from India return from American colleges with the drinking and smoking habit. So Indian officials now believe that this is what Christianity is doing for their people. What a blot to place on us. Yet can we blame them?

Recently I wrote to a group of high churchmen. In my letter I deplored the drinking and smoking practice among their own clergymen. You know what sort of reply I received? In a free American society it was fantastic. They thought that I was a member of their organization who had gone overboard. I was told not to read material other than "my own church" and "there is nothing wrong" with my pastor's smoking habit.

I do not say this with boasting but the pastors of the church attend to not smoke and do not drink intoxicants. We believe that our Lord is soon to return and that in order to be ready

we must keep our bodies clean. Our bodies are God's temples. Henry Johnson Jr. 2315 Highway 66 Ashland, Ore.

Slaves To Hate
To the Editor: How can we hold an entire country responsible for the sinful act of one man? By realizing that the entire country, the nation as a whole is guilty!

We are guilty of allowing hate to run rampant in our land. We have hated the Jews, snubbed them in every social order from the gutters to the country clubs; hated the Catholics, made them objects of fear and distrust; hated the Negroes, kept them bound in corners of illiteracy, poverty and shame; hated the right wing; hated the left wing; hated the middle-of-the-road people; hated the law-breakers and the law makers; hated the Christian and the atheist.

In this land, born of the love of freedom, we have allowed ourselves to become slaves to hate.

Yes! We as a nation are guilty of the crime of one man and we shall pay the penalty as a nation. Confusion, corruption, loss of our "public image" and loss of confidence in us by our allies may be our payment.

Each of us will privately pay through the pangs of conscience and the deep sense of hurt and loss we feel whenever we think of the death of a brilliant, vital, young man who led our country as he felt it should go.

Mrs. D. L. Bandy 2417 Springbrook Ave. Medford.

Ludicrous To The Gods
To the Editor: Of the "forest of question marks" left by the assassination of President Kennedy (term first used by the newspaper "Die Welt" in West Germany), perhaps the greatest is the gangster "Ruby" Rubenstein, who said he "killed him" (Oswald) because he "did not want Jacqueline Kennedy to have to come back to Dallas to testify." Of the women bereaved by the triple tragedy of Shakespearean dimensions, perhaps the most pitiable is the Russian widow, Marina.

This terrible event cannot but hasten the denouncement that became inevitable when this country twice chose the wrong path — first after President Wilson with his program for world peace through goodwill and disarmament and his "New Economic Freedom," and the second time after President Franklin Roosevelt who fostered and strived for the same peace and the more fair distribution of wealth and labor.

Perhaps should be mentioned an earlier mistake, which occurred after President Lincoln when the government decided on a course punitive and exploitive against the South for causing the Civil War. Lincoln's plans and ideas for reconstruction were never known, nor put into execution, the history books say. The Negro was never given a chance to develop his own civilization and adjust to the world, after his shame of slavery.

Now we have another assassination, very evidently from an unbiased point of view for the same reason as the murder of Lincoln.

If the man Oswald was guilty or not, the tragedy is as great, and both murdered men and the policeman, are martyrs. A grotesque hero is the gangster, peddler of vice and delinquency; a fact so significant it cannot be overlooked by anyone who has regained his senses, nor by any historian of the future.

President Wilson lies in broken-hearted disgrace in his grave. President Roosevelt's program was ditched with the coming of World War Two. And President Lincoln is a hero of

superstitious proportions whose ideas in regard to integration were once published, in his own words, in this column by this writer. Now another President has been martyred, who was caught in a welter of conflicting interests and ideologies, which clash flamed briefly into the flashing of three guns of descending calibre, till there were three crosses where there had been three vibrant men — a leader — a reformer — and a man sworn to perform his duty. And three widows mourn, while the world wonders.

But the tragedies of men are ludicrous to the gods at whom men stand in awe at such moments, for by their erring they bring them upon themselves.

Ralph McKinnis P.O. Box 321 Ashland, Ore.

Peace With Love
To the Editor: When I listened to President John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech over the T.V. and he mentioned a part of the beautiful piece of Scripture recorded in Isaiah 58:6 to end of Chapter 1, I felt he was going to be a President that would follow in the footsteps of our beloved President Abraham Lincoln, who always recognized God in his mission on earth to liberate the Negro slaves and to bind our nation together.

Who can say they were not sent to earth like Jesus had been, who had created this earth with His Father for us so that we could come here and learn to choose the good from the evil, and so that we could also progress and become perfect as our Saviour told His Disciples shortly before he departed from them?

President Kennedy was to have used in his last speech, from Psalms 127, "Except the Lord build the House they labor in vain that build it," etc.

Why cannot America find its soul again, as in the time when we were small and weak and a prey for other nations and we caused to be stamped on our coins "In God We Trust," and the Great Seal on our folding money (the Pyramid)?

God sent Jeremiah to earth and ordained him a Prophet to the nations before he was born in Israel's time and Jesus was sent to earth in the meridian of time to set up his church and kingdom with its officers, priesthood, ordinances and laws.

Who can say God did not send Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy to earth now in our time to prepare the way for the Lord's prediction to his Disciples the Gospel of His Kingdom would again be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations and then the end of wickedness would come?

If Jesus had not sealed his mission upon the earth with the most terrible death that human being could invent by the spirit of the devil, would not his church and teachings have been mostly forgotten by this time?

By the untimely deaths of Presidents Lincoln and Kennedy, their missions on earth will long remain with us. The world is slowly moving toward the time when peace and love will reign upon the earth.

John F. Holly St. 611 S. Holly St. Medford.

National Heart Picture Called Discouraging
SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — If your father died of a heart attack and if you smoke quite a bit and drink a lot of coffee, the chances are a heart attack will fell you.

That grim prediction was made recently at a heart symposium here by Dr. Oglesby Paul, chief of the division of medicine at Passavant Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He called the national heart picture "discouraging."

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