

**THE MILL CITY ENTERPRISE**  
 P. O. Box 348 Phone 897-2772 Mill City, Ore. 97360  
 Published at Mill City, Marion County, Ore. every Thursday  
 Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Postoffice at Mill City, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.  
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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article, given to us originally by Jim Alexander, a printer from California, appeared in the August 3 issue of The Enterprise. We reprint it here for your convenience.)**

**ENOUGH IS ENOUGH**

I am one of the Establishment.  
 I work and I am proud of it.  
 I pay taxes to provide hospitals for the Hippies with hepatitis, potheads with overdoses, and free lovers with social diseases.  
 I pay taxes to provide schools for sit-ins, books for burning, rallying points for off-campus riots, and study courses in anarchism.  
 I pay taxes to provide welfare payments for bums who don't think work is dignified, but that poverty should be, and bonuses for fertility outside of wedlock.  
 I respect the law because I know of no alternate.  
 I bathe regularly.  
 I walk proudly under my flag, not all over it.  
 I believe in resolution, not revolution.  
 I want a better world that is constructive, not a bitter world that is destructive.  
 I am tired of filthy hair, filthy bodies, filthy words and Love People.  
 I am slow to anger, but soon those of us who believe in our country are going to keep America beautiful by flushing the pothead protesters down the gutters of their own minds.

Dear Mr. Moffatt:  
 As you were kind enough to print Mr. Alexander's article, please print my "letter to the Editor." As I feel very strongly about what I wrote, please print my article completely unabridged and unedited. In a country which prizes above all freedom of the press and speech, I feel that my article has the right to be heard and read in Mill City. Perhaps, hopefully it may even draw more comment than Mr. Alexander's slightly narrow story.  
 If you cannot print my article in its entirety please return it immediately, as I will submit it to the "Statesman," "Oregonian," or "Corvallis Gazette Times", in hope that someone will give my views equal attention.

Respectfully,  
 Kathleen (Rose) Eisele

To the Editor:  
 I am writing in regard to the article, "Enough is Enough" by Jim Alexander, printed in the August 3rd issue of the "Mill City Enterprise."

Nonsense!! For someone who claims to respect his country and desires to see it kept beautiful, Mr. Alexander is doing more harm and degrading his country more than he could ever imagine by furthering his own selfish hatreds and narrow-minded bigotry. It is people like Mr. Alexander who perpetuate a terrifying fear in America, through their unfounded degenerate rumors.  
 I will quote entirely in context, excerpts from Mr. Alexander's article and comment.

Mr. Alexander states that, "I am one of the Establishment. I work and I am proud of it." All the people in America comprise the "establishment" Mr. Alexander. And in case no one has informed you yet, the unemployment rate in America is 8% and rising, which means there are thousands of people in this country just "dying" for your job who would be proud to sweep floors for 50 cents an hour, just to keep their families alive. For many Americans there are no such jobs, so don't be so falsely proud of yourself.

To further quote Mr. Alexander: "I pay taxes to provide hospitals for the hippies with hepatitis, potheads with psychic episodes, pillheads with overdoses, and free lovers with social diseases."

Mr. Alexander I pay taxes also, and I am proud that my money saves the lives of young, old, poor, rich, black, white, republican, or democrat. Do you feel you have a right to say who should receive medical treatment and live or who should not and die? Who are you to judge the worth of a human life?

Obviously Mr. Alexander you do not know what you are talking about in your paragraph. First of all there are many forms of hepatitis, contracted in hundreds of ways. Did you know that yes, even you Mr. Alexander could catch it by merely talking with another person? Also check your statistics sir, and you will find

just as many incidences of hepatitis among American military, as among people you choose to label "Hippies."

As far as potheads go, marijuana smoking is nearly as wide spread among the middle to upper-class middle aged American adults as it is among high school and other aged groups. For someone who is berating pot; how convenient you should leave out alcohol—the No. 1 killer on our roads today. Social drinking is no joke, it's a deadly disease which in some way affects every American family.

Now I assume Mr. Alexander, that your statement "pillheads with overdoses" is referring to hippies again. Use of pills, or barbiturates, is more widespread among the average American adult. How often do you hear your friends casually complain that they can't sleep and need a sleeping pill (and that's not aspirin, brother), or are too tense and upset and need a tranquilizer, or need that little drink after work or before bed? And what about children who die or are poisoned from overdoses of candied aspirin or candy-coated, animal shaped vitamins, which our legal drug manufacturers place on the market to entice higher profits. And just who do you think sees all this and accepts it as the right thing to do? Your children, that's who. So guess who sets the examples Mr. Alexander.

Now as far as "free lovers" (here I will assume you mean venereal diseases). Venereal disease is in epidemic proportion in America today among all age groups, but highest in occurrence among military personnel, high school and junior high level children, who by the way didn't all catch it from "free lovers." (I assume you are including middle-class adult wife-swappers in that term.)

Most of today's generation grew up on old wives' tales, and got various kinds of trouble, because their parents were too frightened and uptight to instigate a little sex education in our schools. Did you know that most young girls with unwanted pregnancies, when questioned thought they were to young to get pregnant? If parents are embarrassed to tell their children the facts of life, then our schools must. Proper sex education at an early age could eliminate many unwanted pregnancies and greatly curb venereal disease.

If America would take the needless terrifying dark-age stigma off venereal disease, and treat it as just what it is, a curable infectious disease; more people would voluntarily be willing to accept treatment in the disease's earlier stages. We can eradicate venereal disease in a few years Mr. Alexander, if people would stop perpetuating ignorant fears and myths and take time to look at the facts.

To quote more "wisdom" from your August 3rd article, "I pay taxes to provide schools rallying points for off-campus riots, books for burning, riots, and study courses in anarchism."

Mr. Alexander I feel deeply sorry for you if you think that a school is of no real value or put to no better use, than for a sit-in, which incidentally became passe as a form of protest two years ago. Also you do not pay taxes for college or vocational books; the student pays the entire amount of books and supplies today. You sound more like an honest to goodness book-burner than any students I've ever known. As far as rallying points for off-campus riots, when meeting off-campus for discussion or our constitutional right of assembly, most groups meet on some form of private property; and you're more of a schnook than I thought you were, if you pay someone else's private property taxes! Unless of course there happened to be a "riot" in Crescent City, California on some public property, supported by your tax dollars. By the way not all riots are student caused—and it takes two opposing groups to tangle.

As far as anarchism goes, that is sheer ignorance! When people speak of anarchism in our present college curricula, I would be most curious to know when the last time was that they actually took any sort of educational course, and from where their information comes. If you think the study of American history, sociology, or politics is anarchism then I feel sorry for America. It is only from our mistakes and inadequacies that we shall learn

**Many Attend Gates School Reunion**

GATES—Close to 50 people attended the 14th annual school reunion at the old Gates high school building on Sunday, August 20. They started gathering at noon and from then on the gentle buzzing of a few voices gained momentum until it reached a

point where you feel. You elected that man, it is your responsibility to see that he listens to you, the people.

To go on you remarked, "I want a better world that is constructive, not a bitter world that is destructive."

Whether you like it or not you helped make this world what it is today, bitter and destructive. America and Russia are fighting a cruel and useless war in Indochina. Ireland is in heated battle over religion with Britain. The Arabs and Israel are at each other's throats. I could go on but my point is made. If you want a better world; what have you done to issue it in? Nothing, but pass on your, and people like yours, narrow minded hatreds, fears, and rumors. You make America unable to heal its wide and various wounds by declaring that you shall miraculously determine who is fit to be an American. Each one of you reading this, what little bit of kindness or understanding did you pass on today to your fellow man to make this country a better place to live in? If you can not think of anything, then wake up and realize it's not the hippies, the radicals, left wingers, or the foreigners who are making America unfit to live in; it's you and I.

To top your article off you mentioned, "I am tired of filthy hair, filthy bodies, filthy words and Love People." This statement is almost too unbelievable to comment on. Filth is in the eye of the beholder, Mr. Alexander. Is the dirt on a logger any cleaner than the dirt of a long haired young man who has just worked in his garden or himself just came home from a day in the woods? As far as words go, you can read filth into any word you wish to if you set your mind to it. As a matter of fact an article like yours is pure filth to me and many other Oregonians.

I would be curious to know what "Love People" means to you, sir. I have met some very beautiful people of all ages who are making a positive effort to make this country a better place for you and me to live in, and a cleaner land to raise our children in. Give us all a chance, those of us who wish to help this country. Don't be so quick to prejudice on appearance and rumors only. After all there can be some good and love in each of us. Freedom in America represents not just freedom of religion, but also freedom of dress, thought, and freedom to be the person we want to be.

To include your story you said, "I am slow to anger, but soon those of us who believe in our country are going to keep America beautiful by flushing the pothead protesters down the gutters of their own minds."

Since when is protesting against bigotry, pollution, inequality in taxation, and poverty un-American? Was this country not founded to protect the lives, property, freedom, and equality of each man, long or short hair, black or white, old or young. It is our constitutional right to gather in assembly and bring to the attention of our elected representatives, those laws and practices which are corrupt and unbalanced. It is sad indeed that all you can see preventing America from being beautiful are "the pothead protesters."

What of corruption in government and private agencies and elected officials, what of corruption in our unions and their officials with prejudiced and unfair labor policies. What of the pollution of our land, air and waters with all the sewage, beer cans, and other wastes needlessly and carelessly discarded by our middle class tourists.

The list could go on for days, but my point is made. When people young or old, long or short-haired, have the integrity and nerve to speak up about the wrongs in our nation today, listen to them. The cruellest most un-American thing you could do would be to crawl into a shell and refuse to listen to change or worse to silence our constitutional right of free speech by choosing who shall be allowed to speak and what we shall be allowed to say.

Respectfully,  
 Kathleen Eisele

about how you feel. You elected that man, it is your responsibility to see that he listens to you, the people.

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mild roar. Many age groups were represented but a shortage of members from the school years of the 1950's was noted.

Those attending were: Walt and Ruby Brisbin, Orval Hayward, Susie and Jackie Wilson, Clare and Norma Lee and Susan Henness, Louise Grafe Taylor of Lebanon, Herman Grafe, Portland, Glen and Lola Henness, Clyde Barney of Shaw, Ansel Hayward, his wife and grandson Al from Hubbard, Weaver Clark of Hillsboro, Mase Shearer of Stayton, Lou Kelle, Oscar and Richard Nystrom, Dave and Carmen Barnhardt and daughters, Edith Stafford, Verna Hunziker of Portland, Norman and Betty Carey of Albany, Don and Helen Carey of Stayton, Ruby Frichtl Joe Powell Miller, Wilbur and Betty Meinert of Waldport, Marion Klecker of Stayton, Ed Davis of Mill City, Winifred Kanoff and W. Ed Seamster of Salem and Betty Kelle.

After a huge potluck dinner was enjoyed by all it was time for pictures. Every one gathered on the front steps of the old high school for the event. The school has just been newly painted so looked exceptionally nice but the lettering at the top of the porch hadn't been repainted so this year's pictures will be a little different.

A business meeting was held with election of officers taking place. Herman Grafe was re-elected president for another year and Mabel Smith was elected secretary-treasurer to replace Ansel Hayward. Ansel will continue in capacity of historian. He is gathering all the information he can to put in book form. It is a slow job as it is hard to dig out a lot of the information he is seeking.

Being as next year will be the 50th anniversary of the high school building, a committee was appointed with Ed Davis, chairman, Lola Henness and Marian Klecker to help him. We want to make a really big celebration of next year and the committee is going to work towards this.

Wilbur Meinert of Waldport will have his name on the plaque for having come the greatest distance. Weaver Clark of Hillsboro was the oldest native born attending. He was born 80 years ago, come January, in a log house at the base of the hill across the highway. He lived in Gates until he was about 17 and attended school in the old school house that sat about where the high school is now.

Areal unexpected highlight of the afternoon was a movie, with sound, brought by Weaver Clark, taken in 1959 of the wagon train traveling from Independence, Mo. to Independence, Ore. There were about 28 of them made the trip and it took four months. In a question-answer period after the movie Weaver was asked how they picked those to go on the trip. His answer: "You had to take an IQ test, if you came high you stayed home and did something worthwhile—if you came out low you went with the wagon train." He said the group suffered many hardships with almost continual rain for the first five weeks. They averaged 12 to 25 miles per day depending on where they were to appear the next day.

The afternoon passed much too quickly, but everyone left with the thought of trying to make next year's gathering, which will be August 19, the biggest and best yet.

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