Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS, Editor — BILL JENKINS, Managing Editor

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BILL-BOARD

By BILL JENKINS

There has been a good deal of editorial interest in the recent fatal stabbing of a Klamath Falls boy at the state penitentiary. It will remain to be seen whether there is the same amount of public interest in the tragic affair.

It took violence to the point of death to lift the affair from the drab records of the courts and juvenile offices to the headlines. But now that the thing has happened an entirely new set of principles, morals and ethics are concerned.

The original crime for which the youth was sentenced has nothing to do with the present case. He was, admittedly, on the loose, living in a wild age, and lost his balance, got into serious trouble and landed in prison. That is in the past.

But that we should condone murder within prison walls is something else again. No amount of editorial writing on the subject will help. We realize that. So do all right thinking people.

But perhaps a few questions planted in the public mind could do something to prevent other youths from ending up in the same category.

Why was Harwood, a hardened criminal and known pervert, allowed to associate with young prisoners? Or vice-versa?

Why was it so easy for the killer to have a knife, or knives, hidden in his cell?

Why, if the board of prison officials had decided to transfer the youth to the Woodburn training school, was he sent to the prison in the first place?

Why is the public kept in a constant state of apathy regarding conditions in our penal institutions?

When will something be done?

Speaking for this paper I certainly don't propose to set myself, or the newspaper, up as an authority. But I do contend that there is a problem here which will bear looking into by public spirited persons everywhere.

As with everything else, finances are the root of the trouble. The real stumbling block. But the state has certainly spent funds on projects of less value than maintaining our penal institutions properly—and without public censure.

CAUGHT In The ROUNDS

By DEB ADDISON

It would be good if somebody were to take this and write it on the wall for whoever has his mit on the Johnson bar of the Taft "steam roller."

That's getting the cart before the horse, and here's what we're thinking. We're thinking back to the primary election and specifically to the contest between Sam Coon and Giles French for the Republican nomination for U.S. representative for this district.

Coon is a relative newcomer to politics; he's good looking and easy to meet and listen to; those who know him say that he's honest and capable.

French is a veteran of state political wars; he's a man who has said "no" with more reason and effectiveness and finality on more things than any other state legislator; he's blunt, and the women listening him on the radio said he sounded gruff and opinionated.

Coon got the votes.

We're also thinking of Monday night's contest between Ernie Taylor and Nelson Reed for election to the KUHS board.

Taylor is a complete newcomer even to local school politics; he's good looking and makes a fine public appearance; those who know him say that he is thoroughly responsible and is a very capable individual.

Reed is a veteran of local school politics; he's a man who has said "no" with more reason and effectiveness and finality than any other school board member; he's blunt and the women who have heard him on the radio say that he is gruff and opinionated.

Taylor got the votes.

We supported the two losers in these cases, but that's not the point. The point is that, if you want to pick a winner from two good men in a race, you'd better pick the man whom the teenagers would refer to as "smooth doggish" rather than the ornery old devil who has been saying for years that there ain't no Santy Claus.

The point is that people want a change. The veterans are tarred with a brush of "politics" and they're marked with the disappointments of the past.

The Republicans soon will nominate a candidate for president.

Robert Taft is a veteran of politics. There are some who still remember his father's clashes with the popular Teddy Roosevelt. Bob Taft is the man who has sounded the ineffective "no" of the minority party in congress. His role has had to be the negative one of leader of the opposition.

General Eisenhower is a complete newcomer to politics. He has a ready, wide grin that is infectuous. He has a record of great integrity and great administrative ability. And—get this, it's important—our beautiful switchboard operator says that on the radio Ike sounds just like Clark Gable!!

Our hope is that the backers of Taft and Eisenhower will not produce a rhubarb which will overshadow the general feeling for change on the grand scale.

Remember Kefauver.

Estes Kefauver is a relative newcomer to national politics. He was the brave knight at the head of senate committee investigating political corruption (like Truman, remember?)

And—get this, it's important—those who have seen and heard him, in person or on television, say that he's a wonderful blend of Jimmy Stewart and Lil Abner — the red-blooded American boy.

The fact that he's stated that his political beliefs are Fair Deal, same as Truman's, will make no difference when the voters go to the polls and vote with their hearts instead of their heads, as they always do.

Extortion Charge Dropped

PORTLAND (AP) — The charge that City Detective Micheal O'Leary tried to extort $10,000 from an accused abortionist, was dismissed here Tuesday.

O'Leary was accused of trying to get the money from Mrs. Ruth Barnett, a Portland naturopath, now under indictment on a charge of manslaughter by abortion.

Accused along with O'Leary was another city detective, William L. Brian, who won acquittal. Brian still must face trial on another extortion attempt charge.

They'll Do It Every Time — By Jimmy Hatlo

Hal Boyle

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. (AP) — After the man lies down and dies, his house stands and remembers.

Sometimes strangers take over the house, and the man who built it is forgotten.

It has been the other way with Ernie Pyle. Thousands of strangers have passed through the small refuge from his wanderings. But the more who come, the more Ernie Pyle is remembered.

Ernie at his death passed out of the stream of the world's news.

But he has never lost his peculiar hold on the American heart.

In death he still gives a feeling of quiet comfort to those who visit the little spot out of all the world he picked as his anchor against life's disaster.

He has a perfect memorial. His simple white clapboard cottage with the white picket fence around it — surely a tribute to his love of his Indiana upbringing — is now a city library.

It has ten thousand books. The garage that Ernie turned into a guest room is about to be converted into a children's reading room.

I think Ernie, who had a lot of trouble but no children to give him the trouble that rewards, would like that. In his own childhood he didn't have so nice a place to go and read.

Ernie and "that girl" — his wife, Jerry, — had slept in 800 hotels in six years and journeyed 250,000 miles when they chose to make a gypsy retreat here. One of the reasons was to give a shelter to the books they had gathered.

"We were like trees growing in the sky, without roots, Ernie wrote. "So we decided to acquire . . . a sort of home plate, that we could run to on occasion, and then run away from again."

Why did he choose Albuquerque as his traveler's rest? In a piece explaining why, he mentioned as another loved place, Honolulu, where he is buried among the doughboys whose death he shared. But in life he gave this explanation for settling here:

"Our front yard stretches as far as you can see, Mt. Taylor, 65 miles away, is like a framed picture in our front window."

He mentioned also the friendliness here, the vastness, the rabbits that came out every evening, the quail on his lawn every morning, the meadow larks across the unpaved road that said things like "your face is awfully pretty," and "here comes the preacher."

The rabbits, the quail, and the view are partly gone. They paved the street by his house, built new houses across the road that hide the far-away mountain except in winter.

But there are children across the way, and Ernie, I am sure, would prefer them to his mountain view.

Most of those who come to his former home today are children, eager for the dreams that books bring.

But also some 10,000 adult visitors have come to see the unpretentious home that Ernie built. It has little souvenirs of him — his sunglasses, a Jo Davidson bust of his likeness, the dust goggles he wore in Tunisia.

But for some inexplicable reason the thing that stirs visitors most is the old ten-gallon cowboy hat he wore around the country in the days before he knew war.

"Most of the visitors are either boys who served overseas with Ernie or the parents of soldiers," said the nice, freckle-faced librarian, Mrs. Marian Flynn.

"But they come from all over the world. And, I don't know why, it is the empty hat that affects them emotionally. They see it and start to cry. I never met Ernie in my life, but I feel like I know him."

Senate Group OKs Water Deal

WASHINGTON (AP)— The Senate Interior Committee Tuesday approved a House-passed measure authorizing seven Western states to negotiate a water compact.

The bill gives congressional consent to Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming to negotiate a compact for apportionment of waters of the Columbia River and its tributaries.

92 YEARS IN HOUSE

BROWNSVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A century-old house, built of logs hand-hewn by her father, has always been "home, sweet home" to Mrs. Laura Cornwell. For all of her 92 years, Mrs. Cornwell has lived in the house. She was born, reared and married there. And there she'll remain, she says, until she dies. "I always felt home was the place for me. I had rather be home than anywhere."

Harriman Lauds HST

TACOMA (AP)— Averell Harriman, making a bid for Washington's 22 votes at the Democratic national convention, said Tuesday night a continuation of President Truman's policies will bring this country strength and security.

The touring Democratic presidential aspirant made it clear to a capacity crowd of 600 at a Pierce County Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner that he aligns himself completely with Mr. Truman's domestic and foreign programs.

Harriman, the nation's mutual security director, said his party has a "phony majority in Congress of men masquerading as Democrats." He called for their ouster, along with Republicans opposed to the "Fair Deal" program.

He had a kind word for Dwight D. Eisenhower as a soldier but said when the five-star general embraced the Republican party "he became one of them." Harriman later referred scathingly to Republicans as "grim old pessimists."

In an appeal for a big Democratic turnout at the polls, Harriman also told his audience that "those who say Senator Taft will be easy to beat don't understand the American political scene." He said that by this he meant Democrats could not afford to become complacent.

Walsh Says He Backs Ike

COOS BAY (AP) — William E. Walsh, member of the national Republican convention credentials committee, said Tuesday he will vote to seat delegations favorable to Gen. Eisenhower. "If I have not been misinformed about the details of the controversies."

"If I find that Eisenhower people have not told me the truth, I'll switch in a minute," the Coos Bay attorney and state senator said.

Walsh leaves soon for Chicago, site of the national convention. The credentials committee will be called upon to determine which of several disputed delegations will be seated. One of the foremost of these is the Texas delegations, which were named by two separate groups. One of these favors Gen. Eisenhower, the other Sen. Taft of Ohio.

Bruce Biossat

The heralded Schuman plan, aimed at merging the coal and steel resources of Western Europe, is a reality at last. This is the first solid, down-to-earth step toward the economic unification of the continent. As such, its importance is immense.

There is, of course, much still to be done before this program begins to work. But with ratification by the parliaments of all six participating countries, the last major political obstacle has been cleared.

Soon the foreign ministers of the six nations will meet to set up an organization and operating machinery. Then will come the grubby task of spelling out the plan in working detail—no easy chore for countries so diverse in make-up as France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg.

But the will and the spirit that have brought the Schuman plan this far presumably can carry it over the practical hurdles that lie ahead.

The program is a milestone in Europe's affairs because it is a frank recognition by the peoples of Western Europe that their economies are closely entwined and will probably work more effectively if actually integrated.

The Schuman plan is an admission that the artificiality of political borders in a continent so narrowly circumscribed geographically can only do harm to the living standards and security of the peoples affected.

Rare courage and far-sightedness were required of Western Europe's statesmen to push the plan to final adoption. They had to buck not only the inertia of centuries that has kept Europe divided, but the active sabotage of the Communist world.

No one pretends that this plan originated, however, through the wholly noble motives of European statesmen. French Foreign Minister Schuman, publicly credited as the program's author, had his own country's interests very much at heart when he proposed the merger.

France recognized that Germany's industrial might was reviving. It realized that unless some kind of curb was placed upon this power, the day might come once more when it would be unleashed against the French.

Hence the plan was offered not basically from altruistic motives but with France's selfish wish to protect itself. An integrated coal and steel industry under international control obviously could not be used to feed a German war machine.

The same motives underlie France's espousal of the six-nation European defense army. Fearing the rebirth of a German army, the French proposed an integrated force which would place German armed units under international safeguards.

But, actually, do these selfish motives tarnish the achievement of industrial and military unity? They do not. It is the goal that is important, not the motive that led to its attainment. Do we ask the philanthropist why he gives his millions?

With the approval of the Schuman plan, Western Europe has broken the mold of long centuries and is moving toward a unity that promises high reward.

Dr. E. P. Jordan

Not being a dentist, the writer of this column has said little about the care of the teeth. But the scope of the problem is enormous.

It is said that more than 22 million newly-decayed teeth develop each year among the 38 million children between 6 and 18 years of age in the United States. It is also claimed that 15 out of 100 grownups have artificial teeth, and another 20 out of the 100 should have them.

Everyone can help to reduce tooth decay. One measure which is particularly important for children is the maintenance of a good diet, which contains adequate amounts of milk and milk products, fruits, vegetables, cereals, eggs, lean meat, poultry, fish and whole grain bread.

In fact, anything which aids the body to keep in good health, including diet, also apparently helps to prevent hooth decay.

Mouth cleanliness is one of the most important measures. Food particles readily lodge in the teeth, where they decay rapidly, and in doing so injure the hard surfaces of the teeth.

The most desirable practice is to brush the teeth after each meal, but if this can't be done, rinsing the mouth carefully would help some.

Those grownups who do not already know it, should be instructed by their dentists as to just how their teeth should be brushed, and children should receive the same instruction as early in life as possible.

In some cases, too, dental floss can be used between the teeth to clean out food particles, but instruction in this, too, is desirable in order to avoid injuring the gums.

There is a good deal of evidence that sweets harm the hard tissue or enamel of the teeth. For this reason candy and other sweets should be taken in moderation and the mouth always washed or rinsed immediately afterwards.

It perhaps seems unnecessary to add that both children and adults should be taken regularly to the dentist who can identify small cavities or difficulties early and correct them promptly.

If this were done more commonly, it would save many from more extensive dental work later in life and save many teeth which may later have to be removed entirely.

All this indicates that healthy teeth are the responsibility of the individual, and even if the addition of fluorides to the public water supply proves as successful in preventing dental decay as many people hope and think, each person still has the responsibility of doing the best he or she can to preserve healthy teeth.

If there are any who want to know more on this subject, they can write for a 20-cent pamphlet called "Your Teeth—How to Save Them," published by the non-profit Public Affairs Committee, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16, New York.

James Marlow

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Civil Rights program is in the political shadows at the moment but will emerge at the Chicago conventions where both parties will have to take a stand on it. It may be vital in the election.

The Republicans were mild on Civil Rights in their 1948 platform. This undoubtedly cost them plenty among Northern Negro voters and ardent white supporters of a Civil Rights program. It didn't help the Republicans directly in the South.

If the Republicans don't wreck themselves this year by their own internal quarrels and again are mild on Civil Rights, it may cost them Northern Negro votes but may do them good this time among Southern whites.

Both Gen. Eisenhower and Sen. Taft have made a strong pitch to win white Southerners away from their traditionally Democratic pocket. Neither has said anything which could inflame white Southerners against them very much.

Among the various Civil Rights problems the one getting the most attention in recent years has been the FEPC, a Fair Employment Practices Commission. The purpose of a government FEPC would be to prevent employers from discriminating against a man—who is in a job or looking for one-because of his color or religious belief.

A presidential candidate can take one of three positions. Against a government FEPC altogether, leaving employment problems to the states; for a federal FEPC which is only advisory, lacking teeth; or for a federal FEPC with full power to compel an employer not to discriminate, meaning he can be punished if he does.

That last one, the compulsory FEPC, is the goal of the most ardent Negro and Northern White advocates of Civil Rights. It is also the one which is sheer poison to white Southerners.

In his first news conference after coming home Eisenhower turned his back on a federal FEPC at all. He said he'd leave the problem to the states. Taft would go along with a federal FEPC, but only the advisory kind.

At the same time only two among the many Democratic hopefuls—Averell Harriman and Sen. Brien McMahon—have come out for a compulsory federal FEPC. (In an election contest for convention delegates in Washington, D. C., last week, Sen. Kefauver, whose position on FEPC is very mild, was badly beaten by Harriman, to whom a big Negro vote was credited.)

Until now the Democrats have been laughing among themselves at the Republicans, who have been at one another's throats. But they will have something to worry about in their own family fights when their convention starts.

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