

The Herald and News

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Juvenile Hearing

By FLOYD L. WYNNE

How much of a juvenile problem do we have here?

Indications are that our problem is no worse than other cities of comparable size, and in many instances considerably better.

That estimation appears borne out by conversations with several of the authorities who deal with juvenile problems.

However, this does not mean that we can shrug our shoulders and say, well, as long as we appear to be normal let's let it go at that.

There are some very definite areas in which our official handling of the juvenile problem can be greatly assisted.

One of these is in regard to traffic offenders.

This will be one of the many areas to be explored tomorrow at the hearing to be held in the county library auditorium starting at 9 a.m.

A legislative interim committee will study judicial administration in Oregon, and began with a one-day hearing here.

It's a big task, but one that can be boiled down to three basic points which they hope to explore.

These three points are to attempt to discover (1) whether present juvenile laws should be amended, and if so, how; (2) whether or not a new juvenile code of laws should be written to operate within the same judicial arrangement; or (3) whether some entirely new juvenile manner should be set up to process juvenile problems.

The future of our young people is the future of ourselves, and certainly anyone who can contribute to such a hearing as this one, is duty bound to do so.

Personally, there is one basic area in which juvenile crime enforcement appears to be lax, and that is the subject of traffic offenders.

Under the present policy, juvenile traffic offenders are merely turned over to the juvenile authorities where, in most cases, they are reprimanded and sent home. Certainly, a traffic violation is not of sufficient gravity to require they be sent to a correctional institution.

However, by the same token, an automobile in the hands of a 16-year-old is just as deadly, if not more so, than in the hands of anyone else. When a juvenile is granted a driver's license, he should be required to come under the same traffic laws as do adults.

In other words, if he runs a red light, failed to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian or a number of other traffic violations, he should be subject to detention by the authorities, and have to answer to the municipal or district judge just as do the adults. The judge, in turn, should be given the power, if necessary, to revoke the juvenile's driver's license, or even to levy jail sentences from 10 to 30 days, the juvenile to be jailed separately from other criminals.

There is only still one major deterrent to the commission of a crime, and that is the fear of punishment. If you take that deterrent away then you also deprive your authorities of a very necessary weapon in their battle to keep peace and public safety.

This, however, is only one area in which the handling of juveniles can be improved. There are others, and everyone who might be able to contribute anything worthwhile to this hearing is urged to attend it. The day hearings will be for officials who work with juveniles, while a meeting Friday night will be to permit anyone who wishes to be heard to speak their piece for the record.

It's a very important hearing, and can produce some important legislative changes that could have a direct bearing on whether our juvenile problem will get better or worse in the future.

Publicity
By CHARLES V. STANTON

Roseburg News-Review

Newspaper publicity is to many law violators a worse penalty than fine or imprisonment. The editor of a newspaper constantly is begged to withhold news of arrests and convictions. He hears heart-breaking tales of the sure effects of publication — death to an invalid mother, loss of employment, disgrace to tiny children, etc., and etc. Seldom does the editor hear any expression of repentance, sorrow for the offense or protest of the penalty. Many offenders fear only the publication of the news of their arrest and punishment.

It is the duty of a newspaper to publish the news. The trite description usually accompanying such statement is "without fear or favor." It has been the policy of The News-Review that every arrest of record, other than simple drunk charges (not involving drunk driving, being drunk in a public place or on a public highway) are published as a matter of news. We discontinued some time ago the publication of simple drunk cases, chiefly because the report involved quite generally the same offenders. Repetition ceases to become news.

We do not identify juvenile offenders unless the names are released to us specifically for publication by the court or by other privileged authority. At times juveniles have been identified at the request of the police as a means of discouraging repetition of the offenses by others. An exception is found in cases involving traffic violations. Juveniles, when granted a license to drive, assume an adult responsibility and deserve adult treatment, in our opinion.

It now is announced from the State Motor Vehicles Department that automobile drivers who have their drivers' licenses suspended are to be identified to the press. Lists are to be made public for the state as a whole and broken down by communities. Most newspapers it is believed by the department will want to use only the names from the local area. The breakdown is to aid the newspaper in selecting those names of local interest.

Since the first of the year 6,466 licenses have been suspended for various offenses. Out of this number, police have arrested 875 persons apprehended while driving motor vehicles after their licenses had been revoked. It is believed that those arrested were only a minor segment of total violators.

One purpose to be served by publication of names will be that the public will report violators. Few people now know of revocations, so do not aid in law enforcement. If, on the other hand, they are informed that certain people are not supposed to be driving automobiles, the police are more apt to be informed when violations are observed.

The reason for license suspension will be given in each case. Some will be for drunken driving, others for accident frequency, improper driving habits, etc.

As stated earlier, publicity often is more punishment than fine and imprisonment. A newspaper, in my opinion, should not primarily be used as an instrument of punishment.

On the other hand, it very definitely is one of the functions of the newspaper to be used as an instrument for the improvement of the community and the protection and welfare of the general public. One of the gravest of newspaper responsibilities is that of sustaining and strengthening the arms of law enforcement officers and agencies.

Obviously the operation of a motor vehicle by a person whose license has been suspended constitutes a hazard to the general public. The license would not have been suspended had the individual not conducted himself in a manner endangering the safety of others.

One of our most serious problems today is the problem of automobile accidents. All possibilities for reducing the accident toll are worth exploring.

If, by publishing the names of persons who have their licenses revoked, the newspaper can aid in lowering the number of motor vehicle accidents, a public service will be performed. The knowledge that publication will follow acts leading to revocation or suspension of license may also cause some persons to avoid situations which could result in suspension of license. If the number of law violations can be reduced, or if drivers are persuaded to drive more carefully, a good purpose will be served.

Consequently, it will be the policy of The News-Review to make public the information furnished by the State Motor Vehicle Department. The warning is given now that the names of those whose licenses are suspended will be published, as those names are furnished by the department.

History

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Everyone is familiar with the tired businessman, who returns home at the end of the day exhausted.

"You're working too hard," his friends tell him. "It's killing you."

But it isn't the work he does at the office that makes the tired businessman so tired. It's the

Pogo

By HAL BOYLE

IF THE G.O. FIZZICKLE YEAR MAKES EVERYTHING ONE AND A HALF TIMES AS LONG, THEN TODAY MUST BE DEC. 29

... ON ACCOUNT NOVEMBER FOURTEEN WOULD BE FORTY-FIVE DAYS FROM NOW AND CHRISTMAS IS BACK THERE.

AND NO LUNCH YET

CHOW! IN THE CAPTAIN! NOT THE COOK.

IN QUITTING! I WANT MY FULL PAY OF TIME AND A HALF.

TIME AN' HALF FOR CENITY TIME?

YES, HAIL! ALL US UNO MENFIDS OUT THIS IS THE BIG TIME AN' A HALF YEAR.

THE GENERAL MIDGE

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Landmark

By PEGGY WALSH

The Southern Pacific roundhouse at Dunsuir is bowing out to progress and the need for parking space.

The old structure, started in 1887 and built over a period of 20 years, was purchased at bid by W. E. Grossen and Taylor Hunter of McCloud for salvage and is being razed with the assistance of dynamite and bulldozer equipment.

At the turn of the century, 23 engine stalls had been completed. Later, six of these were lengthened to accommodate the mammoth Mallet engines which preceded the diesels. Every type of steam locomotive used by Southern Pacific — huge beasts burning wood, coal and oil — received attention at the Dunsuir roundhouse over the years. At the peak of its use, right after World War II, from 100 to 120 employees participated in engine maintenance.

Need of the roundhouse diminished with the coming of dieselization. With complete retirement of steam about a year ago, the old building became a place of shadows and cobwebs. The diesels are serviced in a long shed adjacent to the tracks.

To those who regard the roundhouse as a symbol of "the good old days," Ed Stanley, retired master mechanic's chief clerk, speaks of it with a little less than nostalgia. He recalls starting work there in 1906 when a 12-hour day, seven-day week was the accepted lot of the workman. A machinist received 35 cents an hour and would be eligible to retire at 70 if he lived that long. Part of his duties included serving as an emergency first aid man before safety became a popular slogan and the valid boast of the railroad.

Two accidents mar the 70-year history of the old roundhouse. In the mid-twenties, a locomotive got away, went through the stationary boilers and brought down the high brick stack, but there were no injuries. About 10 years ago, the roof on one section of the roundhouse caved in after a particularly heavy snow and had to be rebuilt. Again, no person was hurt.

The old roundhouse joins the misty past just as the old Anderson Brick Kiln from which its bricks were brought has become a part of the history of Northern California. One small section of four stalls will be retained and the remainder of the area will be cleared and marked off in sections for the parking of company vehicles and employees' cars.

Quotes
By UNITED PRESS
NEW YORK — Former President Truman on the administration's seeking of Democratic consultation on foreign policy:
"The administration inherited a bipartisan policy and then threw it out the window. It's a little late to start now."

Vets Mail Bag
More than 2,833,000 veterans holding GI life insurance policies are saving time and money by paying their premiums in advance, Summer G. Whittier, chief insurance director of Veterans Administration, announced.

He said they comprise nearly 60 per cent of the 4,837,000 GI policyholders who make direct remittance to VA for their insurance premiums.

Of those making advance payments, Whittier said, 1,203,000 pay annually, 649,000 pay semi-annually, and 981,000 make quarterly remittances to VA.

Paying premiums in advance eliminates the chance of a veteran forgetting monthly premiums, an action which might cause the policy to lapse, Whittier said.

In addition to saving postage, he said, GI policyholders paying in advance get the benefit of a discount in the premium rate.

Advance payments at a discount can be made for any period up to the full life of the policy if the veteran desires, he said.

Information about advance payment of GI insurance premiums is available from the VA office servicing the policy, or from any VA local contact office.

Released From Jail
YREKA — Stanley L. Polmateer, 19, of Seiad Valley and an unidentified minor were released by deputies on November 2 after charges on which they were arrested were found to be false. Still sought by Manteca city police are two per-the town, taking \$2,900 in cash.

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They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

FLOTILLA WAS SO FULL OF ACHES AND PAINS THIS MORNING, SHE COULD HARDLY LIFT HER HEAD UP....



BUT NOW SEE HER WHEN THE VEGETABLE TRUCK MOVES TO... A REGULAR LADY WEIGHT-LIFTER!

HMM... WHY IS IT YOU KEEP THE GOOD STUFF ON THE BOTTOM? AH! THAT LOOKS LIKE A GOOD HEAD OF LETTUCE....



EAST GERMAN SENTENCED

BERLIN (UP) — An East German who denounced the Communist regime in a letter to the British Broadcasting Corporation has received a five-year sentence, it was announced today. A Communist court in Chemnitz sentenced Max Hulanetz on charges of instigating against the East German Regime, the Soviet Zone News Agency ADN said.

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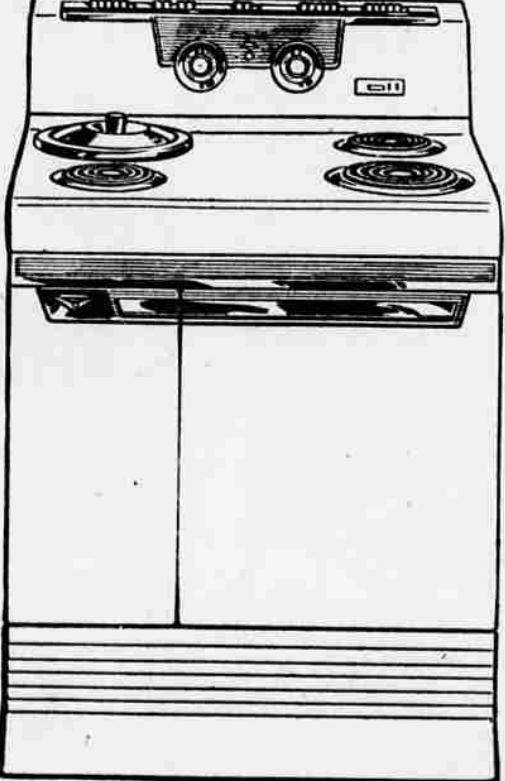
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