

The Herald and News

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"Delinquency"

By JOHN GUERNSEY

Sizable strides toward combating juvenile delinquency problems could perhaps be realized if other student groups throughout Klamath County and other areas of the state and country could have the opportunity of expressing their recommendations as did the social studies group of Henley High and a number of KUHS students during the interim committee hearings on juvenile topics held in Klamath Falls last weekend.

The student presentations were excellent, and their conclusions regarding what they feel to be the principal causes of delinquency and the preferred corrective measures were well thought out and impressively logical. What the juveniles think about the delinquency question might be far more valuable than what the adults think. This appears to be true for several reasons.

In the first place, a youth in his teens thinks like a juvenile and does not appraise life with the same standards and significance as does a person who is 20, 40 or even 60 years his senior. He knows what makes a juvenile tick because he's a juvenile. What might appear to be a completely realistic act and one without reason when considered by an adult, might be an altogether normal and justifiable reaction when applying juvenile reasoning to the issue. For that reason, an adult might completely miss the point in trying to think like a juvenile when probing the youthful mind to ascertain what makes a given child act as he does.

True, every adult was at one time a juvenile. However, a person's perspective concerning life changes during his advancement to adulthood, and as a result an adult can often be completely amiss when trying to appraise the causes and effects of youthful behavior by employing the reasoning of his youth as a guide. Times change and so do people.

Secondly, the majority of opinions aired concerning prevention and correction of delinquency are not the product of juvenile thinking. The great bulk of the opinions are the spoken or written words of juvenile judges, police officials, juvenile officers, counselors and social workers, school groups and community betterment bodies and newspaper personnel. They are all adults who place themselves in the precarious position of attempting to think as does a child. It is readily agreed that a child cannot think with the maturity of an adult. Why is it any more reasonable to assume that an adult can think effectively as a juvenile?

It must also be considered that the recommended actions advanced by the named adult groups might well be unrealistically influenced by the very nature of their work. Take a juvenile judge, for example. He is the supreme authority when dealing with the disposition of delinquents. In a sincere attempt to preclude any possible abuse of that unchallenged authority, it just might be that a judge would bend over backwards to insure altogether fair and just treatment and thereby assume the proportions of a mother hen and her chicks. Such an attitude could well result in harmful over protection for the youngsters.

The relationship of a policeman with a delinquent is usually unpleasant, and for that reason the officer's recommended handling of juvenile offenses is generally more stern than is advocated by the juvenile officials and the social workers. The juvenile counselor generally encounters a less violent youth when he deals with him, and the principal function of the juvenile official is rehabilitation where the primary function of the police is apprehension. Both groups are 100 per cent sincere in their varying recommendations for the handling of juvenile offenders, but the very nature of their work would seem to modify their attitudes with regard to juvenile offenders.

Then there is the newsman. Again by the daily routines of his work he becomes associated with juvenile topics. It just might be that the newsman's opinions regarding the topic are sometimes influenced from the story value associated with a given incident, leaving apprehension, rehabilitation, or complete justice as secondary measures.

In any event, the majority of opinions concerning juvenile delinquency are voiced by adults who think as adults and who run the risk of having other influences affect their judgment.

Why would it not be a worthwhile undertaking to concentrate on encouraging the youth groups to offer their recommendations and then have the adult groups study them with an eye toward correcting the problem.

Favorite Joke

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the favorite jokes of Hollywood producers is that, after a hard day of wrestling with the problems of turning out a movie, they come home to meet this question from one of their own children:

"Pop, what do you really do?"

Producers, who aren't sure on some days themselves just what they have or haven't accomplished, are a bit at a loss as to how to explain their job.

Their children—and other movie fans—know what a star, a writer, or a director does. But a producer?

"A producer is to a movie what an editor is to a magazine," said Arthur Hornblow Jr., a real pro in his field. "He puts it together."

Hornblow, who is 64, balding, dark-eyed and quite vocal, has been an Army lieutenant (vintage: first world war) and a lawyer. But he has also produced some 40 to 50 pictures. They range from "Ruggles of Red Gap" and "Gaslight" to "Oklahoma!" And most recently, "Witness for the Prosecution."

He has some strong opinions about the role of producers and the present plight and future of Hollywood, which he loves and thinks has a real impact for good in the world.

Let us start with the public's attitude toward producers, which annoys him:

"Too many people have the idea that producers are foreign illiterates—and their objective is vulgar," he said.

"This is probably our fault. Hollywood can sell pictures, but it can't sell itself. It suffers from the poorest institutional publicity I know of."

"A producer doesn't aim at vulgarity. He tries his damndest to make the best picture he can."

"Actually, there are 142 members of the Screen Producers Guild, and they make 98 per cent of the movies made in this country."

"Of that number more than 100 have been in college, and 127 are American-born."

"Only three never went beyond grammar school, and one of them is, in my opinion, as cultured as any man I ever met."

"All races, religions and political points of view are as evenly divided among producers as in any representative segment of the American community."

"Aren't producers phone-mad, luncheon-addicted, party-crazy?"

"I have only two phones on my desk," replied Hornblow. "And one is private. It is for the use of my wife."

"The number of your phones isn't as important as the efficiency of your secretary."

"We do go to a lot of lunches, but we use luncheons as we use phones—to conduct business. The same is true of Hollywood parties."

"The reason for a Hollywood party is not to hold an orgy—but to do business."

"It's more like a Quaker meeting. The men and women separate immediately."

"The women talk about their children, their cooks, their plans to visit Europe. The men talk business, make contracts, settle business."

"In 15 minutes at one party, when I was preparing to make 'Gaslight,' I got Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer to play the leads. If I had had to deal through their agents, this could have taken six months."

"What is wrong with the movie business today?"

"If anything kills the film industry it won't be the disinterest of the public," said Hornblow. "It will be the green badge of vanity—the exorbitant money demands of talent for purposes of prestige."

"It will be the demands of stars, directors and writers—their insistence on high salaries which the tax laws won't even allow them to keep."

"Everybody is attached to the tail of the kite of the most successful man in town in his field. This attitude threatens Hollywood with economic disaster."

Hornblow's point was that a novel that once could be bought for \$30,000 now costs \$300,000, a star who once would take \$50,000 for a picture now wants a guarantee several times that large, and so do writers and directors. His further point was that, in most cases, as a result of tax laws, these demands have become symbols of prestige rather than actual take-home pay.

"The range of what Hollywood is prepared to pay for anything should be cut in half," he said. "Then the movie industry would be healthy. Talent must take some of the risks, too."

Right or wrong, Hornblow toots the most forthright bugle that has come this way from Hollywood in a long time.

"Open Letter"

Klamath Falls (To the Editor)

Perhaps many of you are familiar with Josephine Kittredge's statements in the Herald and News printed under the heading "Tax Talk" and dated November 8, 1957.

Let me make it perfectly clear that this open letter is not intended to be an answer, a retort, or a countercharge. Rather it is intended to present to you—as an intelligent voting taxpayer in Klamath County—my views on the "problem" with which she confronted you.

To begin with, let's establish this fact: Gov. Robert Holmes called a special session of the Legislature to solve the problem of the general fund surplus in Oregon. (Many of our sister states would like to have this problem.)

This, Mrs. Kittredge and I readily admit. What I would like to emphasize is this: No matter what specific amount that surplus is, the fact remains that there has been a surplus for several years in Oregon—way back (and not too long ago at that) when the Republican party held the preponderance in government in Oregon—but Governor Holmes, the first Democratic governor in almost a decade, was the first to admit this surplus and call back the duly elected legislators to decide its disposition.

Taking Mrs. Kittredge's column paragraph by paragraph, let me say this: First, she alludes to a "sullen bickering between members of the assembly."

I have seen no indication of any sullen bickering. In fact, it has been to the pleasant amazement of both senators and representatives that the conference committees appointed by Senate President Boyd Overhulse and Speaker of the House Pat Dooley have been so completely dedicated to justice and equality in their investigations. They—and I refer to both senators and representatives, Republicans and Democrats—have, in my opinion, honestly tried to arrive at a solution which they could accept as fair. They have not adjourned to conference committee meetings with just one objective in mind; rather they called into action the combined forces of the various State Tax Commission offices to provide facts and figures on which to arrive at a solution. Their honest attempt to reach agreement without compromising their conscientious convictions is to be commended.

Mrs. Kittredge alludes to the surplus figure projected for the biennium as "somewhat mythical in amount." Every inch of publicity relating to the surplus has been geared to making it clear to Oregonians that the surplus amount is "estimated." If the words "estimated" and "mythical" are, in Mrs. Kittredge's opinion, synonymous, then this is true.

In her second paragraph Mrs. Kittredge refers to the fact that the governor of Oregon is elected to serve as the state's chief executive and, as such, represents all the people regardless of party. This, also, I agree. And how much more important it is that Governor Holmes, a Democratic governor, represents not only all the

people regardless of party but, that as chief executive, he refuses to compromise what he feels is best for the future of Oregon with what would be politically expedient (and surely it would make a far greater impression on the voters of Oregon if he advocated huge tax reductions; but in his concern for the future and his preoccupation for the welfare of Oregon and its governing body, despite its political affiliation, has maintained his conservative view).

But, since he is first of all an Oregonian, and secondly a Democrat, it is not understandable that he would expect the most wholehearted support of his stand from those people (the Democrats, that is) who represent the bulk of the voters who named him their chief of staff in the 1955 election?

He could have refused to call a special session since his Republican predecessors had not acknowledged a surplus, but he didn't. He felt that the surplus was not fair to Oregon taxpayers, and he, and primarily he, sought to gain some relief for these same taxpayers, who, through the action of a Republican Legislature, had recently been saddled with surtaxes and increases.

I might add now, too, that Governor Holmes has not taken part in the conference committee meetings nor the discussions on the floor. He raised the problem of the surplus, then turned it over to the capable hands of those persons whom Oregon voters sent to the Legislature. His stand made clear in his opening message to the Legislature, indicated a conservative one, but, he, too, was prepared to give and take that must come with government by two responsible political parties.

He took his stand in good faith, then left the final outcome up to the two houses of the Legislature. Is his concern for the fact that the special session was running overtime and costing the taxpayer more money daily, to be condemned? I think not.

I agree, and at date of this writing it is but a matter of minutes that a compromise solution will be attained, that, as Mrs. Kittredge demanded, "will provide for a tax reduction for Oregon citizens." (with specific changes to encourage an upsurge in the economy of Oregon and help provide more jobs and payrolls and better markets for agricultural and other Oregon produced commodities.)

Mrs. Kittredge speaks in favor of a bipartisan leadership "that rises above partisan and political values." This, I feel, has been the result of the special session. Governor Holmes' stand is not one that is accepted by all Democrats... rather it is one that is accepted by the majority of conservatives. It is also one which allows room for compromise, which is, after all, the spirit of government.

May I close with this remark: Since the amount of Oregon's surplus is indefinite, and this fact is substantiated by both Republicans and Democrats, senators and representatives isn't it better to be safe than sorry? It seems better, to me, to take a conservative step this year and leave room for a bigger jump next year, than to jump feet first this year and grasp at straws next Legislature.

Carl E. Yancey
State Representative

Oops!
Klamath Falls (To the Editor)
—Gentlemen:
Our County Sheriff mops the jail.

Your picture showed him, sharp and keen.

It also showed us that his mop was nice and fluffy, dry and clean.

John Larson,
313 Washington Street
Editor's Note—All right, eagle-eye!

Appreciation
Klamath Falls (To the Editor)
—We wish to take this opportunity to thank the various organizations and their representatives who participated in our Interim Juvenile Hearing in Klamath Falls. The Herald and News for its news coverage, KFJ for its news coverage and the use of the recording machine which enabled us to make a record of all testimony, also the county library personnel for the use of the auditorium.

In reviewing some of the testimony, we were surprised to hear of the scope and comprehensive programs the schools in Klamath County make available to the student, for an example, the testimony given by the high school students at this hearing.

Our committee unanimously agreed the hearing was one of our most successful, as we received diversified testimony that will assist us in determining what we are to do.

Alfred F. Condrey
Member Sub-Committee on Juvenile Matters, Legislative Interim Committee on Judicial Administration.

Quotes
By UNITED PRESS
WASHINGTON — General Manager Earl Dorfman of the new National Historical Waxwork Museum on the quality of the figures, made with a secret vinyl plastic wax formula:

"They even feel alive."

Pogo

IF YOU WANTED TO JOIN THE DUCK GROUP, I'D SAY YOU'D GET YOU A JOB.

HUP TWO THREE FOUR! HUP TWO!

NO! I AMN' MUCK FOR A FLYIN'.

TURTLES AN' SO MUCH BIRDS LIKE BATS IS.

WELL, SHUCKS, FAR AS THAT GOES, TURTLES LAYS EGGS.

BUT YOU FLIES AROUND, FLAPPIN' YOUR WINGS LIKE UNTO A EAGLE.

ON SOME SHOW OFF TYPES DOES, BUT I ALWAYS FARS THAT KIND OF WORK OUT TO THE EASTER BUNNY.

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