

The Herald and News

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Good Deed

By BILL JENKINS
There is one lucky lad over in Lakeview who is really going to have the time of his life come spring vacation. He is the 9-year-old son of John Blair and the treat is going to be a trip to San Francisco with his dad.

John dropped in the other day en route to Ashland and told me about it. I think he is to be congratulated on his understanding of the son's desire. John told me that he had been taken on a similar trip a long time ago and had never forgotten it.

I'll be willing to bet that John will have at least as much fun as the boy, if not more.

I can still remember a good many years ago when at a somewhat but not much older age I spent a deliciously happy week in the city by the Golden Gate myself. Spent most of my time either at the zoo or the gun room at the DeYoung museum. As to whether the zoo and museum were more fun or the streetcar ride getting there I don't know. I think my mother and dad had fun, too.

Friend of mine up in Fort Klamath came across what to me was a brand new problem the other day. Seems that he got his and his wife's horoscope mixed up.

The results were not all to the good, according to his report. Something to do with dominant days being reversed.

I suppose it would be sort of confusing, both to the unfortunate human and to the stars that set the course.

But then maybe Sputnik had something to do with it, too.

A new low in panhandling, or a new high, depending on how you look at it, was reported to me the other day.

Seems one of the professional type moochers was working a bar and came across one intended victim who caused him to ask his age. Sixty three, he was told.

"Nope," said the panhandler, "you're too old. I'll find someone younger."

Getting pretty selective these days, aren't they?

Fellow by the name of Charlie Hansen, of San Francisco, called me up in the small hours of the morning not long ago. Said he was down in the new bus depot and spoke quite highly of it. Liked it, liked the service, liked our country. Everything was all right except for one thing. He couldn't find a clock on the wall to tell him what time it was.

I went down and checked and I couldn't either, but the buses seem to keep running right on schedule so I guess it is all right.

Hansen was on his way to Spokane.

Vice Blame

By FLOYD L. WYNNE
This may not be a popular viewpoint, but from personal experience I'm certain it is true.

The recent report on the condition of the Klamath Falls Police Department criticized former chief Orville Hamilton and some of his subordinates very sharply for the administration of the police department and the condition of the jail and other equipment.

I think it important to point out, though, that Orville Hamilton was not alone responsible for any criticisms that might come his way for the vice conditions that may exist or may have existed in the city.

This is not a defense of Hamilton, it is a statement of fact. It is a confirmed fact that the vice conditions of a city, namely gambling, prostitution, etc., are more or less set by the city council or the administrative body that runs the city.

In the past when the bawdy houses were running in Klamath Falls, they were doing so with the knowledge and the sanction of the mayor and the council.

The playing of cards was also done with the sanction and the knowledge of the council. This, however, does not mean that they countenanced gambling, although the fact that there was such a high gambling license would seem to indicate it.

But, in fact that the mayor and the council in the past have condoned some of these actions, doesn't mean that they were of loose morals or susceptible to bribes.

They were representatives of the people, and as such they were reflecting the type of city that they felt the people wanted. They are elected delegates of the people, and must reflect the people's viewpoint.

The fact that they are not running today is due to the fact that the city of Klamath Falls

is growing up. The needs of the community have changed, and the attitudes governing such items as the houses and gambling have also been changed.

Klamath Falls is perhaps the cleanest town today from the standpoint of vice that it has ever been, and that is because of the attitude of you, the people, reflected in the actions of the mayor and the council.

It does not mean that these members are "blue-noses" or advocates of a simon-pure policy. It does mean that they are giving the people of Klamath Falls the type of city administration that they want.

But by the same token these remarks are not meant as any reflection on prior councils or the present one. The men who served the city in this capacity have been conscientious men who sacrificed hours of their own interests and time to give the city the type of government they felt it wanted.

The new survey, when it is put into effect will give the city of Klamath Falls a police department that is up to date in every sense, and one that will be equipped to take care of the future needs of a growing city.

Our next step is to modernize our governmental structure by approving a shift to the council-manager type of administration. This, too, will modernize what is now an archaic system of government that is still tied to a 1913 charter. It was excellent for that time, but again, to gear the city for the future as well as meet the needs of the present, the change to the council-manager form of government should be made.

Responsibility

By BILL DECKER
"The key to police operations is personnel. An organization can never be better than its personnel." This cogent opinion is expressed by Inspector Richard Young on page 43 of his all-inclusive analysis of the Klamath Falls Police Department.

Inspector Young knows what he is talking about and he certainly earned the money which the taxpayers spent to pay for his comprehensive report on the local police department. He gave us just what we asked for.

But, as taxpayers, are we not entitled to just a little more?

The report claims that our police department has been badly administered; that much has been lacking in its organization and that we are not getting our money's worth as far as law enforcement is concerned. All this we accept because we are told it by a recognized authority on the subject who comes to us with the highest recommendations. The chief of police has resigned as a result of this report. We automatically expect that the wrongs will be righted because the main fault seemed to lie in the administration of the force.

But for a moment let us consider the things which Inspector Young did not say in his report; the aspects which lie beyond the province of his investigation.

To whom is the chief of police responsible? If he is remiss in his duties who is supposed to straighten him out? The patrolmen on their beats must be responsible for the performance of their duties, but the chief in turn must account to an elected official for his actions. If we have had an incompetent chief of police for some time whom should the responsibility fall upon?

The political organization of Klamath Falls is such that the

mayor, city council, and its appointed police commission are directly responsible for the administration of the police department.

If the department has been badly run, as the taxpayers paid Inspector Young to determine for them, then you may be sure that the council either knew that such a situation existed or else they were not doing what they were elected to do.

If the council follows all of Inspector Young's recommendations we may expect a better police force, but do his suggestions preclude that in time this force will not become as corrupt as the old one? So long as the chief of police and his staff are not competently administered by elected officials Klamath Falls may expect to be served by the same caliber of city law enforcement agency. You can raise their pay, give them shorter hours and switch the patrol system around; but you will eventually evolve into the same old routine.

The new chief must be given complete authority so far as political considerations are concerned; but he must be held responsible for his policies. Political autonomy must go hand in hand with supervision as far as the office of chief is concerned. Freedom to enforce the laws must be assured as well as oversight. The rules must apply to all equally and we cannot expect a policeman to turn his back on one illegality while he is making an arrest for another. Is gambling as illegal as drunk driving? Surely. So we must expect our policemen to arrest anyone guilty of either, regardless of whom they are or what the order of the day may be.

There should be no such thing as political privilege.

We have been shown the way to a better city police department. Inspector Young was hired by the city council to do a job which he carried out with great candor and efficiency; but he was not hired to tell the council that the fault ultimately lies with them.

It is an old axiom that a city gets as good a police force as they want and if Klamath Falls wants a truly efficient police department the men of the force must be assured that the community really desires such. You may express your opinions through your elected officials.

Youth Center

Klamath Falls (To The Editor)—Klamath Falls teens realize the increasing problem of juvenile delinquency of this town. They even possess one idea which, if worked properly, could slow down present vandalism—a youth recreation center.

Such a center equipped with eating, dancing and recreation facilities would provide themselves with nothing to do. The majority of teen-agers want some kind of clean fun each weekend. If none is provided, youth tend to turn toward the more destructive activities which result in juvenile court.

The trouble with so many facilities of this type is that they tend to appeal to youth who are not the troublemakers. But still, it may prevent some from getting into trouble and if this is possible, don't you think it's worthwhile?

There are many ideas on how such a center should be run. Teen-agers can tell you more about how they want it to be set up than anyone else. Here are a few ideas: (1) A well chaperoned dance every weekend (or at least twice a month); (2) price of a quarter to go and this money to be added to decorate and main-

tain the dance hall; (3) different school clubs (including Henley, Merrill, and other high schools besides KU) to sell and maintain the refreshment center; (4) chaparrones to be downtown merchants and high school teachers. No police — it makes the teen-agers feel they aren't being trusted and this result is mischief carried on just "in spite." Of course, there are many more suggestions on how such a thing should be handled. Are you adults?

Immediately, we see the problems involved; the youth center should not be considered a cure-all for juvenile problems which may exist. However, it is an important part of the entire picture — together with parental discipline and understanding.

Tell us, where do we start and do you start with?

Betty Yancey
Junior, KUHS

Worry Danger

Klamath Falls (To The Editor)—A recent headline in a Boston newspaper stated that doctors now say worry is worse than disease.

The newspaper also stated that worry never solved any problem but may produce bodily ills that will make the initial sickness seem inconsequential by comparison. This was the opinion of seven noted specialists who spoke recently at a New England medical center.

These doctors also stated how worry and tension aggravate heart condition, stomach troubles, skin ailments, respiratory disorders, arthritis and other health problems.

Millions of us needlessly worry ourselves sick and we do it without half realizing it, and that is its danger. Worry just nibbles away secretly like a termite at the foundation of our happiness and health.

Psychologists teach that the only way to get rid of the worry habit is to change our thinking from unhappiness to happiness.

Harold A. Thompson

New Side

Alturas (To the Editor) — I read in your editor's page a few days ago where you said there are two sides to every question.

I say there are three. Your side, my side and the right side, as we might both be wrong.

George Fordyce
Box 991

Dog Problem

Klamath Falls (To The Editor)—Well, it's almost time to start thinking about fixing up the yard for summer. Now, I'm wondering if there is going to be anything done about the dogs running loose.

If not, I will forget about the yard. Last summer I spent around \$40 for shrubs that lasted about two months. Every morning I had to get up 10 minutes early to clean the mess off the lawn.

I have a three foot fence around my back yard but this is no trouble for some of these big dogs when a garbage can is involved.

If something isn't done about the dogs running loose, I am not even going to care for my lawn. Some of my friends have agreed that maybe if we just let everything go to the dogs, I mean that literally, and the town starts smelling like an unkempt dog kennel, someone will do something about it.

Frank Williams

Quotes

By UNITED PRESS

MOSCOW — Soviet Party Boss Nikita Khrushchev calling for direct summit talks: "We fear diplomatic channels could turn into channels for endless correspondence and endless negotiations."

NEW YORK — Adlai E. Stevenson warning that an agenda must be established before a summit meeting was called: "It would be a very unhappy thing if we let the Soviet Union force us into a meeting where the United States is further split off from its allies."

MARLBORO, Mass. — John F. Francis, principal of Marlboro High School, challenging the Daughters of the American Revolution for refusing to give a good citizenship award to Ise Naujoks because she was a retupee: "Ise is a good citizen of Marlboro High School. That's one of our functions here—to make good citizens and if we can't do that we might as well close our doors."

They'll Do It Every Time By Jimmy Hatlo

Skipper Backs Irish Holiday

CLEVELAND (AP)—The captain of the Coast Guard's icebreaker Mackinaw has an Irish heart. And for that, his men will wear an Emerald Isle smile Monday, St. Patrick's Day. They may even paint the town green.

It all came about because of a letter Chief Boatswain Robert K. Gibson wrote to Capt. Evor S. Kerr of Cleveland. The letter began: "Subject: Early Liberty Requested For: "In the event of the ship's remaining in port on the 17th, it is hereby formally requested that I, the undersigned, be granted my request for an early liberty, in order that I may uphold the honor of my glorious ancestors, on this, our greatest day of the year."

Capt. Kerr, who is of Irish descent, was touched. Not only did "Bosun" Gibson, a native of Petoskey, Mich., get his liberty but the following ship's order was published: "Ship's Order No. 4788—Observance of the Irish National Holiday. Monday is the day set aside to

honor St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Having driven all the snakes from Ireland, St. Patrick is held in the highest esteem throughout the world today.

"Therefore, this vessel will similarly pay homage to St. Patrick. Any member of my command who is Irish, or part Irish, or anyone who would like to be (with the exception of the duty section) is hereby directed to depart the vessel on authorized liberty at 1200 hours on Monday.

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REASON DISAPPEARING
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UP)—Another week or so and Ralph Smith's reason for moving here from London, Ont., with his wife and their two children will be gone. Smith revealed Wednesday that the family came here to be near their favorite singer, Elvis Presley—who is about to go into the Army.

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