

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written, a reader has just called on the phone to report that her teen-age daughter thinks she heard on the air this morning a broadcast to the effect that some Southern schools are considering asking their legislature to pass a law requiring that the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn be called in and rewritten in "good grammar." She says she would like to know if anyone else heard the broadcast.

Hmmmmmmmmmmmm.

What I'd like to know is what Mark Twain's immortal masterpiece would sound like if it was rewritten in what people of that ilk would call good grammar.

An amended bill for CONTROL OF STRAY CATS was approved yesterday by the senate military affairs committee of the Oregon legislature.

The bill passed the house earlier. As revised by the senate committee, it now authorizes counties to operate programs for control of stray cats. Other provisions were deleted.

Question:

How about an amendment providing for control of the characters who are too tenderhearted to drown or chloroform or otherwise painfully put out of the way litterers of kittens that they regard as surplus and so put them in a sack and carry them out into the country and dump them out on the roadside to STARVE TO DEATH?

Another question:

What the Sam Hill business is of the military affairs committee of the senate of the Oregon legislature to draft laws for the control of stray cats?

From Eugene:

Teen-agers here are playing with death by taking injections of chest rub medications into their veins, the Lane county health department warned yesterday. It reported that three cases of teen-agers using this "new form of thrill-seeking" have been reported recently by the Eugene police department.

Dr. Edward Goldblatt, of the county health department, said this is a "non-addicting method of achieving roughly the same results as are obtained from narcotics."

Let's not get too badly excited — YET.

Remember the cornsilk cigarettes out behind the barn?

If it's forbidden, it's attractive. If it's DANGEROUS, it has to be tried.

But—

I can't help remembering a teen-ager who visited me in my office a few days ago. She was born blind. She is now 13—just beginning her teens. She reads Braille. She writes Braille on a special typewriter. On that morning, she had just finished reading the Braille edition of the Reader's Digest from cover to cover.

She speaks German and French in a beginning way. She is interested in music. She WANTS TO BE A NEWSPAPER WOMAN.

For this teen-ager, there is no BOREDOM. For her, it is a fascinating world, and she is interested in all the wonderful things that are going on in it.

I wish some of these thrill-seeking teen-agers could talk to her. It would do them good.

Diem Moves To End War

SAIGON, Viet Nam (UPI)—President Ngo Dinh Diem proclaimed a sweeping "open arms" campaign today to induce Communist Viet Cong guerrillas to lay down their guns and end the civil war in South Viet Nam.

Diem made the appeal in a nationwide broadcast. He promised clemency, family reunions, financial help and government jobs to guerrilla fighters and their sympathizers who come over to the government side.

The campaign coincided with the first anniversary of the strategic hamlet program which is designed to frustrate Communist subversion. The program is backed by the United States, which has provided 12,000 military advisers and massive financial aid in support of the Diem government.

The strategic hamlet program aims to concentrate South Vietnamese farmers in fortified hamlets, isolated from the Viet Cong guerrillas attempting to overthrow the government.

The government says 6,000 of the projected 11,000 strategic hamlets have been completed.

Weather

Klamath Falls, Tulelake and Lakeview

—Partly cloudy tonight and Thursday with showers ending tonight and increasing again Thursday afternoon. Westerly winds 5-15 m.p.h. Cooler tonight. Low 38-42. Slightly warmer Thursday. High 45.

High yesterday 35

Low this morning 26

High year ago 72

Low year ago 31

Precip. past 24 hours 0.0

Since Jan. 1 4.47

Same period last year 4.32

Tax Bills Await Action By House

SALEM (UPI)—The House tax committee today virtually killed a sales tax bill without a vote to spare, clearing the way for consideration of a major revenue-raising package based on income tax Friday.

The 3-cent sales tax was tabled 31-29, after sponsors tried to get it safely back to committee and opponents clouded the issue by agreeing to send it back to committee in hopes it would die there.

Breakdown Said Near In South

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Mississippi is so close to a "complete breakdown of law and order" that the U.S. Civil Rights Commission wants President Kennedy to cut off all federal funds to the state.

The commission told Kennedy Tuesday that "open and flagrant violation of constitutional guarantees...has reached the point of crisis" in Mississippi.

The bombings, shootings, jailings and withholding of federal surplus funds for children "affronts the conscience of the nation," the commission said.

The commission praised the administration's "strong and vigorous" prosecution of lawbreakers in Mississippi. But it said that the "pattern of unlawful activity shows no sign of abating" and the time has come for tougher action.

The investigation and advisory group suggested that the President cut off all federal funds going to the state. In the year ended June 30, 1962, these came to \$650 million in the form of grants, in-aid, military contracts, civilian and military payrolls and loan programs.

The commission added these complaints:

—In the nine years after the Supreme Court school desegregation decision, Mississippi "has taken no step to comply."

—More than 100 complaints have been received since October, 1962, alleging denial of constitutional rights in Mississippi.

—"Citizens of the United States have been shot, set upon by vicious dogs, beaten and otherwise terrorized because they sought to vote." This referred to incidents in Greenwood, Miss.

—Students have been fired upon, ministers have been assaulted and the home of the vice chairman of the commission's advisory committee in Mississippi has been bombed.

Pair To Face Fraud Charges

PORTLAND (UPI)—Dist. Atty. George Van Hoomissen said today extradition proceedings were being started against two persons arrested at Seattle in connection with an investigation into accident insurance policies sold to many Oregon school districts.

Kenneth J. Randall, 44, and Sarah Ann Chaffee, 41, were arrested in Seattle on a secret indictment returned here charging alteration of an insurance policy with intent to defraud. The charge involved a policy issued to the David Douglas school district.

Authorities said the same agency here sold policies to 38 districts in Oregon. The probe began when the California Life Insurance Co. complained that policies sold to school districts by agents here gave broader coverage than it had approved.

Reapportionment Stymies Revise Committee

SALEM (UPI)—The House and Senate committees on constitutional revision hit an impasse Tuesday on the charged issue of legislative reapportionment.

Both voted to reject the new plan proposed by the Commission on Constitutional Revision, which would have brought Oregon closer than ever to "one man, one vote."

Then the committees considered the more moderate plan advocated by Rep. Stafford Hansell, R-Hermiston.

The Senate committee voted 7-2 in favor of the Hansell plan. The House committee rejected it 4-5.



BEGINNERS STARRED — The first science fair for students of the Merrill Elementary School and Merrill High School developed some excellent entries. Among the junior division Gold Award winners were, left to right, Robert Trotman, Pat Ratliff, Tom Britton, Karen Fairfield, Patty Hood and Louann Reeves. Not shown Gold Award winners in the high school senior division are Betty Ann Chapman, and Jean Lyman, both juniors. The winning entries will be exhibited in the regional science fair at Fergusson School in Klamath Falls this weekend. (Story on Page 4-A.)

Negroes Plan Voter March

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI)—Negroes planned to march en masse to the Jefferson County courthouse today in a demonstration launching a voter registration drive.

School Jobs Given Okay

SALEM (UPI)—More than \$1 million worth of Oregon Program projects involving many schools and colleges were approved Tuesday by the State Board of Education.

The projects were taken from some \$1.5 million in proposals made by the participating schools and colleges.

Town Falls To Laos Reds

VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI)—Pro-Communist troops have captured a third key Neutralist town on the Plain of Jars in a drive that has made a shambles of the Laotian cease-fire agreement, informed sources reported today.

Nikita May Visit Cuba

MOSCOW (UPI)—Premier Fidel Castro's planned trip to Moscow may be followed by a visit to Cuba by Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev, informed sources said today.

Valley Smudges To Save Crops

MEDFORD (UPI)—The longest and heaviest heating of the season occurred in the Rogue Valley's pear orchards Monday night and Tuesday morning, as temperatures dropped to 24 degrees in the coldest places.

Girls See Bloodmobile

A group of 14 Macdonald, Calif. Camp Fire Girls, "future blood donors," their leader, Mrs. Robert Cheyne and assistant leader, Mrs. Ray Rogers, saw the Red Cross Bloodmobile operation Tuesday at the Elks Temple.

State Answers Freeman Plea

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The state of Oregon has filed an answer to an appeal of Jeannette June Freeman, 21, condemned to die for throwing a 6-year-old boy to his death in the Crooked River Gorge in 1961.

All Big Steel Firms Unite In Assault On Price Line

NEW YORK (UPI)—Bethlehem Steel, the nation's second largest producer, today announced selective price increases averaging a little more than \$5 a ton, making big steel unanimous in breaking the steel price line.

The announcement of hikes in the price of three sheet and strip steel items by Bethlehem President A.B. Homer followed closely on the heels of National Steel Corporation's decision to up the price of selected products an average of \$6 a ton. National is the nation's fifth-ranked producer.

The firms apparently do not foresee a slapping down from President Kennedy similar to the one that made big steel back down on across-the-board price increases a year ago. The nation's largest producer, U.S. Steel Corp., raised its prices Tuesday, and Bethlehem's announcement made unanimous big steel's decision to try Kennedy on selective increases.

Altogether, nine steel firms have announced price increases. Bethlehem said its price adjustments would go into effect immediately. National will tag its products with higher prices starting Thursday.

Homer said the new Bethlehem prices represent an increase of about 1 per cent in the total billing value of all rolled steel products sold by Bethlehem. He said the decision to raise prices was made "after due consideration of market conditions and cost and profit performance."

His announcement represented a change in position since Wheeling Steel made the first break in steel prices eight days ago. A few hours before the Wheeling announcement, the industry was in a state of confusion.

Cubans Offer Body Return

HAVANA (UPI)—Havana newspapers said today the Cuban Red Cross will return to his family the body of pilot Riley W. Shamburger, one of four Americans killed in the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion.

The press reports added that the Cuban government had invited the mother of the pilot, Mrs. Riley W. Shamburger Sr., Birmingham, Ala., to come to Cuba to identify the remains of her son.

(In Birmingham, Mrs. Shamburger became hysterical on hearing the Havana report. A neighbor said the mother "would never accept" that he had been killed. "She's just in a terrible state," the neighbor said.)

(Shamburger was flying with three other Birmingham area men when their plane crashed on or about April 9, 1961. The other men were later identified as Wade C. Gray, an electronics technician; Thomas Ray and Lee F. Baker.

(Shamburger, a test pilot, was apparently at the controls of the plane when it went down during the ill-fated invasion. They were flying a C46 cargo plane when one engine went out.)

Widows of the four men received \$225 each every two weeks since the men were lost. The checks were drawn on Bankers Trust Co. of New York and an attorney said the money came from a Central American anti-Castro group.

They were given a tour to acquaint them with procedure in the sharing of blood by Chief Nurse Dorothy Johansen of Portland.

The first day operation was a highly gratifying, according to executive secretary of the Klamath Basin Chapter Virginia Dixon. In spite of miserable weather, 269 donors appeared to give 243 pints of blood between 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Excellent responses were made by PTAs, and business and industrial groups.

The April operation was a concluded Wednesday on the Oregon Technical Institute campus.

Exiles Plan To Publish 'Embarrassing' Paper

NEW YORK (UPI)—Cuban exile sources said today the Cuban Revolutionary Council will defy Washington pressure and make public a 10,000-word Cuban white paper described as "embarrassing" to the Kennedy administration.

The 23-page document, a copy of which was given Washington last April 5, will be made public at an open meeting of the council in Miami Thursday night, the sources said.

Exile leaders said the Kennedy administration threatened Council President Jose Miro Cardona with immediate deportation if the document is made public, and also said no council member ever would be received in Washington again.

Washington spokesmen denied both allegations. But administration officials said the United States might end its financial support of the council, estimated at \$2.4 million annually.

The council has been recognized by the U.S. government as representative of the 250,000 Cuban exiles here.

The crisis in relations between the council and Washington erupted last week when Miro resigned as council president. His resignation was rejected. At that time, however, the council voted against publication of its white paper.

Exile leaders said today the council in a secret meeting last Monday night decided by majority vote to make it public in view of what they termed Washington efforts to discredit Miro.

Miro reiterated today that "under pressure of the Department of State"—he would again present his resignation at Thursday's public council session.

He again charged bluntly that "the Department of State has violated its agreements with the Cuban Revolutionary Council."

Miro said the State Department "has moved all the elements with its unlimited powers in a violent campaign of discredit against my person unparalleled in the history of this great nation."

"It (the State Department) forces me to defend myself," Miro said. "I shall do so."

JFK Ends Vacation

PALM BEACH, Fla. (UPI)—President Kennedy wound up a seven-day Easter vacation today to return to Washington for consideration of matters including steel prices and the future of the NATO alliance.

Kennedy scheduled a 3 p.m. EST takeoff aboard his Air Force jet transport plane, leaving behind his pregnant wife, Jacqueline, to continue her holiday away from the official hurly-burly of the capital.

The President timed his departure to follow an early afternoon cruise aboard his yacht, Honeysuckle. Through five consecutive afternoons of yachting, he had ideal sunny weather. He was surprised and chipped in a brief encounter Tuesday with newsmen.

Other Brief Encounters

There were some other brief encounters — when two Coast Guard patrol boats, including one assigned to guard the President, sped offshore to observe two Russian trawlers. The Cuba-bound Soviet vessels, loaded with electronic communications equipment, were outside the three-mile continental limit but within sight of the shoreline which included the chief executive's ocean-front home.

Kennedy planned to discuss French-American relations in Washington with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who was in Paris for five days of talks last week with Allied officials including President Charles de Gaulle. Rusk was reported to have warmed relations with De Gaulle but not by any means to have won him over to U.S. proposals the French leader has opposed.

Maintains Steel Silence

The White House maintained firm silence about the parade of "selective" price increases by steel companies. But Kennedy was keeping tabs on the situation and awaiting a verdict by his Council of Economic Advisers as to whether the boosts threatened his insistence upon "overall price stability."