

Editorial Page

Rise In Crime

It just won't do to attribute the rapid rise in crime to "public apathy," and the President rightly has observed that it is time our public officials shouldered their rightful responsibilities.

The figures on crime tell a horrible story to the statistically minded, but little to the average person. To get a new view of how serious the situation is, let's use the figures in a new way.

Last year enough people were violently attacked in the streets and in their homes to populate the entire cities of Klamath Falls, Medford, Corvallis, Salem and Eugene.

The number of people robbed equaled one half of the entire population of the city of Portland.

The number of women forcibly raped equaled the entire population of Klamath Falls and Salem.

And if all the murders had occurred in one place, a town bigger than Oregon City or Coos Bay or North Bend would have been completely wiped out.

Certain aspects of the crime problem may be alleviated by the federal actions the President proposes.

It will also be necessary for local communities to beef up their police forces, and equip them with modern weapons and knowledge. It will be necessary for judges and

juries to sympathize more with the law abiding and worry less about the criminal's welfare.

It will require cooperation from citizens in looking after their personal safety, locking their doors and securing their automobiles and other property.

Perhaps, in time, someone will learn how to identify potential criminals and to turn them from crime in time. Meanwhile, the law-abiding must have protection. Maintaining public order is the first responsibility of government. A government that can't do that is hardly trustworthy in any other task.

In all fairness, it must be noted with the big boost in crime across the nation, that our own local police force has an excellent record.

While the nationwide average was rising 19 per cent, Klamath Falls showed a six per cent decrease in major crime.

While we give great credit to the police department and its handling, we also agree with Police Chief Charles Howard who said, "Crime reduction is not the accomplishment of law enforcement alone, but it is the result of the combined efforts of the community."

Klamath Falls has an excellent record, and every citizen of the area can take pride in this record.

Unfortunately, the record is not that good across the nation.

Time To Call A Halt

College students who follow immature routes in their quest for adult self-expression have been taken to task by James A. Perkins, president of Cornell University.

Referring to evidence of narcotics use on his campus, Perkins warned that "we can't shield students against the application of the adult law and pretend that these students are otherwise grown-ups."

The decision of Cornell's president to bring into the open the latest and most serious moral threat to the American campus is in contrast to the attitude in many colleges that no matter what is done within the school to cope with narcotics, its use on the campus should not be publicly revealed.

Mr. Perkins' decision not only to admit the existence of marijuana users on his campus, but offer to cooperate fully with state authorities in fighting the threat, will not hurt Cornell's image. The university's forthright position against narcotics is in dramatic contrast to some of the other large schools, which give the appearance at least of preferring to maintain an evil rather than admit its existence.

Consider the comments reportedly made

by officials of one of the largest universities, to the effect that they consider the use of marijuana to be more a matter of youthful experimentation than addiction. Or the attitude of some student bodies that since medical authorities say marijuana is non-addictive, its use is nobody's business but their own.

Advocates of extreme doctrines of permissiveness can concoct reasonable-sounding arguments in favor of the individual being permitted to do anything he wants. "I say that marijuana is not medically habit-forming is to confuse the point."

An individual under the influence of marijuana is controlled by a greatly expanded sense of courage. Feeling no responsibility for his actions, he is a physical threat to himself and to others. It matters little whether he becomes addicted to marijuana as a way of life, or merely smokes it occasionally.

Permissiveness in sex, in cheating and in other personal habits cannot be ruled out as a cause of the unrest sweeping across campuses today. When all the facts are in, it may turn out to be the prime cause.

Letters To The Editor

Reapportionment

In support of legislation to nullify the Supreme Court's 1964 reapportionment ruling in the state legislatures, we urge all citizens of Klamath County to write our state legislators, George Filcraft and Carol Howe, and our state senator, Harry Bovin, urging them to support Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 on reapportionment. This resolution requests that a constitutional convention be called for the purpose of amending the constitution to permit one house of the legislature to be apportioned on a non-population basis.

This legislation is vital to all of us living in the more sparsely populated counties. We're your state representatives and then write your congressmen asking them to support Senate Resolution presently before the Congress.

Let's not be the generation that let the courts get stronger than the people."

Betty Mooman, Publicity Chairman, Klamath County Republican Women's Club, 2545 Orchard Avenue.

Drug Strip

The Klamath Strip Association (KTA) was organized by a group of civic minded men, for the purpose of promoting safety among drivers of all age groups.

It is our purpose to acquaint the Klamath Falls area of the urgency and importance of people who are dedicated to automobile engineering and safety.

As a springboard for our activities, we are planning a Custom Car Show on the 10th and 11th of April, 1965, in the Klamath Auditorium.

As of this writing, we are very appreciative to the many

businessmen who have helped in many ways. We very much appreciate the cooperation of the New Car Dealers Association.

We hope to emphasize to the people of the Klamath Basin a different side of the youth, as directed in a better path, or as an afterthought, one boy's life is spared, we feel that it will be worthwhile.

Jon Jones, Director, Klamath Timing Association, 2200 South Sixth.

Horse Saved

Sunday afternoon I watched two suburban department firemen and a group of local residents free a horse that had caught its leg in a railroad trestle in the sub-barry.

Two children had attempted to lead it across the trestle and of course it slipped between the ties.

The poor animal was there all afternoon and but for the efforts and hard work of the volunteers it would be there yet as the railroad emergency crew never did arrive to help.

I understand this is the fourth horse that has been trapped in this particular trestle and it seems something could be done to prevent this type of accident.

Children do not realize the danger or even the fact that horses can't walk everywhere

that they can, but it seems that every child who rides should be warned of this particular danger. And why can't warning signs be posted on all trestles in town and the suburbs where children ride, prohibiting crossing?

Children should not be on the trestles anyway and someday a train will smash into a trapped animal and probably be derailed as well as kill the helpless animal.

Erma L. Huebner, 2536 Kane.

This Is Economy?

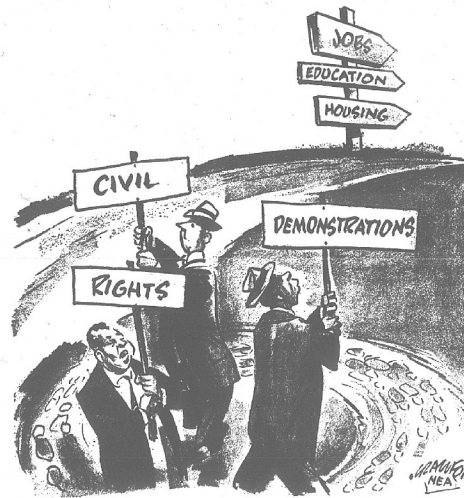
The War on Poverty appears to have been won—at least by and for the anti-poverty workers. Perhaps you hard-working taxpayers missed reading Fulton Lewis Jr.'s column of March 24 in the Herald and News about extravagant salaries to be paid the new bureaucrats of the poverty army; that it will make any happier about paying your income tax.

For instance, for Sargent Shriver's Office of Economic Opportunity—54 new federal workers at \$18,935 to \$30,000 per year; and in one county in New Jersey—\$23,000 of the \$27,000 anti-poverty budget, to go for salaries. In New York City a Mrs. Kohler "already a highly-paid consultant to a number of other government agencies, including the National Institute of Mental Health and the Department of Labor" will get \$200 additional of your tax dollars per week, or \$100 a day as consultant for the Poverty Operation's Board. This is economy in government!

Five cents will carry a letter of protest to your congressmen in Washington.

Clayton Golden, 6305 Patterson.

How About Another Look at the Road Map



RAY CROMLEY...

Bomb Threat Constant

WASHINGTON (NEA) — Bombing of the U.S. embassy in Saigon — two Americans killed, 54 wounded and acting Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson cut by flying glass—brings to mind a lunch with Johnson at his Saigon residence.

The garden of Johnson's home was quiet and orderly. The house seemed almost empty. The French built the colonial-style home with simple, spacious, open lines. You'd think you were a thousand miles from any war. The service was tasteful, the conversation slow.

The high ceiling fans moved slowly and noiselessly. There was hardly a sound as the two of us ate a light mixture of American-Vietnamese food.

But there were three strands of wire along the top of the wall around the house and garden. There was a soldier in a sentry box at the gate. We'd ridden out in the embassy car with a plain-clothes bodyguard riding next to the driver.

As we ate, we looked out the windows at the garden. From where we were seated the high-ceiling house seemed, in fact, to be all huge windows and a Viet Cong without much effort could easily throw a grenade over the garden wall with its wire and into the house.

He could almost do it blind and stand a reasonably good chance of hitting a window, they were so numerous and so large.

Riding back to the embassy, I couldn't help asking "How dangerous is it? Do you worry?"

"I guess it's dangerous," Johnson said. "You see that little bridge just ahead? The Viet Cong know this is the way I come and go from home. The police found a bomb under that bridge a few days ago. The presumption is that it was scheduled to go off when my car went by."

"But you can't go on thinking about these things all the time. You'd never get anything done. You have to put them out of your mind."

The embassy took precautions. Going there, you'd get out of your taxi in the middle of the street, pass through a "fence" of wire, then step into the embassy driveway where a U.S. Marine would check your credentials, phone updates to verify your appointment. None of this would prevent anyone from throwing a bomb or setting off one in the street or in a next door building. It could happen any time.

With all this, there was very

little air of danger or excitement. Despite the known danger and your own recollection of past incidents, these precautions somehow seemed very dramatic, so peaceful and quiet were the residential streets where Johnson lived and so normal the work within the embassy.

The terrorist captured in this recent bombing claimed to be a Viet Cong. He said he'd joined the rumble for \$150, not for principle.

When we were in Saigon, Viet Cong experts assured me some major terrorist acts in the city in the past had been by men hired by the Viet Cong.

"You can go into the Saigon backstreets and find men who would do anything for a little money," said a man who had made it his business to live awhile in those slums.

The Viet Cong, it's understood, hires these outsiders because it is cheap about the way it spends its professional money.

A year or so ago, one high-placed American suggested in the middle of a hiring of Saigon with agents and subagents programs so there'd be government U.S. ears to the ground to spy out such terrorist attacks in advance. Apparently nothing came of this proposal.

Play of Pledge

The money was only a part of the \$350 million which the United States has pledged to shore up the Brazilian economy. But equally important was the new vote of U.S. confidence in the new regime's pledge not only to save Brazil from Communism but also to restore economic and political stability.

Brasilia's grumbling because the embargo on international trade was the inflation which through three successive administrations had nearly wrecked the cruzeiro and which reached a peak under Goulart.

One year ago the Brazilian housewife had to pay 170 cruzeiros for two pounds of black beans. Today she pays 320 cruzeiros. Sugar has gone up from 140 cruzeiros a year ago to 312.

Rate Stabilized

But today the dollar rate of the cruzeiro is pegged at 1,800 to the dollar, exactly what it was a year ago and in itself a mark of international confidence in the new regime.

During Goulart's 31 months in office the cruzeiro fell from 550 to the dollar to nearly 2,000.

The Castello Branco regime carried out reforms by remarkable use of the carrot and the stick.

To workers grumbling about rising prices and demanding purchasing powers be granted a pay raise from \$23 to \$35 per month the minimum wage 57 per cent. The union had demanded a 100 per cent raise.

Relieves Grumbling

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At the same time he promised easy credit and tax reductions on imports, and companies agreeing to hold down prices.

The Brazilian cost of living

FULTON LEWIS JR. ...

Mail Order Firearms Present Big Problem

WASHINGTON — Earlier this year, a 15-year-old Baltimore boy used a foreign-made .38-caliber revolver to kill his mother, father and sister. The pistol had been purchased from a mail order gun merchant in Los Angeles, Calif. The Baltimore incident is by no means an isolated one. Connecticut Democrat Thomas D. Dodd, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency, reports that 2,500 murders were committed during 1963 with mail order guns. Consider these recent cases:

Two New York youths, aged 14 and 17, used a mail order rifle to attack two elderly men. Another New Yorker, aged 16, shoots a young bride with a mail order gun.

A Los Angeles youth is killed and another wounded by a sniper armed with a mail order rifle. In St. Louis, two youngsters are held by police in a mail order gun attack upon private homes.

Investigation by Dodd's subcommittee reveals that mail order weapons are pouring into the nation's largest cities. One Chicago go-to known felons with long records of criminal activity.

Large quantities of guns have been mailed into the racial hotspots of the Deep South. In September, for instance, the FBI seized four Russian army Tokarev sub-automatic rifles which had been shipped to white extremists in Alabama. It is obvious, argues Senator Dodd, that federal legislation is necessary to curb the flourishing traffic in mail order weapons.

"Local and state laws, however stringent, are ineffective if the purchaser can circumvent them secretly via the mail order route," he says.

Pittsburgh, Dodd notes, juveniles and convicted criminals

are receiving mail order firearms despite a state law designed to keep deadly weapons from the young and the criminally-oriented.

Senator Dodd has introduced, for the Administration, legislation that would rigidly control trafficking in mail order guns. The Dodd package, which is certain to be vigorously opposed, would ban the retail sale of firearms to juveniles under 21 (except that sales of sporting rifles and shotguns could continue to persons over 18).

It would dry up the torrent of imported surplus weapons. It would rigidly control the availability of bazookas, anti-tank guns, grenades, bombs, and other such playthings. It would drive out of business the fly-by-night gun dealers and limit the field to responsible, stable businessmen.

What the Dodd bills will do is equally important. Ex-plain Rep. John Murphy, a New York Democrat who has introduced an identical package in the House:

"It will not prohibit sportsmen, marksmen and bona fide gun clubs and organizations from pursuing their avocation with the same diligence of the past. It will not restrict the father who wishes to train his child in the proper use of firearms."

Both Murphy and Dodd are hunters; both own guns; both have no desire at all to thwart the interests of the legitimate sportsman, gun dealer or manufacturer.

But the situation, they insist, "is so incendiary, so chaotic, so chaotic that its continuation challenges the sense and even the sanity of our society and our lawmakers." They hope for speedy action on their legislation.

PHIL NEWSOM...

Recovery Strides Made In Brazil's Economy

For exactly a year now Brazilians have been living under an austerity program as tough as any in modern history. In April, 1964, took over from inept and left-leaning President Jose Goulart.

Just last week, when President Humberto Castelo Branco marked the first anniversary of Brazil's revolutionary regime by accepting another \$4.4 million in U.S. loans, there was further proof that austerity is paying off.

The loans under the Alliance of Progress will go into electric power projects, highways, low-cost housing, water works and extension of the metal cement and plywood industries.

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The Brazilian cost of living

jumped about 85 per cent last year. It had been forecast at 140 per cent. Next year the government expects it to be less than 50 per cent and around 10 per cent thereafter.

Under government pressure, backed by the military, the Brazilian congress has passed laws for land reform, a tightened system of tax collection and an even break for foreign investors.

Almanac

By United Press International Today is Monday, April 5, the 95th day of 1965 with 270 to follow.

The moon is approaching its first quarter.

The morning star is Mars. The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter and Mercury.

American Negro educator, Booker T. Washington, was born on this day in 1856.

On this day in history: In 1911, Pochontas, daughter of an Indian chief, married an English colonist, John Rolfe.

In 1792, President George Washington established a precedent when he vetoed a congressional bill.

In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg of New York City were sentenced to death as "atom spies."

In 1964, General Douglas MacArthur died at the age of 84.

A thought for the day: General MacArthur once said "It is fatal to enter any war without the will to win it."

BARBS

It's a good thing hair dyeing wasn't so popular back in Eben S. Rexford's day. He couldn't have spoken "Silver Threads Among the Gold."

Country's largest men's hat manufacturer will market this summer, a hat with built-in transistor radio and earphone. A guarantee of instant noise for men who can't stand peace and quiet.

New Yorkers are in a hassle over a proposed increase in subway fares. When it comes to raising prices, guess who's sure to lose.

Man is the earliest example of that modern phenomenon—built-in obsolescence.

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