

OLD JOURNALS SHOW MEDFORD LIFE IN 1904

Local Baseball Game Was
Given Preference Over
News of Jap-Russ War
—Ads Featured Buggies

Times haven't changed so much in the past quarter century, one learns from a review of some old newspapers owned by N. S. Bennett, Medford nurseryman. Life is geared a little higher, perhaps, it doesn't take so long to get from one place to another, but the public's interests are about the same now as at the beginning of the 20th century, news and advertisements in the mellowed journals indicate.

The predecessor of the Mail Tribune, the Medford Mail, in its weekly issue of July 1, 1904, had the choice of featuring the Japanese-Russian war, then raging, or a local baseball game and the latter was favored just as baseball today has edged out, for the time being at least, the conflict between Italy and Ethiopia.

The baseball game, which was played here the previous Sunday, June 26, 1904, ended in a 2-1 victory for Jacksonville over Medford and a tie for second place between the two teams in the league, then led by Ashland, with Gold Hill at the bottom.

Among the Medford players in the game were Bill Hutton, pitcher, Blackie Moore, shortstop, Frank Northrup, right field, John Wilkinson, left field, Frank Isaacs, center field, and Claude (Shorty) Miles, second base, then the youngest player in the league.

Some Still Here
Mr. Hutton is now engaged in mining, with headquarters in Grants Pass. Blackie Moore comes to town occasionally. Mr. Northrup may be found in Aberdeen. Mr. Wilkinson is with the McCurdy & Daniels insurance agency. Frank Isaacs, brother of Toggery Bill, is an orchardist and Shorty Miles was heard only today reminiscing about the old days when local baseball contests brought out large crowds of fans who would bet anything on a game, including their last shirt.

In the Jacksonville lineup of that old game were Lewis Ulrich, now head of the national employment service here, and Charles Strube, now president of the San Francisco Seals.

Better Steals First
The Mail gives a whole column on page one to the game and it must have been a whiz, for listen to this quote: "In the fifth inning occurred Medford's only score and also was the scene of the first instance of a batter stealing first base that has ever come under the observation of the writer and he has been a student of the game for several days."

"After Wilkinson had filed out to Ulrich, Isaacs adjusted his batting eye and landed a 3-sacker into center field. The ball came back to Collins at short and he and Lester tried one of those old-time tricks. Lester stepped into the box as if in the act of delivering the ball when in fact he had no ball.

"Umpire Brouse had played a few games of ball himself and, detecting the balk, waved Isaacs to the home plate. Immediately there was a gathering of the Jacksonville boys about the umpire. The pitcher still stood in his box. Ramsdell stood at the plate until he got tired and finally trotted down to first. When Brouse finally convinced the 'Gold Bricks' that his decisions went, they found that Ramsdell was roosting on first, without anyone but himself and a few interested spectators knowing how he got there."

Bennett Writes Article
Practically the rest of the first page was devoted to an article by N. S. Bennett who has saved the old papers. It described "July Time" at Fort Klamath, telling how the In-

dians hilariously celebrated the Fourth of July for a week or more. The paper was composed of eight pages and you had to cut the margins to get to the inside. Doing that, you learned about an engagement at Fort Arthur in which the Japanese fleet sank a Russian battleship and damaged two other men-of-war.

A Roosevelt was president then as now and Teddy, wielder of the Big Stick, had just announced a shake-up in his cabinet, the post of secretary of commerce and labor going to Victor H. Metcalf of California. Mr. Metcalf was so elated that he stated that "the importance of this department is clearly shown by the large appropriation made for the first year of its existence, namely, \$2,500,000," a sum that would serve only as pin money today for either of the two departments into which the old department was subsequently divided.

Hubbards Have Ad
Hubbard Brothers were then advertising Moline wagons and John Deere buggies while drugs, patent medicines, books, stationery, paints, oils, cigars, tobacco, toilet articles, etc. were offered by the Mortar Drug Store which was owned by G. H. Haskins whose son Leon now operates the West Side Pharmacy. Who said that it was only in recent years that pharmacies had developed into department stores carrying everything under the sun?

A. S. Bliton was publisher of the paper and was also a United States commissioner, giving service in filing homestead and timber claims. The Medford Bank was doing a general banking business with a capital and surplus of \$55,000, the assistant cashier being Mose Alford, now city recorder.

The Southern Pacific schedule shows that it required more than 15 hours then to travel by train from Medford to Portland as against about eight hours by train now or about two hours by plane.

Children even in those distant days were crying for castoria while Charles Strang, still in the drug business, was advertising a sure cure for dyspepsia. A serial love story formed a large part of the paper which claimed a circulation of 2,300.

Gold Hill Celebrated
Out in Gold Hill the populace was preparing for a spectacular 4th of July celebration with a "grand calathumpian parade" as a special feature.

W. H. Meeker & Co., which has continued as the M and M Department store, was advertising a clearance sale during which shoppers could find numerous bargains, including "50 cent wash silk, reduced to 3 yards for \$1."

Photograph records were in demand and The Toggery was offering "cool shirts for hot weather." Automobile ads were conspicuously absent, the motor car not having as yet supplanted the horse and buggy.

A promotional section of eight pages graced the Medford Mail of March 9, 1904. The educational advantages to be found here were cited, the article being illustrated by a photograph of the school board of which Charles Strang was president.

Future Foreseen
The future of the Rogue Valley was described in prophetic terms, the writer foreseeing the day when every portion of the valley would "be connected with a system of turnpiked highways, all hard and smooth, summer and winter, the streams bridged with structures which will bear the weight of traction engines or autos which will be a necessity in handling the fruit produced in the foothills."

The Medford Commercial Club, of which J. A. Perry was president, was then calling attention to the advantages of the valley just as the Jack-

son County Chamber of Commerce is doing today.

A photograph illustrating an article on mail service showed W. J. Warner, who later became postmaster and was succeeded by Frank DeSousa, putting bags of mail into a surry, old Dobbin patiently waiting to get started on the 20 mile route.

Mergers, which became an everyday occurrence in the 1920's, were not unknown then. An advertisement in the Mail of March 9, 1904, announcing that the Medford Bank was to be merged into the Medford National Bank.

Sportsmen were not forgotten, several articles telling of the excellent

hunting, fishing and other outdoor pastimes that could be enjoyed in the valley.

Auto Spooners Park Suggested

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 4.—(UP)—The governor's crime conference heard a suggestion today that cities set aside restricted areas where young couples could park their automobiles and "spoon" under police protection. Justin Miller, representing U. S. Attorney-General Homer Cummings, said this would "prevent many crimes."

LIONS CLUB VOTES TO HELP CAMPAIGN FOR CHEST FUNDS

President Al Littrell of the Medford Lions club today had appointed five teams of two men each to represent the organization in the community chest program. The Lions' teams are composed of

C. I. Hays, Verne Shangle, H. C. Williamson, Roy Elliott, Andy Anderson, Larry Pennington, K. D. Ross, Leland Knox, Frank Ray and Victor Tengwald. R. M. Marry was named as an alternate.

The Lions club pledged aid to the community chest campaign after being addressed at its luncheon-meeting Wednesday by Gain Robinson, general in charge of field forces. Mr. Robinson explained the purpose of the community chest and, in seeking aid of the club, stressed the importance of the drive this year.

Dr. F. J. Moffatt, principal speaker at Wednesday's meeting, gave a vivid account of the history and develop-

ment of the X-ray, telling of the medical and commercial uses to which the discovery has been put. In addition to Mr. Robinson, Dr. W. F. Roney and Cramer Deuel were guests of the club. Frank Ray was chairman of the entertainment committee for the meeting and Mr. Littrell presided.

Struck by lightning, an elm tree at Hickman, Ky., burned about a month. Slowly smoldering, the tree lost its top, weathered several rains, then burned to its roots.

Approximately 1,800,000 acres in southeast Missouri have been improved by drainage enterprises.

Claim Film Firms Restrained Trade

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 4.—(UP)—The federal government today charged three major motion picture companies with maliciously using the \$660,000,000 combined assets to crush small enterprise, at the companies' trial on charges of criminal restraint of trade. The defendants, Warner Brothers, Paramount Pictures and R-K-O Radio, their executives and affiliates, were charged in indictments returned last January of boycotting three St. Louis theaters.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

Reduced

FOR GIFTS—FOR THE HOME—ONLY ONE ARTICLE of a KIND at a REAL BARGAIN PRICE

Housewares—Gifts—Appliances—
Choose From this Partial List

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CUTLERY
BOUDOIR LAMPS
DESK LAMPS
PAINT BRUSHES
SILVERWARE
REFRIGERATOR SETS
WAFFLE IRONS
TOASTERS
ELECTRIC TEA KETTLE
CURLING IRONS
AUTOMATIC IRON
ELECTRIC IRON
ELECTRIC APPETIZER SETS
BROOMS
MIXING BOWL SETS
(Earthenware and Glass)
RANGE SETS
CUPS AND SAUCERS
CHINA AND SEMI-PORCELAIN PLATES
GLASS BERRY SET
ICE CREAM FREEZER
CARPET SWEEPER, LATEST MODEL
GLASS STEM WARE (Odds and Ends)
TUMBLERS
GLASS PLATES
DECORATED GRILL PLATES
ALARM CLOCK
VACUATOR



I Urge
You—

—To shop SATURDAY as this special Salesman's Sample stock will be sold quickly at these exceptional prices—ranging from 5 cents to \$5.00 . . . This sale lasts only while these samples are on hand—act at once!

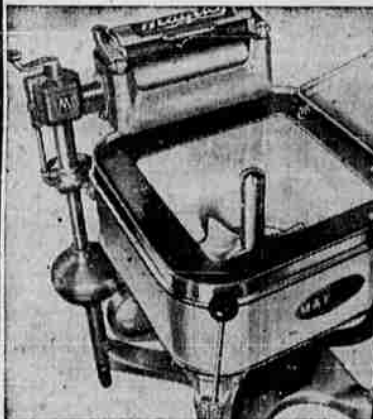
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NOTHING DOWN!



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NOVEMBER Then As Little As

\$5.00 A MONTH

Low F.H.A. Interest—No Red Tape!

That's How Easy It Is To Own An
AMERICAN
Oil Burning HEATER
Clean - Economical - Efficient
Look At These Features

- Humidified Warm Air
- No Watching Necessary
- Real Fuel Economy
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- Vented Feed Lines
- Automatic Draft Regulator
- Concealed Fuel Tank
- Visible Flame



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ETHIOPIAN
Controversy In Your Own
Home With a

PHILCO

Foreign Reception
FOR AS LITTLE AS

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\$49.95
(With Philco All-Wave
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Before you buy ANY radio, see this amazing new 1935 Philco Console! Biggest value of the year in a full-sized, floor-type model! Marvellous tone—thrilling foreign reception! Handsome cabinet of satin-finished walnut.

CENTS A DAY

Yes! Philco now GUARANTEES FOREIGN RECEPTION in the smartest radio of the new season—the prices are well within the budget of YOUR family and these attractively low terms enable you to ENJOY YOUR PHILCO AS YOU PAY.

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NEW EDITION—Nothing else like it! A complete Radio Atlas of the World, with big 5-color maps showing shortwave stations, photos and stories of foreign broadcasts, up-to-date shortwave station listings, etc., free with the purchase of any Philco Model.

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