

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Reads "The Mail Tribune"

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History
from the files of the Mail
Tribune 10, 20 and 34 years ago

10 YEARS AGO TODAY
February 17, 1940
(It Was Saturday)

Butte Falls high wins county
Class B championship by defeating
Central Point 35 to 31; St. Mary's
places third.

Mrs. Anna McClure Getchell
receives gold medal for poem
sent to national poetry association
in east.

Business name of Unique
cleaners to be changed soon to
Medford Cleaners and Dyers.

Upper Rogue Cattle association
re-elects Frank Dittsworth
as president.

Irving P. Beasley, local Boy
scout executive, accepts position
at Spokane.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY
February 17, 1930
(It Was Monday)

Local American Legion post
opens drive for new members.

President Hoover asks con-
gress to speed new tariff bill.

Rumor current in valley that
railroad will be built this sum-
mer to the coast.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY
February 17, 1916
(It Was Thursday)

Baby week in Medford to open
March 4 with Mrs. R. J. Conroy
as chairman.

Medford high basketball team
outlasts Franklin high (Port-
land) 13 to 3 as "Mutt" William-
son stars.

St. Mary's academy plans re-
union of former students as
school observes 50th anniversary
of founding.

New City Charter Now
In Effect At Phoenix

Phoenix, Feb. 17.—By a vote
of yes and three no, residents
of Phoenix recently approved
a new and briefer charter, pat-
tered after a League of Oregon
Cities model.

The charter is now in effect.
City officials state that the
new document, designed to
simplify and modernize the city's
legal set-up, is legally prefer-
able to the old form. The new
language is approved by the su-
preme court.

Rights and privileges of the
city are retained under the new
charter and obligations of the
city remain in full force. At the
next general election three
councilmen will be elected for
four years and three for two
years. At succeeding general
election councilmen will be
named for three years.

The old charter, adopted in
1911, had 96 sections, contrast-
ed to 45 in the new one.

NATURE HAS WAY

Lincoln, Neb. (U.P.)—Some
days you just can't win. Super-
intendent Walt Landy had the
Western Union office windows
boarded up against the strong
winds predicted. The winds
came, piled the wood loose,
hurled it into the street and
shattered a window.

Subscribers

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10:30 a. m. Sunday.

If regular delivery arrives
shortly after you call, please notify
office, thus eliminating special
messenger service.

Now Is The Time

"Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party."

That old sentence, which has long served as a finger exercise for typing students, is beginning to take on a new meaning in this neck of the woods.

NEVER in the memory of the more venerable inhabitants of Jackson county has there been such reluctance to stand for public office, a reluctance which is not confined to either party.

Up to the present moment E. H. Mann is the only avowed candidate for the house of representatives in the republican primary and there are none at all from the democratic side.

THE paucity of aspirants is not due to lack of suitable material for this section of the state is blessed with an abundance of citizens eminently qualified for legislative service.

Main trouble seems to be that so few feel able to leave their personal business or affairs for the protracted and expensive stay in Salem which the law-making sessions have come to mean.

WITH the expiration this year of the terms of representatives Frank J. VanDyke and Ben Day it is necessary to elect two new legislators. VanDyke has announced his decision not to seek re-election and Day is a candidate for the senate.

Among those who have been suggested or actually approached by party leaders or interested friends are a number of Medfordites long prominent in political, civic or agricultural circles. Some of those in the forefront in the "possibility" category are Herb Grey, a republican party leader here for years, past president of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and well known throughout the state; Robert G. Fowler, former county agent and looked upon as one of the county's foremost authorities on farm matters; Robert W. Root, president of the Fruit Growers league and active in the interests of the Rogue Valley fruit industry, Gordon Kershaw, successful orchard owner and operator, and K. G. Denman, Medford attorney. It is understood that at least three Ashland residents have also been talked of but they too have indicated no interest.

THE possibility that some of the county's more politically minded republican women might be willing to enter the lists has been considered, those mentioned in this connection including Mrs. G. Q. d'Albini, a long-time and enthusiastic party worker, and Mrs. Stephen G. Nye, member of the Medford school board and particularly interested in educational matters.

NAMES on the democratic material list so far discussed include Ward B. Spatz, well known orchardist and fruit packer; two Medford attorneys, Rawles Moore and Charles W. Reames; City Judge L. Peers Wilmuth of Ashland, and two women, Mrs. Edward C. Kelly, head of the party's county central committee, and Mrs. Harlan P. Bosworth.

THE door for primary candidates for the house of representatives will remain wide open, as indeed it will for qualified candidates for all offices, until the close of filings on March 10.

In the meantime: "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party!" E.C.F.

Letters Must Be Signed

The Bergman-Rossellini scandal and the motion picture Stromboli while gaining considerable attention in the press and on the radio have also brought forth several letters intended for publication in The Mail Tribune's "communications" column.

Strangely, the writers of these letters are diffident about signing their names, merely scribbling "A Medford Housewife," "Medford Citizen," or other anonymous title.

AS HAS been pointed out many times in this column, and as stated in the "communications" heading, letters to the editor must bear the name and address of the writer. Under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initials may be used on the letter as published, but the newspaper reserves the right of assurance that each letter published is submitted in good faith. Good faith can only be guaranteed by a bona fide signature and address.

And while on the subject of letters to the editor, it is also asked that only one side of the paper be used (this is a must for all matter which has to be set on linotype machines), and that letters do not exceed 400 words. E. C. F.

Theaters Here To Campaign Against Admissions Tax

The Robert L. Lippert theaters in Medford, Ashland and Yreka are cooperating fully in the campaign for the repeal of the 20 per cent amusement tax.

Matt Freed, Lippert manager here, said today.

This campaign, which is being conducted on a nationwide basis starting today, is an attempt to convince congressmen that the admissions tax is discriminatory and unjust, Freed said.

Phases of the project will be screen "trailers," he said, as well as posters and petition forms. The theaters are asking the assistance of the movie-going public in aiding the campaign. Freed emphasized, saying that the admissions tax is the one tax which increases with the size of the family.

"Best and Cheapest" It has been generally recog-

Washington, Feb. 17—(U.P.)—Adm. Forrest P. Sherman ruled today that navy fliers may wear their flying uniforms only when they fly.

nized that movies are the public's best and cheapest form of recreation and that as such they are no longer luxuries, but come closer to being necessities, Freed said, particularly for low-income families.

So citizens are being asked to write their representatives.

Freed said, and cards and petitions are being furnished in theater lobbies for this purpose.

Congressional hearings on the subject start Tuesday.

"It is vital to our patrons and to the theater industry that this discriminatory tax be repealed."

Freed concluded. "If it is, it will mean the saving of 20 cents out of each dollar spent in theater admissions by our customers."

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"That idea of yours wasn't so hot, dear. He's more insistent than ever about a REAL pony!"

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is from Moscow:

"The Soviet Union and China last night signed sweeping treaties which ally the world's two largest communist countries (allied population 700,000,000) in peace OR POSSIBLE WAR for the next 30 years."

INCLUDED among the "sweeping" treaties just signed is one of "friendship, alliance and mutual aid" calling for the fullest assistance by either party if the other is attacked by Japan OR ANY OTHER STATE WHICH DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WOULD UNITE IN ANY FORM WITH JAPAN IN ACTS OF AGGRESSION."

THE treaties were signed for Russia by Vishinsky and for China by General Chou En-lai. They were signed in the Chinese embassy in Moscow. Stalin was personally present. It was the first time since the war he has personally visited a foreign embassy.

After the signing, Chou says, gloatingly: "The unity of the peoples of China and the Soviet Union, which number about 700,000,000, IS A FORCE WHICH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DEFEAT."

WHAT it means for the future is anybody's guess. Figure it out for yourself. Anyway, it puts an end to the pious fiction, which was fed to us for so many years, that the Chinese communists are just simple peasants seeking a better way of life for themselves and just as suspicious of Russian communism as we are.

THIS is from Washington: Attorney General Howard J. McGrath today threw the weight of the federal government behind community drives on organized crime, ESPECIALLY GAMBLING.

He spoke before a gathering of federal, state and local law enforcement authorities. What he SAID was that commercialized gambling in the form of book-making, slot machines and the numbers racket is yearly draining off billions of dollars from legitimate business.

What he IMPLIED is that if local government can't handle the job of controlling commercialized gambling the federal government will step in and do it.

FOR years, the handling of commercialized gambling by local authorities throughout the United States has been a mess. It is a mess that out-stinks the Augean stables. Personally, I doubt if there is anything anywhere any more disgusting than the general handling of commercialized gambling—especially in

the big cities—over the years of the past.

On this particular point, it must be agreed that state and local government have fallen down.

SO—The federal government is getting ready to step in.

HERE is a thought for those of us who complain that government is getting too big and too remote, that it is moving away from the county courthouse and the city halls and centering in Washington:

If we don't want the federal government to take over everything, we'd better do a better job of governing in our local units.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Taft Foes Hit

To the Editor: This morning I received a chain letter, from a Farmer Union member in Iowa, asking me to make 10 copies of the letter, and mail to 10 friends, each of whom would do the same and all send one dollar to a fund to partly match the two million now dedicated to Sen. Robert A. Taft's defeat.

I would prefer to live in England or Russia than a country ruled by organized selfish groups such as have openly declared they intend to monopolize our government.

Taft, standing for fair play and public interest, stands in their way and they have pledged his destruction. Mr. Taft's defeat in the coming election would be a calamity. He is a leader for fair play and public interest as against this hydro-headed monster of organized selfishness, pledged to his destruction. Headed by Harry Truman, Phillip Murray, William Green, Walter Reuther, John L. Lewis and their following.

Our contest is just as important as the one in Great Britain in world politics. This element now has our nation on the brink of a crisis (many suffering from cold and hunger). If they win out in the coming election the brave few now trying to stem the tide will lose courage, and we will be at the mercy of a pack of hungry wolves each striving for the biggest share of the lifeblood of the prostrate form of John Q. Public.

Taft is the symbol of law and justice. If that is defeated what have we left? Everybody interested in the welfare of human-

ity should now make themselves heard.

Ira C. Jones

Poetic Genius

To the Editor: I am requesting you to publish the following piece of poetry merely for the purpose of showing the poetic genius of the one who wrote it, the perfect rhythm of the stanzas and the meter which I think cannot be excelled:

"Father, must I go to work?"
"No, my lucky son
We're living now on easy street
On dough from Washington.

"We've left it up to Uncle Sam
So don't get exercised
Nobody has to give a damn
We've all been subsidized."

"But if Sam treats us all so well
And feeds us milk and honey

Please, Daddy, tell me what the hell
He is going to use for money."

"Don't worry, Bub, there's not a hitch
In this here noble plan
He simply soaks the filthy rich
And helps the common man."

"But, father, won't there come a time
When they run out of cash
And we have left them not a dime
When things will go to smash?"

"My faith in you is shrinking, son
You nosy little brat
You do too much thinking,
son
To be a Democrat."

While the author of this is anonymous, it must convince the reader that somewhere in our midst we have a poetic genius like Bobby Burns or, secreted

somewhere in the wilds of some of these inaccessible mountains of ours, we have a "mute, inglorious Milton."

Candidly, gentle reader, don't you think the jingle is perfect?

GUS NEWBURY

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