

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"

Daily Except Saturday

Published by
MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
27-29 North St. Phone 2-6141

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HENRY L. GREEN, Sunday Editor
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An Independent Newspaper

Entered as second class matter at
Medford, Oregon, under Act of
March 3, 1897

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Mail—In Advance
Daily and Sunday—One year, \$9.00
Daily and Sunday—Six months, 4.75
Daily and Sunday—Three months, 2.50
Daily and Sunday—One month, 1.00

By Carrier — In Advance — Medford
Ashland, Central Point, Jacksonville
Gold Hill, Phoenix, Talent and on
motor routes

Daily and Sunday—One year, \$12.00
Daily and Sunday—One month, 1.00
All Terms Cash in Advance

Official Paper of the City of Medford
Official Paper of Jackson County

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU
OF CIRCULATIONS

Advertising Representative:
WEST-HOLLAND COMPANY INC.
Offices in New York Chicago De-
troit, San Francisco Los Angeles
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NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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
March 10, 1940
(It Was Sunday)

State fish and game commis-
sion files equity complaint
against Beaver-Portland Cement
company to prevent dam build-
ing.

Ruch-Sterling girls organize
cooking club with Lois Zuder-
weg as president.

Mrs. Emma Barnett, 81, pio-
neer of Rogue Valley, dies.

Lee Bull, president of recent-
ly formed OSC alumni club here,
announces banquet for this eve-
ning.

Gold Hill and Eagle Point
school orchestras to present com-
bined concert Wednesday night.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY
March 10, 1930
(It Was Monday)

New snow blocks Diamond
lake road after early thaw al-
lows some traffic to area.

Farmers and orchardists of
county called for jury to ask for
release as spring work and plow-
ing time nears.

Chinook salmon reported seen
near Savage Rapids dam.

Earl B. Day and Hob Deuel
announce candidacies for state
representative on republican ticket.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY
March 10, 1916
(It Was Friday)

President Wilson orders inva-
sion of Mexico to take Bandit
Pancho Villa dead or alive.

County Coroner John A. Perl
files candidacy for re-nomination.

Washington school boys plant
2,100 feet of early peas along
West Main street.

New Government In
Greece Seen Doubtful

Athens, Greece, Mar. 10—(U.P.)
Political observers said today
that Constantine Tsaldaris prob-
ably would not be able to form
a new Greek government even
though his populist party finish-
ed first in Sunday's elections.

These observers said it was
more likely that liberal leader
Sophocles Venizelos, bloc-leader
Gen. Nicholas Plastiras and lead-
er of the largest splinter group,
Gen. George Papandreu would
combine to form a government.

The combination government
would not include the winning
populists and would control 5 per
cent of parliament, the observers
said.

Spending Decrease
Proposed By Taft

Columbus, O., Mar. 10—(U.P.)
Sen. Robert A. Taft, (R., O.), be-
lieves the country's "tax burden
is as high as it can go" and if
deficit spending continues it will
mean "complete demoralization
of the people."

Taft, sharing the speakers'
table with Gov. Frank J. Lausche
at the Ohio Newspaper associa-
tion's annual banquet here last
night, said he saw no way of
avoiding a deficit of some kind
in the national budget this year.

He added, however, that if con-
gress tried hard enough it might
cut \$2,000,000,000 or \$3,000,000,000
from the expected deficit of
\$5,000,000,000.

Dead line on Classified Ads:
5:30 p.m. for following day, 10 a.m.
Monday for Monday; noon Saturday
for Sunday a.m.

Editorial Correspondence

New York City, N. Y., March 7—The Coplon-Gubitchev case ended in a blaze of excitement.

As often happens the excitement was entirely unexpected. It came several hours after the jury had retired following final instructions by Judge Ryan.

For the second time the jury came in and asked for information. Second on the list was an inquiry as to whether in indictment No. 2 it should be "lawful or unlawful" possession of government documents on the part of Miss Coplon.

The reaction to that request among the attorneys caused a scramble somewhat similar to throwing a pork chop into a dog-pound.

What had been a happy family gathering of the Coplon tribe became a battle royal to get out copies of the indictment while Judge Ryan recalled the indictment to the jury, as it was in the original copy but not in the mimeographed copies—the jury had been given one of the latter.

We won't go into all the details.

But the legal free-for-all lasted from 9:30 p. m. to 12:30 a. m., when having sent the jury, still deadlocked, to bed at the Knickerbocker hotel, Judge Ryan requested the government to secure not mimeographed but, if possible, carbon copies of the indictment, and also hand over to the defense what mimeographed copies were available—all of the latter being incorrect, having "unlawful" rather than "lawful" possession therein. Merely a slight typographical error, but what a break for the defense! Little things like that might well knock the government's case into the middle of next week—or so the defense attorneys claimed. And in lieu of that, it would add another important item to the inevitable appeal.

That was last night.

A night that won't soon be forgotten by those who participated in it. This morning the scene had changed—it was another day and another story. Leonard Boudin, the suave, brilliant, but somewhat venomous attorney for Miss Coplon, moved as expected for a mistrial. Judge Ryan, however, pointed out that whether the word had been "lawful" or "unlawful" was immaterial. It should have been "lawful" for Miss Coplon had a legal right to have the documents found in her pocketbook at the time of her arrest. But lawful or unlawful the crime as charged had nothing to do with the legal status of possession, but merely the use made of the documents in question, however they had been secured, legally or illegally.

That made it reasonably clear to everyone but the defense attorneys, who again took violent exception, and undoubtedly will resume their argument in their appeal from the guilty verdict.

Miss Coplon not only had her three very clever and adroit attorneys on hand last night but all of her family except her mother, and many of her friends. They made a very happy family as they sat in a circle, laughing and chatting. One would never have suspected that the hostess was awaiting a verdict that might well add 20 years to the prison sentence of three and a half to 10 years hanging over her as a result of her Washington trial.

Gubitchev, at the other side of the table, was as motionless and emotionless as usual; while his jovial "Big Brother" and diplomatic aide Novikoff, smiling, handsome and charming (also as usual) sat in a chair next to him and perused the EVENING 8 o'clock edition of the New York Herald-Tribune. Novikoff offered a section of the paper to his companion but the latter shook his head and continued to gaze with downcast eyes at the floor. In view of what later transpired—both defendants were found guilty on two counts—there was reason to believe that the little Russian was the only one in the ranks of the defense who from the first felt conviction certain. Only twice during the long trial did we see him smile, and both smiles were fleeting ones.

When the verdict was announced neither defendant showed any emotion. The Russian, in fact, never budged—sat there as before as if frozen, with head slightly on one side, his eyes downcast. Miss Coplon arose perhaps a trifle paler than usual, a slight tension in her facial expression, while her attorneys and relatives surrounded her, some with arms outstretched as if fearing she might faint and they would prevent a fall. But there was no fainting for the honor student from Barnard who rose to top political analyst in the U. S. Department of Justice and then "for a thrill," handed over secret papers to a foreign power.

Boudin was the first to kiss and embrace her. Others followed including her brother. Judy responded somewhat mechanically. It seemed, and then head high, went to the coat rack to get her things and with Gubitchev leading the way (he escorted by a U. S. marshal) she followed the jail matron—the nearest the two had come to being "together" since their arrest, over a year ago! There were tears from some of the family but none from Valentin and Judy.

As was true with the Hiss verdict, the only genuinely jubilant person we contacted was our old pal "Mac". Again to him the country had been saved, again virtue had triumphed and the deep-dyed villain foiled. Now if "Time" can only be suppressed as a sheet riddled with Communism and Secretary of State Acheson, hanged to the nearest sour-apple tree, the country, says Mac, will be safe—at least until the next meeting of the House Un-American committee, the greatest aggregation of true 100 per cent American patriots ever gathered together—so Mac maintains—since the Boston Tea Party.

We did not have the feeling of supreme and stark tragedy such as we had following the Hiss verdict. Neither Gubitchev nor Judith were appealing as individuals. There seemed no great world loss. Yet we could feel no sense of joy in their conviction, no delight in the prospect of their spending "the best years of their lives" behind bars.

As with Hiss we had no doubt of their guilt. As with Hiss, also, we could frame no hypothesis of innocence which could stand up against the facts. The one presented by Pomeranz—the alone handled the summation for the defense, the pinkish trio again maintaining they had not been able to prepare themselves sufficiently—was simply ridiculous and literally laughed out of court.

Pomeranz gave a very able summation for the defense—a bit too long, but on the basis of guilt NOT having been proved beyond a reasonable doubt, his argument had real merit. But when he tried to explain these clandestine meetings, these roomings around the Bronx, these subway and motor-coach trips, ALWAYS in separate seats, as a "Mad Russian" frantic with love, and a sweet romantic lass seeking her true mate—the only answer was the answer given (sotto voce) in the courtroom—a HORSE LAUGH!

It just did NOT add up. No one believed it. And—we happen to know—Pomeranz did not believe it himself.

Yet, if the defense had concentrated upon the "reasonable doubt" and made no effort to construct an explanation for these nocturnal peregrinations of Val and Judy, would the defense position have been stronger? Perhaps—but we doubt it. The answer? When defendants are guilty, the best defense in the world, has two strikes called before it starts.

The 11 communists convicted, Hiss convicted. Now Coplon and Gubitchev convicted. What might be called a "clean sweep". And the convictions—all of them—entirely justified. And all of the defendants given, what Americans similarly accused in Russia—or any of Russia's satellites—would NEVER have been given—an absolutely free and impartial trial.

There were people like "Mac" who suffers from a serious and malignant Communist complex, but not many of them. We have observed the "rank and file" in these three important trials, and can say "without hope of successful contradiction" as the politicians proclaim, that the overwhelming majority would have been pleased if evidence had been presented which clearly established the defendant's innocence. This included the Communist trial. But the simple fact is—there was in all three, no such evidence!—R.W.R.

Rides for House
Members Proposed

Washington, Mar. 10—(U.P.)—Rep. Compton I. White (D., Ida.) 72, believes house members should be able to ride, not walk, to cast their votes.

He informed the house that he missed three roll call votes yesterday "by a hair." He arrived in the chamber from his office just after his name had been called.

The house office buildings are about a city block from the house chamber.

"I'm wondering if we can't have some transportation between the house and the office buildings similar to that enjoyed by the senate," White said.

Two single-track, small electric trains are run between the senate office building and the senate chamber. But no such facilities are available to house members, who walk through a tunnel originally designed for a train.

In January, 1950, fire destroyed \$58,823,000 worth of property.

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"I haven't got any change. Guess I'd better keep it, eh?"

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Nine hundred University of California professors in a special non-communist oath (that is to say, an oath declaring that they are NOT communists.) They say they'll quit their jobs first.

They add: "We believe the standard of loyalty oath taken by the President of the United States, the governors of the states and all national and state officials suffices for university faculties."

SOMEHOW this non-communist oath ruckus that is shaking the Berkeley campus like an earthquake of the second magnitude leaves me cold.

Considering what communism is and what communists do, I'D REGARD SIGNING OF A NON-COMMUNIST OATH AS A HIGH PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.

TAKE the case of this poor devil Shipkov, in Bulgaria, as one lone example. He was tortured until he was so broken

in body and spirit that he was willing to swear to anything. When he regained his mental balance after the ordeal, he repudiated his confessions made under torture and hypnotic pressure and told how they were wrung from him. The communists grabbed him again, tortured him and broke him again to the point where he was willing to swear to anything.

ME, I don't want any truck whatever with that kind of cattle. If anybody asks me to sign a special oath affirming that I AM NOT a communist, I will say to him:

"Sir, you do me a great honor

to hear the

CONNSONETTE

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READY-TO-WEAR

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AN ORGAN FOR

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...for the price of

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The Connsonette offers a

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ELECTRIC ORGAN

• Easy to play

• Purely electronic; no

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• Small, compact

• Only single manual with

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without pedal board

• 73-note single manual,

split for two-manual

performance

• Two built-in speakers

• Gorgeous tone quality

ranging from pure flute

to richest string voices

SEE IT..

HEAR IT..

PLAY IT..

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111 W. Main St.

(Opposite Rialto Theatre)

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Monday for Monday; noon Saturday

for Sunday a.m.

by giving me the opportunity to sign such a document. Hustle it here, and if you can find a fountain pen that will work I will sign it gratefully, feeling that it admits me to the splendid company of men who want it known far and wide throughout the world that they are NOT communists and will have nothing to do with this thing that is called communism."

WHILE we're on this subject,

we must remember that if you

WERE A COMMUNIST the taking

of one of these non-commu-

nist oaths would bother you not

at all. You would take it as

readily as you would brush your

teeth.

If you are a communist, you

follow the party line, no matter

where it leads. If the party

tells you to steal, you STEAL.

If it orders you to commit mur-