

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Everyone in Southern Oregon
Reads The Mail TribunePublished Daily Except Saturday by
MEDFORD PRINTING CO.

27-29 North Fir St. Phone 3-5141

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An Independent Newspaper

Entered as second class matter at
Medford, Oregon, under Act of
March 3, 1879SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail—In Advance:
Daily and Sunday—six months \$12.00
Daily and Sunday—three months \$6.50
Daily and Sunday—one month \$3.50
By Carrier—In Advance:
Daily and Sunday—six months \$12.00
Daily and Sunday—three months \$6.50
Daily and Sunday—one month \$3.50
Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point,
Jacksonville, Medford, Phoenix,
Shady Cove, Rogue River, Talent
and on motor routes:
Daily and Sunday—six months \$15.00
Daily and Sunday—three months \$8.00
Daily and Sunday—one month \$4.00
All Terms Cash in AdvanceOfficial Paper of the City of Medford
Official Paper of Jackson County

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU
OF CIRCULATIONAdvertising Representative:
WEST-HOLLIDAY COMPANY, INC.
Offices in New York, Chicago, De-
troit, San Francisco, Los Angeles,
Seattle, Portland, St. Louis, Atlanta,
Vancouver, B.C.NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATIONNEWSPAPER
PUBLISHERS
ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History
from the files of the Mail
Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years
ago.10 YEARS AGO
March 11, 1942

(It was Wednesday)

Medford high school basket-
ball team defeats Mac-Hi of Mil-
ton Freewater in opening game
of state tournament at Salem.From Arthur Perry's Ye
Smudge Pot column: Shortage of
everything continues. The na-
tion will soon be back to the
first World War level when there
was a surplus of nothing except
beans and 2nd loots.20 YEARS AGO
March 11, 1922

(It was Friday)

Ashland miners receive per-
mission to carry arms as protec-
tion against theft of monthly
gold "clean-up."Literary Digest poll shows na-
tion favors repeal of prohibition
by almost four to one margin.30 YEARS AGO
March 11, 1922

(It was Saturday)

Marshall Joffre, French hero
of World War I, lists Medford
stop on tour of the Pacific north-
west.Martial law declared in South
Africa as Boer farmers and min-
ers riot against the government;
Bolshevik plot feared.40 YEARS AGO
March 11, 1912

(It was Monday)

Three men who escaped from
new county jail in Jacksonville
reported surrounded by sheriff's
posse in Foothills creek area.Robert La Follette announces
plan to "stump" Oregon before
primary here in an effort to gain
the Republican party nomina-
tion for president.Memorial Services
Held for War WriterTokyo—(U.P.)—Memorial ser-
vices for war correspondent Wil-
son Fielder, 33, of Time and
Life magazines, were held Tues-
day in the general headquarters
chapel here.Fielder was buried in a U. S.
Army cemetery at Yokohama.He was killed July 20, 1950,
at Taejon in Korea, a few days
after American troops first en-
gaged North Korean soldiers,
but his body was identified pos-
itively by the Army's graves
registration section only recent-
ly. He was one of the first of 16
United Nations war correspond-
ents killed in the Korean war.Delay Expected
On Airline ChangesSpokane—(U.P.)—A Civil Aero-
nautics board decision on air line
route changes in the Pacific
Northwest may be delayed from
three to six months, an official
of the chamber of commerce pre-
dicted Tuesday.George G. Greene, secretary
of the Chamber of Commerce
Aviation committee, made the
prediction after returning from
Washington, D. C., where he tes-
tified before the CAB.The board is considering re-
quests by Empire and West
Coast air lines for approval of a
merger and the extension of
service in the Columbia Basin.Dead line on Classified Ads: 8:30
p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Mon-
day; noon Saturday for Sunday a.m.

Editorial Correspondence

San Francisco, March 8.—We are indebted to Fred H. Cowles of Santa Barbara, former well-known Willow Creek rancher and charter member of the Rogue Valley University club, for an item which will interest the older boys (and perhaps some girls) of the valley. The item is from a recent book about Stephen Mather, for several years head of the National Park Service and always a loyal friend of Medford and Crater Lake. It reads, in part, as follows, quote:

"Mr. Mather, accompanied by E. O. McCormick, vice-president of the S. P., and Mather's assistant Albright, left one blistering August morning for Medford. Parched, disheveled and dust-choked they were greeted by two delegations in Medford: one wanting to talk about reclamation with the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (parks were in the Interior Dept. in those days); the other about Crater National Park. Mather asked that a couple of card tables be set up, and promised if given something COLD to drink to LISTEN TO ANYTHING. Presently a courteous townsman handed them each a tall, frosted beautiful drink from a pitcher the size of a kettledrum, and stood by to fill. Mather and Albright were men of meager experience at the punch-bowl. On empty stomachs they drained their glasses thirstily and pushed them back for more. . . . The scene clouded over rapidly. . . . Considerably later the two men reeled aboard the Sunset (Vice-President McCormick's private car) which had been switched over especially from Klamath Falls, and properly assisted (by members of the University club reception committee) made their escape. The beautiful drink they learned later was an illustrious 'North Country Man-Killer' called 'The Rogue River Rhapsody'—its base was applejack!"

"How well we remember!"

This department has never been disposed to sing the "good-old days" refrain with the tremolo stop full-out and tears dropping generously into the beer, but in some ways, we must admit, those good old days were an improvement over the present ones.

And among the "ways" might be cited the kind of men who represented the S.P. Board of Directors on visits to the valley, the types of National Park representatives, the sort of receptions given them by local humdingers, and the general atmosphere of good fellowship prevailing on such gala occasions. There are no S.P. vice-presidents like E. O. McCormick anymore—or if so they never come to Medford—no Mather and Albright pay annual and friendly visits while original, hospitable and lavish libations, such as "Rogue River Rhapsodies" are unknown—at least as far as this department has been provided—or informed.

In many ways—perhaps in most—Medford and the valley today form a FAR better, more worthwhile, and certainly more prosperous community than in "the good old days," but not, we submit, in the realm of what might be called gracious and graceful living.

The famous "Rogue River Rhapsody" typifies the change. No matter how distinguished a visiting delegation might be today, who would take the time or trouble to stir together a "kettledrum" of such ambrosial intricacy, complex, smooth, beguiling, deceptive and potent nectar as was embodied in this rare combination of pineapple, applejack, bitters, Napoleon brandy, strawberries, Rhine wine, ice and apoplexian—or was it a sprig of Paul Roget? Well, whatever it was—it was unique, native, and as far as the visitors were concerned, UNFORGETTABLE.

Take the delegation of world-famous geologists who visited Crater Lake around the start of World War I—they were from all over the globe, headed by a most distinguished group of scientists from Harvard—and we venture to say the members of that scholarly delegation STILL LIVING, recall with even more pleasure and nostalgic yearning the wonders and mysteries of that famous Medford "punch," (and the warm hospitality that accompanied it) than all the amazing geological wonders of Mount Mazama and its environs, instructive as the latter were. In fact we believe in the archives somewhere there is a telegram from Professor Davis of Harvard which sustains this assertion and proves incidentally that the pleasing effects of the Rogue River Rhapsodies were still present when the "Shasta Limited" reached Redding, California!

How important special features may be to a newspaper is demonstrated by the fact the undersigned buys Hearst's Examiner every now and then and for only one reason, namely: to read Herb Caen, and his famous Baghdad-by-the-Bay comments. They are the best thing of this kind west of the Rockies, in the writer's opinion, but like Homer before him, even Herbie sometimes nods. Yesterday, for example, he put one of May West's most venerable gags in the mouth of a certain Nob Hill matron. His face should be red today—but probably isn't.

We believe it was in one of her movies with W. C. Fields that the voluptuous May wore her new mink and one of the gushy chorines inspecting it remarked:

"For goodness sake May where did you get that gorgeous fur?"

And May, in her most insinuating guttural replied:

"My GOODNESS had nothing to do with it, dearie!"

Herb should be docked a day's pay, not that the gag isn't good, but it's so old—we wouldn't be surprised if Lillian Russell had originated it. And the great charm of Caen's column is and always has been, its originality, its indigenous genuine San Francisco AUTHENTICITY.

To return to the Rogue River Rhapsodies—always a pleasure Eddie—there is another regular Examiner force we think is everything a column should be—smart, forced, often cheap—the conductor being a certain Broadway roamer named Earl Wilson, who collects the latest Broadway wisecracks, and dresses them up as his own. But today he has this to say about the modern style in liquid refreshment, entitled:

TODAY'S BEST LAUGH—A martini lover asked Shipley the Bartender at Toots Shor's a "very dry" martini—"about 35 to 1." As the amazed Shipley put in one drop of vermouth, he said, "Would you like a twist of lemon peel?" The customer shouted, "Listen, if I wanted a lemonade, I'd have asked for it!"

Which underlines our point about "the good old days" in this direction of hospitality and refreshment.

The attraction of the R. R. "Rap" was not its alcoholic content—but its beautiful aroma, its silk-like smoothness, its rare combination of sweetness and character, authority and allure. Today the idea seems to be to get as high as possible as quickly as possible, which spells disaster for everyone not supplied with an oxygen tank or a first-aid kit. In the RRR days that was not the idea at all, the idea was expressed by the popular song of that era "it is always fair weather when good fellows get together," and those who insisted on rocking the boat or jumping overboard were politely invited to seek companionship and conviviality elsewhere.

If this country has ever been afflicted with a worse congress than the present one, our special operative in Washington failed to supply the evidence. The number of members in the Lower House who are not placing what is best for their country and the welfare of its people, can be counted on the fingers of one hand. The Senate is not much better, thanks to this being an election year, but we could name a dozen in the latter body we would rank as entirely worthy of their high positions and responsibility. They represent, we fear, about the only hope of averting a national disaster of major proportions before the year is over.

The Alsop brothers, special news commentators for the Mail Tribune, are among the few members of their profession who see the real nature of the present crisis, nationally and internationally, and while they are disposed to be somewhat too pessimistic, it is better to err in that direction than to join in the mad stampede of their partisan colleagues—or like some others, merely sit back and fiddle while Rome burns.

The following comment on the recent important meeting in Lisbon is an example of what we mean:

Each of these events could mean the collapse of the Western alliance, which has been so narrowly averted in the last few weeks. And one or more of these events is absolutely sure to occur if American leadership of the Western alliance is undermined by the desire in Congress to make an "economy record" in this election year. This is a year of decision, just as much abroad as at home. For if the United States provides wise, firm leadership, there is now a rational prospect for building on the Lisbon blueprint a western community strong enough to withstand whatever shocks may be in store for it. This is the lesson of Lisbon.

"WISE FIRM LEADERSHIP" in the Congress should be undelivered.—R. W.R.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe



"Is it bad luck if a black wildcat crosses your trail?"

Matter of Fact

by Stewart Alsop

NEW HAMPSHIRE:
PLUS AND MINUS

Washington—To one just re-

turned to the Washington snake

pit, there is in retrospect some-

thing wonder-

fully reassur-

ing about the

old American

political ritual

as it is now

being per-

formed an-

ew in New

Hamp-

shire. As you

look at the

earnest faces

of the voters,

listening soberly to the politi-

cians in town halls or stuffy

hotel "ballrooms," you have a

comforting feeling that the

American political system has

been going on for a long time

now, and that whatever trouble

may be in store, it will go on

for a long time to come.

Yet when this is said, it must

also be said that there are cer-

tain aspects of the current polit-

ical battle which are not en-

tirely reassuring. There is an

undercurrent of blind bitterness

which sometimes strikes the ob-

server with a faint chill of fear

for the future.

It is not reassuring, for ex-

ample, to read the vicious pam-

phlets attacking Dwight D. Eis-

enhower which have flooded the

state and which reek of neurotic

hatreds. It is even less reassur-

ing, in a way, to hear John Chap-

ple, the leading supporter of one

great American general, Douglas

MacArthur, attack another

great American general as "the

dummy m-to candidate of the

pro-Soviet crowd behind Tru-

man."

And there is nothing reassur-

ing about the peculiar brand of

journalism represented by the

politically potent "Manchester

Union Leader," whose publisher,

William Loeb, always carries a

loaded pistol with him, and is

given to publishing (with pious

disclaimers of anti-Semitism)

photostats of his birth certificate

to prove that he is not a Jew.

But it should also be pointed out

that the remark quoted above

was received in shocked silence

by the sober gathering of coun-

try people to which it was ad-

dressed; and that the Eis-

enhower supporters believe that

both the slimy pamphlets at-

tacking him and the ferocious

assaults on him in Loeb's paper

will actually help their candi-

dately become more important

than votes. . . .

AMONG the Democratic regu-

lars, to judge from the New

Hampshire organization men,

you find precisely the opposite

tendency. They are interested

only in votes, and not at all in

ideas. The typical professional

Democrat is visibly non-plussed

by any attempt to discuss the

larger issue. He likes to talk,

instead, about large blocs of vot-

ers—union labor, racial groups,

social security beneficiaries—

which he considers captives of

his party. He also likes to talk

about Federal jobs. The ques-

tion previously quoted in this

space—"who's got the jobs, Ke-

fauver or Truman?"—about

sums up the approach of many

organization Democrats to the

great problems of our times.

This sort of thing might end

with the Democratic party a

kind of mushy majority coalition

of all those groups receiving

benefits from the Federal gov-

ernment, and the Republican

party an embittered minority

cult. And this tendency is ac-

tually encouraged by the Ameri-

can system of choosing presiden-

tial candidates.

The Eisenhower-Taft contest,

for example, will reflect, not

the choice of the majority of the

voters, but the choice of a mi-

nority of New Hampshire's ortho-

dox Republicans. The Democra-

tic contest is likely to represent,

not the will of the people, but

the will of the professional

Democrats. And in New Hamp-

shire, in sharp contrast to most

other states, the voters do at

least have some chance to ex-

press their party preference.

The obvious remedy—a na-

tionwide Primary Day, second

in importance only to the pre-

sidential election itself—is so po-

litically impractical that it is

hardly worth discussing. Mean-

while, it is at least comforting

to recall that the curious, clumsy

political process now at work in

New Hampshire and elsewhere

in the nation has, by some mir-

acle, produced great presidents

in time of need in the past. No

doubt it will again now, when

the need is greater than ever

before.

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New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

Candidates Names
Given in Water
District Election

Voters participating in the

special election April 15 on pro-

posed formation of a Maple Park

Water district will also ballot to

Eisenhower's Political Creed

Duties, Responsibilities of Citizenship Told

By KEVIN McCANN
President, Defiance College
(These articles are based on
the book "The Man From Abilene," by Kevin McCann, to
be published by Doubleday
& Company.)

In his work as a military man and a university president, General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower has constantly emphasized the duties and responsibilities of citizenship in a free country.

No free man, no free institution, he holds, can be neutral in the struggle of democracy against the police state; all must join in a common profession, that of democratic citizenship.

The essence of citizenship in a free country, he has stated, is "to blend without coercion the individual good and the common good."

Gen. Eisenhower, in a recent letter to a friend, related the task of citizenship to current issues in these words:

Acceleration in Progress

"What has actually been happening over the last 40 years or so is an acceleration in the progress of the 'social revolution.' In general, the revolution was inevitable as educational averages rose from their unsatisfactory levels of a hundred years ago, and many of its results have been good—others very bad. Like all great movements of this kind, it has produced paradoxes and instances of extreme error.

"History cannot be turned back, but we can get busy and, by teaching and by work, prove to people—and I mean on a very widespread scale—that initiative is preserved by personal incentive, that the struggle to excel produces progress. The needed correctives are not go-

ing to be produced merely by putting such and such a person in the White House or by electing some particular individual to the United States Senate. Everybody who understands what is going on has got to jump into the business of teaching and preaching both by word and by example."

One of the most acute responsibilities of the American citizen, according to Gen. Eisenhower, is to "never give up the effort to determine—so far as each of us can—the probable effect of every new governmental proposal upon our personal freedom."

Should Use All Machinery

In words spoken in 1949 at the New York Herald Tribune Forum—words which have even greater weight in the national election year of 1952—Gen. Eisenhower said that citizens should "use all the detailed political machinery, including the two-party system, intended to give each of us a voice in his own government." He added this warning:

"Our American heritage is threatened as much by our own indifference as it is by the most unscrupulous office-seeker or by the most powerful foreign threat. The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter.

"And we would further advise ourselves: "Stop shrugging off politics as only the politicians' business; stop banking on American luck to get us good government and good policy—sometimes it will run out.

"Stop using the alibi, 'one vote doesn't count.' It won't, only if not used! And our neighbor's won't, unless we make him use it.

Can Make Nightmare

"Dishonest political promises

to selfish groups—not rebuffed at the ballot box—can make a nightmare of the American dream.

"But wise and determined performance of our civic duties can make that dream come true."

In a recent letter Gen. Eisenhower underlined his respect for our party machinery:

"By no means have I ever discounted the importance of professionals in any activity. In the political organizations, I have a certain underlying respect for the men who, in the precincts, the communities and counties, are willing year after year to do the necessary work for their respective groups, and with little reward or even public notice."

Military service is one of the responsibilities of citizenship, Gen. Eisenhower has insisted. Pointing out, in his inaugural address at Columbia university, that "in our nation the Army is the servant of the people," he said that "duty in its ranks is an exercise of citizenship."

Current Issue Linked

He has also linked a current national issue, Universal Military Training, to the citizen's function in these words:

"Fairness to the country and the individual's chances of survival in war demand that each able-bodied citizen receive in time of peace a thorough grounding in technique, discipline and understanding of the citizen's obligations in time of emergency."

He bluntly asked organized labor, in his 1946 speech to the CIO at Atlantic City, "to look