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ARTICLE REVIEW

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1952

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

April 15, 1942
(It was Wednesday)
Enough Medford horsemen to
form a platoon sign intentions
of enlisting in Oregon State
Guard.

From Arthur Perry's Ye
Smudge Pot column: Now comes
that argument "everybody is to
blame" for the shape the nation
found itself in as of, and before
Pearl Harbor. Everybody, how-
ever, is not rushing to court mar-
tial himself.

20 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1922
(It was Friday)
Medford pleads for opening
western entrance to Crater lake
denied by State Highway Com-
mission.

Water officials report heavy
snows around Four Mile and
Fish lakes and on Hiatt prairie
have guaranteed adequate sum-
mer irrigation water.

30 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1922
(It was Saturday)
Benjamin J. Trowbridge Sr.,
prominent Medford civic and
fraternal leader, dies unexpectedly
in Portland.

Medford men purchase 12-pass-
enger "auto-stage," inaugurate
daily bus service between here
and Klamath Falls.

40 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1912
(It was Monday)
Reports received in New York
indicate 1,492 persons killed
when liner Titanic rams iceberg
in North Atlantic ocean.

Workmen discover "rich body"
of gold ore at Braden mine after
sinking shaft to 110-foot depth.

Western Freight Rate Hike Branded As Serious Blow

Portland—(U.P.)—The nine per-
cent rail freight rate increase for
western shippers compared with
six per cent in eastern states ap-
proved by the Interstate Com-
merce commission was branded
as a serious blow to western
economy here Tuesday by ship-
pers' representatives.

More Than Expected
Shippers indicated the nine per-
cent additional rate is even
more than the railroads expected
in the west, and another serious
barrier for western goods to hur-
dle in major eastern markets.

Frank S. Clay, secretary-man-
ager of the Portland Traffic as-
sociation, said the special 12-cent
maximum boost per 100 pounds
on some basic commodities "is
merely a concession that the
West had a point in arguments
against percentage increases on
longer and more costly hauls to
the East."

AGED HOUSE MAKES TRIP

Sturbridge, Mass. (U.P.)—A
four-room farmhouse, built in
1704 and known as the John
Fenno House, has been moved
from Canton, Mass., and is being
restored at Old Sturbridge Vil-
lage, a recreated New England
town of the year 1790.

Dead line on Classified Ads 3:30
p.m. for following day 10 a.m. Mon-
day; noon Saturday for Sunday morn-
ing.

"Play Ball!"

Times change and sports ditto.
With the big league baseball season opening how
many fans realize how our great national game has
changed?

No one but Great Grandpa and probably he
doesn't remember when:

"The team scoring 21 runs first was the winner. The
batter was out if his ball was caught either on the fly or
the first bounce. A runner on the bases was out if an oppos-
ing player threw the ball at him and hit him with it, while
between bases. The pitcher was allowed to take several
steps forward before his delivery as in (of all things)
cricket!"

But don't jump to the conclusion American base-
ball was descended from cricket, the national pastime
of England, it was descended according to the best
authorities from the English game of "Rounders."

So in the name of "Old-Four-Cat" "PLAY
BALL!"—and may any teams win but the Yankees
or the Giants.—R.W.R.

'Plee-uz' Read Before You Shoot

To the editor:
I was shocked and surprised to note in your Sunday
issue you have adopted the Communist theory that the
end justifies the means. That is: you maintain the "END"
of eliminating strikes in industry is DESIRABLE, so an
executive dictatorship, arbitrarily and illegally taking over
the steel industry, is DESIRABLE—the end justified the
means. This is an extraordinary position for an anti-Com-
munist newspaper to take. I am sure many of your readers
would like to have it explained.

Randolph Jones,
Medford, April 14th.

Well, we would like to have Subscriber Jones'
position explained—FIRST.

AS HAS been so often remarked in the past, the un-
designed welcomes criticism of the sentiments
EXPRESSED in this department; but we don't wel-
come criticisms of what has neither been expressed,
nor implied.

And there was nothing in the editorial in ques-
tion to suggest—or by the wildest stretch of the imagi-
nation imply—that the Communist idea of executive
DICTATORSHIP, and the end justifies the means—
ANY means—was for a moment favored, in any way,
shape or manner, by this newspaper.

BUT there is the accusation—apparently seriously
advanced—which must be filed, with others, un-
der the general heading of "political heat," as con-
trasted with "light" in draw X-32 entitled the "Ho
Hum department."

AS THE campaign proceeds there will probably be
more—and more. But we would like to enter a
devout plea to our readers here and now, to follow
that bit of advice delivered at Bunker Hill some 170
years ago, to wit:

"Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes!"

And don't blaze away at any offering, news or
editorial in this paper until you have at least READ it!

WE NEVER take up valuable space with editorial
reprints, but we do wish Mr. Jones would be
good enough to read over the editorial to which he re-
fers under the title of "Why not outlaw strikes?" and
then give his revised judgment of it.

In the first place we restricted the term "strikes"
to those in vital industries only—basic ones like steel
—and then only in TIME OF WAR—big or little.

And we expressly pointed out we did not believe
the decision in any controversy should be made by
either parties to the dispute—interested parties—la-
bor or management—nor by any single individual like
the President. We did suggest a "labor court"—a
tribunal perhaps similar to the Supreme Court, with
power to act promptly after a thorough consideration
of all the facts, with the authority to prevent any
walk-out by its decision as to which party in the con-
troversy had the right of it—or if neither had, to de-
cide what a settlement as fair and just to BOTH parties
as humanly possible should be.

Then have that decision backed up, as Supreme
Court decisions are now, if not obeyed, by the police
power—if need be by the army, navy and marines!

WE GRANT that would be a radical change in ac-
cepted democratic jurisprudence, particularly
where labor-management problems are involved—
and incidentally we have never observed any material
support for it in high places.

But whether it is practical or impractical, desir-
able or the reverse; it is NOT communist.

It is NOT upholding any belief in the theory a
DESIRABLE end justifies any means. Nor is it ap-
proval of any form of dictatorial illegal powers in the
White House—or nearby.

FINALLY it was stated in this discussion the main
purpose of democratic government is to promote the
welfare of the people—ALL the people. (Certainly
a harmless truism if there ever was one.)

That their welfare, especially in time of war, is
inevitably seriously impaired by strikes, which reduce
supplies needed to successfully wage that war.

That, therefore, the people of this country
"should be intelligent and resourceful enough" to
somehow, some way, devise SOME procedure, which
would prevent such threats to the security of their
country and themselves, in TIME OF WAR, and
quote:

"If this can't be done under present conditions legally,
then the laws should be changed so it can be."

WHERE did our communicant find cause for shock
and surprise in this appeal to a 100% democra-
tic procedure—the passage of a new law and its en-
forcement by a court, supported it might be hoped,
as laws should be by public opinion and the police
power?—R.W.R.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe



"Notice how careful SHE is not to drop any of them, Wilson!"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph and
Stewart Alsop

SPRINGFIELD WRESTLING MATCH

Washington — An extraordi-
nary human drama is now being
played out in the Governor's
mansion at Springfield, Ill. Ever
since President Truman's sur-
prise withdrawal at the Jef-
ferson-Jackson day dinner, Gov.
Adlai Stevenson, in the intervals
of attending the 14-hour-a-day
task of governing his big state,
has been wrestling with his soul.
Will he or will he not cooperate
in the strong movement to draft
him for the Democratic nomina-
tion? Such is the question he is
seeking to answer.

According to personal friends
who have witnessed Stevenson's
private wrestling match, it has
been downright painful to
watch. Gov. Stevenson has gone
through a series of phases. Im-
mediately after the President's
announcement, he was about
ready to "chuck the whole
thing," by announcing that he
was not a candidate and would
not accept the nomination if
offered.

Twenty-four hours later, after
a day in Washington in which
he was showered with assur-
ances of support from impor-
tant political leaders and cogent
arguments from friends that it
was his duty to run, he seemed
to have changed his mind. On
the television program on the
Sunday night after the Presi-
dent's announcement, he cer-
tainly sounded like a receptive
candidate, if not like an active
one.

BACK in the huge, rambling
Governor's mansion in
Springfield, however, torturing
indication again seized Steven-
son. At first, he was very strong-
ly inclined to pretend, in effect,
that nothing had been changed
by the President's withdrawal.
He intended merely to sit tight,
to get on with his business as
governor, and to say nothing at
all about the party nomination.
Then he found himself besieged,
by telephone and in person, by
hordes of leading Democrats, all
urging him to make the race.

His close friends advised him
that he must somehow clarify
his position, and to this he has
now agreed. Again, his first in-
clination was to make a state-
ment on the famous General
Sherman pattern. Last week, he
was actually within a hair's
breadth of removing himself
once and for all from considera-
tion. Only the importunities of
friends and admirers, who have
been rather in the position of men
hanging on the coattails of a
would-be suicide, prevented him
from doing so.

The reasons for these hesita-
tions are understandable. Steven-
son is a man cursed with an
excess of imagination, only too
capable of foreseeing what he
would await him if by chance
he should be elected President.
Moreover, he has what he con-
siders a "difficult moral prob-
lem." He has persuaded all sorts
of able men to throw up their
private jobs in order to serve
the Illinois state government, on
the understanding that he would
run again for Governor.

He fears—and here most Illi-
nois political observers agree
with him—that another Demo-
crat cannot beat the powerful
and well-financed Republican
machine owned by Col. Robert
R. McCormick. Thus he thinks
his withdrawal may mean turn-
ing back the state government,
in which he has become passion-
ately interested, to the sleazy
crowd which ran it before his
election in 1948. He has, also,
little desire to run against Gen-
eral Dwight D. Eisenhower,
whom he admires, and whom he
considers the most probable Re-
publican choice. Finally, he is
in some ways a rather diffident
man, and he has a mortal fear
of seeming presumptuous, of
other people thinking that he
considers himself "an indispen-
sable man."

BECAUSE of these strong feel-
ings of Stevenson's, there is
little or no chance of his be-
ing an active candidate in the

manner of Senators Estes Ke-
fauver and Robert Kerr. The
issue involved in the drafting of
his forthcoming statement is not
whether to announce he will
chase the nomination, because
he has no intention of doing so.
The issue is, rather, whether to
discourage the major state lead-
ers who desire to draft Steven-
son, or to encourage them. As
these words are written, the bet-
ting is reported as 50-50 either
way at Springfield.

Perhaps it is a straw in the
wind, however, that the Illinois
Governor has now decided to
attend the New York dinner in
honor of W. Averell Harriman,
after first sending his regrets.
At this somewhat fantastic rally
on April 17, all the major Demo-
cratic Presidential hopefuls will
gather and will speak under the
possibly amused eye of Harry
S. Truman himself.

Stevenson, who can be a very
moving speaker on occasion, is
now hard at work preparing his
own speech, as is his old-fash-
ioned habit. The contrast is
curious between Sen. Kefauver's
rather rambling, good-tempered
endorsements of virtue; the strident, rousing
partisanship of Sen. Kerr, and the
mixture of friendly humor and
thoughtful seriousness which is
the Stevenson specialty. It will
be the first time Stevenson has
done his stuff in public before a
really attentive big league audi-
ence.

The Stevenson admirers go so
far as to hope the effect may be
comparable to that produced by
the first major New York speech,
at Cooper Union, by another
famous Illinois leader. And al-
though references to Abraham
Lincoln ought to be ruled out
of all political discussion, it is
certainly true that a really im-
pressive Stevenson performance
on April 17 can make the move-
ment to draft Stevenson all but
irresistible. The Democrats
have not resigned themselves to
losing, even if the Republican
candidate is General Eisenhower.
And if the Democrats think
Stevenson the most likely win-
ner, he will have to go as far as
Sherman to save himself. Other-
wise he will have a pretty hard
time escaping them.

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Congressional Quiz

Questions and Answers on What
Goes on at the Capital. Furnished
by Congressional Quarterly News
Features.

Q—With the political show
that's going on these days, is
Congress getting many laws
made?

A—It made 32 public laws in
the first three months of this
year—twice as many as in the
same period last year when only
15 public bills were enacted. But
the present, 82nd, Congress this
year is falling short of the pace
set by the 80th Congress which
also had the distraction of a
Presidential race during its sec-
ond session. In the first quarter
of 1948, 75 measures became
public law.

Q—Is the government's slice
of U. S. production getting big-
ger?

A—Yes. Although the "gross
national product"—a standard
measurement of all goods and
services—increased from \$282.6
billion in 1950 to \$427.8 billion
in 1951 the proportion taken for
government use increased from
43.5 billion to \$63 billion, or
from 15 to 19 per cent. The gov-
ernment slice will be even larger
in 1952.

Q—Is it a good idea for the
U. S. military to buy supplies
from Communist nations?

A—Sen. Hugh Butler (R-Neb.)
thinks it is not, and April 8 in-
troduced a bill to prohibit the
armed forces from purchasing
"any supplies or equipment from
Communist Russia or any other
nation behind the Iron Curtain."
He said Hungary has been sell-
ing the U. S. tomato paste "unfit
for human consumption."

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Congressional Quarterly

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 initial 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.

Corrupt Deal Suspected

To the Editor: In the editorial
in the Sunday issue of April 13
under the title, "Why Not Out-
law Strikes?" you quote in fine
print:

"A nationwide steel strike,
which would have paralyzed a
vital industry, and so crippled
the war effort that thousands
of American lives would have
been needlessly sacrificed, has
been prevented."

and the implication is that the
attitude of the president in tak-
ing over the steel industries was
the only means to which he could
resort in the matter to prevent
the strike. This is a wrong impli-
cation and impression. The presi-
dent of the United States knew
more than three weeks prior to
the time when he took the drastic
action which he did that there
would be a steel strike unless
a settlement was had between
the parties, and he could have
invoked the Taft Hartley law to
prevent that strike, which would
have prevented a strike for a
period of 80 days from the time
when a restraining order would
be served upon the labor unions,
during which period the em-
ployers and the employees might
have gotten together, settled
their differences, prevented a
strike, and the possession by the
owners of their steel properties
would not have been disturbed,
and much bad feeling and many
animosities prevented; but he
was not going to resort to that
provision of the law (which law
was particularly enacted to pre-
vent occurrences of this kind) be-
cause that might be some assist-
ance to Bob Taft in his presi-
dential aspirations (and this is
not written in advocacy of Taft's
campaign for I wear an Ike but-
ton); but it is written to correct
any wrong impression that may
have resulted from such publicity
as has been given, to defend the
president's unlawful act. He had
and has a definite law to prevent
occurrences of this kind; but he
did not use it because it might
imperil Democratic prospects in
the November election, and in-
stead he resorted to what consti-
tutional lawyers say was an un-
constitutional procedure. Some
Democratic United States sen-
ators and other prominent Demo-
crats have condemned the act of
the president in resorting to the
method that he did, and we find
but one so-called Republican U. S. Senator who supported the
president; and it may be well to
remember that this so-called Re-
publican U. S. Senator who sup-
ported the president, opposed the
Taft-Hartley law and voted
to sustain the president's veto
of the law, although the Con-
gress under the constitution over-
rode the veto by the 2/3 ma-
jority required in each branch
of the Congress, and the Taft-
Hartley law became a law. The
Taft-Hartley law was avail-
able to the president to effective-
ly employ in this strike threat;
and his "utmost reluctance" use
of the means he employed does
not ring true, and emphasizes
the charge widely made against
him that his act has the evidence
of a corrupt political deal.

Gus Newbury,
Medford, April 14

Ed Note: We believe if Mr.
Newbury will look up the law
he will find the Taft Hartley act
extended no power to the Presi-
dent of plant-seizure. The Smith-
Connally Act, however, did, and
after the end of the war, March,
1947, the U. S. Supreme Court
sanctioned such government seizure
under its provisions. Two
years later the U. S. Attorney
General declared that the Presi-
dent's "exceedingly great inher-
ent powers of office" were ade-
quate to deal with any strike
emergency, although authority
granted under the Smith-Con-
nally Act had lapsed. See Edi-
torial in today's paper.

So Above, So Below

To the Editor: It has become
a well known fact that the so-
called flying discs seen frequ-
ently since 1947 still remain a
profound mystery. Observations
by reliable sources from time to
time show evidence there is a
decided variation of their forms,
speed and performance in flight
and trend of motion.

The appearances give rise to
some belief that the mysterious
visitors do not come from the
earth.

Since science is agreed all is
vibration and life in motion in
the universe, the entity leads
man's speculation on and up as
he weighs the evidence that be-
comes more in accord with the
divine law of Hermes — So
above, so below.

Bert Kissinger,
233 1/2 So. Riverside,
Medford, Ore.

Agrees with Mail Tribune

April 14th, 1952

To the Editor:
A lusty amen, to the Sunday
Mail Tribune editorial, "Why
Not Outlaw Strikes?" Like the
best paid riverman who can spot
the key log for breaking a jam
which saves time, money and so
often lives, so we feel that Edi-
tor Ruhl has spotted the "key-
log" in this frightening jam of
strikes. Why not use it?

If we continue to piddle
around the edges, worrying who
is breaking the law and what-
not, there will be time wasted.

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Congressional Quarterly

money, and likely lives, just like
at Panmunjom where according
to Newsom's Good and Bad
News, quote "Both sides are
working on possible compromises
of the deadlocked prisoner-ex-
change issue, which apparently
now is regarded as MORE IM-
PORTANT (my capitals) to a fi-
nal settlement than either the
question of construction of mili-
tary airfields or the naming of
Russia as a neutral inspector." This
writer takes some humble
pride in picking out this "key-
log" some months ago, that was
in The Mail Tribune.

If the powers that be are em-
powered by law to drag a young
husband from wife, kiddies and
a hard-won business or job and
put him back on the battlefield
he luckily escaped from alive
and more or less in one piece,
then by the Eternal law, written
or not, men can be compelled to
stay on jobs vital to our exist-
ence as a nation in time of war.
We cherish and hope to pre-
serve our free way of life. But
when a nation's life is at hazard,
men and women cannot indulge
in some of the luxuries they are
accustomed to, like a wage wait-
ing Saturday night beer party,
chucking coins into a pinball
machine 'til they run into dol-
lars and dollars, with the hope
of getting a spattering of nickels
back, banging away at clay pig-
cons, lugging home the latest in
fishing tackle to exercise along
fish scarce waterways and end-
less other cash-absorbing voca-
tions, that certainly cannot be
construed into any kind of reason
for calling strikes.

F. J. Clifford
1319 S. Stage Road

Bob Ingersoll

To the Editor: Sixty-nine years
ago, Bob Ingersoll delivered a
lecture on "Infidelity" to a full
house in the old Vining theater
at Ashland.

He was a large man and look-
ed to be about six feet in height
with a large tummy—so large,
it took a big vest to cover it with
large pockets. He kept his hands
in the pockets most of the time.
Ministers, Christian people and
disbelievers came from all over
southern Oregon to hear him (I
say disbelievers, but I do not
think there are such persons).

Somehow, things seemed
strange. Only one chair was on
the platform. He came in alone,
quietly, and looked unconcerned
as he took his seat and gazed
around. Everything was quiet.
When I got tired of looking at
him and turned away, I looked
back to see him standing on the
edge of the platform looking
straight into the eyes of individ-
uals as much as to say, "Was it
you?"

He began speaking in a low
tone of voice, clear, plain and
beautiful. His oratory was so per-
fect, it charmed you. The world
with all its wonders, told in so
fitting a manner, seemed like a
dream. His description of the
people and many tribes and col-
ors was interesting. The kindly
words he said to the people at
his feet and in the gallery paved
the way to demonstrate the abili-
ty of the greatest orator the
United States has ever known.

He seemed reluctant about
touching on religion. I was so
fascinated with his elaborate or-
atory, and amused at his appear-
ance with his hands in those
big vest pockets, that I probably
missed some of his sayings. He
lashed the ministers saying they
preached a sermon on Sunday
morning and ran horse races and
gambled on Sunday afternoon.

Unlike Darwin, he did not
claim mankind originated from
the tadpole and monkey. He
questioned the translation of the
St. James version of the Bible.
When he landed on the old
time circuit rider who suffered
and did so much in the pioneer
days by preaching to miners and
settlers in the scantily-settled re-
gions of our land, he and I saw
things different.

It's plain to be seen that he as-
sumed the title "Infidel" to draw
crowds at \$1 admittance. It was
money, money.

However, I have never re-
gretted hearing Bob Ingersoll.

F. S. Brandon,
211 N. Ivy,

School Teacher Murder Victim; Slayer Sought

Kelso, Wash.—(U.P.)—Police in
Washington and Oregon search-
ed Tuesday for the slayer of a
35-year-old Longview school-
teacher. The slayer, believed to
be a hitchhiker, dumped the
body on the roadside and then
drove off in the victim's car.

Stabbed Seven Times

The dead man was Martin T.
Zellmer. He was stabbed seven
times in the head, chest and
back, then thrown from his car
on old U. S. highway 99 11 miles
south of here Monday.

Zellmer's wallet was missing
but about \$15 in currency was
found in his sock, his shirt pocket
and a coat pocket "as if he
had known the hi-jacking was
coming," Sheriff C. W. Reynolds
said.

"He had three wounds in his
chest, three in his back and one
through his temple," Reynolds
added. "All of the stabs were
deep and went straight in."