

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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 29, 1922

(It was Wednesday)

Medford is one of five Oregon cities named by OPA to go under rent control regulations.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Hereabouts the weather is still censured. There are days when it is more to be pitied.

20 YEARS AGO

April 29, 1912

(It was Friday)

Southern Oregon milk producers jubilate as butter price to buyers rises to 17 cents a pound on Portland market.

Eighteen inches of new snow-fall in Dead Indian area halts search for bodies of man and wife missing since January blizzard.

30 YEARS AGO

April 29, 1902

(It was Saturday)

Results of widely-heralded spelling match in confusion as teams captained by Gus Newberry and Court Hall both claim victory.

Medford police investigating "crime wave," homes of many leading citizens entered.

40 YEARS AGO

(It was Monday)

New high-powered wireless station at Central Point starts operations; receives several messages from ships at sea.

Members of Medford University club bring back favorable reports after inspection trip to Blue Ledge copper mine southwest of Medford.

Editorial Comment

Knifing Mr. Sweetland

The dirt that comes out in some political campaigns is always distasteful to a majority of voters who believe in fair play and an honest, open scrap. Fortunately, Oregon voters seem to be more immune than those in some other states to influence by whispering campaigns, anonymous and libelous publications, smears and backstabbing of various types.

One of the nastiest campaigns in this election is being waged against the Democratic national committee, Monroe Sweetland, whose enemies have descended to a new low in vituperation. If some of the material being circulated could be believed, Mr. Sweetland should be hanged from the nearest limb. Mr. Sweetland was a Socialist in his student days, and that has been the takeoff point. We find nothing in his record, however, which is dishonorable or detrimental to the party he represents. His mistake, from the standpoint of his enemies, seems to be that he has revived the Democratic party in Oregon and gained some influence in Washington, D.C.

This newspaper is not greatly interested in the affairs of the Democratic national committee, but we are interested in a fair play and honesty in politics. Democrats puzzled or disturbed by the vicious infighting should make up their minds May 16 on the basis of Mr. Sweetland's record.—Portland Oregonian.

Dead line on Classified Ads 3:30 p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Monday; noon Saturday for Sunday & 11

Two Questions Answered

We have received a communication—not for publication—which asks two questions:

1. If the Smith-Connally Act allowed the President to seize the steel industry, why didn't President Truman invoke it?
2. If for some reason this could not have been done, why didn't he invoke the Taft-Hartley Act, by which he could have prevented the steel strike within the law instead of in defiance of it?

(1) Our understanding is the Smith-Connally act applied only during World War II, and lapsed when the war ended.

"Action brought during the war against this measure on constitutional grounds, however, was not sustained and the law was upheld by the Supreme Court in March 1947."

It was probably because of this ruling that President Truman's Attorney General had informed him the chief executive's "exceedingly great inherent powers were adequate to deal with any serious strike emergency."

The latter, in turn, probably was the basis for the President's belief that his seizure of the steel industry had proper legal sanction.

(2) As before stated, The Mail Tribune doesn't know whether or not the fact his bitter political enemy Senator Taft, was author of the T.-H. Act, impelled him to ignore it.

But we do know this: Had the Taft-Hartley measure been invoked, there would undoubtedly have been an interval of several days—perhaps weeks—during which there would have been no steel production, and it was any interruption of steel production, that the Department of Defense officially stated would be calamitous to our war effort and President Truman, above everything else, wished to avoid.—R.W.R.

Why Do Democrats Favor Taft?

Things aren't breaking so well just now for Senator Robert Alonzo Taft. And we are not referring to the recent primary in New Jersey.

We have in mind the publication of the late Senator Vandenberg's official papers, and the newspaper comments upon the recent refusal of Governor Stevenson of Illinois to be a candidate for the presidency.

The damaging element in both cases is the complete absence of a partisan political slant.

NOT only was Senator Vandenberg a close personal friend of Senator Taft, but they had been for years, the closest political buddies.

Yet, not only once or twice, but frequently, the Michigan Senator writing to members of his family, declared the greatest cross he had to bear in his patriotic effort to weld together a high-minded, bi-partisan foreign policy, was the pestiferous isolationism of "Mr. Republican."

Time after time progress was reported and a real step in advance seemed assured, when "Old Ichabod" himself would get up on his hind-legs and throw a sack of monkey-wrenches into the bi-partisan gears.

"He gives me an awful headache," the late Senator from Michigan declared time after time, in anguish and pain.

We believe few people who read these interesting and extremely revealing papers, will fail to have a far higher idea of the spiritual stature and sound statesmanship of the late Michigan Senator, and a far lower one of the same qualities in the character of the senior Senator from Ohio, than they had before.

And it is difficult to escape the conclusion that a majority of such readers regardless of politics, will now be more hesitant than ever before to favor placing the control of this country's foreign affairs, at such a critical time as this, in the hands of a man as bigoted, blind and hopelessly provincial, internationally speaking, as Senator Taft.

THERE is one dominant note running all through the newspaper comments on Governor Stevenson's declination, and that note reads something like this:

"The one chance to get Governor Stevenson to reconsider and accept a draft would be the nomination of Senator Taft by the Republicans."

This proceeds not from the Eisenhower camp, but from the Democrats. It will be pretty hard for Robert Alonzo to discount this sort of tribute to General Eisenhower's vote-getting ability, and reflection upon his own.

There is no campaign propaganda in this sort of appraisal, it adds up to some very realistic calculations by the smartest political strategists in the Democratic High Command.

And perhaps the smartest practical politician in the party, if not the country, none other than Harry Truman of Independence, Missouri, himself, supports this line of reasoning.

IN FACT, it is no secret that the only possibility of President Truman ever reconsidering his refusal to be a candidate for reelection, would be the certainty he would have the author of the Taft-Hartley bill for an opponent.

As remarked above, the punch-line in this latter situation is the fact that the Taft opposition proceeds, NOT from Eisenhower Republicans, who don't want him to get the GOP nomination, but from the Truman Democrats who DO!—R.W.R.

An Amazing Average

An interesting column in the magazine section of the New York Times recently revealed some interesting facts. It says there are three copies of the Bible

Cross-town

By Roland Coe



"And THIS, I presume, is the 'Rushing trout stream' mentioned in your ad?"

in the average American home, the average length of circulation of a dollar bill is four months, and the average woman who dresses in a room without a mirror finishes in seven minutes while a woman in a room with a mirror takes sixteen minutes. The last statement is attributed to a German statistician. Americans can't even imagine a woman dressing without a mirror.

We wonder what women the German researcher tested? With or without a mirror, sixteen minutes is phenomenal time for a woman to don apparel. This is an age of jet-propulsion and most things move faster. Yet when a man must wait for a woman to dress it differs little from the days when he waited in a suit of armor. We suspect that in the confusion the statistician read his slide-rule instead of his wrist-watch! —R. S.

Watch Out, - Wall Street!

When it comes to cash-money on the line, Wall Street usually drops all prides and prejudices, viewing the problem with a cold, fishy and realistically appraising eye.

So one is surprised to note the odds against a Democratic victory this autumn since the checking-out of Messrs. Truman and Stephenson have risen nearly double what they were before.

Can it be the wise-money boys are discounting "coon-cap" Kefauver just because the Elder Statesmen of the Fair Deal party have done so?

If so they are pulling a terrible boner in this department's judgment. Kefauver's unpopularity with the White House "clique" instead of doing him harm with the people, will do the exact reverse. And not the Bourbon "Big Shots" but the people in November are going to have the votes.

FINALLY more important than anything else, the Anti-Vice Crusader, with his winning ways and attractive smile—also wife—has yet to be beaten in any Democratic primary no matter whether his name has been in box-car type on the ballot, or not.

There is another point as has been so often stated in this department, while on paper the Democrats CAN'T beat the Republican Party next November, the Republicans can still beat themselves—and the die-hard Taft zealots are still doing their level best to bring this about.

So our advice to the Wall Street bookmakers is to take another gander at their hole-cards and especially keep a weather-eye on that Republican convention in Chicago before they put any three-to-one money on Jumbo's weather-beaten and badly battered nose.

Unless the big money boys down there near the battery are dumber than we think they will stop selling this Kefauver PFD stock short, in another 2 or 3 weeks!—R.W.R.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Discouraging in this column the other day on the subject of spending, I was moved to ask if anybody around here is mathematician enough to figure out how long it would take us to PAY BACK our 260 billion dollar national debt at the rate of \$1,000 a minute.

When the paper came out, Gordie Lee, over on the radio side of our establishment reached for his slide rule and came up in a few minutes with the statement that, not allowing for leap years or for interest, it would take us 495 years.

UNCOMFORTABLE thought: I'm afraid I'll never live to see our country out of debt.

WHAT got me off on that line was a recent statement by Congressman Hubert Scudder, of California, to the effect that if somebody with a billion dollars had started in the year 1 A.D. to throw it away at the rate of \$1,000 a day he'd still have enough left in this year of our Lord 1952 to last him until the year 2929—or nearly a thousand years hence.

What he was seeking to prove by illustration is that a billion dollars is a lot of money to everybody except our spenders in Washington. THEIR story, of course, is that this is a big coun-

Turn of Events in Prisoner Discussion Features Bad News

By PHIL NEWSOM

United Press Foreign Analyst The week's balance sheet between the good and bad news in the hot and cold war:

THE BAD

1. The on-again-off-again Korean truce talks seemed drifting toward another low. The Communist Peiping Radio said the Allies had submitted a new prisoner list omitting the names of captives who do not wish to return to China or North Korea. The Communists said it was a "nasty trick" and also accused the Allies of "leaking" news of the prisoner talks to Allied reporters. Talks covering construction of new airfields and Russia as a neutral also were at stalemate.

2. West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer said further talks with the French over control of the coal-rich Saar district were "impossible." The Saar will be a continuing sore spot between the French and Germans until it finally is settled, and Western leaders now fear the dispute will block German and French ratification of the European Army plan when it comes before the two parliaments this fall or winter.

THE GOOD

1. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, on the eve of Japanese independence, pledged that "Japan can and will be defended against any attack." Ridgway said the Japanese "very definitely" can be counted on to remain on the side of the Western democracies and predicted only a "moderate reaction" to reforms adopted during the occupation.

2. The see-saw war in Indo-China temporarily, at least, was running to the side of the French. French troops claimed the Rebels lost 2,500 men in the Red River delta during the last week and said that new "decisive" blows were planned. The French also arrested 3,262 civilians accused of being Rebel soldiers in disguise.

3. Both the British and the Egyptians appeared to be making a strong effort to reach a settlement of their dispute and bring closer a Middle East defense pact which would insure defense of the Suez Canal. British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden reportedly has worked out a new compromise formula which would recognize Egyptian claims to the disputed Sudan area but at the same time would insure a plebiscite for the Sudanese people and the right of self decision.

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.

Mortuary Favors on a Coroner

To the Editor: Since the time we moved here from Minnesota and established our business in Medford, many have urged us to "run for coroner" when the opportunity came. Those who have made this suggestion will verify that we have consistently said it is our sincere belief that the office of the coroner does not belong in a funeral home. In our opinion it is not an ethical way to get funeral business, and except for that, there is no reason or basis for a funeral director even being interested in the position.

We feel that, actually, the office of coroner should be eliminated and his duties automatically made those of the county health officer, who, by law, must be a doctor; or of the sheriff's office, with its trained investigators. This, however, would be a system the state legislature should set up on a state-wide level by law.

Until such laws are passed in Oregon as they, or similar laws, have already been passed in a number of other states, it is our conviction that the duties of the coroner can best be performed only by a competent medical doctor.

As the coroner, a doctor is interested only in establishing the cause of unexplained deaths, or those where no physician has been in attendance. A funeral director, as coroner, must call in the services of a doctor to establish the cause of such deaths in many cases anyway, so why not make a physician the coroner in the first place?

CHAPEL MORTUARY

Frank Morgan

Harold Snodgrass

Medford.

spread southward almost to San Francisco bay Sebastopol was about the southernmost point of their penetration, and they named it for the Russian city of the same name in the Crimea, which is the Russian winter resort.

That's also where the name Russian river comes from.

When the sea otter began to peter out, the Russians lost interest in expansion southward along the Pacific Coast and eventually withdrew to Alaska. In the course of time, we BOUGHT Alaska to get rid of 'em.

THAT, I'm afraid, started a bad precedent.

When Stalin got brash after World War II and became an IMPERIALIST, after the manner of the czars, we started in BUYING HIM OFF, too. I suppose we thought we could stop him that way, as we had stopped his predecessors a century and a half before.

It didn't work. Whereas the Russians of the czar's day took their millions and got out of Alaska and stayed out, Stalin took everything we offered in the way of appeasement and yelled lustily for MORE.

The more we appeased, the more he demanded.

HE'S obviously a different breed of Russian cat—just as much of an imperialist as the czars were but bolder, greedier, a smarter trader and a shrewder psychologist. Every time we bought him off, from Tehran and Yalta on, he dug up something else to sell us AND DEMANDED A HIGHER PRICE FOR IT.

CONGRESSMAN SCUDDER

lives in Sebastopol. That suggests another question:

Who knows how Sebastopol, California, got its name?

WELL, it's a rather interesting story.

About a century and a half ago, the Russians got an idea that they'd like to have a slice of what is now the American Pacific Coast. What really interested them was the beautifully-furred animal known as the sea otter. The sea otter's pelt was valuable, and the Muscovite of that day was not above turning a quick ruble at every opportunity.

So, pursuing the sea otter, the minions of the czar crossed over to Alaska, established headquarters at Sitka, and gradually

Meet the Candidates

Editor's note: This is one of a series of statements furnished by candidates for local office in the primary election May 16. They are being published by The Mail Tribune as a free service to the candidates, and for the information of readers wishing to inform themselves of candidates' positions relative to their candidacy.

By CARLOS MORRIS

Republican, for County Coroner

The privilege of your columns in connection with my candidacy for reelection as Jackson County Coroner is appreciated.

I was born in Gold Hill in 1910; became associated with the late Hemery W. Conger in 1939; have been managing partner of Conger-Morris since 1944.

Since taking office as Coroner in 1948, I have reduced the budget from \$600 to \$500 each year; and my actual expenditures have been even less.

If reelected, I will continue to discharge faithfully my duties in the investigation of unnatural



CARLOS MORRIS

deaths in cooperation with all law-enforcement agencies and our county health officer and registrar of deaths, as required by law.

I feel confident that I have adequate equipment and facilities, and a competent staff of deputies, including three employees of Conger-Morris, and C. M. Litwiller, funeral director, Ashland. This permits me to respond personally to all calls, without using outsiders in this sacred trust.

A vote for Carlos W. Morris for Coroner is a vote for efficiency and capability.

Postmaster Exams Set for Jacksonville

Civil service examinations for permanent appointment as postmaster at Jacksonville will be held soon, it was announced Saturday by the Civil Service Commission. Salary is \$4,162 annually.

Applicants must owe allegiance to the United States, have resided within the delivery area for at least one year, must be in good health, and must be within certain age limits. The examination is open to men and women.

A written examination will be given at a date to be announced later, and applicants will also be judged on education and business or professional experience, general qualifications and suitability. Political, religious or fraternal affiliations are not considered.

Mrs. Jean Whitney is present postmaster.

Full information and application forms may be obtained at the Jacksonville post office or the Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D.C. Applications are due on or after May 15.

Dead line on Classified Ads 3:30 p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Monday; noon Saturday for Sunday & 11

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