

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
NEWSPAPER 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
May 6, 1942
(It was Wednesday)
United States announces Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright has surrendered Corregidor fortress in Manila bay.

30 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1912
(It was Friday)
Elk Creek man sentenced to year in Oregon state prison for "possession of illegal mash."

40 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1912
(It was Saturday)
Medford Ku Klux Klan organization invites Mayor C. E. Gates to attend Klan meeting and hear a report on the organization's "lofty purposes."

50 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1902
Southern Oregon Federation of Women's clubs takes "positive stand against the showing of Fatty Arbuckle films" in this area.

60 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1902
Medford Commercial club calls meeting of all persons interested in legislation to allow counties to determine the amount of money they will spend for roads.

70 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1902
City-wide cleanup campaign to end with bonfire, free band concert and speech by the mayor.

80 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1902
Armadoillos have a litter of young all the same sex. Other facts about this odd animal: it can swim, walk under water, has no front teeth, can dig, and is quite edible.

Court Records
POLICE COURT
Robert Lee Rose, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Jack David Johnson, expired operator's license, \$5.

DISTRICT COURT
Willard Ray Lilly, inadequate brakes \$10.
Tage Wendelbo Jeppesen, failure to display motor vehicle license, \$5.

During the past few weeks there has been a noticeable let-down however, and as summer comes on and the tourist-travel increases, the hazard to life and limb will increase also.

Today's offering is a free public service in answer to his request!—R.W.R.

Medford Leads the World

"Persons lawfully walking across streets on cross-walks (whether walks are marked or not) have the right-of-way over motor vehicles. They do not have such right of way when crossing at other points ("Jay Walking.")

The above is taken from the official Drivers Manual for the state of Oregon for the year 1952. It will not come as news to the local authorities—they have known the law for many years. Nor to old time and experienced pedestrians.

But it will be news to the pedestrians who have recently made their residence here.

In fact their natural inquiry will be: "If that's the law why isn't it enforced?"

WELL that's not a long story, but it is an old one.

The Mail Tribune has often made the inquiry, not only why there is no effort made to enforce the law, but none made to publicize it.

Practically every other community from Portland to San Diego, the size of Medford, puts notices at important cross-walks, informing motorists as well as pedestrians, that motor cars must stop when a cross-walk is occupied.

That doesn't mean when there is a crowd in it, but when any member of the genus homo is in it—man, woman or child.

But Medford doesn't do it. Why?

WELL there are three stock reasons usually given, to-wit:

No. I: there are not enough traffic cops to enforce the law, although there are enough to enforce all the other traffic-laws including the proper patronage of parking meters.

No. II: Medford motorists, unlike motorists elsewhere, pay no attention to such notices, and unless there is a pedestrian handy that they can hit, they proceed to hit these signs, so frequently rendering the signs unfit for further service that there is an overhead in replacements, which the city exchequer can not meet.

No. III: The state highway department refuses to allow the replacing of such signs on Medford's important cross-walks, because they are—most of them—in the state highway system and therefore under state, not municipal control.

These explanations may not seem very convincing to newcomers, but they have to date been convincing—or at least effective—as far as any change in the Medford procedure is concerned.

AND in spite of continued protests and complaints no one expects a change least of all the local pedestrians.

For they have become "conditioned" to this refusal to enforce the traffic laws as far as cross-walks are concerned.

It might not be strictly correct to say some of them—particularly the younger and stronger ones—rather like it; but they do admit that thanks to the ancient law of the "survival of the fittest" they keep in far better physical trim than would be the case if they received the protection the law provides.

For unless they are capable (without any warning) of jumping forward, backward and sideways (occasionally straight up and over with equal facility if not distance) they would not be here—or if here in a hospital or if at home in a plaster cast.

So, as has been previously noted in this department, the law-of-compensation really does work in this situation, which is generally deplored but for which there appears to be no remedy, no immediate one at least.

In fact, while the newcomers may not realize it, Medford is not only justly famous for its gamey trout and succulent pears, but for its pedestrians, the best-trained, hardiest, most resourceful and alert anywhere on the coast from the Canadian border to the Mexican line. They have to be to live!

And that is not to be sneezed at.

In fact, if things go on as appears likely, and the refusal to enforce the law quoted above continues through the years; and if, as reported, the Olympic Games committee does introduce an international pedestrian contest in 1956, the Medford Chamber of Commerce should not only finance a trip for the local team, but put their pictures on the front page of their new illustrated (in color) booklet!

They would win the world championship in a walk—and probably get no worse than second or third, in the hop-skip and jump.—R.W.R.

In the Line of Public Service

Many months ago the Mail Tribune carried on a brief campaign along the above lines and with good results.

There was no change in enforcement of the pedestrian law, but there was a noticeable change on the part of local motorists to voluntarily obey the law.

During the past few weeks there has been a noticeable let-down however, and as summer comes on and the tourist-travel increases, the hazard to life and limb will increase also.

In fact the honorary President of the "Main and Fir Pedestrians Club, Inc.," who was knocked for a 30-yard loss and a touchback on the asphalt last fall, by a skillful hot-rod performer, asked the Mail Tribune to again please call attention to the deplorable and dangerous situation. He is proud of his service-stripes and "purple heart," but he would rather not have the MT publish his obituary just yet if it can be helped.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe



"Maybe we'd better synchronize our—uh—MY watch."

Matter of Fact

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

AIR DEFENSE: WE HAVEN'T ANY

Washington—At Eniwetok, in September, the United States will explode the world's first hydrogen bomb—unless the Soviet Union gets ahead of us. Contrary to preliminary reports, the new Eniwetok bomb will be a true prototype of the terrible super-bomb of almost limitless power. If successful, the September test will prove that super-bombs can in fact be constructed. It is far from certain, however, that the Soviet Union will not get ahead of us. Before his arrest Klaus Fuchs had transmitted to Russia all current information on the hydrogen bomb problem. The American effort to build a hydrogen bomb was kept in low gear until the outbreak of the Korean war. An all out Soviet effort presumably began much earlier. In short, the news of the Eniwetok test can have a two-edged meaning.

Because of these grim facts, these reporters have recently made an intensive inquiry into the state of this country's air defenses. The results, which will occupy this space for some days, are curious, disturbing and heartening—all in the same breath, as it were.

On the one hand, we do not now have an effective air defense. And on the basis of present plans and appropriations, we are unlikely to have an effective defense in the foreseeable future. On the other hand, improved air warning systems and truly revolutionary new guided missiles have recently been developed. And these will make it possible to defend the United States in the air—if we choose to pay the considerable price.

IN ORDER to understand the state of our defenses today, two facts must be remembered. First, the so-called economies of former Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson caused even the most promising and vital defense projects to be laid on one side, until the outbreak of the Korean war. Second, the temptation to accord a low priority to air defense was especially great, because a genuinely effective defense simply could not be built until the recent developments above-mentioned.

The Chief of Air Staff, Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, has told the county that, as of now, 30 per cent of any attacking force could be destroyed on the way to its target. Like so many figures emanating from the Pentagon, however, this one, as of now, has a large infusion of the theoretical. The truth is that both the components of our air defense system are appallingly weak.

Construction of the basic radar screen or "radar fence," which was begun after the aggression in Korea, is not yet complete. Most of the many stations will be in place by the end of this summer. But even then, important gaps will remain in the radar screen on this continent; and facilities for really early warning, which are the necessary foundation of any fully effective defense, still will be lacking.

We are also gravely deficient in the other part of an effective air defense system. Fighter aircraft production, still lagging shockingly, has been mainly concentrated on the F-86 type that is so urgently needed in Korea. The all-weather types, the F-96 and its intended successor, the F-89, have been coming out in dribbles or not at all. Existing stocks of F-96 aircraft have also been heavily depleted to protect our forces in Korea and our strategic air bases in Britain. At present, therefore, this country can hardly be said to have night and bad weather protection.

STILL speaking as of now, this is probably not so hair raising as the naked facts had first seemed. According to the best estimates, the Soviets currently possess about 700 TU-4 bombers—their improvement of the

captured B-29—plus a very small number of the big B-36 light bomber shown on May Day a year ago.

Hence the TU-4s are the immediate problem. They are believed not to be equipped with good radar bombsights. Their operational radius is only about 2,500 miles. So far as is known, the TU-4 squadrons have not been trained in the tricky technique of air refueling, which would extend this limited radius. Thus, any Soviet air attack on the United States would have to be planned as a one-way mission; and because of the bomb-sight problem, would probably have to be launched by day and in good weather.

Against such an attack, even our feeble present air defenses might conceivably attain Gen. Vandenberg's theoretical estimate of 30 per cent of destruction. But this hope depends squarely on the correctness of the rather shaky information about Soviet air capabilities. The mere pitting of the TU-4s with radar bomb-sights for all-weather operation would revolutionize the entire picture.

Furthermore, as time goes by the Soviet strategic air force will surely be improved. The Soviet atomic stockpile will surely grow, whether or not the Soviets produce a hydrogen bomb. And the intensive Soviet guided missile effort may well bear important fruits. In short, with every day and month that passes, the danger hanging over us will grow greater and greater. There is only one feasible counter measure—to begin the improvement of the American air defense system without a day's delay.

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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 M. P. VOGEL, M. D. Republican, for county coronor

I have been requested to run for the position of county coroner by many businessmen and doctors. They felt the position



DR. M. P. VOGEL

could be more effectively filled by a physician.

The coroner makes investigations and reports of all deaths resulting from apparent or suspected criminal means. It is now necessary for the coroner to call in the public health officer to determine the cause of death. This is not a duty of the public health officer and should not be forced upon him in addition to his many other duties.

I have been a resident of Jackson county since 1927. I attended schools in Medford and Jacksonville. I attended the Universities of Alaska and Oregon, then graduated from the Medical school at Portland. I was a flight surgeon in the Air Force for two years and recently practiced in Shady Cove. For the past year I have been practicing in Medford.

There are eight counties in Oregon with physicians for coronors. These doctors continue to carry on their practice.

Many states require that the coroner be a doctor, as he is the only one qualified to do that type of work. Lets put Jackson county up to date.

Walla Walla—(U.P.)—Police throughout southwest Washington were alerted Monday to watch for Kenneth George, 34, who escaped from the state prison for the third time Sunday.

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.

She Is for Walter Nunley

To the Editor: I have resided in Jackson county some 15 years, and plan to reside here another 15 or more—but I'd like to secure for my family the assurance that our District Attorney exists as a protector of innocent citizens and a prosecutor of those who transgress against the innocent. Citizens who have had contact with the office for protection FROM criminal influence are not campaigning for another term of "protection" such as they have been afforded. Those who have gone to secure protection OF criminal influence are campaigning for a continuance of this service. The present incumbent may not have established this policy, but we have not seen him attempt to eliminate it while serving as Deputy D. A., by appointment, nor while serving as D. A., by appointment.

Have you, Mr. and Mrs. Citizen, compared the gambling device LICENSING by the City of Medford with other Oregon cities? Have you compared the criminal court statistics with those from other counties? Have you had contact with the office WE maintain to protect us as citizens? Do you know that the majority of convictions in our criminal courts are for "money crimes"? Which is more important to us and to our children—dollars, or sense? Do you know that the 1950 ratio of divorces to marriages in Jackson county was 72%? That in 1951 it rose to 85%? Some indignantly deny that Jackson county needs moral improvement. No one who conscientiously read the Juvenile Office report published in 1951 and who can answer these questions can honestly deny it. Children are not born inherently bad. As the song from "South Pacific" goes, "They must be taught before it's too late to hate all the things their relatives hate."

It likewise to do all the things their relatives uphold. Is this the inheritance we WILFULLY, and

with eyes closed, bequeath to our children?

Can we be courageous enough to face these truths squarely and vote for some measure of improvement, that we may be able to hold our heads up before our sons and daughters and offer them faith in us as parents—as dependable and honorable citizens? Or are we going to say: "Here it is. It's a mess, but it isn't our fault. The generation before ours left it to us, and we were unwilling to improve it for you."

If we are going to try to improve it, we will vote for protection FROM criminal influence—that which our statutes provides—we will support the nomination of Walter Nunley for District Attorney.

Mrs. L. Benson, 2665 Crater Lake Hwy., Medford, Oregon

How About It?

To the Editor: We fully agree that collective bargaining that settles disputes fairly and satisfactorily to both sides is the ideal way to settle differences between capital and labor. But everybody with intelligence knows that the minute a strike is threatened there is no more fair bargaining. It is coercion from then on, and as soon as a strike is called, it is war. A labor court might be all right if we could be assured of

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Pacts for Germany Part in Europe Army Begin Falling Apart

By PHILL NEWSOM United Press Foreign Analyst

The old saying that there's many a slip twixt cup and lip is demonstrated nowhere better than in our dealing with West Germany.

As recently as last March, the United States, Britain and France believed the last obstacles in the way of full West Germany participation in the defense of Europe had been removed.

Big Three foreign ministers, in conferences with German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, reached agreement on the amount of money a virtually independent West Germany should contribute. The Bonn government announced it would draft upwards of 300,000 men to take part in the European army.

Germany and France came to what seemed to be at least temporary agreement on the Saar. Agreements Fall Apart

Then, one by one, agreements began falling apart.

The Germans wanted to use the bulk of their money to build up German armed forces, reducing drastically their contribution toward the upkeep of Allied forces already there. German socialists wanted a proviso that German troops would not be used outside of Germany, thus violating the whole theory of European defense.

The Saer issue exploded again and Adenauer said the Germans and French were so far apart in their thinking, there was not even any use talking about it.

Doubt is beginning to creep into talk that agreement for liberation of West Germany will be reached by May 20.

German Opposition Seen

And it seems that if any agreement is initiated by that date, it will be over the opposition of a great many Germans and with considerable reservation among other nations that it ever will be a success.

Aside from opposition from both inside and outside Germany to a revitalized German army, there is the German fear that an alignment with the West

will mean the permanent division of Germany.

Thus mounting pressure for another meeting with Russia for one more Big Four attempt at an overall German peace treaty.

British Add Weight

British Laborites have added their weight to the demands, and the United States is reported reluctantly coming to the view that another meeting must be held, if only to convince the Germans of the hopelessness of doing business with the Reds and that the Western Allies are not arbitrarily forcing national partition upon them.

The Russian offer to negotiate an overall peace treaty for Germany undoubtedly has muddied the water in Allied attempts to set up a West European defense army.

But there also are conditions inside West Germany which make it difficult.

Shaky Coalition Rules

Outstanding of these, is the fact that Adenauer rules by virtue of a shaky coalition.

His unceasing demands for new concessions from the Western Allies are in part the result of pressures put upon him by opposition parties which either oppose rearmament in its entirety or which have recovered their old arrogance and now refuse to admit that Germany lost the war.

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