

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
May 8, 1942
(It was Friday)

Approximately 19,378 applications for sugar ration books filed here; teachers and volunteer workers lauded for work during registration.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Today, a week before the primary election, major virtues have started to stick out like a sore thumb on all candidates.

20 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1922
(It was Sunday)

Jackson county political experts state "at present the voters are looking for a place to light and have not made up their minds."

Total of 37,000 pounds of air mail carried between Medford and other Pacific coast cities during April by tri-motored transport planes and single-engined mail-passenger planes.

30 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1922
(It was Monday)

Medford Mayor C. E. Gates agrees to attend Ku Klux Klan meeting if Klan will conduct full initiation ceremony, if all persons are not masked, if he is given a list of members and a copy of the Klan bylaws and constitution and with the reserved right to comment publicly on anything contrary to good citizenship.

Rogue valley fruit crops escape damage "by a miracle" in widespread killing frost.

40 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1912
(It was Wednesday)

Medford city council calls for \$20,000 bond issue to pay city's portion of costs of new Main street bridge over Bear creek.

Local residents warned by Medford doctors against eating fish caught in Bear creek.

Contino Starts Hitch in Army

Hollywood Calif. (U.P.)—Academy member Dick Contino, who served a federal prison sentence for draft evasion, began his second Army career Thursday and said this time, "I simply want to be a good soldier."

The curly-haired 22-year-old musician was inducted into the Army as a private Wednesday for a 24-month hitch and was sent to Fort Ord, Calif., to begin his basic training.

Contino was drafted the first time more than a year ago, but he fled from the Fort Ord induction center because he "couldn't stand being fenced in." He later surrendered to federal authorities and served a four and one-half month sentence at McNeil Island Penitentiary.

A total of 1,393,000 motorists ran out of gasoline on the road last year and 733,000 lost their keys or locked themselves out of their cars, reports the Automobile Club of New York.

Tiny smocks, tailored to take plenty of laundering, have been designed to protect the fingerprint set from permanent discoloration.

While Congress Fiddles!

Thomas K. Finletter, Secretary of the Airforce is a very able, and a very wise man. He is author of a new book entitled: "Can Representative Government do the job?"

The author is definitely worried. And no one can read his book without sharing his worry.

FOR at this moment the government of the United States, particularly the congress, has reached a new low in blind vindictive partisanship and reckless futility.

And the worst offenders are those who only a few months ago—a few weeks in some cases—were the most scathing, pitiless critics of the very course they are now pursuing.

BECAUSE of this campaign the motto on all sides is not (with perhaps half a dozen exceptions) what is best for the country, but what is best for "me and my party"—what will bring in the most votes.

So representatives of both parties are falling over themselves to lop off a billion here, and lop off a billion there, so they can please their constituents, regardless of whether such reductions are justified from the standpoint of the national safety and security, or not.

ACCORDING to Mr. Finletter many of them are NOT!

And unless this wild stampede for economy, regardless of what such action may mean to the country's defense effort, is soon checked, the United States may be the victim of one of supreme tragedies in all history.

And the congressmen chiefly responsible for that tragedy if it comes will be practically the same group, that less than a year ago were branding as "criminal negligence," the failure of the Truman administration to keep a large army and a fit fighting airforce in Europe when War II ended, regardless of the then overwhelming demand by the people to "bring the boys home."

SMALL wonder that one of the men responsible for the critical task of remedying this tragic error, as he pleads for appropriations needed to do the job right before it is too late, should give way at times to discouragement and despair, as he sees these demonstrations of irresponsibility, and frivolous political self-interest, when the very survival of the nation, may in another 90 days, be at stake.

IT IS a most alarming and depressing spectacle to any thinking person. And it is fairly safe wager that no one in the world is enjoying it more than dear old Uncle Joe Stalin himself!

And with good reason. For no nation that in time of crisis, CAN'T, subordinate political self-interest to a spirit of unselfish and self-sacrificing patriotism can long endure. For it is following the "road-to-ruin"—the road that Nero followed when he played the fiddle while Rome burned—and everyone knows what happened subsequently to Rome!—R.W.R.

Can Democracy Survive?

Supplementing the above, the present situation demonstrates another serious defect in our representative system of government.

The Mail Tribune has probably defended President Truman against the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" as consistently and vigorously as any daily on the coast.

One of the main reasons has been an instinctive distaste for the mob spirit of kicking a man in the face when he is down.

PRESIDENT Truman has quit. He is not a candidate for reelection and probably never will be a candidate again.

He has made mistakes—serious ones—but considering his limitations, and the multitude of extremely difficult decisions he has had to make; the Mail Tribune believes, he deserves far more praise than blame, and is confident history will sustain this judgment.

But that is not the popular verdict today. It is "open season" on HST and even many prominent members of his own party are now joining the pack to do "the old chief" in.

HOWEVER that is not the point we wish to make.

The point is that had we a parliamentary form of government like Canada's or England's, this "open season" would never have been possible.

Just or unjust, the plain fact is that the Truman administration has not enjoyed the confidence of the people for a year—a majority of them—or more.

Under a parliamentary system a test vote would have been ordered long ago and instead of the country staggering along month after month without cohesion and without real leadership, there would have been another party in control and a new leader at the helm, perhaps since early in 1951.

And even more important there would have been an immediate and a short campaign—a prompt change in answer to popular demand—instead of this unending and depressing "battle royal," with everything confused, adrift and at sixes and sevens, with Uncle Sam lucky if he escapes a major catastrophe. —R.W.R.

Crosstown

By Roland Cos



"Haven't you something with a larger feather?"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

AIR DEFENSE: MURDEROUS BIRDS

Washington — Historians are quite likely to hold that this year's most significant military advance, surpassing even the scheduled explosion of the first hydrogen bomb, was the obscure testing of an obscurely named guided missile.

The missile, called "Nike" for the Greek Goddess of Victory, is a fully guided, supersonic rocket developed by the Army. In an impressive number of tests, it had achieved 100 per cent destruction of drone-operated B-17s flying at maximum speed at 35,000 feet.

When available in quantity, "Nike" will give our great cities and critical industrial installations their first effective "point defense," which is technician's language for close-in air defense.

In brief, the guided missile art consists in solving an inter-related group of hideously difficult problems, involved in building, propelling, stabilizing and guiding any missile in flight. Each "family of birds," as the initiators call the types of guided missiles, of course presents its own family problems.

FOR all the families of birds, however, the really basic problems are similar or closely comparable. The "Nike" success therefore suggests that birds of other families either have flown or will shortly fly. It can in fact be stated, on highest authority, that this is the case.

Just to keep the record straight, it still seems to me that the clocks should be ruled by the federal government.

In a great and advanced country such as ours, with fast trains and fast planes and instantaneous radio and instantaneous television operating from coast to coast and from border to border, our general economy will function more satisfactorily if we operate on the same time.

ALL this confusion could be avoided if we kept all our clocks on the same time. There's nothing sinful about "daylight" time. If people generally prefer to go to work an hour earlier and quit an hour earlier, changing the clocks is an easier way to bring it about than trying to change the hours of work, which have grown up through long years of negotiation and adaptation to changing conditions.

THE air-to-air guided missile, needed to assure maximum kills by fighter-interceptor aircraft, is not quite so well forward as "Nike." Neither is the larger, longer range missile needed to transform the continental area into one huge navy's nest.

Further, the other missing parts of a modern air defense system have been, are being, or can be provided. The all-weather fighter-interceptor now in use, the F-96, is unsatisfactory, but there are great hopes for the newer F-89. The continental radar warning net is on its way to completion.

THEY are the things that we need to have in place. But I don't think we should keep all the clocks on the same time, and that can be accomplished only by regulation on a national scale—which is specifically permitted by the power granted by the constitution to congress to regulate interstate commerce.

FROM Korea: "General James Van Fleet said today there are indications the Communists never have wanted to make peace in Korea. If the Communists had wanted an armistice, he told correspondents, some agreement could have been reached in the almost 10 months of truce negotiations. "But," he added, "the United Nations can either outfight the Reds on the battlefields or OUT-SIT them at the conference tables."

Arkansas Town Hit by Twister

West Memphis, Ark. — (U.P.)

Four persons were injured, four homes in ruins and the new high school was roofless Thursday after a tornado wind twisted through a five-block area of West Memphis, at the eastern edge of tornado-queasy Arkansas.

A 24-year-old mother, Lucinda Lewis, who had herded her four small children under a bed when the storm approached, suffered leg and shoulder injuries when her flimsy four-room home collapsed and the chimney blew over. Three of the children also were hurt.

The wind snatched the roof from the new high school building, completed only last year, and knocked out toll lines to nearby Osceola, Ark. Authorities estimated total damage at \$50,000.

Envoy to Russia Will Be Closely Watched Because of Writings

By PHIL NEWSOM

United Press Foreign Analyst

It isn't likely that our new ambassador to Moscow, George Frost Kennan, ever will be invited to the Kremlin for a friendly glass of vodka.

In fact, in a city notorious for its suspiciousness of foreigners, Kennan probably will be the most watched and the most suspected.



Phil Newsom

The reason is that he is "Mr. X."

It was Kennan, who as charge

d'affaires in Moscow in 1946, first began writing the brilliant reports which outlined Russia's aggressive intent. It was Kennan who advised the "policy of firm containment" against the Communists which is the keystone of our foreign policy.

He says that the Russians are tough and do not scare easily. Moreover, he adds that the Russians believe that capitalism must fall of its own weight and that they have plenty of time to wait without going to war. They also can retreat, if necessary.

Specific Dangers However, he believes there are two specific dangers: 1. The Russians might miscalculate U.S. reaction to a piece of local aggression—as they did in Korea.

2. They might become convinced that the U.S. was preparing to attack Russia. Milwaukee-born Kennan believes that an important part of his job is to prevent the Russians from making either mistake.

A comment by Radio Moscow last December was typical. "It is not by chance," said Radio Moscow, "that the State Department appoints as diplomats men of the type of the people's democracies shady persons who are usually spies of long standing."

Thus in "Shady" Character Kennan's eyes, even before Kennan arrived, he already was a "shady" character and a spy.

Kennan's appointment is especially interesting in that it marks the return of the career diplomat to the Moscow listening post. Kennan has been with the State Department since his graduation from Princeton in 1925, in contrast to our last two ambassadors there who were respectively Gen. Walter Bedell Smith and Adm. Alan G. Kirk.

Now 47, Kennan began to make his acquaintance first with the Russians as a bright young man attached to the legation at Riga, Latvia. Later he helped U.S. Ambassador William Bullitt open the first U.S. embassy in Moscow since the Russian revolution.

vicinity of Rail gulch south of Talent when they came upon a den of rattlesnakes, and killed 12 with rocks.

Last Sunday Cox and R. Q. Skeeter, Jacksonville—Phoenix road, visited the same den and with a .22 caliber automatic rifle killed 20 more, making a total of 32 rattlers from the one den.

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.

Why Make a Change

To the editor: "Why Make a Change." A great number of people in this valley like myself know that Carlos Morris is fitted for the job he now holds as county coroner.

As we know he is gifted with a wonderful personality, very considerate, and is all around fitted for the job as coroner of this county.

Those of us who have had the misfortune of losing someone very close to us know the wonderful way Mr. Morris has of going about his task at a time like this. Since we have three funeral homes in Medford there is competition, and competition is something we need in every day life, by that I mean competition in almost every thing.

We have our freedom of speech and of the press and we may use it as we see fit, but I don't believe his competitors should use him in a round about way in their advertising.

There must be a reason why he gets the majority of the business in the valley. So I ask you Mr. and Mrs. Jackson County, "why make a change," when we have a good man on the job?

Joe McCallister Rt. 1, Box 291 1/2 Medford, Oregon

Who Favors Fast Time?

To the Editor: Again—the tall wags the dog. Gov. McKay said after a lot of thinking that Oregon would stay on Standard time.

Immediately a hullabaloo came in from Portland. We are going on Daylight, Mr. Governor; what are you going to do about it?

Medford's big shots, we are too. And did, and will, until the STATE will again have the SUN (STOP) AT ELEVEN A.M. so they can get home an hour earlier, to get to hell and gone from there until the old place gets opened an hour earlier the next morning.

How many ??? are there anyway? I would wager a carton of cigarettes that there are not three thousand persons in Jackson county who favor daylight time.

Edgar Rose, Rt. 3, Box 148

Takes Issue With Mrs. Benson

To the Editor: In reference to the letter by Mrs. L. Benson in your May 6 edition, I read it with much indignation, not because I am a personal friend of District Attorney Haviland, or even an acquaintance, but because I consider the letter defaming and unnecessarily critical.

When I began the letter I thought it concerned the gambling issue raised by the newly arrived attorney in his bid for the republican nomination for district attorney. After some consideration I decided that my action, as a righteous and outraged citizen who had regarded the presence of some unnecessary evil, would be to take said complaint to the local law enforcement officers. It undoubtedly would be a highly publicized fact if such action had been taken and no satisfaction gained.

If we would all be a bit more ready to lend assistance to our public officials and not quite so quick to criticize their more achievements would be more satisfactory to all. Perhaps it would make the positions more desirable to our more capable men and effect a higher standard in our public officials.

I do take issue with the statements criticizing Mr. Haviland for "few" convictions, for the alleged "protection" of criminals, for the proportional increase in divorces, and the derogatory remarks in regard to the juvenile situation.

It is not the duty of the district attorney to prosecute the innocent, as well as the guilty, but only to seek conviction of guilty individuals. No reference is made to any particular action made to free a criminal, and yet she deplors the fact that there have not been more convictions.

It is not the duty of the D.A. to mend broken marriages and I don't see how he can be held responsible for the morals of the individuals concerned in divorces.

Does Mrs. Benson recommend a larger number of juvenile sentences? Does she find fault with the whole juvenile program here? If so, let's come out and say so, not make guarded defamations of an individual and imply he is leading our children along wrong roads.

Let Mrs. Benson face facts. She is campaigning for Walter Nunley for district attorney. Such being the case, if she can give no more valid criticism of Mr. Haviland than she did, then I compliment Paul Haviland for a job well done and will be early at the polls to mark my "X" before his name.

William Donahoe, 38 No. Oakdale Ave. Medford, Ore.

Timber Cruiser Kills Rattlesnakes in Den

John B. Cox, 515 West Jackson Boulevard, a timber cruiser for Timber Products Company, states that it is not too early for rattlesnakes.

He and his son-in-law, Dean Pruet, recently, were in the

LOOK ON Page 3 SECTION TWO TODAY FOR GROCETERIA SAVINGS!

Vote for a DOCTOR for CORONER Chapel Mortuary Across from the C Frank Morgan - Harold Snodgrass FUNERAL DIRECTORS Phone 2-8030