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ROBERT W. RUHL, Editor ERNEST R. GILSTRAP, Manager

HERB GREY, Advertising Manager E. C. PERGUSON, Managing Editor ERIC ALLEN JR., City Editor HARRY CHAPMAN, Telegraph Editor RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor OLIVE STARCHER, Society Editor GERALD LATHAM, Circulation Mgr.

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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 25, 1942 (It was Monday)

Jackson county budget committee states work on 1942-1943 fiscal plans; proposed budget first in history of county to contain civil defense funds.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: With gasoline rationing soon to be effective, the kibosh will be put on marathon gadding. There will be no more leaving home Friday during the three-day Fourth of July celebration, speeding to Pothole, N. D., and getting back in time to go to work Monday—anyway getting back.

20 YEARS AGO

May 25, 1922 (It was Wednesday)

Vern Shangle's Junior American Legion baseball team trounces Talent, 15 to 1.

Rogue valley sportsmen request that state Fish and Game commission place fishway at south side of Savage Rapids dam.

30 YEARS AGO

May 25, 1912 (It was Thursday)

Rogue valley group starts collecting funds for construction of a radio station in Central Point "from which point crystal sets in all parts of the valley would get good reception."

Driverless car "runs amuck" at Eighth and Bartlett streets, causes \$150 damages.

40 YEARS AGO

May 25, 1912 (It was Saturday)

Medford youngsters reported hard at work on gardens in vacant lots throughout the city; \$159 in prizes to go to best gardeners.

Medford's municipally-owned public market has grand opening; located on South Riverside avenue near Main street.

Ten New Convoirs Ordered by United

Denver—An order for 10 more twin-engined Convair 340 airplanes will be placed soon by United Air lines, according to W. A. Patterson, president. Negotiations for 25 more four-engined planes are now under way, he said.

About \$58,000,000 is involved in the expansion program.

The new Convoirs will be the same as the 40 already on order. The first of these are now being delivered, and will be placed in service late this summer. The plane is larger and faster and has a longer range than the older Convair 240s, and will carry 44 passengers, crew and 3,000 pounds of cargo at a 270 mile per hour cruising speed. The new Convoirs will cost some \$6,000,000, in addition to the \$23,117,000 for the first 40.

The type of four-engined plane to be purchased will be announced soon, Patterson said. The present UAL fleet includes 143 planes.

HE'S SURE HE'S GOOD

Jacksonville, Fla. — (U.P.) — A plumber who failed to pass a test to become a master plumber said his lawyers would contest the matter in court.

"Forget It!"

Since the recent local disturbance there have been more personal and political rumors flying around than usual—on both sides of the fence.

Our advice to both sides is—FORGET IT!

THE election is over. As usual both sides couldn't win, and the losing side should be good enough sports to abide by it. The winning side should also be good sports and try no more shenanigans, as some of the hot-heads having tasted the heady wine of victory now suggest.

If one side starts something, naturally the other side will have to hit back, and it's a fairly safe guess that would start the "feudin'" all over again.

This would be an activity which might please some of the more violent partisans on both sides, but no one else, and would harm the community.

THE final fate of the Primary winners cannot be determined until the November election—approximately half a year hence.

This allows for a considerable "breathing spell" for both factions. Our suggestion is to take advantage of it, get down to business and give the turbulent waters a fair chance to subside.

The Mail Tribune is quite certain, a refusal to follow this course by either side, will later be VERY much regretted!—R.W.R.

Purely Pugilistic

Now Harry Matthews is near the end of the rainbow, and the big city rulers of the sport will have to come to terms—Matthews' and Hurley's terms. Rocky Marciano, perhaps, is next, and then the winner of the Walcott-Charles title fight.

It will be a happy day for boxing as a sport when Harry Matthews—the boy from the sticks—sits on the heavyweight throne. And we predict that's just where he will be in little more than a year from now.

—Portland Oregonian.

Shades of Bud Anderson, Dick Donald and Battling Nelson—also the "Medford Sun" of many, long years ago!

In that far-off era we never expected to see the august and pontifical Oregonian, descend from its throne on the journalistic "Olympus," and editorially crown the pugilistic pride of that locality with the cherished Laurel wreath.

But there she AM!

"Kid" Matthews the "Multnomah Mauler" and "King County Killer," gets the editorial accolade as he nears "the end of his fistic rainbow," and is destined, declares The Oregonian, to occupy the heavyweight throne "in a little more than a year from now!" (Sic!)

"To sleep, perchance to dream, Aye, there's the rub!"

And we fear the Oregonian will have that dream RUBBED in a bit painfully before its prediction is fulfilled.

For somehow when the brains of a newspaper—assuming it HAS any—descends from the "ivory tower" of omniscience to the basement where the aspiring pugs are training for fistic honors, light, middleweight and heavy, they almost always support the old adage that the "cobbler better stick to his last."

Nine times out of ten the editorial department of a newspaper knows about as much about the ins and outs of pugilism, as the average punch-drunk pugilist knows about the intricacies of higher journalism.

THAT was true of the Medford Sun at least some 40 years ago, when Bat Nelson, and then Bud Anderson, practically lived in the Sun sanctum sanctorum and heated their coffee on the old cast-iron stove.

"BAT" was an "Ex"—very much "Ex"—and was trying to pick up some needed peanuts by meeting an aspiring amateur from Butte Falls, who had learned the fine points of the noble art of self-defense, by reading the life and times of "Gentleman Jim" Corbett and chopping down giant fir trees. It was also claimed he wrestled with the tame bear in the Butte Falls village square, but that was never authenticated. The bout was held in the old Angle Opera House and the SRO sign was out early, everyone was there.

But it wasn't much of a fight. The Butte Falls lad said he was going to use his head and outbox Bat, getting the decision on points. But he didn't realize that Bat would use his head also, not as a thinking-machine, but as an offensive weapon of tremendous pile-driving power. So the aspiring young pugilist returned to Butte Falls, a sadder and wiser young man and we fear hasn't been mentioned in "Sporting News" since.

"BUD", on the other hand, was not an "Ex"—far from it. Bud was a muscular Scandinavian youth with a non-muscular and "non-campus" manager named Dick Donald. Donald had a passion for a fast buck and suffered delusions of grandeur, or Bud might have gone where all the local experts knew he would go, to the top of the ladder, predicted now by the esteemed Oregonian for Matthews.

BUT Dick forced Bud too fast, with the result a certain lightweight dentist named Leach Cross, of New York's Bronx (who could use his Biceps with even more lethal efficiency than his FORCEps), knocked out "Medford's pride" and it was "Poor Casey, he struck out," all over again! The sporting fraternity of that era never fully recovered, one of them left the next day for L.A. and never came back—though he made a million dollars.

WE FEAR very much the Oregonian is due for a similar sad awakening. And conclude these

somewhat rambling reminiscences of the "good old days," with this out-on-a-limb prediction, to wit:

"Kid" Matthews may go far in the "Big Time," pugilistically speaking, as the Oregonian predicts, but he will NEVER become HEAVYWEIGHT champion of the world for the very simple, but excellent reason, he is not a HEAVYweight, and never WILL be!

—R.W.R.

It Is Human To Err

Habit is a great newspaper asset.

People get in the habit of reading a newspaper, and no matter how bad or good, that newspaper may be, it soon becomes a habit hard to break.

That fact explains why we comment so often upon editorials in the Oregonian. We started to read that paper, as a regular subscriber in May, 1910, and have read it fairly regularly ever since. We miss it when we leave town—which we often do—and it is always one of the noticeable journalistic pleasures to be resumed with our always happy return home.

However, while it is an awful "cliche"—to every newspaper man, the fact remains: we don't always agree with the Oregonian's editorial views, especially in the realm of politics. (We get letters to the same effect regarding our own editorials three or four times a week! They just don't always agree, BUT—)

WITH that as a preliminary we can't agree with Oregon's journalistic "Bible" regarding "Morse, Steel and the Press," of May 22nd, in which the editors declare Senator Morse's criticism of the press for their treatment of the Truman steel-seizure incident, was ill-founded and "silly."

We think criticism of the press treatment of this incident, (and even more the press conference when President Truman in an obvious "aside" said he would treat the press just as he did the steel companies if the latter represented the same threat to national peace and security), did comprise a sad failure in American journalism.

TO SUPPORT our contention we would call special attention to the Oregonian's criticism of Senator Morse when the paper charges Senator Morse "backed up President Truman's seizure of the steel companies" and makes this explicit counter charge, quote:

"Senator Morse took a hasty and untenable position on steel seizure and in his efforts to justify it has made an irresponsible attack on the press."

NOW Senator Morse may be wrong morally and legally, in his stand on this action by the President. But there was nothing "hasty or untenable" in his position, and he did not, as the editorial implies, approve President Truman's seizure without qualification. In fact, he clearly stated he thought President Truman made a mistake, and could have handled the situation better if he had acted earlier and in cooperation with the Congress.

WHEREUPON, the junior Senator from Oregon did what no other member of the Congress did—came forward with a measure which would more clearly and explicitly define the presidential powers, actual and implied under emergency conditions, as well as the coordinated powers of the Congress, and urged its passage and rushing same as soon as possible to the Supreme Court for final adjudication.

AS REMARKED, Senator Morse's action may have been legally sound or UNSound, his insistence upon correcting the President instead of demanding his impeachment may have been proper or improper, but he CAN'T justly be accused of having given the chief executive's action a blanket endorsement, for he carefully pointed out where he thought the President was right and where he thought him wrong.

Secondly, instead of doing anything in HASTE, Senator Morse gave what we believe will be generally regarded as the most thoughtful and careful analysis of the entire problem of presidential powers, which has been delivered in the Senate in a couple of decades.

WHICH brings us to the point we wish to make, namely THIS:

The Oregonian in this editorial was guilty in a minor degree of the same failure Senator Morse charged against the American press as a whole (and The Oregonian disputed), in its treatment of the same incident, namely: treating the story from a prejudiced and partisan rather than from an objective and NON-partisan standpoint.

That's all!

But it is, we believe, a very serious failing of the American press, particularly when a presidential campaign is in the offing, partisan emotions are running high, and too many—far too many—newspapers, being very human, either succumb or are too greatly influenced by it!—R.W.R.

FHA Officials Tour Two Counties

Hugh J. McLaughlin, chief of program operations of the Department of Agriculture's Farm Home Administration, and Cecil J. Youngstrom, state field representative for Oregon with Arthur F. Koning, county supervisor of the local FHA office last week completed a tour of farms in Josephine and Jackson counties which are being operated by farmers now receiving loan assistance from that agency. The officials expressed satisfaction with the progress that is being made by these farmers in this area.

The Farmers Home Administration, the local office of which is located in the Mancel building, Grants Pass, makes supervised loans to farmers who are unable to receive suitable financing from other credit sources, Koning explained. These loans are made to cover the purchase of livestock, farm machinery, seed, feed, fertilizer, water development, farm housing and farm development and for the purchase of farms for family size units.

The local supervisor also stated that although the appropriations for fiscal year 1953 have not yet been allocated, that they are accepting applications now for all types of loans and will process these applications in the order they are received. All inquiries should be addressed to the local office, Room No. 9, Mancel building, Grants Pass.

HOSEMAN IS FIREMAN

Vicksburg, Miss. — (U.P.) — J. F. Hoseman is fire chief here.

In the Day's News

BY FRANK JENKINS

At a grasslands program sponsored by Klamath Falls the other day by the agricultural committee of the Portland chamber of commerce and attended by Klamath, Lake and Jackson county people, E. R. Jackman, crops specialist at Oregon State College, told us that if we can get back into grass all of the area of Oregon that ought to be got back into grass we can quadruple in Western Oregon the value of these potential grazing lands and in Eastern Oregon we can increase their value by TEN TIMES.

HE ADDED: "Generally speaking, our crop lands production is at a high level. As of now, considering our present technical knowledge, we would be hard put to it to INCREASE their productivity, at least to any considerable extent."

"Our grasslands are another story. Their production can be increased IMMENSELY. If we want to add to agricultural production in Oregon, our grasslands provide the BIG opportunity to do it."

LET'S paint a quick, sketchy picture here of a sound and stable economy for Southern Oregon, and far Northern California:

Grow meat animals on our millions and millions of acres of range lands.

Finish-fatten them on feeds produced on our crop lands.

Slaughter and pack them here at home.

THAT'S a FINISHED economy. Each cog of it meshes into every other cog. We would then be using our land resources to their fullest capacity. The outlying areas would benefit by increased production of livestock.

Finish-fattening the livestock would provide a market AT HOME for the feeds grown on our croplands. Slaughtering and packing would provide additional payrolls for the towns.

THAT would round out our economic picture—for, thanks to modern science, our timberlands can be expected to take care of themselves from here on out. In their case, our big job is to USE THEM WISELY, preventing in the future the staggering waste that in the past has made our timber industry so uneconomic.

LET'S take a quick look into the past.

When the Mountain Men first topped the barrier ranges and reached the Pacific Coast area, they found a grasslands economy. In Spanish California, a glamorous (indolent and pleasant) civilization rested upon cows.

The ox-team pioneers who settled the Willamette valley were farmers. In each wagon was a plow. The bright dream that led them westward over the deserts in one of the greatest migrations civilized man ever made was to grow wheat and sell it to the Orient. That dream was never fully realized. The Orientals were rice eaters.

So these Willamette pioneers fell back on COWS. They brought them from California. En route to the Willamette, they fed their cows on the grass of far Northern California and Southern Oregon. When they got them home, they fed them on the grasslands of the Willamette valley and its foothills. It was CATTLE that enabled the Willamette settlements to survive and prosper. Grass fed the cattle.

SOUTHERN OREGON. South-eastern Oregon and North-eastern California, the early explorers tell us in their journals, were waving seas of grass. On this grass the wild game fed. The Indians lived on the game. It was a natural grassland economy.

The white man took over this grassland economy. Sad to relate, he MISUSED it—as so often the white man has done. He OVERGRAZED the ranges—not, probably, so much out of greed, as the muck-rakers like to tell us, as out of stern necessity to make a living in a new land. THAT was the way of the times, and men then knew nothing better.

ANYWAY, the native arid-land grasses practically vanished under unwise usage, and sagebrush took their place. Thus we lost what had been the basic resource of the semi-arid ranges. Our job now is to get rid of the usurping sagebrush and get the rangelands back into grass.

THAT, in substance, is the message brought to us by these men of the agricultural committee of the Portland chamber of commerce. Rich rewards, they told us, await us if we do it intelligently, taking full advantage of modern knowledge.

I'm sure they're right and I think we should all be grateful to them for bringing to us this message as to what grass can do for us if we handle it right.

STAMPS COME ALIVE

Milwaukee — (U.P.) — Mrs. Donald Schnyder had a hard time believing her eyes when she saw two postage stamps moving around on her dining room floor. Investigation showed that her daughter, Susan, 3, had pasted stamps on the backs of two ladybugs.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe



"Well, what's YOUR opinion?"

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.

Cure for Lingerie Looters

To the Editor: I just finished reading an item on "College Girls Fed Up with Campus Looting." Well, it's been done before, but never to such a degrading extent. The love and laughter of the fairer sex has been pursued since time began, but never to my knowledge, in large groups and seemingly for the purpose of obtaining articles that are traditionally laundered and hung in the dormitory hall or in private rooms.

As I recall, there have been colleges, universities and other educational facilities all over these United States with the accepted knowledge that the duel between the sexes has been pursued aggressively but no one ever heard of such large-scale demonstrations before.

In my opinion such a nationwide movement must have been started by quite a brain or quite an elaborate network to involve so many and to go to such extremes.

This movement is probably beyond the control of the individual schools and their faculties but don't you believe that all that excess energy could be alleviated by a much needed rotation for our G.I.'s in Korea, Germany, Alaska and elsewhere outside the continental limits of the U.S.?

Then, if these "lingerie looters" wish to take someone's pants let them try their luck on one of the inmates of Kojie island prison, or better still, try their luck on "Blood and Guts Ridge." If they come back without a pair, who knows, it may be their own.

If these pubescent puppies insist on demonstrating their manhood maybe congress should reconsider the universal military training act and lower the age accordingly.

I am doubtful if their loss would be greatly noticed by "Sorority Sue."

Ralph R. Johnson, 812 Adams Lane, Medford, Ore.

How About Medford?

To the Editor: The other day there was an article on the front page of the Mail Tribune stating that the decision of the Mayor and Council to keep Medford on standard time met with widespread favor. They must mean favor by the opponents of D.S.T.

What about all the Medford civic organizations, the merchants association, and hundreds of individuals and various groups who requested the council to declare D.S.T.?

The council voted to comply but our mayor decided to make a study of the situation. Where did he make this study? I understand it was out of town. I guess he checked up with the rural sections and small towns around the country and of course vetoed the council's action, claiming it would work a hard-

CAN'T LIVE ON THAT NOW

Concord, N. H. — (U.P.) — The average yearly wage in New Hampshire at the turn of the century was \$382.

BACK TO HAWAII

Woodland, Calif. — (U.P.) — Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Henon finally made the trip to Hawaii they had dreamed of for years. Two weeks after they got back from the islands Henon found he had won a sales promotion contest. The prize was a trip to Hawaii.

AN EVERLASTING TRIBUTE



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