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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
1953
NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time
Medford and Jackson County
Hillmen from the files of The
Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and
40 year ago.

10 YEARS AGO
Aug. 9, 1943
(It was Monday)
Dr. A. E. Merkel, county
health officer, advises against
swimming in local streams.

From Arthur Perry's Ye
Smudge Pot column: The hay
crop is reported short. The more
pessimistic stockmen predict
next winter it will be harder to
find a haystack than a needle
in one.

20 YEARS AGO
Aug. 9, 1933
(It was Wednesday)
Funds for construction of Dia-
mond lake highway voted by
commission.

Floyd Hart returns from trip
to east and reports "prosperity
is on its way back."

30 YEARS AGO
Aug. 9, 1923
(It was Thursday)
Eastern railroad men shown
through local plants.

Medford stores set 6 o'clock as
closing time.

40 YEARS AGO
Aug. 9, 1913
(It was Saturday)
Pears selling for \$1.90 a box
fob orchard.

University of Southern Ore-
gon's college of liberal arts of-
fers course for \$25 to early reg-
istrants.

National Forest's Earnings Last Year Make New Record

Earnings of the Rogue River
National forest for the year
ending June 30, 1953, were the
highest for any similar period
of time in the history of the
forest, according to Supervisor
Jack Wood.

The earnings were from the
sale of timber, grazing fees and
other forest uses, and totaled
\$1,461,846.94. Receipts for the
year previous were \$1,370,000.
Timber Sales Big

The sale of timber was by far
the largest source of income,
with \$1,447,207.92 from sales.
Grazing fees totaled \$8,576.92,
and other land use income was
\$1,062.10.

Each year 25 per cent of the
national forest earnings are re-
turned to the counties in which
the national forest lies. Approxi-
mately \$365,000 from these earn-
ings of last year will be distrib-
uted among Jackson, Klamath,
Josephine and Douglas counties
in Oregon and Siskiyou county
in California.

Last year Jackson county re-
ceived about \$163,000 from the
forest. Similar distribution to
counties will also be made by
other national forests lying with-
in their borders.

IMPORTED GRASS
Geneva, N. Y. — (AP) — Field
brome grass, an introduction
from Sweden, is being used
as a new winter cover crop for
peach and cherry orchards which
do not thrive under a permanent
sod system of soil management
by experimenters at the N.Y.
State Agricultural Experiment
Station here.

Editorial Policy Explained

Judging by comments, written and oral, reaching this department there appears to be a considerable misapprehension regarding the Mail Tribune's editorial policy. (Perhaps the more accurate term would be "method.")

Because there are 3 members of the MT staff who now write editorials, and sign their initials, some readers have the idea, that not the Mail Tribune but the individuals whose initials are signed are personally responsible for the sentiments expressed.

That is not true.

The sentiments expressed are those of the individual writer, but the responsibility of their publication is only that of the paper. Moreover—

Nothing appears in this department of which the Mail Tribune as an organization does not approve, endorse and stand behind, in not only a legal but a moral sense. And so long as the present management is at the helm nothing will.

Some newspapers have a score or more of editorial writers but never identify them by initials, or in any other way.

There are advantages in that procedure but the Mail Tribune prefers individual identification, both from the standpoint of policy, and reader interest.

This is not an uncommon practice in the profession. But apparently it is new to many and has recently led to some doubt and confusion, among our readers.

We trust this explanation will remove both.—R.W.R.

It's Now Up to the Council

The Mail Tribune has aroused considerable local excitement regarding the manner in which it has reported and editorialized on what has come to be known as the "Hurley incident."

Some of the comment has been favorable, some has not.

THE Mail Tribune has reported the matter "straight," on what it considers to be its importance and value as news.

The Mail Tribune is not—contrary to report—out to "get" ANYONE. It seeks no "scapegoat." It has attacked no one personally. A careful reading of its columns, both news and editorial, will bear out these statements.

This newspaper's only interest in the matter is the public good. It believes a newspaper's function is to report the facts as accurately as possible in the news columns, and to draw conclusions from those facts in the editorial columns.

The Mail Tribune has done that, and will continue to do JUST that!

ONE of the criticisms has been that the "Hurley incident" has been "blown up" out of proportion to its importance. This is not true. A man has died. Who or what he makes no difference. The important thing is that his death has revealed a situation where it was possible for a man—any man—to remain prone, ill and half conscious in the jail for 41 miserable hours without attention or medical treatment.

The county grand jury, after a careful and complete investigation of the matter, came to certain conclusions and made certain recommendations, "with a deep sense of responsibility." Yet its members have been assailed and reviled for publishing a report which graphically reveals serious deficiencies in a very important department of public service—the police department.

ONE of the jury's recommendations—one which took courage to make—was that the present chief of police, Clatous McCredie, be replaced with an able and experienced officer, preferably from outside the city.

The Mail Tribune has not attacked the chief of police, editorially or otherwise. His character, as far as we know, is above reproach. But he IS responsible for the discipline and efficiency of his department and in recent months—a year in fact—that has NOT been satisfactory. The poor service culminated in the Hurley tragedy, for which he and his department must take their share of the responsibility and the blame.

FRIDAY afternoon the city council voted unanimously to retain Chief McCredie.

In fact, judging by the sentiments expressed by some members he will be on the job for life. Well, that is OK with the Mail Tribune. The council acted entirely within its rights, of course.

BUT the question with the Mail Tribune is not a personal one—it is not who may, or may not, be at the head of the city police department—for 24 years or for a life-time. The question is: are the people of Medford to get the sort of police service a city of its size and importance deserves, or are they not?

If this Hurley incident, with its tragic consequences, has proved such a lesson to the chief and his department, that a marked improvement will be shown and Medford will get the service to which it is entitled hereafter, FINE. No one will be more pleased than the Mail Tribune.

BUT if the future demonstrates this can't be done under the old chief then certainly there should be a new one.

And it will be directly up to the City Council, to get a new one.

With the unanimous endorsement of Chief McCredie by Mayor Flynn and the Council Friday, in view of the record in the department in recent months, the responsibility now is solely theirs—and it can't be shirked!—E.A.

The "Incident" Is Not Closed

THE Mail Tribune is glad to hear that the investigation of the police department's procedures, initiated and conducted by Councilman John Snider, is to be continued. We hope the councilmen who are on the police committee will be able to find an adequate remedy for the present situation, which has been somewhat obscured by the heated debate over whether Chief McCredie was to be retained, or replaced.

Entirely aside from that debate, a number of questions regarding the police department have been raised by the grand jury, by citizens of Medford, and by the mayor and the council itself. These MUST be answered.

UNTIL they are answered to the satisfaction of the residents of Medford, who are paying for police service, we cannot consider the "Hurley incident" as closed.—E.A.

When will World War III Start?

As things are going now, World War III will start approximately Armistice Day, 1953.

If the American people don't want it to start then—or at any other time—they better get busy with their representatives in the congress, and elsewhere. For by the phrase "as things are going now" we refer particularly to two public statements made on Friday last.

THE first was credited to General Mark Clark from Washington, D.C. and was to this effect:

"If the truce is broken I would be in favor of using any and every weapon at the disposal of my country in striking back at them."

IF AN agreement is not reached within 90 days Singman Rhee has threatened to resume hostilities.

If within the same length of time the Chinese Reds show no disposition to "come to terms," then the US delegation will quit Korea and come home.

These two facts add up to a breaking of the truce on or about the 11th of November, 1955.

WOULD that necessarily mean war? Yes, if the statement quoted above can be believed.

It would not only mean war, but a world war—World War III.

For the use of "every weapon available" would of course mean the use of the atom and hydrogen bombs. They would not be effective in a war confined to Korea, but would be necessary in an "all-out" war against China.

Faced by such a serious situation might not Red China come to terms? China might—anything "MIGHT" happen in this mad world.

But the second statement mentioned makes that highly unlikely. For also on August 7th, former Senator Henry Cabot Lodge reiterated his stand regarding the admission of China into the UN, saying emphatically:

"That will never be done!"

In other words, as has previously been pointed out in this department, the United States will never recognize the nation that MUST sign the treaty of peace, if peace is ever to be signed. For such recognition would, by the terms of the UN charter, admit Red China, into the United Nations.

BEFORE any of our excitable gentry start digging a bomb-shelter however, we would explain this offering is somewhat in the mood of Orson Welles' famous radio broadcast depicting an invasion from Mars.

That is: it is based upon the assumption that what could happen, has or will happen.

BUT it is not, as far as this department is concerned, entirely fiction, nor completely fanciful.

We are perfectly serious in our belief in fact that unless there is a RADICAL change either in the policy of this country, or that of Red China, there is no more chance of a peace treaty being signed within 90 days—or 90 months for that matter—than there is of a 3-legged horse winning the Kentucky Derby.

The only hope, as we see it, is that one side or the other—or maybe both—will within that critical period, CHANGE.—R.W.R.

Utility Executive Dies at Oakridge

John W. Kirby Sr., 66, Oakridge, Ore., a former resident of Medford and a vice-president of Columbia Utilities company, Medford, died at his home early Thursday.

Mr. Kirby was born in 1887 in Charlotte, N. C., and moved to Oregon in 1936. For a time he was associated with Columbia Utilities in Klamath county as an officer, and at the time of his death was in charge of the Oakridge operations of the company.

Survivors include his widow, Florence Kirby; three sons, John Jr., Medford; James M., Merrill, and Richard D., Oakridge; and one daughter, Mrs. Stanley H. Brewer, Seattle. There are four grandsons. Mr. Kirby was the brother-in-law of

D. O. Hood, Medford. Interment was in Klamath Memorial Park cemetery, Klamath Falls.

4-H Clubs

Howard 4-H Club
Howard 4-H Livestock club held its last meeting July 27 at the Sportsman's club. We discussed the pre-fairs and our projects.

The next meeting will be Aug. 10 at the Sportsman's club, and all parents and members are urged to attend to learn more about the county fair. Gerry and Carol Anderson will have a special program that night.
Nancy Barnes
Reporter

Crosstown

By Roland Coe



"Are you the Mrs. Pokesberry who's had three husbands, how, nobody will ever know?"

Matter of Fact

Stewart Alsop

SIR WINSTON'S ILLNESS

London—Those in the best positions to judge do not believe that Sir Winston Churchill will ever again be able to assume the active, day-to-day leadership of his country.

There has been much speculation about Churchill's illness, ranging from reports that it was "diplomatic," to circumstantial accounts of total paralysis. The facts are these.

In the last week of June Churchill suffered a stroke, caused by a partially blocked artery which resulted in an interference of the blood supply to the brain. The stroke was relatively mild; there was little loss of movement and the marvelous Churchillian intellect was left unimpaired. Even so, because of Churchill's age, the doctors took an extremely serious view of what had happened, and believed, at best, that Churchill would be a semi-invalid confined to a wheelchair for a long time.

They were reckoning, however, without Sir Winston Churchill. He immediately demanded what all doctors hate to give—a clear and simple explanation of what was wrong. He then proceeded to prescribe for himself an unconventional course of treatment, designed to restore his circulation. To the astonishment of the doctors, he was able very soon to leave his wheelchair. He now walks about, although for brief periods and with some difficulty.

In short, he has made a near-miraculous recovery. But the facts remain.

Churchill is nearing 80. A man of that age who has had one stroke is always in danger of another, especially when subjected to physical and nervous strain. The strain of the British premiership is second only to that of the American presidency. This is why those close to the situation doubt whether Churchill, however magnificent his courage and tough his constitution, can continue much longer as Prime Minister.

The decision of course rests with Churchill—and he has apparently not confided his intentions even to his intimates. He has made clear his determination, however, that Foreign Minister Anthony Eden should be his successor. Despite much speculation that Chancellor of the Exchequer R. A. Butler (whose star has been rising steadily) may succeed Churchill, there is not much doubt that Churchill will have his way.

In England, such matters are decided by a small inner circle of leaders. In this case, the inner circle consists of Churchill, Lord Salisbury, Eden and Butler. All four—notably including Butler himself—are agreed on Eden as Churchill's successor. But the situation is complicated by the fact Eden has been seriously ill, and is not yet fully recovered.

Eden is expected to be entirely well by September or early October. If Churchill were to resign before this time, however, Eden could hardly take over. This is why there is a strong belief in knowledgeable quarters that Churchill has already decided to step out, and that he is merely "keeping the seat warm" for Anthony.

AGAINST this seat-warming theory should be placed the undoubted fact that Churchill has a profound desire to play a decisive peace-making role, as the last great act of a great life.

This desire may cause Churchill to stay on as Prime Minister for some time longer, although he will certainly hand over to Eden the day-to-day business of the government.

Churchill's motivations for his

famous May 11th speech, calling for a four-power meeting at the highest level, were, of course, mixed. They were certainly in part political; Churchill unquestionably had his eye on an important by-election then impending. They were also in part personal; Churchill was deeply angered by the Socialists' war-mongering charge in the last elections. But his basic motivation rose above the political or the personal.

According to those who have discussed his proposal with him, Churchill reasons that Stalin's death marked a great world change, and that it would be folly rigidly to adhere to past policy until an effort was made to find out what this change might mean. He reasons further that the West will strongly resist making further sacrifices to organize its defenses, unless it is first demonstrated that an agreed settlement is not a possible alternative. On this last point, at least, every day that passes seems to confirm the old man's prescience.

The notion that Churchill wants to appease the Russians enrages him almost as much as the Socialists' war-mongering charge. "Surely they do not think," Churchill remarked to a recent visitor, "that I would sell the pass." At any rate, however "irresponsible" Churchill's proposal may have seemed in Washington, it should be very well understood there that his May 11 speech struck an extraordinarily responsive chord in England and throughout Europe.

PARTLY for this reason, Churchill's political prestige, in these days of his illness and old age, is almost as high as during the war days. Members of his own party, who used to consider him a political liability, and hope for his retirement, now look forward to this prospect with profound regret. "After all," one Conservative leader remarked recently, "he is the only great man England has left." It sometimes seems that he is the only great man the world has left. When the day comes for Churchill to step down—as it must rather soon—it will be a sad day for the world as well as for Britain.

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Second Largest Tax Collection Received by State

Salem—(AP)—The state had its second largest tax collection in the fiscal year ended June 30, according to the State Tax Commission.

The total was \$62,206,184.76, a decrease of \$2,689,303.88, or 4.1 per cent, from the \$64,895,488.64 recorded for the 1951-52 fiscal year, the all-time high.

The commission said the decrease in collections was limited to corporation excise tax receipts as personal income tax payments increased \$775,315.65 from the 1951-52 total of \$42,824,849.24 to \$43,600,164.89.

Corporation excise tax collections dropped from \$22,070,639.70 in 1951-52 to \$18,606,019.87 in 1952-53, a decrease of \$3,464,619.83, or 15.7 per cent.

The number of returns received increased from 558,736 in 1951-52 to 569,818 in 1952-53. Gross additional and delinquent collections, including penalties and interest, totaled \$4,459,059.02.

The commission filed its printed state levy of taxes for the 1953-54 fiscal year today with Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry.

Hartford, Conn. — (AP) — The Central Baptist Church has a juke box so worshippers can have sacred music at any time. No nickels are required.

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

From a Hungry Critic
To the Editor—By a happy accident I got hold of a small but very interesting magazine called The Challenge, published right here in Medford. Naturally I wanted to look into it further, since the mag is really packed with good reading. But picture by amazement when not a soul in Medford knew a thing about it! Only by going to your newsroom and collaring a newshound was I able to trace The Challenge to its lair.

Now this is something like a scandal for your scandal-sheet, ain't it? The magazine is positively a good one of its kind, and Medford should at once go to work and be proud of it.

When you look into the matter I am sure you'll agree. And you'll of course let people know about it.

Yes, if it ain't good for a feature article I'll eat your hat without any dressing whatever!
Harold Ramsie
Co. I, Camp White

He Wants Very "Old Crow"

To the Editor: There are upwards of three billion crows in North America, according to government figures, each scheduled to live 12 years unless eliminated earlier by gun, poison or trap.

My grandfather, for instance, had a politically minded talking crow which he chased off his farm when the bird deserted Theodore Roosevelt in 1904 and perched on Alton B. Parker for president—so grandpa said. Grandpa also claimed that he found the crow as a fledgling when it was blown out of its nest in the spring of 1861—the year he enlisted in the Fifth Artillery. That would make the old crow 43 years old at the time their friendship was fractured over politics.

Lately I have been inquiring among bird experts as to the longevity of crows without much luck. A friend in Kentucky wrote that he was sending along an old crow which had been around for 125 years. Another was offered to ship me, prepaid, an elderly female relative by marriage.

One friend sent me the proceedings of the London Zoological Society for 1938, containing an account of a European crow which came into the possession of the Comte de Beaucourt when he was ten years old—and the crow was 20—and was still a household pet when he died 70 years later. This made the crow—if the story is true—90 years old when the Comte died.

However, what I am looking for are authenticated very old crows and I thought that you or your readers might know of birds in captivity that have lived beyond the 12 years of natural expectancy. I would deeply appreciate any help from you or your readers.

Stewart Little,
1 East 43rd St.,
New York City, N. Y.

Blames Mayor and Council

To the Editor: I do not see how the council and mayor can fire Chief McCredie when his job was administrative and not legislative. If they do, they as a body should accept their full responsibility and resign, for the failure of the Police Department to follow Sgt. Beall's recommendations rest with the mayor and council alone.

The Safety committee runs both the police and fire departments and they hired consultants to make recommendations for both departments.

The ex-fire chief who had had 22 years fire department experience tried to carry out the recommendations of the fire department consultant and was told by the chairman of the safety committee "Leo Wiedner isn't running the Medford fire department, we are" and your chief resigned because he could get no cooperation or permission from the mayor or council to carry out those recommendations.

Why should Chief McCredie stick his neck out in the interest of a better police department when he had just seen what would happen if he did.

The mayor and council showed their satisfaction with the way the police department was run when they reappointed Chief McCredie last January 1st.

They cannot use the same excuse with the fire department that they are using with the police department, that the lack of money was their reason for not following the consultants recommendations. Did they ask for the money to carry out Sgt. Beall's recommendations?

I believe that all city employees should be under civil service, but not the kind of civil service the mayor and council gave the fire department after the people had voted for it. That is only a farce.

I believe it is time for the voters and taxpayers to wake up.
Cleo Canosee,
55 Ross Court.

TWIN STUDENTS

Holly Springs, Miss. — (AP) — Weida and Wanda Godman are twins in more than looks. They made identical grades in all their studies at the University of Mississippi.