

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everybody in Southern Oregon Reads The 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
Dec. 26, 1944
(It was Tuesday)

County Judge J. B. Coleman and Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna both absent from offices in courthouse because of illness.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Citizens have started making their New Year resolutions. The main ones are about as unbreakable as the windshields of automobile were once supposed to be.

20 YEARS AGO
Dec. 28, 1934
(It was Wednesday)

"Doc" Hayes and Ted Lindley lead scoring for Medford High school basketball team in 37 to 32 victory over Christian church quintet.

Six arrested in Medford area during series of "mopup" liquor violation raids conducted by local law enforcement officers.

30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 26, 1924
(It was Friday)

Medford area radio fans report reception is improving and they have no difficulty in getting coast stations.

Motorists warned to keep off state highways in southern Oregon because of flooding and freezing conditions.

40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 26, 1914
(It was Saturday)

Not one arrest for intoxication reported by Medford city police on Christmas eve or Christmas day.

Medford merchants to hold special meeting for discussion of a reduction of freight rates.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)
Copr. 1954, Editorial Research Report

1. Most of the U.S. Senators who are Catholics voted for or against condemning Sen. McCarthy?

2. Some new autos are being sold on terms allowing three years for final payment; right or wrong?

3. When the U.N. General Assembly endorsed the Eisenhower plan to share atomic energy data, Russia voted Yes or No, or abstained from voting?

4. The number of amendments added to the U.S. Constitution is 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, or 25?

5. Pope Pius XII was crowned before, during, or after World War II?

6. The coffee trade says it expects coffee prices to be higher or lower in three months or so, or about the same as now?

7. William F. Cody was better known by what name?

1. Most voted to condemn. 2. Right. 3. Voted Yes. 4. 22. 5. Just before the outbreak of the war. 6. Lower. 7. Buffalo Bill.

RECEIVE LEAVE

Long Beach, Calif. — (U.P.) — Veteran crew members of the much-decorated LST 799 were granted holiday leave Saturday.

The vessel with a 103-man crew, docked after seven months in Korean waters.

Don't Cry!

A correspondent feels very sorry for Senator Guy Cordon because he has been forced to leave Oregon and make his home in Washington where he will practice law.

We feel sorry for anyone who has to endure the climate of Washington, D. C., rather than enjoy the climate of this state, and particularly this part of it. But we don't feel moved to tears exactly, because of Guy Cordon's fate.

For with his prestige and influence in the national capital and skill as a lobbyist he will make more money in a month than he made in a year as senator.

AND he wants to make money.

Cordon will, moreover, be entirely his own boss, will have no one to tell him what to do or criticize him for what he does. We will not be surprised to find him starting out with a retainer fee of \$50,000 a year.

We grant the sacrifice involved climatically, but in a year or two we predict our former senior Senator will agree that his defeat at the hands of Dick Neuberger was the luckiest thing that ever happened to him.

Money isn't everything of course. But plenty of it when one is still active and doing what he likes, is important.—R.W.R.

A Modern Samson

As the year 1954 approaches its end, there is a gleam of sunlight and cheer in the circumambient gloom, to wit:

The doctrine of the "Big Lie" seems definitely on the way out.

The McCarthy use of the "Big Lie" came to its apogee of irresponsible absurdity when the Wisconsin Senator made his familiar charge against the President of the United States of being soft toward Communism and by implication, aiding the cause of the enemies of the country.

THAT was the last straw!

McCarthy had made that charge unjustly time after time but many people did not KNOW the victim so many were inclined to give him, rather than his victim, the benefit of the doubt.

But when the charge was publicly made against President Eisenhower whom everyone in a sense knew, the bars were down, the clouds were cleared, all doubts were removed. The American people then KNEW McCarthy was a liar.

And there was only one conclusion that could be drawn, that if the Wisconsin Senator would make charges so completely false against the President of the United States, he would have no regard for the truth concerning similar charges against ANYONE.

Then and there the political build up of this demagogic imposter and phoney crusader came tumbling down, and his "Big Lie" technique with it.

THIS doesn't mean the junior Senator won't TRY to make a "come back." He is lying low now, and will until the storm passes. There are a few of his die-hard supporters left and an attempt, probably will be made to organize an anti-Ike group for some dirty work at the 1956 convention—or before.

But the corner-stone of the McCarthy edifice, built up through the past few years has, as we see it—crumbled, and like Samson, Joe himself by that one biggest of all his big lies, pulled it down over his ears.—R.W.R.

The Big Lie Fails

The Big Lie technique doesn't seem to be working at the present much better abroad than at home.

At least the charge made by China that these US airmen shot down were spies, hasn't been believed anywhere outside of that country, except of course in Russia—and Russia has only made a pretense of it.

The countries of Europe have either said nothing, or like England, have publicly stated, in effect, they don't believe it. Spies don't wear their uniforms when they start out on their secret and highly dangerous missions. And even China hasn't denied that these airmen were thus attired.

THERE is a certain consolation and hope in this, too.

And it all goes back to one of our favorite quotations which you can't fool ALL the people ALL the time—and that includes the people who don't talk English as well as those who do.

Also the people who don't live in a democracy and those who do. All the people in the world in fact.

IT IS a slow process. But is in the long run a sure one.

And we don't care what the form of government may be, if it is based upon a lie, upon falsehoods, cruelty and frauds, it may, like Joe McCarthy, make a big splash for a time but eventually, it is doomed to fail.

And so Communism, as now constituted, is doomed to fail.

Like the French revolution it will undoubtedly make great changes in the world socially and economically—ultimate by-products, so to speak.

But as the "reign of terror" ended the life and progress of that revolution, so the reign of force and falsehood will end the spread and vitality of this one.

And in all likelihood the end will come ultimately, not by force from WITHOUT, but from WITHIN.—R.W.R.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
Russia agrees—in a document signed in Washington by the 27 small naval craft lend-leased to her during World War II by the United States.

An explanatory note adds that negotiations have been under way for years for return of these and 121 other naval craft. Negotiations, the note says, are continuing on the other 121.

(THIS news is carried by the AP teletype in a double-spaced bulletin, accompanied by the ringing of a bell. The double spacing and the bell indicate that in the AP's judgment the news is hot stuff.)

WELL, I reckon it is. Any sign, however faint, of semi-decency on Russia's part is man-bites-dog news.

Still—
If your neighbor had borrowed your snow shovel to dig himself out of a disastrous drift and you had been compelled to hire lawyers and negotiate with him for 13 YEARS to get even the handle of it back you'd know what kind of neighbor he is, wouldn't you?

AND—
I'd say—
If you're SMART you wouldn't pick a fight with him that might result in both of you getting killed, but you'd be very cagey indeed about lending him another shovel.

DO you remember the story (quite a long time back) about the Czech family that came to the conclusion that life behind the iron curtain was no longer worth living anyway, and so put all its possessions in a truck, pointed the truck at the barbed wire, poured on the coal and LET GO?

(The truck smashed through the wire into the free world on the other side, and the bold bid for freedom so amazed the Communist guards that they didn't start shooting until it was too late.)

WELL, a note on the wire says they've been in the United States now for two Christmases and the whole family—mother, father and six children—say it's JUST FINE, and they LOVE it here.

A suggestion:
The next time you feel the urge to beef about everything, give a thought to this Czech family. Maybe we who live in America REALLY ARE lucky.

AMERICAN Ambassador to Italy Clair Booth Llew from Rome to Sardinia (Sardinia is the big Italian island in the Mediterranean about a third of the way from Italy to Spain). Her plane carried sacks of livestock feed the U. S. is giving to the drought-stricken island.

The feed shipment brings to five million dollars the amount of American from commodities donated by our government to Italy this Christmas season.

WE haven't had too much luck buying good will WITH MONEY in Europe.

And—
We have in the neighborhood of six billion dollars worth of agricultural commodities (for which the taxpayers have pungled up) stored in warehouses and we're beginning to run out of warehouse space.

Maybe it would be better to give food and feed, rather than money.

BUT—

Isn't it a bit on the spectacular side when our ambassador (a woman, and rather slightly built, at that, for the handling of heavy feed sacks) flies the stuff in a plane from Rome to Sardinia? It would have been simpler to have the ship stop at Sardinia and have the feed handled by husky deckhands.

ST. MATTHEW covers that point rather well. He says (VI, 13):

"Take heed that ye do not your aiums before men, to be seen of them . . . when thou doest thine aiums, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets . . ."

"But when thou doest aiums, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth."

Reds Said Trying To Thwart Plans

London —(U.P.)—The Moscow radio said Saturday the Russians are "taking all steps necessary" to thwart Western plans to use atomic weapons in case of war.

It said a decision at the North Atlantic Treaty meeting in Paris last week on the use of atomic weapons "aroused grave alarm" in many quarters.

"The Soviet people cannot overlook facts which show that aggressive quarters of the United States, Britain and France are steering a course toward atomic war," the broadcast said.

"They are watching all maneuvers and machinations of the Imperialist aggressors to take all steps necessary to frustrate these plans in good time."

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

THE MOON'S OTHER SIDE

Salon, Viet Nam—In the past 14 years, in peace and war, this reporter has spent something like six years overseas investigating the meaning to America of developments abroad. In all that time, in the front lines, in remote, untraveled places and in the brightness of the great world, no single experience has had such impact as three days with the Viet Minh.



Joseph Alsop

That may seem ludicrous, specially as my visit to Communist territory was unauthorized, and I had to spend much of the time conversing with my guardians in a canal bank. But no one can be sure what is on the moon's other side until some astronaut goes there; and in the same fashion, one cannot conceive the atmosphere of an Asian Communist guerrilla area until one gets into the midst of it.

As readers of previous reports in this space may perhaps have surmised, the first emotion I felt was a reluctant but strong admiration.

Because a man is your enemy, his triumphs are not less triumphant.

In the area I visited the Communist have scored a whole series of political, organizational, military and—one has to say it—moral triumphs.

The thing that impressed me most, in fact, was not the Communists' extraordinary feat of arming, maintaining and expanding an independent state of southern Indochina without exterior support, and in the teeth of French power. What impressed me most, alas, was the moral fervor they had inspired among non-Communist Viet Minh cadres and the stout support they had obtained from the peasant-ry.

I am sure I was not deceived by a mere appearance of fervor and support for a very simple reason. Without many thousands of self-denying dedicated men to lead the work, without the fighting loyalty of the villagers to depend upon in time of danger, what the Communists achieved in the zone I visited would have been absolutely impossible.

BOTH the mass of peasants and the great numbers of Vietnamese nationalists, political reformers, hopeful idealists and the like who staff the Viet Minh administration, firmly believe the Viet Minh Communist leaders when the Communists intone the first of their "three principles"—that the first aim of the state is to serve the people. For the time being indeed, there is good evidence for this belief, and so the great non-Communist majority has been willing and eager to sacrifice and to die for the cause.

But if my first emotion was unhappy admiration for the Communists' many faceted achievement, my second was rage. It was enraging to contrast the economy, efficiency and moral unity of the area I visited with the corruption and chaos of Saigon, where I had been watching Gen. Collins struggle desperately to strengthen southern Indochina against the menace of my hosts in the palm hut.

It was even more enraging to talk with these men, most of them so unself-consciously self-denying and so genuinely warmed by the good will towards their own people, and to think all the while of the trick that had been played upon them.

For of course Ho Chi Minh's first principle, which so completely guided and gripped my friends in the palm hut, is the more than a temporary Communist tactic. The first principle will cease to be serving the people; the first principle will become aggrandizing the state, as soon as the Viet Minh have attained full power in Indochina.

Missing Freighter Reported as Safe

London —(U.P.)—The 1,371-ton Swedish steamer Petra, missing since Thursday with 20 men aboard in storms battering northwest Europe, radioed Saturday that it was safe with all hands off the Island of Sylt.

Deaths attributed to the storms mounted above 150.

Snow after four days of howling gales and heavy rain dotted the continent with Christmas postcard scenes, but brought fears of possible avalanches in the Alps.

The Davos Avalanche Warning Institute warned Christmas holidaymakers of dangers of heavy snowslides. It advised skiers to avoid long mountain tours and stay within marked and guarded areas.

Icy highways in eastern France caused motorists to abandon scores of cars when temperatures dropped below freezing.

and have therefore ceased to depend upon popular support.

According to report, ruthlessness is already starting in the north where the Viet Minh government has already attained most of the authority of a normal government. All the preparations for the grim final change over have been made too, even in the southern area. For the idealistic non-Communist cadres are to be found in the civil administration; while 80 per cent of the Viet Minh army officers and all members of the security police are hard core Communists.

The men who so much impressed me, who gave me an idea, indeed, of what the primitive Christians must have been like, will not be happy when the change is made from serving the people to aggrandizing the state. Most of them, in truth, are unlikely to survive the transformation. But when they learn they have been hideously tricked, it will be too late, for all the levers of real power are already in hard core Communist hands.

FINALLY, to complete this list of intense emotions aroused by a visit to the Viet Minh, besides admiration and deep anger, there was fear as well. It would be dishonest not to admit that fear. It was not fear for myself in the scrape I was in, although I had a few bad quarter hours. It was fear, rather, for the free world.

For if Communist organization and Communist deceit can produce in Asia the kind of result I saw with the Viet Minh, then the danger in Asia is even more acute than the worst pessimist among us have been accustomed to think.

If the cause of freedom is not to be lost in Asia, and so lost in the world, great risk and efforts and sacrifices by the free nations are going to be needed. The present American attempt to avert the Asian danger on the cheap, with huckster talk and feeble political contraptions, is a dangerous fraud which we are practicing not only upon the Asians who still dare to choose freedom but worse still upon ourselves.

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Happy Christmas Seen As Prelude to Bright World in Coming Year

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent

Washington — (U.P.)—There really wasn't any way to improve much upon Christmas day.

Around the world, Christmas did not resound with shot in war or raid or border action by any kind of fighting faction.

The day recorded no picket line, or major strike. That's mighty fine. The CIO and AFL, John L. Lewis, all were well. And management felt mighty spry; stock-owners read quotations high.

Christmas Boom
The stores absorbed a Christmas boom. For days on end there wasn't room for one more shopper in the aisles where merchants practiced bargain wiles.

The weather was kinda cold in spots, but where there's snow the tiny tots and grown-ups, too, can have some fun, the luckier on some ski run.

So many things added up Saturday to make a nation happy, gay.

Prosperity is truly here. The next may be a bigger year. And, after that, an odds-on bet, despite enormous public debt, some bigger better years are due for me and mine and yours and you.

The dollar bill, the silver buck, at least seems to be safely stuck at value fixed by other means than tickling treasury endrocin.

Beyond the borders of this land, from polar ice to sunny strand, there's quite a lot to say thanks for. Example: There is no hot war. Nor do the eyes of mothers mist because a casualty list contains the name of fighting son whose little time on earth is done.

Hope for Security
From wreck and ruin of EIC a hope of new security arises, now the chips are down, to give the Kremlin cause to frown.

The British said: "Tear up your pact." The French, perhaps, some courage lacked. But Mr. Dulles had faith that Europe would be free; that Mendes-France could stand the gaff and give the West a cause to laugh at Russian efforts to deny free men their chance to unify.

This lagniappe to the cause of peace is proof that wonders never cease; that faith and hope and charity remain a mighty trinity. All's well—well, fairly well, states better, the situation as this letter is sent to you on Christmas Day when all should laugh and also pray.

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

MOST of our readers know that this issue of The Mail Tribune, delivered the morning of the day after Christmas, was edited, prepared and printed on Christmas day. Since there was no paper yesterday, we are taking this means (one day late) of wishing our readers A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

EACH Christmas the United Press, which furnishes The Mail Tribune with its news of happenings elsewhere, gets filled with the gaiety of the season, and sends on its teletype machines long and elaborate messages of Christmas greeting. Sometimes it "plays" Christmas carols on the machine's bell. One such offering Friday afternoon was a Christmas tree "drawn" with Xs and sent by the UP bureau in Denver.

RETIRING-MAYOR Diamond L. Flynn received a beautiful pocket watch Thursday afternoon at a party of city employees. They gave him the watch, appropriately engraved, to replace an old wrist watch with one beaten-up strap, which he has kept in his pocket and hauls out whenever he wants to know the time. He's never worn it on his wrist. Dime says, and adds, "Wrist watches have always annoyed me."

RIDING to work Monday morning, County Agent Earle Jossy, who lives about 20 miles from his courthouse office, drove on dry pavements. But when he got almost to the courthouse, he was startled when his car skidded on icy pavement, caused when water sprayed earlier by a street-flushing truck froze.

YOUNGSTERS' Christmas letters to Santa are always appealing. Mrs. Ruby Downing, third grade teacher at Central Point school, sent us one written by Elaine Johnson, "all by herself," which she thought was particularly good. We agree. Here's Elaine's letter: "Dear Santa, I want you to bring all the other children's toys for Christmas. I have all I want. I hope that all of the other children have a nice Christmas too. We should be very thankful for what we have. Love."

STAFF member was talking on the telephone to the district attorney at his home last Friday, when the conversation was interrupted suddenly. The DA said "Wait a minute!" There was a quiet interval, and then a wail in the background from a very small boy. When the DA returned to the phone, he explained, "He was about to drink the ink, and I had to take it away from him."

THE members of the Medford Kiwanis club are happy that after about 30 years of trying, they finally succeeded in having information concerning a club activity published in the International Kiwanis magazine.

MRS. Josephine Jerome, of the Evelyn Apartments, was mystified for a few moments Tuesday when she received an anxious telephone inquiry from a relative in Bakersfield, Calif. "Are you all right?" the relative inquired. Mrs. Jerome, who was fine, was puzzled until she found out that news of the earthquake which shook southern Oregon and northern California and been broadcast in Bakersfield, and the relative called to make sure Mrs. Jerome hadn't been harmed. While the quake did little more than give Medford a mild shake, it was from here that the United Press got its first tremor report, and in earthquake-conscious Bakersfield, badly hit by a recent quake, it seemed cause enough to call.

AS is their custom, Mail Tribune employees had a Christmas party last week—all quiet and well-behaved, except for one small incident in which our comely and statuesque book-keeper made a flying escape from under the mistletoe—and just in time, too.

SO, until next Sunday, which is also next year, Potluck staff members join in hoping you have A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Soviets Said Ready To Engage in War

Moscow — (U.P.)—The Soviet Army Organ Red Star, in an editorial calling for vigilance by the Armed forces, said Saturday that "each soldier should be ready at any moment to engage in decisive combat with the enemy and deliver a crushing blow."

"Vigilance was and is one of the most important qualities of the fighting morale of the Soviet soldier," it said.

By heaving strictly to the line of Army regulations and stepping up discipline, Red Star said, officers can raise the fighting preparedness of their units and close loopholes which may be exploited by enemy agents.

"The significance of keen vigilance and political foresight increases still more under present conditions, when aggressive forces inspired by U. S. monopolists are preparing for a new war," it said.

Five Deaths Listed In Los Angeles Area

Los Angeles — (U.P.)—Five highway deaths were reported by the California highway patrol Saturday to raise southern California's holiday toll to seven killed.

Donnie Dean, 38, Indio, was killed when his car hit a culvert and overturned on highway 60, six miles west of Beaumont. Martin J. Dean, 48, was seriously injured.

Lee Ronald Jones, 22, of Ontario, was killed Friday night on the Mission freeway at Campus ave. in a two-car collision.

Edwin Hippey, 84, of San Bernardino, died Friday night as he was crossing the intersection of G street and seventh.

No details were immediately available on the deaths of two persons whose surnames were given as Macias and Willis, who died in the Indio area.