

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.

Rail Chief Sees Shortcomings

It is always easy to criticize the way the other fellow conducts his business and this is especially true where the critic knows little or nothing about the problems or difficulties under which the criticized may be operating.

Such criticisms usually do not carry much weight. But when a recognized leader and acknowledged expert in a particular field sees fit to find fault with his own business his words should impress not only his business associates but those who may be affected one way or another by the efficiency or inefficiency of his service, whatever its nature.

SUCH an authority sounded off recently about the railroad business. Patrick B. McGinnis, president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, writing in the December issue of Railway Progress, a magazine devoted to the railroad industry, asks some questions which must be pretty embarrassing to railroad managements throughout the country.

Here are President McGinnis' questions: Why do we have to wait fifty years to get the passenger trains down to the level of the automobiles?

Why do we still have stations when the people want parking facilities?

Why can't we pool our purchases of materials and supplies and reduce the price of everything we buy by about 20 per cent?

Why can't we get together and get the ICC to relieve us of about 50 per cent of the paper work which no one looks at and yet must be filed, so that four years from now we can get a blue book called "Statistics of Class I Railroads"?

Why should we fight about having mechanical refrigeration instead of grandmother's icebox? Why pursue dead horses when Fruehauf (truck and trailer manufacturer) is making a monkey out of us?

Why scream about faster freight schedules when freight cars still travel only (an average of) two hours a day?

With hot boxes causing train stoppages, why can't we get together on a program of improved bearings or roller bearings so that freight cars without them would be no good for interchange at the end of three years? It would bring the price of roller bearings down from \$900 a car to \$200 a car.

Why do we have to use the present 100-pound, \$80 coupler which hasn't been improved substantially since the link and pin? Why can't we develop a hydraulic-pneumatic gadget, similar to that used by airplanes for landing purposes?

Why do we use 39-foot rail instead of 1,000-foot rail? Why do we need all this elaborate signal system when present engineering allows an airplane to fly from the United States to Europe and return without a crew?

Why don't we have small vacuum outlets under each passenger car seat which could be connected to a giant vacuum at each terminal to clean the cars, instead of the usual gang of cleaners?

Why can't we offer financial incentives for the union men to do their work better, such as giving ticket sellers a slight bonus if their sales exceed average? Why not give train crews an incentive for "on time" performance?

PRESIDENT McGinnis might also have asked why some railroad managements have been so slow, if not actually reluctant, about exploring the possibilities of light, self-propelled equipment for short runs.

—E.C.F.

Americans Salting It Away

Oregonians, along with the residents of the rest of the nation are salting away more money for a rainy day than ever before. Figures just released by E. C. Sammons, chairman of the Oregon Savings Bond committee show November sales of E and H bonds in the state amounted to \$2,645,070. For the eleven months of 1954, the people of Oregon have purchased \$33,280,831 worth of E and H bonds, which was a gain of 27 per cent over the year 1953.

According to Morris B. Leonard Sr., Jackson county Savings Bond chairman, sales here amounted to \$87,955 in November as compared with \$49,775 in the same month last year. For the eleven months this year the sales totaled \$914,029. In the same period last year the total was \$809,282.

Jackson county's total for the eleven months of 1954 ranks fifth in the state, the first four being: Multnomah, \$15,076,904; Lane, \$1,969,960; Marion, \$1,923,306, and Clackamas, \$1,191,290.

SAVINGS and loan associations of the nation are also reporting unprecedented gains in savings receipts. Total assets of the institutions will be approximately \$31,100,000,000 on December 31, an increase of \$4,450,000,000 during the year.

This record increase, which occurred in the face of a slowdown in business activity, compared with a growth of \$3,974,000,000 during 1953, which was the previous record yearly growth.

Although figures are not available it is believed that savings placed in the savings departments of banks, in mutual investment funds, in stocks and bonds, in insurance and annuities, and in other security forms have increased in approximately the same ratio as have deposits in Savings Bonds and saving and loan associations. —E.C.F.

Weyerhaeuser Sued In Lumber Deal

Portland—(U.P.)—Bert A. Parish, former Castle Rock, Wash., school teacher, has sued Weyerhaeuser Timber Company for \$533,355, in connection with a lumber exchange deal.

Weyerhaeuser has petitioned the Federal Court in Portland to hear the complaint, first filed in Multnomah County Circuit Court.

Parish, 76, formerly operated a general store at Castle Rock, Wash., and a sawmill at Rainier. In his suit Parish charges he was offered to trade four parcels of timber in Cowlitz county, Wash., for timber in Lincoln county, Ore. If the Oregon tracts didn't equal the ones in Washington, he was to get deficiency money, the suit claimed.

Later, Parish contends, he learned that J. K. Elder, with whom he says he made the deal, was an agent for Weyerhaeuser. Weyerhaeuser, he says, has refused to convey to him the Lin-

Mendes-France Proves Himself as Master Political Strategist

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Foreign Analyst

Win, lose or draw, Premier Pierre Mendes-France has proved himself a master political strategist.

It looks as if he is going to win his fight for the ratification of the treaties to rearm West Germany. If he does, it will be because he has over come fear, obstruction, desertion and personal hostility in the French National Assembly.

First, he has overcome the fears of many deputies who regard German military might as a greater menace to France than possible Communist aggression.

Secondly, by fancy political footwork he has overcome the tireless attempts of the Communists to delay and confuse the voting.

He has overcome the desertion of many deputies upon whose votes he had counted, and the

personal hostility some feel toward him.

Lukewarm To EDC

It was known when Mendes-France took office last June that he was lukewarm toward the European Defense Community pact, which then was to be the vehicle for German armament.

The EDC agreement was rejected by the National Assembly. But then came the new Western European Union treaties, in whose drafting Mendes-France played a leading part.

As part of those treaties, Mendes-France negotiated with West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer an agreement on the Saar, which had been a barrier to French-German relations ever since the war. That in itself was a triumph.

The big fight was still ahead. The ratification debate started on Dec. 20. Mendes-France's enemies rigged up a complicated plot to get him.

Georges Bidault, of the Popular Republicans, took the lead. Mendes-France has accused that party of being responsible for the loss of the Indochina war. The idea was to ratify the German treaties, but in the process to weaken Mendes-France so he could be overthrown later.

Four out of five parliamentary committees concerned turned in unfavorable reports on the German armament agreements. Mendes-France rejected German armament.

Then, last Friday, the assembly itself rejected the arming of Germany. That was an accident. It was a straight vote, not one of confidence.

Mendes-France was just beginning to fight. He came back with a new ratification layout, involving a series of confidence votes. Some called for approval of treaty provisions, others for a reversal of the assembly's unfavorable vote of Friday.

Mendes-France passed the first big hurdle in the early hours of Tuesday morning, when the assembly in a 19-hour session agreed to invite West Germany to enter the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Mendes-France dominated the entire session.

Today the voting starts again. Whatever happens, Mendes-France can say he fought a good fight.

Oregon Licenses To Be Standard Size

Salem—(U.P.)—Oregon automobile license plates to be issued starting Jan. 1 will be of size 6-by-12 inches to conform to a national standardization movement, Secretary of State Earl Newby said today.

Oregon plates in recent years have been 5½-by-12 inches. Newby said Oregon was among the first states to give notice of intention to adopt standard size plates. "The objective," he said, "is to get one size plate in use throughout the United States and Canada so vehicle manufacturers may design built-in receptacles to hold license plates."

In 1953, there were 69 different plate sizes in the U.S. and Canada.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day

The correct name for elk is wapiti. (Remember the line: "Hip-hip-hopity, here comes the wapiti!")

To compound the confusion of names, our moose is related to the European elk—only it is slightly larger.

Continuing in our deer family, our American caribou is in reality a reindeer and distinctive in this reindeer trait—both bucks and does, or cows and bulls, shed antlers annually.

Coming to the buffalo, surely our plains' animal could be no stretch of the imagination be allied to the Old World buffalo. Correctly, it is called bison, a close relative of the European bison or wisent.

Many Names for Mountain Lion

Our seldom-seen mountain lion, which once roamed every state and almost every province in North America has been called by more names than any other—cougar (the best, to my way of thinking), puma, panther, painter, catamount, American lion and jaguar. Of course, he is neither a lion or a jaguar.

Our ringtail cat, more accurately called the ringed tail cat, is no cat and no distant relation. It belongs to the raccoon family.

The wolverine or wolverene, has no connection whatever with the wolf—although it was credited with wolfish tendencies. It is very similar to the glutton of Europe.

The fisher, one of our rarest animals, never fishes. Our prairie dog is no dog. Our flying squirrel does not fly, but glides. Our groundhog, accurately speaking, is a woodchuck. As for our porcupine, make no mistake—it is not a hedgehog. The hedgehog, an insectivore, is related to the mole and shrew. Our porcupine is a rodent. (Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best question on nature and wildlife a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding. Each week, new questions will be considered. Sorry, I simply cannot answer your many friendly letters. Please address your questions to: IS THAT SO! c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

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.

Every Man a Liar? To the Editor—I read Mrs. Santo's answer to T. R. Thompson's letter on Christmas. As a matter of public interest, I would like to submit the following additional points.

Mrs. Santo took exception to Mr. Thompson's statement that Christians are commanded to celebrate our Lord's death, not his birth. She said: "Where has anyone's death been celebrated? Certainly not our Lord's." Evidently she overlooked the Scripture proof he listed, that of I Cor. 12:23-26. The apostle Paul was there referring to a regular commemorating of the Last Supper, a memorial or celebration of our Lord's death. Why was it to be celebrated? Because such sacrificial death (not his birth) opened up the way to life to believing humans. In addition, Jesus had proven his integrity to God under great testing, and thus died in vindication of God's supremacy. So why shouldn't Christians celebrate the Lord's death, as Jesus himself advised at Luke 22:19.

And the same principle is true regarding the followers of Jesus. It isn't their birth that is important, but rather their death in faithfulness to God (Rev. 2:10; Eccl. 7:8). For this reason Ecclesiastes 7:1 tells us that the day of death is better than the day of birth.

Birthday celebrations? Yes, they are mentioned in the Bible. But only two of them. Two pagan kings, Pharaoh and Herod, celebrated birthdays—their own! And showing the spirit of the occasion, those heathen kings topped the festivities each time with murder (Gen. 40:20; Matt. 14:6-12).

Although Mr. Thompson gave Bible proof for commemorating Jesus' death, Mrs. Santo failed to furnish any texts instructing us to celebrate his birth. The fact remains that Christmas is of pagan origin and, consequently, contrary to true Christianity. Also, all the Bible evidence is, as noted by Mr. Thompson, that Jesus wasn't even born in December. So the matter becomes one of following human tradition, or of letting God be true though it makes every man a liar" (Matt. 15:3, 8, 9; Rom. 3:3, 4).

Mrs. Linnie George 618 Beatty St.

HOW RIGHT Leicester, England—(U.P.)—Crockery salesman Percy Keshaw's sample-loaded station wagon overturned twice after a collision today, scattering a quarter ton of cups and saucers and Keshaw's book. The book was entitled "The Flying Saucers Have Landed."

Tax Evasion Brings Five-Year Sentence Tacoma—(U.P.)—A former Seattle hotel man, William Corbett, convicted of income tax evasion, was sentenced yesterday to five years in a federal prison.

U. S. District Court Judge George Boldt also fined Corbett \$10,000 and court costs amounting to \$6,700.

Corbett was convicted of evading approximately \$8,000 in income taxes during the years 1945-1946.

Attorneys for Corbett, whose attempt to get a new trial was denied, said they would appeal the case to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

WHAT IS THAT GOOD news. It means that in the future Oregon's timber will become a crop, to be harvested annually. It means guaranteeing Oregon's future with a self-renewing raw material that will provide payrolls indefinitely on into the future.

It means the end of the old cut-out-and-move-out cycle.

INCREASINGLY in the future, Oregon's (and Northern California's) timber will be reckoned in terms of FIBER, rather than in terms of boards.

These tree farms will become vast fiber-producing areas—more like cotton fields than like forests as we have known them in the more wasteful days of the past.

In the future, the development that is based upon our forests will be PERMANENT development.

THAT'S hopeful and constructive news. Here's some PROBLEM news: It is estimated that the population of Japan reached a total of eighty-eight and one-third millions on October 1. That is an increase of one and a quarter millions over the estimate for 1953.

THE population of Japan, whose area is less than one and a half times the area of the state of Oregon, is already HALF AS LARGE AS THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES and is growing at the rate of a million and a quarter a year.

WHY IS that a problem? Well, the basic resources of the rugged, mountainous islands that make up Japan are smaller than the basic resources of the state of Oregon. That means that the people of Japan, like the people of the British islands, must trade with the world or starve.

We won't let them trade with us to any considerable extent, because they can produce more cheaply than we can and therefore can undersell us. Their natural trade territory is Asia. Asia is growingly Communist.

If the Japs can't trade with us, they will have to trade with the Communists. If they trade with the Communists their interests will lie increasingly with the Communist world rather than with the free world.

THIS IS the problem—simply stated: WE NEED the Japanese as allies.

But how are we to KEEP them as allies if they are forced by circumstances to trade with our enemies instead of trading with us?

HORSE JUDGE Springfield, Mass.—(U.P.)—P. T. Barnum, known as America's greatest circus promoter, was also a judge of horseflesh. Barnum was an infield pony judge at the first major horse show in North America held here in October, 1853.

ALL THINGS FORSEEN To the Editor: Old almanacs would be valuable now—as antiques, especially the ones circulated at the turn of the century. We are referring to the ones having prophecies of future events.

We recall one of the 18th century vintage portraying men and women of the year 1926, when women would be wearing slacks, and using cigarettes as men do.

Another event foretold and foreseen, the modern Helicopter and how it would use the city "sky scrapers" as a landing floor. The beginning of the 19th century was an experimental age for perpetual motion contraptions of all descriptions, all the fantastic machines lacked, they were devoid of the attributes to increase their own power of motion or speed. A sage once remarked, that "all events casts their shadows before them." It is apparent there is no accidental occurrences only what we cannot account for. Man has discovered many useful patterns from the snow crystals for centuries, even now.

A new year brings its rewards be it good or not so good, the milk of the Gods continue to grind. May we all be the beneficiaries of achievement 1955.

Bert Kissinger 520 Boardman St.

Moral Rearmament In Africa Praised Washington—(U.P.)—Moral rearmament is "doing for Africa what Abraham Lincoln did for this country," a Moslem leader said Tuesday night.

Yakubu Tali, the "Very Big Chief" of 1,500,000 Moslems on Africa's Gold Coast, told the world assembly for moral rearmament the movement is inspiring and transforming his people.

Moral rearmament is an "idea to win the world" through absolute honesty, absolute purity, absolute unselfishness and absolute love.

The assembly turned its attention today to speeches by Angelo Pasetto, former leader of the Central Communist cell in Italy, and James Hawthorn of the British Labor party.

An estimated 500 persons, some in flowing robes, saris and other colorful costumes attended Tuesday night's opening meeting of the 10-day conference. But registration is expected to climb to about 2,000 before the meeting closes.

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