

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
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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
Jan. 2, 1945
(It was Tuesday)
Arthur M. Cannon, manager of Fluher Bakeries, commissioner Lieutenant junior grade in Navy and scheduled to leave for Seattle.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: In the annual contest conducted at Burlington, Iowa, a woman won the national title of champion liar of the year in a large field that did not include any leading statesmen, bureaucrats, and politicians, or the Radio Tokyo broadcasters.

20 YEARS AGO
Jan. 2, 1935
(It was Wednesday)
First Medford baby of 1935 born to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ward, 319 Willamette ave.

Medford brewed "Rogue Lager" beer reported gaining quick popularity in southern Oregon.

30 YEARS AGO
Jan. 2, 1925
(It was Friday)
Highest water in 15 years damages new road east of Central Point; Rogue River area reports highest water in 18 years with fears that Savage Rapids dam will wash out.

Medford Ministerial association schedules dinner for new county officials, including District Judge C. M. Thomas, District Attorney N. C. Chaney, County Judge W. J. Hartzell, Sheriff Ralph Jennings, and Constable George Prescott.

40 YEARS AGO
Jan. 2, 1915
(It was Saturday)
Carl W. Munson reports building 12 by 24 cabin near Medford for total cost of \$75.

T. E. Potter withdraws as candidate for city councilman from Ward 3 in favor of G. L. Schermerhorn.

What's the Answer?
(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

1. The custom of decorating a Christmas tree originated in England, Germany, Italy, Norway or the U.S.?

2. The Dixon-Yates contract on more power for T.V.A. was negotiated by the T.V.A., Atomic Energy Commission, Federal Power Commission, or Defense Department?

3. France, which had to evacuate northern Viet Nam, is or isn't maintaining armed forces in southern Viet Nam?

4. More teachers leave public schools every year to go into other employment or for marriage and other family reasons?

5. The "Keeley cure" is for drug addicts, sex perverts, congenital liars, alcoholics, bad drivers, or habitual shoplifters?

6. General Electric does or doesn't have a number of large plants in the South?

7. Hispaniola is a Spanish dialect, a South American dance, a jazz band instrument, a Caribbean island or a hot sauce for a Mexican dish?

The Answers: 1. In Germany. 2. Atomic Energy Commission. 3. Is. 4. For marriage and other family reasons. 5. Alcoholics. 6. Does. 7. A Caribbean island (Haiti and Dominican Republic).

"Man of the Year"

We don't believe John Foster Dulles will go down in history as a great Secretary of State, but there is no doubt he deserves the accolade from "Time" as the "man of the year."

The "timing" of the announcement was also excellent, just as the French Assembly voted in favor of the rearmament of Germany. Had France followed the popular will, and refused, there would have been a terrible mess in western Europe the state department would have had to shoulder part of the blame, and have forced upon it a terrific task of readjustment and reconstruction.

It is somehow difficult to enthuse over Secretary Dulles. He lacks that elusive but important quality known as charm -- personality, magnetism. More over at times he has sacrificed principle to expediency.

But in a review of 1954 he does stand out head and shoulders in energy and accomplishment above every other international figure, and in the direction of perpetual motion he comes closer to actual attainment, than any other international diplomat of modern times.

On the basis of sheer physical stamina Mr. Dulles stands in a class by himself and made a record in persistence and mileage which we believe will never be surpassed in that department of government, probably never equalled.

Our Secretary has flown over 100,000 miles in the regular line of his duties, has been to Europe about as often as most of us go to the post office, and according to reliable report has never missed his normal 8 hours sleep, nor his hearty New England breakfast. As this is written he may be in China or the Philippines for all we know. One thing certain if there were an important international gathering at the north pole he would soon be present, and according to Time probably indulge in some ice water swimming along with the polar bears, which Time claims is his favorite form of recreation!

NOT a great man as we see it, but an extraordinary, able, conscientious one. And he has three excellent qualities extremely rare in public life these degenerate days namely:

He is a devout and conscientious church-goer and dedicated Christian, a man of strong faith and patience; and almost entirely free of one of the major defects in high places politically and diplomatically -- pride of opinion.

Secretary Dulles has made mistakes, but when he has discovered his errors, he has not tried to cover up or persist in them, -- he has just kept his mouth shut, changed his course, and returned undismayed to his favorite seat at the international grindstone.

So John Foster Dulles takes his place on the cover of Time as "The Man of the Year" with more approval and less criticism at home and abroad than has usually been accorded this magazine's selection through the years.

Not only for his sake, but for the sake of this country and the free world it is to be hoped his record for the next 12 months will be as satisfactory and successful, as it has been for the 12 months just ended. -- R.W.R.

Stop Look and Listen

The action of the N.Y. Stock Exchange as the old year departed only gave added indication that the 1954 stock boom was based essentially upon sound investment rather than wild speculation.

Had the situation been otherwise there would have been more of a scramble of selling, to get stock losses before the time ran out, -- which has over the years, been the usual practice, at the close of a year.

NOT that we know anything about the stock market or its habits and their significance. It is a closed book, written in a strange language as far as this department is concerned.

But that is what we are told by those who do know -- or say they do -- and so we might as well pass the good news on.

It only adds to the general belief in business circles -- and administration circles, particularly -- that 1955 promises to be a year of greater prosperity than 1954, and while there were some recessions and readjustments the past 12 months, as a whole the last year stacked up pretty well, -- very well for many in fact.

HOWEVER, those who can remember 1929, will be excused if they keep their fingers crossed.

Whoever is running this show has always had a bad habit of raising hopes highest, when old Humpty Dumpty has been just about to fall off the wall, again! -- R.W.R.

Date for the New Year

It really is illogical to set the opening of the new year as ten days after winter has begun on Dec. 22 (summer in the southern hemisphere). For centuries the Christian world was more logical, considering the new year as beginning on March 21, when spring began.

However, Pope Gregory XIII, when he instituted a new calendar in 1582, ordained at the same time that Jan. 1 be the first day of each year thereafter. This new date was accepted only by Roman Catholic lands at first, Germany and the Scandinavian lands coming around to it about 1700 and England and the English colonies in North America not until 1752.

Up to the time of Julius Caesar the Romans had dated the New Year from the beginning of winter, but Caesar in reforming the calendar made the New Year begin on Jan. 1, like Gregory XIII later. The

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The French national assembly (which is roughly equivalent to our Congress) approves West German rearmament by the narrow margin of 27 votes -- 287 for and 260 against.

Whether that's a victory for the free world remains to be seen. In the general political maneuvering on the issue, the assembly voted against German rearmament last week. So unstable is French government that by next week -- or maybe by tomorrow -- it may reverse itself again.

MODERN France is like Longfellow's Maiden -- "Standing with reluctant feet -- Where the brook and river meet."

She hasn't grown up yet.

THE SALEM Capital Journal, commenting on the Klamath Falls Herald and News' "no bad news on the front page week," says:

"It will be interesting if the H-N will canvass the reactions of its readers after Christmas. Will they be relieved, or will they feel that they were cheated out of something?"

AS IT has turned out, it wasn't necessary to canvass them. They canvassed the newspaper. By the hundreds. By mail, by telephone, by telegram, by word of mouth. Comment has come not merely from southern Oregon but from all over the country. One or two came from overseas.

The verdict is unanimously favorable.

THE CAPITAL Journal doesn't think too much of the idea. It says:

"It should be an interesting experiment and worth while for that reason, so everybody can see how it works. But we are sure neither the Klamath publisher nor anyone else who reads his paper will be deceived into believing that the nature of the world or its people has been thereby changed."

"Keeping the seamy side of the old world off the front page for a whole week seems to us like carrying matters to an extreme. We are disposed to accept old Charles A. Dana of the New York Sun as right when he said he would print anything the Lord would let happen."

WELL, DANA was a great editor. But back in the days when he was making the Sun into one of the great newspapers of all time communications were scarce and slow and high priced and the bad things the Lord let happen didn't get all over the world in a few minutes, as they do now. So if the bad things that happened within the reach of Dana's Sun ALL went on the front page they weren't numerous enough to poison the whole loaf.

It's different now. Everything that happens anywhere in the world gets to the newspaper a few minutes afterward.

DANA'S NEW York Sun made another famous crack about the news:

"When a dog bites a man, that is not news, because it happens so often. But if a man bites a dog, that IS news."

THAT definition (it was really a wisecrack) has become so widely accepted that I'm afraid it has colored the thinking of editors everywhere. Influenced by it, they have come to feel that the UNUSUAL is the IMPORTANT.

The truth is that in the average American community men don't bite dogs very often. And, when they do, it isn't really crucial. It's just a sign that some man has gone off his rocker. There are so MANY things in the average community that are so MUCH MORE important.

In this search for the unusual, I'm afraid we newspapers tend to DISTORT the news.

ANYWAY, the Herald and News feels that the response to its pre-Christmas experiment was so interesting and so widespread and so unanimous in its approval that it is likely to be tried again next Christmas.

Maybe, THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, its editors will find that their theories of editing and displaying the news have been colored a little by the response of its readers to the "experiment."

Harriman Promises 'Bold' Administration
Albany, N. Y. -- (UP) -- Averell Harriman promised a "bold, adventurous" administration Saturday as he was inaugurated as New York state's 48th governor.

Harriman, who entered politics in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, said he would "not sit back" and wait for crises to occur but would "try to do the things that need to be done to prevent them from developing into an acute state."

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

POST MUNICH

Haipong, Indo-China -- The great Asian drama of the moment is the struggle for southern Indo-China.

It is being watched by a large audience of Cambodians and Siamese, Malaysians, Indonesians and Burmans, who want to know which side to choose when the drama commences in their own countries.

On one side in this crucial struggle, is the passionate conviction, the frightening dynamism, the remarkable power to do much with little which this reporter saw at first hand in the main southern base of the Viet Minh. There is also the power, never forgotten in southern Indo-China, of the big Communist military force that the Communists are building up here in the north.

On the struggle's other side, meanwhile, there is nothing as yet but an obscene basket of seels. After months of open warfare between the civil and military branches of the non-Communist government of southern Indo-China, the crisis has ended in a "solution" which parodies the worst solutions of Chiang Kai-shek's last year on the mainland.

The army is demoralized and disorganized. The civil administration is generally corrupt where it exists at all, and in most places it has less authority than the underground administration of the Viet Minh. Wide regions are also controlled by the private armies of the native "sects," which more closely resemble the Capone mob than any normal religious organization. And over this squalid, aimless chaos Ngo Dinh Diem, honest and virtuous but wholly out of contact with reality, presides with obstinate certainty that all will yet be well.

The combined efforts of the French commander, Gen. Ely, and his old friend and partner, President Eisenhower's representative, Gen. Lawton Collins, have thus far failed to straighten out a single eel in the basket. For the moment, the French and American policy of trying to "bolster up" the non-Communist government of southern Indo-China is being continued in a blindly automatic way. But how do you bolster eels?

MAYBE the position would be better today, if the Washington policy makers had not deprived Gen. Collins of all bargaining power by committing him to absolute support of President Diem. As matters stand, President Diem has rejected almost all the good advice Collins and Ely have given him, and there is no serious hope of improvement in sight.

What is very much in sight, is open acknowledgment of Communist victory in southern Indo-China. The French government has the heavy responsibility of 40,000 native Frenchmen and many tens of thousands more of Vietnamese holding French citizenship, all of whom must be offered an opportunity to evacuate if southern Indo-China seems likely to fall into Communist hands.

This immense movement of people, with all their goods as well, cannot be accomplished overnight. A year at least will be needed for it. That means the French government must give the warning to evacuate some time this spring or summer, in order to have reasonable leeway before the Indo-Chinese election in July, 1956.

AS matters stand, it is hard to see how the giving of the warning is to be avoided, for southern Indo-China certainly seems likely to fall into Communist hands as of now. The mere giving of the warning in turn, will inevitably cause the final collapse of the Saigon government. After such a public admission of defeat, a new government with Viet Minh sympathizers in key posts will almost certainly take over at once.

As one peers down these grim perspectives over here, the bland language and optimistic actions of the Washington authorities seem more and more inexplicable. Consider the hideous fate, for instance, of the 500,000 Indo-Chinese Catholic refugees from the North, who now crouch in squalid camps in the South.

The American government encouraged and assisted the flight of these poor people. In a huckstering way, the authorities in

Washington even presented their tragedy as a triumph over the Communists -- a first installment, as it were, of the dynamic foreign policy we used to hear so much about. It may be shocking to say, so but the refugees would have been better off in their own homes and fields, if the Communists are to follow them South a year or so from now.

ON A different plane, it would also have been better if Gen. Collins had not been ordered to undertake his mission, which most Asians now regard as an American guarantee of southern Indo-China. For this seeming guarantee of the South, a Communist victory in the South will be a doubly shattering blow.

The wisest administration leaders warned the President that the abandonment of northern Indo-China to the Communists was an Asian Munich. So it has proven. They learned that rule that you cannot have Viet Minh and eat it too in London in 1939. Seemingly the rule has been forgotten in the interval in Washington.

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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.

Check Signing is Now Involved

To the Editor: In answer to Mrs. George, as to why I did not give scriptures commanding we celebrate the birth of Christ. We do not need to be commanded. It is enough to know that He came as the prophet Isaiah foretold. (Isa. 9: 6-7) then in (Luke 2: 11-14) the angels proclaimed His birth by rejoicing, for He is the Redeemer and Savior of the world. (Matt. 2: 1-2) the wise men came to bring gifts and to worship Him.

Both Mrs. George and T. R. Thompson refer to 1 Cor. 12: 23-26. Why? There is not a word pertaining to Christmas or celebration. They say we are commanded to celebrate His death. In Luke 22: 19 and 1 Cor. 11: 24-26 at the Last Supper, Jesus did not command them to celebrate, but asked them to remember Him until His return. Also they both refer to 2 Cor. 5: 16, but they did not mention the verses that follow through verse 21.

A few more scriptures might be of interest. His birth, His suffering and death and then the resurrection all give us our only hope of eternal life. (1 Tim. 1: 15-17, 1 Tim. 2: 5-6, John 2: 27, 1 John 3: 1-2, Luke 24: 39-51, Acts 1: 11 and 1 Thes. 4: 17-18.) all pertain to a living Christ. Thank God we live in a country that believes in the virgin birth and the resurrection of a living Christ.

There are some antibiblical sects that do not believe in the virgin birth, nor do they believe in protecting or the saluting of the Flag or our Christian America, nor even voting, yet they take every advantage that Christian America offers. They say they do not believe in the birth of Christ, yet every time they date a letter or write a check, they acknowledge His birth, if they didn't acknowledge it, their checks would be no good.

Mrs. Ernest Santo 204 Lozier Lane Medford, Oregon

6,000 Scientists Complete Session; Name New Leaders

Berkeley, Calif. -- (UP) -- Scientists from 43 states and 22 foreign countries returned home Saturday after six days of meetings during the world's largest scientific convention.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science ended its 121st annual convention Friday with members taking field trips and holding a few last minute seminars.

Dr. Paul B. Sears, professor of botany at Yale University, was named president-elect of the A.A.S. for 1956 while Dr. George W. Beadle of the California Institute of Technology will head the organization this year.

Awarded Prize
Dr. Daniel Alpert, manager of the Westinghouse Electric Corp. physics department at Pittsburgh, Pa., was awarded the association's \$1,000 Newcomb Cleveland prize. Alpert was presented the prize for using electrical pumps to create the highest room-temperature vacuum yet achieved.

Formal registrations at the convention, held on the University of California campus, totaled 3,500 but it was estimated 6,000 to 7,000 persons actually participated. Some 1,500 papers were read.

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)



BURRO (LEFT) AND FRIEND Six Years Is A Long Time

For the past six years, Diamond L. Flynn has been our favorite mayor.

We've not always agreed. But Dime's been honest, and he's honestly done his best for Medford. No one could ask for more.

His pleasant, friendly personality has held the council together through a lot of difficult times. He has smoothed over and conciliated differences and flare-ups. He has emphasized efficiency and service in city government.

His administration has been studied with a series of accomplishments, some big and some small, and it would repay any

reader to run through his final report, published elsewhere in today's Mail Tribune.

The citizens of Medford, even if some of them may have differed with Dime, have a great deal to thank him for. He's been a good public official.

Thanks, Dime.

The picture at the head of this column is an old one of the former mayor, but it has long been a favorite of news staff members, who for years have been looking for an excuse to print it again. Now that Dime has left public office, and now that we have a Potluck column to rattle around in, we decided to print it again for no particular reason except that it's our favorite picture of the president of the League of Oregon Cities.

Mrs. J. J. Emmens, 1443 East Main st., has been visited each morning, apparently for several weeks, by a small dog that comes through her back fence. Each morning she has given the dog a bone.

Christmas morning, the dog showed up on schedule with a Christmas card attached to his collar. Surprised, Mrs. Emmens opened the card and found a note which said, "Thank you for the bones. You don't know it, but I know how to sit up for my bones."

So Mrs. Emmens tried him, and, sure enough, he did know how to sit up. She still doesn't know where the dog comes from, or who his owner is.

The Rolls triplets, Jim, Bob and Bill, have been the subject of a lot of pleased conversation around town since their birth Wednesday.

Because they were born before the end of the year, they automatically bring their parents another gift from the government -- an \$1,800 income tax deduction.

Medford loses another longtime public servant with the change in city administration. Councilman Frank Runtz, who has served for 14 years, retired this year. In paying him tribute for his work on the city's street and sewers as a member of the public works committee, another councilman referred to him as "The Old Roman."

Runtz, who really likes Italian food, replied, "Whenever I eat spaghetti I see sewer and water mains; whenever I eat ravioli, I envision breaks in street pavement."

With visions like that, maybe it's a good thing Frank is going to take it easier for a while.

Didn't ANYBODY notice that the first letter of each paragraph of last week's Potluck spelled "Merry Christmas"?

Editorial Comment

ITS THE CLIMATE
Birdwatchers taking the annual bird census at Medford found the habitat for an estimated 21,000 robins in a long thicket of berry bushes bordering Bear Creek. Another proof of Medford's salubrious winter climate. -- Oregon (Salem) Statesman.

PENDLETON PARKING
The Pendleton city administration is to be commended for its determination to provide adequate off-street parking. Many cities want to do something about it but never seem to get beyond the talking stage. Pendleton's city councilmen have a plan and they're putting some cash behind it. In future years they will have the gratitude of thousands. -- Pendleton East Oregonian.

TWO FOR ONE
Buffalo, N.Y. -- (UP) -- Fred Helfeld, who has hunted for 20-odd years, doesn't believe he'll ever repeat a feat he accomplished this fall. Taking aim at a raccoon in a tree, Helfeld fired his gun. He looked in amazement when two coons dropped to the ground dead. Fellow-hunters confirmed his aim.