

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 37-39 North Fir St. Phone 2-6141

ROBERT W. RUHL, Editor. HERB GREY, Advertising Manager. E. C. FERGUSON, Managing Editor. ERIC ALLEN, Jr., City Editor. HARRY CHIPMAN, Telegraph Editor. RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor. OLIVE STARCHES, Society Editor. JACK JACKSON, Sunday Editor. GERALD LATHAM, Circulation Mgr.

Entered as second class matter at Medford, Oregon, under Act of March 3, 1897.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Mail—In Advance: Per copy 10c. Daily and Sunday—One year \$12.00. Daily and Sunday—Six months \$6.50. Daily and Sunday—Three months \$3.50. Daily and Sunday—One month \$1.00. Sunday Only—One year \$2.50.

By Carrier—In Advance—Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, Gold Hill, Phoenix, Shady Cove, Rogue River, Talent, and on motor routes—One year \$15.00. Daily and Sunday—One month \$1.50. Carrier and Dealers—5c per copy. All Terms Cash in Advance.

Official Paper of the City of Medford. Official Paper of Jackson County. United Press—Full Leased Wire. MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION.

Advertising Representative: WEST-HOLIDA COMPANY, INC. Offices in New York, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, St. Louis, Atlanta, Vancouver, B.C.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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

Feb. 27, 1945 (It was Tuesday) Jerry Ross, Larry Hayes, Darrell Riggs and Bob Watson of Medford high school basketball team named to first five of All Southern Oregon conference team.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "A federal sociologist finds 'women surpass men in courage.' In coming to this conclusion, the hats they are wearing, and the exposed midriff planned for their summer dresses, were not considered."

20 YEARS AGO

Feb. 27, 1925 (It was Wednesday) William F. Isaacs, founder of the Toggery, pioneer Medford men's clothing store, observes 23rd anniversary in business here.

Central Point boys glee club members, including Richard Jewett, Clifford Conrad, Lyle Russell, Bill Snyder, George Merritt, Floyd Woodbridge, Sidney Thurston, Edwin Gebhardt, Ronald Patterson, and Chester Kamberg, to perform at musical program at high school.

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 27, 1925 (It was Friday) City of Medford purchases litter cans to be placed at all leading corners in the business district.

Real old fashioned hard times dance to be given at Modern Woodman hall, over Toggery Clothing store.

40 YEARS AGO

Feb. 27, 1915 (It was Saturday) Girls of north Medford organize roller skating society, and announce plans to skate to Central Point on newly paved Pacific highway.

"Ashland grows as Lithia flows" adopted as official slogan of city of Ashland.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

- 1. The United Nations has 30, 45, 60, 75 or 90 member nations? 2. A floor trader on the N. Y. Stock Exchange must be a partner in a member firm of the Exchange; right or wrong? 3. Average retail list price of electric stoves sold these days is around \$50, \$150, \$350, or \$450? 4. Of every 100 unmarried girls in the U. S. aged 20, more or fewer than 90 will get married some day? 5. Average weekly earnings are higher in printing and publishing, textiles, cigarette factories, canneries or lumber mills? 6. A man has run a mile in less than four minutes only outdoors, only indoors, or both indoors and outdoors? 7. Birthstone for February is amethyst, emerald, garnet, onyx, or ruby? The Answers: 1. 60. 2. Right. 3. Around \$250. 4. More than 90. 5. In printing and publishing. 6. Only outdoors. 7. Amethyst.

The United States will have 81,000,000 motor vehicles by 1965. The Automobile club of New York now estimates.

Better Traffic Observance

It is a pleasure to note that motor-driving in Medford during the past year has improved.

Just who or what is responsible we can't say, probably a combination of many things—more newspaper publicity, more traffic-lights, better and more alert law enforcement, and various and sundry safety programs, over the air.

AT ANY rate while conditions in this department are far from perfect, there has been a remarkable improvement in a comparatively short time, for which we all should be duly thankful.

This improvement has been particularly marked in better observance of the traffic regulations regarding the heretofore neglected and forgotten pedestrian. Most—or at least many—of the Medford cars really do come to a stop now when there is a pedestrian in the cross-walk.

Give us time and perhaps some day we will be as good in this direction as California.—R.W.R.

Too Much Patience

Once more President Eisenhower & the man who is supposed to represent him in the Senate, Knowland of California, disagree.

The California Senator says the UN is pitifully ineffective and can't be otherwise.

The President disagrees, and says that the United Nations should no more be condemned for making progress slowly than should cancer research—patience and restraint should be exercised for progress is being made and in the right direction.

As usual the President is right and Knowland isn't.

Patience is a virtue but we believe the people of the country as a whole would be happy if the President exercised less, when the senior Senator from California is concerned.—R.W.R.

Up To The Legislature

The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce has endorsed a sales-tax for Oregon. The members are reported to be practically unanimous.

According to our information, the Jackson County delegation at Salem feels the same way about it, as does a majority of the Legislature.

But it is also reported that if a sales tax is offered it will be voted down, not because the representatives of the people don't favor such a tax but because they believe it is unpopular.

AS PREVIOUSLY stated in this department in taking such a stand the members of the Legislature are shirking their plain responsibility.

If after careful deliberation they believe such a tax is the best kind of tax to solve Oregon's financial difficulties then they should pass it. Because the tax has been beaten before does not necessarily mean it will be beaten again. For years the best tax of all—the income tax—was beaten in this state and in the nation, but it finally won out, because under the circumstances it was the best form of taxation available.

IF THE members of the Legislature believe this is true of the sales tax for Oregon they should pass the sales tax.

If the people of the state wish to kill it by referendum that is their business.

It is the business of their representatives to present the best form of tax relief they can devise, best for the state and therefore best for the people—letting the chips fall where they may.—R.W.R.

Are The Reds Bluffing?

It is interesting to note that our own Dick Applegate and our favorite news columnist Joe Alsop agree as far as Red China and Formosa are concerned.

Alsop who has been over in the Far East several weeks and is now in Formosa, thinks Red China is not bluffing when it says it intends to capture Formosa and wipe out Chiang Kai-shek.

Alsop is not as explicit as Dick. He doesn't name Spring or early summer as the zero hour, but he has no doubt that the attempt by Mao to take Formosa will be made and that those in this country who dismiss this as a "bluff" are guilty of "wishful thinking."

THIS agreement between two young men who have spent considerable time in the Far East, studied the situation there first hand, and enjoy excellent reputations as keen and dependable reporters, does not necessarily prove them right—even General MacArthur, in judging the future actions of the Red Chinese, pulled a tragic boner.

But if we were in Chief of Staff Radford's shoes we would give their opinions some serious consideration.

FOR while Admiral Radford, according to an interview in the US News and World report does not say directly the Chinese threat is a bluff, he must think it is, for he sees no danger of any all-out Red attack on Formosa or the mainland islands, thinks the Red Chinese are talking tough but don't intend to act tough, and looks forward to stabilization in the Formosa area—if not a cease fire at least a sort of armed truce.

HIGHLY as we regard Messers Applegate and Alsop we hope they are proved wrong in this instance, and Radford is proved right.

But we wouldn't advise anyone to wager too much on it!—R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

THE FIX WE'RE IN

Taipei, Formosa—It is high time for people at home to face the full seriousness of the fix we are in out here in Asia.



Joseph Alsop

The leaders of world communism are now conducting an elaborate nerve war on the Formosa issue. It may be the prelude to a decisive showdown. Or it may only be intended to put the members of the Western Alliance to an acid test.

Either way, the danger to the United States is incalculably great. For the Eisenhower administration's foreign and defense policies have painted the United States into an almost inescapable corner in Asia.

For two years, Washington has paid no attention to the prejudices that hag-ridden the Formosa issue in Britain and Western Europe. Only last week, Secretary Dulles' important speech received the usual acknowledgments—jubilation from Sen. Knowland and doleful cries from London.

Even now, no serious effort is being made to form a united front in Asia with our allies. Thus the Communist nerve war has an excellent chance of isolating America on the issue of this controversial island.

This would not be so disturbing, if the Eisenhower administration had ever bothered to match its bold talk with an equally bold defense policy. From Korea onwards, there has been a good case for going it alone to halt Communist aggression in Asia. But going it alone costs a lot of money for defense; and our defense policy has been made in the Treasury Department.

The result of simultaneous efforts to please Sen. Knowland and Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey is the fix we are in. The key to that fix, well known to the world Communist leaders but concealed from our own people, is the present status of the American Strategic Air Command.

OUR main weapon and almost our only offensive weapon squarely depends upon its transatlantic bases. The Strategic Air Command's transatlantic bases are controlled, not by us, but by our allies. If our allies part from us over Formosa, the bases will be denied to SAC. And if the bases are denied, SAC will still be able to fight, but SAC will be unable to strike the immediate, decisive blow that it is SAC's vital job to strike.

In fact you can express the practical effects of the successful isolation of America in a crude equation. It equals denial of the transatlantic bases which equals the destruction of about half of Gen. LeMay's airplanes before the shooting even starts. Consider the shock, if the news came over the radio that half the great SAC force had just

been destroyed by saboteurs. Imagine how the country would then feel about a final showdown with Red China and the Soviet Union. And despite the loud denials that will be heard from the Defense Department, remember that this will approximate the real situation if the Communists win their nerve war.

These are the points that must be borne in mind, in weighing the present crisis. It is certainly conceivable that the Communist leaders seriously want a final showdown on Formosa, if they can just contrive to isolate America and thus to bend and blunt our main weapon.

Molotov's grim speech seemed to say as much. German rearmament provides a possible motive. And if the masters of the Kremlin really prefer fighting America to seeing Germany rearm, the ideal place to start the war is here in Asia, where there is such a gaping hole in the Western Alliance.

It is much more likely that the communist leaders mean to carry their nerve war only as far as the nerve-shattering brink of final catastrophe. Even so, as matters stand now, they will still have a good chance of isolating America. And how will President Eisenhower choose, when he is not quite sure the enemy is really bluffing, and he has to make the choice between backing down on Formosa or risking a big war with his main weapon half broken in his hand?

THERE would be no need to ask such questions if we had pursued a different defense policy. But the only course now open is to take out disunity insurance. Let the American government, then, make a little speech to the British government: "We will not abandon Formosa, because Formosa is strategically vital and such a surrender would bring the loss of all of Asia in its train. But if you can get a cease fire down the middle of the Formosa Strait in exchange for Quemoy and the Matsus, we will back you all the way. You have carte blanche to make a trade. On the other hand, if you cannot make a trade, we think it means the enemy intends to fight anyway. Then we see no reason to give away the offshore islands. And we hope you will back us."

This would outrage Sen. Knowland, not to mention the same newspapers and magazines which have professed to see perfection in the defense policy that has put us in our present fix. But it would also get us out of the fix. For such a gesture would give Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden just the help they need in their rather courageous efforts to cope with British public opinion. It would almost certainly prevent the isolation which is now the great danger. And in the end, even those who dislike the cease fire idea would probably be happy. For there is no reason to suppose that the terms which restore Western unity would be accepted by the Communists.

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS If you don't mind, I'd like to talk today about beer. The story of beer in Oregon provides an interesting economic lesson.

WHEN beer became legal (back in the early 1930) six breweries were opened in Oregon. Two others were organized and financed, but were not built.

Today ONLY ONE remains. CALIFORNIA has 18 big breweries. Washington has six big breweries.

HOW come? Does Oregon lack the raw materials required for the manufacture of beer?

NO, it isn't that. The finest brewing barley in the nation is grown in the Klamath Basin, which is the brewing barley capital of America.

Oregon hops (hops were once grown extensively in the Umpqua and Rogue River valleys of Southern Oregon) are equal to the best in the world. Oregon has a bountiful supply of pure water.

Barley, hops and pure water are the basic raw materials from which beer is made.

WHAT, then, IS the trouble? The trouble lies in unwise, unsound and uneconomic taxation. In California, the state tax on beer is 62 cents per barrel. In Washington it is \$1 per barrel. In Oregon it is \$1.30 per barrel.

This tax differential makes it unprofitable to manufacture beer in Oregon. ONE more word about beer. Beer is the chief product of breweries, but a highly important by-product is the residual LIVESTOCK FEED. Always around breweries, a big livestock feeding industry grows up. Oregon needs to FINISH FEED its livestock—particularly its cattle.

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In driving the breweries out of our state, we have deprived ourselves of a valuable source of livestock feed.

YOU may think that beer is BAD and should be done away with. If so, I have no quarrel with you. Whether beer is bad or good for people is a moral issue, and everybody is entitled to his opinion on it. I have sought to deal here only with the economic aspects of the manufacture of beer.

The fact is that people DO drink beer in Oregon. Morally, it is no worse to drink beer made in Oregon than to drink beer made elsewhere.

BY setting the barrelogage tax on beer TOO HIGH, we have driven all the breweries but one out of our state and it seems probable that even the one that remains will be driven out. Thus, taxwise, we have killed the goose that laid the golden egg. By setting the barrelogage tax too high, we have REDUCED instead of increased our income from the tax on beer.

AT the same time, we have denied ourselves the other tax advantages that come with increasing industrial development. Breweries not only pay a barrelogage tax on their beer output. They pay income taxes on their net profits. They pay property tax on their plants. Their employees pay taxes on their incomes and on their property.

But— We can't get tax revenues from industries that DON'T COME TO OREGON.

I THINK our tax structure in Oregon should be given some very careful thought in the next few years. It is highly probable that what has happened in the case of beer has happened in the case of many other industries that MIGHT have come to our state if the industrial tax climate in Oregon had been more favorable.

If so, we have been HURTING ourselves instead of HELPING ourselves, because by discouraging the investment of millions of dollars (perhaps

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.

Students Oppose Liquor To the Editor: Concerning your article on the council meeting run by student government:

I believe you left out the most important motion passed. In fact, of the two motions actually passed by the students in connection with the city, this was the only one that was unanimous. The vote on the mayor's salary was 7-1 with Pat Reed voting the negative.

The motion of course is this one:

"This council in coordination with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, should prevent the granting of further licenses to establishments allowing liquor by the drink."

I was sorry that the people of Medford did not see what their youth are in favor of.

Stanley Culy, Student Councilman From Ward 2

Radar Car Impresses To the Editor: The Medford Safety Council wishes to express its appreciation for your assistance during the recent showing of the Eugene Radar Car to the people of Medford.

Without your assistance, it would have been very hard to demonstrate this unit to so many people. You might be interested in knowing that the entire Medford Police Department is of the opinion that the acquiring of such a unit for the City of Medford would slow traffic considerably and thus prevent a number of accidents. Also, the comments of others who saw the unit were very favorable toward acquiring one for the city.

Once more, we sincerely appreciate your cooperation. A. N. Loper, Secretary, Medford Safety Council

Information Wanted To the Editor: While I lived in Medford, a group of like-minded persons used to meet each week and I have missed this very much since I left town.

However, Ed Danrich, who took charge, also published the little magazine, The Challenge and after I left Medford I continued writing for it. Now the Challenge has gone out of business and so has the group ceased meeting, for all I know.

I hope that I can contact those of this group who know me, for they might feel the loss as much as I do. I want to ask my friends, through the Mail Tribune to write me regarding this and I will appreciate you giving this letter space in the paper.

John M. Bush, 1 Clinton Ave., Montclair, N. J.

Against Gun Restriction To the Editor: I was interested in Phil Lowry's proposed bill to outlaw firearms in certain restricted areas. He cited as an example, the very tragic accident of the Minear boy.

How ridiculous can you get? Hundreds of children are killed every year by automobiles. Does Mr. Lowry also contemplate prohibiting the use of automobiles wherever a fatal accident has occurred? I think not.

R. A. Tilley, P. O. Box 453, Jacksonville, Ore.

Elks Appreciative To the Editor: Youth Government Day, a program of instruction for the high school seniors of Jackson county, is sponsored by the Medford Elks Lodge.

Each year the success of this day depends to a great degree on the cooperation of many individuals and organizations. The Elks Lodge is pleased to sponsor this day for our youth of the county and wish to convey our thanks to all who participated.

We are grateful that the newspaper you represent has given us a complete coverage of our plans and has reported all events as they occurred.

We also wish to thank the radio broadcasting stations KYJC and KXED and television station KBES-TV, for the opportunity to visit their plants and the broadcast time given us.

The city and county officials and the school personnel were generous with their time and assistance and are deserving of our gratitude.

The tour of the interesting governmental installations and the broadcasting stations was made in private automobiles. Mrs. Melvina Little, who is chairman of the ladies activities for the Elks, spent considerable time in organizing this tour and securing the drivers.

Mrs. Jo Anne Smith of the Medford high school and Mrs. Una B. Inch, assistant school superintendent of Jackson county, are always very active in the formation of our plans and the work necessary to make Youth Government Day a success. To them we extend our thanks.

Each year we have enlarged this program and, given the help and cooperation we received this year, we shall continue to extend to these students an opportunity to become better acquainted with our local government.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

A member of the Medford Council of Parents and Teachers called the newsroom last week to see if she could borrow our copy of Senate Bill 302, having to do with physical education. We dug it out of our clutter bill file, and held it for her. It says, in full:

"Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon: Section 1. ORS 336.190, 336.200, 336.210 and 336.220 are repealed."

End of bill. We hope she can find a lawyer to tell her what the bill will do.

The following news item, in its entirety, is from the San Francisco Examiner:

"Newark, N.J. — Photographer Melvin Waiss, 32, of Glen Oaks, N.Y., poked his head under the black cloth shield of his tripod mounted camera preparing to take a picture of a store front.

Wonder what became of Melvin after that?

Been lots of cougar stories lately. Some claim hunters have killed "the biggest cats" here or there. One recent one from Klamath Falls bragged on a seven foot cougar, and another on an eight-footer near Elk creek.

Comes now a contributor to tell about Government Hunter Kirby Tant, who recently came in with a male cougar measuring 8 feet 4 inches. Six walker dogs, "just common old hounds, some might call them pot lickers," assisted him, our informant says. The dogs "usually get the job done even without papers," she added.

The hunter has reported he's caught other larger ones, some well over 9 feet.

A lady called the office last week with a pleased, "isn't this nice" tone of voice. She

was reporting on an incident which came out just right. She said that a colored serviceman and his family were traveling north not long ago, got into a little accident in the Siskiyou and spent all their spare cash getting the car fixed. They asked for help at a Medford police station, and, after a few phone calls, a church organization provided them with \$20.

First thing, when he got back to his station in Washington, he mailed the same sum to the church just like that.

A group of friends were visiting with the S. L. Babbs, 28 Lewiston st. one evening last week. They were watching television.

All of a sudden — crash — one portion of the big four-section front window shattered. There was a clatter of glass, a flurry of wings, a rattle of venetian blinds, then silence.

A hen pheasant, apparently attracted by a porch light, had crashed into the window. The blinds apparently prevented it from coming into the room, but two of the party had seen it heading their way.

The fate of the pheasant is unknown, for it was gone when they all went out to look. It escaped the frying pan, anyway.

Capt. Donald Hemingway Jr., Air Force Liaison officer here, could be pardoned if he were to get confused in direction next month. He will take a course in air-ground coordinated operations.

To do this he'll have to go EAST to HIGHLAND Pines Inn, SOUTHERN Pines, NORTH Carolina. The way home will be WEST, captain.

Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, a 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 can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your questions to: IS THAT SO? c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

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