

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION MEMBER

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 March 27, 1945 (It was Tuesday) Four Central Point boys held for towing a building 2 1/2 miles down a road and abandoning it on Morrow rd. near Taylor ranch.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: In the midst of the excitement, Argentina, the late "good neighbor," suddenly discovered she was mad at Germany and declared war upon the Axis.

20 YEARS AGO March 27, 1935 (It was Wednesday) Federal reserve bank starts disbursement of refunds on Medford Irrigation district bonds.

Frank L. TouVelle, Jacksonville, former county judge, said slated for appointment to Oregon State Highway commission.

30 YEARS AGO March 27, 1925 (It was Friday) Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jeldness come to Medford after having been snowbound in their Blue Ledge area cabin for 40 days.

Special election to be called to extend Medford city limits so city water can be furnished to larger area.

40 YEARS AGO March 27, 1915 (It was Saturday) Mrs. Enid Creelley Hamilton acts as chaperon for annual Medford high school freshman class picnic on Little Butte creek.

From the Local and Personal column: During the bright sunshine of the last week it became the custom of boys to go in swimming in Bear creek, although by so doing they defied the laws of health and good sense and the city ordinance overruling bathing. People could see them from their homes and complaint was filed with the police.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1935, Editorial Research Report 1. Spring begins officially on March 15, March 21, April 1, April 15, Palm Sunday, or Easter Sunday? 2. The President, opposing a tax cut this year, opposes or favors one next year, or has said he hopes one is possible then? 3. In big cities the birth rate is higher or lower than in small towns or about the same? 4. Armed forces planes have flown from California to New York in less than four hours, right or wrong? 5. The 1935 world amateur ice hockey championship was won by a Canadian, Norwegian, Russian, Swiss or U. S. team? 6. The Isle of Wight is in the North Sea, English Channel, Irish Sea, Strait of Dover, or Bay of Biscay? 7. Which member of the Eisenhower Cabinet answers to the nickname of "Jim"?

The Answers: 1.—March 21. 2.—Hopes one is possible next year. 3.—Lower. 4.—Right. 5.—Canadian. 6.—English Channel. 7.—Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell.

BAKER WANTS 'B' TOURNEY Baker (U.P.)—The merchants committee of the local Chamber of Commerce today said it was in favor of bringing the 1935-36 state high school class B basketball tournament to Baker.

Independent Chain

The Newhouse chain which has owned the Oregonian for 5 years now has added the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, very similar to the Oregonian in age politics and respectability.

In welcoming this addition to the large group of metropolitan dailies, the Oregonian expresses gratification, and calls attention to the fact that while the Globe-Democrat was offered a higher price, its editor and publisher chose Newhouse, because of the promise that the present staff would be retained intact, and that complete independence would be allowed regarding local AND national policies.

This complete independence, adds the Portland paper, is not only Newhouse theory but Newhouse practice, as the 5-year record of the Oregonian shows.

WE don't doubt the truth of the statement to date. But we don't welcome the sensational growth of chain-newspapers in this country, or believe it a healthful sign or a desirable condition, either for the country or for journalism. Unless the tide toward more and more combination is checked, the time is not far distant when the metropolitan press—which means the major journalistic influence in the country—will be on one strictly conservative, big-business line, and democratic liberalism and independence will be confined to a scattered minority, mostly no doubt in the small-town and rural areas. That comes near in fact to being the condition today.

AS for the "independence" of the newspaper chains. The Newhouse chain may be the exception, but the other chains, led by Hearst, certainly take their orders from one central source, and they could be listed as conforming on this basis right down the line 100%. This is particularly true when it comes to what the Oregonian terms "national policies," which include of course, party politics.

If a chain newspaper has ever gone contrary to the big boss' dictum in this field, we don't believe the independence lasted very long. At election time they all go one way, and it is seldom difficult to tell in advance what that "way" politically will be.

THAT sort of regularity and strict conformity in a democracy and its press is as we view it, unfortunate, and we don't mean for one party as against another necessarily but for the country, its enlightenment, freedom and advancement as a whole.

AS stated the Newhouse chain may be the exception to the rule.

But just as a friendly test we would like to have the Oregonian come out for the democratic candidate for President at the next election and see how long that sort of independence would be maintained.

Or if that is too strong a dose how about supporting the Democratic candidate for Governor? Would it still be claimed by the Oregonian thereafter that complete independence of the chain-owner and his views regarding "local and national policies," had been and always would be maintained? Perhaps so.

It would be interesting, however, to find out. —R.W.R.

A Tough Assignment

We don't envy the historian his job when the history of the World War II and its period must be written.

Imagine the research that will have to be done—Premier Churchill's contributions alone would take months of careful study. Then there will be President Truman's "memoirs." And how about General MacArthur's papers—and claims. And in the latter field would come the many personal diaries, including the one of Secretary of Defense Forrestal.

And there would be on so many vital matters no agreement. The historian would have to choose between conflicting judgments, or else leave many of the facts of the period undetermined, which would, we presume, be poison to any conscientious historian.

TAKE the historic verdict concerning General MacArthur as just one of innumerable examples.

General MacArthur undoubtedly one of the great military geniuses of the United States, says one thing, Secretary Forrestal another, and General Bradley a third. In each case competent witnesses could undoubtedly be called to support THAT side.

But if one is right, the others can't be—and vice-versa. The historian will, we fear, face something like the predicament of the chameleon on the Scotch plaid skirt.

WELL probably that has always been more or less the way with historians of a war and its aftermath. They have been slanted one way or the other by the nationalities and personal prejudices of the writers.

Historians, should of course be entirely judicial non-partisan and objective. But we fear they are not only human like the rest of us, but are human beings FIRST and historians only thereafter.

So the net result will probably be many historians, agreeing on most of the vital facts no doubt, but not agreeing on all the details, and disagreeing bitterly on some of the most controversial items.

As to General MacArthur, our belief is he was a great military strategist but like many other geniuses he had his faults, and made his mistakes, the greatest in both directions being he never admitted either! —R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

George, and who courageously withstood fierce political pressure to release the Yalta papers were released amounts to the biggest bit of plain boobyery committed in Washington for a very long time.



Stewart Alsop

Consider the results. This country's best friend abroad, Sir Winston Churchill, has been angered. Opinion throughout the world, especially in Britain, France, and Germany, has been alienated at a most critical moment. The Soviets have been presented with fine grist for their propaganda mill.

It might still be argued that this trouble abroad is not too high a price to pay for a useful object lesson from the past. But the reaction at home is really more significant than the reaction abroad. Almost to a man the Democrats in the Senate deeply resent, not so much the fact that the papers were released, as the way they were released. And if we are to have any foreign policy at all, after all the State Department has got to work with the Democratic majority.

Among those who feel most strongly in the matter is Sen. Walter George, of Georgia, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. George is the dominant figure in the present Congress, and the kinship of the bipartisan foreign policy. There is no doubt about the way George feels.

His own public comments have been relatively mild. But he was consulted in detail by Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson before Johnson made his brief but angry speech last Tuesday, attacking the way the documents were released. Johnson was undoubtedly speaking George's mind, as well as that of most Democrats, North and South.

IT IS also significant that George made his proposal for a meeting of the heads of state without consulting Secretary of State John Foster Dulles in advance. George's proposal springs from genuine conviction. But it is also his way of serving notice that he is quite capable of taking a completely independent line on matters of high policy. The Democrats who have been clamoring for an "independent, Democratic foreign policy" are thus now much more likely to get what they want, to the discomfiture of Secretary Dulles and the Administration.

This is not to say that George or the other responsible Democratic leaders are going to act like spoiled children where foreign policy is concerned. But the close, intimate, and mutually confidential relationship which a bipartisan foreign policy demands has been badly eroded. And it is not hard to see why.

Within the last few weeks, George has saved the Administration's bacon, on the only two really important issues to come before this session of Congress. One was the \$20 tax cut—George's opposition to the compromise Senate bill killed the issue. The other was the Foran resolution, which George saved by a single, moving speech, when the Administration was heading into really bad trouble on the issue.

Consider the way George was rewarded for all this bacon-saving. He was not consulted before the Yalta documents, ostensibly classified, were sent to his committee. George has been around Washington for a long time, and he was quite aware that this was a cute way of making public the juicier portions of the documents. He therefore curtly refused to receive them. After this setback, the State Department passed the documents under the counter to one newspaper, and this was then used as an excuse for a general release.

If this was not a sleazy, sleight-of-hand performance, it certainly managed to look like one. Meanwhile, a third important issue is about to come before the Senate—the Administration's reciprocal trade program. Opposition to this program is ferocious, and the Administration's bacon can probably only be saved this time if George is willing to fight, bleed, and die for it. Since the business of the Yalta papers, he is naturally much less likely to do so.

BUT the worst aspect of the incredible blunder on the Yalta papers is the timing. One way or another, the Formosa crisis, which has the most dangerous domestic political implications, looks like it is coming to a head very soon. And this is the moment chosen for the State Department to play what the Democrats unanimously regard as a sleazy political trick, thus inviting them to play politics with foreign policy in their turn.

Finally, it is generally agreed that the Yalta papers will not be of any real political benefit to the Republicans, even though they do occasionally show the late President Roosevelt in an unlovely light. This is the irony of the whole sorry business. But the mystery remains—how Secretary Dulles, who has wisely gone to great lengths to establish good relations with Sen.

OUT ON ARRIVAL

Memphis, Tenn. (U.P.)—The fire department Saturday listed, without comment, this cause for answering a call: "Child's lip caught in ironing board, out on arrival."

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.

Park Viaduct Proposed

To the Editor: Members of the Medford Garden Club feel the proposal to build an elevated freeway for Highway 99 along the east side of Bear creek over and through Hawthorne Park is very alarming to all people who have worked for the park and who love and enjoy its beauty and restful facilities.

The park is located along the east side of Bear Creek which gives it a natural setting. Bear Creek will be cleaned up and improved some day which would enable it to be utilized to its full capacity. Unquestionably, the locating of a freeway along the east side of Bear Creek will to a large extent destroy this natural setting.

Hawthorne Park serves all of the people in the City of Medford and is used by residents throughout the entire county. Any belief that may exist that the park only serves the east side of Medford is completely erroneous. One only needs to go there during the picnicking and swimming time of the year to see people who are there.

The pool is used by youngsters and adults from all over the city and as it would be immediately east and adjacent to the freeway it would certainly be a much less attractive place.

Some of the prime attributes of a park are—that it should be beautiful, quiet and restful. Much time and money has been spent by the City, the Medford Garden Club and other interested groups and persons to landscape the park and to bring it to its present condition. It certainly would not add to the quietness and beauty.

It would appear that some people feel that there is no chance that a freeway might be built within the next ten years but no one can be certain. It might be in the near future. At the present time preliminary surveys are being made and if the people of Medford and vicinity do not want the freeway to be built in this place, they should act now and write to the Medford City Council and to the Oregon State Highway Commission, Salem, Oregon, voicing their objections to the proposal.

Mrs. LeRoy Cline, Pres. Mrs. L. N. Nordquist, Sec'y., Medford Garden Club.

The G.O.P. Is Paleolithic

To the Editor: I see by the papers Senator Neuberger has contributed \$25.00 to a fund to keep the squirrels AT the White House.

I also would like to create a fund, and as a starter, I will contribute \$25.00. My fund, is for a different purpose than that of Senator Neuberger's. My fund would be for the purpose of getting the squirrels away FROM the White House instead of at.

There are those that will say I am not being charitable—that really there are no squirrels, just a bunch of crazy mixed up executives, who still believe the science of government could be learned in the market place.

Yet, it is hard to put it down to just being confused, when you have, Percentage Nixon sounding off, Know-nothing Knowland screaming for war, Massive retaliation Dulles backing and filling, Pres. Sec'y Hagerty asserting everybody agrees with his views, altho' they don't, and in general, the Ikeites making noises about the Yalta papers when even the President himself has never read them.

The G.O.P. still lives in the past, paleolithic, that is. Hoover is set to backing up the welfare state. Dexter White is exhumed. F.D.R. is dead, and of course it is safe to say he was wrong. The past is so important, apparently the future is not, or somebody around 1600 Penn. Ave. would note the time, for it is MUCH, MUCH later than you think, General.

Lee Wilmetth, 168 Mead St., Ashland.

Check Those Flues

To the Editor: Last year, just 24 days before Christmas, our family experienced something we had never thought of as being possible. While I was at work my wife took our two children to drive downtown for groceries.

In her absence our house caught fire due to a defective flue. Above our insurance we lost \$1,900 but were thankful no one was hurt or died as a result.

I am very conscious of fire now but am more conscious of how neglectful probably 99 out of 100 people are regarding preventing fire in their homes.

If you could have heard what I did from the fire chief that day I would wonder what you would have thought.

I have seen firemen work before and believe me I don't think our fire department can be topped anywhere. They actually saved everything they possibly could by piling the articles

away and covering them with a tarp, avoiding water damage. Mind you, the house was ablaze and the fumes were so bad they still were choking and had tears in their eyes from the smoke when they left.

They hold the admiration and respect of all who saw what they did for us and certainly deserve it as they are real firemen, not just hose holders.

To get to the purpose of this letter, I wonder why the fire codes are not applied and enforced more than at present. I understand that a large percentage of fires could be avoided by eliminating defective flues.

Have you ever noticed how many items appear in your paper about fires caused by defective flues?

My friend who purchased a house here recently almost lost his home by fire from a defective flue the first day he moved in—the very day I told him to check it over and fix it.

People should take advice from an expert in such matters, the fire chief, and adopt some codes and laws in future and existing dwellings for their own protection.

Tear out those tomato cans that are laying on the wood through the walls or ceilings, and install proper flues with proper clearance from combustible materials. It is common sense that if you can't afford a little investment for basic protection, how can you afford to lose everything?

I learned the tough way as many have. Better give our fire chief a call if you have any doubts about your flues.

A. Napolitano, 225 So. Riverside, Medford, Ore.

How About a Double Tax?

To the Editor: I have been reading the Tribune for the last 6 years and have enjoyed your editorials and I have agreed with you on all issues 100%.

If the state legislature comes up with a sales tax or gas tax, or property tax to balance the state books I think what will be best is a sales tax. Now the one I feel they should kick out is the double tax.

I draw royalty from a zinc mine in Kansas of which I must pay Kansas from 1% to as much as 5%.

In my case then I must add this to Oregon gross income then pay Oregon state tax on my gross of which Oregon had nothing to do with producing. Then when we get the sales tax that will take another cut.

I would like to know what you think of this double tax? Paul J. Smith, 839 West 13th

Ed. Note: We oppose a sales tax except as a last resort. We believe the tax program based on an increase in the income tax, which the legislature has decided upon is about as fair and desirable as anyone could expect under the circumstance. If one has income property in one state and lives in another a double tax can't be avoided.

Says Christianity Won't Work

To the Editor: Reading Thomas McCaman's letter in the Mail Tribune, I feel impelled to express my complete disagreement with his views. He says we need to get back to fundamental Christian ethics to save the world from destruction in the next atomic war.

My opinion is that such idealism won't work with this determined group of people as we are now facing in the Kremlin. It would, on the contrary, bring about the very opposite, namely the enslavement of all mankind because these people recognize nothing but absolute force.

You may rest assured if they did not fear the consequences of massive retaliation they would have been on the rampage long ago.

As a matter of fact we must realize that religion and idealism never have prevented wars among the different groups of the human race. I could say a great deal more about this but let me quote just a few lines from Emery Redes book "The Anatomy of Peace".

"The wholesale murder, torture, persecution and oppression we are witnessing in the middle of the twentieth century proves the complete bankruptcy of Christianity as a civilizing force, its failure as an instrument to tame instinctive human passions and to transform man from an animal into a rational social being. History demonstrates indisputably that there is only one method to make man accept moral principles and standards of social conduct. That method is law. Peace among men and a civilized society—which are one and the same thing—are imaginable only within a legal order equipped with institutions to give effect to principles and worn in the form of law, with adequate

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Las Vegas—about which I've written before, but can't refrain from writing again—is America's most fabulous spot.

Perhaps I'd better pause here and defend this use of the word fabulous, no dictionary is available at the spot where I'm writing this, but as I understand it "fabulous" is an adjective used to describe something amazing, something out of this world, something that couldn't possibly be, but IS.

Well, that's Las Vegas. Let me illustrate. You look at a horse, say, or a cow. It MAKES SENSE. It eats. It eats hay and grass and grain. It drinks water. It breathes air. You know what keeps it going. I'm speaking, of course, of a horse or a cow out in a pasture, or in a barn, where hay and grass and water are to be had. And where there is air to breathe. You know, without even stopping to add it up, what makes the creature tick.

Let me illustrate. You look at a horse, say, or a cow. It MAKES SENSE. It eats. It eats hay and grass and grain. It drinks water. It breathes air. You know what keeps it going. I'm speaking, of course, of a horse or a cow out in a pasture, or in a barn, where hay and grass and water are to be had. And where there is air to breathe. You know, without even stopping to add it up, what makes the creature tick.

BUT—Let's now imagine a cow or a horse sealed up tight within a glass case. No hay is available, no grass, no grain, no water. Because the glass case is hermetically sealed, there is no air.

And yet—The thing goes right on living, and growing. Not only that, but it goes on growing at a fantastic rate.

SO YOU'D look at the thing and say: "This CAN'T BE. I must be asleep and dreaming." You'd pinch yourself. You'd shake your head and open and shut your eyes. You'd stomp your feet to see if you could feel the shock.

These tests would convince you that you were awake and in full possession of your faculties. But you still wouldn't be able to believe the thing your eyes were seeing. You'd wind up eventual-

Woodworkers Back Autonomous Union In Lumber Industry

Portland (U.P.)—The CIO Woodworkers union Saturday proposed the establishment of an "autonomous, international" union in the lumber industry.

The proposal was contained in a public announcement of the endorsement by the union's executive board of the AFL-CIO merger agreement.

A. F. Hartung, union president, said: "The executive board of the International Woodworkers of America, CIO-CCL, concurs in the merger agreement, as adopted by the Executive Board of the CIO."

"In the friendly atmosphere of the CIO-AFL merger agreement, the IWA Executive Board proposes the establishment of a new autonomous International industrial union in the logging, manufacturing and processing of all wood products," Hartung said.

Woodworkers would take in all workers "from the stump to the finished product" Hartung said, but would not invade the jurisdiction of the Building Trade Crafts.

Hartung said the statement of policy was prepared by representatives of lumber workers in all parts of the United States and Canada.

Find Man Innocent Of Draft Evasion

Portland (U.P.)—Otis Burl Jellison, 22, has been found innocent of violating the selective service act by failing to report to his Linn county draft board, it was disclosed in an opinion made public Friday.

Jellison is a member of the Church of God Seventh Day at Scrawell Hill near Albany.

He was tried without a jury on Jan. 25 before Federal Judge Gus Solomon. Jellison had been classified as 1-AO, or available for noncombatant military service. He appealed from this but was turned down and ordered to report for induction.

Judge Solomon found Jellison should be classed as 1-0 because "the evidence indicated that both of his young brothers, as well as all the other young men in the Scrawell Hill church, have been classified 1-0.

Astronomy via Radio

By J. HUGH PRUETT

Astronomer, Extension Division Oregon Higher Education System The University of Oregon community was especially favored recently in hearing an informative lecture on Radio Astronomy by the Australian astronomer, Dr. R. N. Bracewell.

This is a comparatively new subject in scientific circles, but one in which much interest is developing. This subject has to do with the detection of radio waves coming from the great spaces far beyond the earth.

Today practically everyone is familiar with the reception of radio signals from the artificial sources of the various sending stations. Only 35 years ago most receiving sets required elaborate aerials strung from high trees or along the house tops. Today television aerials decorate the roof tops. But the feeble signals coming from the starry skies, and discovered only in very recent years, require such immense receiving apparatus that only institutions with considerable financial means can set them up. Steerable concerns cost about \$1,000,000 each.

Radio Telescopes These cosmic aerials are usually referred to as radio telescopes. They are huge structures fashioned in the shape of concave mirrors but of an open network. Some are set so as to be directed toward the zenith and thus to receive signals from the parts of the universe which, due to the earth's daily rotation, pass above them during 24 hours. The better ones can be turned toward various parts of the sky.

The recent construction at Jodrell Bank in England has a mirror-shaped receiver which is 250 feet in diameter. The motions around both the horizontal and vertical axes require 100-horsepower electric motors for their operation. A picture of this can be found in Sky and Telescope for February, 1953. This magazine can be found in any good library.

It has been well established that the radio waves from the skies do not come from all directions but from very definite locations. The sun produces these at times, especially when solar flares and sunspots are seen. These radiations travel with the speed of light, 186,300 miles per second.

Signals Often Strong Certain diffuse nebulae are constant sources. This is true of the Crab nebula, where a supernova flared up in A.D. 1054, the Orion nebula and the Omega nebula. In many cases the signals are strong where no star is visible through optical telescopes. Thus we are learning of the universe through a new method.

A very strong source is in the direction of the constellation power to apply those laws and to enforce them with equal vigor against all who violate them."

I urge everyone interested in the welfare of mankind to get hold of this book and spread its message far and wide so that perhaps there may still be a chance to bring finally peace, order and a more secure life to this very troubled old planet, our earth.

Wm. Krauss, Rt. 1, Box 373, Gold Hill, Ore.