

Medford Mail Tribune

Everybody in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

June 26, 1925 (It was Tuesday) Jackson county financial status such that one-million levy for reconstruction of county hospital not necessary, county treasurer reports.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: After a ride over the C. Lake hwy, a returned GI complimented the logging trucks. He stated he never saw a better job of pulverization by the heavy artillery on the Italian front.

20 YEARS AGO

June 26, 1905 (It was Wednesday) Rate reductions to European countries means \$40,000 to \$50,000 savings for Rogue Valley growers shipping fruit.

Supply of irrigation water will meet need of valley, but lakes will be empty at season's close, district officers indicate.

30 YEARS AGO

June 26, 1905 (It was Friday) Oregon National Guardsmen leave on five special trains after 41-day encampment at Camp Jackson here.

New \$3,000,000 Copco plant on Klamath river near Hornbrook dedication announced for July 5.

40 YEARS AGO

June 26, 1915 (It was Saturday) Contracts let for paving Sis-kiyou highway; paving and repairing highway to California line to start soon.

From Local and Personal column: Several farmers of the valley have received offers of \$8 a ton for their hay as it stands in the field.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

Copr. 1935, Editorial Research Report

- 1. The San Francisco conference on U.N. 10 years ago ended with a speech by Winston Churchill, F. D. Roosevelt, Dean Acheson, Harry S. Truman or Alger Hiss?
2. Recent agreement of the Ford Co. with the union on an annual wage did or didn't carry flat wage increases as well?
3. Heart (cardiovascular) diseases cause more or less than half of all U.S. deaths today?
4. The famous Monitor vs. Merimac naval battle was fought in the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War or War with Spain?
5. Many more men than women are color-blind, or many more women than men, or is it about 50-50?
6. George Washington is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, under the U.S. Capitol dome, at Mt. Vernon, or at his birthplace in Wakefield, Va.?
7. The first talking movie featured Mary Pickford, Rudolph Valentino, Pauline Frederick, Al Jolson, or Douglas Fairbanks?
The answers: 1. Truman; 2. Did; 3. More than half; 4. Civil War; 5. Many more men than women; 6. At Mt. Vernon; 7. Jolson.

OIL RESERVES

Ottawa—Current oil reserves in Canada, according to recent estimates, amount to one-half tank car for every resident.

Slight Hope but, — Some.

If any hope of GREAT achievement at the forthcoming "Big Four" meeting has been entertained in diplomatic circles,—or any other circles,—the speech by Foreign Minister Molotov in San Francisco should have reduced same close to zero.

This does not mean Russia will cease to smile and drink vodka toasts to sweetness and light, nor that the Kremlin won't make some tempting offers in the direction of world disarmament as it continues to sing the praises of peace on earth good will to men. But it does mean that the totalitarian vs. democratic conflict in purposes and policies, that existed before this gathering can hardly help but exist thereafter, without fundamental change.

For if Foreign Minister Molotov meant what he said—and he usually does,—there is no more chance of Soviet Russia opposing the entrance of Red China into the U.N. than there is of the United States favoring it.

By the same token there is no more chance of the United States abandoning the defense of Formosa, than there is of Russia coming out in favor of turning Formosa over to Chiang Kai-shek.

Here are two issues in the "cold war," one of them very important, and unless some major miracle is performed at Geneva, they will remain as they have been, potential causes of war after the gathering and yet, less and less likely to cause war—war on a world-wide scale at least.

Not because such differences particularly over Formosa COULD not cause armed conflict, but because neither side, in our judgment, really wants them to—not now at least.

And when on neither side there is a desire for a fight, there is between nations as individuals not likely to be one.

IN OTHER words we see no more chance of Soviet Russia ever signing an agreement on the dotted line at Geneva or anywhere else that would satisfy the United States, than of the United States taking similar formal action, that would satisfy Russia and Red China,—tensions or no tensions. The two groups are too far apart, their differences too fundamental.

BUT, AS before stated, we do see a chance of a superficial improvement in relations particularly as far as Russian manners and protocol are concerned, and we also see a chance of preventing World War III, as far as the Formosa and the near-future are concerned.

That isn't bringing on the millenium exactly, but it is some improvement in the world situation—a far greater one than seemed possible only a few months ago.—R.W.R.

The Disarmament Hoax

Everyone favors disarmament, just as everyone favors peace.

But we have to face the world as it is, not as we would like it to be.

And one does not have to make a world-tour deluxe to realize that there is acute hostility between the communist and democratic nations nurtured by mutual hatred, suspicion and fear.

SO LONG as this condition exists there will be no disarmament of any consequence though there may be a few gestures in that direction as there have been in the past.

For the truth is armaments don't cause wars, it is the hostile war spirit that causes armaments.

Somehow, somehow that spirit has to be removed, or at least materially modified, before disarmament talks will amount to anything more than that—just conversation.

But because of the general popularity of disarmament, Soviet Russia as usual is getting the jump on other nations in the realm of propaganda, by pretending to be the one champion of it, with the war-mongering nations headed of course by the "belligerent USA," the only obstacle to prevent progress and eventual fulfillment.

This would be comic if it were not so tragic.

For propaganda is secret weapon No. 1, in the game Russia is now playing, and to date the free world has devised no effective propaganda weapon against it.

It is to be hoped that an effective form of counter attack will be devised, before the sad signal of failure is raised again under the dismal heading of "too little and too late."—R.W.R.

Democrats Also Like Ike!

The recent vote in the House of Representatives upholding the Dixon-Yates contract clearly demonstrates, with reverse English, that the Democrats also like "Ike".

At least enough of them do, to overcome the nominal majority the Democrats enjoy in the lower House, and give the present administration what it demanded, namely:—

Endorsement of this private power contract and a k.o. punch in the direction of TVA, on the familiar and well-worn ground of "creeping socialism" versus "private enterprise."

This was the chief argument at least that put Dixon Yates over and public-power under.

The Senate may reverse this decision, but according to report in Washington it doesn't look likely.

HOWEVER the proponents of government projects of the multiple type should not lose heart. These national issues swing back and forth, on the general

Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

By STEWART ALSOP PEACE AND THE WEIGHT LIFTERS

Moscow—"I hope," said the first English-speaking Russian encountered by this reporter, "that you will write the truth about my country." The same suspicious hope has been repeatedly expressed since. Alas, after fully four days in Russia, this reporter still does not know the truth about this strange country.

Instead of telling the truth about Russia, it may be worth describing a couple of incidents which occurred on my first day in Moscow. The incidents had no importance at all but they stick in the mind like burrs, and they may have, at least, the simple, photographic value first impressions sometimes have.

The first episode was really hardly anything at all. After wandering vaguely around what I wrongly thought to be Red Square, I had gone down a side street, when suddenly it started to rain. I took shelter under a wooden awning. There were already a few Russians under the awning, and very soon we were packed shoulder to shoulder.

OUR little crowd was cheerful enough. There was an old Russian peasant woman in a shawl, looking so much like an old Russian peasant woman in a shawl that you had to pinch yourself to believe she was true. There were two or three soldiers, in the dashing Russian uniform, one a very handsome fellow who was holding hands with a dumpy girl with whom he was obviously very much in love. There were several civilians, dressed in dark suits with square shoulders and sailor-wide trousers.

This reporter, in a light tan gabardine suit, could hardly have been more conspicuous if attired in a ballet costume. There was no uncultured staring by the Russians, but there were a good many nudges and side glances at the peculiar animal from the other side of the moon.

Then somebody addressed a polite, incomprehensible question to me. I shook my head and said "Americanski." There were murmurs in the crowd. A man in a dark suit said "peace," and smiled and I said "peace" and smiled too. Then we all smiled and nodded our heads reassuringly at each other and then the rain stopped and we all went our ways.

The great Russian scientist Pavlov would no doubt have explained this episode in terms of the conditioned reflex, and certainly it does not encompass the truth about Russia. Nor did the second incident.

THAT same evening I crashed a reception given by the Section of Heavy Athletics of the Committee of Sport and Physical Culture of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in honor of a team of American weight lifters. The most conspicuous American weight lifter was a prophet without honor in his own country—Paul Anderson, of Georgia, an amiable Gargantua, whose arms are so enormous that he carries them at a sharp angle from his vast chest.

In the United States, weight lifting is largely concentrated in the area of York, Pa. In the Soviet Union, weight lifting is highly popular, and the competition had drawn standing-room-only crowds. The Russians had won, but Mr. Anderson had saved the national face by breaking all known records.

The Section of Heavy Athletics of the Committee of Sport and Physical Culture put on quite a show. "There was a singer, who looked as though she could have lifted a few weights herself (she was actually very good, according to a competent judge of such matters) and a sleight-of-hand artist, and a wonderful Uzbekian peoples dancer and an ebullient male vocalist.

The big-muscled weight lifters listened politely, although one had a feeling that the Americans, at least, might have preferred Marilyn Monroe. But the really memorable moment was the conversation between the Russians and American weight lifters.

Except for their muscles, they might have been a different species, the Russians in their square-shouldered suits, the Americans tough, casual and oddly innocent in their sports shirts and openwork shoes. At first, they seemed shy of each other. Then, through random interpreters, they began to talk about weight lifting and suddenly they were all weight lifters together.

A small attentive group of weight lifters gravitated to Mr. Anderson, the man who had lifted a greater weight than any weight lifter had ever lifted before. The talk was professional, and a little hard to follow. Asked by a Russian about a well-known American lifter, Mr. Anderson remarked sadly that he was still pretty good but that he had lost his speed.

WHEN this was translated, there was an every face a hint of that ancient tragedy—the tragedy of the passage of time and the loss of speed it brings to all men. For that moment, it seemed, all the weight lifters together were of the same race of men.

After the concert, a high official of the Section of Heavy Athletics recited a somewhat lengthy address, with emphasis on the comradeship of peoples, and then there was a buffet with vodka and caviar.

But the golden moment was never recaptured. Walking afterward in Red Square (the right one, this time) it was tempting to believe that peace was assured because everybody under a wooden awning wanted peace or because weight lifters share a common humanity and a common interest in weight lifting. But alas, there are also such dreary matters as the world balance of power and the frightening difference between social systems. This difference in no where more obvious than here. (Copyright, 1935, New York Herald Tribune Inc.)

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.

Our Golden Age

To the Editor: We live in a golden age. Especially for the very old who no longer nurse their chimney corner jitters or busy with knitting. Nope, they are down at the dance hall, swishing partners that heal old hurts and some times make new ones as they do the "I do" with the wrong one. Happily fortunate are those who choose the right one. Romance never dies in the human heart.

Love, unburdened materially, is ever young. And the very young ones, protected by child-labor law they run free till night too old to learn to work. No more do they wait for second table when visitors come. A Canadian lady told how the young-ones loved to see Uncle Charley come visitin'. He whacked off a nice big cap from his breakfast egg for that was all the kids got till they learned proper manners to eat with older people. Now kids are served first with first of everything, not able to realize how "lucky" they are.

With still great areas of virgin forests, free lands of open prairie, snow mountains, lush valleys and lonely stretches of seashore strand, unprofaned by any sound save the pounding of surf and call of sea-bird, there is full opportunity to "get away from it all." And in our own chosen free way of life with freedom of movement, speech and assembly quite unknown in any land or time, we can denounce anyone from president on down to dog-catcher, everything, everybody—well no, not a labor union when a member, for that may bring economic disaster or worse. But for all that, this is still a land of liberty and independence.

A day or two back, a housewife hanging her snowy wash on the clothesline remarked, "Golly, think of it, just 90c for three tubs of soiled clothes all done as I sat and read a book." Over on a south slope of Little Roxy are the flagstones where Grandma Taylor carried her wash water from the spring below. And by the old back-door, the stones are scattered that were once her own beehive shaped bake-oven. Long gone is the old ash-leach that furnished the lye for soap making. Now, bread comes baked, wrapped and sliced. Packaged soap powder can be had for a few cents. What a change.

F. J. Clifford, 1211 West Main St.

Opposes State Cigaret Tax

To the Editor: I am not a smoker and do not sponsor smoking, yet I am wondering if it's on the square to penalize people because they smoke. The Oregon State Legislature passed a bill which would collect a three cent state tax on each package of cigarettes sold in the State of Oregon. The estimated annual tax collected by the state on the sale of cigarettes would exceed \$10,000,000. The penalty tax on each individual smoker would amount to not less than \$4 per annum.

I see no reason why people who smoke should pay a state tax on cigarettes when the Oregon state sales tax bill was defeated by the Oregon state legislature.

Donald Rader, General Delivery, Medford, Oregon.

Editorial Comment

DREGS GO WITH GAMBLING

Via the Ashland Tidings we pick up remarks of the city manager of Las Vegas made in Honolulu. He said this about legal gambling: "Gambling is overestimated as a tourist attraction, and with all the money it brings, it also brings hoodlums, easy money men, and small-time crooks."

He should know because police protection is costing his home city \$1.5 million per annum.

Ashland is interested because of a proposal to locate a dog racing stand near that city. Both the local ministerial association and chamber of commerce have adopted resolutions in opposition.—Salem, Oregon, Statesman.

end of World War II. If we admit Red China to the UN and surrender Formosa to the Chinese Reds, we will deliver our FRIENDS, the Nationalist Chinese, over to butchery by the merciless Communists.

That would convince all the rest of the world that the friendship of the United States is valueless, because in the pinches we are willing to throw our friends to the wolves.

WHAT shall we do at Geneva? Well, let's talk and talk and talk, with friendliness and courtesy and patience—for talking is cheaper than shooting.

But let's keep our guns loose in their holsters.

Above all, let's not permit ourselves to fall into the delusion that the Russian leopard has changed its spots.

That would be fatal.

POTLUCK (By M-T Staff and Contributors)

A meeting was held at the studios of radio station KYJC last week to discuss problems of annexation, and what services, such as water and sewer service would be provided by the city.

Drinking fountains in the studio had signs above them saying, "Do Not Drink This Water."

Two wells which furnish KYJC with water have become contaminated, and the water can be used only for irrigation.

Mrs. Jesse Linton, 274 Mace rd., was outside on her place one day last week, picking some clover for her chickens.

Working industriously, she was intrigued when she found a four-leaf clover. Then she found one with five leaves. Then one with six leaves. A little more searching brought up two clover stems with seven leaves. And, to top her search, she finally found one with eight leaves.

One father we know of didn't get his intended present last Sunday, Father's' day.

His wife and small son went shopping the day before to find a present for him, and finally selected a cup and saucer they thought were particularly attractive and appropriate.

The mother, not quite trusting her 8-year-old son to carry the precious gift, insisted on carrying it herself. While crossing a street, however, she fell, smashing the cup and saucer to smithereens, and suffering a nasty gash on her chin which required two stitches to repair.

The Mail Tribune news staff has received Civil Defense Emergency identification cards. On the cards they are assigned to duty as "Public Information."

One of the younger staff members inquires how he is to go about becoming a public information.

The other day an unknown contributor suggested a footnote to Father's' day. He (or she) suggests that most fathers agree that a big platter of southern fried chicken would be a welcome change from "cold shoulders" and "hot tongue" on Father's' day. (On second thought, we're pretty sure that our unknown contributor is a man.)

Progress . . . change . . . whatever you call it—anyway, it's evident all around.

Not too long ago news staffers could watch the steam locomotive.

Brannan May Run Against Millikin

Portland — (U.P.)—Charles F. Brannan, who was Secretary of Agriculture under former President Harry Truman, Friday night indicated he would enter the Colorado Senate race against incumbent Republican Eugene Millikin.

However, Brannan said he would not make a definite commitment "yet" as to his entering the senatorial race. He did say he was sure he could beat Millikin if he entered.

Brannan took time out from a trip to Yakima, Wash., where he was to address a farmers' convocation, to criticize the present administration's farm policies.

He said businessmen in small communities were coming to realize that they, as well as farmers, "are suffering under the farm policies of the Eisenhower administration."

BPA Contract Goes To Corvallis Firm

Portland — (U.P.) — Bonneville Power Administration said Saturday it has awarded to the Witzig Construction company, of Corvallis, a \$76,402 contract for construction of the 6.3 mile Reston-McKinley 230,000-volt transmission line.

The line will start about six miles west of Reston and terminate about six miles east of Dora.

Energization of the new line is scheduled for 115,000-volt operation in 1956 and 230,000-volt operation by 1957 when the Alvey-Reston line is completed and an interconnection with Copco at Reston is made.

Further plans call for a 230,000 to 115,000-volt stepdown substation near McKinley to augment BPA's service to Pacific Power and Light Company, the Coos-Curry Electric co-op, Douglas Electric co-op, the city of Bandon, and the Central Lincoln PUD.

A benevolence budget of \$150,318, a record high, was adopted by delegates and the appropriation for the board of missions was increased to permit founding four new churches within the conference.

ANNUAL SNOWFALL

Ottawa—About 40 to 50 inches of snow falls in the far-north Mackenzie district of Canada which is only about one-half the average annual fall for the region of the Great Lakes district.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 8:30 previous day.

tives chugging up and down the SP tracks, viewed from the east windows. So it was with a start the other day we heard a more recent acquisition to the staff remark, with some slight wonder and excitement, "I saw a steam engine on the tracks today." See what we mean?

Firemen recently reported that City Fire Marshal Truman Nelson inspected "one circus grounds." Staff member remarks he's glad they're so specific, because there are so many circus grounds in and around Medford.

Noticing that the School District 6C budget election a few weeks ago attracted a total of only 133 voters, a suspicious staff member made a quick check with the county school directory. It showed that District 6C teachers, and their wives and/or husbands, total approximately 148.

Now, he asks, which one's didn't vote. And worse yet, who were the 44 who voted "no?" We should perhaps draw the veil when it comes to inquiring about the total number of teachers in connection with the school board elections held more recently in 6C, Medford and Ashland. Medford votes totaled 59; Ashland 41, and 6C 22.

A tall farmer who knew ran over a skunk while driving in his station wagon Friday night. He had to take off his clothes before his family would let him in the house after he got home. And the station wagon isn't fit for use yet.

Mystery Driver Hinted by Defense In Overcross Trial

Salem — (U.P.)—Reports that Ervin Kaser was watched by two men in a car some days before he was shot to death last Feb. 17 were hinted Friday in the first degree murder trial here of Casper Overcross.

Stopped in Front of Home Defense Attorney Bruce Williams told the jury in the court of Circuit Judge George Duncan that the defense would show that an unidentified driver stopped in front of the Kaser home near Silverton, got out of the car and continued on home between the time of the fatal shooting and the arrival of Harley R. De Peel, Silver constable.

Williams closed his opening statement with the admission that Overcross was one who had a motive. He said: "The motive was there; we are not denying it. Cap Overcross had a motive. We do not deny that. It is certainly true, too, that he is not guilty." Overcross had blamed Kaser for breaking up his home.

To Show Ownership The State, with special Prosecutor Charles Raymond of Portland making the opening statement, said it would prove every charge in the secret indictment returned against Overcross by a Marion county grand jury. Raymond said Overcross would be shown as owner of a rifle which the state says was the murder weapon.

Constable De Peel was the state's first witness and the only one to testify yesterday, after the jury had visited the Silverton area home of Kaser where he was shot to death as he sat in his car in the driveway.

Dr. Balcomb Speaks At Methodist Meet

Eugene — (U.P.)—Dissatisfaction with present-day burial and funeral practices was expressed here Saturday by 80 per cent of Methodist ministers in Oregon attending the annual Methodist conference.

Dr. Raymond E. Balcomb, Medford, chairman of the conference committee on social and economic relations, said that by a persistent educational effort "we believe that current practices can be made more nearly Christian." He reported that the average funeral in Oregon today costs between \$450 and \$500.

The conference yesterday authorized establishment of a permanent conference business office in Portland under the direction of a full-time treasurer.

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