

New School Head No Stranger in Medford

Medford's city school superintendent of six days, Leonard B. Mayfield, has a sign on the wall behind his desk. It reads, "It is easier to do a job right than to explain why you didn't."

After watching him in action the past year as assistant superintendent, teachers and fellow workers are well aware that he follows his own signs.

No Stranger

Mayfield is no stranger to Medford schools. He came here in 1939 and for five years served as principal of the high school,

first three schools, his teams won championships. At Springfield he took the district title in football. At Grants Pass one year, and Oregon City two years, his teams claimed the mythical state championship. In those days there were no state play-offs and state titles were claimed on the basis of win-loss records. His Oregon City eleven won both years undefeated, and one year unscathed against.

Back To Grants Pass

In 1937, Mayfield returned to Grants Pass High, this time as

and is currently working on his doctorate from Oregon.

In his one year re-orientation, Mayfield has become as well acquainted as possible with the District 49 team. Although a constant stream of duties and problems prevented attainment of his original aim to visit every classroom, he still intends to do so.

Policies Similar

As for future policies of Medford schools, they will be almost identical with those developed by Hedrick. Mayfield believes in "basically the same program."

He intends to "keep the best of the old and add the best of the new."

He emphasizes that Medford will not jump at every proposed change in school methods. He prefers to wait, perhaps testing out the innovation in his own school system, but never discarding the old until the new is proved effective.

Mayfield is convinced of the soundness of Medford's strong academic platform. He reasons that if local students can do well in measurable, competitive activities (sports, music, speech) then by the same token they can excel in the non-measurable solid courses.

Aim Is Responsibility

Finally, the aim of the school, according to Mayfield, is to give the student as much responsibility as he proves he can carry well.

Mayfield himself is a dark complexioned man, his black hair set off by tufts of white. He stands about 5 feet 7 inches tall, is stockily built, and could out-walk most bigger men. He has a brisk though genial air about him, whether puzzling out a construction snare with a foreman or striding across the hall to consult with his assistant, Elliott Becken.

Perhaps his predecessor, E. H. Hedrick, best answered the question "how will Mayfield do?"

"Why," declared Hedrick confidently, "I think Len's going to do ALL right."

His most recent project is a sort of "mutual assistance" experiment in education, with the Shady Cove school and some of its students at one end, and the Taupaki school (in a village near Aukland) in New Zealand, on the other end.

Taylor has set up an exchange of voices—singing, and asking and answering questions—using his recording equipment and that of the headmaster of the school, John E. MacDonald. Taylor and MacDonald feel that the youngsters, by actually hearing each other's voices, can gain a clearer picture of what life is like across the waters.

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Tape Recordings Used as Correspondence By Local Man With Friends Around World

A Manchester, England, newspaper recently reported that one of the residents of that city was puzzled to hear Chinese come from an electronic recording tape she received from Medford, Oregon, U.S.A.

The "why" of the story goes a bit further back, to the day when Sam Taylor, who lives off Beall lane near Central Point, got interested in the idea of sending tape recordings, instead of letters, to friends and acquaintances.

One thing led to another, and Taylor one day shipped off a tape to Miss Marjorie Elliott, in the English city.

Machines Different

Because of a difference in machines, she first played the tape too fast, and in her reply told her new acquaintance that it sounded like a woman talking Chinese. This gave Taylor an idea.

He went to Mrs. D. Kirkland West, wife of the Presbyterian minister here, who learned to speak Chinese fluently during her years of missionary work, and asked her to record a brief message for the English girl—in Chinese. This Mrs. West did.

Miss Elliott's next tape started off with what sounded like a woman talking Chinese. And, as Sam triumphantly told her as the unfamiliar language ceased, "that WAS a woman talking Chinese."

This is only one incident in many friendly contacts Taylor has had with new friends around the world since he became interested in tape conversations.

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two-room school. A clipping from an Aukland newspaper has this to say about it:

"For information about current prices of used cars in the United States, just ask the children of the school at Taupaki, a village between Swanson and

The education department is interested, for the tape recorder has value in speech training. Mr. MacDonald says: "If, when he hears it played back, a pupil doesn't like the way he has said something, he asks for it to be erased and done again."

couldn't send her recordings from the whole family. This he did, the tape was played on his brother's recorder, his mother hugely enjoyed it, and the whole thing was a success.

At about this time he heard about an organization called World Tape Pals, which is set up to exchange information and addresses about recorder fans around the world. Operated from a Dallas, Tex., headquarters, it has the slogan, "World Peace Is Simply a Matter of Understanding," and publishes a periodical with information about recorders, about projects undertaken by members, and with address lists and occasional supplementary lists.

Language, of course, is a barrier in the international exchange of tapes, just as it is in letters, and the membership roster of the organization reflects this in the longer lists under the English-speaking countries. But there are many in non-English-speaking countries too.

In Many Countries

Taylor, in fact, corresponds with tape-friends in Denmark, The Netherlands and Sweden, as well as seven persons in the United States, four in England, and individuals in Alaska and New Zealand.

When students at the Shady Cove school gathered with a teacher, Mrs. Noreen Conway, at Taylor's home recently to record for their New Zealand friends, Taylor was ready with a collection of pictures of the other youngsters to show them, and a description of how their acquaintanceship could grow.

And, in encouraging this exchange between youngsters, Sam can point to the motto of the "Pals" organization: World Peace is simply a matter of understanding.

Dr. Laurel G. Case To Open Practice

Dr. Laurel G. Case arrived in Medford recently accompanied by his wife and their children, John and Robert, from Wichita, Kan. A physician and surgeon, Dr. Case soon will open a general practice at 1000 West Main st.

The family has purchased the former E. P. Merrick residence at 1432 East Main st.

Dr. Case has been studying surgery for two years at Wichita and he is a graduate of the University of Kansas school of medicine. Before going to Wichita he was in general practice at Enterprise, Kan.



VOICES TO NEW ZEALAND—Mrs. Noreen Conway, teacher in the seventh grade at the Shady Cove school, and a group of youngsters from the school are shown above during a recent meeting when they recorded questions and answers to be sent to a school in New Zealand. The Antipodean youngsters will, in return, answer the questions and ask some of their own. The plans is the idea of Sam Taylor, in who home the meeting was held, who now "corresponds" via voice message with new friends all over the world. He is a member of an organization called World Tape Pals. The map shown above the group has pins stuck in the 16 spots in the world where Taylor has tape pals, and pictures of some of them are pasted around the rim of the map. Taking part in the recording session are Mrs. Conway, left; Benny Nork, 14, and Susan Knotts, 10, standing; and Sharon Bowdoin, 12, and Carl Rone, 13, seated facing microphone. Susan is reading from a list of questions which may by now have arrived, via tape, in New Zealand. —(Brainard photo)

Kemeu. They have it all taped—on their headmaster's recorder."

The article goes on to tell how MacDonald has corresponded with people in the United States, and commenting on the exchange with Taylor, adds:

"With Medford speaking directly to Taupaki school, Mr. MacDonald says, 'The children now have an indelible picture of the people there and how they live. They will probably learn more from the Taylors than from anyone—and vice versa.'

Studies Come Alive

"With coloured slides Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have sent, the social studies really come alive. At the other end, the Taupaki tapes have been a source of constant interest in at least one household and later are expected to be heard in a local school.

"Mr. MacDonald's efforts may also be pioneering a new procedure in New Zealand schools.

Approval Predicted For Payment Plans

The next session of Congress is expected to approve a plan under which federal government will make payments to local governments in lieu of property taxes for federal holdings, according to Clark Walker, president of the Medford Realty board.

The Commission on Intergovernmental Operations, recently recommended that the national government "inaugurate a broad system of payments in lieu of property taxes to state and local governments," adding that such payments "are necessary to help preserve financially healthy local governments."

"Realtors have long advocated such an arrangement by which the federal government pays for the services it receives from the local government," Walker said.

He said the problem of federal tax immunity has become more pronounced in recent years, with the situation being particularly severe in areas where the value of federal holdings is a large part of total property values.

Taylor has had his tape recording machine for some time, and when he first acquired it, did "the usual things," such as recording the voices of members of his family, favorite radio programs, and so on. But "after the novelty wore off," he said, it just sat in the closet.

Sent Tape to Mother

One day, however, he got to thinking about his mother, who was ill, and wondered why he

Street Oiling Set In Central Point

Central Point—A second application of oil on seven Central Point streets is slated to start tomorrow or Tuesday, City Recorder Arden Pinkham has reported.

The application will be made by Hughes and Dodd company of Medford. The first coat of oil was spread on streets last week.

Streets receiving oil are Second st. from Hazel to Bush sts.; Bush st. from Front to Fourth sts.; Eighth st. from Pine to Hazel sts.; Maple st. from Front to Tenth sts.; Ash st. from Front to Freeman rd.; Ninth st. from Pine to Manzanita sts.; and Third st. from Oak to Ash sts.

Thinner Application

Pinkham said a thinner application will be made on remaining streets where traffic is not heavy, and that oil may be spread around corners or turning radius at intersections if enough oil in the second carload is available.

City officials urged residents to refrain from walking or driving through fresh oil for at least a day.

CAP Squadron Here Plans Swim Party

The Medford squadron of the Civil Air patrol will hold a swimming party at Twin Plunges in Ashland Monday, Aug. 8, instead of the regular meeting.

All members and friends planning to attend should meet at the Medford airport at the CAP building between 6 and 6:30 p.m. if they need transportation. If refreshments are desired after swimming members are reminded to bring enough money to purchase their food at the pool concession.

Sheriff's Officers Probe Hobby Thefts

Sheriff's officers were investigating Friday thefts of hobby equipment from the garage of George J. Smith, route 1, box 334, Gold Hill.

Smith reported that a skill-

360 Attend Annual Antelope 4-H Fair As Awards Given

About 360 people attended the Antelope community 4-H fair Wednesday. Judges for showmanship and judging contests were Warren Bayliss of Yankee Creek ranch, and Nat Etzel, instructor of agriculture at Eagle Point High school.

Linda Malloroy of Antelope was the champion for beef fitting, and David Woolfolk of Antelope won the advanced champion for beef showmanship. Annette Drager of Bellview won the intermediate showmanship and Noel Dunlap of Applegate won the beginner's class.

Dairy Showmanship

Ken Bitterling of Antelope won advanced class in dairy showmanship, with Karen Jossy of Antelope first in intermediate and Art Gardner of Antelope first in beginner's class.

In sheep showmanship, Donna Mays of Bellview won advanced competition, and Annette Drager of Bellview won intermediate.

Advanced champion in swine showmanship went to Ann Higday of Antelope while Bill Hubbard and Art Gardner, both of Antelope, won intermediate and beginner divisions, respectively.

INSTALL SIGNALS

Jackson county shop employees are installing directional signal lights on county equipment. Lights are required on both the front and rear of each vehicle under a law which went into effect Aug. 3. Paul Rynning, county engineer, said.

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LEONARD MAYFIELD
New Medford District School Superintendent

The last half of the 1944 season, he even coached the football team. He remembers having under him, those few games, star fullback Bob Watson, recently appointed assistant backfield coach at Oregon State college.

Mayfield was born in the lumber producing town of Estacada, about 20 miles southeast of Portland. His father was a sawmill foreman. Young "Len" went to grade school there, and later in Gladstone. He graduated from Oregon City High school in 1923.

In the fall of 1924, he entered the University of Oregon, and came out five years later with a bachelor's degree in physical education . . . and a fiancée. The last three years of his college days he taught part time in Springfield High and grade schools.

Married in 1930

While at the university, Mayfield, like any other campus man, was not so involved with studies that he didn't have time to take note of his classmates. One day his junior year he met Alice Mildred Miller, a sophomore in art and interior decorating. In 1930 they were married.

They now have a girl, Karen, 11, and an 8-year-old boy, Mike.

After graduation, Mayfield came south and took a coaching job at Grants Pass. He stayed for three years, then went to Oregon City High as coach of football, wrestling, and track.

Looking back, he recounts with satisfaction that at all of his

principal. After two years, he left to join its strongest rival in the pear and football town of Medford. He held the principal's post here until 1944, then journeyed north again to assume superintendent's duties for Coos Bay schools.

He decided to enter the commercial world in 1951, and established a successful hardware business.

But when he got a call from the Medford school board, he went back with education.

In August of 1954 he moved his family here and became assistant superintendent of School District 49. During the past year he has reacquainted himself with the educational set-up and helped with the tremendous construction program still in progress. Six days ago he was sworn in as superintendent, replacing the man he readily acknowledges to be the dean of Oregon educators, E. H. Hedrick.

Fourth Generation

The new superintendent notes, with understandable pride, that he is the fourth generation of Mayfields to have lived in Oregon. Several of his relatives, past and present, have been engaged in fields of teaching.

Included in his background is graduate work at the University of Oregon, University of Washington, Stanford University, and University of California. He earned a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Oregon in 1938.

New Owners Arrive To Start Operation Of The Dardenelle

Mr. and Mrs. James Bucklin arrived last week in the valley from Merced, Calif., to operate The Dardenelle dinner house and lounge near Gold Hill.

The Bucklins now are remodeling the kitchen and installing new equipment in the establishment. They also are adding an outdoor patio for dancing and a barbecue pit which may be used for private parties.

In the near future they plan also to build 10 motel units.

The Bucklins have had 30 years experience in catering to the public in resort areas. Bucklin said that they plan to make this their permanent home.

Frank Holman Hess is their chief. He has worked in the mid-east and south, including the Claypool hotel, Indianapolis, Ind., Sherman house, Chicago, Ill., and in Shreveport, La., and Washington, D. C.

Jim Pierce and his Night Hawks are furnishing dance music and the business is in operation nightly. A grand opening is planned soon.

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