

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION APPLIANT 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

Sept. 13, 1945 (It was Thursday) Jackson county turkey crop to reach 100,000 this year.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Daylight saving will end Sept. 30. Nobody knows what they did with all the daylight they saved, and none was saved for a rainy day.

10 YEARS AGO

Sept. 13, 1935 (It was Friday) State constitution says new state capital must be built in Salem.

Gold Hill school opened with enrollment of 222.

30 YEARS AGO

Sept. 13, 1925 (It was Sunday) Two additional first grade rooms authorized to handle increased Medford city school rolls.

Adventists to have Bible marathon, read until the last word of Revelations, by team of 15; expected to last four days.

40 YEARS AGO

Sept. 13, 1915 (It was Monday) Public schools of city open with total enrollment of 1,124. Game licenses in county total 1,370 for August.

What's the Answer?

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

- 1. The Taft-Hartley act was enacted by a Republican or a Democratic Congress, or when the two houses were under different parties?
2. Most women afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis contract it before or after the age of 35?
3. A re-study is being made of the mysterious death in 1944 of Maj. William V. Holloman in north Africa, Italy, France, England or the Far East?
4. More than half, about half, or less than half of U.S. families have instalment credit payments to make, aside from real estate?
5. The 1955 session of Congress provide for a 4c letter rate as of next Jan. 1; right or wrong?
6. Paisley, which gave its name to a type of shawl, is a town in England, Scotland, Wales, Belgium, Northern or Southern Ireland?
Babe Ruth played in the National or American League?
The Answers: 1. Republican Congress. 2. Before 35. 3. In Italy. 4. Somewhat less than half. 5. Wrong. 6. Scotland. 7. Both.

Communists Return Wreckage of Plane

Munsan, N. Korea—(U.P.)—The Communists Monday returned the wreckage of an American plane which they shot down Aug. 30 killing an Army captain and injuring an Air Force pilot, it was announced today. Army Capt. Charles Brown was killed when the plane was riddled by Communist guns over the demilitarized zone and crashed inside North Korea. The pilot, 2nd Lt. Guy H. Bumpas, was injured and taken prisoner. Bumpas and the body of Brown were returned to the U.N. side by the Communists Aug. 23.

Why Evade The Issue?

The Oregonian joins other Republican spokesmen, in defense of Secretary of the Interior McKay and his views on public power and conservation which are so at variance with his predecessors and the traditions of his department.

But there is one outstanding feature in common when it comes to our former Governor and his defenders—they never answer the charges brought against him. They merely fall back on the sympathy dodge, and weep bitterly about how he is being abused and made a "punching bag" for partisan purposes only.

COULD it be there is no defense—factually at least? The criticisms of Secretary McKay have been pretty specific, and they have come from Republican as well as Democratic sources, so they can't be entirely partisan.

Among the former have been the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Denver Post—the latter edited by Palmer Hoyt, former able editor of the Oregonian, and a staunch supporter of President Eisenhower as well as a strong consistent Republican. Hoyt even demanded Secretary McKay's immediate resignation for the good of the Republican party as well as the country and gave his reasons.

As far as we have been able to determine, there has never been an answer to those "reasons" or any denial supported by the record, that the Interior Department under McKay, HAS been a consistent enemy of public power, proper development of the west through such power, and adequate conservation of our natural resources.

IT is to be hoped before the presidential campaign of 1956 starts—some alleged experts maintain it has already started—there will be some effort to answer the charges against Secretary McKay, supported by facts, instead of appealing entirely to the emotions putting on the tremelo stop, and wailing about how the poor man is being abused and mistreated.

AS FAR as our observations go, the opposition to Secretary McKay has in general gone out of its way to absolve him from any ulterior motives, question the man's personal honesty or deny his good intentions. But they have opposed him and still oppose him, because they believe, for reasons best known to himself, he has gone over entirely to the interests of the private power combine and against what they believe to be the best welfare of the country. And they usually cite chapter and verse.

BUT as stated, there has to date been no satisfactory refutation of these charges not even by the Secretary himself. They have not been "satisfactory" because while our ex-Governor persistently and publicly denies he is against public power and proper national conservation, his record as Secretary of the Interior from the time he let down the bars to the Idaho Power company, and repudiated the rulings of the US Army engineers and the Reclamation Service, regarding Hells Canyon, his record supports the contrary.—R.W.R.

Evidence is Requested

A communicant asks for evidence that any Public Utility Commission, as stated in this department recently ever compelled a railroad to continue passenger service that was losing money.

Well, according to our information—which we believe is correct—there have been two recent instances of this in the west and one of them on the "Friendly Southern Pacific."

The SP claimed two or three years ago it was losing \$151,785 annually on its noon-day locals between Oakland and Sacramento, and wanted to discontinue them.

The P.U.C. of California denied the request and ordered the railroad instead to improve its service, try out rail-diesel car transportation, speed up the time, and even improve the pier and transfer service.

The SP appealed to the California Supreme Court and that court denied its plea and upheld the PUC.

So the new and improved service was installed.

THERE was similar action taken on the Denver and Rio Grande railroad running between Salt Lake and Denver.

One of its important passenger trains was losing money so an appeal was made to discontinue it.

The request was denied and again improvement in service requested.

The D & R G complied and, according to the latest report, that train is still running, and still at a loss, though at a reduced amount we believe.

NO DOUBT there are dozens of similar examples throughout the country where the desire to abandon or reduce passenger service, because of losses and to thus increase net income, have in the public interest been denied by Utility Commissions and the railroads have complied.

Why this precedent has not been followed in this state, as far as the SP line from Eugene to Dunsmuir is concerned, is not clear.—R.W.R.

Culver City Asks Communist Probe

Culver City, Calif. —(U.P.)—The city councilmen today sought a "full-scale investigation" by the House un-American Activities committee of Communist activities here. Councilmen voted 4-1 last to seek the investigation after Mayor Curtis J. Davis said there had been "secret meetings of Communist cells over a period of years" in the city. He said that Communist literature

Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

IS SOCIALISM NECESSARY?

London—Easily the most interesting political phenomenon in Britain today is the soul-searching which is going on from the top of the bottom of the British Socialist party.



Stewart Alsop writes that the questions may be phrased as follows: Is socialism necessary? And if socialism is necessary, what is it?

In a recent brilliant but little noted analysis of the Socialist party's defeat in the spring elections, Hugh Gaitskell, heir apparent to the Labor party leadership, wrote as follows:

"There are signs of something, of which we should do well to take note. I fancy that in the last year or two more and more people are beginning to turn to their own personal affairs and to concentrate on their own personal advancement. No doubt it has been stimulated by... TV, new gadgets like refrigerators and washing machines... even the flood of new cars on the home markets. Call it if you like outlook. I believe it's there and the growing Americanization of it's no good moaning about it—apart from the fact that the moaning, when it comes from better off people... seems to me rather odiously hypocritical."

Gaitskell went on to suggest to his fellow Socialists that it would be wise to plan for the next election on the assumption that it might well take place at a time of "higher living standards and reasonable stability."

This is a wise, if optimistic, suggestion. Yet it precisely defines the Socialist dilemma. For if you already have "higher living standards and reasonable stability," is socialism really necessary?

British socialism was born, after all, at a time when a terribly low standard of living and recurrent periods of mass unemployment were the lot of the British worker. These conditions created British socialism and shaped Socialist doctrine.

CONSIDER the plight of British Socialists today. Two generations of British workers have been taught that Conservative rule spells mass unemployment and mass misery. After more than three years of Conservative rule, the British standard of living has never been higher (which is a main reason for the current hardly felt but potentially serious monetary crisis in Britain). And, privately, the Socialist leaders rather feebly protest not that Conservatives have permitted unemployment but that they have "let em-

ployment reach unrealistic levels." But what is more serious for the Socialists—at least for the intellectuals who are the idea men of the Party—is that they have lost their faith in Socialist doctrine. The heart and soul of Socialist doctrine, after all, has been nationalization of industry. Take industry out of the hands of greedy monopolists, so the doctrine ran, turn it over to the state to run for the benefit of all, and a new heaven and a new earth are automatically ushered in.

Now Socialists—and many Tories too, for that matter—privately agree that nationalization clearly hasn't made much difference one way or the other. To be sure, the Conservatives were as wrong as the Socialists. Nationalization has not brought the economy crashing down in ruins. During the last election hardly a voice was raised in favor of denationalizing the coal or electric industries. But nationalization, which was supposed to be the panacea for everything, has quite obviously solved no basic problems, for workers in the nationalized industries or for anyone else.

In the last elections, Socialists weakly and with obvious lack of conviction proposed nationalization of the well run chemical industry. The result was a clear loss of votes, especially among the workers in the industry itself. By now all but a handful of left-wingers have realized that the magic has gone out of nationalization and the issue is as dead as mutton. But if socialism is not nationalization of industry, what in heaven's name is it?

LEFT-WING Socialists, led by Aneurin Bevan, tried to put over an answer which might be defined as "peace and expropriation." But, thanks in part to President Eisenhower, the "peace issue" is also just about as dead as mutton, and any serious proposal for the outright expropriation of private property would be sure to alienate huge chunks of the middle class and even the labor class vote. As a result, Bevan, if he is not yet as dead as mutton, is certainly politically moribund.

That leaves the supremely able Gaitskell as an odds on bet to succeed Clement Attlee as party leader. Neither Gaitskell nor any of his followers has succeeded in defining just what socialism really is, at a time when nationalization of industry is no longer a live issue, and when the country is prosperous and fully employed. But at least, in the process of soul-searching which is now going on, certain realities are being faced, and above all, the tired shreds of Marxism which still cling to British Socialist doctrine are being washed away. All in all, the soul-searching is a healthy process, which American liberals, who also inherited doctrines which have little relationship to current reality, might well emulate.

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A Nichol's Worth of... Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS, United Press Feature Writer

Washington—(U.P.)—A century ago, Franklin Pierce had returned to the capital from his vacation. The newspapers reported that he was "not materially improved in health and worried in spirit."



It might have been that the President in 1855 was worried over the question of slavery. At least the problem was in the wind. One paper of the day had this to say: "The following members of the cabinet are away from Washington. William L. Marcy, Secretary of State, at Old Point, Va.; James Guthrie, Secretary of Treasury, at Cape May, N. J.; James Campbell, Postmaster General, at Bedford Springs, Pa.; and James C. Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy, visiting at Sulphur Springs, Va."

Comment Tacked On The comment at the end of the item was this: "It seems odd that half of these gentlemen are in the South and the other half in the North. How easy it would have been for all of them to go to the North, or all to the South, and if they had such fearful presages would not have been drawn from such a display of sectional preferences."

Another indication that a "Civil War" was approaching appeared in an advertisement in the Washington Intelligencer. A woman in Virginia offered a \$250 reward for the return of "my woman servant. I have every reason to believe she is trying to get to a free state as she has taken considerable money with her."

The schools were in operation. A W. Henry Palmer offered to teach any one all he ought to know about the "piano forte" at \$5 for 20 lessons. Apparently in those days we

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Interesting news from abroad: U.S. Undersecretary of the Treasury says in Rome that Northern Italian industry could give some lessons to America. He described industrial developments in Italy since the war as extraordinary.

He added: "Some of the Italian plants are AS GOOD AS ANYTHING WE HAVE IN THE UNITED STATES and in some respects we could take lessons from them. Italy has been too modest with respect to her achievements since the war."

BAD for us? More competition? Something to be afraid of?

NO! It will make the Italians better customers of ours. It ALWAYS works that way. It's always more profitable to do business with prosperous people than with indigents.

ANOTHER thought: As the Italians get more and more prosperous they will have less and less use for Communism—which is the great menace to peace and happiness and prosperity in the world. That, also, is fundamental.

THE U.S. Department of Agriculture has just announced that it proposes to offer surplus stocks of dried milk to friendly countries at a cut-rate price FOR USE AS LIVESTOCK FEED.

The announcement isn't received with universal approval. Grain men in Chicago, the market page dispatches tell us, THINK IT MIGHT CUT INTO FOREIGN DEMAND FOR FEED GRAINS.

THAT'S one of the troubles with a MANAGED economy. Everybody wants it managed for his personal benefit—and raises a terrific ruckus when it isn't. When the free market calls the shots, we're inclined to shrug our shoulders and take what comes. I'm beginning to think maybe that's better for all of us in the long run.

It gets the stuff CONSUMED—instead of stashing it away to hang like a dark thundercloud over the markets of the future.

WHILE we're talking about the farms situation, here are some rather interesting figures: There are about 5,500,000 farms in the United States. ONE AND A HALF million of our farms (those in units large enough to be considered commercial) produce 88 per cent of the total farm products going on the markets.

The other 3,500,000 farms produce only 12 per cent of the total.

BUT—The statistics on average farm income that the politicians quote in election campaigns to make it appear that American farmers are being penalized by the opposition party include all 5,500,000 farms.

HERE are some more interesting figures: If we take (from the census reports) the value of all the property owned by farmers—land, buildings, machinery, feed, livestock, household goods and everything—and subtract the debts owed by farmers on this property, we get an AVERAGE equity (net worth) of about \$22,000 per farm family.

The comparable figure for non-farm families is about \$17,000. The politicians never mention that figure.

Editorial Comment

OREGON HAD IT FIRST

Southern Oregon folk are disappointed in the Saturday Evening Post for its lack of recognition of Ashland's Shakespearean Festival. In an editorial last week the readable and popular Post credited a new Connecticut Shakespearean festival as the only thing of its kind in the United States. The Ashland Festival, started by Angus Bower of the Southern Oregon College of Education in 1935, is going stronger than ever, achieving real artistry and attracting a lot of the Post's readers from the East. No doubt someone will write the Post a letter of protest—and the Post will add one of those editor's notes acknowledging its error and wishing the fine western production abundant success. It's a slip that should be corrected. — Albany Democrat-Herald.

Favorable Rates for Coast Ports Backed

Portland —(U.P.)—Portland's dock commissioners voted yesterday to throw their weight behind a move for favorable rates for West Coast ports on trans-Pacific cargoes.

The Pacific Coast Association of Port Authorities is expected to consider a proposal calling on the Federal Maritime Board to establish an "appropriate differential" between West Coast ports and Eastern and Gulf ports when it meets Sept. 19-21.

The commission ordered its general manager, Thomas P. Guerrin, to vote for the proposal at the meeting.

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Socialist Party Pays Divdends at Polls In Cambodia Election

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Correspondent

Plump, fun-loving young Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia has turned out to be quite a man.



As king, he talked the reluctant French into giving his little Indochinese country a pretty fair measure of independence. Last March 2, he suddenly decided to quit the king business. Without notifying the French or even his government, Norodom broadcast his resignation to the country by radio.

He designated as his successor his 61-year-old father Norodom Suramarit. He moved out of the palace and into his father's villa.

Norodom Sihanouk complained that his political enemies were trying to sabotage his policy of cooperation with the West and his program of political reforms. He decided to do something about it.

The Democratic Party of Norodom's bitter political enemy Song Ngoc Thanh, a "neutralist" and one-time Japanese puppet, held a majority in the National Assembly.

Formed New Party As a private citizen, Norodom formed a new party, the Popular Socialist Community, and assumed its leadership.

In a fire-engine red sports convertible, Norodom set out on a stump-speaking tour. He campaigned from one end of the country to the other, speaking in cities and villages and at crossroads.

Sometimes his audiences numbered thousands, sometimes he addressed little knots of 10 to 15 persons.

The election for which he was preparing was held Sunday. Norodom's party won every one of the 91 seats in the Assembly.

It was a personal victory for Norodom, and a sensational one. The 33-year-old ex-king had made himself within six months a potent party leader in politics.

His victory is important also for the Western allies. Cambodia's 3,227,000 people, in supporting Norodom, have put themselves solidly in the camp of the Western allies. They have voted against Communism and against "neutrality."

Short, jolly Norodom is a singular sort of political boss. Has Jolly Side As king he spent considerable time playing his saxophone and leading his own orchestra in jam sessions that lasted until 4 a.m. He wrote, directed and acted in movies, the main idea of which was to give audiences a good laugh. A bachelor, he maintained a white-bearded astrologer to give him the portents of the stars.

But Norodom, as has been shown, has his serious side. He was more successful than any other Indochinese leader in his independence demands on France. He once went on a sit-down strike to back up his fight, and set up a capital in the provinces.

He does not plan to assume any political office now. But he is certainly head man in Cambodia.

Firemen Called on Two Trash Fires

City firemen were called upon to extinguish two trash and grass fires yesterday, they reported this morning.

At 10:09 a.m., one pumper was sent to extinguish a trash and grass fire in a vacant lot on West Second st. There was no damage.

Two pumps were sent at about 5 p.m. to the west approach of the Main st. bridge after a passing motorist reported a considerable amount of smoke in that area.

A large trash pile was found burning near the basement entrances to buildings near the creek. There was no damage other than smoke in first floor business offices in the area.

Three gasoline spills were flushed down on downtown streets during the day.

Cement Mixer Hides Men From Flames

Santa Barbara, Calif. —(U.P.)—Two firefighters battling a major timber and brush blaze here escaped a fiery death by jumping into a cement mixer filled with water and closing the cover.

Frank Martinez, of Santa Barbara, was driving the cement mixer, temporarily being used as a tank truck, on flame-covered high way 150 near the Paradise Camp area yesterday when the truck's open cab was set afire.

Martinez climbed in to the cement mixer, filled with water, and pulled down the cover. A few minutes later, another fire fighter, Vincent Torres, rapped on the mixer and sought refuge. Torres' truck also had been set afire on the highway.

The men stood in water up to their necks for a half hour before fleeing the area. The cab of the truck was destroyed by fire.

Monroe Man's Body Found in Gravel Pit

Monroe, Ore. —(U.P.)—The body of 54-year-old Henry Keeney, who drowned in a gravel pit on his own property near here Sunday night, was recovered by skindivers yesterday afternoon.

Keeney was in a small boat which apparently overturned on him. Skindivers reported the body, was located in about eight feet of water.

He is survived by a widow, a stepdaughter and a stepson.

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