

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
"Everybody in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
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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
Nov. 30, 1945
Debate teams composed of Bill Moffat, Jerry Igo, Janet Horsey and Jerry Liebman win pre-season debate at Roseburg High school.

20 YEARS AGO
Nov. 30, 1935
Humane society reports dogs killing sheep in areas just outside city limits.

30 YEARS AGO
Nov. 30, 1925
Howard Dynan of Medford receives award from California Oregon Power company for saving life of fellow employee.

40 YEARS AGO
Nov. 30, 1915
E. J. Kaiser, Ashland postmaster and founder of Record, shot by post office employee who kills himself, Kaiser in fair condition.

What's the Answer?
Can You Get 4 of the 7?
Can You Get 4 of the 7?

1. The Pilgrims always celebrated Thanksgiving in November, right or wrong?
2. If a U.S. official is impeached, the charges are brought by the Senate, the House, both of them, the President, the Attorney General or the Supreme Court?
3. Are there any states in which more than half the land area is owned by the federal government?
4. Of all U.S. millionaires about 5 percent, 20 percent 35 percent, 50 percent or 65 percent are estimated to be Jewish?
5. Which two of these states have the most electoral votes in electing a President next year: Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, California, Texas?
6. More or fewer or about the same number of hospital beds are set aside each year for tuberculosis victims?
7. Wattles are found on poultry, on fish, in Australian forests, in a framework, or on roofs?
The Answers: 1. Wrong. 2. Charges brought by the House, heard by the Senate. 3. Yes. 4. About 20 percent. 5. California and Pennsylvania (32 each). 6. Fewer. 7. All of them.

S-D Day Tomorrow

It would be wonderful if the United States could go through one full 24-hour period without a fatal traffic accident. It is doubtful, however, that this can be done, but to come close would be cheering.
The former is the objective of the second annual S-D (Safe Driving) day, which is supported by governmental and safety authorities all the way up to the President of the United States.
S-D day is tomorrow.

THERE is reason to believe that progress is being made in traffic safety, for statistics in recent years reveal that, while the total number of traffic deaths are up, this is largely due to the increased number of cars on the highway.
The actual death rate, based on the number of miles traveled, is down. Last year the death rate was 6.4 per 100,000,000 miles traveled, compared to 16.3 for the same number of miles traveled in 1927. This decrease of almost two-thirds in the death rate per mile was recorded despite the fact that the number of motor vehicles on the highways climbed from about 23,000,000 in 1937 to about 60,000,000 in 1954.

THE objectives of S-D day are two-fold.
The first, of course, is to reduce the number of deaths on that day.
The second is to bring home the fact that the death and accident toll is, actually, reducible by greater caution and thoughtfulness on the part of the nation's drivers.
Looked at coldly, the second objective appears to be the more important in the long run.

MOST of us know, at least in theory, what the practices are which cost lives on the streets and highways.
Speed, carelessness, driving while in no condition to drive because of sleepiness or intoxication, mechanical defects—we know that these contribute to the number of accidents. And we realize that these factors are within our control. An increasing realization of this is, in fact, cutting down the accident death rate throughout the nation.
Perhaps the nation can get through tomorrow without killing anyone in an automobile accident. We hope so. And let's make sure that if anyone dies, it is not around here.—E.A.

I Never Saw A Purple Cow...

A week or so ago in this space it was reported that an "expedition" was planned to "explore" the slopes of Mt. Shasta in the hope of uncovering evidence of "Lemurians" reportedly inhabiting the area.
Further information had been promised, but so far has not been forthcoming.

BUT as a result of the report here, we have been provided with considerable additional information about the legends of Mt. Shasta, and a vast complex of occultism of which the Mt. Shasta tales are only a tiny part.

There are, it appears, a dozen or so sects which base their whole philosophy of life pretty much on the theories of the lost continents of Atlantis (in the Atlantic ocean), Lemuria (in the Pacific, or Indian, ocean—depending on which group is talking) and Mu, also in the Pacific.

It also appears that the method of research employed in ascertaining the facts of life on these ancient lands is to sit and think about them and, through intuition, to come to the proper conclusions.

AS MIGHT be expected, the results are divergent, contradictory and, in a word, wierd.

There is not space here to go into the matter in detail, for a whole library of books has been written on the subject—some of them outlining the "revealed" truth about Atlantis et al.; others giving a more rational view of the lost continent theories.

But one or the other of them have described Lemurians in various stages of development as astral, disembodied beings, or as creatures resembling men in some ways and apes in others. It depends on which group of occult devotees one consults, but each apparently has worked out histories of the world, and of the races of mankind, based on their intuitive researches. That the various versions have little similarity appears to bother none of them, for each is confident in the truth of his own, believing the others to be in error.

THE sensible attitude may well be to view them all with vast skepticism, tinged, possibly, with more or less tolerant amusement. This, of course, will be infuriating to the initiates of the sects involved. They're probably used to it by now.

But when their theories are presented with complete lack of any tangible evidence to support them; when the theories so completely disagree, even on essentials, let alone on details; when all the discoveries of qualified scientists and investigators are blithely dismissed, and the only items of "evidence" presented are the dreams and fancies of proven charlatans, on the one hand, or of self-proclaimed "sensitives" or "occultists" on the other—in such a case one may be pardoned if his conclusions are something less than unquestioning acceptance.

IF, however, we were on a stroll along the foothills of Mt. Shasta and chanced to meet a Lemurian (tall, stately, white robed, according to one belief; tall, hairy and with a "sixth-sense" bump on the forehead according to another), we might be impressed.
Particularly if he was riding in an air boat, operating on the general principles of levitation; or if he were engaged in some esoteric ceremony in a vast crystal hall far underground.

Until then we beg leave to remain skeptical. —E.A.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
The Minneapolis Tribune, a responsible newspaper operated by the Cowles family, which has other large newspaper interests in the Middle West, says in a copyrighted article that the department of agriculture will soon announce a soil saving plan that will be expected to cost an average of about \$100,000,000 annually for the next 15 years.
It adds that the proposal would provide for paying the cost of installing soil conservation cover (meaning crops, such as grasses, that improve the soil) on land taken out of production under contract with the government. Under the plan, farmers would also get up to \$5,000 per year to compensate for UNPRODUCED crops—that is to say crops, such as corn, wheat and cotton, that they DIDN'T produce.

THE Tribune's article tells of other details to cut farm output and at the same time encourage soil conservation. It says that under the plan farmers might enter the program and still use such land (that is, land devoted to cover crop conservation of soil fertility) to pasture livestock.
But, it adds, this acreage would have to be in ADDITION to acreage NORMALLY planted to cover crops or left to lie fallow as a soil conservation device. Presumably that means that if a farmer wants to pasture livestock on the acres he gets paid for planting to soil conservation cover he must CONTINUE to put out cover crops or leave fallow as large a percentage of his remaining acreage as he has NORMALLY done in the past.

In the first year of operation of the new plan, the Tribune's article says, the aim would be to persuade 832,000 farmers to take more than 16,000,000 acres out of production.

ON SUCH a sketchy outline, it is difficult to form an accurate opinion as to just how well such a plan would work. But this much, at least, can be said with a certain amount of confidence:

IF it resulted in taking out of production some 16,000,000 acres of land now devoted to production of SURPLUS crops that presently are being piled up in storage that costs a lot of money and hangs like a dark thundercloud over the markets of the future—

And—
IF its cost was only \$100,000,000 annually for the next 15 years, which is mere vest pocket change in these days of fabulous subsidies to hire people to do that which is only good common sense, anyway—

It would be BETTER than the present system which amounts to subsidizing continued heavy overproduction of certain farm crops of which there is already a huge and burdensome surplus.

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Trail Blazer

To the Editor: How many of the Tribune readers remember Ezra Meeker, one of the last survivors of the prairie schooners, herding a yoke of fat oxen over the remnants of the old Oregon emigrant trail. Our first and only time to see the then 90-year-old Meeker was at the first automobile show held at Kansas City, Mo., February, 1909. The old trail blazer with black twinkling eyes hardly looked his spry old age. He was perched atop an old wagon selling souvenir cards.

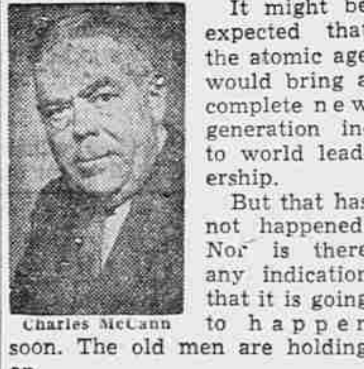
He said it would be his last trip West. Little did we think then, that we would be going over the same route a few years later in a Model T. All the Oregon Trail markers were visible until reaching Granger, Wyo., where we followed the Forty-Niner's route, now the Roosevelt Highway to Ogden, Utah, then northwest through Idaho and central Oregon trail to Burns, Ore.

To A Thief

To the Editor: I hope the thief who entered our home at 105 Nutley st. in Ashland and stole more than five books of trading stamps from a desk drawer will read this.
We had the misfortune through someone's carelessness, of losing most of our household furnishings by fire and what was left by water and smoke damage. Then because we couldn't live there, and had to wait for the insurance adjustments to be made. You come into our house without permission and what is more, snoop through my desk and help yourself. What else did you steal from me besides the trading stamps? It took a long time to save up those stamps and I was

World Seems Unable To Get Along Without Services of Old Men

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent
The world just doesn't seem to be able to get along without its old men.



Charles M. McCann

It might be expected that the atomic age would bring a complete new generation in to world leadership.
But that has not happened. Nor is there any indication that it is going to happen soon. The old men are holding on.

Winston Churchill, for example, gave up his job as prime minister of Great Britain last April 5 because of his advanced age.
But today, as he celebrates his 81st birthday, reports are coming from London that his Conservative Party can not get along without him.

Anthony Eden, whom Churchill groomed for years as his successor, is under heavy fire. Churchill left a gap which he is unable to fill. The word from London is that Churchill has been asked to take a much more active part in leadership.
Badly Needed

There is no suggestion that he might take office again. He will remain an ordinary member of the House of Commons. But he is needed badly to strengthen Eden in debate and counsel.
There is Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of the Federal Republic of West Germany. Adenauer will be 80 on Jan. 5. But Russia trying to weaken his government, Western leaders shudder at the thought that anything might happen to him.

There is President Syngman Rhee of South Korea. Rhee admits to being 80 years old. He will celebrate his 81st birthday next March 26. A lot of Koreans believe he has forgotten a few years.
Nevertheless, dispatches from Korea say that Rhee has decided to run again, for a third four-year term, when the presidential election is held next July or August.
President Juho Paasikivi of

going to trade them for something for Christmas, but when I went to get them, they were gone. You know I can have you arrested for looting. Even a sneak thief must have some decency. It isn't too late. Why don't you wrap up those books and send them over here to me? Believe me, you won't enjoy anything you might trade them for.
The contents of that house are in the hands of the insurance Co. and they are checking everyone who has been in there as to the cause of the fire and missing articles.

Do you make a habit of looting unoccupied houses, or do you have a persistent neurotic impulse to steal especially without economic motive known as kleptomania, whenever you see green stamps?
Mrs. Ann Yorton
Remote, Oregon
General Delivery

Good, Clean Fun
To the Editor: Monday evening I heard a letter read on the TV "Question Box program" on our local station that condemned the humor displayed by the staff, as "Low Brow Corn," and asked for programs without it, especially the commercials.
How conceited and self-righteous can people get?
I have heard some of the kind of commercials this person asked for, at Los Angeles, and when they started, the dials started turning in the homes where I visited and didn't come back to the program until the commercial was over. The humor injected into the local programs make them interesting and remembered.

And the smiles on the faces of the speakers make us smile right back at them even though they can't see us.
I don't care for rough, ribald humor, but as that type never has been shown on the program, I see nothing to object to.
I notice that some of the super cultured people like their corn in a bottle, but I'll take mine in the form of clean fun on programs, in the home, or crowds.
Really now, can a person be interesting or good company if humor hurts their over sensitive, conceited, critical little minds?
Culture can be carried too far!
I say keep good clean fun and a little "corn" on our TV and radio programs. I really don't think it will make us hard or bar us from heaven. We were given a sense of humor to make it possible to enjoy life and conquer our troubles.
Continue our programs as they are. Yours for smiles and laughs.
Grace Kurz,
380 DeBarr Ave.,
Medford, Ore.

Is That So?

For a good share of the world rain is a very unpredictable quantity—this year you have it, next year you don't.

Of these alternatives, the having of rain is less predictable than the not having it. But the chances are that for most of our northern hemisphere, the wettest month will fall most often on July and the driest on November.



have no reason to worry about either an excessive rainfall or, more important, an occasional drought are in the desert and jungle regions where drought is the permanent condition and excessive rain the expected seasonal experience.

During the present century, November has been the driest month in America with an average of 2.02 inches. October runs it a close second with 2.06.

As for the driest spot in the country, that distinction goes to Greenland ranch, Death Valley, Calif., which has an average of only 1.35 inches for an entire year as against 150.89 inches for Ketchikan, Alaska, which is wettest.

Can people live in such a dry climate as Death Valley? Indeed. For that matter, Cairo, Egypt, a city of over 2,000,000, has an annual rainfall averaging even

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

less than Death Valley's—a mere 1.27 inches a year!
Other Regions Drier
There are other regions much drier than Death Valley—in northern Chile, at Iquique, the average annual precipitation is 0.05 inches which means it would take 27 years to build up Death Valley's yearly total!

Looking at a larger segment of our land, a state, the driest one is Nevada. Although it has areas which are comparatively wet, the whole state's average is 8.8 inches. Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, similarly fixed both dry and wet areas have more than half again as much rain as Nevada with 13.41, 13.84, 14.22, and 15.37 inches respectively.

By figures which give the annual rainfall do not present the whole picture. Actually states with a heavy rainfall can have extremely dry periods. Thus, Kansas with an annual precipitation of 28.95 inches has only 7 inches in January; Iowa with 31.51 inches has a January dry of 1.02; and California which averages 23.97 inches has a dry month, July, during which only .08 inches falls—which is exactly 4 1/2 times as dry as Nevada's driest month.
(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best true-life nature adventure, the best nature observation, or the best question on nature and wildlife, a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding. Each week, new submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address our letter to: IS THAT SO! c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

On The Side

(Distributed by King Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

Among the few products that have maintained the same price for fifty years is the five cent package of chewing gum. At one time the chewing gum manufacturers discussed raising the price to six cents. They decided against it on the grounds that the six cent price was "not geared to the currency." That sales results would be better if only one coin, a nickel, was required for a purchase.

Names to the list of the cities whose names are most frequently mispronounced must be added Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. . . . As for giving children names somewhat similar, a Detroit has five offspring all have first and second names with the same initials, as follows: John Albert, Judy Ann, James Alan, Joseph Arthur and Jeffrey Anthony.

Most people in seasonal occupations do not remain idle between seasons. Summer and winter resort hotel workers do not sit around idly in the spring and fall. They take between season jobs. So do practically all people

Healthy Baby Contest Slated For Oregon

An Oregon healthy baby contest will begin Jan. 1, 1956, according to J. E. MacDonald, district manager for Morning Milk, sponsors of the contest. It will run for six weeks through Feb. 11.

Oregon is one of five states to participate in the contest. Cash prizes totaling \$720 will be awarded to parents of winning babies in Oregon.
All babies in Oregon who are 3 years of age or less and were raised on Morning Milk are eligible. There is no limit to the number of babies who can enter from one family, and twins or triplets are eligible. Prominent local people will serve as judges.

Editorial Comment

WE'LL ROOT FOR ASHLAND
We hope that problems threatening interruption if not elimination of the Shakespearean Festival at Ashland may be soon solved.
According to the Ashland Tidings the state fire marshal has declared the festival theater building to be unsafe for the actors, requiring an expenditure of from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for rectification.

While the safety problem may be a local one the Shakespearean Festival is by no means so. Thousands of Oregonians outside of Ashland and many outside of Oregon regard Ashland as a shrine of culture and arrange their affairs to permit their visiting the southern Oregon town during the Shakespearean season each year. More than that thousands more who may never have been able as yet to see Ashland's Shakespeareans in action plan ultimately to make the trek, and through its nine years of exquisitely done drama revival the Ashland festival has become in a measure a national institution, a sort of American Oberammergau. So we imagine we are not the only ones who hope Ashland will take good care of its festival.—Albany Democrat-Herald.

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