

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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What is "Moderation?"

Apparently Adlai Stevenson is going to have plenty of competition for the Democratic nomination.

Well why not? The more the merrier.

For we believe the people of the country are pretty well fed up on double-talk, playing both ends against the middle, and shadow boxing instead of fighting on principle for votes.

Not that we are against Adlai and his program of "moderation." Not at all. We are for it 100 per cent.

In short it means talking SENSE. It means assuming that the voters of the country—a majority at least—prefer a factual, objective presentation of the chief issues involved, as the speaker sees them, in a sane and reasonable fashion to a side-show ballyhoo to get in the crowd and then presenting them with a bucket of partisan bunkum.

Well they may be right. We know of no Supreme Court qualified to decide such a question.

But we DO know how this paper feels about it, and we believe there are thousands of voters who feel the same way.

It all comes under the heading of putting away childish things politically speaking, and becoming reasonably ADULT.

In the opinion of this newspaper, Adlai Stevenson is the one presidential candidate thus far introduced best qualified by character and temperament to do just that.—R.W.R.

"IF"

For many years the Mail Tribune ran a regular column for offerings in verse called "The Poet's Corner."

As things appear at the present writing, particularly the quality, rather than quantity of the few stray offerings received, this ban will continue.

BUT that does not mean poetry, professional or amateur, good or bad will NEVER soil our prosaic pages, when and if in the judgment of the poetry editor they have intrinsic value or a genuine news interest.

So we print under the latter classification the following poem regarding safe-auto-driving. It was designed for S.D. Day but we believe its message can well be taken to heart by any of our readers, at any time during the year but particularly during this season of ice, snow and slippery corners:

Here it is: If everyone who drives a car could lie a month in bed, With broken bones and stitched up wounds or fractures of the head, And then endure the agonies that many people do, They'd never need preach safety any more to me or you.

THE city people, you see, are sympathetic with the farmer's plight, and are afraid he might not be able to get along without ANY support at all.

THESE are the city folks voted: FOR No. 1—6.5% FOR No. 2—54.5% FOR No. 3—39.0%

Often, she says, the people in that area are willing to permit a family to harvest a Christmas tree from their property. But she wishes they'd have the courtesy to ask. It's both good courtesy and good forestry to consult the owner about which trees may be cut.

Indonesia, Odd Island Nation, Suffers Severe Growing Pains

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The Republic of Indonesia is suffering severely from growing pains.

This unique nation consists of more than 3000 islands and countless islets. It stretches for 2,000 miles along the Indian Ocean.

Indonesia obtained its independence from the Netherlands on Dec. 28, 1949.

Rebels of various sorts have long held large areas of it.

The government is unable to control its own armed forces.

Yet Indonesia demands insistently that the Netherlands surrender the 160,000 square miles of West New Guinea to it.

How it could control this area if it can not control its own territory is something of a mystery.

The army forced the resignation of Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo last July when it refused to accept a new chief of staff he appointed.

The latest development came yesterday when the air force refused to accept a new deputy chief of air staff appointed by Premier Burhanuddin Harahap, Sastroamidjojo's successor.

Air force men were drawn up at Tjililitan Air Base outside of Djakarta, the capital, for the installation of Air Commodore H.

Harahap is going to have his troubles if he remains in office.

There is more potential trouble over the issue whether Indonesia shall remain a republic, based like the United States on the principle of separation of church and state, or shall become a strictly Moslem state.

A national election was held today for a constituent assembly which is to draw up a permanent constitution.

Indonesia's 81 million people are 90 per cent Moslem. President Soekarno and former Premier Sastroamidjojo assert that some Moslem leaders are working for the election of a constituent assembly which will make Indonesia a purely Moslem state.

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Charles M. McCann

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE DOCTORS AND THE REGENTS

There has been a notion in the air that at some future date, say in February, the President's doctors will be able to tell him whether or not he should run for a second term.

The White House press conference on Saturday, at which Dr. Snyder and Col. Mattingly submitted to rigorous cross-examination, made it plain that while the doctor might advise the President NOT to run, it is the President himself, not his doctors, who will have to make the final "determination" that he is ABLE to run.

Dr. Snyder, who was pressed on the point, was scrupulously careful to insist that the President's "ability" to run again, would, even if everything goes favorably, have to be left to the President's own decision.

His decision would be not merely whether he wanted to run, whether he felt it his duty to run but whether he was "able" to run. This cannot be a medical decision because the doctors cannot foresee what demands will be made on the President during the next five years.

"Is it possible," Dr. Snyder was asked, "to assess how much another term will take out of a man?" To this Dr. Snyder replied, "No, it is not. It is not."

THE task of assessing how much another term would take out of him is—if the doctors give him the most favorable report—the President's own personal responsibility. There cannot in the nature of things ever be an objective, scientific, authoritative determination that he CAN carry the load of the Presidency during the next five years.

That is a question for his judgment and for his conscience.

In the meantime the President has already, it would seem, made an important preliminary decision, which is to put off his decision about running again. There are two main considerations involved.

The one is that the better his recovery, the better able he will be to bear the heavy load of making the decision about running again. Whichever way he makes that decision, it will be a demanding decision, one fraught with heavy responsibility.

The other consideration is, of course, that the longer he is able to put off his decision about a second term, the longer will his leadership remain undisputed inside his party.

That is why Senators Knowland and Bridges, who are reluctant about his leadership, are asking for a prompt decision; and that is why Mr. Stassen wants to put off the decision until about June.

PRESUMABLY, the inner Eisenhower circle, sometimes called the regency, feel that were the President to announce his retirement, there would at once be a struggle over the succession and that the struggle might go against them.

Perhaps the greatest weakness of the Eisenhower administration is that there is no genuine, self-evident successor to whom the Eisenhower Republicans and the Eis-



Walter Lippmann

hower independents can readily be rallied.

The crucial question is whether the Eisenhower men are using the postponement to prepare a successor if he is needed—or whether they are wishing so hard to have the President run again that they do not dare to tempt fate by thinking about his not running.

If it is the latter, that they are shrinking from an unpleasant subject, it must be said that they are playing for too high stakes at too poor odds.

SINCE there are no precedents for what to do when a President is partially incapacitated, it is only fair to recognize that the inner circle of the White House and of the Cabinet have been doing very well indeed.

They are, of course, treading water, not moving much from where they are though the times are full of movement.

Eisenhower, to be sure, has happily not been so much incapacitated as Wilson was. But he has been largely absent from the seat of government. Yet in his absence there has been an agreeable lack of the intrigue and of the throat-cutting which usually take place when teacher is away.

Yet it would be silly, not to say uncomplimentary to the President, to act as if his illness and absence do not make a big difference. On the other hand, they discourage, indeed they tend to prevent, that reappraisal in our foreign policies which should have been, but never was, made at the time of the first Geneva meeting.

We have had, instead, a remarkable display of bureaucratic inertia. There has been lacking that element, which the President alone is able to provide, the will to change course and not to be afraid or too proud to do so.

ON THE other side, the absence of the President has, as Mr. Roscoe Drummond pointed out on Monday, left the Administration without a responsible spokesman. For more than four months there has been no Presidential press conference. It seems unlikely that the President's doctors will soon let him hold a press conference. The way these affairs have developed, they must be—to use Dr. Snyder's word—among the most "demanding" of the President's labors.

I agree with Mr. Drummond that "some alternative method of putting questions to the President needs to be worked out very soon," and with his suggestion that once a week written questions should be submitted to Mr. Hagerty. They could be given written answers which would, of course, be prepared by the Departments and edited by the regents.

Even before the President's illness it was fair to argue that the oral questions and answers were not sufficiently informing—especially on intricate matters—and that they needed to be supplemented by written questions and written, that is to say deliberate and fully informed, answers.

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North Bend Pinball Raid Bags 2 Women

North Bend, Ore.—(U.P.)—Two North Bend women were fined \$50 each in Justice Court here yesterday after pleading guilty to charges of possessing and operating pinball machines.

The women, Mrs. Edna Boyd, manager of Boyd's Diner here, and a waitress, Pauline Brook, were apprehended following a raid ordered by the district attorney, sheriff's office and North Bend police.

Two pinball machines were seized in the Tuesday night raid. Mrs. Boyd presented the court with an affidavit that the machines were owned by North Bend Mayor I. N. Hartley, but said that the idea of paying off on the machines was entirely her own. She said the mayor knew nothing about it.

FUNERAL EXPENSE INSURANCE

When the inevitable comes to you, someone—probably someone near and dear—is going to be obligated for funeral and cemetery expenses.

You can show your thoughtfulness and love by taking out an insurance policy of your own.

Even a small policy of \$500 or \$1,000, taken out for funeral expenses, eliminates the burden of a need for immediate cash.

Consult the insurance agent of your choice, now!

CHapel Mortuary

Across from the Courthouse Frank Morgan—Harold Snodgrass FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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.

Thank You To the Editor: The Medford chapter of the Oregon United Nations association wishes to extend to you its sincere thanks for the very generous and excellent coverage you have given to all phases of its activities.

We believe that in so doing you have done a genuine public service by bringing knowledge to your readers that is of vital importance to them.

We are fortunate to live in a community having a newspaper with such an enlightened public policy.

Medford Chapter Oregon UN Association Bruce Manley, Chairman

What To Do? To the Editor: On Thursday evening, December 9th, the Medford Mail Tribune carried an article entitled "Operating Costs of Medford Discussed by Chamber Group."

The Medford city manager explained the cause of our high taxes very clearly. He complained that because the voters had rejected last year's increase in the city budget that we would not get a needed police and fire switchboard.

In 1950 when the consultant for the fire department was brought here and persuaded us to vote the \$125,000 plus the 4 mill continuing levy that we

were to get an alarm system at a cost of \$40,000 (this system would have included the alarm switch board they want us to vote the money for again). We did not get this approved fire system, the switchboard, etc., and neither do we have the \$40,000.

The city manager stated very proudly that Medford has a class 5 rating. We had a class 5 rating when the consultant was brought in and made his recommendations, which if followed, were to give us a class 4, and possibly class 3 rating.

We voted \$25,000 to build the east side station. We are paying about \$75 per month rent for that station, and have only about \$20,000 left in our building fund.

Since 1950 we have voted (in addition to the funds used from our general tax levy) about \$600,000 for our fire department, without improving our rating at all, though our chief's wages have been increased about \$175 (One Hundred, Seventy-five Dollars) per month.

Yes, when we look at one department in the city, it is very easy to account for your continually raising taxes.

What are you going to do about it? Cleo Canoose, 55 Ross Court Medford, Ore.

Blizzard Isolates Towns in Dakotas

A killer blizzard isolated towns in the Dakotas and was blamed for at least three deaths in the United States and Canada today.

The blizzard still threw most of its punch at two Canadian provinces. But zero temperatures and wind-driven snow created near-blizzard conditions from the Dakotas through Minnesota to Northern Wisconsin.

Cold Front Expected An accompanying massive cold front was expected to grip the nation in a new cold wave from the Rockies to the Appalachians. It had already knifed as far south as Southern Texas and as far east as the Ohio River valley.

Bus travel in and out of the cities of Minot, Kildare, and Hettinger in North Dakota and Watertown in South Dakota was all but halted. Motorists were

warned to keep off the highways in five South Dakota counties and Minnesota authorities feared all the state's roads would be iced over today.

Across the north temperatures dropped to below zero from Montana to Wisconsin, hitting 15 below at Butte, Mont., 7 below at Dickinson, N.D., and 3 below at Eau Claire and Grantsburg in Wisconsin.

Temperatures Skid The icy winds also invaded the Western Midwest, dropping temperatures as much as 20 degrees and sending the mercury to 9 above at Chicago early today.

Snow flurries were expected to whirl out of the Midwest into the Mid and North Atlantic States today and had already reached a one-inch depth in Ohio.

Elsewhere, chilly fog shrouded the Los Angeles area and temperature stayed balmy along the Gulf of Mexico coast.

Cutter Laboratory Sued for \$300,000

Oakland, Calif.—(U.P.)—The parents of a 4½-year-old Idaho girl sued Cutter Laboratories for \$300,000 yesterday, charging the child suffered paralysis after being vaccinated with Salk polio vaccine.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brandon, Page, Idaho, filed the suit in Superior Court through attorneys Melvin Belli and Caroline D. Rose.

The suit alleged that Mrs. Brandon, a public health nurse in Shoshone county, Idaho, administered the vaccine to her daughter, Susan, and several

other youngsters last April 21. On April 27, the suit charged, Susan became ill, "suffering pain, paralysis of the left arm and the right and left shoulders."

The parents accused the Berkeley, Calif., laboratory of being negligent in manufacturing and packaging the Salk serum. They are seeking damages and an undetermined amount of money to pay for hospital and medical care.

Former Dalles Clerk Gets Two-Year Term

The Dalles—(U.P.)—A. C. Grindle, 39, former The Dalles city clerk, was sentenced to two years in the state penitentiary yesterday for embezzlement of \$2,678 in city funds.

Sentence was pronounced by Circuit Judge Malcolm Wilkinson following a mitigation plea by court-appointed defense counsel William Dick. Dick pointed out that Grindle had made full restitution of the money and 10 witnesses testified that he would be a good probation risk. Four city councilmen were among the witnesses.

Farm Workers Reminded Of Social Security Tax

Farm workers who received \$100 or more cash wages during 1955 are reminded that social security tax returns must be filed on or before Jan. 31, 1956.

The taxes, which are figured on a basis of two per cent employer tax and two per cent employee tax, apply only to cash wages paid to farm employees covered by social security.

R. C. Granquist, district director of internal revenue, said any employer of covered farm workers who has not registered with the district director should do so as soon as possible.

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Editorial Comment

CRIME AT CHRISTMAS

A resident of the Spencer Butte area drops in to complain about the number of people who are chopping Christmas trees on private property in that area. Most farmers in that area, she points out, try to manage their woodlots on a tree farm basis, and matters aren't helped by indiscriminate ax work on the part of city folks.

Often, she says, the people in that area are willing to permit a family to harvest a Christmas tree from their property. But she wishes they'd have the courtesy to ask. It's both good courtesy and good forestry to consult the owner about which trees may be cut.

Furthermore, the theft of a Christmas tree from somebody's woodlot is just that—a theft. And petty thievery is a poor business at the start of the Christmas season.—Eugene Register-Guard.

SUGGESTED BIBLE READING VERSES

The Medford Council of Church Women each year between Thanksgiving and Christmas sponsors a program of daily Bible reading, recommending a different verse of the Bible for each day during that period, in cooperation with the American Bible association, the Medford Ministerial association and the National Council of Church Women.

Following are the passages recommended for today: John 3: 1-17.