

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily Except Saturday and Sunday... MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE... 27-29 North First St. Phone 2-6141

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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 Dec. 16, 1945 (It was Sunday) Dale Hatch, star athlete at Rogue River High school who recently returned from service, assumes coaching duties at Rogue River.

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 16, 1935 (It was Monday) Eagle Point Chamber of Commerce notified that \$9,000 loan and \$1,360 grant for water system available from WPA funds.

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 16, 1925 (It was Wednesday) Prosecution and defense rest cases in court martial of Col. William Mitchell; case grew out of criticism of war and navy departments.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 16, 1915 (It was Thursday) Marriage license issued for President Wilson and Mrs. Edith Bolling Galt.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 77 Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Republican national chairman Hall says President Eisenhower should announce no later than Jan. 15 if he'll run again; right or wrong?

Spirit of Christmas

There were three headlines in last Tuesday's paper which were related, and, if space and timing in the daily production of the paper had permitted, could well have been run together.

The one on Page 1 said: "Local Retail Merchants Indicate Christmas Buying May Exceed Last Year's Record-Breaking Volume." On Page 14, a headline said: "Retail Sales in Western States Running Higher Than Last Year." On Page 7 of Section 2, the third one said: "Christmas Buying Spree Almost Certain To Be Biggest One Ever."

THIS is fine for the merchants who are selling the goods. It is fine for the people with whom the merchants do business. And it's fine for the people who are going to receive the gifts which are being purchased.

As a matter of fact, we see no objection whatsoever to a big Christmas season, with the possible exception of the fact that consumer credit is building up at a rate which is a bit alarming to some economists.

We are personally allergic to shopping, leaving, by necessity and design, the bulk of it to the family secretary of health, education and welfare, who is better equipped by disposition and background to cope with it. But we must confess we like the results, brightly wrapped and piled decoratively under the tree.

AND we have no particular quarrel with what has been called "the commercialization of Christmas," for it is the natural response of stores and manufacturers to the demands of their patrons for a gay and festive assortment of gifts for the holiday season. And the stimulation of this demand, through advertising, through music and through appropriate promotion, is only "good business."

There are limits, though. It can be, and frequently is, overdone, with some few merchants attempting to capitalize on the spirit of the season, to persuade shoppers to buy more than they can really afford, to go into debt, if necessary, to buy, buy, buy.

IT WOULDN'T do any of us any harm to slow down for a few moments and remember that Christmas is a lot more than the buying and exchanging of gifts, although that is important to a lot of people, particularly the youngsters.

The "Christmas spirit," which one merchant complained is lacking this year, is, or should be, compounded of a thousand and one things—and among them, reverence, love, family, church, good will, generosity, happiness.—E.A.

Food Changes

A recent news item reveals that the average American eats about the same quantity of food as was consumed 50 years ago, but that the kind of food eaten has changed considerably.

The consumption per person of potatoes, flour, cornmeal and other starchy foods has declined by about half, while the use of eggs, meats, poultry, fish, fresh fruits and vegetables, and dairy products has gone up.

SOME of this change no doubt stems from changing tastes. But a lot of it, we suspect, is the result of discoveries about what the body needs in the way of nutritive values. Nutrition is as yet an inexact science, but the importance of vitamins as vital components in our food intake has been established.

Research on nutrition is continuing, and it is reasonable to expect that further changes in eating habits will result from other new discoveries.

The packaging and processing of foods—by freezing, canning and so on—is another phase in the revolution in foods, making them more attractive and also resulting in making life easier, and somewhat more expensive, for the housewife. What effect it has had on the nutritive value of food is something we occasionally wonder about, though.—E.A.

No Political "Insulation"

There's been an interesting exchange in recent weeks from the campuses of the University of Oregon in Eugene and Oregon State college in Corvallis.

The debate (if such it can be called) has been over political speeches on the campuses, and it arose when Gov. Averell Harriman spoke at the university, making an obviously "non-political" talk. This aroused suspicion in some minds that he had been cautioned in advance to avoid political subjects.

DR. A. L. STRAND, president of the college, made some pointed remarks about how students at the college would not be insulated from political remarks. A reply by Dr. O. Meredith Wilson, president of the university, declared no university official had cautioned Governor Harriman to avoid politics, and no university spokesman could be found to contradict the president.

This, of course, is all to the good. For college and university students are ostensibly there for an education. And in America today, an education should by all means include a familiarity with all types of politics and politicians.—E.A.

Warm Springs Youngster Dies as Car Leaves Road

Redmond—(U.P.)—A two-year-old Warm Springs Indian reservation child was killed and another person critically injured when their car skidded off the icy highway north of here yesterday.

William Anderson, 2, was dead on arrival at Central Oregon District hospital here. Critically hurt was Pete Brown, 25.

Admission of New UN Members Said Top 'Good News' of Week

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent The week's good and bad news on the international balance sheet:

1. Sixteen nations were admitted to membership in the United Nations. The new members include two important European powers, Italy and Spain. Seventy-six countries are now members of the world organization.

2. Dr. Otto John, former chief of the West German intelligence service, fled back from East Germany. John had gone behind the Iron Curtain on July 20, 1954. He had been kept under close watch by the Communist secret service, but he managed to escape by a ruse. His return was a severe blow to the Reds. It was reported also that two important East German officials had escaped to the West—a department chief in the Trade Ministry and an alternate member of the lower house of Parliament.

3. Hugh Gaitskell, a staunchly pro-American right-winger, was elected leader of the British Labor party. Gaitskell received 157 votes of the Labor members of the House of Commons against 76 for leftwinger Aneurin Bevan, who is violently critical of American policy.

4. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles warned fellow delegates to a meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Paris that Russia has opened a dangerous new "cold war front" aimed at penetrating the Middle East and Asia.

5. United Nations admission of new members was clouded by the Soviet Russian vetoing of Japan's application for membership. Russia apparently was trying to force concessions from Japan in the negotiations for a Japanese-Russian peace treaty. The veto threatened to cause a cabinet crisis in Tokyo.

6. Israel forces killed at least 41 soldiers and civilians in a night attack on Syrian army posts overlooking the Biblical sea of Galilee. Israel said its action was taken in retaliation for Syrian attacks on its fishermen.

7. Syria asked for U.N. action against Israel. Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt announced he would inform the United Nations that any further Israeli aggression would be met by an attack on two fronts by Egypt and Syria.

8. United Nations admission of new members was clouded by the Soviet Russian vetoing of Japan's application for membership. Russia apparently was trying to force concessions from Japan in the negotiations for a Japanese-Russian peace treaty. The veto threatened to cause a cabinet crisis in Tokyo.

9. Socialist members of Parliament planned a motion of no confidence against Foreign minister Mamoru Shigemitsu. Nationalist China also feared that its veto against Communist puppet Outer Mongolia might cause a move to deprive it of its seat in the General Assembly.

10. A study covering 481 U.S. cities with populations of 25,000 or more shows that local taxes accounted for about one-half of total municipal revenues from all sources, including federal and state grants for education, road building, and other purposes. The rapid rate at which these taxes have been increasing in recent years points up the fact that municipal debts are also growing larger.

11. In fact, city debts increased 7 per cent during 1954 to a record level of \$12,200,000,000 for cities of over 25,000 population. As a result, the average debt per capita in these cities is \$196. In New York City the per-capita debt was over \$600 per person, and is still rising. I predict a further boost in city and town taxes and debts in 1956.

12. Obviously, city debts are rising faster than city tax rates, even though the latter are becoming more and more burdensome, especially to owners of real estate. Why should city debt be rising so fast at this point in our history when general business is at record high levels? Of course, costs of city services are up all along the line, but that is only part of the story. Raw material and labor costs also adversely affect manufacturers of many products, but the prices of those products have not soared as much as city taxes.

13. In some cases, the city tax load has been permitted to be poor municipal management or downright mismanagement. There are many localities where money goes down the drain because accounting, purchasing, and other procedures need tightening, but even these loose policies do not fully explain our plight.

14. Of course, our cities and towns are overspending. Municipal, county, and state governments all over the country are living well beyond their means. In many cases, they are forced to do so because of heavy popular demand for luxuries in the form of ornate school buildings, careless road planning with little thought of future needs, expensive recreational services and equipment.

15. When I was a boy, cities were expected to provide fire and police protection, water and sewage facilities, also good schools. Now the people are demanding many additional services, often of no real value, and all of them very costly. I believe in parking lots for their cars; but not buildings, miscalled "schools," for mothers to park their children. It is ironical that cities along the seacoast in New England have built municipal swimming pools for children and adults! We provide buses to take the children to school and then build gymnasiums to exercise them when they arrive. I walked four miles each day for 10

16. What is important in knowing such birds exist is that today, in this faster-than-sound age, Mexico, even Australia, is next door. The boy of 8 to 14 who masters his California birds is prepared to enjoy chapitroen or "Pretty Joey" in even a fortnight's vacation.

17. More than one of every five patents issued by the U. S. Patent Office in 1954 were for automotive improvements.

C. M. Goethe Seventh and J Sts. Sacramento, Calif.

Matter of Fact By Joe and Stewart Alsop

BITTERNESS IN THE PENTAGON

Washington—What might well become an open revolt against the Administration's defense and budgetary policies is boiling up beneath the surface at the Pentagon.

On the surface, all is calm. But this calm conceals great bitterness against what seems to many military men a policy of putting a balanced budget in an election year ahead of the requirements of national security.

The bitterness is felt especially in the Air Force. There has been no public outcry from Air Force leaders about the budget recently approved for the next fiscal year. General Nathan Twining, able Air Force Chief of Staff, has avoided discussing the subject with the press, and so have his subordinates. But Twining's real feelings have become known nevertheless.

Twining attended the National Security Council meeting at Camp David some days ago, at which President Eisenhower approved the decision to hold the defense budget down to around \$34 billion.

Twining strongly protested the decision, as far as it concerned the Air Force, but to no avail. Shortly thereafter, he met with a number of important businessmen at a club near Pittsburgh, and he spoke his mind very frankly. Although it may be denied for obvious reasons, what the Air Force Chief of Staff is reliably reported about as follows:

HE REMARKED flatly that he was getting to the point where he could not "stand all the double talk much longer." He said that 140 to 150 air wings were absolutely required for the

defense of the United States. But, he said, the Air Force was not getting enough funds to maintain much more than 50 wings of truly modern aircraft in top operational shape.

Twining went on to say that the trouble was that strong and persuasive men like Treasury Secretary George Humphrey always got to the President first, with the arguments for maximum economy. Thereafter it was almost impossible to reach the President with the arguments for the other side.

The Air Force Chief of Staff said that he was deeply worried not only about the Air Force, but about the other services as well. With the Russians producing 100 submarines a year, he said, the Navy was being held way down, and so was the Army. Finally, Twining remarked in effect that he would not take his case to the public on his own initiative, but that, if asked his views before a Congressional committee, he would love to speak his mind.

IT IS virtually inevitable that Twining will be asked his views by a Congressional committee. When that happens something of an explosion, with political implications, seems bound to occur.

It is widely believed in the Air Force that a "stretch-out" of already available funds has been ordered on new spending, in order to make possible a politically desirable balanced budget. According to the Air Force men, the stretch-out delays procurement, and operations, maintenance, the modernization program and research and development are all suffering disastrously.

The bitterness of the military is by no means confined to the Air Force, however. For example, there is much resentment in the Army at the official claim that the ground forces are being maintained at 19 divisions, which sounds like a respectable force.

Actually, two divisions are "static," which means that they are composed of odds and ends of units from Alaska to the Panama Canal. They could not conceivably take the field as organized combat divisions in case of war. Nor could the five training divisions. That leaves 12 divisions capable of actually fighting.

MOST of these 12 are already committed to Europe or Asia, and many of the remainder are under strength, leaving a frighteningly weak ready reserve. The new nuclear weapons, moreover, have transformed ground warfare far more completely than generally realized. But the task of equipping and training our ground forces for nuclear war is going forward only on a token basis, for lack of funds. By contrast, the Russians have approximately 200 ready divisions which are rapidly being trained and equipped for atomic combat.

On the other side, it can and no doubt will be said that the military always over-estimate their requirements, and that President Eisenhower knows something of military matters. But it will be a lot healthier when the concealed bitterness in the Pentagon is aired openly, and the Administration defense policies publicly debated. Indeed, the sooner the better, in view of the frightening way in which the world situation is deteriorating.

Copyright 1955, New York Herald Tribune Inc. All motor vehicles on the North American continent will carry license plates measuring 6 by 12 inches by 1957.

Financial Independence

does not just happen. It is built over a period of time bit by bit. Your savings or investment account is the place for your fund of the future.

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASS'N of Medford 27 North Holly An Institution Dedicated To Those Who Save

Babson on City Taxes

By ROGER W. BABSON Washington, D.C.—I am much concerned by the continued upward trend in municipal and town taxes.

The "tax bite" of cities in the United States will amount to over \$65 per person, compared with \$61 in 1953 and \$46 in 1952. I am especially disappointed with the very little attention which the Conference on Education, recently held here, gave to this important subject.

A study covering 481 U.S. cities with populations of 25,000 or more shows that local taxes accounted for about one-half of total municipal revenues from all sources, including federal and state grants for education, road building, and other purposes. The rapid rate at which these taxes have been increasing in recent years points up the fact that municipal debts are also growing larger.

In fact, city debts increased 7 per cent during 1954 to a record level of \$12,200,000,000 for cities of over 25,000 population. As a result, the average debt per capita in these cities is \$196. In New York City the per-capita debt was over \$600 per person, and is still rising. I predict a further boost in city and town taxes and debts in 1956.

Obviously, city debts are rising faster than city tax rates, even though the latter are becoming more and more burdensome, especially to owners of real estate. Why should city debt be rising so fast at this point in our history when general business is at record high levels? Of course, costs of city services are up all along the line, but that is only part of the story. Raw material and labor costs also adversely affect manufacturers of many products, but the prices of those products have not soared as much as city taxes.

In some cases, the city tax load has been permitted to be poor municipal management or downright mismanagement. There are many localities where money goes down the drain because accounting, purchasing, and other procedures need tightening, but even these loose policies do not fully explain our plight.

Of course, our cities and towns are overspending. Municipal, county, and state governments all over the country are living well beyond their means. In many cases, they are forced to do so because of heavy popular demand for luxuries in the form of ornate school buildings, careless road planning with little thought of future needs, expensive recreational services and equipment.

When I was a boy, cities were expected to provide fire and police protection, water and sewage facilities, also good schools. Now the people are demanding many additional services, often of no real value, and all of them very costly. I believe in parking lots for their cars; but not buildings, miscalled "schools," for mothers to park their children. It is ironical that cities along the seacoast in New England have built municipal swimming pools for children and adults! We provide buses to take the children to school and then build gymnasiums to exercise them when they arrive. I walked four miles each day for 10

What is important in knowing such birds exist is that today, in this faster-than-sound age, Mexico, even Australia, is next door. The boy of 8 to 14 who masters his California birds is prepared to enjoy chapitroen or "Pretty Joey" in even a fortnight's vacation.

More than one of every five patents issued by the U. S. Patent Office in 1954 were for automotive improvements.

C. M. Goethe Seventh and J Sts. Sacramento, Calif.

Ike's Heart Attack Biggest News Story During Past Year

New York—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower's heart attack headed the list of the 10 biggest news stories of 1955 chosen today by editors of the United Press.

The other stories on the 10 biggest list were: 2. Announcement of the Salk vaccine for polio.

3. Princess Margaret renounces Captain Townsend.

4. Hurricanes Connie and Diane and the New England floods.

5. The fall of President Peron of Argentina.

6. Summit and foreign ministers' conferences in Geneva.

7. Resignation of Malenkov and rise of Bulganin and Khrushchev.

8. Merger of AFL and CIO and modified annual wage in auto industry.

9. Sabotage of United Airlines plane in Colorado.

10. Dodgers win their first World Series.

Other big stories of 1955 included: resignation of Winston Churchill; the accidental shooting of William Woodward Jr.; U. S. to launch earth satellites; Formosa crisis; murder of Serge Rubinstein; emergence of West Germany as a sovereign nation;

Wolf Sentenced To Life in Prison

Portland—(U.P.)—Victor Lawrence Wolf, 45, yesterday was sentenced to a life term in the state penitentiary for the car-bomb slaying of Kermit Smith.

The sentencing, by Circuit Judge James W. Crawford, was a formality, since the second-degree murder verdict returned against Wolf by a jury last Tuesday carried a mandatory life sentence.

Wolf confessed the April 21 slaying on the day following. He later pleaded guilty under a little-used Oregon law that permitted a court hearing to fix the degree of guilt and the sentence.

Wolf asked permission to remain at the county jail here over the week end, so that he might visit with members of his family before entering the state prison at Salem.

He will be eligible for parole after seven years under Oregon law.

Accident Injuries Fatal To Baker Man Baker—(U.P.)—Ted Knowles, 48, died in a hospital here yesterday of injuries received in an automobile accident Sunday.

Knowles was driving in a snow storm on Dooley mountain when his automobile went off the road and tumbled about 100 yards down a cliff.

SUGGESTED BIBLE READING VERSES

The Medford Council of Church Women each year before 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 14: 15-31.

PICTURE TUBES REJUVENATED

Is your picture tube dull and weak? Most picture tubes can be restored to original brightness at only a fraction of the cost of replacement. For further information CALL

Electronic Service 18 N. GRAPE PH. 3-1971



Table with 4 columns: PORK LIVER 19¢ lb., BEEF ROAST 33¢ lb., BEEF STEAK 39¢ lb., JOWL BACON 19¢ lb. Address: 231 EAST SIXTH ST.