

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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 Jan. 18, 1946 (It was Friday) Medford debaters June Bosworth, Jerry Igo, David Bourquin, Janet Horsley and Bill Moffat tie with Salem team in debate here.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: The fog was so thick last night, one could not see one's hand to arm's length, or find a lawyer to file a writ or habeas corpus to get out of it.

20 YEARS AGO Jan. 18, 1936 (It was Saturday) Jackson County Chamber of Commerce approves active support of housing campaign being conducted here by federal authorities.

30 YEARS AGO Jan. 18, 1926 (It was Monday) Bernard Joy of Ashland High school wins first place in essay contest on marketing at Portland.

40 YEARS AGO Jan. 18, 1916 (It was Tuesday) C. E. Gates, Bert Anderson, George Putnam, S. S. Smith, W. F. Isaacs, J. A. Perry, H. L. Walther, J. D. Bell, C. M. Thomas, Guy Conner, John Mann, H. A. Latta, J. T. Sullivan, Bert Theiford and A. L. Hill elected directors of Medford Commercial club.

Judge W. H. Cannon of Medford says he is not a candidate to go to national convention as reports have indicated.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report... 1. Has any Republican president of this century who chose not to run again picked his successor? 2. It is considerably further by air to Miami from Boston or from Kansas City or about the same distance? 3. The average passenger car now on the roads has gone about (a) 30,000, (b) 50,000, (c) 70,000 or (d) 90,000 miles? 4. Estes Kefauver is younger or older than Adlai E. Stevenson, or the same age? 5. The proposed great Aswan dam would be in Colorado, Egypt, India, Russia, Washington state, or between Israel and Jordan? 6. International Business Machines (I.B.M.) is being sued for \$90,000,000 antitrust damages by Pitney-Bowes, Sperry-Rand, Burroughs, L. C. Smith-Corona, or Dixon-Yates? 7. 'Slalom' is a word used in ice hockey, basketball, skiing, horse racing or polo? The answers: 1.—Yes, T. Roosevelt in 1908 picked W. H. Taft. 2.—About the same distance. 3.—About 50,000. 4.—Three years younger. 5.—Egypt. 6.—Sperry-Rand. 7.—Skiing.

They Did It

Well, good! The voters of the southeast Medford area sensibly decided to join their section with Medford. This removes the major barrier to the development of this important and fast-growing section of the county. It is our conviction that those who voted for the annexation won't be sorry—nor, eventually, will those who voted against it.

WE DON'T quite understand the 6 to 4 vote in the small "island" which prevents that area from having city services—though entirely surrounded by the city. But it doesn't worry us particularly, for the residents there will undoubtedly find, in the long run, that their decision was unwise, and will come in to the city eventually, either piecemeal or all at once. Meanwhile, this tiny section of the city in the midst of a growing city has a rather ridiculous appearance. —E.A.

Flood Survey

A couple of weeks ago we suggested that the residents of the Rogue valley "stand up and yell" for a concrete study of what is needed to prevent floods. Apparently a great many people agree, for this is exactly what is happening. The county courts and chambers of commerce of Jackson and Josephine counties are calling for such a survey, as are many private groups and organizations.

THE most significant change in policy we have seen is that of the Izaak Walton League, which more than any one other group contributed to the defeat of a high dam proposal in 1948. This group now indicates that it still has reservations about a high dam, but that if it is found to be the only efficient solution, or partial solution, to flood control, it will go along too. The Waltonians also acknowledge some recent studies indicate that dams contribute significantly to better fish life conditions, and certainly are not as destructive as are rampaging floods.

With such cooperation, such determination and such evidence of united and enlightened thinking, we should really get somewhere.—E.A.

Miss K and Prince R

The Mail Tribune is one of the few newspapers—possibly the ONLY one—which so far has not commented editorially on the romance between Miss Grace Kelly of Philadelphia and Hollywood and HRH Rainier, prince of Monaco.

The horrible truth is that we've had no particular thoughts on the subject we thought worthy of publication. But as we read other newspapers' comments we get more and more irritated.

SOME papers put on a crocodile-tear act, deploring the loss to young American manhood of one of the leading beauties of the age. Others affect boredom, declaring at great length that the matter is of no concern to them.

Still others are all atwitter over the affair, obviously feeling it is one of the Great Romances of the century.

OUR view, for what it's worth, is a sort of left-handed combination of these opinions. We like the looks of Miss Kelly, we like the looks of the rich young prince; we have hopes that both of them will be as happy as any two people can be under the circumstances; we find the whole affair sufficiently off the beaten track to be mildly interesting, but not sufficiently so to leave us seriously agog. That, in short, is our view, and all of it, about Miss K and Prince R.—E.A.

We Try to Print the News

If all Printers were determined not to print any thing till they were sure it would offend no body, there would be very little printed. Benj. Franklin

This quotation appears on the front cover of one of the nation's biggest magazines this week, as part of a tribute to the great and many-faceted man who was born just 250 years ago yesterday.

We find Franklin's words particularly applicable at the moment—applicable and true.

ALMOST every day, someone calls this newspaper, asking that such-and-such an item be withheld from publication. And it is a not infrequent occurrence to have someone call to "bawl out" the paper for printing something that does not fit the caller's idea of good taste.

Our answers to these requests and chastisements—and we try to make them consistent and honest—center around the fact that news is news, and that newspapers are in the business of printing news, good, bad and indifferent.

For instance, we think that some of the carryings-on of certain of the movie colony are in the worst possible taste. But they interest people and are news and are printed.

SOME papers quote the old saying to the effect that whatever the Good Lord allows to happen will be printed.

We can't go quite that strong, for no newspaper, no matter how well staffed, could possibly cover ALL the news, or even have space to print it.

But, everything else being equal, we endeavor to cover, and print, just as much of it as we possibly can, without regard to friendships or pressures—and with even less regard to letters which the writer lacks the courage or decency, or both, to sign.—E.A.

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 a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Going to India

To the Editor: Just a note to let you know that we are leaving this week end for India and then the Far East. We are taking this tour with two objectives in mind: first, to present Christianity; and secondly, to try and build some good will for the United States. Khrushchev and Bulganin have made a tremendous bid to the masses of India. This is a strategic subcontinent. One out of every six people in the world is an Indian. We cannot ignore the strategic importance of these people! Many people do not realize that the earliest Christian churches in the world are found in India. They were founded by Saint Thomas in the early part of the first century. All the churches of various denominations are cooperating in these meetings, and it is estimated that from 50,000 to 100,000 people a day will come to our meetings. We are hoping that the people of India will realize that in the United States have something of moral and spiritual value to offer as well as economic aid and engineering know-how.

In addition to the cities we visit in India, we will be holding great public meetings in Hong Kong, Manila, Taipei, and various cities in Japan and Korea. It is going to be interesting to see how these vast masses of humanity will respond to the same message that has been successfully presented in Europe and America. It seems to me that we in America have failed in the psychological warfare. I feel that a spiritual presentation is at least one contribution that can be made toward making friends with the masses of people. In the past we have been able to reach the leaders and some of the intellectuals, but we have failed to reach the masses. Bulganin and Khrushchev were smart enough to go over the heads of the leaders and appeal directly to the people. In my opinion, we need to do the same thing.

I believe the people in the area covered by your paper will be vitally interested and I hope you will carry such reports as the wire services will send. Thank you for your sympathetic coverage of our work in the past. Cordially yours, Billy Graham

On Eating

To the Editor: Down Mexico way, there's a bottom-fish they regard as fine eating; a similar fish they consider no good, high poisonous. Across the gulf on our own side, the natives take opposite view, the good fish is regarded as bad, the bad one good. But no indulgent smiles should be wasted on such peoples. Right here in our own bailiwick we have queer inhibitions.

Recently at Shady Cove, where some friends have a treasure house of objects de art and a wide range of interesting items the mister gathers in his far west wanderings, we were given a jar of jam we were to try out on our baby-grand palates. We have no such tasters, but that purple-red jam was of baby grand quality, no foolin'. And, hard to believe, it was made of plain old Oregon grape, considered by many people, including native Oregonians, as detrimental to health and long life.

So, inquiry was made and we found many people, natives as well as newcomers, who had made and used Oregon grape jam for years. Others in the same categories took a dim view of it, like the night-shade for instance, that is considered poisonous though belonging to the tomato family.

Long ago back in Michigan, my sister Jessie came legging to the house yelling, "Ma, Oh Ma, Ferd is eating them love-apples!" Directly Ma and all the family was staring at me, at my tomato-juiced jaws, looking for me to keep over. But I didn't, though Pa kept a fast horse hitched to the two-wheeler ready to rush me somewhere, for doctors were miles distant. No honor to me for starting the use of tomato, for it had already started in other places, but not in our back-of-beyond neighborhood. Seeing the hens eating the luscious looking tomato must have induced my 2-year-old inquisitive self to try it.

My inhibition allergy led me to much trouble. One day when I was about 7 or 8 years old, sister Jess called, "Come, 'Pa, dinner's ready." She had prepared a tasty looking meal from road-dust cookies and such. I knelt down, picked up a dried mud cookie and calmly ate it. Jessie's big black eyes widened, then with long legs flying she yelled, "Ma, Oh Ma, Ferd's eating mud cookies!" The ear-biting and scolding I got didn't seem fair. I'd watched horses, pigs, cows and chickens eat earthy stuff and they seemed healthy. Why not me? F. J. Clifford, 1211 West Main St., Medford, Ore.

Hope Is Eternal

To the Editor: It was so nice of our Junior Senator, over both radio and press, to explain who was to blame in these terrible flood disaster damages. Of course what would apply to Bear Creek would apply everywhere. It was all caused by the shameful neglect of the President in not furnishing funds to build dams high enough to stop the overflow of Bear creek. What would work at Bear creek would work anywhere. It is quite a relief to know who was to blame, and that it is the same fellow that is causing no end of trouble, buying extravagant hats, favoring the rich man's club, giving away policy (anyone should know that when a dam gives way there is bound to be a flood), stealing school funds from future generations, favoring big business, vested interests, Wall Street, individual enterprise, 55 per cent to banks on road bonds, profits in industry, and prosperity, and now this flood damage.

It used to take three wise men to bring good tidings of great joy. Now with improved press and radio two can do it. They claim to have been called to warn and educate the people that this one man, and the Republican party, is to blame for everything bad, and that they are the only hope of salvation. The ex-president and governor of New York and Adlai (moderately) endorses them. The only remedy is to crucify this man that is ruining our nation. Hope looks bright as these two wise men, called to warn the people, are experts in their lines, press and radio; one a gifted fiction producer, the other a college debate teacher and orator, to make any voter believe black is white, and their defending editor declaring demagogic and hypocritical do not apply. Hope is eternal, and truth crushed to earth will rise again. Ira C. Jones, 2325 Stewart Ave., Medford, Ore.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS PRESIDENT EISENHOWER present to the congress a message proposing a balanced budget in the fiscal year of 1956 1957. Perhaps it would be well to pause here and explain the term "fiscal year." A fiscal year is a MONEY year—that is to say, a bookkeeping year. The U.S. government's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends the following June 30. The fiscal year that will end the 30th of the coming June is known in accounting parlance as "fiscal 1956."

IN BRIEF, Ike proposes no tax reduction AND HIGHER SPENDING. That is made possible by the prosperous state of our economy, which is bringing in a lot of tax money.

In addition, he proposes to REDUCE THE DEBT by some 74 million dollars by the end of the present fiscal year, which will end on June 30, 1957, he proposes a debt reduction of 500 million dollars. At that rate, in some 600 YEARS we could be even with the world.

PRETTY slow, you say? Well, it's better than going in the hole every year. If we go in the hole every year for 600 years, where will we be? History tells us in no uncertain terms we'll be bankrupt long before that time.

WHY the added spending? The bulk of it is for defense. We must think of defense spending in this modern cold war world something like this: If you lived in a dark forest peopled by bloodthirsty savages and hungry wild beasts, you'd feel that you HAD to have good guns and plenty of ammunition even if you had to go short on other things.

We're surrounded by communists—which are far more dangerous than savages or wild beasts. I'm hopelessly old-fashioned, of course—so much so that I think we could cut a couple of billions or so in the way of frills and extravagances out of our proposed total of expenditures and hardly miss it. I rather imagine Ike feels the

Organization of East German Army Apparently Coming Soon

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The East German Communists apparently have decided at last to set up their long-threatened "people's army."



Charles M. McCann, United Press correspondent, is seen here in Berlin.

Advices from Berlin indicate that formal announcement of the decision may come at any time. It will be Soviet Russia's answer to the arming of West Germany on the side of the United States and its allies.

The Red German army would take its place in the fighting forces of Russia and its East European satellites. These have been coordinated, under Soviet Marshal Ivan Koniev, in retort to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization of which West Germany is now a member.

The basis for the German Communist army already has been laid in the so-called East German "Barracks People's Police."

The new prospective German Communist army must be regarded as a new Russian threat to the Allies.

But it is certain to be an unreliable force, and some day it may prove more of a danger to Russia itself than to the West. Paper Army

On paper, the "People's Police" are a crack force, with armored divisions, motorized infantry divisions, an air force and a navy.

But to recruit it, the East Germans are forced to coerce youths under threats to "volunteer" for it.

Last year alone, 4,286 men of the police force fled to West Germany. East German Premier Otto Grotewohl disclosed in an unusually frank statement last Nov. 27 that it might be necessary to enact a draft law to recruit an army because of the difficulty in getting "volunteers" for the police.

It certainly seems likely that, when the plan to organize the

army is announced, there is going to be a big flight of East German youths across the border of West Germany.

But the Communists apparently have made up their minds not to delay the organization of the "People's Army" any longer.

Some Hints East German newspapers started Monday to publish resolutions passed by various Communist-sponsored organizations—factory workers, farm workers, Communist youths—demanding that an army be formed.

That was taken to mean that the announcement is coming soon in the East German Parliament, which incidentally is meeting today.

The Reds have taken a long time to take the big step. As far back as December 8, 1954, the East German Parliament voted to convert the militarized police into an army if West Germany armed.

On Sept. 26 last, the Parliament amended the East German constitution to provide for national armed forces.

Why the delay? It can be only because the Russians know the army plan is a dangerous one to them. In East Germany, recruits practically have to be

dragged to barracks. But West Germany could raise its entire 500,000-man fighting force by voluntary enlistment.

State Electric Permits Top Mark

Salem—(U.P.)—Electric installations made under state permit in 1955 reached a new high of 29,929, according to W. R. Volheye, chief electrical inspector of the State Bureau of Labor.

Permits are required for electrical wiring of new buildings and for home alterations demanding any change in power service and are contingent upon installations being made in accordance with Oregon's electrical code. Twenty-one cities and towns with electrical inspection systems that meet state standards are not included in the yearly total.

Home owners made 34 per cent of the installations but the do-it-yourself trend in electric work continued the slow decline which began in 1953, Volheye said. Permits issued to electrical contractors showed a seven per cent increase over the previous year.

Editorial Comment

FLUORIDATION

The Oregon Supreme Court has rendered its decision in the Bend case in which city action to treat municipal water with fluorides was challenged by a citizen as an invasion of his liberty and a trespass on freedom of religion. The high court upheld the Deschutes circuit court ruling that the Bend city government acted within its legal authority in ordering fluoridation of the water.

The significance of the decision lies not alone in its settling of the constitutional question of city authority, but also in the judicial findings which justify the court's decision. The court, with Mr. Justice Luck writing the opinion, took judicial notice of the reports of scientists on results of fluoridation. They found that fluoridation affects a reduction in tooth decay of some 60 to 65 per cent among children up to ages 12 to 14, and further that consumption of water so treated is not harmful. The court has accepted as valid these findings of the scientists.

This ought to, but probably will not, silence those critics who portray all sorts of dire calamities as resulting from fluoridation. The vast weight of scientific evidence which to this court proved convincing is that fluoridation helps prevent tooth decay among children without injury to organs of the body or its tissues.

On the point of infringement of religious freedom Justice Lusk wrote that the ordinance "bears only remotely if at all upon the religious practices of any individual or the authority of the parents to rear their children." He further pointed out that constitutional liberties are not absolute but may be subject to reasonable modification for the general welfare. An illustration might be given thus, that a person suffering from plague is not permitted to run at large in the name of religious freedom. Also, freedom of the press is subject to certain restrictions against libel, slander, circulation of obscene material.

The court decision will be welcomed by those who feel that this exercise of police power is warranted by the great benefits which accrue to children. It should help to clear away the obfuscation that has resulted from pseudo-scientific propaganda hostile to fluoridation such as was freely employed in Salem's municipal election two years ago.—Oregon Statesman, Salem.

Soviet Scientists Seek Polio Treatment Data

London—(U.P.)—Four Soviet scientists were enroute from Moscow to the United States today to study methods of treating poliomyelitis and of preparing the anti-polio vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk.

WHOSE GREAT BORING ROMANCE?

We aren't too happy with the Grace Kelly-Prince Rainier romance, but we wouldn't trade it for two or even three Princess Margaret-Peter Townsend fixations.

Rich-girl-gets-prince, while it doesn't compare to poor-girl-gets-prince newswise, is better any day of the year than princess-doesn't-get-commoner.

Nevertheless, London Columnists—without mentioning the recent British romance—are crying touching typewriter tears about our Grace.

Candidus, the Daily Sketch columnist, has this to say about the riches-to-riches match: "This is giving me an increasingly agonizing pain in the neck."

Cassandra, the Daily Mirror's pseudonymed pundit, proclaims that: "Of all the great boring romances of the 20th century, the K-R contest threatens to be the most formidable."

Now wait a minute, you two, who's bored whom? Whose neck is sore? Whose princess had a rumored romance for two years and then spent three long, spotlighted weeks making up her mind not to make up her mind? And whose princess-to-be let the rumors start only hours before she announced that she had said yes?

This is not a case of whose ox is being bored, but of whose princess is being ignored. —Albany Democrat-Herald.

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