

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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
Feb. 21, 1946
(it was Thursday)

Medford American Legion post commander, Richard Baize, announces purchase of Riverside USO building for Legion purposes.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Spring is having a harder time getting started than last summer had hoped. The Older Girls are irked by the delay, as they want to get started on a number of things they have been putting off.

20 YEARS AGO
Feb. 21, 1936
(it was Friday)

Eugene Thorndike reelected president of Medford Community Chest; Mrs. Leonard Carpenter reelected vice president, and Miss Ruth Meusel, secretary-treasurer.

Jack Murray elected president of the Jackson County Young Democratic club; Joe Winkler, Paul Luy and Marjorie Kelly, vice presidents.

30 YEARS AGO
Feb. 21, 1926
(it was Sunday)

Construction of Schuler apartments at Sixth and Oakdale ave. almost completed.

Snow at Crater Lake less than half the depth it was last year at this time.

40 YEARS AGO
Feb. 21, 1916
(it was Monday)

Baby contest scheduled to be held March 10 and 11 at Holland hotel.

The St. Albans Mining and Milling company incorporated by A. D. Hill, T. Henry Callaghan and M. A. Callaghan with capital stock listed as \$1,000,000.

What's the Answer?

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

- 1. Most auto accidents are due to the driver or some fault in his car, or is it about 50-50?
2. An alien, if in the U. S. legally, can or can't remain there long without applying for citizenship?
3. Most of the 10 largest cities of the nation vote Republican or Democratic, or is it about half and half?
4. A floor trader on the N.Y. Stock Exchange needs to or needn't be a partner in a member firm of the Exchange?
5. Most Southern state universities do or don't now admit Negroes?
6. Adlai E. Stevenson's former wife supported him or Eisenhower for President in 1952?
7. A euphoric usually feels happy, drinks too much, gets depressed, uses double-talk, or wants sympathy?
The Answers: 1. Most to the driver. 2. Can. 3. Most usually vote Democratic. 4. Needs to be. 5. Most do now. 6. Eisenhower. 7. Feels happy.

PICKED WRONG CAR

Elyria, O. —(U.P.)—Walter Lenear was charged with drunken driving and driving an automobile with faulty brakes after his car slipped back from a red light and into another auto. The car he backed into was a police car.

TV Missed It

Sunday night over the air what was termed an "American Forum" was held.

The chief subject was civil defense, participated in by four American Mayors, fresh from the national convention of Mayors.

The four consisted of the mayors of two of our largest cities—Philadelphia and Los Angeles; and two not so large—Denver, Colorado and Nashville, Tennessee.

More important, two of the Mayors were Republican, LA and Denver; two of them even more strongly Democratic—Philadelphia and Nashville.

UNDER THE circumstances, with a presidential election in the offing probably disagreement should have been expected, but judging by the remarks and behavior of the "moderator," what transpired was not.

If the four burgomasters agreed on civil defense or anything else on the agenda, it was not apparent to this auditor.

But when toward the close of the discussion the question of the presidential election came up, the bipartisan quartet really broke ranks and went berserk.

THE MAYOR of Los Angeles naturally dealt in superlatives, declaring Mr. Eisenhower would not only run, but he would win in a walk and thus save, not only American democracy from destruction, but the democratic WORLD.

The Denver Mayor seconded the motion but more modestly and in more subdued tones, as befitted the host to the Summer White House.

The chief executive of Philadelphia declared his town would give the greatest majority to the Democratic party in its history and he didn't care who the Republican candidate might be. The Nashville mayor not only seconded this motion (with a smooth Southern accent) but maintained the national election result would be a Democratic landslide, because while the "Big Boys" in the Upper Brackets liked "Ike," the rank and file of the American people DIDN'T. They are tired of getting the short end of everything, he believed, and will vote the GOP out and keep it out for a considerable period.

FINALLY, all the four mayors were not only shouting at the top of their lungs but were doing so in unison, the noise and confusion being so great, the poor Moderator couldn't make himself heard.

ALL OF WHICH is of no world-shattering importance of course, but does indicate what the heat and tempo of the forthcoming presidential campaign promises to be; and how TV sometimes "nods"—for if it had put on these four Mayors, their second TV appearance would draw a bigger audience than a Marciano-Moore TV rematch! — and for the same reason—everyone likes to SEE a good fight.—R.W.R.

We Second the Motion

Although a bitter foe of the Al Serena investigation, the Roseburg Review ends its diatribe as follows, quote:

The committee in the Al Serena case, still has responsibility for a report on the functioning of federal agencies handling publicly owned timber in the Pacific Northwest. This is a report which could mean much to the economy of this area. It is indeed to be hoped that the committee takes a more responsible approach to its timber decisions than was shown in the Al Serena fiasco.

We agree. The committee SHOULD recommend legislation which in the future will prohibit giving federal timber practically for-free, to anyone securing a patent to a mining claim, and forcing the timber companies in Southern Oregon not interested in mining to pay the market price for the same type of timber in competitive bidding—at an added cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The correction of this abuse of the Oregon mining laws, and injustice to the timber operators, would, as the Roseburg paper claims, "mean much to the economy" of the Southern Oregon area!—R.W.R.

"The Good Old Days"

Raging blizzards, suffering and death, to the east of us. Floods, miniature tornadoes and extending flu epidemics to the south of us. Storm signals, mountainous seas, ships in distress to the west of us.

Twelve below freezing, frozen water pipes and silver thaw to the north of us. And in the serene and salubrious Rogue River valley—a sunny Sunday, perfect for golf and motoring, or snow sports in the mountains; followed by a Monday, of soothing gentle rain, good for—

The orchards, the winter grain, next summer's water table, for the delectable mushroom and the lowly angle worm!

In all the world no better year-round climate than this. Praise be to Him from whom all blessings flow.

The above was clipped from the Mail Tribune of February 17th, 1936—20 years ago. It doesn't seem that long to us, for we remember having written it, and also recall the climatic facts were true at that time.

We thank the unidentified subscriber who kept this somewhat beatific example of boastful local pride all these years, and then mailed it to this office at such an OPPORTUNE time.

AH, THEM were the days!—"the serene and salubrious Rogue River Valley" in the month of February, "Praise be to Him from whom all blessings flow!" etc., etc.

But before the irony is accepted and apologies tendered, it should be noted the month of February is not over yet. Not quite. There is still time to prove that this time of year in Southern Oregon compares favorably with any other section of the country—even California having been flooded out and Florida frozen out, not so many weeks ago.—R.W.R.

SEATO's 'Paper Tiger' Shows Signs of Life; Reds Displeased

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent
That Southeast Asia "Paper Tiger," as the Chinese Communists call it, shows signs of coming to life.



"Paper Tiger" is what the Reds call the eight-nation Southeast Asia Defense alliance.

It was signed in Manila on Sept. 8, 1954. Its members are the United States, Great Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan.

The alliance is called officially the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization. Unlike the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Europe, it has no standing military force. It has been, as the Chinese Reds say, a paper alliance only.

Reds Displeased
But broadcasts by the Red Peiping Radio show that the Communist government is displeased over two recent developments.

These are the maneuvers held off the coast of Thailand last week by small forces of six of the "Seato" nations and the impressive American atomic warfare exercises held on little Iwo Jima off Japan ending yesterday.

There is to be a conference of the Seato countries in Karachi, Pakistan, starting March 6. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles will lead the United States delegation.

Reports from Far Eastern capitals forecast that some delegations will make a strong bid for the formation of some kind

of permanent, ready-for-action military force. The advisability of bringing Nationalist China, South Korea and Viet Nam into the Southeast Asia alliance undoubtedly will be discussed.

Want Small Force
For various reasons, the United States and Great Britain have been reluctant either to form a standing Seato striking force or to admit to the eight-nation alliance the three countries mentioned.

But more and more American and British military men stationed in the Far East are coming around to the view that it would be smart to form even a tiny standing Seato force.

Such a force could be strengthened as time passed. More important than the actual strength in numbers of a defense force would be the establishment of a central headquarters at which staff officers of all eight treaty nations could cooperate.

No dramatic results are expected at next month's Karachi conference. But all aspects of Southeast Asia defense will be discussed. And it may not be too long before the Chinese Communists stop calling the Seato alliance a Paper Tiger.

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.

Signs of the Times

To the Editor: We have a T.V. and I enjoy the devotions. One, by a Methodist minister, mentioned a book and read a portion of it about a woman who was influenced by a book or paper (he didn't specify) entitled "Signs of the Times." I am a Seventh-day Adventist. Our church puts out a little paper of that title. But surely that wasn't what he had in mind as it is widely read among our people. We are not like the lady in question at all.

There is hardly a hospital around here without at least one S.D.A. nurse in it, not to mention our own hospitals, sanatoriums and rest homes.

We have a very good record at the Ground Observer Corps and any number of other activities.

The lady mentioned, who had been influenced by the "Signs of the Times," thought of nothing but the Lord's soon coming, and lost all interest in what was going on around her. Seems to me as if she was mentally ill.

That can happen to any person regardless of what they do or do not read.

Mrs. Esther Case
Route 1, Box 562
Central Point, Ore.

Doubtful Benefit

To the Editor: According to a spokesman of the Aluminum Company of America, sodium fluoride is not a by-product of their industry but is manufactured principally as an insecticide and for wood preserving.

So that is proof of it being poisonous in nature. Now there is just one thing we all agree on and that is the perfection of our mountain spring city water supply.

Why should this perfection be ruined for the doubtful benefit of a few children when the same result may be obtained by other means if parents make the effort? Fluoride tablets in drinking water could be used by those who have no objection to poisonous accumulations in their bodies.

How does any group have the right to force other people to drink poisoned water just because they want to do so? And after all, all the fluoride produced will never offset the damage done to children's teeth by the sugar intake in candy, soft drinks and other confections to the exclusion of the natural foods needed to supply the minerals and other elements that build strong teeth and healthy bodies. It seems to me this is just a matter of common sense.

Mrs. Docia Jones
Barnett Rd.
Medford, Ore.

Owe It to Children

To the Editor: The Medford Mail Tribune is to be commended for its strong and well informed stand in favor of fluoridation. It is reassuring to see our newspaper take responsibility in such an important issue.

I, too, have been puzzled by the opposition to a process which will achieve what we all want—better health.

Artificial fluoridation of water has been tested for at least 15 years and found to be absolutely safe, economical and beneficial. Some 22,000,000 Americans now drink water that has fluoride added, including residents of San Francisco, Milwaukee, Washington, D. C., (by act of Congress), Baltimore, Pittsburgh and many others. These citizens are living evidence that the ads in this paper condemning fluoridation are untrue.

Local dentists are overwhelmingly in favor of fluoridation, as is the American Dental Association. The same stand is taken unanimously by the Jackson County Medical Association as well as the American Medical Association.

If a man wants an opinion on plumbing does he call a florist? A sensible man goes to those whose special knowledge and skills entitle them to hold an informed opinion. Fluoridation is a question of dental health. Ask your doctor or dentist.

There is no fluorine at all in our water. The rate of tooth decay in the northwest is twice the national average. A dentist recently told me he had five high school students in one week for whom he was fitting full dental plates. Similar tragic cases go with "our wonderfully pure Medford water."

Fluorine added to the water is said not "natural," somehow different from fluorine that 3,000,000 Americans have been consuming in their water for generations, without even knowing it until the past 20 years.

Fluorine is an element. God created it. Man did not and cannot. In the concentrations used, fluorine compounds ionize completely, thus there is no question of source, only of concentration. "Natural food" people have told me they would favor "natural" fluoridation. The fact is that "artificially added" fluorine is made from fluorspar found in nature or from certain

Matter of Fact By Joe and Stewart Alsop

PANDORA-GORE

Washington—Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, who heads the three-man committee which will investigate the use of money in politics, is a born Evangelist.

The subject of money-in-politics is the political equivalent of Pandora's Box, which released all the evils of the world when Pandora opened it. Yet Gore is apparently determined to play the role of Pandora.

"I know I have a bear by the tail," Gore says, with Evangelical fervor, "but I can't let go. The mass movement of money between the states for political purposes threatens the very foundations of our political system."

Gore plans to ask the Senate for something on the order of half a million dollars for his investigation. With the money he intends to have half a dozen or more trained investigators to unearth the whole story of money-in-politics.

As presently planned, his first order of business will be to recall the Superior Oil Company officials who tried to slip Senator Francis Case of South Dakota \$2,500 in hundred dollar bills, and find out what their other political-financial activities have been.

It is therefore not surprising that the vast majority of Senators regard the prospect of the Gore investigation with scarcely concealed loathing. There has naturally been a good deal of quiet behind-the-scenes talk of finding some way to narrow the scope of the investigation, or to enlarge the Gore committee and dilute it with "reasonable" men, or to take the curse of it in some other way.

But Gore promises to fight any such move, and the chances are he will have his way. Indeed, he will probably get everything he asks for by a handsome majority vote. Since President Eisenhower, in a political masterstroke, vetoed the gas bill because of "arrogant" use of money for political purposes, it would be political suicide to be caught trying to sweep the subject under the rug.

THE dimensions of the subject are suggested by the results of a two year study of money in politics, undertaken at the University of North Carolina. After the most careful analysis, this study established that the 1952 campaign cost a staggering \$150 million, give or take a few million, in straight out-of-pocket expense. A considerable proportion of this sum was certainly "under-the-table money," as it is known in the trade.

It is no use trying to control the big business of politics by putting a ceiling on expenditures, since ceilings will always be broken through one way or another. What is needed is some means of bringing the business into the open, so that the voters should really know who gets what, and from whom, and so that a man can go to the United States Senate without conniving at circumvention of the law.

If Senator Gore's opening of Pandora's box results in legislation to this end, it will serve a most useful purpose, despite the present anguish in Capitol Hill.

1956, New York Herald Tribune Inc.

Editorial Comment

ANOTHER CHANCE FOR COUNTY ZONING

Marion County is to have a third chance to bring some semblance of reason into the development of its rural areas. The county court has voted to place a proposed ordinance for county zoning on the May 18 primary election ballot. It is a wise step.

Twice before Marion county has voted on a similar program. The first time, when its import and effect were not understood, it was badly beaten. The second time, it lost by a very narrow margin. Now, with more and more of us cognizant of the need, there should be no question of its passage.

Marion county badly needs zoning and land regulations.—Oregon Statesman, Salem.

phosphate rocks. Thus the "artificial" fluorine is in reality a natural one in handy form.

Since it is impossible to move a phosphate or fluorspar mountain to Medford through which we could trickle our water supply, why not add fluorine the easy, accurate way? We owe it to our children to do all we can to prevent needless pain and suffering due to tooth decay.

J. Brandenburg, M.D.,
Medical Center Bldg.,
Medford, Ore.

Down-To-Earth Courage

To the Editor: An indiscretion has been described as saying something in public that everyone knows and is talking of privately. Like Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson's speech before the Western States Meat Packers association in a news release of the M-T Feb. 16. If indiscretion it was, it was an example of personal courage in statement of known facts. But as usual, Benson's reward is tongue-lashing by his supposed co-workers in the administration who should be supporting him. Of course, we know that their mouthing is mostly a build-up in future political vote-getting.

Thus far in my humble opinion, Secretary Benson has shown by far the most courage in calling the balls as they go over the plate. His steadfast objection to the ill-begotten 90 per cent parity on farm products in well known. Supposing the government had guaranteed a like profit to auto manufacturers on all unsold cars, trucks and tractors? It takes very little supposing to see the complete ruination of the automotive industry by such crazy procedure. Flexible parity is much the same. The only answer in honest grass-roots thinking is to put farm products selling back to proven supply and demand. When Mr. Farmer is put behind the eight ball by power groups, be they of industry, union labor combines, or any other kind of modern trend, then give him proper tax easement so he can have a fair and decent way of life. For survive he must if we are to escape ruination like we had quite a mouthful warning of a few years back. Just as sure as farming, to which we all cling for a better way in life, should come crashing down, then it's disaster for all of us.

A big-wheel in Burma wailed a warning recently in these exact words: "If only you (the USA) could buy our rice, we could keep out of Red's clutches." But how in Heaven's name are we to buy rice of Burma or any other nation when our elevators, warehouses and idle ships are rammed full of wheat and other farm products so high priced with spiraling wages and satellite costs that there's little chance to export it. One thing is sure, someone with down-to-earth courage must soon take the controls of our ship-of-state, or our so enjoyable golden age will crash on the shoals and rocks of too much timid and craven thinking and action.

F. J. Clifford,
1211 West Main,
Medford, Ore.

603 Portland State Freshmen Facing Trouble on Grades

Portland—(U.P.)—Officials said today that 603 freshmen of Portland State College have been placed on probation for low grades. This figure represents 41 per cent of the total freshmen class enrolled at the state school.

The percentage is higher than at any other school in the state system. The percentage of freshmen placed on probation at Oregon State after the fall quarter was 25 per cent.

Course Doesn't Count

One of the main courses mentioned is that freshmen are no longer forced to take "bone-head English," a course of high school level offered by most schools for freshmen that fail to pass their entrance English examinations. This elementary English course does not offer credit and also does not count in compiling a grade point standing.

Dr. J. F. Cramer, president of the college, attributed the high percentage in part to the inescapable fact in any urban college that a higher proportion of "borderline" students enroll. High Percentage Seen

A faculty spokesman offered the suggestion that the high percentage of freshmen students in relation to the student body may have had something to do with it.

Also blamed as partial reasons for the low grades was the fact that a large proportion of Portland State students hold part time jobs in addition to attending classes.

Officials said that there were 138 students suspended in December. This represented the number that were so far below the grade point level required that it was impossible to continue them in school.

Instrument Trouble Blamed in Air Crash

Cairo — (U.P.) — Two crewmen of the French airliner that crashed near here yesterday, killing 52 persons, agreed today that "something went wrong with the instruments" but withheld details pending official inquiry.

Co-pilot Robert Rolland, who was at the controls when the big DCG slammed into the desert 11 miles east of here, and mechanic Pierre LeBoennec both said the instruments didn't seem to be working right during the plane's last moments in the air.

Rolland denied that he was attempting an emergency landing at the time of the crash, but he would give no other details. "An official inquiry will be held," he said. "That's the only time I'll be answering questions."

Actor James Mason Declared Recovering

Hollywood, Calif.—(U.P.)—Actor James Mason was reported recovering at home today from pneumonia.

Mason's wife Pamela disclosed her husband's serious illness last night. He said he had refused doctors' advice to enter a hospital and stayed at home with a nurse constantly at his bedside. A doctor visited him twice daily.

Mrs. Mason said Mason hopes to leave his sick bed by the end of the week.

As a political maneuver to win votes in certain heavily Democratic industrial cities, which he failed to mention, he should have vetoed it, as Harry Truman did, for a single reason: the bill itself was against the public interest.

I predict that if Eisenhower is given enough time in the White House for the gas lobby to pass the bill again without an uproar, he will sign it.

Howard Morgan, Chairman, The Democratic Party of Oregon

Consult

MR. INSURANCE FRED BRENNAN

Our dog bit a tradesman! The kids broke the neighbor's large Thermopane window! I sliced at the golf course and hit a caddy! My wife's part-time maid fell and injured her hip!

It's a good thing I had a RESIDENCE AND PERSONAL LIABILITY POLICY with the VOLUNTARY PROPERTY DAMAGE ENDORSEMENT—and it only costs me \$10.75 per year with \$250 Medical Payments—less if added to another policy.

MEDFORD INSURANCE AGENCY
Phone 2-4940

