

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. 23, 1946
(It was Saturday)
Oregon Governor Earl Snell announces candidacy for re-election for Republican nomination in primary.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Many of the fair sex are wearing cowboy duds, and are home on the range, and everywhere else but home.

20 YEARS AGO
Feb. 23, 1936
(It was Sunday)
Gusty winds rip down signs, fell trees and power line poles in Rogue valley.

Jackson county agricultural conference votes in favor of dam on Lake creek near the Hanley ranch as aid to farming.

80 YEARS AGO
Feb. 23, 1926
New 10-cent air mail stamps received by local post office for use on east-west mail routes.

From Local and Personal column: Four tramps, given shelter in the city jail last night, were promptly hustled out of the city today by the chief of police as suspicious characters. Each one was not blessed with a red penny, it is understood.

40 YEARS AGO
Feb. 23, 1916
The Medford Choral society organized; J. Vilas Beckwith elected president.

About 1,000 children and 80 automobiles participate in children's Washington Birthday parade.

What's the Answer?
Can You Get 4 of the 7?
Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. The Constitution does or doesn't specify how, if a President is unable to fulfill his duties, his inability shall be determined?

2. The Israel-Arab war of 1948-49 was generally considered as Israel or an Arab victory on the whole, or a stand-off?

3. Gov. Herter (R.) of Massachusetts says he will or won't run for another term as governor, or hasn't yet decided?

4. Johns Hopkins hospital is in Boston, Baltimore, a suburb of Washington, Rochester, Minn., or Los Angeles?

5. Was there ever a time when members of Congress were paid per diem of attendance instead of on a yearly basis?

6. As result of the "package deal" with Russia several months ago, Japan is or isn't now a member of U.N.?

7. Did any President of this century wear a beard?

The Answers: 1. Doesn't specify. 2. Israel victory on the whole. 3. Says he won't. 4. Baltimore. 5. Yes, in early days of U.S. 6. Isn't. 7. No.

Portland Streetcarmen Discuss Wage Agreement
Portland — (U.P.) — Streetcarmen's union members and Rose City Transit Company officials scheduled another meeting tomorrow to discuss a two-year wage agreement. The union seeks at least 20 cents an hour spread over two years while the company says it could offer no more than 10 cents. Discussion centers around an April 1 starting date.

The Red Tide

There is no point in kidding ourselves. There was a time when the tide favored the democracies, but as of now that tide has turned the other way. The case of Greece is only the most recent example. France is another. Any impartial survey of the world would show the same trend—in western Europe, the Middle East and in Asia.

As a result the prestige of the United States politically has been steadily declining of late, while the prestige of Soviet Russia has been on the climb.

THIS BEING a presidential year, it will be a temptation to blame the Republican party for this unfortunate situation.

But as far as this department is concerned we doubt that is the answer. We hold no brief for Secretary Dulles—no doubt he could easily be improved upon—but the cause of this turn in the tide, as we see it, goes deeper than any individual, or party.

It is part of a world-wide revolution for national and racial independence, and against imperialism. This takes the form of an uprising against the status quo, a demand for a new deal.

IT IS PROPER and correct to brand Soviet Russia as the greatest danger to national independence and the greatest threat to nationalism in the world today, but as was demonstrated in Greece and is so apparent in India, it is difficult to put this idea over, effectively, and to counteract the widespread belief among the masses abroad that Soviet Russia stands for an overthrow of the status quo, the advance of national independence and the birth of a new and better society for the rank and file.

As is true in so many cases what is true and what is right will win out in the end. But the process is often a slow one and the danger in free countries is that too many will become discouraged and want to quit.

The isolationists in the congress are hoping that this point will soon be reached. A resolution has already been introduced that would cut off all economic aid to foreign lands.

Any such action would merely hasten the process of democratic deterioration, and make progress on the "come back trail" the more difficult and costly.

The three great needs are evident: fortitude, patience and persistence. It is to be hoped that whichever party wins in November these qualities will not be absent. We don't believe they will be.—R.W.R.

"While Rome Burns"

Probably anyone who rose in the halls of congress and declared it a shame we could not do things the way they do them in Russia would be "shot at sunrise."

Yet he would express the sentiments of some true friends of the national good roads program.

For they have no party politicians in Russia, and no presidential elections with aforesaid politicians placing what they think will bring them votes above what they know—or should know—is best for their country.

IF THE trio in the Kremlin decide a system of good roads is a "crying need" they proceed to call out their slave labor and build it.

But in this country, while both major parties agree a national good road system of some 40,000 miles IS a crying need, they have been fighting over the details especially financial, for many months and promise to continue for many months more. In fact, it will greatly surprise no one if the proposed road program is beaten by default, or at least delayed until after the election.

Not only are the politicians fighting but the truck-drivers lobby is fighting the automobile lobby—the latter say the former are getting the better of the pay-as-you-go-system, and the latter claim they are only asking for their rights. Neither of them like the Boggs bill because it increases the cost of gas, oil and tires.

IF THE auto and truck owners refuse to pay their share of the expense of a good road system, then who should? The pedestrians?

As we see it, the expense of such a system of good roads should be borne by the motor vehicles that use them—cars or trucks—because they are the ones who will benefit most by such construction, and they are the ones responsible for the crying need of such an expense.

We can think of no fairer tax than a tax on the automobile and truck owners—especially the latter—for the construction of an up-to-date and comprehensive national highway system.

Such a system will mean added profits to each and every one of them and incidentally it should mean fewer accidents and a consequent reduction in motor traffic casualties.

But as things are now going in congress there seems little chance of any agreement on this bill or many others—the members of both parties are too busy gathering material to make votes either for themselves, their party or both.—R.W.R.

Editorial Comment

TESTIMONIAL
A proposal for county zoning will face voters of Marion County (Salem) next May. Twice before voters in Oregon's third most populous county turned the measure down, by a considerable margin the first time and by a narrower vote in 1954.

We have had county zoning here since 1948, when it was voted in over the opposition of those who feared letting their elected officials restrict the uses to which a man could put his own land. Philosophically the opponents of county zoning were on middle-good ground.

But practically they didn't have a leg to stand on. Now, as we near the end of our eighth year of living with a county zoning law, we suggest that it has been an overwhelming success. Perhaps it has been all that has saved us in a decade that saw our suburban fringe areas mushrooming in size. If Marion county voters want to see how county zoning works in practice, we invite them to look at Lane County. What they see will lead them to institute zoning in their own county.—Eugene Register Guard.

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

A REVEALING BLUNDER

The affair of the Saudi Arabian tanks is a ludicrous but damaging example of what can happen in a big and complicated government when it is not clearly led and firmly administered from the top.



For months, this government has been faced with the dangerous problem of arms shipments to the Middle East. On this subject there has recently been a conference at the highest level between the President and the British Prime Minister. There have been many pronouncements about arms for the Middle East.

How then could it happen that the State Department had forgotten about its own approval of the sale of the Saudi Arabian tanks, that the Defense department was operating without realizing what a mess the shipment of these arms would now cause, once the facts became known?

THE reason for this incident must be that there is no high policy for the Middle East which comes from the top and is administered all the way down the line from the policy-making officials to the operating officials.

The President has not, of course, been truly in command, certainly not since his illness, in fact not really since he went to Denver last August. Yet it is only the President who can effectively coordinate two great departments like State and Defense. He can coordinate them only if at cabinet meetings and elsewhere he makes the heads of these departments understand clearly what the policy is. It is only too obvious that nothing of the sort has happened during the past six months, or could have happened.

THE lack of a high command has been aggravated by the way Mr. Dulles conceives the office of Secretary of State. He thinks of himself as a roving negotiator, who represents the President's constitutional authority to conduct foreign affairs. He works out high problems by personal negotiation, and then leaves the policies to be administered and operated in his absence by officials who do not know at first hand what they are. Mr. Dulles is not in Washington long enough or continuously enough to command the operations of his department. The effect, as the Saudi Arabian tanks illustrate, is to leave the immediate business of the government to be operated by bureau chiefs on their own notions without overhead direction from the top.

The administrative confusion is not the only, or indeed the most serious, consequence of the way our affairs have been conducted during the past six months. There has been nobody at the top whose business it has been, or who was able, to face up to the new Soviet challenge which has confronted us since the first Geneva meeting. The President has been too ill to deal with it, and Mr. Dulles has been too preoccupied with his travels, his negotiations, and his speeches. In these past six months we have suffered the biggest and most serious setback since the Communist victory in China.

The fundamental cause of the setback is that the Soviet Union has been developing a new foreign policy since Geneva, whereas we have remained frozen and inflexible in the policy of the pre-Geneva period. That is why there is scarcely a country from France and Italy and Germany and Greece to India and beyond where the pro-Western and pro-American parties and politicians are not in trouble.

With nobody at the top in Washington who can and will take new decisions, our diplomacy is almost everywhere fighting unattractive rear guard actions.

IT WOULD be interesting to know who in the high places where decisions can be taken has been putting his mind on the speeches delivered last week at the Communist Party Congress in Moscow.

They are very long speeches. But they are exceedingly important. Their common theme is that within the Communist world they have an industrial system which is, in terms of national power, not only in arms but also in the means of capital development, already reaching equality with the West. The Soviet leaders have been declaring that the rate of economic growth in the Soviet Union surpasses that of all countries, and that, therefore, they will become a more and more formidable competitor in the economic and political markets of the world.

I do not know whether all the statistics that were put out last week are correct. But the world will not doubt the great fact

that the Soviet Union is now the strongest power in Eurasia. It is this economic fact which accounts for the extraordinary tone of confidence that pervaded all the speeches made in Moscow last week. It also explains the ideological and political declarations about how Khrushchev and his people expect to win the cold war without revolutionary violence. They believe that in the competition with us for influence in the uncommitted countries, they can make more, attractive offers than we are likely to make.

EVEN if they cannot offer as much economic aid as we could, they will be able to offer more than Congress will allow us to offer. Moreover, whatever they offer, they can offer on terms which are politically more attractive than the terms which Congress insists that we should impose.

They are in a stronger bargaining position in the uncommitted nations. For they do not ask, they do not need to ask, for military pacts or their equivalent. They are able to identify themselves with the popular longing to remain unentangled.

What is more, in the underdeveloped countries, which are by definition without capital resources, the governments must necessarily play the principal role in capital formation. This suits the socialist ideology of the Russians. It runs at cross purposes with our own anti-socialist ideology.

THE new challenge of the Soviet Union is very formidable indeed. If we are to meet it, we shall have to reverse ourselves on a number of things which are strongly believed in here. We shall have to be willing to export capital on a considerable scale. We shall have to be willing to do that without insisting on military terms, without penalizing political neutrality, and without expecting the underdeveloped but old and crowded countries to adopt all the principles of the American free enterprise system.

We shall, in other words, have to be willing to contribute capital to countries, which, as neutrals and as socialists, will be unlike the United States. The alternative, I believe, is to go on losing our influence in the uncommitted world.

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Larger World Role For Italy is Aim Of New President

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Correspondent

President Giovanni Gronchi of Italy seems to believe that his country should play a much bigger part in western allied affairs.



Gronchi is to arrive in Washington Monday for a state visit to President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Dispatches from Rome indicate he will do some frank talking about American foreign policy and about Italy's importance. Gronchi's view apparently is that Italy, which before World War II was a top-ranking power, has been shunted to a diplomatic sidetrack.

NATO Critic
It is reported he will have some criticism to make regarding the present set up of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, of which Italy is a member, and regarding American foreign policy in general.

Normally, any such talk would be made by Italy's Premier, Antonio Segni.

But since Gronchi was elected President last April 29 for a seven-year term, things have changed in Italy.

Italy's two preceding post-war Presidents, like the President of France, were figureheads. Their role was largely ceremonial.

Policy Spokesman
Gronchi no sooner had been inaugurated than he started to make himself a spokesman of Italian policy, domestic and foreign.

He caused considerable anxiety in the United States and other allied countries, for one thing, by calling for "an opening to the left."

This was immediately interpreted as implying that he thought the Communists and their fellow-traveling left wing Socialists, ought to be permitted to play an active role in the government.

What he really aimed at, it appears now, was to change the policies of the dominant Christian Democratic party, which he helped to found, so that it would attract voters from leftist lures.

Matter of Fact

By Joe and Stewart Alsop

THE SELF-CONFIDENT SOVIETS

Washington — The Soviet rulers are now genuinely and absolutely confident of their position. Internally, they are sure there is no shadow of a threat to their regime. Externally, they are sure that the tide of history is now flowing ever more rapidly in the direction of the world hegemony they seek.



Observers on the spot, like Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, and Soviet experts in this country, agree that this remarkable self-confidence was the real hallmark of the 20th congress of the Soviet Communist party which has just taken place in Moscow. The self-assurance of the Soviet leaders took two forms.



On the other hand, there was the brisk, authoritative way in which Communist party boss Nikita Khrushchev and those who followed him on the speaker's stand rewrote basic Communist doctrine. Khrushchev sharply denounced Josef Stalin by implication, and Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan even denounced him by name, for one-man rule and for doctrinal deviations.

KHRUSHCHEV, moreover, took it upon himself to correct two basic Leninist theories—that war between the Capitalist and Communist states was inevitable, and that Communism could only triumph through bloodshed and revolution. These theories were valid enough in Lenin's day, Khrushchev said airily, but they were no longer true today.

"My God," one student of Soviet matters remarked, "they've not only kicked Stalin in the shins, they've gone further, and spat Lenin on the head."

Really amazing self-confidence is required for this sort of thing, in a society where a charge of ideological deviationism is used like a dagger in the back. Khrushchev and the lesser lights who followed him could not possibly have gone so far, unless they were genuinely unafraid of any internal challenge to their power.

ON THE OTHER hand, the Soviet rulers were similarly self-assured about any external threat to the regime. Mikoyan struck the correct note when he boasted, almost in the same breath, "of active, flexible foreign policy . . . restrained, calm in tone, without sharp words," and of the Soviet ability to deliver nuclear weapons "to any point on earth by aircraft or rockets."

This combination of sweet reason and not-so-sweet reminders of Soviet military power is now solidly established as the Soviet foreign policy line. And each speaker in turn hailed the results of this two-edged policy, not only with confidence, but with downright complacency.

If you try to see the world

through the eyes of the Soviet rulers, the complacency becomes entirely understandable.

When Khrushchev and the other Soviet rulers were young men, hacking and clawing their way up the Soviet bureaucratic ladder, the Soviet Union was a beleaguered and backward country. Its heavy industry was pitifully inadequate for a major power. It had not an ally in the world, and it was surrounded on all sides by powerful potential enemies.

WHEN THE war ended ten years ago, the total ruthlessness of Stalin had given the Soviet Union an important industrial base. But the country was devastated, Russia had no allies but the unwilling satellites, all Asia was still oriented towards the West, and the United States had an absolute monopoly of atomic weapons and long range air power.

Even three years ago, when Stalin died, the United States was still supreme in air-atomic power. The western foreign policy experts devoutly believed, moreover, that Stalin's death would result, to use Khrushchev's words, in "confusion in the party's ranks, discord among its leadership, hesitation in carrying out its internal and foreign policy."

NOW, as Khrushchev and his colleagues look about them, they can be pardoned for self-congratulation. Their home political base is wholly secure. They have in China a dependable and increasingly powerful ally. All Asia is leaning their way, as Paul Hoffman has just sadly warned, so that there is now solid basis for Khrushchev's boast that the "majority of the population of our planet" is on his side. As Trevor Gardner has also warned, there is not the slightest doubt that the Soviets are now threatening to surpass us, not only in missiles, but in the whole area of air-atomic power.

Finally, the Soviet Union is now most seriously challenging the supposedly unchallengeable industrial might of the United States.

All in all, it is not difficult to

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 initials 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.

Thanks From Guard

To the Editor: I wish to thank you for your cooperation during our recent recruiting drive. A large part of our success was due to the whole-hearted efforts extended by such public spirited persons as yourself.

The final results are not determined as yet since we are still getting men contacted during the drive. For your information, however, this battalion had a net increase of strength of 100 men for the period 1 January 1956 through 17 January 1956. This increase represents one-third of our original strength and about 50 per cent more than our expectations based on previous recruiting experience.

Your efforts on our behalf are deeply appreciated.

Francis C. Ayres, Lt. Col., Army, ORENG, Comb. Training, 732nd AAA Bn, Ashland, Ore.

300 East Germans Said Escaping Each Day

Portland — (U.P.) — Gunther Kempff, German consul-general in San Francisco, said yesterday about 300 Germans a day are escaping from Communist East Germany to West Germany.

He said about 1,000,000 Germans have crossed the Iron Curtain in the past five years. Kempff was here to speak to a Portland State Institute on German affairs.

understand the reasons for the public show of self-assurance which Khrushchev and his fellow oligarchs have just staged in Moscow. It is more difficult to understand the public show of complacency which still emanates from Washington.

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Advertisement for Richey's Meat Market. Includes text: "EASY PARKING", "RICHEY'S MEAT MARKET Wholesale and Retail (Formerly Valley Fish Market)", "1245 SOUTH RIVERSIDE PHONE 3-1221", "Where Parking Is No Problem — Just Drive In Our Lot and Stay As Long As You Wish", "GIVE A LOOK — at Some of These Meat Prices Out of TOP GRADE Commercial BEEF for Friday and Saturday!", "RIB OR SIRLOIN STEAK LB. 39¢", "ROUND STEAK LB. 49¢", "T-BONES (Well trimmed) LB. 59¢", "CHUCK ROAST (Center cut) LB. 33¢", "RUMP ROAST (No Bone—No Waste) LB. 59¢"