

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everybody in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune" Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 77-29 North Fir St. Phone 2-6141

Subscription Rates: By Mail—In Advance: Per Copy 10c. Daily and Sunday—One Year \$12.00. Daily and Sunday—Six months 6.50. Daily and Sunday—Three mos. 3.50. Sunday Only—One year \$3.50.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

WEST-HOLIDAY COMPANY INC. Offices in New York, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, St. Louis, Atlanta, Vancouver, B.C.

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. 29, 1946 There wasn't any.

20 YEARS AGO Feb. 29, 1936 (It was Saturday) Some 873 residents obtain licenses for dogs, compared to 2,900 last year; deadline is March 1.

30 YEARS AGO Feb. 29, 1926 There wasn't any.

40 YEARS AGO Feb. 29, 1916 (It was Tuesday) California Oregon Power company stockholders vote to increase capacity of power plants at Prospect and on Klamath river.

From Local and Personal column: The precipitation during the month of February ended today is 1.52 inches. The average for February is 3.65. Therefore, February is short in this district 2.13 inches. The question of supplemental irrigation is pressing those concerned pretty closely for a decision.

What's the Answer?

Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report 1. The auto industry plans to bring out new models this year earlier or later than usual, or at about the usual time of year?

Four Medford Men Attend Portland Meet

Four members of the Medford Real Estate board were in Portland recently for a conference of the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers. Some 300 realtors attended from Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia.

Happy Birthday Four Times

Happy birthday everybody whose birthday is today! For you are entitled to quadruple greetings this February 29th. The rest of us whose natal anniversaries are on ordinary, mundane dates (and they seem to come along faster as the years pass) can view with envy those who celebrate only on the rare, exotic day that comes but once in four years.—E.A.

Inefficient Calendar

A thought that goes with the greeting above is that the present calendar is an unwieldy and inefficient thing. For most of those who can remember which month has how many days, it is necessary to go through the old nursery rhyme, "Thirty days hath September..." and so on. The quarters are uneven as well as the months. Except for those tied to a specific day of the week (like Thanksgiving or Labor Day), holidays fall, helter-skelter, on all days of the week. Sometimes they come in the middle, sometime at the end, creating a three-day holiday.

THERE has been noticeable reluctance to change the calendar by many people. Some of them object on religious grounds, with which one can hardly argue, except to point out that the calendar, after all, is a man-made contrivance and convenience, has been changed before, and a new one would be no more difficult to adjust to than is the present Gregorian calendar.

For the most part, however, the reluctance to change has been a matter of simple lethargy, rather than active objection. But it is a fact that businesses in this nation alone are spending millions of dollars annually in bookkeeping operations which would be curtailed or eliminated under a scientifically-designed calendar.

ONE SUCH calendar has long been worked out, and is now in a state of suspended animation in the councils of the United Nations. The year 1956 was originally the "target date" for its adoption, but because nations (including the U.S.) were slow to approve it, the date has now been moved up to 1961, when the old and new calendars coincide sufficiently to make a change-over possible.

The proposal is called, simply enough "The World Calendar." In it, the first month of each quarter (January, April, July and October) has 31 days. The others each have 30 days. All have 26 week days. Each quarter starts on a Sunday and ends on a Sunday. A solar year is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds, so that a year doesn't come out "even" in terms of days. This is taken care of by a Worldiday each year, and a second Worldiday every four years.

SOME people have strong feelings about the subject. These strong feelings we do not share. But we do feel that the benefits of a scientific, well-thought-out and balanced calendar far outweigh the advantages of "not rocking the boat."

We get weary, sometimes, of the style of argument which runs: "What was good enough for my grandpappy is good enough for me." It isn't, really. The world changes, and usually for the better.—E.A.

A Health Measure

Fluorides in tiny quantities added to municipal water supplies cut down the number of dental cavities and decay in small children, and give them an added chance of future dental health.

The proposal is relatively inexpensive—at least compared to the average dental bills of an average family. It is simple to put into effect, and completely safe. Fluorides are harmless in the amounts (one part per million) recommended. The plan is a reasonable and progressive partial solution to the problem of dental health.

THESE statements are made flatly as facts, and are based on the best and soundest information available.

Fluoridation of water supplies is not new, and has been thoroughly tested. The only "conspiracy" to have it put into effect is on the part of families who want the best and healthiest future possible for their children. It is supported by all but a few doctors and dentists. The majority see in it a chance to relieve suffering and eliminate needless expense.

Fluorides, in the proper amounts, are tasteless and odorless. They will not affect the superb quality or taste of Medford's water.

NUTRITION is important to everyone, and too many sweets are bad for the teeth. But this has nothing to do with the proposal to add fluorides to water. The eating habits of a nation will not be changed overnight—no matter what the benefits.

Fluoridation is proposed simply as an aid to health. We support it as such. Until the opponents prove we're wrong (which they have so far failed to do), or until something better comes along, we will continue to give the plan our support.—E.A.

Standard Increases Prices on Gasoline

Portland—(U.P.)—A wholesale price increase blamed on higher operating costs resulting from wage boosts has been announced here by Standard Oil Company of California for its independent and Chevron stations. The increase was the company's second within the past 48 days and station operators were expected to pass it along to consumers, although they are not compelled to do so.

Pro-Con Possibilities of Reds' Visit to Great Britain Viewed

By CHARLES McCANN United Press Correspondent The visit which Soviet Russia's two top-ranking leaders are to pay to Great Britain in April promises to be quite an occasion.



It is certain to produce big headlines in newspaper all over the world. But what sort of occasion it turns into depends largely on the visitors, Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin and Communist Party leader Nikita S. Khrushchev.

The visit may prove to be a costly diplomatic failure which will widen the breach between the free world and the Communist world. It may, conceivably, prove to be a success and help to reduce world tensions.

Prime Minister Anthony Eden extended the invitation for the visit during the "summit" conference in Geneva, Switzerland, last July.

The conference produced the "Geneva spirit" of cooperation between the United States, Britain and France on one side and Russia on the other.

Not long afterward, the Geneva spirit burst like a bubble. First, the Big Four foreign ministers conference in Geneva in October and November—a follow-up to the "summit" conference—ended in dismal failure.

Then Bulganin and Khrushchev, visiting India, Burma and Afghanistan, heaped unbridled abuse on the western Allies.

Britons began to have serious doubt about the advisability of letting the plan for the Bulganin-Khrushchev visit stand.

Winston Churchill called the Asian visit of the Kremlin leaders "a surprising spectacle." It was one, he said, "which her majesty's government will no doubt study carefully before they allow it, with suitable variants, to be repeated here."

Eden, a hard-headed man despite the appearance which his good looks and immaculate dress give him, decided to go through with it.

He even arranged for the visitors to be received by Queen Elizabeth—informally, it is true. But it is now apparent that Eden does not mean to make the visit a phony good will tour which might turn sour.

Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd gave Khrushchev and Bulganin a tongue-lashing in the House of Commons Monday for making "false and reckless charges against Britain."

He said Russia had brought war closer to Palestine and stirred up new enmities in Asia. Nevertheless, he said, Britain "nevertheless to do everything it can to bring about an improvement" in West-East relations.

In particular, the invitation to Marshal Bulganin and Mr. Khrushchev stands," he concluded dramatically to loud cheers.

Eden then said that he intended to speak as plainly to Bulganin and Khrushchev as they have in expressing their views about Britain.

"They, like us, wish for serious discussions when the meeting takes place," Eden said.

This makes it evident that there has been an exchange between London and Moscow on the visit. It is evident, also, that Eden means to make a college try at finding a way out of the present West-East deadlock.

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.

Why the Debate?

To the Editor: Re the fluoride argument, pro and otherwise. For the pros, which includes this paper, there is a fluoride toothpaste now on the market which will keep your teeth looking like a hound dog's. For those who oppose, just don't buy this toothpaste. My gripe is neither for or against the use of this trace element. For those who want it, it is available, and for those who don't want it, don't brush your teeth, buy chewing gum instead, and quit cluttering up the newspaper with silly arguments.

When it comes to the air I breathe and the water I drink, just give me plain air and plain water and I'll do my own mixing. If this element can safely be added to water it stands to reason it can be added to toothpaste, chewing gum, breakfast foods, etc., in quantities safe for human consumption and available to anyone who desires it.

The argument has been advanced that you see an expert when you want information on any specific subject. For those I suggest going to their doctor and having him add a sufficient quantity of fluoride to their daily diet. Leave the water alone and save the water department, and subsequently the taxpayer, some money. If the water department will just continue to deliver pure water it will satisfy me.

The doctors and dentists and this paper no doubt have sound reasoning behind their argument for mass medication to insure future healthy teeth. Their reasoning and purpose is unquestionably sound, leaving only the method of approach an issue. Why should this be a subject for debate and vote?

L. C. Fowler Route 1, Box 332, Talent, Ore.

P.S. We have a well with plenty of minerals and don't have to drink it anyway.

Need Something Now To the Editor: What a dither we're getting into over our city-water question. We're jumping too much at conclusions of our own dreaming up. Fact is, our greatly appreciated water is too pure. Like some "holier than thou" parents whose children thereby suffer for lack of love and understanding so necessary to their mental and physical health. Coming as our city water does from the snow-pack and immense glass-like basalt-rock reservoir system of old-time "Snowy Butte," it enters our own hygienic system of pipes and reservoirs to emerge at the faucet in our homes too close by far to the chemistry term, H2O.

Now, if it could filter down through the ample bosom of mother earth, where various chemicals so necessary to our well-being could be picked up, it would be much better for all concerned. But if such things are not there, the marvelous selective system of our bodies cannot pick them up, then we suffer thereby.

Ordinarily, food would furnish such necessary items. But, our social and economic structure being what we have made it, vital elements must be removed from food grains so that the product will survive the time-lag from processor to consumer in edible condition. How well memory takes me back when our corn meal or wheat flour held too long, became mouldy and had to be consigned to the pigs, a very serious loss when there was no welfare and everyone on their own, times when a sneaked crust of bread and warm milk from old Spot was grand eating.

Could be a better way of tooth decay prevention could be worked out through better food controls. But that's a long range procedure. We do need something for the immediate now, a something our health authorities are striving for and with apparent success in some cities.

However, what concerns me most is our little ones. Is there anything more distressing to the parents than a son or daughter's aching tooth, turning as it does the child's eating, sleeping and play to a thing of misery? What's the alternative? A trip to the dentist every two or three months that draws hard on take home pay, ample though it is now, but ample too are the dentist costs. I'll risk my old carcass a lot to lessen all this in any small way.

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

TO THAT, I'll add one of my own. In the mountains of the state of Jalisco the other day a procession of glittering American cars was winding down a curving road. From a barranca at the side, down a steep and rocky trail, a pack train was emerging. The burros were heavily loaded. At the rear end was an old and gray one, wise with the wisdom of his years and steeped in the traditions of Old Mother Mexico.

He paused. For several minutes he stood there surveying this column of American monsters that derived their sustenance from an evil-smelling liquid called gasoline instead of from the grass and the leaves and the weeds and the what-not provided by nature for her children.

Then he raised his head, twisted his ears and brayed. It was a derisive bray, with a note of contempt in it. Having thus given vent to his feelings, the old burro took up again the burden of his job and moved on after his fellows down the winding trail.

Self-Searching by Ike Not New; He's Been Through It

By LYLE C. WILSON United Press Correspondent Washington—(U.P.)—Dwight D. Eisenhower leaned back in his big office chair and said he would put Dwight before all other considerations. He said he didn't aspire to be president of the United States. But if duty called—hmmmm. He said he was a soldier. "And another thing," he added with much emphasis, "I'll not be dragged into politics to bail out some political party."

All of that was back in November, 1951, in a little town outside Paris where was the Supreme Headquarters of Allied Powers in Europe, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, USA, commanding. Your correspondent visited him there seeking the answer to a question almost as hot as today's. Scorned "Politicians"

The general was neither a Republican nor a Democrat during that conversation. And when he used the word "politicians" it was with the inflection with which Sir Winston Churchill in wartime used to scorn and scorch the word, "Naaazis."

It was less than two months after that that conservation at SHAPE that the general publicly embraced the Republican faith. The occasion was in acknowledgement of the entry by friends of an Eisenhower slate in New Hampshire's March, 1952, presidential primary.

The general then indicated that he would run for president if he heard "a clear cut call to political duty." He heard it clearly enough, and all of the foregoing is significant today in demonstration of the fact that the current public manner about his plans and Mr. Eisenhower's own self-searching for a decision are not new to him. He's been through all of this before, although with the circumstances somewhat altered.

Thanks for Help To the Editor: Will you please place a thank you note in the paper for the many examples of help which have been given us from the people of Prospect, McLeod, Trail, Shady Cove, Eagle Point, Medford, and the American Red Cross, when our home burned? Mr. and Mrs. W.B. McElmurry and Family, Prospect, Ore.

Advice to 'Sinners' To the Editor: It seems to me that someone from within the church should reply to the two recent letters from folk who sign themselves "sinners."

Perhaps if these two "sinners" would consult the Christian's Guidebook a little further they would see that "He that doeth truth cometh to the light that his deeds—and words—may be made manifest" and they would be brave enough to attach their name to their criticism.

If I were attending a church where those criticisms were really justified, I would certainly change churches. There are many, if not most churches where the members give freely and gladly of their time, energies, talents and money, in order that all people and their children, rich or poor, may have a place to go and pray and sing and learn, and meet friends and make friends, and nobody checks your offerings but leaves that between you and God.

Are you sure, friend sinner, that it is the "food out of your mouth or the shoes off of your feet" that you are worrying about? After over 50 years in Christian work, I have observed that most people who do not want to give to the Lord's work, are spending much more on cigarettes, movies, dances and other wasteful things than they are ever asked or expected to give toward Christian work.

Consider this: Over \$15,000,000 spent for crime in America in a year, and only one billion or a little over spent for all kinds of church, charity and Christian work!

Yes, I would definitely advise that you send, or rather, take, your child to Sunday school. But of course, choose the right Sunday school.

Mrs. A. Hoffman, Butte Falls, Ore.

To Sinners Nos. 1 & 2 To the Editor: First of all, let me point out that it is plainly evident that you do not read your Bibles enough!

It is not up to man to say who is or is not a Christian, or what is or is not a Christian family. The Bible says that "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." It also bears out that we are not to let our aims be seen of men. The church has no right, therefore, to audit your donations, but if you read your Bible carefully, you'll find it says to give one-tenth of your substance to God.

Read the story of the widow who was poor. Luke 21:1-4. The rich men cast their gifts into the treasury, "and he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites, and he said, of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all." "For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God; but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had."

If a man is a Christian, it is because he has had a change of heart toward God and not because a priest, preacher or deacon has told him so!

If you'll just look around, you'll find that right in our city is a church that does not "pass the hat," take signed pledges for your tythes or mention money at every opportunity. No one knows what the other one gives, and yet they are among the most happy and blessed of churchgoers on this earth, and above all, real born again Christians.

Don't ask Man if you're a Christian. Just read 1st John the 3rd Chapter, especially the 9th verse, and also 2nd Corinthians, 5:17.

From a Christian (Name on file).

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More in Oregon eat BONNIE than other pet foods

BONNIE By the makers of Dog-E-Stu

Incidentally, I've found other Bruce floor products help me, too. There's Bruce Floor Cleaner for cleaning and lighter waxing, Bruce Paste Wax, Bruce Asphalt Tile Cleaner, Bruce Asphalt Tile Self-Polishing Wax and the new Bruce Self-Polishing Wax. Yes, for floors it's Bruce!

Jim can't get over how I manage to keep the house looking like a million and still have time for the many things I like to do. My secret is simply finding faster, easier ways to do my housework. Take my wood floors. I used to spend a full day scrubbing and waxing. Then I plopped into bed all worn out. Now I use Bruce Cleaning Wax and it's almost a snap. Bruce cleans and waxes in one easy operation. Takes me only half the time and effort. And my wood floors never looked better. Have you tried Bruce Cleaning Wax? You'll like it. So will your husband!

Jim says I'm a gem!

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