

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
April 24, 1946
(It was Wednesday)
Installation of 70 more parking meters begins today, City Superintendent Frank Rogers has announced.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Tracy Booth, the Red Blanket strawberry impressario of the Prospect area town and traded yes.

20 YEARS AGO
April 24, 1936
(It was Friday)
Despite a heavy rain, about 350 persons attended the motion picture show last night in the Medford armory by the Navy.

There will be an extensive program for the good-will party for all war veterans and their families at K. P. hall on Thursday, April 30.

30 YEARS AGO
April 24, 1926
(It was Saturday)
With cooperation of Boy Scouts and individual citizens, the city clean-up campaign comes to a close with Fire Chief Roy Elliott in charge.

From Local and Personal column: Thirty-two cars from other states were registered in Medford yesterday by the local state auto traffic bureau in the Chamber of Commerce building.

40 YEARS AGO
April 24, 1916
(It was Monday)
Announcement is made by the district forester, Portland, of final classification by secretary of agriculture, of lands within the Oregon national forest.

Medford's electrical inspector earns compliment for efficient work in his department in Medford for the past year.

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

- 1. If election of President is thrown into the House of Representatives, there is one vote for each member of each state, or is election by party strength?
2. Recent elections in Ceylon were a victory or a defeat for the West, or a stand-off?
3. There are (a) 32, (b) 48, (c) 64, (d) 80 or (e) 96 squares on a checker board?
4. The state of Israel has a longer border with Egypt or with Jordan, or is the border about the same length with each?
5. The proportion of Negroes to Whites in the South has been increasing, staying about the same, or decreasing?
6. "Nymphomania" is a term applied only to a man, only to a woman, or to either?
7. Leslie Townes Hope is the real name of which well known radio, TV and screen star?
The answers: 1. Each state has one vote. 2. Defeat for the West. 3. 64. 4. Longer border with Jordan. 5. Decreasing. 6. Only to a woman. 7. Bob Hope.

COME AND GET IT
Gurgaon, India — (U.P.)—Post-office officials in this village gave up this week and told people if they wanted their mail they'd have to come and dig it out of growing piles of letters. Too many postal workers are on sick leave and there is no one to do the sorting job.

How About a Sales Tax?

The 1955 Legislative Interim committee has ordered a new tax bill to be ready for passage at the start of next year's session.

A new bill is badly needed. For the present measure is sending residents out of the state, particularly to California.

And Oregon can not afford a tax set-up that decreases its population particularly among the income-tax paying groups.

We need more residents in this bracket, not less. Medford has lost several citizens the past year chiefly for this reason of excessive tax burdens. The number throughout the state must be considerable.

Any tax system that works in this fashion is a bad one and should be repealed.

THERE are two chief objections to the present measure. No. 1 is the 45 per cent surtax. No. 2 is no limit placed on the capital gains tax. The government limits the latter to 25 per cent of the total profit, but Oregon places its tax on all of it—100 per cent.

As has often been stated, the Mail Tribune believes in the income tax as a principle, and through the years has consistently supported such a tax for the state as well as the nation. But there is a limit to what should be done in this direction, and Oregon has passed that limit.

If this state hasn't the highest income tax in the country, it comes mighty close to it. In short, unless repealed or materially modified it will price Oregon out of the market as far as new residents are concerned or retaining the older ones.

OF COURSE this situation offers a golden opportunity to the long frustrated supporters of a sales tax.

The Mail Tribune has opposed a sales tax for many years, and the people of Oregon have sustained this view time after time.

A sales tax, unlike an income tax, places the major burden upon those least able to pay.

But if the only alternative is the present unfair set-up with its 45 per cent surtax and 100 per cent capital-gains tax, then as far as this paper is concerned we are ready to swallow the sales tax pill, and like it.

We won't like the taste, but if with proper safeguards, including food and medicine exemptions, some such procedure is the only way to restore the state's financial health then we are for it.

HOWEVER, before going overboard entirely we would like to have a careful nonpartisan appraisal of the entire tax structure made, to remove any doubt that some form of sales tax IS the only alternative.

A member of the Legislature whose opinion we respect maintains the evidence is conclusive that this is the case, and he cites a long list of states with sales taxes to prove it.

OK if that is the only feasible way to get rid of the present tax injustice, then the time has come, we believe, to forget our long cherished preconceptions against such a tax and adopt one.—R.W.R.

Another "Ify" Question

The Grants Pass Courier, which doesn't seem very affectionately disposed toward the Mail Tribune of late, asks what assurance this paper can give that Senator Wayne Morse having pulled the "big switch" once will not if re-elected do so again.

In other words, how can a man who has switched from one party to another be trusted not to switch back again?

Well, it depends, of course, upon the reasons for the "switch." If, as with our senior Senator, it was a matter of placing principle above party then until there is a radical change in that party and those principles, there can be every assurance that there will be no change in the affiliation.

WE HAVE followed the career of Wayne Morse since he was first named Dean of the Oregon Law School.

We have never known him to compromise with his always strongly held principles, or lack the courage of his convictions, no matter how unpopular they might, at any given time, be.

We never expect him to. Win, lose or draw Wayne Morse can always be depended upon to do what he BELIEVES to be right—best for his state and nation—letting the chips fall where they may.

The only man in public life in Oregon in recent years, who had similar courage (and like our senior Senator was too prone, perhaps, to lead with his chin), was our late and sincerely lamented Governor and Congressman, General Charles H. Martin of Portland. These two Oregonians represent the type of independent and intelligent statesmanship this paper has through all the years supported, and believes is today so greatly needed for the betterment of this state and the welfare of the nation.

ON THE other hand if some weird transformation should occur, the Democratic party should come out for General Motors, General Electric, and General Reaction—to name only a few of the GOP chiefs of staff—while the elephant should suddenly become reincarnated with the spirit of Teddy Roosevelt and the Bull Moose crusading spirit—!

—Well, even then we would not expect Senator Morse to execute any "switch," but we would not be surprised to find him taking a long walk at the next national election, and many of the voters with him.

But that after all is purely academic. For the age of political miracles has passed, and such a transformation would rank, if it ever occurred, at the top of the list in that classification.—R.W.R.

Talk Growing About Presumed Need for French 'Strong Man'

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent

There is growing talk in Paris that a "strong man" may be needed to get France out of its political and economic difficulties.



Charles M. McCann, United Press Correspondent

These difficulties stem largely from World War II, in which France suffered sorely, and from the political and economic difficulties.

But they have been intensified by 10 years of recurrent cabinet crises due to a multi-party political system and resulting instability.

Socialist leader Guy Mollet took office Feb. 1 as premier of France's 22nd post-war government.

He leads a coalition cabinet representing the "Republican Front" of the Socialist, Radical Socialist and Democratic and Socialist Resistance Union parties.

These parties hold only 172 seats in the 596 seat National Assembly. Mollet depends on the support of other left-of-center groups and the Communists. The

Communists, with 144 seats, have the biggest representation in the Assembly.

Mollet faces a series of tests in the National Assembly this week. Some of them will involve votes of confidence. The issues include Algeria and increased social security benefits.

French political experts predict that Mollet will survive. But it will be partly because the Assembly does not want a cabinet crisis while the Algerian situation remains critical.

The long-range outlook is for a continued period of uncertainty because Mollet's coalition lacks a majority in Parliament and also because the coalition itself is shaky.

Hence comes the renewed talk that a "strong man" might be the answer.

The only candidate in sight, if things came to that, is Gen. Charles De Gaulle, wartime leader of Free France.

De Gaulle headed the government after the war, but retired from office in January, 1946.

He remained, for a long time, a power in politics with his political group, the Rally of the French People. But the party gradually fell to pieces.

De Gaulle remained in retirement at his country home.

Civil Rights Issue Viewed As Important in Election Plans of Parties in 1956

By HELEN B. SHAFFER

Washington—National managers of the Democratic party show more concern about how big-city Negroes are going to vote in 1956 than at any time since the mid-1930s. For two decades the Negro vote has been almost solidly Democratic; this year colored voters are giving signs of a readiness to switch back to the "party of emancipation."

Not that Negroes are highly pleased with the positions on racial issues of the Republican party or the Eisenhower administration. For one thing they would like to have the President take forceful action to compel obedience to the Supreme Court's school desegregation order in the South. And they regard the civil rights program submitted by the Attorney General on Apr. 9 as far too weak and too long delayed to get action before the present session of Congress ends.

See Southern Domination
But colored voters are being told by the GOP and their own leaders that the Democratic party has shown that it is dominated by a southern leadership still strongly attached to white supremacy. Also that Democratic victory in November would keep southerners in key positions in Congress—among them Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.) whose chairmanship of the Senate Judiciary Committee puts him in position to obstruct civil rights legislation and to block appointments to the federal bench at a time when much of the fight against segregation must be conducted in the courts.

Sen. Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.), majority leader of the Senate, has proposed a constitutional amendment to outlaw the poll tax in federal elections and this has a fair chance of Senate approval, for the southerners do not oppose submitting such an amendment to the states. But poll taxes are no longer regarded as a serious obstacle even in the five southern states where they must still be paid as a prerequisite to voting. Leaders of the colored race are not much interested in the Johnson amendment; they say that if Congress wants to abolish the poll tax it can do that by a simple statute adopted by majority vote.

Many Free to Vote
While covert intimidation and fancy registration requirements materially restrict Negro voting in the rural South, the three to four million Negroes of voting age who live in the North are as free to exercise the franchise as any other citizen. And their voting efficiency is high. It appears to be higher than that of various other special groups—housewives, northern farmers, trade union members. Negro organizations are now urging their members to go to the polls in November in greater numbers than ever before.

This is important to political managers because most of the northern Negroes live in heavily populated states which have many votes in the electoral college. As has frequently been pointed out, the big-city Negroes, if skillfully organized and strongly allied with other minorities interested in protection of civil rights, could exercise a balance of power in close national elections.

Truman Had Support
In the election of 1948 Harry Truman had the almost unanimous support of Negro voters. He would have failed of an electoral college majority if a few thousand votes in any two of three states which went Democratic by margins of less than one per cent of the popular vote had been cast the other way.

Democratic standing with Negro voters could be improved this year by nominating Gov. Averell Harriman of New York as the party's standard bearer and adopting a strong declaration on civil rights. However, such action would invite a repetition of the southern walkout of 1948 and could lead to revival of the States' Rights party in the South or to a switch of important southern support to Eisenhower.

Growing West Offers Tempting Political Prize to Big Parties

Washington—(CQ)—The Far West—with 79 electoral votes, 57 House seats, eight Senate seats and six governorships at stake in November—offers a tempting political prize to Republicans and Democrats.

On the basis of the 1954 election, things are looking up for the Democrats in the eight Mountain and three Pacific coast states that comprise the West. They picked up Senate seats in Oregon and Wyoming and lost one in Colorado, for a net gain of one. They also elected three Democratic governors—in Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico—where there were none before.

Uphill Fight
But Democrats face an uphill fight against President Eisenhower in the West. The 1952 Republican candidate carried 51 of 57 Congressional districts and all 11 states, with 57.3 per cent of the more than 9,000,000 votes. That was some 2 per cent more than for the nation as a whole.

Population shifts could hold the key to the outcome of balloting this November. Census figures show that, from 1950 to 1955, the West as a whole gained about 3,600,000 persons for an increase of 18.3 per cent, or twice the national average. Almost 2,500,000 of this gain was in California alone.

The political importance of these gains is underscored by the results of a special analysis of the population and voting characteristics of California's 30 Congressional districts, based on the 1954 election and the 1950 census—the latest complete figures available.

GOP Outvoted
Democrats outvoted Republicans in the 1954 Congressional races in California by more than 100,000 votes statewide. But Democrats elected only 11 Representatives to 19 for the 22 western seats and must defend four in 1956. Democratic seats at stake are those held by Sens. Alan Bible (Nev.), Carl Hayden (Ariz.), Warren G. Magnuson (Wash.) and Wayne Morse (Ore.); GOP seats are those of Sens. Wallace F. Bennett (Utah), Thomas H. Kuchel (Calif.), Eugene D. Millikin (Colo.) and Herman Welker (Idaho). All but Bennett and Bible have announced plans to seek re-election.

Each party likewise is defending three governorships, but the job may be tougher for the Democrats since the three are all they have. Democratic incumbents are Ernest W. McFarland (Ariz.), Edwin C. Johnson (Colo.) and John F. Simms Jr. (N.M.). GOP governors up are J. Hugo Aronson (Mont.), J. Bracken Lee (Utah) and Arthur B. Langlie (Wash.).

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Prospect Adds \$372 To March of Dimes Fund

An additional \$372 has been turned into the Jackson county March of Dimes campaign fund from Prospect, Aubrey Loper, county campaign treasurer, said today. Loper said \$122 of the amount came from a dance and \$250 from a timber sale sponsored by the Prospect Lions club.

The amount brings the prospect contribution to the polio fund campaign to \$677.83, Loper said.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

Cairo—Egypt's new leader, Gamal Abdel Nasser, is reported to have remarked about recent Western and Soviet dealing with the Middle East, that he had "never seen good people do so badly and bad people do so well."



Joseph Alsop

Certainly the bad people, the Soviets, have been handling their relations with Egypt and the Arab world with real brilliance. The arms deal is only part of the story. So are the extensive trade relations now being established between the Arab states and the entire Soviet bloc.

The real story is something bigger than either of these developments, important as they both are. It is the carefully calculated effort by the Kremlin and its agents to persuade the Arab nationalist leaders that they can have full Soviet backing for anything they want to do, anytime they want to ask for it.

AFTER the Eden-Eisenhower meeting in Washington, for example, strong though informal hints were dropped both here in Cairo and in Damascus that the Arab state could count on Soviet military support if the Western powers intervened in an Arab-Israeli war on behalf of Israel. Again, before the meeting of the United Nations Security Council that sent Dag Hammarskjöld off on his peace-making mission, the Soviet Ambassador here called on Prime Minister Nasser to ask what attitude Egypt wished the Soviet Union to take in the matter.

Towards the Arab nationalists, in fact, the masters of the Kremlin are now using the phrases of an old fashioned European hotel concierge—"At your service gentlemen, you have only to command and it will be done." There are clear signs, too, that these flattering attentions are causing some Arab nationalists to think rather longingly of any break with the West and Soviet alliance.

DURING the last week, for instance, Cairo rocked with the story of an editorial published in the government newspaper under the signature of a member of the revolutionary officers council and Minister of State, Col. Anwar el Sadat. In this effusion, the Colonel denounced both Britain and the United States in the bitterest terms, heaped the warmest praise on the Soviet Union, and in effect suggested that Egypt should look only to the Kremlin for aid and friendship.

Prime Minister Nasser was frankly appalled when he read the editorial. Col. Anwar el Sadat was ordered to publish another editorial cancelling the first. But in this second effusion he hardly went further than to admit that after all, President Eisenhower was not a bad fellow.

Altogether, it will be just as idiotic for the Washington and London policy makers to ignore the present Soviet diplomatic propaganda offensive in this area, as it was idiotic for them to ignore the many advance warnings that the Soviets were about to sell arms to Egypt. Above all it must be understood that the Soviets enjoy great advantages here in the Middle East.

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Budgets Receive Tentative OK by Education Board

Portland — (U.P.)—A 1956-57 campus operating budget of \$16,774,111 and a budget for state-wide services which includes the teaching hospitals and clinics, extension services and agricultural research, of \$7,209,861, was tentatively approved by the State Board of Higher Education at its committee session here yesterday.

Shortage of funds was one of the main items of discussion. Salary Matter Critical

Chancellor John R. Richards emphasized that the matter of faculty salaries is critical. Salary adjustments are limited to 3 1/2 per cent by the Legislature and are given on a merit basis. About 36 per cent of the teaching staff will receive pay increases running from \$100 to \$300 a year.

The tentative campus budget is based on a contemplated enrollment increase of 1695 students next fall. This would be \$9.9 per student over a year ago.

New Positions Due
Also 72 new teaching positions are to be added to staffs of state schools in line with the upward trend in enrollment.

The board today accepted \$246,402 in gifts and grants. Included was \$37,003 from the Arkansas Experiment in Teacher Education, Little Rock, to finance the University of Oregon's participation in the program.

U. S. Public Health Service grants totaling \$93,175 will support research work at the university medical school.

FATHER CHRISTMAS?
Marham, England — (U.P.)—Jan Raymond, 5, Monday asked gaudied Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin, "Are you Father Christmas (Santa Claus)?"

Congressional Quiz

Q—Congress recently passed a bill extending for another two years a program for brucellosis control. Brucellosis is: (a) an orchard blight; (b) a livestock disease; (c) illegal use of "wetbacks" as itinerant farm laborers; (d) a common garden pest.

A—(a) A livestock disease which, when transmitted to humans, becomes undulant fever. Q—The nub of the farm bill controversy is over price supports. Both sides agree on supports, but not on whether they should be "rigid" or "flexible." Either way, supports are computed by relating present market prices to "parity" or a fair price based on the average price over a given period of prosperity. What period has been used for many years as a price base? (a) 1896-1905; (b) 1910-1914; (c) 1922-1927; (d) 1932-1937.

—(b) 1910-1914 is the old parity base. A "modernized" parity formula based on prices over the last 10 years was introduced in 1950 as an alternative. Which ever is higher is used for determining price supports on the basic commodities.

Q—Which President of the U.S. appointed our first Secretary of Agriculture: (a) Abraham Lincoln; (b) Grover Cleveland; (c) Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A—Grover Cleveland appointed the first Secretary of Agriculture—Norman J. Colman in 1889. The Department of Agriculture was created in 1862, but was not raised to Cabinet rank until 1889.

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IN THEIR dealings with the excitable Arab nationalists, the Soviets do not have to make the bothersome conditions that the West must make. They do not have to say "We cannot allow you to attack." They do not have to say, "Leave the oil alone, it is our lifeblood." They can say instead, "Take the oil, it has been stolen from you." And with all this, they can play the anti-colonial trumpet in a way that sounds extremely convincing to Arab ears.

The real Soviet aim, of course, is to use Arab nationalism as a weapon to cut the oil jugular of Western Europe. Thus Britain is to be bankrupted, NATO is to be brought down in ruin, and the Western alliance is to be crippled or destroyed. The wiser Arab leaders, conspicuously including Prime Minister Nasser, are not at all averse to using the Soviets as levers to move the West, but at the same time they fully understand the real Soviet aims.

ABOVE all, Nasser and the others like him understand that a final break with the West would leave the Arab nationalist movement in naked isolation with the Soviet Union. They do not like to admit the fact to Westerners, since this decreases their bargaining power. But Nasser and the others like him also realize that weak powers left in isolation with a giant power must inevitably fall under the giant power's domination. They know, in short, that if they do not have the West to balance their relations with the Soviet bloc, they will lose the independence they have fought so hard for.

But if the Western statesmen do not find some means to come to terms with the new Arab nationalism, even those nationalist leaders who see the peril ahead will be forced further and further towards an outright pro-Soviet policy. Even Prime Minister Nasser, strong as he is, cannot altogether resist the tide of emotion among his followers. And this is why this is a grave moment of choice for the West. 1956, New York Herald Tribune Inc.

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Consult



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