

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Flight of Time: Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO: May 1, 1946. Building in Medford continued to boom last month when 93 building permits totaling \$303,706 were issued from the city superintendent's office.

20 YEARS AGO: May 1, 1936. Building permits issued by the city during the month of April totaled \$30,505, only a few thousand dollars less than the first four months of 1934.

30 YEARS AGO: May 1, 1926. Final remittance of voluntary contributions for eastern flood relief to national Red Cross headquarters was announced today by George T. Frey, Jackson county chairman.

40 YEARS AGO: May 1, 1916. The opening concert of the newly organized city band, under the direction of the new bandmaster, Reginald G. Rowland, will be given next Sunday afternoon, May 7, in the city park.

What's the Answer?: Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report. 1. Richard M. Nixon is or isn't the youngest man ever elected vice-president?

2. The so-called Dow theory is on stock price movement, locating oil deposits, producing a light mineral from salt deposits, or origin of life? 3. The Renault is a British, French, German, Italian or Russian make of car?

4. The Bricker amendment on the scope of treaties was rejected in 1954 by the Senate, the House, both or neither? 5. Colonial Airlines is about to merge with Eastern Airlines, TWA Pan American, Delta Airlines or Northwest Airlines?

6. Canada is or isn't a member of the Pan American union? 7. More than half the members of Congress are lawyers; right or wrong? The Answers: 1. Isn't he was 40. Brackenridge in 1856 was only 36. 2. Stock price movements, 3. French. 4. By the Senate. 5. Eastern. 6. Isn't it's not an independent republic. 7. Right.

CAFE TO BE TREATED: Rio De Janeiro — (U.P.)—Former President Joao Cafe Jr. leaves for the United States Wednesday to undergo medical treatment. He suffered a heart attack last November and was forced to give up his office.

Mrs. Roosevelt's Secret

For a week we have been trying to figure out the secret of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's amazing popularity, and have finally decided the answer is:—there is no secret.

It is all very simple and plain. Of course the wonderful health and vitality she was born with has helped, as has her prominence, as wife of the Governor of New York and the First Lady of the Land, for a record breaking length of time. But that might have happened to any number of women and yet we feel sure there would have not been the spontaneous and enthusiastic welcome to anyone else Mrs. Roosevelt received here a week ago, from all sides and from all sorts of people from the moment she arrived until she departed.

WHY? Well the reason we have decided is this: Mrs. Roosevelt is a great democrat.

Don't be alarmed! That is spelled with a small "d"—or should be if the proof reader is onto his job. We don't mean she is an outstanding active and loyal member of the Democratic party—although of course she is. We mean not only is she interested in people—all sorts of people in all parts of the world—but she likes them. That is the heart of democracy—isn't it?

THERE is no outward manifestation of this as she meets people. There is no effort—and we presume never has been—to please or turn on the charm after the manner of some other prominent persons we might mention but won't. There is none of the ingratiating, hand-holding type of thing at all, rather the reverse in fact.

But that important item of interest and liking is SOMEHOW transmitted in some subtle telepathic fashion to all who meet her—she likes people, not special people but just PEOPLE in the mass, and as a natural result people—all people like her.

YES we believe it is as simple as that. But saying it is simple does not mean it is common. In fact the quality as possessed by Mrs. Roosevelt is extremely rare.

The best term for what makes it rare we can conjure up, at the moment, is GENUINENESS. With that liking and interest in people, is a deep and abiding integrity of character, a complete absence of self-conscious pretense and pride, all of which even more than one touch of nature makes the whole world kin.

MRS. Roosevelt, in other words, has been all over the world, met and mingled with all sorts of people high, low and in between, but whether in some drawing room in Mayfair, a state meeting abroad, or in some kitchen in Medford, Oregon, she has always been and will always be, her unassuming, forthright, interesting and interested simple SELF.

IT SEEMED to this department that her remark in her local talk regarding her reaction to a tour of the dispossessed miners in West Virginia, shivering and half starving in their rain and wind battered tents, more than anything else struck the key note of Mrs. Roosevelt's character.

Being interested in people—all sorts of the people—she was interested in the miners—dismayed and outraged by the conditions under which they were living, and had her duties as a wife and mother not been so pressing at the time she would have returned there, she said, to lead a crusade against those responsible for such "inhumanity to man." A relatively small incident but a significant and revealing one.

Had she not been a representative of the Roosevelt House on the DISTAFF side one feels fairly certain that is just what she would have done.—R.W.R.

A Good Job

For the first time we heard Senator Neuberger debate Sunday night. His opponent was Goldwater of Arizona—another Freshman Senator—and the subject was party politics of course.

Needless to say the two contestants belonging to opposite parties did not agree.

But we don't believe prejudice played any part in our judgement that Oregon's junior Senator got all the better of it.

In fact his ease, quickness, freedom from heat but convincing marshalling of facts, pleased, and in view of criticisms recently received, somewhat surprised us.

Yes Mr. Neuberger did an excellent, workman-like job. And while he did not change his opponent's opinions—or probably those of any 100% Republicans—we believe no objective impartial listener would deny that he skillfully maneuvered his opponent into the extremely vulnerable and untenable position of maintaining federal aid to the needy is along with government aid to education, nothing but creeping socialism, the enemy of private initiative and the American "way of life." Yet most of these principles of social reform and progress have been accepted and put into practice by his OWN party!

WE DOUBT if partisan debates like this are of much value in a presidential campaign, as far as making votes is concerned. But they do contribute something to clearing the atmosphere and making it easier for those voters not blinded either way by partisanship to obtain a clearer picture of just where the two major parties stand.

If this contest over the air Sunday night was typical, we believe our junior Senator will be in considerable demand as a campaigner in the 1956 political fracas.—R.W.R.

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.

Negative Salesmanship

To the Editor: One of the most negative types of salesmanship is the smear. If a product is inferior, simply ridicule or slander the competitor's brand. Perhaps then the dingy smoke that results will hide any inferiority. I think that is the reasoning of our late Secretary of the Interior, Douglas McKay. I will agree with anyone that during a political campaign there is usually a lot of criticism from both parties. However, if fault is found or there are quite natural disagreements on issues, there should be given, conversely, constructive suggestions for remedy. To personally dislike another is hardly constructive. It may be a human weakness but certainly not a Christian characteristic as exemplified by the Golden Rule. It is common knowledge that McKay holds no affection for Sen. Wayne Morse. As a result he is letting his emotions rather than his mind govern his campaign.

That is why this contest will certainly not convey to the voters the two entirely different types of political philosophies of these men. Senator Morse is an independent thinker; McKay is ultra conservative.

Surely if Doug McKay is running for the office of U.S. Senator on his previous record he should dispense with his "Fabian" tactics as shown to date and inform the voters of Oregon exactly what his record has been especially in his capacity as Secretary of the Interior. Or perhaps he considers negative salesmanship the stronger of the two choices.

Ken Corliss, 1564 Myers lane, Medford, Ore.

Cause of Delinquency?

To the Editor: In these so changing times, it is precarious, sometimes presumptuous, to say what is wrong or right, even though guided to a degree by some 5,000 years of written history. But when there are changes in ways of life that bring tragic results, we can ask what of the cost? Like the movie killing of

a kindly white whiskered old river-bowt captain who was left there forgotten like an unwanted dog. It was at a drive-in theater showing some Kentuckian and son on their way to Texas in early days. Such "bang bang" stuff is not for me, but sight of the old stem-wheeler that was part of my work once, was a welcome sight. And the historical pageantry was good save for a sour part where the boy was pictured wearing a "girl's night-dress" as they were known to us in such times. We boys shirt-tailed to bed. Some elderly men when asked grinningly admitted the custom. Some city boys did wear a "girl's night-dress" but what a ribbing they got when going to the country to earn a few dollars at haying-time?

But even though the fighting and killing in those days by grown-ups was all too common, the featuring of it in movies and TV, the screaming and moaning of it over the radio, looks to me like the cost of juvenile murders today, which will not be recounted here. It is bad enough to read of them in news releases in such tragic regularity, not mentioning young girls involved in them. The general run of people when questioned about it, pass it by with, "No different now than it was. Just more people and quicker ways of making such things known." Are they right or wrong? My memory is good and goes far back in the years, but can bring up nothing comparative.

A side-light was given by a widowed mother who told how one of her boys refused to go along with his brothers in camping and such like, but insisted on running with a gang whose nightly activities was a growing concern to the police department. He was too big for her to whip and the look on his face when other means were employed frightened her so she kept her bedroom door locked at night. When closely observed, the boy's talk and action reflected the radio, TV and movie.

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

Congressional Committees Hold Fewer Closed Meetings

Washington—(CQ)—Congressional committees barred the public and press from 31.9 per cent of their meetings this year.

But an improvement of 3.9 per cent in the number of open hearings, over a comparable 1955 period, indicates Congress is heeding public criticism of committee secrecy.

Congressional Quarterly's study of closed and open committee hearings discloses that 411 of the 1,289 committee sessions held between Jan. 3 and April 15, 1956, were in executive (closed) session.

House More Open House committees generally had a more open policy than either Senate or Joint committees. As of April 15, House committees held 28.6 per cent of the time, 36 out of 59.

No major committee—those meeting 10 or more times—held all meetings before the public. Ten committees met at least half the time behind closed doors. The 10, and their percentage of closed meetings:

House Administration, 90.9 per cent; House Public Works, Joint Atomic Energy, 75 per cent; Senate Agriculture and Forestry, 69.6 per cent; Senate Foreign Relations, 62.5 per cent; Senate Post Office and Civil Service, 55.6 per cent; Senate District of Columbia, 52 per cent; Senate Armed Services, House District of Columbia, House Foreign Affairs, 50 per cent.

Pope Urges Fight To Bring Peace

Vatican City—(U.P.)—Pope Pius XII, warning against the "deceitful mirages" of Communism, urged Christian workers today to join a battle to bring peace and order to terrified mankind.

The 80-year-old pontiff addressed the workers of the world in a May Day speech from St. Peter's Basilica marking the first celebration of the Roman Catholic feast day of St. Joseph the workman.

His words were spoken directly to tens of thousands of workers in St. Peter's square and by radio to an international meeting of workers in Milan in a move timed with Communist celebrations of May Day.

"Go, then, with a clear conscience towards the lofty goals which are set before you," the Pope said. "Go with particular urgency to your brothers, victims of error and of deceitful mirages. . . . None of you, dear sons, can doubt that benefits, religious, moral and material, which her (the Church's) solicitude and unwearied action is destined to achieve along the paths of order and peace" he said.

Four 'One-Man' Rulers Facing Challenges in Own Countries

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

"One man rule" in under attack in four countries in widely separated arts of the world.

The leaders concerned are Chancellor Adenauer, West Germany, Gen. Francisco Franco, Spain, President Fulgencio Batista of Cuba and President Syngman Rhee of South Korea.

Adenauer and Rhee became their countries' leaders in the course of normal political elections. Franco attained power as the result of the Spanish Civil war. Batista got back into the presidency by a coup.

Each is the outstandingly dominant figure in the country concerned.

Now the 80-year-old Adenauer's one man rule is being challenged not only by members of opposition political parties but by the rank and file of his own Christian Democrats.

Adenauer is chairman of the party. There have been two deputy chairmen.

Over Adenauer's protest, the party at a conference in Stuttgart Saturday decided to name four deputies.

One of them is Karl Arnold, former premier of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, a leader of the Christian Democratic left wing. The rank and file elected Arnold a deputy to put him in line to succeed Adenauer as chancellor when the time comes. Adenauer's plea that Arnold's election would undermine his authority went unheeded.

One reason, undoubtedly, is that Adenauer has refused persistently to name his own political heir. He had come pretty near to promising that he would designate an heir at the conference. Instead he made it plain that he means to stay in office indefinitely.

In Spain, Franco is under attack by intellectuals and workers.

There were serious riots in February in Madrid between university students and members of Franco's Falange party. Now there has been an outbreak of strikes, involving scores of thousands of workers, in industrial Northern Spain.

White House Gets Irrigation Bill

Washington—(U.P.)—A bill designed to meet president objections to a law allowing interest-free loans for construction of irrigation distribution systems has been passed by the Senate and sent to the White House.

When President Eisenhower signed the original bill last year, he asked for the present amendment, which provides that the Interior department will take ownership of the systems until the loans are repaid.

The Senate Interior committee recommended the amendment, but said in a report it believed the security for loans could be obtained administratively by the secretary of interior.

Loans could be obtained only for systems connected with authorized reclamation projects. Backing for the bill came chiefly from irrigation districts in the San Joaquin valley and other sections of California.

The Interior department has held up granting of any loans in the program pending passage of the amending legislation.

Civilian Rewarded For Korea Fighting

Washington—(U.P.)—The Senate yesterday voted \$1,182 for former Marine Cpl. Joseph H. Washburn, who went through some of the bitterest battles of the Korean war while a civilian.

Washburn, a World War II veteran of Long Beach, Calif., joined the Marine Reserve Sept. 1, 1949. He asked for a discharge and received it July 6, 1950.

But on July 26, 20 days later, he got orders to report with his unit for Korean war service. Washburn protested. But by Aug. 18 he was on his way to Korea. He took part in the Inchon landing, the capture of Seoul and the desperate fighting when the Marines, in subzero weather, battled their way to the coast from the Communist trap at the Chosen reservoir.

It was after that, while Washburn was in a rest camp, that the Marines said the military equivalent of "oops!" and sent him home.

SWEET GAS Nunica, Mich. — (U.P.) — Four motorists and a school bus driver who couldn't get their vehicles started discovered someone had "sweetened" their gasoline by pouring sugar into the tanks.

The students, supported by intellectual elements, complain against the domination of the Falange. The workers struck in protest against economic conditions.

Rebels Attack Post Opposition to Batista broke out in Matanzas province in Cuba Sunday. A band of rebels, apparently supporters of former President Carlos Prio Socarras, attacked an army post. Fifteen rebels were killed. Five university students had been killed earlier last week in attacks on police patrols.

Batista blamed Prio Socarras for the outbreaks and had him taken into custody briefly. Batista had ousted him from the presidency in a coup in 1952. Prio Socarras went into exile in

Miami, Fla., but returned six months ago. Batista accused him early last month of plotting a revolt.

Finally, 81-year-old Syngman Rhee is being challenged by two opponents in the presidential election to be held May 15. They are campaigning largely against Rhee's firm one-man rule.

It is pretty certain that Rhee will be elected. Nor are the challenges to Adenauer, Franco and Batista likely to get anywhere soon. West Germans and Koreans seem to feel that Adenauer and Rhee are indispensable in the present world situation. Franco and Batista have the support of their armies, as well as political parties, against any serious revolt.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

ARABIAN FERMENT

Dhahran, Saudi Arabia—This is the land of incredible juxtapositions. Walk a mile from where these words are written, past the low, spidery structures of pipes that hereabouts signify producing oil wells, and you find the kind of empty desert that Doughty and T. E. Lawrence described.

But here in the "senior staff camp" (which means the camp of skill and privilege) of the Arabian American Oil Company, you are in a brisk little suburb of Los Angeles which has been transported, as though by magic carpet, into the midst of the wilderness.

Or in Jeddah, if you are about betimes, you can occasionally see a crowd of Negro women squatting at the entrance of the dress shop that has been opened by the enterprising wives of two of the Saudi Airlines American pilots. These women are harem servants who have got the word that the shop has a new consignment of the best clothes New York can produce. They will take home whole armfuls to their ladies. But for their jewels and their really good dresses, the women shut away in the harems look to still more costly Paris.

OR HERE in Dhahran, in Aramco's vast refinery, you can see Saudi Arabian workmen performing the most complex technical tasks, and getting equal pay with foreign contract labor too. But in this country, you can still buy slaves. The price is rumored to be about \$150 for an able bodied man, \$300 for a boy and \$600 for a girl; and a first class hunting falcon costs nearly as much as a male slave.

These juxtapositions are important, because they suggest the violence of the transition through which this country is now passing, from the immemorial past into the busy present. And this violent transition is vitally significant because it is creating a highly unstable situation, which is hardly masked any longer by the appearance of the absolute power of the Saudi dynasty. In brief, under the impact of the sudden inflow of oil money, Arabia's old tribal system has all but broken down entirely. Within two decades a nation that was three quarters nomadic has become three quarters settled, and most of the settlement has taken place in a few towns where the court and oil company spend their money.

FURTHERMORE, whole new social groups are now emerging and beginning to ask questions. There is a sort of new bourgeoisie, led by contractors for Aramco and the court, many of whom would like to see their country more rapidly modernized.

There is the new Saudi Arabia army, with its American and Egyptian instructors. Just under a year ago, a group of Saudi army officers tried a coup on the Egyptian pattern. They were defeated, and since then the King has kept his feudal levies, the Mujahaddin, on a footing of almost full mobilization. But the army is still a force to be reckoned with.

And finally, besides many other centers of change like the school with their Egyptian teachers, there are the tens of thousands of oil company workers and ex-oil company workers who have learned new ways.

One of the junior Americans who sees a lot of these men revealingly remarked to me that the more skilled workers resented their own government, because of the lack of social progress in their country, while the less skilled resented the oil company, because they wanted even higher wages. Despite the smiling surface, one can see problems ahead for Aramco.

BUT the man who has real problems is King Saud, the good man who inherited the rule of Arabia from his great father at the most critical moment, when the forces of change were suddenly gathering their full momentum. There is hardly any doubt that the drive to modernize Arabia would be causing open trouble here today, if King Saud had followed a different foreign policy.

The King's policy, for which he rather visibly lacks personal enthusiasm, is essentially based on his alliance with Egypt. His real role is to finance Egypt's anti-Western drive in the other Arab states and especially in Jordan and Iraq. Partly, this policy can be laid to the King's three refugee advisors, Yusuf Yassin, Jamal Bey Hussein and Khalid Abu Walid, all of whom are bitterly anti-Western for personal reasons.

In part, too, this policy can be laid to native emotions. There is the old hatred of the Hashemite family that rules in Iraq and Jordan, the descendants of the Prophet from whom the house of Saud wrested the holy places of Islam. There is above all the bitterness over the Israeli problem. Even the heir to the throne, Faisal Prince of the Hejaz, frankly told me he was pleased by the prospect of Soviet support against Israel.

BUT there is another cause for Saudi policy that goes deeper than any of these. At present, through his Egyptian alliance, King Saud is playing the role of an Arab nationalist leader. But if he broke with Egypt, the hose of propaganda and agitation would be turned on him as it is now turned on Nuri Pasha in Iraq. He would be portrayed as an American puppet, the captive of his oil company, the feudalist who holds back Arabia from national progress.

It would be unfair, but it would be effective in the present unstable situation in Arabia. These people do not like the Egyptians who are so rapidly creeping in among them, but they would listen to Cairo's voice of the Arabs if it began to shout aloud their own unspoken aspirations. Thus the ferment that is now beneath the surface would come to an open rolling boil. After that, anything might happen.

Because this prospect always hangs over the Saudi government, Saudi Arabia must now be regarded as the captive, if you like, of the new Arab nationalist movement that presently centers in Cairo. In fact this Arab nationalist link has to be treated as stronger than the powerful Saudi links to the United States.

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