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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 Aug. 22, 1946

(It was Thursday)

Clouds and a few sprinkles of rain bring an end to a mild heat wave which the district has experienced for the past several days.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: The fall crop of dandelions are showing up. They have started to flourish most every place but on the Baptist church lawn.

20 YEARS AGO Aug. 22, 1926

(It was Saturday)

The state planning commission holds a meeting in the court house next Friday and Saturday, it is announced by Leonard Carpenter, Jackson county member of the board.

Sixteenth annual meeting of the Southern Oregon Pioneer association will be held in Jacksonville on Sept. 24.

30 YEARS AGO Aug. 22, 1926

(It was Sunday)

Supt. of schools E. H. Hedrick is overseeing the getting ready of the new high school and the old high school for the opening of schools, Sept. 7.

Walter Bowme, representative of local sportsmen, is trying to improve the fishing in the Rogue and get local sportsmen interested in an organization.

40 YEARS AGO Aug. 22, 1916

(It was Tuesday)

The weekly concert by the Medford band will be tonight at 8 p.m. with bandmaster Rowland.

From Local and Personal column: Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Deuel left Monday in their car for Los Angeles.

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

1. Richard M. Nixon was put in nomination for Vice President in 1952 by Harold E. Stassen, the late Senator Taft, Senator McCarthy, Christian Herter, or Senator Knowland?

2. The Walker Cup is contested in tennis, golf, point-to-point racing, harness racing, Ivy League football or track?

3. If the Republicans regain control of the Senate, Senator McCarthy probably would or wouldn't head the Government Operations committee again?

4. Kabul is the capital of Afghanistan, Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan, Tibet or Indonesia?

5. Which of these cars are made by the American Motors Corp.: Hudson, Imperial, Nash, Packard, Studebaker?

6. The Republicans have won more presidential elections since 1896 than the Democrats; right or wrong?

7. The Rock of Gibraltar is higher than the Empire State Building?

The Answers: 1. Sen. Knowland. 2. Golf. 3. Probably would. 4. Afghanistan. 5. Hudson and Nash. 6. Wrong (7 to 7). 7. Higher.

Summer Fades Slowly

The violent and damaging storms of the past few days are summertime phenomena. They happen in the Rogue valley when conditions are "just so," and pose a threat to the ripening fruit and the tinder-like forests which are so much a part of summer here.

But even before the late-afternoon lightning, thunder and gale-like winds arrived this week, we had noted a few hints and whispers that summer, as it always does, was stealing away.

THE dew on the grass was a little heavier in the mornings.

A few isolated leaves on the locust trees were starting to turn yellow. Crabgrass is enjoying its last, most furious growth. A lady we know claims that she's had to turn on the electric blanket a couple of times recently.

So, despite the fact that the autumnal equinox is one month from today, we have concluded—by instinct, not by cerebration—that the time has come for our annual reminder that fall is creeping into the air.

THE change from blazing summer to sparkling autumn is the most fascinating to watch of all the shifts from one season to another. In the Rogue valley it usually comes gently, softly, with far-ahead tokens and warnings. Then, one day, the gray rain will fall; school will reopen; the crabgrass will wither and turn brown in big patches on the lawn.

And when, finally, we smell the aroma of burning leaves, we will know that autumn has truly arrived. —E.A.

Attitude

A brilliant student who doesn't care too much about what he is studying will not do as well in a course as a mediocre student who is fired up, excited and determined.

About any honest teacher you can name will vouch for this as a fact. (It is also a fact that in many, many cases, a touch of inspiration and dedication in the teacher is a necessary prerequisite to the "firing-up" of students.)

WHILE this idea is acknowledged to be valid by many educators, it has not necessarily won for itself a firm place in the pedagogy of the times.

In other words, too much emphasis has often been placed on the "IQ" test, the aptitude test, the college board exams, and the other devices for separating the intellectual wheat from the educational chaff. Too little has been placed on the determination of the average-ability student to make up for his lack of brilliance by plain, old-fashioned hard work.

The dean of the school of engineering at Oregon State college, George W. Gleeson, recently stated that attitude is more important than aptitude in preparing for the profession of engineering.

AND what is "attitude" in a student?

Is it not simply a channeling of determination, the ability to choose the pursuit of knowledge as a course sufficient unto itself, the willingness to choose the road that is "right" for the student, no matter what the difficulties and hard work involved?

This involves self-discipline. Self-discipline cannot be taught in a schoolroom. But it can be instilled in young minds, more by precept and example than by admonition and repetition.

WHERE, then, are we to go for the precept and example with which to call forth in young people the self-discipline necessary for the constructive attitude, the determination for success?

In answering this question we go right back to the formative environment of all youngsters—the home, the school, the church, the neighborhood. This is where attitude is born. This is where latent abilities are developed or destroyed or, sometimes, ignored.

ATTITUDE can change later in life. The way ex-GIs took to their educational opportunities, after wartime service gave them the necessary incentive and determination, is proof enough of that.

But it remains true that attitude, or lack thereof, is usually born early, and that those who influence children are the ones most responsible for the form it takes.—E.A.

People are People

Members of "Amigos Internacional" are not, all by themselves, going to prevent another war.

Nor, we suspect, are they going to make a big splash in the field of international cooperation and understanding, between the U.S. and Mexico, by their modest program of friendliness and service with the Mexicans who are working in the pear harvest here. They might even arouse some overly suspicious characters to call them "do-gooders"—that horrible appellation which indicates the subject thereof might better tend to his own knitting.

BUT this we know: The cause of international peace and understanding is not well served by the jingoes who insist that we are the annotated super-race, and to heck with the rest of the benighted world.

If the Amigos Internacional members do no more than to re-learn for themselves the fact that people are people, the whole world around, they will have earned our respect.

And if, by an unselfish approach to other people's problems—be they Mexican or American or Hottentot—they influence others to come to the realization that all people are human beings, they will have earned the respect, and will deserve the gratitude, of all right-thinking people.—E.A.

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE WEST AND SUEZ

The three Western powers are in a better position today than they were two weeks ago. Then, Britain and France, with United States refusing to support them, were making show of force and giving the impression that they might go to war in order to take back from Egypt the operation of the canal. In truth, they had reacted sharply to a dangerous and humiliating provocation, and they were not yet clear in their own minds what they could do about it. They had been surprised by Col. Nasser's seizure of the Canal Company, there existed no policy, and one had to be improvised in London, Paris and Washington. At this point, the Western position was highly vulnerable. It looked as if Col. Nasser, supported by the Soviet Union and by all of Asia, would have unlimited control of the canal, and that the Western powers, having threatened force, would find that they could not make good their threat.



Walter Lippmann

But within the past week the Western Foreign Ministers, with Mr. Dulles playing a leading and constructive part, have reached firm ground on which to negotiate. From the beginning, a settlement of the problem had to be worked out somewhere between two poles. At the one pole, there was Egyptian operation of the canal under an Egyptian promise that it would observe the Convention of 1888 which provides for the free and equal use of the canal by the ships of all nations in war and peace. The Western nations would be dependent upon the wishes of Col. Nasser who has proclaimed his hostility to them; they would not even have a tribunal to which they could complain if they believed their rights had been violated.

At the other pole there has been a wish to take away the operation of the canal from the Egyptian government and to set up an international authority to operate the canal. As there has been no chance that Col. Nasser would abdicate his powers to operate the canal, a solution of this sort would have had to be imposed by military force.

This was probably impossible because the United States would not have supported it, because the Soviet Union and Asia would have opposed it, because the military occupation of Egypt would have meant for Great Britain and France a horrid combination of another Cyprus and another Algeria.

THE eventual Western proposal, if I understand it rightly, is an offer to Egypt, through the good offices of the Soviet Union, to accept Egyptian operation on two conditions. One is that Egypt agree to a modernized version of the Treaty of 1888. The other condition is that Egypt herself set up some kind of Egyptian corporation or authority, independent of political orders from the Egyptian government, to operate the canal.

This Western proposal is within negotiable distance of the proposals made by Mr. Shepilov on Friday, that there be "a new international convention . . . or an agreement supplementing the convention of 1888, with a view to confirm and guarantee freedom of navigation of the Suez Canal with the observance of the sovereign rights of Egypt." What the West is asking, in addition to what Mr. Shepilov has proposed, is that Egypt agree to do the kind of thing that we often do in this country when we want to keep politics out of some great complex of public utilities, as in the Tennessee Valley or in the Port of New York.

THIS is a reasonable position for the West to take, and a good one to take even if Egypt is not yet willing to agree. For now that the West has squared its demands with the moral, the political and the legal realities, the balance of power as between Egypt and the West can be expected to right itself. The operation of the canal as a profitable enterprise requires technical skill and new capital. The building of the High Dam at Aswan also requires technical skill and a great deal of capital. There is no reason to think that the Soviet Union is willing or is able to underwrite Col. Nasser both for the canal and for the dam, and so Col. Nasser must in the course of time restore in some measure Egypt's credit in the Western world.

The glamor and the glory of his coup will not keep shining brightly forever if the traffic becomes snarled and if the canal sits up and if the Aswan dam remains unbuilt. What Mr. Dulles proposed on behalf of the Western powers is a cheap price to pay for the restoration of Egypt's credit.

BUT that will not be enough. Even if the immediate crisis is settled on some kind of negotiated compromise between the Dulles and the Shepilov proposals, the canal will still be within the jurisdiction and power of the Egyptian government. The dependence of Western Europe upon the canal will still be much too great.

The Western powers, and the oil companies operating in the Middle East, should proceed at once—and regardless of the outcome of the present negotiations—to liberate themselves from dependence on the Suez Canal. According to Michael L. Hoffmann, writing from Geneva, there are oil and shipping experts who think this can be done within six months, and that within two or three years "the construction of great tankers of 80,000 to 100,000 tons would make the canal obsolete so far as oil is concerned." This would provide the best guarantee that the West can obtain that Egypt will keep faith in the operation of the canal.

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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.

Child-Safe Refrigerators

To the Editor: May we suggest consideration of the new law just signed by President Eisenhower which requires manufacturers to equip refrigerator doors with safety closing devices?

This law is aimed at eliminating the hazard that has caused the deaths of at least 115 children in the past ten years who have met particularly horrible deaths by suffocation behind latched doors of discarded refrigerators.

While this law will certainly go far towards eventually eliminating this danger, there is still a need for public awareness of the dangers remaining because of the existence of old-style refrigerator doors.

It will be ten years, at least, before these new refrigerators with their child-safe doors will be discarded. In the meantime, people will be discarding refrigerators that will be death traps unless they are properly handled.

Mark E. Stroock, Bureau of Industrial Service, 285 Madison Ave. New York, N. Y.

Big Blow

To the Editor: Concerning the recent wind storm of Aug. 20, we have lived in this valley a number of years. Being somewhat partial to the fruitgrowers and others who depend on their livelihood, we were very sorry to hear the estimate made on the damage due to the wind. Having noticed the wind come into the valley from the south, also having ascertained the origin of the big blow in the vicinity of San Francisco, I would suggest in the future all political conventions be held in Chicago, where the people are used to wind.

Alfred W. Hanenkrat, Route 1, Box 17A, Jacksonville, Ore.

Canary's Day Out; Woman Refuses Letter

Brockton, Mass.—(UPI)—A letter carrier knocked on a door to make a delivery, but the woman inside wouldn't open the door. "Got a letter with three cents postage due," he explained. Came the muffled reply: "Bring it back tomorrow. I can't come to the door today—it's the canary's day out of the cage."

Herbert Hoover's 'Farewell' Evokes Whispers of the Past

By LYLE C. WILSON

United Press Correspondent San Francisco—(UPI)—Cheers rolled and thundered up to the old man on the convention platform and from across the years old-timers heard the whispered echo of cheers long gone.



Lyle C. Wilson

There was whispered echo, too, of a world and a way of life gone as surely as though in some great convulsion. Of all about him, only the old man had not changed and was not yet gone. His farewell address, the old man called it, as his eyes ranged over the chosen of the party he once had led.

The many younger among them stared. They knew the name but not the man. The older ones smiled encouragement. Veterans who had known him when claimed rank by comment-

ing on this or that occasion when the old man had stood before them in the past.

"Safeguard human freedom," the old man was saying, and from down the years the whispered echoes came in his old-timers' accents of a mother whose infant had been warmed and fed, the Flemish and French, of the Belgians whose sick had been tended, whose starving had been given food.

Whispered echoes came of the spitting Russian in which the old man had been so often blessed and in all the languages of the Middle East and of Europe, in the dialects of China the echoes came.

Whispered Echoes Came "Truth," the old man was saying, "came into the universe along with the starry masses which made the world."

He was talking a bit more slowly now. The old man was tiring. One long sentence, maybe two, and a pause. A pause stuffed beyond its dimensions

with the convention's cheers. And the echoes were coming now in a more familiar tongue. "Echoed cheers of World War I for a job well done. The faint reverberance from a nation boisterous the night a presidential election was won.

In sequence came the dimming echoes of convention whoops and hollers long past. Twenty years ago in Cleveland, Philadelphia, Chicago twice and now San Francisco to send new echoes down the years to come. "Legalistic socialism," the old man was saying, but without hate in his voice, for he is a Quaker. "Communism, fascism, atheism, materialism." He condemned them all.

"Alien ideas," the old man was saying and the convention cheered him for the enemies he had made. "Malign forces that beset us from within and from without!"

Seventh Appearance The old man was near the end now of his speech and in his mind did not count many years ahead.

"Integrity and faith," he was telling them, "is the way to the Holy Grail of freedom."

Seven times this man has stood before a national convention of the Republican party. Twice, in 1928 and 1932, he received its nomination for president of the United States. Much older—now 82—the famous hard collar shucked for something soft and comfortable, the familiar double-breasted suit, the same halting style of oratory, the same theme: Human freedom.

His third farewell, the old man called it, and his listeners wondered. Four more years is a long time in the eighties. The old man smiled down on them. "I have lived a long time. My faith . . . in the future."

Cheers rolled and thundered up to the old, old man on the convention platform and across the years the echoes came. The old man stood silent there and listened. Then the first gentleman of the United States turned slowly and walked away.

Matter of Fact

By Joe and Stewart Alsop

"ALL THE PEOPLE" San Francisco—All political platforms are boring, and the civil rights plank of a Republican platform is usually the dullest piece of lumber in the whole structure. This one is strikingly interesting, however, first for what it does not say, and second, because it is the result of the personal intervention of Dwight D. Eisenhower.



Joe and Stewart Alsop

The plank itself has been well described by the chairman of the platform committee, Sen. Prescott Bush, as "strongly moderate." It goes a bit further than the Democratic plank on civil rights, but not very much further. Yet it was satisfactory to most of the

Southerners on the platform committee. In other words, the plank is conspicuously not an all-out attempt to capture the great bloc of Negro votes that now hold the balance of power in an actual majority of the big Northern states. The Supreme Court's desegregation decision, handed down by a "great Republican Chief Justice," as Vice President Nixon noted, ideally set the stage for a Republican attempt of this kind. The movement of the Negroes into the Democratic party during the whole New Deal period, might now have been dramatically reversed. But this glittering temptation has been resisted. Why?

THE KEY to the puzzle lies squarely in the President's own character and his view of his office. Furthermore, the convention's civil rights plank is no more than a reaffirmation of a big decision that the President made as long ago as the beginning of the last session of Congress.

At that time, a powerful faction in the Eisenhower Cabinet, supported by more than one of the President's most influential political advisers, positively longed to launch a major raid into the rich Democratic preserves of Negro voters. Against the background of the court's decision, they wanted the president to ask Congress, and to ask insistently, for the strongest sort of civil rights legislation.

In the cabinet, Attorney General Herbert Brownell and Secretary of Labor James Mitchell were the most important advocates of this strategy—which would have caused something very like a mass attack of nervous collapse throughout the Northern Democratic organizations. The Cabinet's businessmen members were unenthusiastic,

being instinctively opposed to extreme action of any kind. Also opposed was Republican National Chairman Leonard Hall, who is working hard to build real Republican organizations in the South.

AS IS HIS habit, the President heard out both sides when the matter was discussed in cabinet. Then, when he gave his decision, he lifted the debate to an entirely new plane. He admitted that asking the Congress for an ultra-strong civil rights program would probably be good politics. It had been good politics for Truman. It would be even better for the Republicans, who stood to gain even more lavishly.

But he added that he could not judge the matter politically. The legislation would not pass. It might be good politics, but it would also be immensely divisive. It would inflame the already dangerous situation in the South. It would produce all sorts of other unpleasant side effects. He had the duty to act "as president of all the people," he concluded; so he was not going to seek Negro votes when the national cost would be so high.

In line with this decision, the Administration's civil rights program was offered to the Congress very late, and was never seriously pressed for by the President. As a result, the Democratic Congressional leaders were able to avoid the civil rights fight that they so desperately feared. And this set the stage for the successful compromise of the civil rights issue at the Democratic convention.

AT THIS Republican convention, in turn, the Democratic compromise looked like a golden opportunity to such Northern Republicans as Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois. In the platform committee, Dirksen and the others like him tried very hard for a civil rights plank sufficiently extreme to make the Democrats look cheap and timid in Negro eyes.

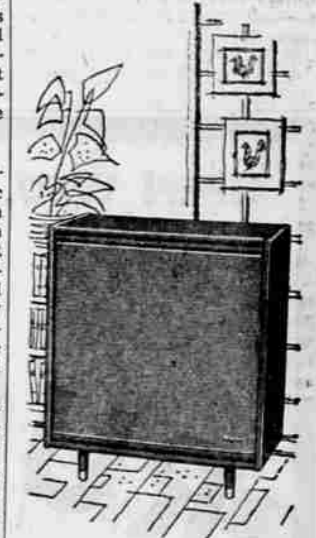
Dirksen and Company might well have won, too. Any Republican can see that the electoral votes of New York and Illinois, Pennsylvania and Michigan and California are worth immeasurably more than the slim chance of Republican gains in the South. Even from the South, from Kentucky Senate aspirant John Sherman Cooper, came a demand for a really strong plank. But once again, Dwight D. Eisenhower put his foot down. The word came from the White House that the President would not stand for anything too extreme. And so the "strongly moderate" plank was adopted.

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McCANN ON VACATION

Charles M. McCann is on vacation. His weekly news outlook and daily foreign news commentary columns will be resumed upon his return.

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