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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO Oct. 17, 1946 (Thursday)

A meeting here of representatives of all AF of L unions in southern Oregon is called to discuss the strike of the Crater Lake lodge of Machinists against Automobile Dealers association.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: One of the local fair sex flaunts a \$200 cigarette lighter. Like the \$2 variety it occasionally unexpectedly bursts into flames when properly approached.

20 YEARS AGO Oct. 17, 1936 (Saturday)

One of the most patriotic celebrations in years will be staged in Medford Nov. 11, according to Legion Post 15.

League of Western Writers meet at Medford hotel for the first regular session of the fall.

30 YEARS AGO Oct. 17, 1926 (Sunday)

The new modern electrically equipped mill of the Owen-Oregon Lumber company will be in operation March 1, 1927, according to James H. Owen, general manager.

P. C. Bigham returns from the Lakeview country with the season's record mule-tail deer, weighing 300 pounds.

40 YEARS AGO Oct. 17, 1916 (Tuesday)

The highest price received in the Pacific northwest this year for Jonathan apples so far, was on fruit shipped to Glasgow, Scotland, by J. McPhee Ferguson, Yakima, Wash.

Dress-Up Week, Oct. 14 to 21, is not being held in Medford alone, but is nation-wide.

50 YEARS AGO Oct. 17, 1906 (Wednesday)

A business deal involving Rogue River Valley fruit lands has been consummated with J. N. Davis, Portland, and the purchase of the M. A. Edal place, above the Burrell orchard, and containing 175 acres.

The Mail Tribune is now located upstairs in the Miles building on Seventh st. and apologizes for missing three issues.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 77 Cops. 1955 Editorial Research Report

1. With Justice Minton replaced by Justice Brennan, the Supreme Court now has more Republicans or Democrats?

2. Full membership in the American Legion is or isn't open to Negro war veterans?

3. Who was the last Republican vice president before Nixon?

4. State with "Water Wonderland" in its car tags is California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, or New York?

5. The Hatch acts are on taking liquor, women, or stolen cars across state lines, or corrupt political practices?

6. Less than 10 per cent, or about 20 per cent, or over 35 per cent of all Americans are left-handed?

7. Mrs. Roosevelt is now between 65 and 69, 70 and 74, 75 and 80, or over 80?

The answers: 1. Still more Democrats. 2. Is. 3. Charles Curtis under Hoover. 4. Michigan. 5. Corrupt political practices. 6. Less than 10 per cent. 7. Between 70 and 74.

Who's To Say?

If you are a parent of immature children, you probably keep an eye on what they read. In effect, you practice a prior censorship to protect your youngsters from contact with material which you, as a responsible parent, believe might be damaging.

This is your business as a parent. If you are a good citizen, however, you do not try to tell your neighbors what they can or can't read. It's none of your business.

DESPITE this—despite the fact that what you read is none of my business and what I read is none of yours—there is a fairly strong movement these days to tell other people what they cannot read.

This is done in a variety of ways, but the one which is attracting the greatest amount of attention throughout the nation is an organization called the National Organization for Decent Literature.

Their motives may be commendable. But their methods are questionable, to say the least. John Fischer, editor of Harper's, says they "are engaged in an un-American activity which is as flagrant as anything the Communist party ever attempted—and which is, in fact, very similar to Communist tactics. They are harming their country, their Church, and the cause of freedom."

THOSE are strong words for a group which wants only to keep from the eyes of the young and impressionable writing which it feels will do them no good.

But their attempt uses, not "education" or persuasion, but to state it badly, coercion and intimidation. They place themselves in the position of one who says "I have decided that this is bad for you, and I shall do what I can to prevent you from getting it."

This is done by compiling a list of books of which the NODL disapproves (and which, incidentally, contains works by some of the most highly-regarded authors writing in English), and then circulating the list to dealers of "paper backs" and so on, with the threat, express or implied, of a boycott if the books are not removed from sale.

NO ONE can deny to any organization the right to attempt to influence, or even discipline, its own members in what they do—so long as membership in that group is voluntary.

But we do challenge the right of any group to attempt to influence the life and the freedom of choice of others.

The fact that the NODL is a Catholic group is beside the point, for such attempts can arise within any particular religious faith. And it is also true that some of the group's most effective critics are churchmen.

For instance, Father John Courtney Murray, S.J., professor of moral theology at Woodstock college, said:

"Any religious minority group has the right to work toward the elevation of standards of public morality . . . through the use of the methods of persuasion and pacific argument," but, "No minority group has the right to impose its own religious or moral views on other groups through the use of methods of force, coercion or violence."

THE problem which the NODL is attempting to solve through means we believe to be misdirected, is, nonetheless, a real one. A glance at almost any magazine or paperback-book rack will give evidence of the fact that there is a lot of trash around—salacious, suggestive, even pornographic; stuff we'd rather our children didn't read.

However, while we suggest that parents keep a quiet check on what is available to their children, we also suggest that any attempts to regulate what reading material is available to others be conducted through legal means, not through boycotts or attempted intimidation.

Virtually all states, including Oregon, have laws against pornography and indecency in print. But the right to decide what is illegal rests NOT with snoopers and pryers, nor with any self-constituted police-censorship agencies. It rests with the courts. And any citizen is entitled to bring the matter to court.

CHARLES A. Sprague, former governor and editor of the Oregon Statesman, puts it this way:

"To tell other people what they should NOT read is both difficult and dangerous. Tastes are different, intellectual maturity differs, interests and purposes are different. Almost without exception, efforts at censorship have broken down because of disagreement over what should be tolerated and what should be prohibited. Boycott and coercion are offensive and provoke a reaction, so they quickly burn themselves out."

As in so many other problems which arise in a democracy, where freedom of choice and independence of action must, at all costs, be maintained, the solution to this problem is not an easy one.

But here again, the approach to a solution lies in the upbringing of our young people. For a youngster with a solid and decent background of family life and friends, who has high ideals and standards, will not be harmed by pulpy trash.

And the difficulty in getting rid of pulpy trash is in its definition, and in the selection of those who are to say what is and what is not "fit" for other people to read. NOBODY'S that good.—E.A.

Wrench Left on Planer Kills Lumber Worker

White Salmon, Wash.—(UPI)—A 42-year-old planer man at the Sprague Lumber mill here was killed yesterday when a pipe wrench left on the planer flew through the air and struck him in the head.

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.

Thoughts on the Roosevelt PTA

To the Editor: I attended a recent Roosevelt PTA meeting because I wished to see the pro-fluoridation film which was shown. I was very much intrigued when the operator pouring the sodium fluoride into the city water system was protected only by a pair of rubber gloves. The directions on a can of sodium fluoride sold as rat poison stress "scrupulously avoid inhaling the dust. To avoid inhaling cover the nose and mouth with a wet cloth while using."

There are other factors in the film equally misleading. In actual practice the operator must be covered from head to toes with a heavy rubber suit. I have before me a copy of the proceedings of a annual conference, State Dental Directors with the Public Health Service and the Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C., June 6, 1951. The purpose of the conference was to instruct the state officers how to promote fluoridation. Actual statements by Dr. Frank Bull of Wisconsin include: "Let me tell you the PTA is a honey when it comes to fluoridation. Give them all you have got."

"Now in regard to toxicity—I noticed Dr. Bain used the term 'adding sodium fluoride.' We never do that—that is rat poison. You add fluoride. Never mind that sodium fluoride business. All these things give the opposition something to pick at without our giving them more. But this toxicity question is a difficult one. I can't give you the answer on it."

Throughout the entire discussion the emphasis was on not letting the opposition have an opportunity to voice their facts. The Roosevelt PTA was an excellent example of such tactics. Mr. Verne Shangle had been granted the privilege to speak to the group for only five minutes because the program was too long. But the program was arranged in such a manner that the group could be dismissed in a matter of seconds, which was done as soon as Mr. Shangle entered the room. Surely fluoridation is a very shaky proposition since it must rely on blatantly misleading propaganda films and literature and prevent the opposition from ever being heard in order to secure acceptance. Surely such totalitarian methods have no place in America and least of all in our public schools.

Miss A. Streed, 36 North Peach st., Medford, Ore.

Difficult to Understand

To the Editor: It is difficult for me to understand the small group of people fighting such an idea as fluoridation of drinking water, based on tremendous research by highly trained and qualified personnel. Can this same small group be the same sort who fought vaccination, purification of water supply, adequate sewage disposal, etc.?

Now one might say these former were life saving measures, but only one further look at the result of tooth decay and abscesses to see such monsters as certain types of arthritis, kidney disease, heart valve damage, sinusitis and any number of other diseases where chronic infection could well be the cause. This is a high price to pay in human suffering and pain which could be so easily alleviated by a fluoridated water supply.

The thing fluoridation would do, to my way of thinking, would be to help those youngsters whose parents are unable to afford adequate dental care. Surely these children deserve something better than complete dentures or no teeth at all by the time they are in their 20s.

Mrs. Elliott Harlow, 301 Ardmore Medford, Ore.

Man Quotations

To the Editor: Am enclosing a clipping from the Klamath Falls paper on fluoridation, given to me by a friend.

Would like to have it printed in The Mail Tribune, also, as we the people, need all the information we can get on this important problem before election day.

Will you please print it in your paper? Mrs. Ruth Hertzger, 47 North Orange st., Medford, Ore.

(The letter follows.) Klamath Falls (To the Editor)—Benjamin Neslin, M.D., director of laboratories for the New York City Department of Water Supply, was quoted in the New York Mirror of April 25, 1955: "Never in the history of water supply has a substance so toxic in nature with such a high degree of physiological potency and associated with so much adverse evidence affecting public health been seriously considered for introduction into the public water supply."

S. L. Zimmerman, DDS, Ardmore Pennsylvania, president of Pennsylvania Pure Water Association, stated October, 1955: "Sodium fluoride is a metallic inorganic protoplasmic poison and no human power can change it. Inorganic means that it does not belong in the human body. It is not the lack of fluoride in teeth that causes dental caries. I add the voice against this dastardly plot to poison the city drinking water supply."

Please print this, the truth, so people will know how to vote on this Nov. 6. Mrs. M. B. Foster

She Is For Morse

To the Editor: I have been listening to the Republican candidates tear down Wayne Morse for disloyalty to the people of Oregon and for not representing Oregon and the voters of Oregon. I would like to cite an incident that happened to me about three years ago.

My husband was attempting to get his combat pay from Korea. We had made several applications and were turned down on each occasion. On one last hope, I wrote to two of our Republican politicians who were in Washington, D. C. I received nothing for my labors from either one so I wrote a second time. This time I received a mimeographed form from the Republican representative asking me for support in the election. Finally I wrote to Senator Morse about our plight and in less than a week, I received a personal letter from the Senator. He asked for complete information on the subject and offered his complete assistance.

In less than two weeks we received a personal letter from the head of that department of the Army with a complete explanation as to our refusals by the department. I realize that this may seem like a comparatively minute example of Wayne Morse's character, but to my husband and me, it meant a great deal.

We won't forget the Republican who was so busy representing Oregon that he couldn't even acknowledge our letter, and we won't forget Wayne Morse, who took the plight of two people he had never even heard of to heart and helped us. Wayne Morse may not be for Eisenhower, but he is for the people of Oregon, even the little ones, and that's good enough for me.

Dutch, Greek Royal Families' Difficulties Aired in Public

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The private lives of two of Europe's few remaining royal families are being given a sensational public airing.

Queen Juliana of The Netherlands is being subjected to criticism because of her close friendship for a woman faith healer.

It is being asserted that the faith healer has become a sinister influence in Netherlands affairs.

King Paul and Queen Frederika of Greece are being accused of spending too much money on themselves and of permitting influence peddling by members of their royal household.

The situation in The Netherlands has become so serious that it is quite possible Juliana may decide to abdicate in favor of 18-year old Crown Princess Beatrix.

Paul Pacifying Critics

It looks as if Paul is on the way to pacifying his critics. But conditions in Greece are such that, in the long run, the possibility of a radical change in the situation cannot be ruled out.

Juliana's trouble stems from the fact that her fourth and youngest daughter, 9-year old Princess Marijke, was born with defective eye sight — the result of an attack of measles which the Queen suffered during her pregnancy. Physicians were unable to restore the child's sight to normal.

Prince Bernhard, the Queen's husband, heard of a faith healer who was credited with some remarkable cures. Square-shouldered, masculine-looking Greet Hofmans was taken into the royal household in 1950. She had no better success with her healing-by-faith methods than the physicians.

Bernhard did not like the way things were going. He thought Miss Hofmans was too prominent in palace affairs. But Juliana refused his demand that she be sent away.

Rumors Start Circulating

Rumors started to circulate that either Miss Hofmans was influencing the Queen's judgment in national affairs or that the influence was being exerted by intriguing persons who used Miss Hofmans as a tool to get their views before the Queen and Bernhard.

The situation was brought into the open last June by a German weekly magazine. It was ignored

in The Netherlands at first. Finally the government and the royal family were compelled to recognize it.

Miss Hofmans was sent away from the royal household. But it is asserted that her influence remains.

In Greece, beset by increasingly troublous economic conditions, opposition politicians started accusing the royal couple of extravagance.

Influence Peddling Charges

It was asserted that Paul and Frederika were lavishing money on luxurious yacht cruises and visits of state — junkets—abroad. Frederika was accused of using secret funds to buy costly Parisian clothes. There were charges also of influence peddling.

A blow-up came when parliament increased the King's annual allowance to \$383,000 tax clear.

Paul decided to roll with the punches. He announced Tuesday that he would close his main palace in the interest of economy and would reduce the number of his court officials. Four of the officials were ousted on the charge that they used their jobs to advance their business connections.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

A survey just completed by one of the leading professionals of the country shows that as of now politics is the topic of conversation of only 44.7 per cent of the 102 million Americans old enough to vote.

It finds that more persons talk about politics in the West than in any other area of our country and that men talk more about politics than women do.

NOTE, please, that these pollsters are concerned only with people who TALK about politics. I wish they'd give us a count on the people who THINK CONSTRUCTIVELY ABOUT politics.

That would be really interesting.

THE head of this survey outfit — his name is Sindlinger and he's presently accepted as one of the toppers in the business— adds that it is STARTLING to see how more and more millions of people start talking politics as the election gets closer.

Heck! There's nothing startling about that. As this is written, another tornado is brewing off of the southeast of Florida. It isn't creating much excitement yet — but as it gets CLOSER everybody in Florida will be talking about it.

Something that is going to happen tomorrow is always more exciting than something that is going to happen week after next.

THE teletype tells about a man named Grusgeki who found a woman's purse on the Pennsylvania Turnpike and drove 100 miles out of his way to deliver it to her in Pittsburg.

The story labels it as another instance of the brotherhood of man.

SHUCKS! Let's be realistic about these things. He was probably looking for a little publicity. He could have MAILED it to her for a few pennies.

I MENTION this because in these modern days too many people do things for the publicity they get instead of doing what they believe TO BE RIGHT.

The world would be better off if more of us followed the advice of Matthew (V:3): "When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth."

THE dispatches tell us that a knotty diplomatic problem may develop in San Francisco if the district attorney decides to file a shoplifting charge against the wife of the Yugoslavian vice-consul Stanislav Jucnic.

She was arrested Saturday on a charge of taking merchandise worth slightly more than \$26 from a San Francisco store.

Her case is reminiscent of the Russian ballet dancer who was arrested in London for shoplifting. That one caused quite a flurry in diplomatic circles.

WHY are these problems "knotty?" It's quite simple. Diplomats are VISITORS. They are presumed to be friendly visitors.

Suppose you caught a visiting FRIEND, or a member of a visiting friend's family, lifting stuff out of your dresser drawers.

It would pose a knotty problem for you.

Political Movements Both Right and Left Seen in This Campaign

By LYLE C. WILSON United Press Correspondent

Washington—(UPI)—This presidential campaign is demonstrating positively that the likeliest movement in American politics is to the left — and to the right.

FDR started the leftward activity with his 1932-36 New Deal, some of which President Eisenhower suspects as "creeping Socialism."

Mr. Eisenhower, however, is moving the Republican Party's center of gravity leftward. He's on the New Deal trail. All Republicans do not applaud movement in that direction, nor did all Democrats approve of FDR's strategic march to the left.

However, that may be, the Democratic Party as led by Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman became the majority party in the United States. It can and repeatedly has outvoted the Republican Party in national elections.

Right Wing Stir

There is life stirring, however, in the conservative right wing of American politics. J. Strom Thurmond led a successful right wing, states' rights raid into Southern Democratic territory in the 1948 presidential campaign. Thurmond won four Southern states and 39 electoral votes in his effort to prevent either major party candidate from obtaining an electoral college majority. The election of the president would have been the responsibility of the U.S. House of Representatives if no candidate had won a majority of the electoral vote.

Resistance to the leftward trend of major party politics continues to create splinter

Yet almost daily, lesser informed people rush pell-mell at him and call him a liar, a "dope" or "crazy." Unlike the eminent Rev. Emerson Fodick, many people do not know how to adjust themselves to those who obviously are better equipped on more subjects than they themselves are! Instead, they react with an uncontrollable bitterness. We can now understand why the harassed Senator Morse has to speak in his own defense — he is compelled, often, to do this unpleasant but necessary way. How else could he justify to himself his continuance in the long fight for better legislation for all the people!

However, supposing that Wayne did have to over-indulge in the usage of his name with regard to the doings of the nation . . . supposing! Let us hark back to the philosopher Francis Bacon. He said that to carry out his life's work he found it necessary to do things as a Lord Chancellor that he would have preferred not to do were he merely a plodding layman. And his life's work? Do we need to tell that it was he who set in motion the great mechanical age? He is the father of every machine . . . every formula. So, no matter the petty irritations of some individuals, the life's work of Senator Morse, already so fruitfully on its way, MUST GO ON. We must gratefully grant him his due recognition as a better-equipped man for the enactment of the public weal, than most of us (including the ex-Governor).

Walter Gabriel, 617 South 18th St., Omaha, Neb.

party protest movements. The conservatives are looking for more conservative leadership.

Former Commissioner of Internal Revenue T. Coleman Andrews this week accepted the presidential nomination of a constitutionalist or states' rights party tendered in his native city, Richmond, Va. The vice presidential nominee is former Rep. Thomas H. Werdel (R-Calif.). They are a conservative team.

Slates in 13 States

Andrews' backers expect to have slates of conservative electors on the ballot in 13 states. Another conservative presidential ticket will be represented on the Indiana ballot next month.

Candidate Andrews caught some sudden attention last winter after leaving the Internal Revenue Service. He denounced the income tax system as unfair and confiscatory, unduly burdensome on the middle-income brackets. He would abolish the income tax.

"America today," said Andrews, "is in the death grip of taxation."

These so-called third party movements are sufficient evidence that something is stirring among conservative voters. There is likely to be more, rather than less, of it. Such is the way major parties are born by an anxious dissatisfaction among a substantial element of the population.

Shell, Standard Plan 600-Mile Pipe Line

San Francisco—(UPI)—Shell Oil Co. and Standard Oil of California are considering building a 600-mile pipeline from northeastern Arizona to Los Angeles.

The two companies said the line would pipe oil recently discovered in the "Four Corners" area where the boundaries of Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado meet.

The line would follow a generally uninhabited route from north of Flagstaff and Kingman, Ariz., through the Mojave desert. It would have an initial capacity of 50,000 barrels daily and an ultimate capacity of 100,000 barrels.

Former Congressman From Oregon Dies

Portland—(UPI)—Judge William Alexander Ekwall, 69, a former Oregon congressman and a member of the United States customs court in New York, died here last night from cancer.

John Ekwall, who came to Portland in 1903, was elected to Congress in 1934 and was defeated for reelection in 1936 by Nan Wood Honeyman.

He took his seat on the customs court in 1942, an appointee of the late President Roosevelt. Survivors include his widow, Lina, and two daughters.

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