

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER. OREGON 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. 30, 1946 (Wednesday). With less than \$700 left to complete the quota, the 1946 Community Chest drive is expected to close this week.

20 YEARS AGO: Oct. 30, 1936 (Friday). About 800 were in attendance at the opening session today of teachers' institute at the Southern Oregon Normal school in Ashland.

30 YEARS AGO: Oct. 30, 1918 (Saturday). Halloween activities have already commenced to worry the local police, numerous pranks having been played last night in various sections of the city.

40 YEARS AGO: Oct. 30, 1916 (Monday). A fungus growth, known as the California peach blight, is to be found in almost every peach orchard in Jackson county.

50 YEARS AGO: Oct. 30, 1906 (Tuesday). There is a great danger eight hundred renegade Cheyenne Indians will join the marauding Ute band near Sheridan, Wyo., and that the threatened danger of bloodshed will become a reality.

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

1. Able-bodied women covered by social security must wait until 65 to draw benefits; right or wrong?

2. President Chiang Kai-shek of Nationalist China became (a) 60, (b) 65, (c) 70, (d) 75 or (e) 80 years old on Oct. 31?

3. No American woman could vote for president until the equal suffrage amendment was added to the Constitution; right or wrong?

4. All high U. S. State Department officials boycott the Soviet Embassy social functions in Washington; right or wrong?

5. Many states use receipts from their gasoline taxes for purposes other than roads; right or wrong?

6. Stevenson carried no states west of the Mississippi in 1952; right or wrong?

7. The Thanksgiving turkey is expected to cost more or less per pound this year than last, or about the same?

The Answers: 1. Wrong, may now become eligible at 62. 2. 70. 3. Wrong; some states had allowed women to vote for all offices 4. Wrong. 5. Right. 6. Right. 7. A little less, say government officials.

Measure Recommendations

- No. 1: Vote "yes"
No. 2: Vote "yes"
No. 3: Vote "yes"
No. 4: Vote "yes"
No. 5: Vote "yes"
No. 6: Vote "yes"
No. 7: Vote "yes"

Non-Partisan ballot:

Write in name of Wm. McAllister of Medford for State Supreme Court, No. 301. The other candidates and present incumbents are unopposed for the State Supreme Court or District Court and County School Superintendent. So no recommendations are needed, just mark the names on the ballot.

For the first time in local history the Mail Tribune favors affirmative action on all state measures.

The only two that could properly be called controversial are No. 1, allowing the state legislature to place the emergency clause on tax measures and No. 6, placing a state tax on cigarettes.

THE CHIEF objection to No. 1 has been the claim that it would open the way for the imposition of a state sales tax.

Not necessarily. The Legislature would first have to pass such a tax over the veto of the Governor for both Elmo Smith and Robert Holmes, the Republican and Democratic candidates, have pledged themselves to veto any sales tax until such a tax has been approved by the people.

In this question as so many others, the objections should be weighed against the benefits and there should be affirmative action if the latter outbalance the former.

As we see it, the benefits of this proposal No. 1 do outbalance the objections, for it really does nothing but restore the right of taxation to the legislature where it belongs. And also where it exists in most other states in the union. The practical effect of the constitutional amendment prohibiting attaching the emergency clause to tax measures was to allow any small minority to nullify the tax legislation for a considerable period of time, even when the need from the standpoint of the state finances and the public welfare, did make immediate action highly important. Moreover, repeal of the prohibition, would not, as some have claimed, destroy the power of popular referendum,—that power would still exist whenever the necessary percentage of the voters so desired, in the allotted period of time. In short this amendment would not give the legislature any unusual or excessive powers over taxes, but merely restore to the proper representative body the powers that formerly existed in this state. This should be done.

THE SAME general principle in our judgment applies to the cigarette tax. Such a tax was passed once but has never been enforced because a pro-cigarette minority invoked the referendum. The chief argument against such a tax is that it is a special and discriminatory "sales tax" and therefore contrary to sound taxation principles and the public welfare. A large number of states have such a tax, however, and if our information is correct there has never been a repeal. Such a tax would raise approximately \$5,000,000 a year and is no more unsound or discriminatory, as we see it, than the tax on gasoline, liquor or cosmetics. We endorsed the proposal before and do so again. In the readjustment of the tax program this added income would help.

THE OTHER measures refer chiefly to the repeal of constitutional salary limitations, based on the ancient cost of living before the Battle of Bull Run to the tremendously high cost of living today. It is as unreasonable and unjust to expect our state officials to be given a wage scale of a century ago as to expect groceries today to sell 6 quarts of milk for two bits as they did in the '80s and fresh eggs for a dime a dozen. If the servant is worthy of his hire then surely our public servants should be.

As to the authorization of acceptance of gifts in corporate stock by the state and confining the selection of county coroners and surveyors to candidates who are in certain fundamentals fitted for their respective jobs, we question the crying need of such legislation, but can see no objection whatever to taking affirmative action, so long as the issue has been raised. This doesn't mean any stock dealing by the state, but is chiefly beneficial to the State Board of Higher Education which is under this change simply allowed to accept gifts of corporate stocks whenever donors prefer that method to selling stocks and giving the money. We can see no objection whatever to such action.

As to the prevention of certain types of fishing in coastal streams, this is another one of the hardy perennials of legislation where the initiative is regularly invoked. This does not affect Rogue River where commercial fishing is now illegal, but to the other streams to the north. On the basis of the benefits outbalancing the objections, we again favor affirmative action.

FINALLY, ONE last word in this department, namely:

If you have not read the Voters Pamphlet yet—READ it! This presentation of non-partisan information on "men and measures" to every voter in the state is one of the most progressive and enlightened political moves ever made by any state government. Failure to take advantage of it would be inexcusable. —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.

Keep Nunley on Job

To the Editor: The public employee who is involved in law enforcement, and who sees the inside workings of the district attorney's office, which, of all agencies, MUST have a good, strong, fair district attorney in office, is the one person who is restricted in speaking out during an election because of his office.

It is easily seen that such agencies as the police, the sheriff's office, the judiciary and the foresters, cannot take sides politically, but must sit back and watch a man who has been doing an excellent job of enforcement, unfairly and maliciously slammed and accused, cursed and belittled.

For eight years, until last April 1, I was a law enforcement officer with the state department of forestry. During that time there have been three district attorneys. It has been the experience of the state forestry department that immediately from the time Mr. Nunley took office, up to the present, we received the full cooperation of his office and we have considered him fair, impartial and competent.

As a forester, I can say that with all due credit to all the forest protection agencies and the cooperative loggers and forest industry, a good deal of credit for the proper functioning of our forest laws should go to Mr. Nunley as district attorney.

This letter is long overdue. It should have been written after Mr. Nunley took office, and again last spring when he was so unfairly and unscrupulously, without basis or fact, accused of malfeasance in office.

I write this from a completely non-partisan viewpoint, because the protection of our natural resources, and enforcement of our laws, is far greater than party politics. From my experience, I feel we must continue to have the full cooperation of the DA's office, which Mr. Nunley has been completely providing.

As an ex-public servant, I can speak. Vote to keep Mr. Nunley in office as District Attorney. Robert A. Stokes, Route 3, Box 86A, Medford, Ore.

Approves Annexation

To the Editor: This letter is addressed to residents of the Berrydale Sanitary district.

The article in Sunday's Mail Tribune, certainly gives the figures clearly on an annexation problem. It is certainly clearer than the big guessing game that was staged by the opposition crowd last Wednesday at the Howard School.

There is nothing in annexation to scare anyone. Otherwise why would one district follow the other in asking for it? And is any one fool enough to think we should not have to pay for our sewer when we get it? I, for one, am willing to pay my share. We must have sanitation here soon. Any thing we might get as a result of these open sewer drains, can spread to the city, itself. And what a picnic germs could have in this large school! And our natural drain could do untold damage to business outside our boundary, where it passes through, should we have an epidemic of contagious disease.

The area that was included after the petition was turned in is quite thickly settled, and already behind the first row of homes, at Beal lane, a new street has been put in, and three homes already built. In that heavy soil, which does not drain well, how many years will it be before they need better sanitation? All too few!

Look ahead, don't try to stand still. You can't have "Rural living" anyway on a city-sized lot, which many are trying to do, with chickens etc. Crowded so close together you can't very long keep your septic tank from damaging other property, especially in this district of shallow soil on hard pan, and heavy "sticky" soil.

In a crowded district, everyone owes something to the community. We need to clean this pollution from our soil and clear the air. And as we have to annex in order to have a disposal plant, let's annex!

We can't raise enough to build a plant as well as a sewer, and one without the other is useless!

In going through this district with the petition, I found an odd situation. Some of those opposed to annexation, or to even a sewer can't smell!

It is rather late to depend on the opposition's theories, even if they might work eventually. Can we afford to dream?

Vote "Yes" so we can take the next step toward sanitation. Sincerely trying to help the district.

Grace Kurz, 360 De Barr ave, Medford, Ore.

They Won't Stop to Shop

To the Editor: The other day I was listening to discussions on the freeway, to go through the city of Medford, the Hillcrest or the West side.

So from all the arguments, if the city of Medford wants to be the city of dimwits, like Los Angeles, when the fog sets in in the winter that lasts about two or three weeks and breathe all the exhausts vapor from the smudge combined—then, by all means, have it along Bear creek, and you won't be able to see the tourists passing through.

They certainly will not stop here in the hotels or motels. On the other hand, if the Hillcrest route would go about a mile further east, it would by-pass many orchards, perhaps cover up some of your beloved poison oak, and be east of the irrigation ditches.

As for the new Memorial hospital on Barnett road, the way so many of us motorists are driving, it will be just nice to have it close by to pick up the maimed and crippled.

Xavier Widmer, Route 2, Box 186, Medford, Ore.

Allergic to Fluoride?

To the Editor: As the arguments continue on the fluoridation problem, I would like to ask a very pertinent question.

Have you ever seen a case of a person being allergic to sodium fluoride?

Our son was advised by his dentist to use a toothpaste containing sodium fluoride, and he used it regularly for a short period of time until suddenly he broke out with the most beautiful assortment of hives, welts, lumps and itches a dermatologist could ask for. He could hardly stand to have his shoes on because of the severe itching of his feet.

Upon seeing a doctor, however, we soon learned he was allergic to the toothpaste he was using, and after discontinuing its use his skin cleared up, and in three or four days he was able to return to school—which is a case of "All's well that ends well," but I hesitate to think what our solution would have been had the sodium fluoride been in the drinking water and he could not have discontinued its use. We probably would have had to sell our property and move to another community in order to escape the effects of it.

This is just something to think about, you who want this chemical put into our drinking water—you could be allergic to it too. Mrs. Norvel T. Jones, 1019 West Second St., Medford, Ore.

If Poison, How Come?

To the Editor: If fluorides in public water are so poisonous, then how come: 1. How does it happen that the 30,000,000 current users of controlled fluoridated public water in approximately 1400 communities don't die or become deathly ill like they are supposed to?

2. How come the residents of many areas, such as Bartlett, Tex., who have used fluoridated water all their lives in concentrations many times that of the recommended amount, haven't shown a higher morbidity and mortality rate from its use than in neighboring areas which were not fluoridated? Ditto for areas having used artificial fluorides over ten years? (Average exposure time of over 100 persons examined in Bartlett exceeded 36 years. Concentration there: 8 p.p.m.)

3. How come the fluoridation of public drinking water was the most extensively tested measure ever tackled by the U.S. Public Health Service, and they still endorsed it?

4. How come the "control" cities, as Cameron, Texas and Kingston, New York, both previously not fluoridated and both being used for comparison with fluoridated cities, installed fluoridation after their research study period was over and they had come out on the wrong end of the dental caries picture? They should have been scared to death.

As to its not being "scriptural," as one "Communications" writer complained, how about her automobile, telephone, and typewriter? It is agreed, God "hath done all things well," but this includes providing us with the raw materials to improve our lot when we put them together in the proper combination. Seems like He expects a little ingenuity and faith on our part.

If the "compulsory" aspect is objectionable, should we not also throw out compulsory education, compulsory social security, compulsory income taxes? These things were designed and put into effect for the benefit of the community as a whole whether they reflect equal benefits directly on every individual or not.

For the lady who plans to sell her home and move away if our water is fluoridated, she may escape Medford water, but not the ingestion of fluoride. According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, over 130 of our foods contain 0.2 to 0.3 ppm of fluoride, so she has already been eating that "deadly poison" and will continue to do so if she

likes her fish, corn, potatoes, and milk.

Obviously, in view of the above, the safety margin for ingestion of this "poison" is very wide, and one ppm is well within that margin but still is high enough to do some good.

Dr. G. A. Dierdorff, 214 Medical Center Bldg., Medford, Ore.

Parking Rumor

To the Editor: I would like a public answer to a rumor I have heard in regards to off street parking.

This rumor was: "that if the vote should be in favor of off street parking, all parking meters in the City of Medford would be changed to a minimum of a nickel, and that meters such as we have in town with a 12 minute maximum for 1 cent would be changed to a 12 minute maximum for five cents, which would be five times the present rate."

This rumor stated that this increase would be to help pay for off street parking.

I thought that off street parking was to be self supporting without help from the meters on the street.

If this rumor is true, off street parking will not be as painless as some people believe. T. Johnson, 3070 Lone Pine, Medford, Ore.

Editor's note: If off-street parking is approved, the plan is to change 254 parking meters in the downtown "core" area (out of a total of 853 in town) from 5 cents per hour to 5 cents per 30 minutes. This has been stated repeatedly in articles concerning the proposal. As to the 12-minute meters, the city council has found they are not entirely satisfactory, and tentatively contemplates eliminating them, whether or not the off-street parking proposal is passed.

"Spending and Spending"

To the Editor: Democratic prosperity has always been pocket-book prosperity. They were in power 20 years. During that time, our national debt rose from about \$15 billion to \$270 billion. This prosperity was pocket-book prosperity every inch of the way.

Had Harry Truman stayed in office we would have had more of the same. If you will notice the arguments and promises they are making in this campaign, it is the same as before, spending and more spending.

So the question arises, how much more Democratic prosperity can your pocket book stand?

M. A. Adams, Route 1, Box 589F, Central Point, Ore.

The McKay Philosophy

To the Editor: Recently the Court of Appeals decided the Hells Canyon issue in favor of the Idaho Power company, and when the Hells Canyon association announced that they would carry it to the U. S. Supreme Court, Douglas McKay, the candidate picked by the High Republican Brass in Washington to represent us, was quoted by the press to the effect that this decision of the Court of Appeals was the law of the land and should be followed.

I wonder if he really believes that. I have a faint recollection of a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, made on three separate occasions, in which it was ruled that the tidal oils belonged to all of the states, and not merely to the four who were trying to get control of them. This too was the law of the land, but did Douglas McKay believe it should be followed? Hardly, in view of the assistance he gave Ex-Sen. Guy Cordon in pushing through Congress a bill to nullify the decision of the Supreme Court and give these vast resources to the four states. Why was this done? Is it possible that McKay puts his wisdom above that of the Nine Old Men on the Supreme Court? Or was there another reason of which he has not told us?

Further, on several occasions recently McKay has emphasized how he wants to represent all the people in Oregon, how important our school system is, and how high the intelligence rate of the people of Oregon is. Did he have these views when he helped to take away from the people of Oregon the vast sums that might have been available for our school system and the school systems of other states and turn them over to just four states? Would the people of Oregon be facing the possibility of a further increase in taxes to support our school system next year if this revenue from the tidal oils was available? Does he give us credit for this high intelligence rating in thinking we have forgotten such things?

From his past actions it seems that the law of the land is to be followed only when it meets his own political ends, that the people of Oregon are only intelligent when they agree with him. Would the best interests of the people of Oregon be safe in the hands of anyone who has this philosophy?

A. J. Curry, 906 West Main st., Medford, Ore.

How High is High?

To the Editor: During the current political campaign, the Democratic candidates have

Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

IN THE REPUBLICAN HEARTLAND

Rensselaer, Ind.—(U.P.)—If you stand at the junction of Grace and Scott Streets, in this pleasant, sleepy county seat, and look in any direction, what you see looks for all the world like one of those handsome, nostalgic scenes "The Saturday Evening Post" often uses on its covers.

There is a brisk, plump woman in slacks and bandana, raking the autumn leaves. A few houses away a man in a visored cap is polishing his car. A couple of boys are tossing a baseball. The two-story brick and frame houses, set in their neat yards, have a happy, settled look, under the yellowing trees, in the autumn sunlight.

This, it seems, is average America. But when you begin to press the doorbells—they all play a cheerful small tune—and ask questions, you quickly realize that it is not politically average, fortunately for Adlai Stevenson.

"Do you normally consider yourself," you ask, "a Republican or a Democrat?" The people who answer the door look genuinely surprised, as though you had asked, "Do you normally consider yourself a human being or an animal?" They answer "Republican," sometimes adding "of course," more often implying the words by intonation.

WHEN you ask them, finally, why they are going to vote Republican, once in a while they will say that it is because they "like Ike." Much more often they say, in the same surprised tones, "Why, I was born and raised that way."

This is, in short, the great Republican heartland, as instinctively Republican as the Solid South is Democratic, and for related historical reasons. Rensselaer and a surrounding County will inevitably vote heavily for Dwight D. Eisenhower, as in 1952. The only question is: how heavily? It is an important question, for Stevenson must cut sharply into the Eisenhower majority in such areas as this, if he is to have the ghost of a chance of winning a popular majority nationwide.

From Grace and Scott Streets, this reporter and his companion Walter Ridder of the Ridder paper, moved on to the poorer section close to the towering grain elevators. Here, for the first time, we began to unearth Democrats—an old first Democrat was an angry old man who shouted, "By Golly, I'll vote for Eisenhower if you keep on pestering me!" After him, we began to find small beleaguered knots of Democrats—a carpenter, a clerk, a small contractor.

MORE important, we also began to find switchers—people who had voted for Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1952, and were now undecided, or determined to vote for Stevenson. There

made a very considerable issue of the fact that the cost of living index is now at an all time high. That is absolutely true. It would also be true that, if you added two inches to the top of the Empire State Building, it would be the tallest building in the world. Yet I think it would be idiotic to contend that the man who added two inches to the Empire State Building had built the tallest building in the world.

The cost-of-living index increased steadily and consistently during the seven years of the Truman administration. Wages in some cases also increased, interest rates went down. Many people who were in the ranks of organized labor were able to keep pace with this increasing cost by reason of wage increases. The non-organized, the elderly, the disabled were constantly squeezed between ever mounting taxes and the rising cost of living. In addition, investment income suffered because of the steady drop in interest rates. The fiscal policies of the Democratic Administration were directly responsible for great hardship, worry, and anxiety on the part of many thrifty, unfortunate people who found the results of their years of saving virtually stolen away from them by this mistaken economic policy.

In contrast, under the Republican Administration, the cost of living index has advanced less than 3 per cent in three and a half years. The rights of organized labor have been protected and real wages have been increased. The number of hours lost to strikes and labor difficulties has gone down and at the same time, there has been a tax reduction and a rise in interest earnings that has benefited all who live on incomes.

All the campaign oratory in the world can not deceive the intelligent Americans who have been benefited by the sound financial administration of the Eisenhower team.

Richard J. House, Fluhrer Bldg., Medford, Ore.

BUT when we moved to another section of town, where the streets were lined with pretty, newly-built one-story houses, and we began to find switchers the other way. There was the young doctor who had voted for Stevenson in 1952, but would vote for Eisenhower this time, because "He'd proved himself one of the best Presidents we'd ever had." And there was the retired farmer who had voted Democratic all his life—he was "born and raised that way"—but admired Eisenhower and disliked Stevenson. "I don't like this mud-slinging," he said.

Out in the countryside, as the day drew to a close, we stopped in at a number of farms, and here and there we began to find switchers again. More important, we learned enough to feel sure that many farmers in Jasper County, like many farmers elsewhere, feel discontented and ill-used by the Administration. So what did our expedition to the Republican heartland indicate? It seemed to indicate that there is some small leakage of former Eisenhower votes to Stevenson—but not enough for his purposes. And, as one travels across the land and talks to the voters, one gets the same impression in many other places.

1956, New York Herald Tribune Inc.

Editorial Comment

FREEWAY ROUTE

Practically the entire time of the Medford (highway commission) hearing was devoted to what route would be used there. The so-called west side route, swinging west between Medford and Jacksonville, received little consideration. The question was whether the new highway should run east of Medford or follow Bear creek through the heart of that city.

The preponderance of support was in favor of the Bear creek route, which would take the high-speed road through the middle of the county seat. If this is the final route selected, it would seem to be a deviation from the highway department's policy, which in general has been to bypass the center of communities with new freeways.

We recognize the desire of Medford interests to have the road go through the heart of their city, but we also believe that it will pose problems and possibly some concern by residents for it will divide the town in the middle, a fact which could create substantial problems.

The third route, or east side line, would swing the new highway some distance away from Medford and require a trip of a mile and half or so from the major interchange to downtown Medford. This route finds small favor with Medford as indicated at the hearing.

If the highway department follows the apparent sentiment expressed at the hearing, it will select the Bear creek route; if it follows what appears to be previous practice, it will favor the east side route and will not give Medford a preferential position over all other cities on the new super 99.—Ashland Tidings.

Counsel with Mr. Insurance FRED BRENNAN Phone 2-4940 FREE INSURANCE! To insure that we remain a strong, industrious and United Nation ALL AMERICA must go to the POLLS! One week from today you can help insure the future of our country. VOTE for the leadership you think best. But be sure you VOTE. MEDFORD INSURANCE AGENCY