

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER. NEWS PAPER 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.

20 YEARS AGO Nov. 16, 1936 (Saturday): First woman to enroll at Percy field under GI flight training program is Eldene Frenner of Central Point.

20 YEARS AGO Nov. 16, 1936 (Monday): A 1,500-acre timber fire being fought today on Williams creek about 10 miles southwest of Provolet in Josephine county.

30 YEARS AGO Nov. 16, 1926 (Tuesday): Frederick T. Weeks, Pacific coast manager of Newell-Emmett Advertising Agency, San Francisco, in Medford today.

40 YEARS AGO Nov. 18, 1918 (Thursday): Checks totalling about \$15,000 mailed from plant of Utah-Idaho Sugar company, Grants Pass, to sugar-beet growers in the valley for crop payment.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 77 - Cap 1953 Editorial Research Report

- 1. Vice President Nixon had a voting record in Congress generally considered liberal or conservative on domestic issues, or middle-of-the-road?
2. About 20, 40, 60 or 80% of all U.S. cars on the road have automatic transmissions?
3. In some states every single voting precinct on Nov. 6 used voting machines; right or wrong?
4. Average compensation for unemployment under social security is now more or less than \$100 a month, or about \$100?
5. Outer Mongolia, Communist state in the Far East, is under Russian or Chinese domination?
6. More old businesses die every year than new ones are born, or more new ones are born than die, or is it about 50-50?
7. C. H. Greenwall is president of DuPont, Sears Roebuck, U.S. Steel, N.Y. Central, Dow Chemical or General Motors?

Siskiyou County Asks Beaver Trapping Stop: Yreka—A letter was directed to the California Department of Fish and Game Tuesday by county supervisors here requesting that beaver trapping in Siskiyou county be prohibited this season.

Oregon's Tax Problem

Here in Oregon, we're going to hear more about taxes before we hear less.

Why? Because the state legislature has a real lallopolooza of a tax problem on its hands—and it's going to take some tall figuring to get it worked out.

Briefly, here is the situation: OREGON voters have on five (or is it six?) occasions voted down a sales tax. And a majority of the new legislature is on record against it, as is the governor-elect.

The income tax surtax, passed by the last legislature, raised a mighty howl when taxpaying time came around last April, and there remains strong sentiment against it.

The proposed cigarette tax was voted down at the Nov. 6 election.

Property taxpayers, already burdened with some of the highest real and personal property taxes in history solely for the support of schools and local government, are in no mood to accept a state levy—which has not been collected for many years, although it is still technically on the books.

AND, although there will be a surplus of some \$30 million or more on the books at the end of the current biennium, the rising needs for funds by state government will probably make that seem like a drop in the bucket.

Welfare costs are rising; college and university costs are going up and demands are being made for greater state support for schools; more institutions are being built, staffed, equipped and operated, and the operation costs in those already in existence continue to rise; increasing population is resulting in greater demands on the police and service agencies of government.

Thus, the combination of rising costs (most of them legitimate), on one hand, and the disinclination of everyone for new tax measures, on the other, puts the legislature squarely in the middle.

THE legislature, with a majority of Democratic members for the first time since the 1930s, is necessarily a largely inexperienced group—legislatively speaking.

But, looking at the problem in another way, it brings in a lot of men with fresh viewpoints who may not let prior conceptions of the tax problem curtail and stultify their thinking.

As a result, it is possible that some brand-new ideas for solving this impasse will be brought forward to the satisfaction of a majority.

WITH no prior indication as to what the legislature's thinking might be (largely because candidates for offices at all levels were mostly reticent about taxes, except for those they were against), it would appear the legislature will have about five alternatives, or combinations of them, as follows:

- 1. Continue the surtax such as it is.
2. Revise existing income tax schedules.
3. Collect a tax on property.
4. Enact some form of sales tax.
5. Come up with something brand new in taxes for Oregon.

IT SHOULD also be remembered that the legislature will have to do a pretty good job of pleasing the people with whatever they decide—for the voters this month refused to give them the power to work out a tax program that is not subject to immediate referendum, thus delaying it for up to 18 or 20 months.

Whatever the solution, and there will have to be one of some sort, it is almost bound to be a compromise, and probably entirely satisfactory to few. That's the way a democracy works however—arriving at a solution which displeases the greatest number of people as little as circumstances permit.—E.A.

Handwriting

As the proprietor of one of the most illegible scrawls in recorded history, we are interested to note that a couple of organizations, not ordinarily noted for their eleemosynary activities, have announced that they will offer six handwriting scholarships in three Austin, Texas, high schools.

Way down at the bottom of the announcement, it says the winners "will be selected on the basis of a handwriting competition."

But it doesn't say whether the winners will be the best writers or the worst.

WE DEDUCE the winners will be the best writers (on the theory that competition will stimulate all students to improve their handwriting techniques).

This may be the wrong way to go about it. Should not the scholarship go to the worst writers (on the theory that they need help more than the others)?

However this may be, the motives are laudable, for as the sponsors point out, "tremendous dollar and time waste can be traced directly to illegible handwriting."

We only hope that the push-pull 'round-and-'round methods taught in the schools will not eventually erase any taint of individuality in the scripts of future writers. Meanwhile, we'll stick to the typewriter—both out of preference and out of consideration for those with whom we communicate.—E.A.

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 a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Doesn't Make Right

To the Editor: Referring to your "Common Sense" editorial in Nov. 12 Tribune, may I offer another thought? . . . Nobody has, does or will, object, protest, work or vote against anyone consuming, giving to your children, grandparents — or even your mother-in-law, all the sodium fluoride, you wish (unless some mentioned might do so).

However, as shown by the voters of Medford, Nov. 6, 1956, most of the people did, and do, vigorously object to having Medford's million dollar municipally-owned, pure mountain spring water contaminated by dumping poison or other foreign matter into it, where all must drink, whether or not. Please give fluoridation vote figures in Oregon places.

Moreover, the AMA refused to endorse it—even though it has been claimed AMA did, "because fluoridation is not without its dangers," and damage to the human body in one way or another. Too much evidence is on record now to justify any prudent person to take further chances.

Anyone can get this chemical for individual use who wishes it, just as Castor oil, Ex-Lax, vitamins of any desired name, letter or number, as most any drug may be obtained FOR INDIVIDUAL USE, for a specific purpose.

No sane person (with or without "common sense"), it seems to me, would ever consider administering any of the above-named, or any other drug, by dumping it into a city's water supply. Most don't need it; some are allergic—and nobody knows what might happen to all.

Dentists or doctors can (and have offered to) supply sodium fluoride in liquid form, water doped with it, for home or school; and dentists say it would cost about 10 cents per child per year, not 10 cents to 14 cents per week or month. One I know offered it free to his patients. In this way the dosage could be given with some degree of regularity. Some children drink far more than others.

And voting, one way or another, does not make fluoridation of a city's water supply RIGHT. Voting simply makes it a political issue. It's not even educational. It is against the law of God and man for me to make you eat or drink what you do not want. Read again the AMA statement, p. 5, Nov. 4, Mail Tribune—"It is not the province of the state to do something for us that is 'good for us.'"

John E. Gribble, 139 Kenwood ave. Medford, Ore.

Editor's note: If our friend and correspondent will read again the anti-fluoridation advertisement which he quotes above, he will find the A.M.A. DID endorse fluoridation in principle (how else could it be done—without principle?), and that the doubling remarks are made by one unconvicted doctor, NOT by the A.M.A.

Other Side

To the Editor: Re editorial, "Common Sense," Mail Tribune Nov. 12, please print the other side. Following letter from National Fluoridation News, Oct. Nov., page 2:

"Gearhart by council action, added fluorides to our water supply in 1951. At that time Dr. Rex Baldwin, dental promoter, was mayor of Gearhart. He assured the council that fluorides benefit teeth and there are no 'harmful effects.' (At that time no studies were available purporting to prove the safety of fluoridation.)

"There are many water users attached to the Gearhart and Warrenton water system who have no chance to vote on the issue. Unless they can afford to dig a well they are forced to drink the water. Is that the American way?"

"From personal experience my family knows of the intimidation, threats and violence used against those who oppose fluoridation. Even local police use slanders and smear to suppress the truth.

"At school, my children are forced to drink the polluted water or carry a thermos of fresh, pure water. I know of many Gearhart families who are carrying in fresh water to avoid the fluoridated water.

"My children are developing cavities in their teeth, in spite of the fluoridated water, a well balanced diet and proper dental care. Their teeth show evidence of mottling (the first sign of chronic fluoride poisoning).

"As a parent, I protest against this program of compulsion which is un-American. Who is going to assume liability for damage done? Furthermore, the methods of promoting by the PTA are not in accordance with American principles.

under the guise of protection to little children's teeth."

Robert M. Workman Gearhart, Oregon

Also from Astoria, where fluoridation was started, December, 1952, by city council decision, Mrs. J. D. Snell reports burst, corroded and plugged pipes. A test of tap water by Charlton Laboratories, Portland, one of the most reputable of the west coast, shows not the 1 ppm which health authorities are recommending and consider safe, but 2 ppm of fluoride.

Alice Black 812 Newtown Medford, Ore.

Editor's note: The last word on fluoridation has yet to be spoken. But, with the observation that the residents of both Gearhart and Astoria voted to keep fluoridation after having tried it, we herewith close the subject in the "communications" column, once more—until it is officially proposed again.

Is Black Really White?

To the Editor: In regard to the article published Nov. 8 in the Medford Mail Tribune by the National Better Business Bureau entitled "Ladies Be Warned."

Who are we supposed to believe? I would like to ask you, the reader, just a few questions. First, however, let me say that I am neither a cookware salesman nor do I advocate or endorse any particular brand but am just another citizen interested in the public health of all of us.

1. Have you ever noticed the pits or rough places on a piece of aluminum cookware after it has been used extensively?

2. Was it washed off in process of scouring, or was it removed by heat and pressure while cooking?

4. Have you ever abstained from using aluminum cookware and then for example went back to the old aluminum coffee pot?

The National Better Business Bureau assures you (the misled public) that the stories and tests of aluminum cookware in regard to an apparent clouded condition of water boiled in aluminum are tricky and entirely false.

One more question: When you see black do you call it white?

The products and processes that the National Better Business Bureau, U. S. Public Health Service, Federal Trade Commission endorse are generally considered authentic and trustworthy. Don't be misled by a salesman or even an organization as well known as those mentioned—make a simple test yourself. Follow these directions carefully. Take an aluminum kettle or sauce pan and clean thoroughly, scour it with a pad if you prefer, then put a cup of water in the pan, add 1/2 teaspoon of baking soda, even less is alright. Place on burner and let it come to full rolling boil. Wait for the water to cool enough so you can taste it. Now go through the same procedure with a clean stainless steel sauce pan or kettle following the same directions. Now taste the water from it after boiling. Any difference? Ask yourself the question, "in which would I rather cook my food?"

This test should shed new light on eating for you and yours.

Art Friesen 2690 Connell ave. Medford, Ore.

Helpful Young Man

To the Editor: When a young man—high school age or not much older—leaves his own activities at half-past ten at night to change a tire for a woman he has never seen before, it deserves more than a casual "thank you."

This happened to me last night in Medford. I am as helpless with a bumper jack as are many women. And in many years of driving it has never failed that some kindly person—once it was a young woman—comes to my rescue. Not one of these people has ever been willing to accept a cent for the service.

I think that the fine, generous and thoughtful acts of our young people do not receive as much recognition as they deserve. This letter is written by way of saying "thank you" to the lad who changed my tire and indirectly to the many like him who are always ready to be helpful.

(Miss) Frances Clink 659 Liberty st. Ashland, Ore.

Voters Wronged

To the Editor: Just one week ago the people of the United States were casting their votes for the people who they thought were more capable of filling the offices that they were running for.

Three of the absentee ballots never reached their destination although the ones who did not get them were registered and voted in the primaries.

One was a spastic paralysis case who has always voted from the time she became 21 years of age, when she was where she could get a ballot.

The other was an 87-year-old grandmother, who should have not been out in the damp weather such as it was on election day, although she walked to the polls

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

1. Egypt asks Russia for IMMEDIATE dispatch of Soviet volunteers (which are Russian troops in disguise) to Egypt.

2. President Eisenhower says the United States will OPPOSE ("probably" through the UN) the introduction of any new military forces into the Middle East.

These announcements came only minutes apart on the telephone. Presumably the President's statement was prompted by Egypt's request for Russian troops.

Here is the probable way of Nasser's request:

He apparently took a terrible beating in the brief fighting with Israel and believes that without Russia's military help HE is sunk.

So— Like all cornered despots— He moves to precipitate a war in the hope of saving his own skin.

AT UNITED Nations in New York one high Western delegate says this morning of Egypt's move for Russian volunteers:

"This means war."

At his press conference in Washington a few minutes later he expresses confidence that the Middle East crisis, as well as the one in Hungary, can be settled through United Nations.

The New York Stock Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade are inclined to agree with the President. Trading in stocks picks up a trifle at the opening, with prices moving irregularly. Grains open steady to firm on the big board at Chicago.

If owners of securities had believed war is inevitable, their inclination would have been to sell—for war is bad for business. If grain traders had believed war is coming they would have been inclined to buy—for war stimulates demand for food.

Does it mean war?

Let's put it this way: If Russia is ready for war—or feels that war serves her present purposes better than an uneasy peace—there will be war.

"Que serat serat," as the French and one of our popular songs say.

A BRIEF from Hungary:

Russian troops are taking Hungarian rebel prisoners out of Hungary in sealed railway cars. These poor devils are presumably destined for slavery in Siberia.

The Russian communists are going back a thousand years to and cast her vote to prove she was a good American citizen.

The other lady is a bedfast patient due to a paralytic stroke, although her mind is as keen as ever.

Are we, although we are so handicapped, supposed to give up our rights to act and vote as American citizens?

The one who was supposed to see that we were to receive our ballots was reported to have said it took too much of her time to see that we got our ballots and also pick them up."

Are the human beings of today too busy that they cannot give up a few minutes of their time, to prove that we have and always will have, according to our legislature, a say in our government? If not the country is sure turning more towards Communism every day.

This letter has no connection with the owners of the home where we are staying, but is being dictated and written by the ones who are so unjustly wronged.

Miss Marjorie Devoel Mrs. Flora Devoel Mrs. Pauline Noel 12 South Orange st. Medford, Ore.

Thanks From Littrell

To the Editor: I would like to express my sincere thanks to you and your staff for the loyal support extended me during the recent campaign and election, and to the citizens of Jackson county.

I am truly grateful for the vote of confidence in returning me to the state legislature.

I will continue to serve all of the people of Jackson County to the best of my ability.

E. A. Littrell

Election Means More Inflation, Babson Says

BY ROGER W. BABSON

Babson Park, Mass.—Now is the time to read the dangerous promises of all of last week's successful candidates. These promises make more inflation inevitable, due to the Employment Act of 1946. This was a vicious act. R. W. Murphy, Chairman of the Board of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, has an excellent article in the Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Oct. 11 demanding that this Act be amended. I, however, cannot imagine President Eisenhower and the new Congress making such amendments until it is too late.

Until then, those who now receive pensions, life insurance, social benefits for the aged, and social security can be severely hurt. Not only large investors will suffer. Already our own Government Bonds (the 2 1/2's) have declined from 106 to 91.

The banks and insurance companies need not suffer. They receive deposits and premiums in "phony" money, but most banks and insurance companies are adopting automation to get on with fewer employees. Certain real estate and some commodities, such as natural resources, may for a while benefit from inflation. But the great mass of honest people will ultimately suffer and President Eisenhower will not prevent it.

The Cost of Living

Readers should be interested only in what their wages, pensions, social security, and bank deposits and insurance will buy. We should forget all about dollars and think only of what can be purchased in terms of food, rent, clothing, education, entertainment, etc. I definitely forecast that the cost of living will gradually increase during the next four years of the Republican Administration.

The promise of new highways, the time when captives in war automatically became slaves — that being the custom of the time.

What About Stocks?

The N. Y. Stock Exchange for the first time in history is urging that savings be put into stocks now instead of into savings banks, life insurance, and other such standard investments. Only the future can tell whether this advice is good. For the past ten years the prices of stocks have been advancing, but how long will this continue? For every person who now buys stocks other person, equally wise, must be selling these same stocks. What would happen if all persons should decide now to sell instead of to buy?

Finally, let me remind readers that the cost of plant, book value, and various other statistics do not determine the value of a stock or the price which you receive when you want the stock. Ultimately, the price of a stock depends upon the earnings. Inflation increases costs for corporations as well as for individuals and governments. Eisenhower's re-election cannot prevent dividends from being cut. Reduced dividends mean that the U. S. must increase taxes.

Editorial Comment

EXPERIENCE DOESN'T PAY

One thing that seems as sure as life and death about the Republican party is the inability of its leadership to learn some of the practicalities of grass roots politics. Within hours of a significant defeat at the hands of Oregon Democrats we find some of the leadership back in the old game of telling the voters what they want without giving the powerful electorate an opportunity to make up their own minds.

GOP leaders apparently didn't realize that injection of Interior Secretary Douglas McKay into the Oregon Republican primary election was the starting event in a series which eventually found the GOP submerged with a majority of its office seekers at the November 6 general election.

All of this is brought to mind by a story out of Washington, D. C., on the view by top party leaders that First District Congressman Walter Norblad has emerged from the 1956 election as the GOP strong man in Oregon. The officials are already thinking of sending Norblad home to take over the governorship from Governor Bob Holmes two years from now. Thought is being given too, they indicate, to his continuation on from that office into the Senate against Neuberger in 1960.

This is fine with us if it turns out to be the way party people and voters in Oregon want it. But, let them decide and not make the mistake again of having nominees and candidates dictated out of the national committee. If they don't there will continue to be revolt among the independent thinkers of the Oregon Republican party and domination of our state and national offices by Democrats.—News-Register, McMinnville.

slum clearance, and other worthy projects will all cost more than expected. When you go under a new steel bridge on one of these new highways, remember that from 1946, when the Employment Act became law, to the present time, the price of steel has just about doubled. Certainly the automobile industry and most of the auto accessories in all plant capacity depend on steel. Steel and related industries employ 80 per cent of our mass production workers.

Interesting Statistics

The expenditures which depend on government money will continue, but expenditures for products bought on installments may suffer. Here are some more figures to think over. Since 1939 the government debt has increased from \$40 billion to \$275 billion resulting in an increase in the money supply from \$65 billion to \$213 billion and private debt has risen from \$125 billion to around \$550 billion.

The great surprise to economists is that the cost of living has not gone up more during this period. The main reason is the new inventions and installation of new machinery reducing the need for hand labor. Inventors— not government or bank officials—deserve thanks that the cost of living is no higher than it is today. Nevertheless, I forecast that automation, including electronics and nuclear power, will be come great industries. All readers will be greatly interested in George R. Harrison's books, "What Man Be" and "Atoms In Action."

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