

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads the Mail Tribune. Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 22 North Fir St. Phone 2-5141

Subscription Rates: By Mail—Advance: Per Copy 10c. Daily and Sunday—One year \$15.00. Daily and Sunday—Three months \$4.25. Sunday Only—One year \$4.25

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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: Feb. 10, 1947 (Monday). Three new sustained yield units under public law 73 are in the initial planning stage.

20 YEARS AGO: Feb. 10, 1927 (Wednesday). Cash balance in all city funds at the end of 1926 totals \$209,423.40.

30 YEARS AGO: Feb. 10, 1917 (Thursday). John C. Mann, president, presides at meeting of Jackson County Red Cross at Medford hotel.

40 YEARS AGO: Feb. 10, 1917 (Saturday). City council meets in adjourned session with Mayor Gates presiding and all councilmen attending except Dr. J. J. Emmens.

What's Your I.Q.? Nine of ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. Was the world's first paid fire company established in the U. S., England, or Germany?

2. Which country introduced the world's first successful steam fire engine?

3. Bible: When "called up into the mountain" did both Moses and Aaron "come near the Lord"?

4. "Drishkeen City," named for a popular breakfast dish (drishkeen) in Old Ireland, is the nickname for which city?

5. Is it possible to inoculate dogs against rabies?

6. Is South America rich or poor in natural resources?

7. Was the Social Security Act established in 1935, 1937, or 1939?

8. Is Hon-Kiang the easternmost province of China?

9. Is it correct to use "days" and "nights" as an adverb to mean "during the day" or "during the night"?

10. "Then ye shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave." Is this correctly attributed to the Bible?

Answers: 1. U. S. (Cincinnati, 1810). 2. U. S. (Cincinnati, 1835). 3. No. Only Moses. 4. Cork. 5. Yes. 6. Rich. 7. 1935. 8. Westernmost. 9. No. 10. Yes.

Echoes of Al Sarena

Surprised and somewhat disappointed to observe one of our favorite newspapers in the state, revives the old campaign canard regarding "Al Sarena."

It is the usually judicious and fair-minded "Salem Statesman" that is guilty this time.

In its editorial column it repeats all the weather-beaten cliches about this deal, whereby timber in the U.S. Forest reserve was sold under the guise of a mining claim, for \$5 an acre when on the open market it would have brought \$200 or more an acre to the government.

THERE was, according to the Statesman, nothing improper about this. It was all according to law and to Hoyle.

The Al Sarena "agitation" it further maintains, having served its "political purpose" is seldom heard of these post-election days and with good reason, for Solicitor Clarence Davis of the U.S. Department of the Interior "acted in full good faith" there was no reason for him to act "differently" and if he erred it was only an error of judgment so, quote:

"A mere revision of regulations of procedure will not insure soundness of judgment but it should prevent imputing scandal as was freely done in the Al Sarena case."

IN THE sense of corruption or lawless action there were no imputations of scandal. The Mail Tribune throughout the campaign for example kept maintaining again and again the deal "was within the law," but was wrong.

It was a question, not of morals or legality, but of PUBLIC POLICY as represented and upheld by Secretary of the Interior McKay and carried out (he claimed without his knowledge) by Solicitor Davis.

There was nothing "phony" about the accusations and there was nothing cooked up for political purposes only. It was a matter of policy and of record, defended and justified repeatedly by the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, and condemned by the opposition.

THE question in other words brought up for the consideration of the people of the state in the campaign was a perfectly legitimate and pertinent one, namely:

Did they want to be represented in the senate by a man who favored such procedures of "give away" and violations of the principles of conservation and a square deal to the purchasers of government timber, or did they want to be represented by men who opposed such practices?

THAT is all there was to the Al Sarena issue during the campaign, that is all there is to it today.

With the campaign over and the verdict of the people of the state clear-cut and decisive against the McKay-Davis school of political thought, there is naturally no reason to continue the argument further. That doesn't mean the issue was not a valid one.

THE Al Sarena owners now have their timber, and in all likelihood will be cutting it as soon as the market returns to normal. The Old Buzzard mine, meanwhile, will undoubtedly continue to be "out of business" as it was before the campaign started, although it was of course the sole justification for the granting of the timber-patents.

It is in fact the talk about the "riches" of the Al Sarena mine that has served its political purpose and consequently will have "little publicity" now the deal has been put over, rather than as the Statesman claims, the "agitation" that apparently in its judgment, did such injustice to the proponents of the "Give Away" administration of Messrs. McKay and Davis, when in control of the Interior Department.

AS ANY impartial and objective observer of this case we think will agree no "injustice" was done.

Whether Solicitor Davis acted in good or bad faith, whether he contrary to all practice and precedent in the Department of the Interior acted with or without the knowledge of his superior, all that sort of thing is beside the point. The point is—and was in the campaign, whether or not the people of Oregon approved or disapproved of the policy of "give away,"—"mining for timber"—as upheld and promoted by the McKay administration of the Interior Department.

THEY decided they did not. And if any doubt existed as to the quality of that popular verdict the successor to Douglas McKay in the Department of the Interior ended it when he, Secretary Seaton said:

"As long as I am head of the Interior Department nothing like the Al Sarena case will happen again."

We believe he is right. It won't!—R.W.R.

"Curiouser & Curiouser"

As Alice in Wonderland remarked things are getting "curiouser and curiouser."

Now Secretary Weeks of the Department of Commerce sees no danger of a depression, near or distant. Nor does he find any preparation (in his department at least) for federal controls in case there are not more self-controls on the part of labor and capital.

BUT only the day before President Eisenhower was quoted as saying that dangers of inflation were serious, and if labor and capital did not behave, federal controls would have to be invoked to save the U.S.A. from disaster.

In other words there would seem to be considerable disagreement between the White House and the Boston member of the Eisenhower cabinet as to the "state of the union."

But Secretary Weeks denies this. He claims that

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

THE ACHIEVEMENT AND THE RISK

Washington—The Eisenhower Administration is about to score a great technical achievement.



Stewart Alsop

At the same time, the Administration has accepted a great risk. The future balance of power in the world is deeply involved in both the achievement and the risk, and it is therefore worth trying to understand both.

The achievement is the near prospect of a prototype test of "the ultimate weapon," the intercontinental ballistic missile. The prototype of the ICBM now actually exists—visitors to the Convair plant in Southern California can hardly avoid seeing the high, tower-like structure which houses the monstrous missile.

The ICBM exists thanks to a decision, taken when Harold Taibot was Secretary of the Air Force, to give development of the weapon an absolute, overriding priority. In time, the ICBM will transform the nature of warfare, simply because there is no known way to intercept the terrible weapon with its hydrogen warhead.

THE Administration unquestionably deserves credit for the technical achievement housed in Convair's tower. But the risk the Administration is prepared to take also deserves careful scrutiny. It amounts essentially to a decision to put all, or almost all, of this country's strategic eggs in the ICBM basket.

In other words, it has been decided to abandon or cut back sharply on attempts to find other ways to deliver nuclear weapons to the Communist side of the world, hoping to leap directly from essentially the present means of delivery to the ICBM. There are two new means of delivery which have been already tested in prototype—the snark subsonic missile, and the B-58 supersonic medium bomber. A small number of snarks have been ordered for delivery to the Air Force, but after that production will be slowed down or abandoned. And the current budget envisages no major effort to produce B-58s.

STILL untested means of delivery include the Navaho in-

tercontinental ramjet missile, the nuclear-powered bomber, and the "follow-on chemical bomber." The Navaho project has already cost the taxpayers well over \$600 million. But now, perhaps after a prototype test, the Navaho project is to be cut down to a point where it is barely ticking over.

The same fate awaits the nuclear-powered bomber, and, to a lesser degree, the follow-on chemical bomber as well. In short, except for the ICBM itself, a general policy of "off with their heads" has been adopted as regards other potential means of delivering "massive retaliation."

The reason is simple. The new weapons—the missiles especially—are appallingly expensive. The total cost of missile programs in the current Air Force budget comes to some \$3 billion, and the missile programs of the other services are also very costly. The cost is certain to mount sharply as new missiles reach the stage of actual production.

The Administration thus had a stark choice. It could recognize that the new weapons introduced a new dimension into warfare, as distinct, and ultimately at least as expensive, as the three traditional services. Or it could try to squeeze the new wine of the new weapons into the old service bottles, without any sharp increase in expenditures.

THE Administration has chosen the latter course. The result has been, not only a sharp cutback in potential future means of delivery other than the ICBM, but a similar cutback in existing means of delivery. The B-52 jet bomber is, or soon will be, the main means of delivering atomic weapons to Soviet targets. When the Intelligence confirmed that the Soviets were scheduling production of 28 intercontinental jet bombers per month, the production target for B-52s was raised to 20 a month. But it is most unlikely that the 20-month target will be reached under the new budget, while the previous over-all production schedule for Air Force planes has been cut back about 40 per cent.

Add two more facts. First, most experts believe that advances in Soviet air defense techniques will make the B-52 a sitting duck in four or five years, as the older B-36 is a sitting duck today. Second, air force estimates are that we will

basically he and the President are in complete accord! THAT has a familiar sound. A short time ago Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey in a special news conference was quoted as follows:

"The government is spending too much. If we don't cut down we will have a depression that will curl your hair. . . I am speaking for the treasury, I am thinking of the good of the country not of politics."

That term "politics" also has a familiar ring. In the current issue of "News Week" Raymond Moley, one of the most bitter critics of the New Deal since he left it—and one of President Eisenhower's strongest supporters, declared his belief and repeated it for emphasis, that the President's pronouncements on financial needs of the country were not "economic but political." He wrote they did not represent what the country should do to get on a firm financial economic basis, but what the present administration should do to get votes—or words to that effect.

HOWEVER while such statements would indicate there are serious differences of opinion regarding federal finances and the financial outlook of the country between the President and his cabinet members on the one hand, and some of his most ardent journalistic supporters on the other, Secretary Humphrey dutifully followed the lead of Secretary Weeks and stoutly maintained he and "Ike" were and are in complete accord on fundamentals.

We have no such assurances from Columnist Moley, but we would be greatly surprised to hear him deny that he is in complete accord with the Eisenhower administration "on fundamentals," and likes Ike just as completely and enthusiastically as any of the charter members of the "We Like Ike" club.

NOW all that remains to complete the picture of perfect amity and harmony between President Eisenhower and the conservatives of his party would be for Secretary of Defense Wilson to return from his Florida vacation and while confirming the statement that the National Guard in the Korean war was a refuge for "draft dodgers" there is no rift—none at all!—in his "beautiful friendship" with President Eisenhower who scored that remark as "unwise" and talking without thought. In fact the two are buddies—just like that!—and on all BASIC issues of the "Modern Republicanism" are in complete harmony and accord.

SO WHAT does it all add up to? Well, briefly, to "double-talk."

The Republican conservatives, both in the cabinet and without, do not see eye-to-eye with President Eisenhower's economic, fiscal and social progress principles, and fervently wish he would drop them and turn sharply to the right. But on the other hand they realize it would be political suicide to definitely break with him, and so they criticize his policies when to them they are patently unwise but at the same time for the sake of appearances and party solidarity, they keep up the pretense of everything within the party being sweetness and light.

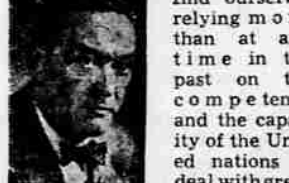
It isn't consistent but it undoubtedly is good practical politics.—R.W.R.

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE POLITICS OF THE U.N.

The American position in the United Nations has become very difficult, especially during the past year. We find ourselves relying more than at any time in the past on the competence and the capacity of the United Nations to deal with great issues—as in Eastern Europe and in the Middle East. When we say the United Nations, we really mean the General Assembly of 80 nations which is now the central organ of that institution. In this General Assembly, since the admission of so many new members from Africa and Asia, we can no longer count, as once we could, on a working majority who agree with us.



Walter Lippmann

From this fundamental weakness come the confusions, the equivocation, the double standards of the U.N.'s dealings with the Soviet Union over Hungary, with India over Kashmir, with Britain, France and Israel over Suez and Gaza and the Gulf of Aqaba. The fundamental and controlling fact is that the paramount power in the United Nations rests in the General Assembly, and that in the General Assembly there is no effective majority which is willing to apply the same rule of law to the Soviet Union, India, Britain, France, Egypt, and Israel.

THE General Assembly consists of blocs, and American foreign policy is in very large measure determined by the desire to have the United States play a leading part in a combination of blocs which will yield a majority when the votes are counted. We are acting on the official belief that we must not be pushed into the opposition within the United Nations, that we must participate in the ruling majority.

The mathematics of our problems are worth fixing in mind. The General Assembly has 80 members. But since South Africa and Hungary are absent, there are now in fact 78 members. On any important question a two-thirds majority is needed, which means 52 votes.

Now what is the maximum number of votes that we can hope to rally on an issue which is of prime importance to the Western world? There are 21 inter-American states, all of the Western Hemisphere south of the Canadian border. There are in western Europe, plus a stretch of Yugoslavia, plus the so-called old commonwealth—

not have an operational ICBM system before 1963, perhaps not before 1967. The nature of the risk the Administration has tacitly accepted then becomes apparent. It is that at some point before a truly effective ICBM system is created we shall lose the means to inflict the overwhelming retaliation of which we have boasted so much, and which is the last shield of the free world.

1957 New York Herald Tribune Inc.

Canada, Australia and New Zealand—20 votes. These add up to 41 votes, which is 11 short of the required majority.

WHERE is Mr. Lodge, who is the official who has to struggle with the situation for the United States, to find the necessary eleven votes? There are 10 Soviet votes and there are 11 Arab votes that he cannot get. That makes 21 votes that he cannot get and it takes only 27 votes—one more than one-third of all votes—to veto any proposal the United States makes.

There is still one more bloc of 15 votes, and it holds the balance of power. This is the Afro-Asian bloc. In it we can count fairly reliably on four votes, the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan and Nationalist China. But, as we have seen, we need 11 votes to get a majority. So we are still short seven votes. These we have to obtain by bargaining with India, in plain fact by working out compromises with Mr. Krishna Menon.

This means that the United States, working loyally through the U.N., can on the crucial issues take no positive or affirmative position to which Mr. Menon is seriously opposed. We cannot stand up for what we think is right and just unless we are willing, which we are not, to have a show-down which proves to the world that we are prologing a part of the effective and ruling majority of the United Nations.

THIS situation means that on the hard issues the General Assembly can vote resolutions only on one of two conditions. One is that the United States induces the Western blocs to vote with the Arab, Soviet and Afro-Asian blocs. The first of the resolutions passed last week, the one calling for the withdrawal of Israel to its old frontiers, is an example.

The other condition of agreement in the General Assembly is that the real differences between the Westerners and Easterners are befogged to the point where none of the blocs is publicly committed to anything specific. The second resolution, which appears to deal with the substantial issues in Palestine, is an example of an agreement by deliberate equivocation.

WHAT goes on behind this equivocation? What goes on is secret diplomacy—the only kind of diplomacy that has the remotest chance of working in the conflicts of the Middle East. The general Assembly is a place where nobody can afford to stand up in public and be reasonable. He will be regarded at home as a traitor.

It has, therefore, become necessary in practice to circumvent the General Assembly by letting it speak ambiguously, and then be silent, while secretly and quietly things are talked over in private, perhaps even agreed to in private, that could never be discussed in public. This, at least, is the experiment on which we are now embarked, and we must wish it well.

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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 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.

Self-pity Deplored

To the Editor: Since reading the lamentations in your column from some of the people who will be forced to move from their homes when the new highway comes our way, I feel someone should bring a few other important factors to their minds other than feeling sorry for "poor little me."

They think it is all right to chop down a few trees but apparently they do not realize that the fruit industry in this valley is one of the two major industries, with a total of about \$15 million dollars income. If they think they will be hurt by having to move, they will find the hurt will be much more if many more of our orchards are disposed of. They will be hurt in the pocketbook as many of these same people who are crying the blues are living directly or indirectly from the income brought in by these same trees they are so willing to chop down. Many orchards have already given away to new residential districts and, at the rate they are being destroyed, there soon will be no reason for new homes as there will be no one with money to buy them.

It takes at least six years or more for a new tree to begin bearing fruit. Now surely it won't take these people that long to use the money the highway commission will pay them for their old homes in which to purchase or build another.

We purchased our home about five years ago and had many plans for improving, however, it looks like we will be in the path of the new highway or close to it. We will be sorry to have to move but with the money we receive from the sale of our home, we expect to be able to

buy another just as nice or nicer.

Mrs. W. O. Beard
Table Rock rd.,
Medford, Ore.

Opposed to Bear Creek Route

To the Editor: History records how Peter the Great drew a heavy ink mark up across the wastelands of Russia for a travel way to what became known as St. Petersburg, also promulgating a decree that all those traveling that way had to carry along amounts of road materials to improve and widen the super highway.

Seems like modern "Peter the Greats" from Salem have made a heavy pencil mark that bisects Medford almost as bad as the S.P. and Central ave, with its heavy south-north travel. Those who use it are not required to piggyback materials for its construction, contributing instead many dollars from the national realm. But a much heavier toll will be required of us who live here, if and when it is built at the proposed location, for the lethal monoxide and hydrocarbon gases pouring from car and train-size trucks off the elevated structure and, being heavier than air, will creep across the city, exacting demands on health, and life.

This is no idle speculation, for increasing numbers of cities are prohibiting all but vitally necessary gas burning vehicles from city-center streets during the windless days of late summer and fall. A young worker from Medford wanted a well paying job of some \$2.19 per hour at General Motors in Los Angeles. Three months was all he could take of a constant headache, burning of eyes and nostrils. His name and address can be had

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

"What," the girl reporter wanted to know, "does 'crummy' mean?"

She saw the word in a letter published in the editorial column last week. We don't know what the Dictionary of American Slang says about "crummy," but Webster's Collegiate says it is Scottish or North English dialect for a cow, "esp. one with crumpled horns"; also a crook or staff.

Locally, a "crummy" is a personnel transport vehicle, principally those used to take loggers into and out of the woods.

The English (?) language is an odd one, isn't it?

These two young men were sitting in a theater waiting for the show to begin and one said he wondered if it was in color or in black and white and the other said it was in black and white. No. 1 asked him how he knew and No. 2 said he'd read the book. "So?" said No. 1. "Well," said No. 2. "It was in black and white."

Our society editor, who is sometimes called "Grandma" these days (just because it irritates her, more than for any real reason), is a charming and attractive woman whose hair is just beginning to turn gray in a few spots, and whose dignity is impeccable.

So it was with some concern we heard her utter a modified sort of screech after a telephone conversation (a long one) the other day. She'd been talking to a man. She said "When we got through he said 'Well, so long, baby,' and hung up."

A little boy, about as tall as the handle on a low door, entered a local food-candy-and-magazine shop last week. He closed the door, looked up at a patron nearby, said "Hi, ya!" with the utmost sang froid, then marched determinedly behind the candy case, pulled open the sliding door and, just in time, was snatched away by his mother who dashed in from around the corner of the building searching for him.

Every time someone proposes development of Roxy Ann park, someone else says "What about the poison oak?"

On this page a year or so ago it was suggested that the city or county buy a few goats and set them at work eating the stuff up.

Oh, HO! Leave it to the Air Force (Ah, there, Commander Keating) to prove that suggestion was a good one. Mrs. Betty Stafford mails us a clipping from the San Francisco Chronicle which reveals that five goats have been purchased by the boys in blue and turned loose on Crab Island in Lake Champlain to eat the poison ivy. The Plattsburgh Air Force base recently purchased the island for recreational purposes.

Comment heard during a gray and murky day last week: "Hey! Is it raining, or are they cleaning the streets?"

for any doubters. Medford is ideally situated with its rampart of mountains hemming in the small valley, for the smog incubus so greatly feared today.

The Oregon State Highway officials' alibis for saddling this thing on the one city between Portland and the south border, do not ring honest and true with me. They cite destruction of pear lands if the free-way takes to the hills east or west. This borders the ashine, as such lands are being used constantly for business, industrial and home sites. One such has taken extensive holdings to the south west for burial purposes, taking the very finest of soil lands in the valley. Surely we can take some of these acres with few if any homes destroyed, so we may remain on top of the ground in health and live out our useful and worth while days here on earth.

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

Old Reel Foot

To the Editor: A typographical error somewhere along the line made the eighteen hundred pound bear tale to read 800, when actually the 1,800 figure was correct, according to newspaper clippings I have read, owned by Ashland men, William R. Taylor and A. E. Powell.

"Old reel foot" was so named because one foot was partly amputated, presumably from a trap. He was four feet high and measured 18 inches between the eyes. Was a shot a number of times before being killed by an 18 year old young man named Pearl Bean along with an older companion. As to the old prospector, it is alleged that he was the leading character in Jack London's novel called "Burning Daylight," because of his ambition and luck at finding gold.

Bert Kissinger,
520 Boardman,
Medford, Ore.