

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION MEMBER. MEDFORD PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION MEMBER.

Right 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. 24, 1947 (Monday). Clarence E. Wahlford, Gold Hill farmer, is named foreman of the Grand Jury by Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna.

20 YEARS AGO. Feb. 24, 1937 (Wednesday). Preparations are being made to cut the ice on Lake of the Woods for use by the resort during the summer, according to Hugh Bitt, district ranger of the Rogue River National Forest.

30 YEARS AGO. Feb. 24, 1927 (Thursday). John H. Piper, regional scout executive, will be guest of honor at Carter Lake council scout meeting.

40 YEARS AGO. Feb. 24, 1917 (Saturday). The marketing of the 1916 Rogue river valley fruit will be unaffected by embargo against apples put into effect today by England.

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

1. Was the first manufacture of bricks by machinery completed in New York or Ohio? 2. What Captain Cuttle character in a novel by Dickens or Smollett?

Turn-About Party Set At Camp White Tuesday. Residents of Camp White domiciliary will hold their eighth annual turn-about party Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. in the Camp White theater.

Blind Partisanship

If the Democrats make a success of running the state government, it will be, so to speak, over the dead bodies of the Republican "Die-Hards."

Ever since the Legislature opened, the Republicans, particularly in the Senate, have not been working for the best interests of the state, but to, in every way, discredit the Democratic opposition.

The fight for the presidency of the Upper House started the partisan ball rolling, and it has been rolling along ever since.

THE defeated Republican candidate for the Senate presidency Senator Gill, was more frank about this than most of his party colleagues.

In the debate Thursday, on the proposed state property tax when Democratic Senator Pearson accused the Republican opposition of needless "needling tactics," Senator Gill did not deny the allegation but remarked in explanation of his vote, quote:

"In the last session I had a lot more confidence in the state administration than I have in this one."

EXACTLY!!

And why? Because for half a century with two or three exceptions, the GOP has controlled politics in this state, and leaders like Gill refuse to become reconciled to any other party, particularly the Democrats, having the effrontery to replace them.

So resentment thus aroused, their outstanding aim in this session, is not, as indicated above, to consider legislation on its merits from the standpoint of the state welfare but solely, whether or not, passage would credit or discredit the Democratic party.

In this direction it is interesting to note that the able editor of the "Eugene Register-Guard" ("Independent Republican") shares our view.

We quote:

"Persons who see in the new tax structure an opportunity to discredit the Democrats who are in control... are quite frankly hoping the taxpayers' bruise is a nasty one... We disagree. We know we are going to be taxed and we think most of the proposed expenditures are necessary if Oregon is to meet its obligations... Now we would like to see the state copy the federal government and go the whole hog. Deduct the works based on the anticipated years income. After all what is the purpose of government if it is not to assist all the people in meeting their common needs as efficiently and painlessly as possible?"

BUT ever since Governor Holmes' inauguration the Republican sharpshooters and most of the state press, have been predicting disaster, condemning his tax program to failure before it has been announced, and not disguising their glee in anticipation of a grand party jamboree when the present administration fails to balance the budget, or balances it in such a way, that two years hence a GOP return to power and a Democratic defeat will be certain.

IT ALL adds up to a rather depressing demonstration of the destructive force of a BLIND political partisanship, whether active in the affairs of a state or of a nation.

The menace in Oregon today is GOP partisanship. We don't deny it may be blind Democratic partisanship tomorrow.—R.W.R.

The "News" Deserts "Ike"

John S. Knight, publisher of the potent "Chicago News," and head of a newspaper chain extending from the "Windy City" to Miami, Florida, has turned against President Eisenhower.

This is "NEWS." For Publisher Knight has fought the isolationist wing of the GOP as so militantly represented by its powerful competitor the Chicago Tribune for many years, and during the present administration's first term was one of the strongest supporters of the "We like Ike" enthusiasts.

The "News" and other members of the Knight chain, endured the President's recent Budget message, the exposition of the new "Eisenhower doctrine," and even the eloquent Inaugural, in silence, but then the first of this month could stand it no longer and burst forth with a full-page "switch" under the caption "Ike's shift in direction dismays his supporters." This declaration was illuminated by a cartoon-spread showing the former "Ike Supporters" walking in one direction marked "Economize and save the U.S.," while the old pachyderm labelled "The Administration" is shown foot-footing it on all fours in the opposite direction marked, "Tax, Spend and Save the World."

"Parting company" is the caption on this drawing and here are some of the reasons given for this "alienation of affections," quote:

It is my personal view that this (Eisenhower's) policy is too rigid; that it would have been better to have declared our interest in the Middle East without actually charting a step-by-step future procedure.

I also disagree with the \$600 million program of economic aid, of which \$200 million is to be spent during the balance of this year.

Many of these countries, dripping in oil, have not yet been able to spend all of the money we have furnished them thus far.

Nor is the Middle East situation comparable to the defense of Formosa, where our objectives were limited.

Handing the President blank-check authority to act in this highly sensitive and complex area is a grant of power never contemplated by the founders of our Republic.

Moreover, by stating flatly that we will defend any nation requesting assistance in the Middle East, we enable Russia to trigger a war at a time of her own choosing.

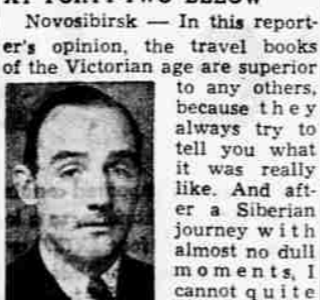
At best, this is questionable strategy and certainly bad diplomacy.

STRONG words, considering the circumstances and the source!

In fact this is almost identically the line that Senator Morse took a few days ago in his criticism of "Modern Republicanism" and the new "Eisenhower doctrine" as applied in the Mid East. He, too, implied it would place the war-initiative in the hands of Soviet

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

AT FORTY-TWO BELOW



Joseph Alsop

Novosibirsk — In this reporter's opinion, the travel books of the Victorian age are superior to any others, because they always try to tell you what it was really like. And after a Siberian journey with almost no dull moments, I cannot quite resist the frivolous impulse to imitate this good Victorian example.

Let us begin then, in the best Victorian manner, with the hazards of Siberian travel, which are considerable if you lack the frontier spirit.

There is, for example, no working modern plumbing, so far as I could discover, in all the 2,000 kilometers of steppe and taiga that separate Kuybyshev and Barnaul. In this same area of the new western Siberian frontier, the hotels are more like barracks than anything usually called a hotel, and the traveler who feels lost without a bath is due to feel continuously lost.

The climate is supposed to be Siberia's worst terror, but in fact it is not a serious hazard providing you bring along a John Held era coonskin coat. You will be a trifle conspicuous, but you will still be warm, even at 42 degrees below zero. On the other hand, those who are planning Siberian tours should certainly be warned against Siberian hospitality, which is delightful but rather overwhelming.

There was the scene in the primitive but companionable railroad dining car, when the old peasant turned expert forester and the young locomotive engineer all but fought with one another to explain their respective "specialties" to the stranger and to find out from him the conditions of similar work in America. Or there was the glorious party with the youthful engineering staff of the Severnaya mine at Kemerovo, when we really should have gone down to the mine's dark depths, but as it was Sunday and the party was going so well, we perhaps wisely decided not to.

Not all the faces were friendly. Not all the scenes were pleasant. But as I write these last words on the corner of a table in the big Novosibirsk airport restaurant, just before taking off again on the long trip to Moscow, I am still inclined to recommend tourism in western Siberia.

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ness to go unwashed—is almost guaranteed to enjoy a Siberian journey under friendly auspices. For one thing, this is an exuberantly growing region, and the mere process of growth, however strange and hostile the system which promotes it, is still both fascinating and exciting to observe.

For another thing, the people you meet are mostly very good people indeed. The Russians of western Siberia are wonderfully welcoming, showing not the slightest trace of fear of contact with strangers, and the iron system they live under does not prevent most of them from being vital, resilient and generous hearted fellows.

As I think back over my journey, many faces, many scenes are summoned up. There was the poetically inspired face of the young engineer, stimulated by a passing mention of Turgenyev's "Sportsman's Sketches" to a lyrical description of the steppes in springtime. There were the hard bitten, dirt grimed but gay faces of the three young boys, an itinerant team, "a wandering brigade," of construction workers, who described their rough lives with such cheerful unconcern. And there was the face of the combine operator in from the country and discovered playing chess in the hotel at Akmolinsk, who so proudly explained his gold medal, harvesting and threshing more than 20,000 bushels.

There was the scene in the primitive but companionable railroad dining car, when the old peasant turned expert forester and the young locomotive engineer all but fought with one another to explain their respective "specialties" to the stranger and to find out from him the conditions of similar work in America. Or there was the glorious party with the youthful engineering staff of the Severnaya mine at Kemerovo, when we really should have gone down to the mine's dark depths, but as it was Sunday and the party was going so well, we perhaps wisely decided not to.

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Israel Said in Need Of American Support To Permit Settlement

By ROSCOE DRUMMOND

Israel-Egypt: Rights And Wrongs

Washington — What Israel is seeking is absolutely justified from every standpoint: (1) The right of innocent passage of its ships through the Egyptian controlled Gulf of Aqaba and Straits of Tiran to its own port of Elath; (2) Security from the Fedayeen terrorist raids into Israel from the Gaza Strip.

The method which Israel used to redress these wrongs—invading in force into non-Israeli territory and into the Sharm el Sheikh tip of Egypt—was certainly not justified, although the provocation was excruciating.

The United Nations is in the midst of a critical and difficult task.

It is difficult because the UN is attempting to liquidate an Israeli invasion for which it was partly responsible—responsible in the sense that it had long tolerated and had done nothing effective to correct the Egyptian injustices against Israel which produced the invasion.

The United Nations cannot and must not, I think, continue to take a quiescent attitude toward the Egyptian actions which need to be prevented as urgently as the Israeli invasion needs to be ended.

If I grasp the realities correctly, there are two things which are not likely to happen.

What Israel most fears is not likely to take place. The United States would be very reluctant to carry out repressive economic sanctions against Israel. The responsibility of both Israel and Egypt for the immediate situation is far too interwoven to justify such action unless applied with equal force to both sides.

What Israel most wants is not going to take place. The United States is not going to "guarantee"—that is, pledge that it will use armed force—to escort Israeli-bound shipping through the Straits of Tiran and the Gulf of Aqaba. Since President Eisenhower proclaimed that America would not "shoot its way through the Suez Canal" in order to protect American shipping, it is plain that he is not going "to shoot" to protect Israeli shipping.

And Congress isn't either.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Despite the fog, rain and occasional snowfall hereabouts this winter, it's still a pretty salubrious climate.

There's a farmer living near Elgin, Ore., who has a woodlot of ponderosa pines. He likes to trim them to get firewood from the branches, and to leave the trees with better chance for rapid growth and better quality timber.

So what does he do? He waits for winter. Then the deep drifts provide him with a natural "step-ladder" so he can reach the branches with no effort except putting on his snowshoes.

Someone on North Riverside ave. must be either far ahead, or considerably behind, in his thinking. There's a sign there, in a conspicuous place, that reads, "Xmas Trees for Sale."

Our United Press printer service each day carries a list of pictures which are going out to newspapers which subscribe to the picture service. Last week the following item, on which comment appears to be superfluous, was sent out: