

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time

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

10 YEARS AGO

April 14, 1947 (Monday) County Judge J. B. Coleman reports that Jackson county will join other Oregon counties in a campaign to prevent traffic accidents in rural areas.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Word comes from upstate the cigarette tax passed by the legislature, faces a legal test, and will be smoked out.

20 YEARS AGO

April 14, 1937 (Wednesday) Dr. L. D. Inskip, city health officer, reports six cases of smallpox, now in quarantine in Medford, bringing total since first of year to 20.

Rogue River valley's first annual "pear blossom week" scheduled, according to Raymond Retter, chairman.

30 YEARS AGO

April 14, 1927 (Thursday) Miss Ruth Anne Wilson, formerly of Medford, named dean of girls at Eugene High school. The Greater Medford club will sponsor the April Frolic this year at Oriental Gardens.

40 YEARS AGO

April 14, 1917 (Saturday) Dr. George Rebec speaks on "New Russian Democracy and Its Prospects at the public library."

Superintendent of Medford schools, A. Melde Hillis, attends meeting of Schoolmasters' club of southern Oregon in Rogue River.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. The name of the notorious "Boss Tweed" was associated with which political club? 2. A mahout is a driver of what animal? 3. Bible: Was it Ezekiel or John who said "The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, 'Son of man...'"? 4. Correct the following: "We swum to the life-raft." 5. What substance found in fruits is important in jelly-making? 6. The calendar we now use is known as the Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Gregorian or Julian calendar? 7. Name the author of "The Pickwick Papers." 8. The Federal Government has the legal power to prescribe standards of professional competency of State National Guard officers; true or false? 9. In the word "subtle" is it incorrect or correct to sound the letter "b"? 10. "The vast Mississippi of falsehood."—Matthew Arnold. Is this a reference to history or philosophy?

Answers: 1. Tammany Hall; 2. Elephant; 3. Ezekiel; 4. "We swam to the life-raft"; 5. Pectin; 6. Gregorian; 7. Charles Dickens; 8. True; 9. Correct; 10. History.

SMALL TORNADO

Lexington, Ore. — (U.P.) — A small tornado and a hailstorm hit a section of Morrow county near here Friday. No damage was reported although students at the Lexington school ran for the basement when the twister approached.

State Public Power?

Herbert Lundy, editor of the editorial page of the Oregonian, under a 3-column head declares "Oregon's apathy about its vanishing supply of electric power from the federal Columbia basin system is beyond understanding."

It is. As Editor Lundy points out because of this public indifference and the state of Washington's interest and enterprise, our neighboring state to the north is scheduled to get not only more and more power but cheaper and cheaper power. Oregon, on the other hand, will be getting less and less, because as Mr. Lundy points out, quote:

"Most Oregon residents are served by private utilities."

BUT when it comes to public power on a federal scale, as would be expected of an OREGONIAN "editor," horror is expressed.

We again quote:

"Oregon will have to take other means of obtaining its share of the federal generation, for there is little support for public power at the consumer level."

THERE is little support for this ANYWHERE. Even "TVA," long anathema to the present administration as "creeping socialism," does not sell directly to the consumer, but entirely to local cooperative distributing systems.

However there is, we believe, public support for federal power as represented by a single high government dam on the Snake and a John Day federal project on the Columbia.

Editor Lundy, however, believes that under the present political pressure for "economy" in Washington, any appropriation of funds for such a project would be unlikely.

That is probably true. But why not make a try?

As the Oregonian editor admits if no one else does build at John Day, the Government "probably will," eventually.

However, because of the urgency of the matter Lundy asks why shouldn't the state of Oregon build the dam?

His answer is it should. And with the formation of a State Power Commission, he says, it could.

WELL, that would be Ok by this department. It's a little difficult to see why public power on a state level, differs in principle from public power on a government level; but the main necessity, as has so often been stressed in this department, is not only more power, but cheaper power,—and soon, not in the distant future.

If a State Power Commission, in alliance with some PUD in the state of Washington (for power), and with the federal government (for navigation) would supply this critical public need in the SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME, we can see no objection to it.

SOME people may well ask how the state of Oregon, which is having such a tough time to balance its budget, and even more difficulty in the realm of tax reduction, COULD afford to do what our immensely rich and powerful government could not.

The answer is that on EITHER level, public power is self-liquidating. In other words, the state or the government would not be out of pocket a cent but would merely have to use its credit, over a period of years, for more power, cheaper power and vastly increased promotion of the public welfare. The dam would pay for itself.—R.W.R.

Eventually, But Not Now

Nearly every day some Teamsters' local, votes to give Dave Beck the big boss the "heave-ho."

Well if Dave Beck goes, Jimmy Hoffa, and the "bookie" Brewster should not be far behind.

BUT the more one learns about the exact status of the Teamsters' union and the nature of its constitution, the less promising is any quick "tridance of such rubbish,"—in the near future, at least.

As Victor Riesel, the New York reporter, blinded by a splatter of acid in his face—explains in the Oregonian the Teamsters' union is not based upon democratic principles but on pre-historic feudal ones.

DAVE Beck is the "lord" of the labor manor,—or in modern terms the "Big Boss"—Messrs. Hoffa and Brewster are second in command and members of the powerful barons.

ACCORDING to Riesel—and he SHOULD know,— "the 1,500,000" hard working members of the "Teamsters" have just enough rights to pay their dues. That's all.

Like the vassals of old, they get well cared for, their living standards are raised and assured, they are protected from abuses by the "crown," but they have no more to say about who should run their union than the vassals had to say about who should "live in the castle on the hill"—or at St. James.

But so long as the "running" is satisfactory to them (the members) there is—or has been until very recently—no particular complaint.

THE lords and barons, it seems, are selected at a union convention. But, according to the same source, the members of that convention owe their positions to the local executive council, the council members owe their positions to the local "president," and the local president had the support of the regional chief. But the regional chief made it only because, quote:

"He had the nod from Brewster, Beck and Hoffa."

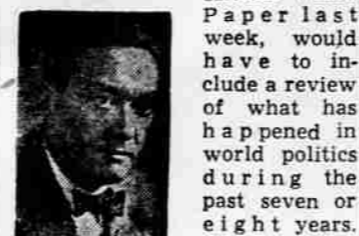
SO THERE you are,—and there are the rank and file of the Teamsters union as far as heaving out

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE BRITISH WHITE PAPER

London—A full explanation of the new British defense policy, which was set forth in an official White Paper last week, would have to include a review of what has happened in world politics during the past seven or eight years.



Walter Lippmann

The review might well begin in 1949 when the Soviet Union broke the American monopoly of atomic weapons. This enormous event precipitated the race in nuclear armaments and in guided missiles.

For Britain particularly, with her large commitments and her diminished economic resources, this revolution in the military art has posed a problem which has to be met. Britain cannot afford, indeed there are no nations which can really afford, to finance the full development of the new weapons while maintaining at the same time conventional, but up-to-date, armies, navies, and air forces.

For Britain, and indeed for all the countries of Europe and Asia, the new weapons have raised the question whether there is in fact any such thing as defense, in the ordinary sense of the ability to repel an attack. If there is no adequate defense, then there is no security except the prevention of nuclear war by deterrence on the one hand and by diplomacy on the other.

For a number of reasons Great Britain has been the first of the big powers to speak distinctly and openly about the complex problems which are posed by this military revolution, and to reshape its own military policy accordingly. There need be no doubt in our minds that this White Paper will have an influence beyond Great Britain on military thinking and planning.

The document is unusually candid and explicit for an official statement. But time will show, I imagine, that there is a lot to be read between the lines.

THERE is, for example, the blunt statement that "there is at present no means of providing adequate protection for the people of this country against the consequences of an attack with nuclear weapons," and that therefore "the overriding consideration in all military planning must be to prevent war rather than to prepare for it."

"That is a very big thing for the British government to say. The practical military conclusion they draw from it is that Britain must have some deterrent nuclear power of her own if she is not to remain wholly dependent upon the United States. But what the British are saying will be read in countries which are no less defenseless and yet quite incapable of acquiring any deterrent nuclear power of their own."

The British conclusion depends, so I gather, upon a current assumption that the United States is ahead of the Soviet Union in the race to produce guided missiles of intermediate range, and that in not too long a time the United States will be able to supply Britain and the NATO countries with these missiles. If this fundamental assumption is correct, we are entering a period—which may last for a few years—in which the balance of nuclear power will be theoretically and statistically inclined against the Soviet Union.

For, again theoretically, the Soviet Union will be within range of the intermediate missiles which are based in Britain and Western Europe whereas the United States would be somewhat less vulnerable.

MANY of us, myself included, do not think such theoretical calculations are reliable enough in the real world to be taken very seriously as a basis of practical policy. But the assumption that the United States has a lead in the field of intermediate missiles is very much in the minds of the military planners all over the world. Britain, for example, would in any event have had to reduce its military establishment and its overseas commitments. But the intermediate missiles, which are promised for delivery in the five-year period during which Britain is to reduce its military forces, can be cited to support the claim that the overall power of Britain relative to the Soviet Union will nevertheless not have been reduced.

It is most probably, too, that the Soviet warnings to Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands and to Western Europe generally are addressed primarily to this problem of the intermediate missiles. Quite evidently, Moscow is genuinely disturbed at the prospect of being encircled by a ring of guided missiles with nuclear warheads, especially if for some years to come she will have no comparable power to strike at the United States. The Soviet warnings contain big threats of what would happen if intermediate missiles were launched from Western Europe. But it is only fair to note that there is no suggestion in these warnings that the Soviet Union is considering a preventive attack if the missiles are actually installed in Britain and elsewhere. Such a preventive attack would of course bring into action the United States, and it seems that the Soviet Union has no intention, indeed, quite the contrary, of starting a great war.

IF THE basic assumption of a temporary Western superiority is sound, it means only that our diplomatic bargaining power, which has fallen so low since Hungary and the Suez fiasco, may for a time be somewhat restored. But the advantage, if indeed we have one, will however be temporary and short-lived. For the Soviet Union will assuredly catch up with us if indeed she is lagging behind.

One would feel better about all this if in London and in Washington the directors of our diplomacy were willing to think as freshly and frankly as were the authors of the British White Paper on military policy.

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Actor Recognizes Coat Stolen Recently

Munich, Germany.—(U.P.)— Actor Adolphe Menjou had possession again Saturday of two articles of his famous wardrobe stolen last month from his movie studio dressing room.

The actor, who lost four suits, dozens of ties, two coats, slacks and several hats, attended a police line-up of suspects Friday. He recognized a sports jacket and gray slacks on one of the men.

"That jacket has a completely unique color that I'd recognize among thousands of coats," Menjou said.

Stedman Family Grateful

To the Editor: We are so grateful to the people of Medford and the whole community for the very generous check which we received from the "Salute to Bob Stedman" show and we thought this would be the best way to thank everyone who had any part in making this show such a great success.

Such a high tribute will be a life-long inspiration to us as a family and cherished as an example of the true friendliness and good will of the people in this valley.

The friendliness and concern shown us has been no little factor in Bob's steady progress toward recovery.

Our sincere thanks to each and every one of you. Mrs. Robert Stedman, 1367 King Highway, Medford, Ore.

Speaks From Experience

To the Editor: I am writing this letter regarding the letter last week that Mrs. Fields wrote. She blamed the juvenile officers for her son's wrong doings. I know she is wrong as I also have sons and I can speak from experience.

I have four boys and the oldest one got into difficulty a while back. The juvenile officers and Judge Hanna were more than lenient. If I was in their place I'm afraid I might not have been. When boys and girls get in their teens they are supposed to know right from wrong, and use their intelligence to do the right thing.

The way boys and girls figure today, we parents are ancient and we just couldn't understand how they feel. We all learn by experience and it is a very hard teacher. In my belief they should profit from their mistakes.

The boys and girls seem to be battling against something and striking out at everyone and everything.

My belief is that the American father should stop putting himself first and take the responsibility.

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.

Look in the Mirror

To the Editor: There was a touch of irony in the announcement Thursday that the Kiwanis club had formed a committee to curb juvenile delinquency by getting the purple literature off the newstands.

According to the 1957 World Almanac, the sales of Confidential magazine have now passed those of Good Housekeeping by a comfortable margin. I am not prepared to believe it was strictly the juveniles who quit reading the Good Housekeeping in favor of Confidential. Has the change in statistics occurred because our high school boys have lost confidence in Good Housekeeping or because mother has changed her reading habits?

The Kiwanis clubs are fine and the majority of our newstand literature rather horrible, but when it comes to reforming our youth by raiding a magazine rack let us quit kidding ourselves. Book burning never solved any problem and forming a committee never wrought an uplifting spiritual change. If committees had such power we should have a generation of saintly youth, because there are currently a record number of groups, in excess of 150, working to improve our youth . . . and juvenile delinquency has never been worse. Burn the books and good riddance, but don't expect it will reform the purchaser.

Haven't we, in reality, used committee forming, group discussing, and generous appropriation as a neat, comfortable impersonal escape from the real problem? Namely, ourselves. Every one of us.

If we wish to see the culprit behind our children's problems we don't have to go as far as a New York publishing house. All we have to do is take a long look in a mirror. Police in a headlined Tribune story blame the parents with appropriate name-calling, parents blame the police and call a few names of their own. People without children recommend more beatings. People with children take one. Social workers, juvenile officers, newspaper editors — everybody blames everybody except himself. It makes a lovely picture. Something the young folks can respect.

Right now we are upset over youthful reading matter but a short time back when our High school students asked for a better reception at the Public Library, their only source of free high quality books, we stayed calm. We told them we had the best of library rules and we have to protect those books.

We abhor cruelty and have over 50 churches teaching Christian kindness, but which one among us spoke up when our 12-year-olds were offered cash prizes to chop the noses off porcupines (some of which were only stunned first)?

Soon we will be able to point to a \$90,000 juvenile "jail" as a symbol of our generosity. No one will feel a pang of conscience when he looks at it, no one of us will feel searing guilt that it was necessary because it wasn't our fault. Ask us.

Jane Gillaspie, 636 West Fourth st., Medford, Ore.

Editorial Comment

EAST WINS OVER WEST The West has just lost a skirmish in its long and seemingly never-ending war for justice in the matter of freight rates.

Sen. Neuberger offered an amendment in the U.S. Senate to repeal federal excise taxes on transportation, amounting to 3 per cent on freight shipments and 10 per cent on passenger travel, that were imposed during World War II as a measure to discourage unnecessary use of transportation facilities.

This amendment, backed by western senators, was defeated along with several other similar ones.

These excise taxes obviously weigh more heavily on the people of the West, where the normal conduct of business affairs involves greater distances of freight shipment and travel, than upon the people of the compact, thickly settled east.

These taxes amount to an extra aggravation of the freight rates which themselves are in large measure discriminatory against the West.

The excise taxes, as Sen. Neuberger pointed out, were imposed in World War II to discourage needless travel but have remained in existence a dozen years after the war ended as a revenue measure which taxes the West out of proportion to its levy upon the East.

Sen. Neuberger reports that although the amendment was defeated, it gained some influential Senate support.

Although we may have lost the battle, we may yet win the war," he commented, adding that he will continue to strive to eliminate the unjust excise taxes.—Astorian Budget.

TIMBER PIONEERING REQUIRED

Too much of our wood utilization at present depends upon the saw. Most of the people dealing with wood and wood waste have been brought up in the school of the saw.

Chemical utilization offers an intriguing field. Too few people are educated in chemical uses of wood. Most of those who have such education are young and do not have available risk capital to pioneer chemical utilization processes.

We doubtless could have plants producing plastics, fabrics, chemicals, waxes, drugs, protein feeds, alcohol, molasses and many other such products if we could encourage some of these younger men to explore and pioneer.

More than one-half the timber in Oregon is controlled by the federal government. The federal government is tolerating the almost criminal waste of the potential capacity of the public domain even under sustained yield harvest.

Why shouldn't the federal government encourage young men with wood chemistry education to pioneer new fields of wood waste utilization by offering loans, with token cooperation, fast tax write-offs and technical assistance. Such a program would be most beneficial to the federal government by reducing the waste of material from the public domain, creating more employment, adding to national production, and increasing tax revenue.—Roseburg News Review.

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

We offer our congratulations to the young woman who, upon leaving the Medical Center Building last week, was overheard to report in tones of amazement and delight, to members of her family in a nearby parked car, "I'm going to have a BABY!"

We continue to watch with a certain incredulity the progress being made in the M-T's facelifting.

The two pleasant and highly efficient carpenters who are doing the lion's share of the work keep tearing things apart, then putting them back together again differently, and improved. The pounding, the sawing, the moving of desks and counters continues apace, to the discomfort, but eventual benefit, of our fellow-workers.

The removal of the front wall of the main office was held up until the weather bureau forecast warm, pleasant weather for the following day. The following day, naturally, turned out to be cloudy and chilly, and the staff worked most of the day bundled up in sweaters and coats, blowing on their fingers as the noisy wrecking bars and hammers opened the room to the street.

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M-T employees were not the only ones confused. The same man has, over a period of years, delivered our copy of a San Francisco newspaper each morning. He usually followed the same routine — opening the front door, and plopping the paper on the counter.

Last week he opened the front door and plopped the paper down where the counter used to be. It fell fluttering to the floor.

"Well," he said as he picked it up, "changed things around a bit, haven't you?"

The United Press carried on its wires recently a story about a woman who had been hurt in an accident. Later it developed the victim was not a woman, but a man. So the U.P. dutifully carried another story to correct this. Then at the bottom, the teletype printed out the words "Above corrects the sex of victim."

Christine Jorgensen?

Among the members of our staff is a young man who has not been in Medford too long, and who, until his recent acquisition of an automobile, was almost totally unfamiliar with the geography of southern Oregon and northern California.

He announced last week that he was planning to visit Eureka, Calif., and mentioned that he planned to "go by way of Ashland." A more-traveled colleague took him by the hand and showed him to a map, which revealed that you CAN get to Eureka by way of Ashland, but that it's a heck of a long way.

That estimable journal, the Lincoln Legend declares that "Juvenile delinquency is the result of trying to train up a child without starting at the bottom."

And Susan Krieger writes for the same publication: "The sixth graders of Lincoln school are going to put on a puppet show some time this month . . . The story is about 'Hansel and Gretel.' The characters in the show are Hansel and Gretel, the mother and father, the witch, two angels, and the Dew-men and the Sandman. The puppets were used about six years ago in History. They were dressed as Indians and Dr. Whitman. This should be interesting to all . . ."

Delayed Plane Takes Off 14 Hours Late

Sydney, Australia.—(U.P.)— A twice-delayed Super Constellation of the strikebound Qantas Empire Airways took off for San Francisco and Vancouver 14 hours behind schedule Saturday.

Manning the plane were three volunteer pilots, smuggled aboard to hide their identity from striking airline employees. Twenty-three passengers were aboard.

Police and airport and airlines security forces were on duty to prevent disturbances as the plane took off. There was no incident.

Albert Monk, president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, urged directors of the striking pilots association to call an immediate conference to discuss reconciliation.

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