

MEADFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune... Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO...

How Far Does it Go?

A young mother and her unborn second child — it would have been a son — were killed horribly in Medford Wednesday morning.

City police records show that three other accidents involving trains have occurred already in the 4 1/2 months of 1957. In one of them a pedestrian was killed.

In 1956, according to records of the Oregon Public Utilities Commissioner, there were 10 train-vehicle accidents on railroad crossings between Stewart ave. and McAndrews rd.

In 1955, there were nine such accidents, the PUC records show.

THE present speed limit for trains at all these crossings is 35 miles per hour, except at the Main and Sixth street crossings, where it is 10 mph. Estimated speed of the train in the accident Wednesday was 30 or 32 mph.

In February of last year, the Mayor of Medford, at the request of the council, filed a request with the SP to reduce the speeds used by trains going through the city. It filed a copy of this letter with the PUC.

The SP did not even acknowledge this request, according to city records. The PUC acknowledged it, and placed it on file, also awaiting an answer from the SP.

DANGEROUS speed by trains is not the only hazard Medford people face when crossing the tracks. Boxcars on spur tracks in many cases make it virtually impossible to see if anything is coming on the main tracks.

In addition, it is common knowledge, and easily provable, that the SP uses the technique known as "flying switches" — that is, shunting cars down a spur after they are detached from an engine — in many of its operations within the city of Medford, and even across street crossings.

These things are in addition to the unavoidable inconvenience to traffic of trains blocking long lines of cars on city streets. This may not always happen at rush hours, but it always SEEMS that way.

THE DEATH of Mrs. Donovan, it seems to us, would be sufficient justification for the city council to reopen the whole matter of train speed through the city. This could be done by filing a formal complaint and request for a hearing with the Public Utilities Commissioner.

The safety practices — or NON-practices — of the SP would be an appropriate thing to consider at the same time. Perhaps we can find out how much authority the PUC has over the utilities when it comes to matters of human life.

The Southern Pacific has taken away this area's "main line" status; it has taken away the last, creaking vestiges of passenger service without a by-your-leave; it has cut its freight service; it chopped down the last remaining tree near Sixth st., and put up a billboard advertising beer.

Does its "public be damned" belief also extend to human life?—E.A.

Bomb Scare

In the unfortunate "bomb scare" incident Tuesday evening, the behavior of everyone involved was exemplary — with the exception, of course, of the anonymous coward that made the threatening telephone call, whoever he may have been: drunk, nut, or plain stupid jerk.

The police officers and firemen, who handled the potentially-dangerous task of searching the building, and then the tiring and boring one of standing by for nearly four hours, deserve credit and thanks.

So do the members of the public — hotel guests and others — who took the inconvenience and discomfort in stride and with good humor.

SO DOES Mrs. Betti Boyle, the capable Jackson hotel manager, who displayed courtesy, cooperativeness and cool-headedness, in getting the 50 or so guests (not 15 as was incorrectly reported in this paper) and about 28 employees out of the hotel as 8 p.m. approached — the time the anonymous calls said the "bomb" would go off.

It is difficult to understand the type of thinking which would motivate such a senseless and useless action.

Why should anybody in his right mind plant a bomb indiscriminately? Even more so, why should anyone make threats about a non-existent bomb?

THE authorities suspected this would be the hoax it turned out to be. But with human life at stake, they would not take any chances. Thus the building was searched, room by room, closet by closet, drawer by drawer. Then everyone was requested to evacuate, and were kept out for a full hour after 8 p.m.

The bomb disposal officers on the police force say they gained a healthy respect for the potentialities of bombs during their training period. The couldn't afford to ignore the possibility that somewhere, hidden in the building, there was a bomb.

The comment on the situation we liked best was by Chief of Police Charles Champlin, who eyed the two fire trucks, the two fire department station wagons, the three police cars, and the 15 men standing by, (all at a cost of multiple hundreds of tax dollars) and said wryly "I suppose the guy that made the call is the kind who complains his taxes are too high."—E.A.



© 1957 THE MAIL TRIBUNE, INC.

President, Congress Disagree on Amounts Needed for Cold War

By RAYMOND LAHR Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower and congressional leaders agree the United States needs friends in the cold war. There is not much agreement yet on how much it should spend to win and keep friends.

On the second of his planned radio-TV appeals to the country Eisenhower will discuss, in the word of the White House, "Why mutual aid is so essential to the winning of the peace."

The administration's foreign aid program, now scaled down to less than four billion dollars, has been a prime target of the budget-cutting drive in Congress. It also has been the item most often mentioned in mail to Congress complaining about the size of the President's nearly \$72 billion budget.

So it looks as though Eisenhower will have to win fresh public support for the program if he wants to persuade Congress to vote something near the amount he is asking.

In his conference with congressional leaders of both parties Thursday the President placed much stress on this nation's need for friends and allies in the cold war with Russia. None of his listeners disagreed.

Babson Is Bullish About Farming Future

By ROGER W. BABSON Babson Park, Mass. — Many farmers write to me complaining about the cost-price squeeze. They are discouraged because for them the bottom seems to have fallen out of the farm market. I sympathize with these people, but I suspect that many of them have come upon hard times because they are not farming as well as they know 'ow. Also, many of them are not keeping abreast of new ideas and new crops.

Tremendous changes have taken place in farming during my lifetime. When I was a boy, horses and mules furnished practically all the power on farms. Even as recently as 1910, there was almost no mechanization on farms. In that year the total farm population was 32,076,960. By 1950, this had dwindled to 25,058,000, a decline of 21.9 per cent.

Most observers estimate the present farm population to be only 20,000,000. Thus farmers and their families now account for only 11.8 per cent of our total population compared with 34.9 per cent in 1910. I predict that machines will continue to displace men on American farms. Hence, the smaller commercial farms will be hard put to survive. However, I do not believe farmers should be despairing of the future. A good living can still be made on the farm by those who open their eyes to progress.

Obviously, the trend is toward new crops and greater mechanization, and there is no sense in bucking that trend. Over-Production Temporary Right now farmers are the victims of their own unusual ability to coax record yields-per-acre from the soil. Better seed, improved fertilization and irrigation, and more efficient spreading, cultivating, and harvesting machinery have increased production. During the war our farmers rose magnificently to the challenge to provide food and feed for our allies, and now they are temporarily in trouble. At present we are growing at least 5 per cent more products than we can sell. In an effort to keep our farm surpluses from becoming too burdensome, the

Russian Industrial Revision, British Arms Change, Tops News

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent The week's good and bad news on the international balance sheet:

Russian Communist leader Nikita S. Khrushchev presented to the Supreme Soviet—the parliament of the Soviet Union—his plan for a drastic decentralization of government control of industry.

The Khrushchev plan was designed to increase efficiency by relaxing the rigid control which had been exerted over Russian economy by the scores of industrial ministries in Moscow.

Under it, 92 self-contained economic control councils will be set up in areas throughout the Soviet Union. Thirty-one of the Moscow ministries will be abolished.

Prime Minister Harold Macmillan promised West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer that despite its revolutionary shift of defense to a nuclear

weapons basis, Great Britain will maintain a "regular, mobile, highly-trained force" on the continent of Europe as part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Though reduced in man-power, Macmillan said, the British force will not be reduced in actual strength.

Macmillan's assurance was given to Adenauer during a three-day conference in Bonn, the West German capital.

It was announced in Washington that the United States would station an atomic missile unit in the island of Formosa, stronghold of the Chinese Nationalist government.

The announcement meant that for the first time the United States would establish a military base in Formosa, which is about 100 miles off the Communist-held mainland of China.

Italian Premier Antonio Segni resigned after the right-wing Socialist Party of Giuseppe Saragat withdrew from his cabinet. The resignation came after months of wrangling between

the various Italian political parties and inside the parties themselves.

A long period of political instability was threatened.

Janos Kadar, the Communist puppet premier of Hungary, announced a cabinet reshuffle which brought some additional "Stalinists" back to leadership.

Speeches in the Hungarian parliament, after the announcement, included denunciations of Imre Nagy, who served briefly as premier during the historic revolt of last October, and of Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, Roman Catholic primate, who has been a refugee in the American legation in Budapest ever since the revolt was crushed.

Dispatches from Vienna suggested that Kadar might be preparing to put Nagy on trial for hostility to Russia.

The Khrushchev plan for decentralization of Russian industrial control will affect the lives of millions of workers all over the Soviet Union.

It was one of the biggest developments in 40 years of Communist rule in Russia.

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Grieved About Sunday

To the Editor: This is not a "pet peeve," but a sincere grievance to very many of Medford and vicinity's good people.

The things that make any community desirable are its most commendable qualifications as measured by righteous standards of judgment. There are churches and new churches in Medford and district, but a too large majority of residents are improperly affected by the standards every true church teaches, namely law-abiding righteousness.

Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. A challenging contrast is given in Isaiah's third chapter, most assuring to the righteous ones, but the doom of the unrighteous. "Say ye to the righteous, that they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe unto the wicked; it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him." Also in Zephaniah 2:15 we read of "the rejoicing city that dwelt carelessly," and according to that record it was a fatal attitude.

For example, to name but one or two very common but very objectionable practices growing in proportion to our growing population, the disregard for the Lord's day. Stores, markets, rent-all, second-hand stores, fruit and vegetable vendors, and some of almost all kinds of businesses are running full scale on the Lord's day, while radio advertising is sandwiched between religious programs.

The great reformer, in the 13th chapter said, "What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the Sabbath day?" Read 15 to 21. God does not come down, Carry Nation style, to force the closure of Sunday-desecrating businesses, or to smash bottles in our beer and wine selling Sunday-open markets, but as sure as God keeps books these wrongs are being recorded against those who put the bottle to their neighbor's lips, and break God's law by profaning His day! Both sellers and buyers are responsible, and will be held accountable to God. Ecclesiastes 8:11 says, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

Will atom bombs fall on us? What reader will venture a negative answer? The lives and the souls you save may be your own and your neighbors.

H. R. Bulman, Route 1, box 316a, Medford, Ore.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Foreign affairs stuff: Thousands of Frenchmen in Algiers BOOED an American diplomatic car during a V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) parade.

The car belonged to the American consulate in Algiers (Algiers is the capital of Algeria, in North Africa). It was taking part officially in the parade to celebrate the end of the fighting in Europe. It flew a small American flag from its front fender.

Many of the Frenchmen standing along the parade route booed as the American car passed by. Some shouted: "Algeria is FRENCH!"

A WORD of explanation is in order here. The Arab people of Algeria, who were conquered by the French in 1830, are in rebellion against French rule. They want to run their own affairs, as they had done for centuries before the French conquered them. Many Algerian Frenchmen are accusing the United States of friendship toward the Arab rebels.

AT THIS point, let's quote a little history. In ancient times, Algeria was known as Numidia. It was a Roman colony with an advanced civilization. But in A.D. 440 the Vandals swept in and ended the prosperity of Numidia in a bath of blood.

In the 600's the Moslems conquered the land. Moslem Arabs began to settle there, and the Islamic religion took hold. In

1492, Ferdinand and Isabella drove the Moslem Moors from Spain and many of them settled in Algeria.

Then— In 1830, a French consul was insulted by the Moslem ruler of Algeria, and the French invaded and conquered the country and took over its government. Algeria was under French military rule until 1871, when a civil government (dominated by Frenchmen) was set up.

It should be added that the conquered Algerian Arabs have hated their French conquerors ever since, and have staged many rebellions of which the present one is merely the latest.

So there you have the story of Algeria.

LET'S now get back to the booting of Americans in Algeria by Frenchmen who accuse the United States of friendship for Arab rebels. Probably it is a good thing for US.

Maybe, from our standpoint, it is the best thing that could have happened.

WHY? Well, it COULD dramatize us to the world at large as the friend of all the peoples throughout the world who want to run their own affairs.

That is our RIGHTFUL position.

Advertisement for Sun-Crest featuring a man shouting 'Always Call For Sun-Crest' and a bottle of Sun-Crest. Text includes 'MORE FLAVOR FOR YOUR MONEY!' and 'Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Medford'.

Advertisement for ELK CITY MARKET. Text includes 'North Hiway 99—Half Way Between Medford and Central Point', 'OPEN UNTIL 10 P.M. INCLUDING SUNDAYS', 'WEEK END SPECIALS', and lists items like 'Cake Mixes', 'Potatoes', and 'Chocolates' with prices.

Flight o' Time advertisement for Medford and Jackson County history from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO advertisement for May 11, 1947 (Saturday) featuring J. D. Allen, representative of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for the western division visits Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

20 YEARS AGO advertisement for May 11, 1937 (Monday) featuring Chief of Police Clayton McCredie issues warning to all persons riding bicycles to stay off Southern Pacific platform at passenger station.

30 YEARS AGO advertisement for May 11, 1927 (Tuesday) featuring about 75 farmers and dairy-men meet at C. C. Hoover dairy farm, west of Medford, to watch demonstration by Prof. Reimer of the OAC experiment station, Talent.

40 YEARS AGO advertisement for May 11, 1917 (Thursday) featuring a campaign for \$6 million road bond election is in full swing. Incubators at the federal building will be started next Monday with their full capacity of 500 eggs, according to Assistant Postmaster Warner.

What's Your I.Q.? advertisement with a list of 10 trivia questions and answers related to history and current events.

REWARD advertisement for information leading to recovery of 12-lb. Cub Bear Stolen Monday Night From Rainbow Motel. Contact: PHONE Trinity 8-2441.