

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"
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Through The Courts

We were pleased to read an item the other day which declared that sales of "Confidential" magazine have dropped sharply in recent weeks.

This magazine, as practically everyone knows by now, is the sewer-oriented publication which makes its living by pandering to the public appetite for sordidness, sensationalism and sex.

Some of its employees and suppliers of filth are now on trial for criminal libel in California. Whether the trial, with its revelations of the shady methods used to dig up dirt, has any relationship to the drop in its newsstand sales or not we don't know.

THE bribing, keyhole-peeping ways in which the salacious exposes were obtained are enough to turn any decent person's stomach.

Some newspapers have "played up" the rather sensational developments at the trial. Others have completely ignored the whole thing as not fit for publication in a family journal.

Others—including the Mail Tribune—have taken the "middle way" and published sufficient amounts from the wire service stories to inform the public of the course of the trial, which is of some importance because of the implications involved, entirely aside from the allegations made against some of the prominent members of the movie colony.

FOR there are serious implications in the case. Many papers are declaring that such filth-rags as "Confidential" and "Whisper" should never exist (with which we agree), and that they should be banned by law (with which we do not agree).

They argue that no good purpose is served by permitting such junk to be published; that they are detrimental to morals and destructive of decency.

But to ban them by law would be a procedure of questionable constitutionality, for one thing, and also raises the question of how an illegal publication is to be defined, and who is to decide. It would be a dangerous entering wedge against the freedom of the press to publish, and therefore against the right of the people to know.

America in the past has survived the brief life of many other similar types of undesirable publications without any lasting harm, and there is no reason to believe that the present ones constitute any "clear and present danger" to the stability of the Republic.

No, we feel strongly that the way to handle them is to force them into responsibility by actions such as the trial now under way.

THE two magazines are defendants in a number of civil libel suits totaling millions of dollars. If and when these come to court (one or more of them have been settled out of court), those who were damaged will have their chance to show just in what ways they were actually damaged. Punitive judgments of the size being sought might be enough to finish them.

On the other hand, existing laws against obscenity and gratuitous libel are fairly rigorous, and the current case, in which the state of California is seeking criminal action against the magazine, is the way to compel compliance—not to set up some board of censors who in an access of zeal might make any reading not suitable for 12-year-olds, impossible to obtain.

MAKE no mistake about it—we think this type of slush magazine is a blot on the fair face of America.

But the way to get rid of them is not to limit the right to write and print freely—a right guaranteed in the constitution to all men; but to hold them (and all men) responsible for what they write and print. The way to do this is in the time-tested and proven way of democracy—through the courts.

It takes longer, this way, and (like other democratic processes) is "inefficient." But any other way is risking the totalitarian method of telling everyone just what they can and can't do. That way, freedom dies.—E.A.

Flu

If you happen to come down with influenza this fall or winter, it won't make much difference to you whether it's the old-fashioned kind, or the new Asiatic variety—you'll feel about equally miserable.

So far the new species, which originated somewhere in Asia and has afflicted probably millions of people by now, has not proven to be as serious as the type which swept the world in 1918. But it can still raise hob, both with the victim's feeling of well-being, and with the complicated and intricate relationships of our specialized society.

AS A MATTER of fact, while doctors fear that some people—chiefly the very young and relatively old—will die from it or its complications, they believe the chief effects of a widespread epidemic this winter would be on those services which depend on a relatively few, highly-trained people.

If, as seems possible, as much as 10 or 20 per cent of the population is bed-ridden with flu at one time, communications, transportation and other services could be seriously crippled. That's why it has been suggested that key workers in such enterprises be given priorities in receiving the new vaccine.

FROM the standpoint of the individual patient, aside from a rather greater-than-usual chance of getting flu this winter, the Asiatic variety presents no undue problems. Symptoms are virtually the same as in other types of influenza, and so are the things to do if and when you become ill.

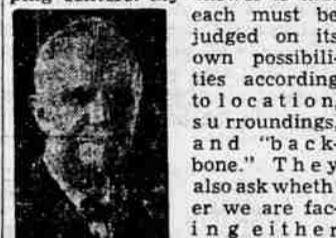
A call to your doctor is a "must," to avoid complications: bed-rest as long as you have a temperature and staying at home until a full day of normal temperature has passed, are the things to do.—E.A.



"AW, YOU'RE NOT FAIR! I SHOWED YOU HOW TO PLAY MARBLES!"

Shopping Centers and Parking Are Discussed

By RODGER W. BABSON Babson Park, Mass. Merchants ask me as to the future of shopping centers. My answer is that each must be judged on its own possibilities according to location, surroundings, and "backbone." They also ask whether we are facing either World War III or disarmament.



Roger W. Babson

The first requirements is that each one must have a strong backbone or core in the form of a large successful, and well-known department store or supermarket. The second requirement is that each shopping center should be able to support itself on the suburban development surrounding it. The third requirement is that it must be well financed.

Certainly the well-established downtown stores of cities must wake up. These new shopping centers are started and operated by active young men. Too many of the leading stores in adjoining cities are coasting on the past work and policies of a father or grandfather. These older "Main Street" stores are also now benefiting from valuable locations selected years ago. But good locations are not permanent. Every city is slowly growing in some one direction. The most valuable downtown "four corners" is gradually moving. Even good will is temporary. The founder of the business could always be found at his store, but his children and grandchildren have too often "gone out to lunch" or are at some cocktail party.

City and Town Governments Some shopping centers are profitable because of the jealousies, stupidities, and shortsightedness of the nearby local city governments. Different councilmen selfishly favor different sections. As a result, nothing is done until the shopping center draws business away from all sections.

As all merchants are dependent upon the production of the consumers of their community, so every consumer is dependent upon these merchants. These merchants are the life blood of all. If the stores are profitable, every citizen should be prosperous. If there are many vacant stores, then the entire community will suffer. I hope that no newspaper editor will say: "But this does not apply to us. We are too small." Let me reply that my comments are more important to the small communities because they can now avoid the trouble from which the larger cities are suffering, plus possible fallout threats.

Parking, The Great Problem

The automobiles may be robbing your city of money by sending away so much money collected for cars and gasoline. These automobiles demand parking privileges. If parking space is not provided, they can block traffic, handicap productive industry, and choke every other business. Small cities and towns have not yet suffered from this economic blight; but it is on its way. Every community will some day surely suffer from lack of parking space unless a courageous and farsighted local government now grapples with the problem.

Until the parking problem is solved, merchants should be given some relief from taxation. Merchants are the veins through which the blood of the city flows from producer to consumer. When merchants are not prosperous, the community suffers from "high blood pressure." Instead of reducing taxes on vacant stores, the taxes thereon should be increased until the owner gets them rented. Every merchant should buy the building which he successfully occupies.

Capitalizing The Evenings

The most practical way for communities to lick shopping

centers is to capitalize the evenings and encourage stores to keep open longer. Every live merchant should keep his store fully lighted throughout the evening. Next to good newspaper advertising, bright lights are the best "fertilizer" for merchants to use.

Some readers believe that old-fashioned two-and-three-story office buildings may be demolished and our business streets may consist only of modern, one-story buildings without a basement. I don't believe this. I believe that the second and third stories will be developed into apartments for ambitious clerks who work in the stores below or nearby. These clerks will be responsible for their respective stores for the evening, perhaps up to midnight. In Europe many successful bankers and merchants themselves live over their stores and are available at any time, day or night.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Straw in the political winds: For the first time in a quarter of a century, Wisconsin sends a Democrat to the U.S. senate (to fill the vacant seat of the late Senator McCarthy.) His victory is decisive. As this is written, he is getting better than 60 per cent of the vote cast—which, by the way, was rather light.

REPUBLICAN leaders are badly jolted. President Eisenhower admits he is "disappointed." GOP National Chairman Alcorn says "our party will have to unite if it hopes to win in 1958 and 1960."

Democratic National Chairman Butler hails the Wisconsin victory as "a repudiation of the Eisenhower administration's farm, labor and money policies."

WHY did it happen? I wouldn't know. But I'll risk a guess.

IN A period of GREAT prosperity (perhaps the greatest since the world began) there is uneasiness. Incomes are rising—BUT SO ARE PRICES. What if increases in income are SNOWED UNDER by price increases? Where will we be then?

This fear is particularly acute in the minds of people who are looking forward to RETIREMENT on a fixed income of some sort. If prices go on rising, how will they live on an income that DOESN'T rise?

That is a hunting fear. And the number of people anticipating retirement on a fixed income (say a pension) is growing steadily.

THEN there is the national debt. It is huge.

And— In this period of great prosperity, when we ought to be paying off our debt, we AREN'T paying it off. It continues to bump the ceiling. Instead of paying off our debt, we GO ON SPENDING.

The accumulated experience of thousands of years tells people such a course is apt to be disastrous. Maybe they don't reason it out. But they feel it in their bones.

It is an uneasy feeling.

LET'S be brutally candid. The second Eisenhower administration has done nothing to allay these uneasy fears. Instead of economizing and paying off debt it embarked on a new career of spending that threatens to push the national debt to new summits.

I think people have lost none of their affection for Ike, but they feel he is surrounded by advisers who are pushing him in the wrong direction. These advisers are a part of the ADMINISTRATION.

SO— When the people of Wisconsin went to the polls yesterday their uneasiness was reflected in their voting.

Russia's Disarmament Turndown Signals New Period of Tension

By DONALD J. GONZALES United Press Correspondent

Washington — Russia's gruff turn-down of Western disarmament proposals has the storm signals flying again in Washington. This could well mark a new period of tension in East-West relations.

Government experts who are paid to keep an eagle-eye watch on Soviet affairs were uneasy about Moscow maneuverings even before the Russians said no on disarmament. A mass of Soviet statements and actions already had started to fall into place. Enough so, in fact, that the disarmament turn-down wasn't much of a surprise.

Soft to Hard

Purely and simply, the unmistakable tone of Soviet words and deeds in East-West affairs has been switched from soft to hard. Evidence pointing toward a harder Soviet line in foreign affairs is impressive.

The Russians are boasting about new hydrogen tests and historic tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles said to be capable of striking any place on earth. They are stepping up Red penetration of Syria and are sending naval units into the Mediterranean. They have torpedoed the London disarmament talks after making no new proposals since June 14. They have taken a tough unyielding line during recent negotiations with West Germany.

Reds Press Charges

Soviet propagandists are stepping up their charges that the West wants war—a theme that had diminished. Since the June-July shakeup in the Kremlin, the Russians seem to have lost interest in cultural and technical exchanges.

All this—and more—suggests that, the Russians have some more tough moves up their sleeves. Many possible answers to the Soviet moves are under study.

The Kremlin's words and actions aimed at the outside world may be a smokescreen thrown up to hide internal problems. Nikita Khrushchev didn't boot many of his old Communist buddies out of power without bruising some high-ranking official's feelings.

The Soviets are busy with industrial and agricultural problems at home. They may be following the tougher line to show the West that the Kremlin shake-up hasn't left them with their guard down.

There could be other reasons. The U.N. General Assembly is opening in New York next month and West Germans go to the polls on Sept. 15.

The Russian Plans At the United Nations, Russians will have their hands full staving off an American attack

on Russia's bloody intervention during the Hungarian revolt last fall. The Russians are sure to beat the drums for their "stop H-bomb tests" campaign and to charge the West anew with war claims.

In Germany, they may be sowing pessimism in an effort to show there is no hope of an East-West accommodation as long as pro-Western Chancellor Konrad Adenauer stays in power.

At any rate, the foreseeable

future does not seem bright. However, the Russians acting and talking a conflict is always possible. Chances of miscalculation increase as tensions increase.

But the general assessment here is that the situation does not mean the Russians are building up to a fight. Chances are they are playing for time. When the Kremlin gets its homefront problems tidied up a bit, maybe it will be better for the West—for awhile.

Thurmond Feels 'Fine' After Long Filibuster; Gets Gallery Plaudits

By WARREN DUFFEE United Press Correspondent

Washington — Sen. Strom Thurmond (D-S.C.) stood on the floor of the Senate and stared at his fellow senators.

He had been talking for nearly 24 hours in a futile one-man filibuster against the compromise civil rights bill.

"I expect to vote against this bill," he said.

The gallery laughed. But Thurmond didn't. He was standing alone against overwhelming odds and he was fighting grimly to the end.

The greying senator, a state judge before becoming South Carolina governor, began his

marathon attack on the civil rights bill at 8:45 p.m. (e.d.t.) Wednesday.

The 1948 states rights presidential candidate finished 24 hours and 18 minutes later at 9:12 p.m. (e.d.t.) Thursday, bettering Sen. Wayne Morse's old filibuster record by 1-hour and 52-minutes.

At times during the long hours he stood proud and erect, his voice ringing clear and loud. At others he sagged heavily on the lectern of his back row desk as his hoarse voice diminished to an inaudible whisper. At the end he appeared groggy with exhaustion.

Galleries Applaud

The galleries, which began filling Thursday evening in anticipation of the finish, applauded twice—once when he charged it would be "cruel and inhuman" to pass the bill without an absolute jury trial guarantee and against when he said the measure was aimed against the South.

Thurmond's pretty red-haired wife, a former college beauty queen, gave her husband moral support from the gallery throughout the long talkathon. Thurmond, who exercises regularly and takes great pride in his physical fitness, said afterwards he felt "fine."

Robert Allen Goes on Second Honeymoon

Warrington, England — Robert Allen honeymooned for the second time today. This time as a bridegroom.

The last time he was the bride. Allen was brought up as a girl and married a coal dealer in 1938. The marriage was annulled soon afterward.

He changed his name from Joyce to Robert in 1944 when he produced medical evidence to prove he was listed as a girl at birth by mistake and reared that way.

Allen's bride is the former Doreen Mortmore, a nurse he met while working as a radiologist. They were married Thursday by the Rev. B. H. Seckett, whose wife said he was "stunned" when he learned of Allen's background after the ceremony.

Dr. Virgil H. Mohr

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10 YEARS AGO

August 30, 1927 (Saturday) Folks planning Labor day picnic trips need not get too optimistic, says the weather bureau. Showers are predicted for the holiday. The Mail Tribune will not publish Monday.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "The buckwheat crop is reported larger than last year. Hope is high among pancake devotees, some of it will show up later in the buckwheat pancakes."

20 YEARS AGO

August 30, 1917 (Monday) Crews are mopping up a Rogue River national forest fire which kept 102 men busy over the week end in a remote area on Halifax creek about 20 miles east of Prospect.

M-M Department store opens today for business at its new location at 220-222 East Main st. Stock has been moved from the previous location at Sixth st. and Central ave.

30 YEARS AGO

August 30, 1907 (Tuesday) School superintendent's office announces it expects enrollment in Medford schools to be up 8 to 10 per cent above last year.

Winter bluegrass is sown by plane on the Hoover farm near this city. Herb Grey, advertising manager of the Mail Tribune, sowed the seed from a plane piloted by Art Starbuck.

40 YEARS AGO

A well-known Medford pool hall proprietor is arrested on the Pacific highway with 14 cases of bootleg whiskey in his car, the most important bootlegging arrest of the summer.

From Local and Personal column: "A large number of people have been in attendance each evening at the religious meeting being conducted by Rozella Douglass at the large tent on Tenth and Ivy sts. Interest is growing and those who hear the gospel as preached by this lady will wish to hear it again."

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. Are the Philippine Islands subject to earthquakes?
2. What is a shoivet?
3. Bible: In the New Testament, "and the twin shall be of one"—what?
4. The Aleutian Islands are a part of the Philippines, Japan, Alaska, or Hawaii?
5. Necrophobia is the exaggerated fear of what?
6. When a visitors says that his native land has a salubrious climate, he desires to convey that its climate is humid, healthful, or extremely cold?
7. Was John Barrymore married, one, two, three, four, or five times?
8. During which war were Thrift Stamps sold?
9. Is the second vowel in "venomous" pronounced as o, e, or i?
10. New York, Oct., 1900: "Tell me pretty maiden are there any more at home like you?" — L. Stuart. From which famous "Sextet" is this first line?
Answers: 1. Yes. 2. The officially licensed slaughterer of animals for use as food in accordance with Jewish laws. 3. "Flesh." 4. Alaska. 5. Of death or horror of dead bodies. 6. That it is healthful. 7. Four times. 8. During World War I. 9. "e." 10. "Floradora."