

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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

Sept. 26, 1947 (Friday)

In-migration of workers continues at high rate and includes many persons seeking new locations in Jackson county, according to the Oregon state employment service.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "Sportsmen argue there should be a change in the hunting laws. Last year's quota of 17 hunters for every deer taken shows the need of it."

20 YEARS AGO

Sept. 26, 1937 (Sunday)

About 450 out-of-town delegates and visitors jam streets and hotels as the state Elks' convention opens.

The annual family living conference for parents of southern Oregon scheduled at courthouse auditorium.

30 YEARS AGO

Sept. 26, 1927 (Sunday)

Rogue Valley farmer sentenced on arson charge; officials say he burned his grain field to collect insurance.

Fears of worried mother allayed when she was returned her baby after a misunderstanding upon the length of time she was to leave her baby with a local woman.

40 YEARS AGO

Sept. 26, 1917 (Wednesday)

Two camps of workers working on the Pacific highway in Siskiyou were raided by the special liquor investigating officer yesterday.

Extra guard from Company "C" has been removed from the Siskiyou since the heavy troop movements through the area is almost through.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. In ancient times, who is said to have saved Rome by guarding a bridge?
2. Name the ancient philosopher who drank a cup of hemlock.
3. Bible: "Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison..." which John?
4. What is UNESCO?
5. Is Florida an Indian name?
6. In what card game does one peg 61 holes to win?
7. How soon after a decision is rendered by the Supreme Court does it become effective?
8. Is it possible for a straw to be blown through a piece of wood during a tornado?
9. Is "forbear" a noun meaning to refrain from doing a thing?
10. "Man is the most intelligent of animals, and the most"—silly, sneaky or barbarous?

Answers: 1. Horatius. 2. Socrates. 3. John the Baptist. 4. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. 5. No. (it is Spanish). 6. Cribbage. 7. Immediately. 8. Yes. 9. No. (a verb). "Forbear" (an editor) is a noun. 10. "Silly."—Diogenes Laertius.

FIRE HITS STUDIO

Universal City, Calif. — (AP) — Universal-International Studio officials today estimated damage at \$500,000 from a fire that swept nearly a block of movie sets on the studio lot. Quick action by firemen Wednesday was credited with halting the blaze before it reached sound stages. Several street scene sets were destroyed, however.

"He" Is Right!

Better late than never. And in his calling out of U.S. troops to uphold the federal law, President Eisenhower is emphatically right!

As was remarked in this column, when the President said he could conceive of no situation which would impel him to send U.S. troops to uphold the law in Arkansas; no law, from traffic through school laws to homicide, is stronger than the force available and a determination by the proper authorities to ENFORCE it.

With Governor Faubus of that state, not only refusing to use state-troops to uphold the law, but using them to prevent it, and with the police of Little Rock incapable of establishing law and order, there was nothing for the President to do but what he did—call out federal troops—just as the first President of the United States George Washington did at the time of the Whiskey Rebellion.

DECLARED the "Father of his country" at that time, quote:

"If the laws are to be so trampled upon with impunity, and a minority, a small one too, is to dictate to the majority, there is an end put in one stroke to Republican government; and nothing but anarchy and confusion is to be expected thereafter."

Exactly!

That is what President Eisenhower said in effect in his national broadcast on Tuesday.

How any thinking person, and loyal citizen in this democracy—or any other—could criticize such action—except perhaps on the basis of timing—is beyond this department's comprehension.

For what is the alternative?

IF the government is to allow mob-rule to reign unopposed in one part of the country, concerning one portion of the constitution—then it could not consistently oppose similar defiance of the fundamental law in some other—and in this special instance there is no reasonable doubt that had the Governor of Arkansas been allowed to get "away with murder" regarding school integration, practically every state in the "Black South" would have followed suit.

And then, as previously inquired, "where would we be?" As previously noted, we would be back basically 100 years to the "nullification" days of Calhoun and the "rebellion" days of Jefferson Davis.

THAT this is no exaggeration, was clearly demonstrated by a United Press dispatch from Washington, D.C., quoting former Governor of South Carolina and now Senator, Olin D. Johnston, as follows:

"I hope Governor Faubus will call out the state's National Guard and give President Eisenhower such a fight as he has never had before. Let him declare a state of insurrection and find out who is going to run things in his state."

The Governor of South Carolina at the time of the firing on Fort Sumter had much the same idea. He held to the right and duty of any state to oppose by force, the government of the country, regarding secession.

President Lincoln, of course, had a different idea!

NOW there will be many in the North who will dismiss such incendiary remarks as those of Senator Johnston as just another "hot head" irresponsible statement not representative of South Carolina or of the South.

We strongly hope that diagnosis is correct.

Whether it is or not, however, we believe only time can demonstrate.

THIS column can't qualify as an authority in this field, but after two trips, not many years ago, through the Solid South, we would say that not only spiritually are they still fighting what they call "The War Between the States" down there, but if the question of "White Supremacy" were to be brought to a vote, the popular verdict would be overwhelmingly in favor of it.

That, as President Cleveland remarked, on a different occasion, "is a condition, not a theory."

AND certainly no one would deny it is a serious condition. One might go so far as to say it will ultimately prove to be more serious in its repercussions abroad than here at home.

For its results may well determine whether this is to be "a government of the people, by the people and for the people"—ALL the people—or only a government of those whose skins happen to be white.

If the final decision is for "white supremacy," then it is hardly possible to exaggerate the capital that Soviet Russia and its satellites, will make of it. All Asia, Africa and way-stations might well go "red" as a result.

THAT is, of course, looking far ahead, and perhaps too pessimistically. But as we view it, the time has come for more of our citizens, particularly in the South, to LOOK FAR AHEAD, and consider from more angles than their ONE, the serious implications of their belligerent and uncompromising racism.

This is not to deny it is a complex and exceedingly difficult problem and that, as the Supreme Court indicated, restraint and deliberation should be exercised in fully carrying out its edict regarding school integration.

But being "deliberate" and aware of the difficulties faced by the South is one thing, leaving the decision to lawlessness and mob rule is quite another. And the latter is the present issue.

And the only issue of consequence as of today.

We are as sure as we can be of anything in the future that history will record that in taking this prompt and courageous action, President Eisenhower, like Presidents Washington and Lincoln, before him, was completely and entirely RIGHT!—R.W.R.



Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

TRAGEDY IN THE SUNSHINE

Little Rock, Ark. — Monday morning dawned bright and clear and cool at Little Rock. At first glance, the scene at the Central High School was an oddly cheerful scene.

The school itself is a vast, ornate monstrosity in yellow brick, just like a thousand other high schools in a thousand other American towns. It is surrounded on all sides by small white clapboard houses, with porches and neat lawns. This reporter, walking up a shaded street towards the school, was greeted twice with a soft, smiling "Howdy." And the crowd around the school seemed at first rather like a crowd at a country fair.

The people stood about in thick clusters in the bright sunlight, the men in overalls or brightly patterned open shirts, the younger women and the high school girls in ballet slippers or saddle shoes and wide skirts. The police stood facing the crowd, smoking, chatting, and often exchanging jokes with people they knew.

But it was not, really like a crowd at a country fair at all. This reporter, perhaps deceived by the friendly "howdy," moved confidently into a small knot of people on the edge of the crowd, and asked a question or two. There was a heavy silence. Then a man in a visored straw hat said, "We Southern people don't like to talk to strangers." Another pointed to a newspaper in the reporter's hand, and said, "If you want to stay healthy, you better throw that away. Now, that's my advice."

A LITTLE later, in another knot of people, a high school girl with straw-blond hair and red-rimmed blue eyes was saying over and over, with a kind of bewildered ferocity: "A dam nigger come into my English class and sat down. Just sat right down there." The people murmured angrily glancing over at the school. "I just started crying when I heard they'd got in there," another high school girl said, "I started crying and I couldn't stop."

The reporters, mostly from the North, made a small alien group of their own, marked off by their clothes and their accents, feeling like strangers in a strange land. "Nigger lovers," a big red-faced man shouted at a group of reporters. "Go ahead," a high school boy said, snickering. "You can say anything you want. They're chicken."

Indeed, the press was clearly at least a secondary object of the crowd's hatred. "Why don't you ever write the truth?" was a constantly recurring refrain. "We raised a bond issue here of eighty million," one man said, "and fifty went to the colored schools and the rest to the whites. But I bet you won't print that."

"We never had no race troubles down here," a heavily rouged woman said, "not 'til the Northern press stirred them up, them and the N.A.A.C.P. and the Communists. It's just Communism, you know that." All the people around her nodded their heads in agreement, for she had spoken, or so it seemed to them, the simple truth.

"Those nigger kids are gonna have to come out some time," a man said, with awful relish, "and you just see what happens then." After the Negro children were spirited out of the school, there was an obvious sense of anti-climax and disappointment in the crowd. For it was a crowd with a thirst for violence—there should be no mistake about that. And its thirst for violence was by no means satisfied by the beating up of a couple of Negro adults.

HOW representative of the feeling in Little Rock and elsewhere in the South were these angry people, a few hundred out of a city of more than a hundred thousand? A Southern reporter on the scene, asked this question, said: "Hell, look at them. They're just poor white trash, mostly."

Away from the school, talking to taxi-drivers or storekeepers or other people, you do not find the fierce hatred and the thirst for violence that marked the angry crowd. But there is no doubt that the vast majority of the white people here are strongly, even passionately, opposed to school integration. And in this situation, the minority who thirst for blood are able to exercise an effective veto power. The withdrawal of the Negro children from the school was a capitulation to the veto power of violence.

That is why the sunny scene at Little Rock Central High School on Monday was a tragic scene. For its meaning was plain. If the American government chooses to use its great powers to force through school integration in the South, it will pay the price of years of bitterness and violence. Yet if the American government does not use its powers to that end, it will be bowing to the blackmail power of violence, and permitting the law of the land to be flouted. Then the price may ultimately be even higher. Thus either course may have disastrous consequences. The country, in short, is faced with a problem to which there is no easy, good, or wholly moral solution, and perhaps no solution at all. That is the tragic meaning of Little Rock.

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Arab Countries Showing Concern Over East-West Mid-East Debate

By CHARLES M. MCCANN
United Press Correspondent

The Arab countries seem to be getting worried over the developing cold war between the United States and Soviet Russia in the Middle East.

They showed plainly their dislike of the recent official excitement in Washington over the rise of pro-Russian elements in Syria.

Now they do not appear to like Russia's adoption of a "big brother" role in acting as spokesman for them in its attempt to make itself a power in Middle Eastern affairs.

The Arab countries, bound together in an alliance, are widely split between Western and Russian policies.

Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia and pro-Western. Egypt and Syria are pro-Russian.

United In One Thing

But all six countries are united in one thing: They do not want the great powers to fight, in the Middle East, a cold war that possibly could develop into a hot war.

Egypt and Syria were angered by the statement of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles in the United Nations General Assembly last week that leaders who "depend on Moscow" were taking power in Syria and that "true patriots have been driven from positions of power by arrests or intimidation."

They seemed to be no better pleased by the reply of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko who, in defending Egypt and Syria, emphasized Russia's determination to play a major role in Middle Eastern affairs.

King Saud of Saudi Arabia is playing an important part in attempting to get the Middle Eastern situation quieted down.

Urges Calm Re Syria

He is reported to have urged the United States not to get over-excited about the Syrian situation.

Crown Prince Faisal of Saudi Arabia, who is King Saud's brother and also his premier and foreign minister, was understood to have assured President Eisenhower in a conversation in Washington Monday that Syria presents no threat to its neighbors.

Now Saud has gone to Syria to talk to President Shukri al-Kuwatly and other leaders. It is pretty certain that the United States presents no threat to their country.

Some pro-Western Arabs insist that the men who now control Syria are not pro-Communist and that they are pro-Russian in their own interest. That interest, they say, is getting arms from Russia.

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE GRACE OF HUMILITY

What with Little Rock, Cyprus, Algeria, Kashmir, and so forth, the work of the American propagandist is not at present a happy one. It is hard to keep bright and convincing the image of America as the leader of the free nations and the liberator of the captive.

For we are a long way short of having learned to practice all that we preach. Yet we preach incessantly about justice and freedom, law and order.

At home, there is the stark fact that there exists among us a caste system based on the color of a man's skin. It mocks us and haunts us whenever we become eloquent and indignant in the United Nations. It mocks us and haunts us when we sprinkle our speeches and writings with advice and warnings and exhortations. There is no use fooling ourselves. The caste system in this country, particularly when as in Little Rock it is maintained by troops, is an enormous, indeed an almost insuperable, obstacle to our leadership in the cause of freedom and human equality.

Abroad, we find ourselves caught in a series of dilemmas—France and the Arabs, Israel and the Arabs, Pakistan and India—where we are damned if we choose and damned if we shrink from choosing, and where neither alternative is so noble and so fine as we like our position to be.

MY own view is that much of this, though not the whole of it, is, so to speak, in the nature of things, and beyond our control. It is one of the facts of life that no country, which is as powerful and as rich as is the United States, can expect not to be feared, distrusted, envied and widely disliked. But I think also that all this is much more than it needs to be. It is more damaging than it would be if those who represent us, particularly the President and the Secretary of State, displayed more of the wisdom that should direct, and of the grace that should sweeten, the possession of great power and great wealth.

There exists a remedy, though not a cure, for the excess of our unpopularity and for the abnormal dislike that exists abroad for Mr. Dulles. The remedy is a strong and, for those who need it, a bitter medicine. It calls for a change in the moral posture which the President and Secretary Dulles have habitually adopted when they address mankind. It is a change which would require on their part a humility, that is now lacking, about our moral grandeur, and a new candor. For our faults and our sins seem all the bigger when they are seen by the world against the excessive self-righteous picture that is our official version of ourselves.

In their speeches and press conferences, the President and the Secretary are too noble about our ideals, and never humble at all about our human, our very human, failures and faults. This alienates, indeed enrages, those who are by national interest our friends and allies, at least the prouder ones among them, who do not, in the hope of favors to come, lick our boots. For with great power, which is always suspect, there should go a decent humility and there should be no pretense, no intimation, no implied assumption, not a whisper or a nod that we are not only stronger and richer than our neighbors but quite a bit better.

THE president himself is not an arrogant or a proud man. But he is a naive man in that he believes sincerely that the enunciation of moral ideals will somehow bring about the realization of those ideals. Not long ago he came very near to saying that it was his mission to express the aspirations of this country, leaving it to Mr. Dulles to adjust those aspirations to the realities. This is a novel conception of what it means to be the head of a government. The net practical effect has been to make the world think that the President preaches one thing and that Mr. Dulles does something else.

Mr. Dulles is in action a tough and realistic operator in the realm of expediency. But in speech he is a moralizer, the invariable and confident exponent of all that is righteous. His great handicap, which might be removed by a searching of soul, is that he lays down the moral law without humor and humility, as one of the righteous speaking down to the unrighteous.

This lack of the grace of humility does not make for affection or understanding, or even for charity, as when in Little Rock, we like other nations, fall far short of our professed ideals. It makes, rather, for a kind of unholy satisfaction, human nature being what it is, that we who have not been humble, have been humiliated, and that we who have held our heads too stiffly and too high, have stumbled and fallen on our faces.

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A Lesson Worth Knowing

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Two reporters were on a tour of a new telephone building. As they viewed the maze of equipment, one of them was intrigued on observing a small bowl in the midst of all the ingenious mechanisms. It was filled with water, wherein a pair of goldfish swam. "What is that for?" the curious newsman asked. "That," replied his companion, "was probably put there to remind mortals that some very wonderful things were also invented by God."

From the Illinois Bell Telephone News

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