

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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"Those Without Vision"

If the "Salem Statesman" is correct—and it often is—then the railroads—as far as passenger trains are concerned—are going the way of the stagecoach and the buffalo.

Well, of course, there is no doubt passenger service by rail is not the necessity it once was. Nor is there any doubt that because of increased competition, passenger service in the country as a whole has, for several years, declined.

But decreasing passenger schedules by railroads, is one thing, abandoning them entirely in a growing and prosperous area like Southern Oregon is quite another.

If there is any section in the country as large, secure and progressive, as this thriving district, where a billion-dollar railroad MONOPOLY has deprived a population of several hundred thousand people of ALL passenger service by rail, we have never heard of it.

AND it is our belief no such district exists, elsewhere. Moreover, if, as the "Salem Statesman" maintains, the "S.P." should not be blamed for this action, because passenger service by rail is on the way out and the people who refuse to patronize trains are really the guilty parties; then why is it that so many important and excellently-managed railroads, refuse to accept this "defeatist" doctrine, and are spending millions of dollars, in improving the quality of their passenger service, and thereby increasing their patronage and their gross revenues?

Are they all misguided and mistaken, simply trying to sweep back the flooding tide of the gas-and-air-age with a broom?

And is the "Friendly Southern Pacific" the ONLY railroad in the country with the brains and business sense to read the fatal "writing on the wall"?

WELL MEBBE so.

We have no crystal ball, and in another 50 years there may be no railroads in the country—and no country for that matter—most of the people may have by then migrated by rocket to Mars!

But as of today we don't believe it.

And with its own and exclusive freeway by rail, its greater comfort and safety, with the increased congestion and danger in motor travel—we agree entirely with those far seeing, public spirited and enterprising railroad executives, who refuse to cry "uncle" at the first sign of decreasing revenues, and instead set about ferreting out the causes and reducing, if not eliminating them entirely.

THIS department has never suffered from any illusions as far as setting back the railroad-clock to the "good old days" is concerned. Then Medford had half a dozen passenger trains a day running through to Portland and San Francisco.

We don't deny "them days has gone forever."

What we do deny is that a "billion-dollar railroad" that takes millions out of this 300-mile area in freight EVERY year, should be allowed to discontinue all passenger service when it virtually admits it could supply such service at a slight percentage of its profits—not its GROSS profits—its NET profits taken from the area concerned!

IN OTHER words, a railroad enjoying a monopoly and a highly profitable one, should not be allowed to escape its obligations as a public utility, in such a large area as Southern Oregon and Northern California, particularly when there would not be the slightest danger of failure to meet its regular dividend requirements or reduce its "plush" salaries in the higher brackets, but would merely mean NOT adding a few MORE thousands of dollars to its present generous profits.

ANY public utility enjoying a complete monopoly in its special field, also enjoys tremendous privileges derived originally from the people. As a matter of common decency and justice such a utility owes certain obligations to the people other than simply taking as much money from them as they can.

But the Southern Pacific denies any such obligation and in Southern Oregon where there is no rail competition, it ALWAYS has.

Its basic policy goes back 70 years, as has often been noted, to "All the traffic will bear" and "the public be damned."

AS INDICATED we have no crystal ball—in working order at least—and are far from being any "seventh son of a seventh son"; but we do predict that long before the "SP", or any other railroad in the country, goes the way of the "stage coach and the buffalo", this doctrine of unprincipled "greed" will go before them, and into the ash-can where it properly belongs.—R.W.R.

"Cat Out of The Bag"

Democratic criticism of the Eisenhower administration isn't news. But Republican criticism is.

And particularly when that criticism comes from one of the most important members of the present administration to wit: Secretary of State Dulles.

At least according to press dispatches in his recent press conference, our leading diplomatic "Sputnik" admitted that he had repeatedly tried to get more money for foreign aid and scientific research, but had been thwarted, just as repeatedly.

Naturally he mentioned no names but to any informed observers of the Washington "Merry-Go-Round" he did not need to.

For the attitude of former Secretaries Humphrey and Wilson toward increased expenditures in these two fields was a matter of common knowledge.

—R.W.R.



"LITTLE KID GOT HIS FOOT CAUGHT IN THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT OF HIS DAD'S CAR!"

Matter of Fact By Joseph Also

THE NEW POPE JOAN

Warsaw—Much that has been mysterious begins to seem clear if you just assume that Nikita Khrushchev's hold on power is somewhat tentative. And this is certainly justified by the startling report here that Marshal Zhukov combined leadership of the armed forces with substantive control of the Soviet police.



Joseph Also

Consider, for example, recent Soviet policy. Its new aggressiveness is easily explained by the Eisenhower administration's long, complacent neglect of the world balance of power. But of late, Soviet policy has also seemed to be both oddly hasty and marked by fits of bluster, which is not so easy to explain.

Furthermore, the world has lately been treated to the truly odd spectacle of Khrushchev hurling his thunderbolts of war from the Kremlin ramparts, while Soviet Defense Minister Zhukov, who would have to fight the war, has been stolidly watching maneuvers and hunting wild goats a thousand miles away in Yugoslavia.

BUT what if Khrushchev really is a man in a hurry, who is anxiously pressing for a success abroad in order to reinforce his position at home? And what if Zhukov feels himself very strong, and is now giving Khrushchev plenty of free rein while preserving his own future liberty of action, not only at home but also in relation to the West? Then do all the oddities begin to make perfectly good sense.

Again, the Yugoslavs have just recognized the Communist East Germans. Thus, they have caused a break with the West Germans. They have risked their profitable West German trade. They have jeopardized a badly needed West German credit of 200,000,000 marks. In terms of simple national interests, the Yugoslav step did not make sense. And it was not taken because of East German charm either.

In fact, only a few months ago, the East German government actually seized a Yugoslav delegation en route for the West, and hauled them off in ordinary garbage trucks for interrogations about their papers and purposes.

BUT what if Marshal Tito believed that recognizing the rude East Germans would greatly strengthen Nikita Khrushchev? And what if Tito regards strengthening Khrushchev as an over-ridding interest? Once again, the oddity begins to make perfectly good sense. Here, moreover, we are approaching solid, wholly non-speculative ground.

Khrushchev wanted Tito's help when they met in Bucharest in August. Tito wanted Gomulka's cooperation when they met in Belgrade recently. Both therefore had motives for painting the problem in vivid colors. The problem, in this case, was the growing strength of Marshal Zhukov. Hence, while it is true that the Yugoslavs told the Poles that Zhukov had now gained control of the Soviet police organization, the statement itself may somewhat overpaint the facts.

But if this point is speculative, there's nothing speculative about the real special decision of the Polish-Yugoslav meeting in Belgrade. It can now be revealed that this was a decision to help Khrushchev in every way they could.

INSIDE the Kremlin, those wicked dissidents, Marshal Tito and Wladyslaw Gomulka, have regularly been used as sticks to beat their friend Khrushchev. Thus they can help him now and they are helping him now, by proving that they are not dissidents but "good Socialists." The Polish contribution to the cause was the suppression of the student newspaper "Po-

Prostu," which sparked brief disorders here.

In the end, Gomulka would probably have suppressed "Po Prostu" anyway. But it is also certain that Marshal Tito strongly urged him to do so. And it is further certain that the decision was taken with one eye on Moscow, where free-speaking "Po Prostu" has long been considered the most scandalous phenomenon in the whole "Socialist camp."

The Polish-Yugoslav decision at Belgrade in turn confirms our first assumption, that Khrushchev's hold on power is at best somewhat tentative. But why should the Yugoslavs and Poles be so anxious to help him to hang on?

THE first answer to the question is that Khrushchev has been their friend. The second answer is that Zhukov has not always been exactly friendly. About Poland's October revolution, the Marshal even said regretfully, "We could have crushed them like flies." But there is an even deeper reason why a very high Polish official described Khrushchev to this reporter as "not ideal but the best there is."

The soldier, Zhukov, is a layman, not a priest, in the eyes of all Communist hierarchies including Yugoslavs and Poles. The comparison may seem shocking but it is not inexact to say that the Kremlin is the Vatican of the world Communist hierarchy. Imagine then, the sentiments of the churchly hierarchies in other countries, if the Roman College of Cardinals suddenly made vulgar legend come alive by electing a Pope Joan, or even if they chose a lay Pope. There you have the best parallel for the sentiments of the Communist leaders in Poland and Yugoslavia while they breathlessly wait to see whether the Kremlin will fall under Zhukov's control.

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Communications

Are Our Schools "Brain Washing?"

To the Editor: For several years now our children have been taught by teachers and principals that the buildings that they receive their so called learning in are of prime importance to their education. They have been "brain washed" into conveying the thoughts of school officials to their tax burdened parents on the prime importance of getting more and more tax money for better and more lavish schools. The thought and teaching is pumped into their little minds that they must tell their parents to go out and vote for each and every school bond issue and given all kinds of ideas as to what will happen to their education if they do not. In other words they are making political couriers of our children to promote the idea of more lavish schools and the passing of ill timed school bond issues on top of our already burdened property tax.

Our current property tax is made up of an estimated 80 per cent school bond taxes and only 20 per cent for the county and other public services. The current 1957-8 tax on property is even more as the County tax is not assessed this year due to O & C timber revenue. Without this revenue the 1957-8 property tax would be even more. Before

Significance of Zhukov's Release Lies on Control of Army Forces

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The most significant thing about the "release" of Marshal Georgi H. Zhukov is that control of the armed forces in Russia has changed hands.

There were indications six weeks ago that Khrushchev's prestige was diminishing.

He had saved his job as party secretary only with Zhukov's help.

Increasing emphasis was being put on Zhukov's rising prestige. There were even suggestions that he was now Russia's biggest man.

On Sept. 10 diplomatic reports reached London that Khrushchev had ordered party control of the army tightened.

These reports said that Khrushchev intended to reestablish party cells in army, navy and air force units.

It was through these cells that Josef Stalin kept firm personal control of the armed forces. Zhukov, though a Communist from boyhood, did not like them. They were abolished after Stalin's death.

Little attention was given to these reports at the time. But a United Press London dispatch which told of them suggested that they might foreshadow conflict between Khrushchev and Zhukov.

Stress Closer Unity Since then, Russian newspapers have been emphasizing the necessity for close unity of the Communist Party and the armed

forces.

It was pointed out last week that the treatment which Zhukov received on his visit to Yugoslavia indicated that President Tito did not regard him as a contender for top Soviet leadership.

During the 10 days which he spent in Yugoslavia in his capacity of defense minister, Zhukov saw Tito just once.

Zhukov got back to Moscow last Saturday, the day on which his "release" was announced.

It may well develop that Khrushchev was getting somewhat nervous over Zhukov's personal popularity and over the reports that Zhukov was overtaking him in Soviet leadership.

All this is naturally highly speculative. But even if Zhukov is to be made premier, as has been suggested, another man now directs the armed forces. And Khrushchev controls the Communist Party machine.

There are two powers in Soviet Russia, the Communist Party and the armed forces. Many experts foresee the day when the army may be the supreme power.

Nikita S. Khrushchev is first secretary of the Communist Party, and thus controls the party machinery which reaches into every city, town and village in the Soviet Union.

A tip off to Zhukov's "release" may be that for several weeks the 15-man Communist presidium which rules Russia has been trying to tighten up party control of the most powerful military force in the world.

It is not fair to compare local talent with network people. Good talent costs more money than local tv. can pay.

The complaining ones should follow a time salesman one day thru Medford. See him try to sell spots and programs. Watch him try to explain why it costs so much money. Then watch him have to put up with the evil that all must suffer when the "owner of the store" wants to read his own commercial. This is a ludicrous situation, but it does furnish a certain comic relief.

The fact that you can see a television program in the valley is a blessing that should not be taken lightly. In the USSR you see what the government decides. Do not blame KBES because there are not enough people in the valley to warrant big time advertisers coming here all day. Maybe you should blame the idiotic tax structure that outstrips probably all others. . . . to keep the parasites at the public trough, and prohibits initiative and enterprise in the valley. Take your time. KBES will grow only when the valley does.

Last but not least why are our teachers allowed to influence the students in conveying their thoughts to the parents? Why do the teachers, as such, engage in politics and promotion? I have gone to vote at a school bond election and have actually been told by a teacher that my vote didn't matter because the issue would pass anyway—this from a teacher of our students. They have told us at pre election gatherings that our taxes would not increase and the very next tax bill we get shows an increase in School bonds in direct violation of their promise and prediction. We are shown all kinds of statistics that are presented as being true which turn out to be predictions and estimates that just don't pan out. Let's all get together and join our local Tax Payers League and do a little investigating and checking ourselves before we vote "yes" on the next issue.

A Medford Parent (name on file)

TV. Valley Grow Together To the Editor: Letters to the editor this weekend indicate that t.v. viewers are very unhappy. They don't find much good in local telecasting.

It is not intelligent to offer criticism unless you can offer a remedy that will better the situation.

Firstly, the complaining ones should realize that KBES does not have a wide choice of programs. Medford is considered Indian country by the large advertising agencies in the east. You get your programs thru agencies. In my travels I am often asked, where is Medford, and, sometimes, why? They are mildly surprised that we have radio, t. v. and an airport. I have twice announced an NBC t. v. spectacular and have not been able to convince the agency that the program should be beamed here. They said not enough customers for our product. KBES has to take what they can get.

The t. v. station along the network does not control the traffic. When changes are made at the key station the local station is advised of the change, often the same day.

It is true that we do not have much local talent. We have had no experience along these lines.

Disappointed Mother (name on file)

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Disappointed Mother (name on file)

Politics In H. S. Sports? To the Editor: We're the parents of four children and proud to live in the Rogue Valley. We're a sports-minded family and very happy to have our children in schools such as our Medford schools. A child has so much to work for. But my only peeve is too many boys are good enough for first string football all through grade school and Junior high, and then when they get to high school where they can do something they aren't even used as substitutes.

Many come from Junior high with the idea of making good or maybe as scholarship. What I want to know is on what basis are the favored few chosen? Not for daily practice turnouts. These boys practice to sit on the benches. I don't blame the boys for giving up. They've got to play to keep up their morale. We've attended all the games and very few substitutes are used—unless you count the one-play substitutes. As I've said before, do they practice to sit on the benches? I'm not the only parent who feels this way. Now that I've a boy in high school that can do something he sits. Maybe someone can tell me where the trouble lies. Something is wrong when so many boys are quitting a sport they love.

Disappointed Mother (name on file)

It has been a man's world up to now—or so they tell us. But times are changing.

MORE news stuff: A scientist—Reuben Gustavson, president of the National Water Resources Council—calls for a new research program aimed at tapping the vast water resources of the earth's atmosphere.

He tells the council's annual meeting in Washington that the atmosphere contains SIX TIMES the amount of water found on the earth.

PAGE Southern California. Maybe, if all this comes to pass, they won't need our water from up here in the north. All that will be needed is to learn how to squeeze the water out of the air.

P.S. At the right times—And at the right places. Too much water at the wrong place and the wrong time is often as bad as no water at all.

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Bill Fish

So Adam Struck Out

Geo. N. Taylor, Wheaton, Ill.

"On the day you eat that fruit, you will surely die." So God warned Adam, our first parent. Yet Adam ate the forbidden fruit and so far as fellowship with God had to do, Adam was a dead man.

"Wherefore as by one man sin came into the world and death by sin and so death has passed upon all men in that all have sinned."

—Romans 5:12. The world is filled with a people dead to God yet God loves them all and put their sins on His Son, Jesus Christ who died under their sins to clear them. God now stands with wide-open arms to receive you and adopt you as your Heavenly Father.

This Message sent by God's people who want you to know.