

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The 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

Dec. 3, 1947 (Wednesday)
Mercantile and business
houses not otherwise licensed
by the city will be assessed a
license fee beginning Jan. 1,
1948, according to ordinance
passed by city council.

From Arthur Perry's Ye
Smudge Pot column: "The
current chilly weather caused both
the butcher and the ice cream
salesman to feel like an Es-
kimo."

20 YEARS AGO

Dec. 3, 1927 (Friday)
Turkey growers meeting is
scheduled at Jackson county
courthouse auditorium to dis-
cuss turkey boycott in San
Francisco.

Annual meeting of the Ore-
gon State Horticulture society
ends with an exhibit of frozen
foods in the Elks temple base-
ment.

30 YEARS AGO

Dec. 3, 1927 (Saturday)
A county warrant of \$5,000
for services rendered in the
Oregon-California tax refund
matter issued to William H.
Gore, president of Medford Na-
tional bank, by county court.

One feature of last month's
weather here, according to the
weather bureau, is that it was
the wettest November of local
record except for last year when
9.66 inches of rain fell.

40 YEARS AGO

Dec. 3, 1917 (Monday)
President William T. Foster
of Reed college recently re-
turned from a two months in-
spection of conditions at the
front, speaks at the natatorium.
Home products week begins;
Oregon residents expected to re-
member home industries in their
buying.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. What is the slang word for
a faulty unexploded shell?
2. Bible: Why is the mention
of Passover in the N.T. impor-
tant?
3. Who was the master of the
"Half Moon" when the Hudson
river was discovered?
4. Was Sara Delano Roosevelt
the mother of Teddy or Eleanor
Roosevelt?
5. Was the first peacetime mili-
tary U.S. draft in 1918, 1919,
1940, or 1941?
6. Is ermine a species of lice,
muskrat, beaver, weasel or rab-
bit?
7. For what purpose was the
great Spanish Armada assem-
bled?
8. Are all or some snakes
hatched from eggs?
9. Which of the three names
did John Paul Jones add to his
name?
10. What part of the world is
the common white potato na-
tive?

Answers: 1. Dud. 2. It dates
the ministry of Jesus and other
events. 3. Henry Hudson. 4. No.
(She was F. D. Roosevelt's moth-
er). 5. 1940. 6. Weasel. 7. For the
invasion of England. 8. Some. 9.
Jones. 10. South America.

Portland's Ox Is Gored

Oh what a difference that old ox makes!
We mean, of course, the MAN whose ox is gored.

FOR many years the Mail Tribune, as everyone here-
abouts knows, has been fighting hard to get the
Southern Pacific to live up to the spirit of its original
contract and furnish southern Oregon with at least
minimum and regular passenger service.

During all that time this paper has, with the
exception of the Roseburg News-Review and the Ash-
land Tidings, received no newspaper support what-
ever.

Even the Grants Pass Courier, where the discon-
tinuance of all passenger service has injured that town
and Josephine County, particularly in the tourist busi-
ness and public convenience as much as in Douglas
and Jackson, has not only refused to criticize that
"billion dollar octopus" but has repeatedly gone out
of its way to praise it. It has also urged its readers to
get down on their marrow-bones and thank the Lord
that the mighty and "FRIENDLY Southern Pacific"
has condescended to run freight trains through this
part of the state—whereby as it enjoys a rail monopoly
it has taken out millions annually in net profit from
Eugene to Dunsmuir, California.

BUT now what do we see?

The Portland Traction Company, it seems, re-
cently announced it would, because of lack of patro-
nage, abandon all passenger service, and with char-
acteristic arrogance proclaimed it would do so whether
the Public Service Commissioner of Oregon gave his
sanction or didn't.

Unlike the Grants Pass Courier, neither of the two
Portland papers took this ukase lying down. Both of
them protested, the Oregon Journal with particular
clarity, vision and vigor.

The Journal, for example, quoted President Perl-
man of the New York Central as saying:

"We can't take off service just because it isn't paying."

Obviously, the Journal continued, this view is not
shared by the Portland Traction company, which
"refuses to put its cards on the table" and apparently
intends "by crippling its service" pricing itself out of
the passenger market and thus deprive the people on
its lines of passenger service entirely.

A CLOSER parallel to the railroad situation in
Medford and Jackson county could hardly be
imagined.

The Journal even quotes Public Utility Commis-
sioner Morgan to the effect that when the Portland
Traction company complains of its unbearable losses
its "interstate freight business which represents 96 per
cent of all its freight operations" is IGNORED!

A similar claim has been made by the Mail Trib-
une regarding the "SP," namely, that if the "SP"
would make public its cash revenues BOTH freight
and passenger, from the territory between Eugene and
Dunsmuir, the total would undoubtedly show that
minimum passenger service could be resumed, and the
combined operation continued indefinitely at a rea-
sonable profit.

The "SP" refuses to give the Public Service Com-
missioner such figures. We wonder WHY?

THE Portland railroad (owned in San Francisco in-
cidentally) is more extreme in its defiance of state
regulation than this, and as the Journal well says,
quote:

"The main question is whether a company subject to the
State Public Utility commission can do as it pleases."

Another question is as the Portland paper also
declares:

Can it refuse to lay all its cards on the table, so
the people of the state can know what it, as a public
utility, CAN afford to do and what it CAN'T?

THERE is no question as to the reply both these rail-
roads would make. It would be under the general
heading of Commodore Vanderbilt's famous retort
when told the public wanted certain changes made in
the policies of the New York Central. Said he:

"The public be damned."

His successor now heading the New York Central,
Mr. Perlman, throws such a policy in the ash can
where it belongs. The Southern Pacific and the Port-
land Traction company (including the Oregon City-
Bellrose railroad) do not.

THE final point made by the Oregon Journal is par-
ticularly interesting to this paper, for it takes a
position taken some time ago by the Mail Tribune
which at the time was subject to violent criticism by
the Southern Pacific and its local "cheering section."

We predicted that if the Southern Pacific should
persist in its policy of denying all obligations in the
realm of public service, and considering only how
much money it could take out of a certain area—and
if this policy should be adopted by the railroad indus-
try as a whole—the only ultimate answer would be
public ownership.

Well, here is the final word by the Journal re-
garding Portland's railroad and interurban problem,
quote:

"So far as the interurban is concerned it is time we
found out whether the Public Utility Commission is a regu-
latory body, or can be forced to be merely a rubber-stamp
... All indications are that the city must soon face the
possibility of municipal ownership."

Aye verily how DIFFERENT it is when the Port-
land, not the Southern Oregon, ox is gored!—R.W.R.



Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

HAS NIXON "MATURED?"

Washington—Whether by act
of God or by election, the most
probable next President of the
United States is, of course, Rich-
ard M. Nixon. Even if he never
becomes President, Nixon will
play a decisive role in the
three years which remain of
the second Eisenhower ad-
ministration. So this seems a
good time for a good look at
Richard Nixon, plus and minus.



Stewart Alsop
Richard Nixon, plus and minus.

Consider the plus first. Every-
one is repeating hopefully that
Nixon has "matured," without
exactly spelling out what the
word means. The best way to
understand what the word means
is to examine Nixon's role in the
first year of the second Eisen-
hower administration.

For the part Nixon has played
in the inner policy debates within
the Administration is highly
significant for the future. Every-
one knows that Nixon was the
first to recognize the full mean-
ing of the Sputniks, while lead-
ing Administration figures were
smugly dismissing the first Sput-
nik as a "neat scientific trick," a
"bauble," or a "basketball." Every-
one knows that since the
Sputnik launchings Nixon has
repeatedly and fervently de-
manded an effective response to
the Soviet challenge, in the eco-
nomic as well as the military
field.

WHAT is not well known is
that this position of Nixon's
is not simply a good politician's
instinctive response to the drama
of the Sputniks. It is, on the con-
trary, absolutely consistent with
the position Nixon consistently
took months before the Sputniks
roared into space.

A good deal that seems mys-
terious in retrospect about the
Eisenhower administration's
backings and fillings in the pre-
Sputnik era is explained by the
Administration, led by Presi-
dent Eisenhower, led by Presi-
dential Assistant Sherman Ad-
ams, was determined to offer the
voters a nice big shiny tax cut in
the election year of 1958. The
target was a tax reduction of at
least \$5 billion.

The dream of a tax cut in turn
dictated the defense cutbacks
and the arbitrary ceilings on de-
fense spending, which in the
post-Sputnik era have left the
Administration wide open to
withering criticism. And it is
most significant that Nixon's was
just about the only influential
voice raised in the Administra-
tion's inner councils, against giv-
ing a tax cut first priority.

Tax-cutting he repeatedly
pointed out, was no political
magic formula. To prove his
point, he cited the 1954 elections,
in which the voters rewarded the
Republican administration for
the biggest tax cut in history by
electing solid Democratic major-
ities to both houses.

THE real strength of the Eisen-
hower administration, Nixon
consistently argued, lay in the
voters' sense of confidence in the
President's handling of defense
and foreign policy. To give a tax
cut priority over defense might
destroy that sense of confidence,
and thus the greatest Republican
asset.

Nixon of course had access to
the intelligence reports showing
the Soviets far ahead of this
country in the missile race. But
so did the members of the tax
cut brigade. And Nixon seems to
have been almost the only high
Administration figure who
grasped the real meaning of the
intelligence. Weeks before the
Sputniks, Nixon proposed to the
President a series of speeches
laying the facts on the line.

Nixon was overruled—until
the Sputniks. But what is inter-
esting about this episode from the
recent past is not so much that
Nixon was right—although being
right about such matters is a
useful habit in a potential Presi-
dent. What is interesting is the
political nature of the arguments

Nixon advanced against giving a
tax cut first priority.

NIXON is a politician to his
fingertips—which is also a
good thing for a potential Presi-
dent to be, despite the current
silly myth that a President
should be "above" politics. But
there are, essentially, two kinds
of politicians.

The first kind of politician
sees the purpose of politics as
getting elected by promising the
voters anything they seem to
want, and by using any means
at hand to destroy the opposition.
The second kind of politician sees
effective government, respon-
sive to the realities of the domes-
tic and world situation, as the
best kind of politics in the long
run.

Almost any politician is a mix-
ture of the two. But in his early
years Nixon was certainly pre-
dominantly the first kind of poli-
tician. The difference is the ma-
turity and political maturity.
There are big minus signs in the
Nixon ledger still, which require
further examination. But surely
the difference between the old
Nixon and the new is a plus sign,
and a very big one indeed.

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Bi-Partisan Government Being Tried as Experiment in Colombia

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent

One of the costliest guerrilla
wars in recent history seems to
have come to its end in the Latin



Charles M. McCann

American re-
public of Co-
lombia. In a
plebiscite held
Sunday, 3,000-
000 men and
women voted
overwhelmingly
in favor of a
remarkable
plan under
which their
country would be ruled for the
next 12 years by a bi-partisan
government.

If it works, the plan will end
a period of nearly 10 years in

which Colombian fought Colom-
bian mercilessly in innumerable
clashes some of which involved
thousands of men on each side.

It is estimated that at least
100,000 and possibly as many
as 200,000 persons were killed.
Liberals Split

The Colombian civil war started
back in 1946. For years, Col-
ombia had been under the two-
party political system—Conserva-
tives and Liberals. Then the Lib-
eral Party split up. The result
was that the candidate of the
minority Conservative Party was
elected president.

In April, 1948, a big inter-
American conference was meet-
ing in Bogota. Gen. George C.
Marshall, then secretary of state,
led the United States delegation.

On April 9 Jorge Eliecer Gai-
tan, a Liberal Party leader, was
assassinated.

Within a few hours riots which
turned the capital into a flam-
ing battlefield broke out. Mobs
murdered, burned, looted. Fight-
ing flamed around the United
States and other embassies in
which foreign delegates to the
big conference were staying.

The government finally
quelled the riots. The capital
calmed down. But the fighting
was simply transferred to the
provinces. There, month after
month, strong forces of liberal
"guerrillas" fought government
troops in engagements of all sorts
from ambushes to pitched
battles.

Pinilla Overthrown

Last May 10, Gen. Gustavo
Rojas Pinilla, who had seized
power in 1953, was overthrown
by a group of army leaders and
sent into exile.

The army men—a junta, as
it is called in Latin America—
accepted a plan worked out by
civilian leaders to bring peace to
the country.

Sunday's plebiscite was the
result. It called on voters to ap-
prove a long-range program in-
volving the amendment of the
1886 constitution. There is to be
a bi-partisan congress in which
the Liberal and Conservative
parties will be equally repre-
sented. A joint national candi-
date for president will be chosen
by congress and approved by the
people in an election to be held
next May. The junta will hand
over its authority when the new
president takes office Aug. 7.

Then, if all goes well, Colom-
bia will be under bi-partisan
rule until 1970.

California Fire Still Uncontrolled

Azusa, Calif.—Flames of a
giant 12-day-old brush fire 20
miles northeast of downtown
Los Angeles still burned out of
control today. Foothill commu-
nity officials worried about pos-
sible floods.

Civil defense officials and
civic leaders of communities
strung along the base of the San
Gabriel Mountains scheduled a
meeting in nearby Monrovia to-
day to discuss the danger of pos-
sible floods caused by rainy sea-
son runoffs from the burned
over area.

Still on the firelines attempt-
ing to control the blaze were 600
tired firefighters, whose jobs in
the rugged mountain country
was made even more difficult by
high winds which fanned hot
spots.

By Monday night, the fire had
scorched 25,200 acres of brush
and timber in the Angeles Na-
tional Forest, causing an estimat-
ed \$25 million damage to valu-
able watershed area.

Fire crews brought the fire un-
der control Thanksgiving Day
only to have it race out of con-
trol again in front of high winds.
Rangers said they didn't know
when the fire would be con-
trolled because it depended on
weather conditions.

The blaze was started when
the outdoor stove of a road crew
was overturned by high winds.

**EMERGENCY
NUMBERS**

FIRE — SP 2-2333

POLICE — SP 3-3636

MONEY — SP 3-5308

PACIFIC INDUSTRIAL

16 S. CENTRAL

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written, the scien-
tists are predicting that the
rocket that propelled Sputnik I
out into space will fall rather
shortly. The exact time of its
fall, they say, will depend on
happenstance. If it hits the
earth's atmosphere broadside
(it's out in space now, you know)
it will come down quicker. If
it hits edgewise, it will stay up
longer.

How come, you ask?
Try swishing a piece of lath
through the air. If you swish it
broadside, it will meet strong
resistance from the air and will
come to a stop sooner. If you
swish it edgewise, it will meet
less resistance from the air and
will keep going longer.

It will be the same with the
Sputnik rocket.

WHEN the rocket hits the air,
it will fall to the earth in
flames.

Why? Out in space, there is
no friction. But in the earth's
air there IS friction. Move a
steel object slowly above a spin-
ning grindstone and it will stay
cool. But hold it against the
grindstone and it will become
hot.

The heat is produced by fric-
tion. Friction is provided by the
air when objects move through
it with blinding speed. That's
why meteors burn up when they
approach the earth.

It's why the Sputnik rocket
will burn up.

MORE questions:
Why will Sputnik's rocket
fall if and when it falls?
Why hasn't it fallen so far?

TRY this one:

Fill a bucket with water.
Whirl it around your head. As
long as you keep it whirling fast
enough not a drop of water will
fall out, even when the bucket
is upside down. That is because
at a certain speed centrifugal
force balances gravity.

But when you slow the bucket
down, look out! Due to the slow-
ing of the speed of the whirling
bucket, the pull of gravity will
overcome centrifugal force and
the water will fall out of the
bucket and douse you.

It works the same way with
the Sputnik rocket. As long as
it moved at a certain speed, it
stayed up. When its speed slows
down, it will fall.

WHY are these things interest-
ing?
Well, by experimenting with
Sputniks and such and observing
the results of the experiments
the scientists, led by the astro-
physicists who are specialists in
that branch of science which
deals with celestial bodies, will
eventually learn how man can
travel in outer space and per-
haps visit the celestial bodies

that surround us.

That's the long and the short
of it.

ONE more question:

Why should man WANT to
travel into outer space? In try-
ing to find an answer to that
one, let's ask another question:
Why did Columbus want to
sail around the world? I think
the answer is that he wanted to
prove it could be done.

WE MUST remember that in
Columbus' day the idea of
sailing around the world in-
volving supernatural terrors akin
to those involved in the idea of
sailing off into outer space.

The world was then generally
believed to be FLAT. The pre-
valing notion was that some-
where off in the distance one
would come to the EDGE of the
world. It was thought at this
edge of the world water of the
seas poured over like Niagara
over its cliff. Where would one
go when one got THERE? It was
a terrifying thought.

But Columbus DARED it. He
found men who were willing to
share the dare.

Man always has been a strange
animal. He is a strange animal
still.

Warming Trend On Weather Scene

By UNITED PRESS

A mild weather pattern cov-
ered the nation today with mod-
erate doses of snow, rain, warm-
ing and cooling forecast for var-
ious parts of the country—and
all four in the Midwest.

Early morning reports showed
a light band of snow in the east-
ern Dakotas, and several light
flurries in the northern Great
Lakes and New England.

In the far Northwest, rain
dominated the weather map.
Most heavily hit area was Ta-
toosh island off western Wash-
ington where nearly one-half
inch of rain was deposited
since Monday night.

Temperatures were 10 to 15
degrees cooler early today in
the upper and mid-Mississippi
valley and the upper Great
Lakes. Farther south, in Texas
and Oklahoma, a warming trend
replaced several days of nippy,
cold weather.

Generally fair weather was
reported from the Rockies to
the Pacific ocean, with the ex-
ception of the rainy Northwest.

FINISHED WALKING
Milton, Fla.—W. A. Sim-
mons, retiring after more than
33 years as a mail carrier with
the Post Office department, re-
vealed that his first name is
Walker.

Counsel With . . .

Mr. Insurance—Fred Brennan



Fred Brennan

Or Call
Mr. Friendly
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**MEDFORD
INSURANCE
AGENCY**
27 NORTH HOLLY ST.

HOW LONG WILL THEY LAST?

Your household furnishings we
mean! Experts say furniture 20
years; appliance about 12
years; pillow cases and dishes
around 7 years. BUT, today's
high values could be tomor-
row's ashes. NOW is the time
to have us protect you with
enough insurance.



Bill Fish