

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"
Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
27-29 North First St. Phone 2-4141

"Simmer Down, Simmer Down"

Uncle Sams middle name is NOT Moderation. The old boy still dotes on extremes.

For example: We are now informed by one of the top-bracket nuclear physicists that the "land of the free and the home of the brave" has become decadent.

To prove this he cites the utterly non-functional and flamboyant 1958 motor cars. They have he says, more power than is safe, more colors and chrome than are proper; and finally the utterly USELESS "fins"—the sole purpose of which he thinks is to tickle the owners vanity, and provide him the childish delusion he is driving an airplane OFF the ground instead of last years model with a new coat of paint and its face-lifted, ON it.

The nuclear physicist has a point there, but we doubt such evidence really establishes the fact of our national decadence.

NOR do we go along with our Apostle of Science in another point he makes — this point, incidently, is what first drew our attention to his outburst.

He believes the only way to save our system of education — and therefore the country — is to cheer, honor and make heroes of our "Magna cum laude" students, especially in science, and stop cheering, honoring and making heroes of the students whose only claim to notice lies in their abilities to kick a football, knock a baseball over the fence, or run a hundred yard-dash in less than 10 seconds."

In short, unless we put brains at the top where they belong in any modern educational system, and brawn at the bottom where IT belongs—(if it should not be discarded entirely)—there is no hope, we are told, of fat, pleasure-loving, self-indulgent Uncle Sam ever catching up with "Ivan-the-Terrible" and his Sputnik, as it soars high above, a symbol to all the world, of superiority, supreme outer-space achievement, and an educational system that is tuned to the tide of the future, instead of being hopelessly mired "in the scumy and discredited traditions of the past."

"Hmmm—quite a mouthful!" Well, again our Apostle of "Doom and Gloom" has a point, but only a point, and his general thesis is so extreme and so completely out of line with the facts, that, as we see it, it properly comes under the general heading of "Sputnik panic."

THERE is no doubt we need a more vigorous, effective, up-to-date and inclusive (also EXPENSIVE) educational system. There is also no doubt that our educational standards of values need reappraisal and readjustment.

We have for years placed too much emphasis upon athletic prowess and superiority; and too little on prowess and superiority in the intellectual and technological field.

There should be more emphasis on the latter and less on the former. But that should not mean that we must place OVERemphasis in one department by OVERemphasis in another.

If we understand our super-scientist correctly, he would do just that in order to escape the ignominy of "decadence."

But that we believe would be an example of our national weakness, namely going from one extreme needlessly and undesirably to another.

In other words why not follow "Ike" in this particular department and take the "middle-road?"

AFTER all didn't the Duke of Wellington say the "Battle of Waterloo" was won on the fields of Eton?"

And as for over-emphasis on athletics how about our Russian friends? They don't confine their speed to Sputniks. Russia won the 1956 Olympics, didn't she? And they have a hockey-team touring Canada that hasn't, to date, been beaten. Both boys and girls are going in for outdoor sports in a big way over there and they get cheers and medals for it. They wouldn't if the Kremlin didn't see some national interest served thereby.

And of course there is. Just as there is in an educational system that really EDUCATES—better adjusted to the needs of the new "air-age" and breaking away from the past.

WHICH, in a general way, brings us back to where we started from — namely: Uncle Sam is too prone to go from one extreme to another, and vice versa.

We should give more money—and even more important—more careful attention and thought to our educational system and especially in the area of basic science and the conquest-of-space.

But that does not mean we should go overboard, try to drill cheering-sections and pep-rallies for the members of Phi Beta Kappa or raise our intellectual eye-brows over the spontaneous enthusiasms of the student body when Johnny Doakes scores a touchdown after running and dodging 90 yards through a broken field.

In short we should—and can—have BOTH.

Decrease the emphasis upon one, increase it on the other, but abandon neither.

AS PRESIDENT Eisenhower remarked to his excitable press-secretary a few days ago "Simmer Down, Jim, Simmer down!"

We would say the same to our equally excitable nuclear physicist—particularly in viewing what happened yesterday; will happen today, and is scheduled to happen New Years!

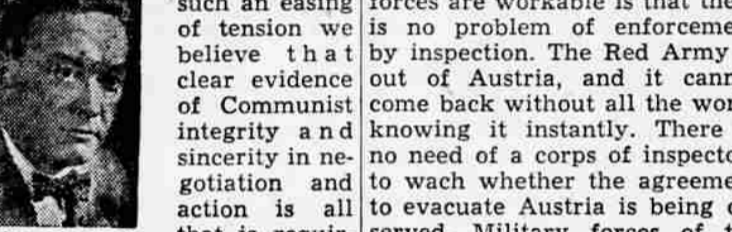
On the gridiron we mean.—R.W.R.



Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

Towards the end of the television report on Monday evening, the President said that "to bring about such an easing of tension we believe that clear evidence of Communist integrity and sincerity in negotiation and action is all that is required."



The question is what would be clear evidence of integrity and sincerity in negotiation?

If we look at the record, examining it objectively and without preconceptions, the evidence shows, I submit, that some agreements negotiated with the Soviet Union have been observed very well and that others have been violated. It is not true, as some among us like to say, that the Soviet Union always breaks its agreements, and it is not true, of course, that the Soviet Union always keeps its agreements.

The problem is to discern what is the difference between agreements that will work and agreements that will not work. If we can define that difference, we shall have a practical yardstick, something more than our own subjective wishes and fears, to determine how "clear" is the "evidence of integrity and sincerity."

A STUDY of the record will show, I believe, that the agreements which have worked best have been those which fixed definite boundaries beyond which military forces may not advance or to which they must withdraw. On the other hand, agreements to do this or that behind or across the military boundary lines have proved to be highly unreliable and have usually foundered in tedious and frustrating debate.

The Yalta agreements, for example, have stood up quite well insofar as they fixed the boundary lines between the Soviet forces and the Western military forces. But the Yalta agreements about the character of the East European governments behind the lines of the Red Army have been entirely nullified, as have also the original agreements to unify the four zones of occupied Germany.

The Austrian treaty, which required the military evacuation of Austrian territory and its military neutralization, has worked. But the ambiguous formula about the unification of Germany which was adopted at Geneva has not worked. I myself cannot believe that Mr. Dulles, who of course, knows the record, can ever have imagined that he had really reached an agreement about Germany with Mr. Molotov. If he did imagine that, as he now says he did, he was much more glib and far less astute than we all know him to be.

IF THERE were time and space to do it here, I believe it could be proved in great detail that the agreements which work are those which deal with, as we may put it for short, the development of organized military forces; the agreements which work badly or not at all are those which require collaboration and depend on general notions, which are hard to define, which lend themselves to double

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is written on the day after Christmas. And— Some 220 people died violently on the highways between Christmas Eve and Christmas midnight.

WHY? It's absurdly simple. Too many people REFUSE TO DRIVE CAREFULLY ENOUGH.

HMMMMMMMM. Glancing over the news this morning, it appears that there was altogether too much wickedness in the world yesterday—especially in view of the fact that it was Christmas Day.

Why? Well, I reckon it must have been because too many people refused to be as GOOD as they should have been.

WHAT to do about it? I wouldn't know. But I have a notion that if EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD decided all of a sudden to be a little BETTER in the future than he has been in the past it would quickly become a better world to live in.

CHURCH ASKS UNITY

London — The Russian Orthodox church appealed to religious leaders the world over Saturday to strengthen Christian unity and work for world peace.

The appeal, broadcast by Radio Moscow, came in a New Year's message signed by Patriarch Alexius of Moscow and other leaders of the church. It said the Russians were alarmed "that the threat of a new war continues to keep all nations in a state of profound alarm every day."

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

CAN WE AFFORD SURVIVAL. Washington — The mere existence of the now-famous Gaither report creates a hideously painful dilemma for the Administration. For the report really amounts to a damning indictment of the Administration's basic national security policies over the last five years.

Thus if the Administration refuses to publish the report, or at least the grim facts on which it is based, it will be accused, with reason, of concealing essential facts from the nation. But if it does publish the report or the facts on which it is based, the Administration will be, in effect, publishing a confession of its own tragic past error.

The Gaither report examines in detail the basic theory on which the Administration's national security policies have been founded since 1953 and firmly labels this theory nonsense. The chief author of the theory was, of course, former Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, who sincerely believed that high taxes and high spending were much more dangerous to the United States than Soviet missiles or hydrogen bombs.

ACCORDING to this theory, the country simply "can't afford" to match the Soviet defense effort. Humphrey sold the "can't afford" theory to President Eisenhower and the dominant Administration figures back in 1953. One result has been that spending for defense, as a proportion of the total national economy, has dropped steadily throughout the Eisenhower years.

Another result has been that the Administration, in order to justify its policies, has consistently given the country a reassuring but totally false picture of the real balance of military power. For the most part, with a few honorable exceptions, like Sens. Stuart Symington and Henry Jackson, the Democrats never seriously challenged this picture. Like Adlai Stevenson in 1956, they reasoned that, because of the President's aura of military prestige, there was "no mileage in the defense issue."

Thus for five long happy years, while the country enjoyed prosperity and tax cuts, the real facts were successfully shoved under the rug. The real facts came as a profound shock even to such knowledgeable persons as the members of the Gaither Committee.

"I FELT" one of them has remarked, "as though I was spending ten hours a day staring straight into hell." At least two members of the committee became physically ill as a result of the experience. For the hell they were staring into was the clear and predictable prospect of a world dominated militarily by the Communist bloc, with the United States reduced, at best, to an isolated second class power.

Having stared straight into this hell, the Committee began asking itself the obvious questions. Is it really true that the United States "can't afford" what may be required for survival? They consulted leading economists. They examined the facts — including the startling fact that the Soviets spend 25 per cent of their national product for defense, whereas in the Eisenhower years the percentage

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

One of the county's agriculturalists recently bought a new car, and was going to show it off to Portland relatives Christmas. But shortly before the family got ready to leave, transmission trouble developed.

While the new car was being repaired, the company loaned him another car—his old one.

A staff member went to Portland on his day off recently, and in preparing he checked water, gas, oil, chains and even washed the windshield. He was all set to go, he thought.

But the next day when he got behind the wheel to start, he found several muddy paw prints of a cat on the driver's side of the windshield.

Christmas decorations at many Medford homes this year were beautiful, and several people took evening drives to see them. But many of the best displays were on dead-end streets, and some drivers found it hard to turn around with a line of cars behind them.

Seen north of Grants Pass on Highway 98: A Volkswagen traveling slowly along the highway carrying a "Wide Load" sign with no vehicles behind it.

A Salem paper reports that a man, upon hearing of the explosion which wrecked the Vanguard satellite, commented: "The Moon is Blew."

A staff member was dining in Portland recently when the lights went out. Because of recent storms which occasionally caused power outages, the owner just got out candles and lamps and distributed them among patrons.

Since the ovens were operated on gas, the only problem confronting the owner was opening the electrically operated cash register.

County Judge Rodney Keating, being a practical man about Christmas time, gave County Clerk Bereth Hopkins a box of dog food for her dog. Among the gifts the judge received was a large toy worm with apples and pears attached.

The night before Christmas, so the poem goes, "Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse." But we wonder, since sections of the state have been plagued with field mice.

There seems to be a surplus of football tickets for the Rose Bowl game this year. On several occasions, we have heard of someone with tickets which can not be used by the owner.

Porter To Seek Resolution for Oregon Centennial

Washington, D.C. — (D.N.Y.) — Congressman Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) has asked the House of Representatives Judiciary committee to "give the earliest possible consideration" to legislation authorizing the President to issue a proclamation commemorating the Oregon centennial in 1959.

In his letter to Judiciary Chairman Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.), Porter noted that the Senate had passed the necessary legislation on Aug. 30, 1957, its final day in session. Adjourning of Congress the same day prevented transmittal at that time of Senate Joint Resolution 131 to the House, Porter said.

The resolution, introduced by Senators Neuberger and Morse, should reach the House Jan. 7, 1958, the first day of the new session. However, Porter said he would introduce an identical resolution on the same day.

Porter told Chairman Celler that the Oregon Centennial commission had been hampered severely in many of its official actions due to the lack of the Presidential proclamation. "Passage and signing of the proclamation will be invaluable to the commission in its planning," Porter said.

"It will be greatly appreciated by all members of the Oregon congressional delegation and the people of Oregon if the members of the Judiciary committee give this resolution the earliest possible consideration," he said.

1957-1958 was \$300.00 to \$370.00. Please note the small wage increase for the older firemen with the starting wage remaining the same.

Yet, the fire and police chiefs have been raised according to the budgets from \$4,075.22 in 1950-1951 to \$7,080.00 in 1957-1958.

A study of other departments would show more such mismanagement.

The men have received little wage increases while the department heads and yes men have really been paid off at the taxpayers expense.

Cleo Canoose, 55 Ross court, Medford, Ore.

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER

Flight of Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

Dec. 29, 1947 (Monday) Residents and visitors at Dumfries, Scotland, continue to admire the Memorial Chapel of the Crichton Royal Institution, which was erected by William Laing, Medford architect.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "The fresh pork and hominy season has started in the rural regions and pronounced the most adhesive of all rib-sticking nutriment."

20 YEARS AGO

Dec. 29, 1927 (Wednesday) Eugene Thorndike, Medford manager of the First National Bank of Portland and active civic worker, named chairman of committee in charge of annual "President's Ball," through which funds are raised for war on infantile paralysis.

Petitions signed by rural residents of Jackson county protest abolishing the bounty system in favor of government hunters.

30 YEARS AGO

Dec. 29, 1927 (Wednesday) Air of mystery surrounds session of committee of Elks which is in charge of staging the annual Elks New Year's dance Saturday night.

"The Chamber of Commerce can not function on money alone—it needs man power above all," Ted Baker says at the Lions club luncheon.

40 YEARS AGO

Dec. 29, 1917 (Saturday) Southern Pacific keeps special policeman on southbound passenger train between Ashland and Redding to keep order among drunks.

Russia is out of it as far as the present war is concerned, according to an opinion given by Dr. George Rabec, University of Oregon.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. In what field of activity is the name of Robert E. Peary famous?

2. Bible: Was Vespasian a general, procurator, or tax-collector in Palestine?

4. Who wrote "Penguin Island"?

5. When does the U.S. Government's fiscal year end?

6. In Greek mythology, who was Zeus?

7. In the Navy, what is a "Yippy" boat?

8. In a political campaign, what is a "roorback"?

9. The Colosseum in Rome was used for circus exhibitions, gladiatorial combats or burlesque shows?

10. Can viruses be seen through an ordinary microscope?

Answers: 1. Explorer. 2. General (appointed A.D. 67). 3. After its damage by fire during the War of 1812. 4. Anatole France. 5. June 30. 6. Chief of the gods. 7. A Yard Patrol Craft. 8. A story concocted to discredit the opposition, but which recoils upon its contrivers. 9. Gladiatorial combats. 10. No.