

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune... Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.

Time Getting Short

After two weeks away from Medford, much of the time spent in driving between and through the cities and hamlets of fast-growing California, we are convinced more strongly than ever about two things:

- 1. Southern Oregon is a simply wonderful place to live.
2. It is going to require more effort than we're now devoting to the job to keep it that way.

TO THOSE people who oppose planning and zoning and other types of advance preparation for orderly growth, we say this:

"Go to southern California and look about you. You will see what happens when too many people come to a place too fast, and without the possibility of making plans to accommodate them."

"You will see communities running out of adequate water supplies; you will see smog created by unregulated industrial and other types of combustion; you will see ugly, haphazard communities, little better than slums; you will see traffic rushing along 10-lane superhighways already too small for the load they carry, and along boulevards which are only half completed in a hodgepodge pattern."

"Talk to public officials, and you will learn of their struggles to control sanitation, to provide services, to cut down on air and water pollution—all against almost insuperable odds, because the changes that created these things came too fast."

OREGON, for a number of reasons, has not grown as fast as has California. And we are fortunate in many ways that this is so.

Most important, we have had our warning, and our sister state to the south offers us the "horrible example" of what could happen, and indeed has started to happen, in Oregon unless we get on the ball and get ready for it.

Some steps we have taken, both on state-wide and local levels.

The creation of the Oregon water resources board and the state development department are providing useful functions in their own fields.

In the county, a planning commission recently was organized, composed of high-caliber people, but at present it is authorized to do little more than make studies and then recommendations to a county court which too often has been reluctant to take any action at all, let alone the bold and imaginative action this area needs.

BY coincidence, upon our return we found four communications waiting on our desk, each bearing on this and related problems.

John Gribble wrote to emphasize how rapidly productive agricultural land is being covered by highways, residential tracts and industrial developments, and how this land ideally should be protected for the purpose for which it is best suited, with less-productive land around the valley used for living areas.

E. C. Gaddis, vacationing in San Bernardino, wrote to tell of the vast changes the new population of southern California has made in that area, and the problems of school growth and financing in particular.

There was a note from a friend enclosing a recent editorial from the Washington (D.C.) Post, dealing with population growth and its attendant problems.

And finally, there was a letter from Fortune magazine, calling attention to an article in its current series on "The Exploding Metropolis."

EACH was thought-provoking, each was too long for successful reproduction in this space, and each confirmed our growing conviction that it is past time to get going on effective planning for the future — our future and that of our children.

Letting things "grow naturally" won't do any more. Let us then use the minds that God gave us and arrange, through the democratic processes we have developed, that our most valuable resources be conserved.

The Fortune letter, commenting on what it calls "urban sprawl," declares:

"Sprawl is not only bad aesthetics, it is bad economics. It is bad for farmers; it is bad for communities; it is bad for industry; it is bad for utilities; most of all it is bad for people. In some suburban areas there is already less park land than in the heart of a great city, and the competition for available space is so great that in the New York area communities are posting police in their public golf courses and parks to keep non-residents out."

The letter also pointed out that 3,000 acres are being taken in hit-or-miss fashion this way in this nation every day, and adds that this means that "You and I—and most certainly our children—will very soon lose many of the things that make life in the U.S. a happy experience."

THE Post editorial declared:

"If intolerable congestion in some regions is to be avoided, much better planning will be essential for the location of industries, the dispersal of urban satellites, the preservation of green spaces, and the conservation of farm lands. In the past, space has been plentiful and cheap. In the decades ahead it will be increasingly precious for the simple reason that, as numbers multiply by 2, 3, 4 or 5, the space actually available for living and for production of food will progressively shrink. It would be a tragedy indeed if the country should wait until an acute pinch is felt before waking up to the inescapable demands of the future."

Time is getting short if we in Medford and Jackson county are to do the things that need to be done. Thus far the effort is far, far short of the necessity.—E.A.



"I'D LIKE TO HAVE A PENNY FOR EVERY HOUR SHE RUNS THAT THING!"

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This screwball world note: A special committee of the National Cotton Council reports that the 1957 cotton disease toll was higher than the average for the preceding five years.

It says diseases cut cotton yields in 1957 by an estimated 12 per cent.

I SUPPOSE there are people still living who can remember when poor crops amounted to a national calamity. All that is changed. Poor crops now tend to be regarded as a bit of NATIONAL GOOD FORTUNE because they help to cut down the staggering surpluses that hang over the agricultural markets like a dark thundercloud.

One of our leading statistical organizations got out its sharp pencils the other day and figured that if he lives to be 70 the average American individual eats: 150 head of cattle, 26 sheep, 310 swine, 225 lambs, 2400 chickens, 26 acres of grain, 20 acres of fruits and vegetables.

Medical School Asks Approval For Building

Portland — The University of Oregon Medical school said today it had asked the National Institutes of Health, a federal organization, to approve a grant of \$1,250,000 for a medical research building at the school. The state of Oregon would put up a similar amount to build the proposed \$2,500,000 structure.

Dr. David W. E. Baird dean of the school, said the need for the building resulted from greatly increased research activity at the school in recent years.

The proposed site is adjacent to Multnomah hospital and also the present out-patient clinic, which it would connect with a two-story overhead ramp.

If the project is approved, it must be scheduled by the State Board of Higher Education, and matching funds must be provided by the Oregon Legislature, presumably in its 1959 session.

LET'S look now at meat. The American Meat Institute tells us that in 1957 total production was a little in excess of 27 billion pounds. This was a little under the total of 28 billion pounds produced in the record year of 1956.

In 1957, the average American ate only 159 pounds of meat as compared with 167 pounds in 1956.

The drop in per capita consumption was due to GROWTH OF POPULATION, which is increasing faster than production of meat.

It looks like the future of the livestock industry might be bright.

SPEAKING of food—One of our leading statistical organizations got out its sharp pencils the other day and figured that if he lives to be 70 the average American individual eats: 150 head of cattle, 26 sheep, 310 swine, 225 lambs, 2400 chickens, 26 acres of grain, 20 acres of fruits and vegetables.

Note, please, that the list doesn't include seafood.

A THOUGHT: When our 11 Western states get 40 million people—which they are expected to have about 1975—they'll eat a lot of food, won't they?

Reports Given at Red Cross Meeting

Reports covering activities in the various Red Cross services were given at the regular meeting of chairmen and co-chairmen Tuesday morning at the Red Cross chapter house.

In the absence of Mrs. A. Littrell, chairman of volunteer services, Mrs. Ralph Bardwell, chairman of Gray Lady services at Camp White, presided.

Reporting for other services were Mrs. Robert Keene, home service; Mrs. Bernice Poston, Gray Lady, co-chairman; Mrs. Lillian Salade, co-chairman, Gray Lady, Camp White; Mrs. Frances Flinn and Mrs. Yvonne Dalen, hospital service; Mrs. John Day and Mrs. Joe Hearin Jr., Red Cross; Mrs. O. A. Eden, disaster; Mrs. Marie Rehling, motor service; Mrs. Grace Fiero, canteen; Mrs. Martin Luther, recruitment; Mrs. Clarice Spatz, staff aides; Mrs. Frank Fairweather, volunteer field consultant; and Mrs. T. R. Florey, home nursing.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

SHOWMAN-WIT Abe Burrows, reports E. J. Kahn, Jr., had a Russian grandmother who never had uttered one word of English until—minutes before she breathed her last at the age of 87—she noticed her grandson staring forlornly at her beside her death bed, and asked very clearly, "Why aren't you in school?"

Burrows says he won a reputation as a wit by simply sitting at a table with a bunch of Hollywood characters and admitting he came from Brooklyn. "All you have to do is mention the word 'Brooklyn' in movie circles," Abe explains, "and everybody laughs himself sick. Some people at the next table saw me convulsing my friends, and the word spread that I was a real card—a reputation I've been trying to live up to ever since!"

Down in Greenwich Village a young hostess popped up with a new gimmick for a party: "Come As You Were Before You Were Psychoanalyzed." They say nobody left till five in the morning!

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Chance of Reaching Compromise on Dutch New Guinea Claimed Destroyed

President's note: United Press Vice President for Europe Thomas R. Curran has obtained an exclusive interview with Dutch Prime Minister Dr. Willem Drees in which the prime minister expresses the Netherlands' view toward Indonesia's claims to Dutch New Guinea and the seizure of Dutch property in Indonesia. Curran telegraphed his questions to Dr. Drees and the following dispatch constitutes the prime minister's reply.

By THOMAS R. CURRAN United Press Correspondent London—Dutch Prime Minister Dr. Willem Drees said today that Indonesia has destroyed all chances of a compromise solution on Dutch New Guinea and the United Nations will now have to act.

Indonesians were seizing Dutch businesses "often at gunpoint" and so far without compensation, Drees said. The Dutch were in "general exodus that necessarily entails great hardship," he said. "The Netherlands diplomatic representative in Indonesia has officially been given to understand that all Netherlands subjects will have to leave the country," he added.

"I sincerely hope that there will be no cases of forced labor in Indonesia."

This was a reference to reports of an Indonesian plan to conscript foreign nationals if needed. "It is now the duty of the"

United Nations to act," Dr. Drees said.

The prime minister gave his views in answer to questions telegraphed to The Hague. Compromise Difficult

He said it was difficult to see how a solution of any kind could be reached with President Sukarno on Indonesian claims to Dutch New Guinea (which the Indonesians call West Irian).

Indonesia, he said, has refused to consider any proposal "short of complete surrender of the territory" and was carrying out a "discriminatory and hostile attitude" against the Dutch.

In an interview with United Press in Jakarta Dec. 30, Sukarno skirted a question on what ultimately will happen

to Dutch property in Indonesia and whether the Dutch owners would be compensated.

"All Dutch properties and investments are under government control and supervision in order to safeguard the smooth running of economic enterprises," he said.

Indonesia Tears Down Ties As regards future economic and cultural ties, Drees said that Holland wants them but that Indonesia had "step by step torn down this framework for cooperation and thus unilaterally destroyed whatever basis there remained for good relations."

Indonesia's claim to the Western or Dutch half of the huge island of New Guinea precipitated a diplomatic

crisis between Indonesia and The Netherlands. Unemployed Dutch citizens have already been ordered to leave Indonesia. Dutch industries, plantations, shipping and airlines have been seized.

Indonesian officials state that these and other actions will continue until the Dutch surrender West New Guinea.

West New Guinea or West Irian, was administered as part of Indonesia when Indonesia was a Dutch colonial possession, although Indonesia won its independence in 1949.

Dr. Drees asserted that the Papanua or native population of West New Guinea, "not the Indonesian government at Jakarta," should determine the political future of the territory.

Russian Armed Forces Cut Seen As Empty Propaganda Gesture

By CHARLES M. MCCANN United Press Correspondent

Soviet Russia's announcement of a cut in the size of its armed forces appears to be nothing but a smart propaganda move.

The Kremlin calls the reduction "a major new contribution to the cause of lessening tensions and creating trust in relations between states."

But it still leaves the Soviet Union with the world's most powerful armed forces—and still unwilling to enter a disarmament agreement which guarantees what would prevent it from cheating.

Hence from the practical viewpoint, the reduction is an empty gesture.

In many countries all over the world, however, the Russians will be given credit for setting a good example to the Western Allies.

Even in the United States the Soviet move got big headlines as a news story. Not everybody bothered to read in the dispatches and in editorials the caution that for practical purposes the reduction—if it is really carried out—is meaningless.

Increases Are Expected As part of the United States attempt to catch up with Russia in the nuclear missile field, President Eisenhower is expected to ask Congress for increased defense appropriations.

If he does, the Russians will make the most of it in their incessant propaganda broadcasts. They will point out that while Russia is reducing its military forces, the United States is not.

A lot of people in "neutralist" and uncommitted countries—perhaps even some in Allied countries—will accept this.

The Russian announcement was made in a carefully staged press conference in Moscow by First Deputy Foreign Minister Vasily V. Kuznetsov and Deputy Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mikhail S. Malinin.

They said the armed forces would be reduced by 300,000 men during 1958.

Of these 300,000 men, Kuznetsov and Malinin said, Russia will withdraw 41,000 of its troops from East Germany and 17,000 from Hungary.

But Kuznetsov and Malinin refused to say what the size of the Soviet armed forces would be after the reductions were carried out.

This is in keeping with traditional Soviet secrecy. The new cut is the third Russia has announced in the last three years. A reduction of 640,000 was announced in 1955. A second one of 1,200,000 men was supposed to be carried out last year.

Nobody knows whether the first two cuts really were made or whether the third will be.

In any event, the Kremlin has no reason to worry about weakening itself. Military experts estimate the present Soviet strength at anywhere from 2,800,000 to 4,000,000 men.

The United States armed forces totaled 2,789,642 last May 31. They are to be reduced to 2,700,000 by next June.

Kuznetsov and Malinin said Russia's reduction was "an act of good will" and expressed hope that "the Allies would follow it."

But any time Russia wants to prove good will, all it has to do is to agree to a chest-proof disarmament agreement.

Such control over the Rockefeller Report which was financed by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

That report, published last week end, substantially supports the broad inferences of the Gaither Report, including the urgent necessity to spend more for national defense and to expand it fast.

The Rockefeller Report was especially critical of the national defense setup with its three competing still-unified, armed services.

There seemed to be, however, one difference between the two reports. Whereas the Gaither Report evidently found the United States already woefully lagging in defense and vulnerable to catastrophic attack at this very moment, the Rockefeller researchers believed that at the present trend the Soviets would not have the absolute upper hand until 1960.

Hagerty may have had some such spread of two years in mind when he denied that the United States "at this time" was militarily weak compared to the Soviet Union. If so, Hagerty surely has indulged himself in a quibble which may return to haunt him.

A quibble, says the dictionary, is "an evasion or a shifting from the point of issue."

Hagerty will be pressed to expand on his Gaither Report comment and expanding on it will not be easy.

Conflicting Reports On U.S. Readiness Declared Confusing

By LYLE C. WILSON Washington

The taxpayer citizen is invited now to confuse himself further by attempting to reconcile the basic available information on a national defense with the simple principle that two-and-two make four.

Such basic information for example, as—The judgment of some leading military men that the national defense department is a hodge-podge of defense nonsense.

—The top-secret Gaither Report which apparently pictures the United States as heading to the status of a second class power and in its historical moment of gravest danger.

—The new Rockefeller Report on national defense which changed the alarm bell along similar lines.

—President Eisenhower's decision to hike defense spending by around 3 billion dollars in the next 18 months.

—The official White House party line that the United States is not "at this time" militarily weak compared to the Soviet Union.

The White House party line was stated on Dec. 28 by Press Secretary James C. Hagerty, as follows:

"Stories that have been printed which indicate that the United States is in a position of weakness at this time are not true. They (supporting facts) are not in the (Gaither) report and are completely contrary to the report. The report says just the opposite."

Brings Alarming Discussion This statement was in response to questions asked after the Washington Post and Times Herald had published columns of alarming discussion of national defense attributed to the Gaither Report which had been submitted to the White House by a fact-finding official committee.

The President has law and precedent on his side in refusing to congressional committees to make public or to reveal to congressional committees the contents of the Gaither Report. Eisenhower has no

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Mothers Leave for Shanghai, Peiping

Hong Kong — Three American mothers, in Communist China to visit their imprisoned sons, left Canton today by plane for Shanghai and Peiping.

Mrs. Ruth Redmond, Yonkers, N. Y., left for Shanghai to visit her son, Hugh Redmond, 38, who is serving a life sentence there on "spy" charges.

Mrs. Philip Fecteau, Lynn, Mass., and Mrs. Mary Downey, New Britain, Conn., left for the Communist capital of Peiping to visit their sons. They were accompanied by William Downey, another son of Mrs. Downey.

The Communists have imprisoned John Downey, 27, for life, and Richard Fecteau, 30, for 20 years on espionage charges. They were American civilian army employees captured by the Chinese near the end of the Korean war.

From Far and Near... Litwiler's are called to serve an ever widening area, covering all borders of Jackson county. Mrs. Litwiler

LITWILLER Funeral Home Mountain View Chapel Hwy. 66 at Normal Office—88 N. Main ASHLAND We Never Close "It is better to know us and not need us, than to need us and not know us."

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