

MEFORD 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.

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 16, 1908 (Monday) Top honors in the old-time fiddlers' contest at the Disabled American Veterans' carnival went to John Belding, Grants Pass.

A new addition to the Apostolic Faith church here will be dedicated at special services Tuesday and Wednesday.

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 16, 1908 (Wednesday) Medford shivered today as the temperature dropped to within a degree of the year's low mark; the mercury dipped to 24.2 degrees.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "Candidates asked how they stand on labor strike curbing legislation shy from the subject gracefully. It reminds them of a story they will lose the church vote."

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 16, 1908 (Thursday) Ludlum Engineering corporation of New York and its active operation in construction of a \$50,000 gold dredge on Footh Creek, is an important event in the resumption of mining in this region.

From local and personal column: "The new Southern Pacific maps of the United States showing four Southern Pacific routes to the east, are out this week."

40 YEARS AGO

Feb. 16, 1918 (Saturday) Under the auspices of the health department of the Red Cross and the state association for the prevention of tuberculosis, Jackson county will have the first community nurse in Oregon.

The state lime board at its recent meeting in Salem this week reported it expects to have the lime quarry leased near Gold Hill in operation by June 1.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. Are sugar beets white, or red? 2. Bible: Did Paul visit Bithynia or Egypt during his missionary activities? 3. Which ranks highest in British peerage, a duke, an earl, or a baron? 4. Will a bull more readily charge red colored objects than any other color? 5. Addis Ababa is the capital of which country? 6. Horse meat is, or is not, used in England for human consumption? 7. How do you indicate 50 in Roman numerals? 8. Give the line which follows "And what is so rare as a day in June?" 9. Whose likeness is depicted on cigarette revenue stamps? 10. Which State is nicknamed "Old Dominion" State?

Answers: 1. White. 2. No. 3. Duke. 4. No. (bulls are color blind). 5. Ethiopia. 6. Is used for human consumption. 7. L. 8. "Then, if ever, come perfect days." 9. DeWitt Clinton. 10. Virginia.

An Explanation

We have added a few words to the "box" heading of our "Communication Column."

Such an addition never occurred to us as necessary during all the years we have made a feature of "letters to the editor."

But last week, we printed, in answer to a request from a subscriber, an editorial from the St. Louis Post Dispatch commenting upon the high cost of hospitals and doctors.

Immediately the Mail Tribune was charged with "EDITORIALIZING" against hospitals, and the medical profession in general, and our local hospitals and M.D.'s in particular.

OF COURSE nothing of the sort was done. So we have added to our communication column "caption" the statement that sentiments expressed in our "letter box" do not necessarily express the opinions of this paper—in fact very often the exact reverse is true.

IT IS difficult to understand how any readers of the Mail Tribune could have believed otherwise, for this paper has always welcomed criticisms of its editorial or business policies. This has been, of course, within the usual restrictions regarding personal abuse, libel, or violations of police regulations.

We believe, moreover, the record will show a larger percentage of critical comments in the Mail Tribune letter box than in any other daily paper in the state.

WE REGARD our communication department as a sort of public forum, a kind of Hyde Park soap-box, where people may express their opinions on any subject, pro or con, provided they are willing to stand by their statements either publicly or "on file" and keep within the 400-word limit.

This we regard as sound policy and the "letter box" as one of our most popular features.

NEEDLESS to say, under such a policy, for the Mail Tribune to in any way, directly or indirectly, endorse or share ALL the views expressed in this department would be impossible.

But as there are some readers who have failed to realize this, it seemed desirable to make the point entirely clear in the "box of rules and regulations."

AS A final word, we hope this truth will be remembered to wit:

The opinions of the Mail Tribune on any subject are strictly confined to this editorial column. Any opinions expressed in any other part of the paper, are not those of the Mail Tribune.—R.W.R.

A Poor Start

There may, or may not be, "something rotten" in the Federal Communications Commission, but to date there has been plenty of smoke. Whether there is much or any fire will have to be left to further determination.

One thing, however, is certain: SOMEBODY is lying.

Dr. Bernard Schwartz, ex-legal counsel for the House Subcommittee, has made explicit and serious charges against certain members of the commission, and the latter, as well as some of the Republican defenders, have called him, with and without, profane expletives—a "liar."

WELL, final judgment must be reserved until all the evidence is in, and has been properly sifted.

But one thing is for sure. The defenders of the "FCC" have made a poor start. For they have, to date, adopted the "hyster lawyer" tactic of smearing opposing council instead of answering the charges made.

CONGRESSMAN CLARE HOFFMANN of Michigan, for example, led the offensive, maintaining Chairman Moulder of Missouri, had placed his 15-year-old daughter on his office payroll. Another irate defender of the "FCC" charged that Dr. Schwartz had put in a padded expense account.

So what? NEITHER Messrs. Moulder nor Schwartz are on trial, both accusations are denied, but if they are true, what has that got to do with the price of spinach?

If either of these men are suspected of wrongdoing, let the subcommittee, or some other government agency, take up their cases in a separate inquiry, the charges have no proper place in this one.

As indicated, whether in a court of law, or in some committee inquiry in congress, the party that fails to answer the charges made but falls back on throwing dirt at the opposing counsel, puts itself under suspicion at the outset. Moreover it is about a ten-to-one-shot such a party loses its case, whether the hearing is held before a jury in court, a committee, or the jury of public opinion.—R.W.R.

Repeal It!

We were surprised to hear President Eisenhower declare that, according to the federal law, members of a regulatory agency like the F.C.C., are permitted to take various honorariums and expense-money from the industries whose activities they control.



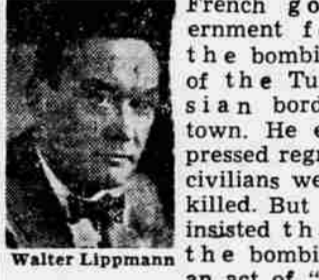
"WATER? I'M GETTIN' DRY CLEANED!"

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

TO GRASP THE NETTLE

The Prime Minister, M. Gaillard, has accepted full responsibility on behalf of the French government for the bombing of the Tunisian border town. He expressed regret that civilians were killed. But he insisted that the bombing was an act of "legitimate defense," and that his government "does not recognize culpability in this affair."



Walter Lippmann

This closes the door to what might have been a way out of the affair—namely to disavow the violence caused by the local commanders, and to give assurances that their actions will not be repeated.

Had this door not been closed, there would have been some hope—not too much hope but some—that the French-Tunisian conflict could have been limited to local actions along the border, with the two governments in Paris and Tunis not immediately and directly involved. There is not much hope of that now, and we have a conflict between France and Tunisia which is spreading to all the critical points—such as the naval base at Bizerte—where their national interests meet.

THIS makes our own position very difficult indeed. For we are caught in a bad squeeze. France is our oldest ally and it is now the keystone of our strategic position in Europe. Tunisia is a new friend. But it is of all the Arab countries the most genuinely interested in remaining within the Western world. If we cannot find a way to work harmoniously with Tunisia under the government of M. Bourguiba, the prospects are dark indeed of a good relationship between North Africa and the Western world.

Our policy, as Mr. Dulles described it in his press conference on Tuesday, is in substance to muddle through, and to pray that neither side will ask us to take a decisive position. Mr. Dulles is hardly pressed and entitled to play for time. It is understandable that he should hope that he can in North Africa continue to muddle through.

FOR the alternative to muddling through is difficult and dangerous, considering the temper which now exists in Paris and in the Arab world. But it looks very much as if the difficult course, though dangerous, may nevertheless be safer than the policy of muddling through a conflict which is becoming so bitter and so irreconcilable. The alternative course would be to take the line that the Algerian war is a danger to the peace of the world, and that all suitable diplomatic measures must be taken to mediate and to compose the Algerian war.

This is hard to believe. It is harder to believe that the President would have made such a statement if it were not true—or at least he had not been so informed by a responsible and trustworthy source.

Unless the "conflict of interests" principle is a farce, and shady deals like Dixon-Yates, (which the President himself repudiated) are legally correct, then here is something for SOME congressional committee to investigate—and pronto.

If this IS the law, then here is a law that should be kicked into the middle of next week with an emergency clause attached.

Members of federal regulatory commissions like Caesar's wife should be ABOVE suspicion.—R.W.R.

PROBABLY the wisest and the safest thing to do is to grasp the nettle firmly, and to say firmly and clearly that the time has come to negotiate a political settlement in North Africa. Far from this being an action unfriendly to France, it may well be a signal act of friendship to open the door through which the French nation would go, were it free of internal entanglements which prevent it from acting in its own highest interest.

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It behooves residents of Josephine and Jackson counties to start thinking now about the recommendations that will be embodied in the engineers' report. Hatch, at his appearance here Monday evening, made it clear that main provisions of the report already have been formulated.

No effective flood control can be achieved, he emphasized, through a series of small dams along tributaries of the Rogue river. Either there must be a high dam at Lewis creek, or an alternate project that would include a main stream dam at Lost creek and

Grants Pass Editor Warns River Plans May Be Last Chance

(Editor's note: The following editorial, written by Ken Hicks, editor of the Grants Pass Courier, reviews plans for the development of the Rogue Basin for flood control, power and reclamation, and warns that the current plan may be the "last chance" for such a development.)

By KEN HICKS Editor, Grants Pass Courier United States Army Engineers are nearing the end of their Rogue basin flood control survey. By June, it now is indicated, they will be in a position to present their conclusions for consideration at community meetings in Josephine and Jackson counties.

Then, as finally drafted, the report will be considered in a formal public hearing at a place to be determined later. If there is strong public support for the engineers' findings the fight for flood control dams will be carried to Congress. If not—well, the report will be filed and will gather dust in some Washington archive.

For the U.S. Army Engineers will not recommend any project that does not have the backing of the area to be benefited. Ross Hatch, who is in charge of the current survey, explained the situation in this manner at a previous meeting of the Rogue Basin Flood Control and Water Resources Assn. Furthermore without the recommendation of Army Engineers no Rogue basin flood control bill is likely to get serious consideration from Congress.

It behooves residents of Josephine and Jackson counties to start thinking now about the recommendations that will be embodied in the engineers' report. Hatch, at his appearance here Monday evening, made it clear that main provisions of the report already have been formulated.

No effective flood control can be achieved, he emphasized, through a series of small dams along tributaries of the Rogue river. Either there must be a high dam at Lewis creek, or an alternate project that would include a main stream dam at Lost creek and

small dams on Elk creek and Big Butte creek. Either plan, Hatch conceded, is likely to be opposed by some Isaac Walton League members and by the Oregon Game commission. The Lewis creek dam would inundate an area now used by chinook salmon for spawning. A dam at Lost creek, farther upstream, would afford more spawning areas but still would destroy many gravel bars now used by steelhead, silverside and chinook salmon for natural reproduction.

The three-dam plan would be only slightly more costly than Lewis creek, but would not provide as much hydroelectric power. And revenues from this power will be important, both as a means of reimbursing the treasury for project costs and of aiding in irrigation development under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation formula.

This provides that power revenues may be used, in part, to assist in the financing of irrigation projects. In this way project costs are held to a feasible repayment level. The Crooked river reclamation project will benefit from power revenues from the Dalles dam, under a similar application of this formula.

This arrangement has been criticized as a subsidy, but increased costs and lower farm income would make future reclamation projects few and far between without such help. The cost of water simply would be beyond repayment ability of land owners.

So much for this phase of the program. There also will be a dam on the Applegate river, Hatch said. It will have no facilities for the generation of hydroelectric power, but will be confined exclusively to flood control and reclamation.

The site originally favored, at Ruch, probably will be abandoned in favor of one at Copper, which will leave a greater section of the river for the spawning of salmon and steelhead, the Army Engineer observed. The Copper site will not impound as much water, however. This is a disadvantage that may not appeal to the Bureau of Reclamation.

Two flood control dams in the Evans valley also will receive consideration, as well as a flood control dam at the Ashland site on Bear creek, Hatch noted. Evans creek, it now is agreed, contributes much water to Rogue river flood crests in the Grants Pass area.

Will the Rogue valley accept this program? A somewhat similar plan was defeated 10 years ago because of the opposition of sportsmen. There is still some of this antipathy, although we feel that it has diminished both in intensity and determination since the bad flood of 1955.

The continued decline in Rogue river fishing in recent years also has convinced many persons that dams no longer should be resisted. Actually the release of cool water to firm up summer flow has improved fishing in many other dam-flooded streams.

POTLUCK (By M-T Staff and Contributors)



What can happen to "do-it-yourself" projects is well known. Orville C. Hamer, proprietor of the West Main Barber shop, has attempted to capitalize on this sad fact, and offers professional assistance—for a price, as can be seen above.

One of the more refreshing of the recent samples of Americana is the rash of stories involving small foreign cars. It all started, if memory serves correctly, several years ago when Volkswagens were beginning to become ubiquitous on our highways and roads, and a driver of one of them saw a big Cadillac driving along with a sign on it saying, "Made in Texas by Texans." The V-W driver retaliated by placing a sign on his own vehicle which said "Made in der Black Forest by Elves."

That started it. Signs reported after that proclaimed all sorts of virtues for the microscopic foreign automobiles, and one said "Don't step on me; I eat insect pests." Another story is told of one advantage of a small car—that if the carburetor ever gets flooded, one can turn it over one's shoulder and burp it.

The most recent story of this genre to come to our attention involved a Volvo. The sign on it said: "Made in Sweden by Anita Ekberg."

A member of our staff last summer went to the Middle West for his vacation. He and his wife went by air, and rather than dig into their savings account to pay for the trip, they borrowed the money from a bank. Ever since, they've been making regular payments on the loan, and as each was made, they reported where they had "got to" with the payment. First it was Denver, then Kansas City, then way points en route back. Now, we are happy to report, they're in San Francisco, and by next week they plan to be "home."

A Medford attorney we know attended a luncheon committee meeting last week, and ate sparingly—only a bowl of soup—while explaining to other committee members how he was watching his weight, etc., etc. His fellow committeemen looked upon him with respect for his self control.

Engineers for the Bureau of Reclamation are not required to be linguists—but would be increasingly handy for them if they were. Those at the Camp White office of the bureau have been having more and more visitors from foreign lands since work got under way on the Talent project, one of the few bona fide reclamation projects now under construction.

They report that, surprisingly, Australian visitors are sometimes harder to understand than those from other countries—the Sudan, say, or India. The men with non-English native tongues take care to speak their school-learned English carefully, while the Aussies chatter along rapidly in their near-Cockney accents.

A political figure has to be pretty fast on his feet sometimes—like the recent occasion where a local office-holder was visiting in the south, and was asked to which political party he belonged. Knowing how things are in the "Solid South," he replied, cautiously, "Well, I'm a Republican." Then he added hastily, "But my wife's a Democrat."

A woman we know, a charming person who now lives some distance in the country, relishes visits from friends and former colleagues, and looks forward to "gabfests" when they arrive. Such a visit was arranged last week. Now all the women involved are highly vocal individuals, and for several months had been "storing up" information to be relayed to the others at this opportunity.

So our friend, in anticipation of the party, described her preparations as follows: "I'm taking inhaled and exhaled exercises already... With all my verbosity, I can't get too much said when I'm with each of them single handed, so the Lord only knows if I will be able to project myself into the orbit of the day. It's going to be piles of fun anyway, whether I make the full revolution with them or not."

Aid Agreement To Help Poland Washington—The United States and Poland Saturday signed an agreement providing 98 million dollars worth of new American aid for Poland.

The agreement calls for sale of 73 million dollars worth of surplus American farm products for Polish currency and a 25 million dollar credit to finance purchase of U.S. consumer machinery, medical equipment, rawhides, and skins and other items.

The state department said in announcing the agreement that the United States was not able to meet all Polish requirements for American help. It said the United States therefore is willing to discuss additional purchases of U.S. commodities by Poland "at a mutually convenient date" later.

Variety Show Set For Crater High

Central Point—The music department at Crater High school will present a variety show at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, Norman Carothers, band director, has announced.

Proceeds from the show will be used for equipment and other items necessary for the band and choir.

The band, dance band and choir will participate in the show.

Youths Arrested On Theft Charges

Ashland—Ashland city police reported the arrest of three Southern Oregon college youths for attempting to steal hubcaps Friday evening.

Police said they caught James Dietz, Paul Bilant and Modesto Jimenez, all of 247 Seventh st., Ashland, in the act of taking hubcaps from a car in the Lithia hotel lot about 10:30 p.m.

The youths, arrested on charges of petty theft, will appear in municipal court Tuesday, police said.