

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"
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Good Job, So Far—

In this space we have called—and will continue to call—for improvements to the downtown area to save it from the fate of other cities which have let their major shopping areas deteriorate.

The biggest lack, we have stated repeatedly, is that of adequate parking space, both for present needs, and for the future when it will be needed many times more.

Because of this it would be easy to assume we have been blind to the improvements which have been and are being made. But this would be an incorrect assumption.

DOWNTOWN Medford is a far more pleasant place than it was 10 years ago. And the credit for this must go to many persons.

It should go to the progressive merchants who, over the years, have "dressed up" their stores, inside and out, to make an attractive prospect. Some of the modernization jobs have been of major consequence, and cannot but make Medford a nicer place to work and to live—and to go shopping.

Credit must go to the city administration, which designed, among other things, the arterial street program which is just now getting started, and which in another few years will make traveling in, through or around town far easier.

BUT a good share of the credit must go to the people of Medford, who, by their votes, approved the street program, who have kept good men in office over the years, and who, by their patronage, have rewarded those progressive merchants who know that business entails a lot more than just setting up shop and then waiting for customers.

Improved streets, better street lighting, better traffic signals and control, modern stores—all these are progress in the right direction.

Take a bow, Medford. But let us not forget that progress means movement, and that because we have come so far we should not be satisfied. Much more (including better parking) remains to be done.—E.A.

Billboard Rule Hopes

This may be the year when Congress finally gets around to making a start toward some reasonable regulation of billboards on the 41,000-mile federal highway system now under construction.

A modest start was defeated in a Senate committee last year, but there is a chance it may get to a vote. If it does, we have a hunch it will be a pretty close one.

For, despite the fact that there is evidence to support the claim that motorists, generally, would like to see billboards on the highways they're paying for with their taxes subjected to reasonable limitations, the outdoor advertising lobby and its allies have powerful voices.

Oregon's Dick Neuberger is leading the fight for the current measure, limited as it is, and could use all the help and encouragement he can get, through letters from his constituents.—E.A.

Tree Rings and Weather

Tree rings are the circular layers of wood which build up the size of a tree, one being formed each year on the exterior of the trunk under the bark.

They are what furnish the "grain" in a piece of lumber. In slow-growing hardwood trees, they usually are thin, tough layers ranged close together. In softer woods they are further apart, separated by layers of soft material.

The rings can reveal history. For in years when growing conditions are good—plenty of moisture and sunshine—the rings are thick; in bad years of drought, they are thin.

SCIENTISTS and others have found it fascinating to study the records left by the annual growth rings. They have been used to determine weather cycles, and thus often can offer clues to archeologists and historical anthropologists.

In the American southwest, it was discovered that by finding pieces of trees of varying age, a chronological record of the weather can be extended back for many years. Recent weather "history" is recorded in the trunks of old but still living trees. Older records come from the trunks of long-dead trees in pueblo roofs.

These records can often explain why a tribe of Indians moved from one place to another—a series of bad crop years due to drought, for instance, could make an area uninhabitable.

BUT these rings provide more than historical clues. They offer evidence of weather cycles, showing a period of dry years and then a period of wet years following.

In big trees several hundred years old these cycles can be traced and charted, and some students believe they can discern a regular pattern of weather cycles. Others disagree, and while they acknowledge the cycles, they declare there is no pattern.

If those who believe there is a pattern can, by further study and correlation, graphically establish it as a fact, they would have some basis for believing that the pattern would be recurring, and that future weather cycles could be predicted with some certainty.—E.A.



Matter of Fact

HAS IKE LOST HIS LUCK? Washington — President Eisenhower, having fled the Washington he hates for some days of sunshine and shooting in Georgia, was greeted by the nastiest weather in a couple of generations. This suggests that it is time to ask a somewhat mystical question: Has the President's luck run out?

IF YOU consider the political scene from which the President escaped to Georgia, you can hardly blame him for wishing to escape. Just before he left, record unemployment figures were announced. When he made an optimistic statement about a coming economic upturn, the nation yawned skeptically, and the stock market fell.

Since he left, a little-known Democrat has come within a tiny margin of taking a Minnesota congressional seat which has been heavily Republican within living memory. The main issue was the recession and the Eisenhower farm policy. And a Congressional inquiry has suggested that the behavior of some of the Eisenhower-appointed members of the Federal regulatory agencies has been somewhat less clean than a hound's tooth.

Such small troubles have been only the last in a whole sea of big troubles which have plagued the President, like some latter day Job, throughout the last 12 months. It is possible to pinpoint rather exactly the beginning of the President's time of tribulation.

THE President's bad time began early last year, when his Georgia host, former Treasury Secretary George Humphrey, attacked the Administration's budget, and the President failed to respond vigorously. That episode sparked the famous budget revolt, which disastrously eroded the President's authority on Capitol Hill.

Since then, everything has gone wrong for the President—Little Rock, to which the President reacted too much and too late, the Sputniks, which challenged the myth of his infallibility in defense matters, and now, worst of all, the threat of a serious recession.

At least in a symbolic sense, the lead paragraphs in the current issue of "Time" magazine may represent a more significant political event than the Minnesota election. For "Time" sharply criticized the President, at least by implication, for his inattention to his duties, which is rather as though the "Osservatore Romano" had suddenly attacked the Pope.

The President has had, quite literally, the most favorable press of any President in American history, not excepting George Washington. His admiring press has been a major factor in the Presidential aura (though the President's extraordinarily attractive personality has been, of course, the central factor). But especially since Little Rock, the Sputniks and the onset of the recession, the President has been far less immune to press criticism than in the past, as "Time's"

AL L Mr. Benson is trying to do is to IMPROVE the situation. He thinks it would be better if we quit subsidizing overproduction because, he reasons, as long as we subsidize overproduction heavily we will have vast surpluses on our hands. As long as vast surpluses hang over the markets, farm prices will remain low.

Most clear-headed thinkers are coming around to agreement with him.

BUT—These GOP political farmers say—"He may be right—but we've got to DITCH him if we're going to win."

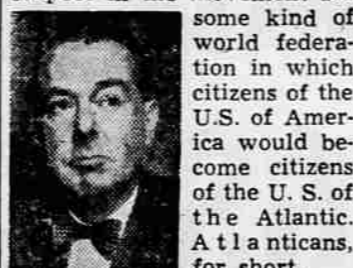
A THOUGHT: Might it not be better for the Republican party, over the long pull, to lose with a GOOD man than to win with an anything-for-votes demagogue?

After all—What good is a party if it has no PRINCIPLES it is willing to fight for?

Don't Neglect Slipping FALSE TEETH Do false teeth drop, slip or wobble when you talk, eat, laugh or sneeze? Don't be annoyed and embarrassed by such handiaps. FASTEETH, an alkaline (non-acid) powder to sprinkle on your plates, keeps false teeth more firmly set. Gives confident feeling of security and added comfort. No nummy, gooey, pasty taste or feeling. Get FASTEETH today at any drug counter!

Brains, Political 'Muscle' Back Proposed Atlantic Federation

By LYLE C. WILSON United Press Correspondent Washington — There is more muscle than one might suspect in the movement for some kind of world federation in which citizens of the U.S. of America would become citizens of the U.S. of the Atlantic.



Lyle C. Wilson For example, the average citizen more likely than not would be surprised to learn that the U.S. Secretary of State is substantially committed to such a plan. At least he was so committed and still is listed as an advocate of an international confederation with something of that sort in view.

In the same category are former President Harry S. Truman, former Secretary of State George Marshall and a host of others.

Secretary John Foster Dulles is listed by the Atlantic Union committee (AUC) Inc., with 50 past or present members of the U.S. Senate who supported one or more of three resolutions proposing an exploratory convention looking toward a political and economic combination of the Atlantic nations.

Stevenson Signed Up There are 159 names on the list of former and present members of the House who supported that idea. Moreover, AUC proudly lists 700 members of the Atlantic Union committee. There are representatives in every state of the union, including 65 college presidents.

The report of last week that Adlai E. Stevenson had signed up as a committee member brought from Justin Blackwelder, secretary of AUC, an illuminating letter.

"You might be interested in knowing," Blackwelder wrote, "that there are two national organizations in the U.S. interested in closer economic and political ties among the Western democracies."

"The organization supporting a federal union (U.S. of the Atlantic) is Federal Union, Inc., whose president is Clarence Streit.

"The program of our Atlantic Union committee is somewhat less ambitious. We unprecedented criticism suggests.

ADD that the Democrats (while many Republicans privately agree) are predicting a landslide of 1936 proportions in November. Add all the evidence of a mounting Republican revolt in Congress against the President's policies. A real and present danger then becomes apparent.

It is the danger of a two-year period of headlessness, a period when a lame duck President, his aura lost, his authority disregarded, his leadership challenged, will serve out his time in isolation and frustration.

Perhaps the danger is not real and present after all. It will not become a reality if the responsible Congressional leaders can help it. Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson, for example, is fully aware that Congressional government simply cannot be made to work in these times. And all sorts of things, an economic upturn, for example, or above all a firm reassertion by the President of his leadership at home and abroad, could transform the situation.

But one cannot help wonder if the President does not sometimes regret his decision to run again; if he does not sometimes think longingly of the happy, untroubled days he might now be living at Gettysburg, loved and respected more even than Jefferson at Monticello or Washington at Mount Vernon.

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of have-not Asiatics, for example, or the Arabs of North Africa.

This may be good or bad, necessary or unnecessary. However that may be, it certainly is different. Harry S. Truman was the 600th member of AUC. Stevenson who sought to succeed him in the White House was No. 700.

There is muscle and brains behind these similar movements and not much later than now would be a good time for all good men to consider whether they do or do not like the idea.

The first step would be merger—that's the word—that the U.S. with the British Commonwealth and Western Europe, the others to join later. In delightful understatement, Blackwelder's letter contained this sentence: "I suppose our proposals do not seem exactly revolutionary to us."

This adds up to the fact that Streif's organization would proceed at a faster clip than Blackwelder's. Both would be headed in the same direction, however, which, for better or worse, apparently might in time make Americans the fellow citizens

Syro-Egyptian Union May Hinder Russian Mid-East Progress

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent The new union between Egypt and Syria may hinder further Soviet Russian penetration of the Middle East.

Dispatches have emphasized that the "United Arab Republic" merges the two Arab countries in which Russia has obtained a foothold.

Hence the natural interpretation has been that from the viewpoint of the United States and its allies the merger was an unfavorable development.

But advices from the Middle East suggest that it may, instead, prove to be unfavorable to Russia in its determined attempt to make its influence dominant in the Arab world.

Political Parties Split These advices come from sources which are friendly to President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt.

But the informants also are responsible Americans who share the view that Russia's drive is dangerous.

They say that Nasser negotiated the merger because he was alarmed over the possibility that Syria might fall almost completely under Communist domination.

They assert that Syrian political parties were split and were under strong pressure from pro-Communist elements.

The army also was split, they report, between pro-Russian and anti-Russian officers. They say that President Shukri Al-Kuwatly of Syria agreed to the merger, even though it means handing over his powers to Nasser as president of the new republic, because he felt that Communist influence endangered both his own country and his own job.

Reds Reported Angry It may be noted that late dispatches speak of increasing Syrian enthusiasm for the merger with Egypt.

This enthusiasm, the dispatches say, is shared fully by anti-Communist elements who had watched with growing anxiety the growth of Russian influence.

Informants who put forward the argument that the Egyptian-Syrian merger will prove to be a break on the Communist penetration say that the Soviet government really is angry over it.

But the Russians have pretended to welcome the merger, they say, first because they are not in position to do anything about it and secondly because it gives

them more freedom to announce the federation of Iraq and Jordan which is a counter to the Egyptian-Syrian union.

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper, in fact the contrary is often the case.

Out-of-Staters? To the Editor: As a paid-up union member, I am wondering why out-of-state men are put to work and the local men are not?

We are making our homes here. We pay for protection from the union, but we don't get it.

And why should out-of-state people live here and not have to change the license on their cars? And trailer houses?

There has been quite a lot of complaint made to the unemployment office, and the union. All we get is "We will look into it."

So to the public, what is wrong with our unions and the unemployment in our county?

Our people in the county can go on relief and make out with any little thing, but the jobs are here, the tunnels and construction, have out-of-state men.

So why? A worker's wife. (Name on file)

Humane Traps To the Editor: This is to advise Mr. McCabe that the information he wants may be obtained from the Association for Protection of Fur Bearing Animals, Vancouver, B. C., Box 274. They now have a humane trap in general use.

J. Dorman, Lake of the Woods rd., Ashland.

Secret Service Guard Enlightened

Phoenix, Ariz. — A man wearing a sports shirt insisted on following President Eisenhower on the golf course Sunday even after a crowd of 200 had been asked not to do it.

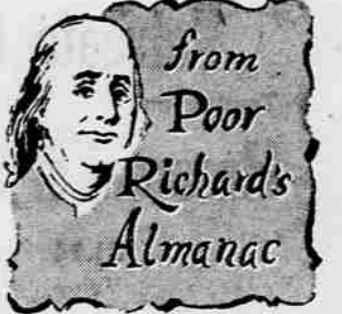
On the 10th hole, he was stopped by a local Secret Service man who said: "I'm sorry, you can't follow the President."

"Yes, I can," the man replied. "No, you can't," said the agent.

"Well, I'm a member of the party," the man replied. "Someone informed the Secret Service man at this point that the man in the sports shirt was the President's physician, Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder. He follows the Chief Executive wherever he goes.

CARBINES FOR INDONESIA Singapore — A "large consignment" of modern American carbines was shipped through here to Jakarta a few days ago, the Singapore Standard reported Sunday. The report said the carbines were equipped with telescopic infrared target viewers and were addressed to the chief of the Indonesian police.

them more freedom to announce the federation of Iraq and Jordan which is a counter to the Egyptian-Syrian union.



If your head is wax don't walk in the sun.

NO ONE IS IMMUNE TO MENTAL ILLNESS!

Mental illness isn't choosy. It pays absolutely no attention to vital statistics like age, sex, wealth, occupation, etc. No one is immune to the darkness that is mental illness... no one!

Medical progress has cleared away much of the mystery about mental illness. In fact, with what doctors know today, 70% of all mental patients could improve or recover completely. Why don't they? Simply because most mental hospitals do not have the staff, the equipment and the facilities they need to put this scientific knowledge into everyday practice!

That's where we come in. Our understanding and support can help people suffering from mental illness get well... help them return to their families, their jobs, their lives! We who have never faced the darkness of mental illness can do much to bring others out of it! Today, please work with and support your local Mental Health Association.

As a Public Service, we will be happy to make announcements for any group concerning their coming activities or events over our program on KBES-TV Saturday nights at 11:30, or over Radio Station KMED. Drop a card or phone Perl Funeral Home with your request.

PERL Funeral Home LADY ATTENDANT Phone SP 2-6675