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ROBERT W. RUIHL, Editor
GERRIT GREY, Advertising Manager
GERRIT GREY, Business Manager
ERIC ALLEN, Jr., Managing Editor
EARL H. ADAMS, City Editor
MERRY CHIPMAN, Teleg. Editor
RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor
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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
May 14, 1948 (Friday)

Plans and specifications have been received and bids requested for construction of a 64 by 75 foot reinforced concrete addition to the Medford Public Library.

Jackson county furnished over 3,000 of the signatures on petitions filed yesterday in Salem for a vote Nov. 2 by the people of Oregon on acquisition of Camp White hospital.

20 YEARS AGO
May 14, 1938 (Sunday)

A wild brawl in the hobo camp on the southern outskirts of Medford late yesterday afternoon landed the "mayor of the jungle" in the Sacred Heart hospital.

From Arthur Perry's Y Smudge Pot column: "Having had showers, and a shortage of hay-hands are predicted."

30 YEARS AGO
May 14, 1928 (Monday)

A local sporting goods dealer told recently how he caught a 26 pound salmon in the Rogue river with his bare hands.

From local and personal columns: "It took over an hour for Orbin Cookesey, local young fisherman to land a 20-pound salmon which he hooked Saturday afternoon at Gold Ray dam."

40 YEARS AGO
May 14, 1918 (Tuesday)

Adjutant General Williams will be here Wednesday or Thursday night to muster the home guard company into state militia service.

An agricultural camp for girls will be organized on the Ollaway orchard beginning the first of June.

What's Your I.Q.?
Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. Carson City is capital of which western state?
2. Bible: How long was Noah shut up in the Ark?
3. The initials WCTU identify what women's organization?
4. Who succeeded Will Hays as "Czar" of the film industry?
5. Geographically, Mexico is a part of North or South America?
6. The young of moose are called cubs or calves?
7. Catacomb is the name of a special brush for grooming cats; true or false?
8. There are 28, 32, or 36 shells in one gallon?
9. Name the author of Robinson Crusoe?
10. What is the meaning of the name Philip?

Answers: 1. Nevada. 2. 350 days. 3. Woman's Christian Temperance Union. 4. Eric Johnston. 5. North. 6. Calves. 7. False. (Subterranean burial ground). 8. Thirty-two. 9. Daniel Defoe. 10. Lover of horses.

The "Tax Base" Measure

At the bottom of the non-partisan ballot which all voters in the county will receive Friday, appears a county measure.

It is entitled "County measure establishing permanent tax base." And the descriptive material reads as follows:

"Referred to the Voters of Jackson County, Oregon by the County Court of Jackson County, Oregon. Purpose: To establish the present county tax base of \$652,386.68 as a permanent county tax base of \$652,386.68 under Article XI, Section 11, Oregon State Constitution, as amended. Under the above constitutional provision it is necessary to levy taxes at least once every three years for the sole purpose of preserving the tax base, unless a permanent tax base has been established. If a permanent tax base is established, taxes will only have to be levied when funds are needed to meet County obligations."

THE constitutional provision, stripped of its "legalese," provides that no taxing unit (including counties) can levy more taxes than the amount of its tax base.

There are two types of tax base, temporary and permanent. The first is the amount of money levied during one of the three preceding years (except that for the payment of indebtedness or interest thereon), plus six per cent. The other is an amount approved by the voters.

The first is the type under which Jackson county is operating at present. The second is the kind proposed for adoption.

Unlike other counties which do not have substantial sources of income other than taxes, Jackson county receives considerable sums from the federal government, from the sale of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management timber.

These sources of income are so large, in fact, that for the past several years they have been enough to pay all the costs of county government.

IN THAT case, one may say, why worry about a tax base at all? Why not just go on using the federal timber receipts?

The answer to that is, the timber receipts may not continue, indefinitely, to provide all the money the county needs. If these receipts were to fall off to any great extent, the county would have to levy taxes to raise funds to continue operating. And if that happened, it would need a tax base so it could levy those funds.

As a result, it has had three choices—either levy a tax each third year, to protect the old base (which is what it has done so far); or call upon the voters to establish a permanent tax base; or lose the right to levy a tax without a vote.

This year, for the first time, it is asking the voters to approve the second alternative.

IF THE tax base request is rejected, the county will continue to operate as it has in the past, receiving large sums from the federal government for the payment of operating expenses, and—presumably—levying an unneeded tax of more than \$600,000 every third year to protect the tax base. (It could, of course, abandon the tax base altogether, but we have yet to see any public body give up its right to tax once it is established.)

At best, this levying of unnecessary taxes each third year is a polite, but practical, fiction. It could be said to be a hindrance to good, economical government.

IF A permanent tax base is approved Friday, in the same amount as this year's tax base under the old system, the county would not have to levy an unneeded tax each third year (including this year) just to protect the tax base. It could continue with tax-free budgets as long as the federal timber and other receipts were sufficient to pay for the costs of county operation, and levy taxes only as they became necessary, either because of a decrease in income or an increase in necessary expenditures.

On the other hand, the measure would give the county a sort of "blank check" to levy up to \$652,386 in taxes in any year it feels it necessary. In doing so, it would remove the final say in the county government another step from the people, and would make it easier for county courts and budget committees in the future to succumb to those demands for more and more county funds which many people feel should be spent.

THE constitutional amendment which authorized the approval of a permanent tax base was not designed for counties with ample sources of income.

To the contrary, it was designed for cities and school districts which long ago outgrew their old tax bases, because of increased population and rising costs, to permit them to get on a sound financial basis without seeking a vote of the people every year at budget time.

This is a valid use of the tax base provision. Whether or not it should be used by a wealthy county to avoid the levying of unneeded taxes each third year is a question which can, and should, be answered only by the voters and taxpayers of the county concerned.

We are inclined to doubt it.—E.A.

Polls -- And Rides

A correspondent points out—correctly and thoughtfully—that, since many of the precincts this year will use consolidate polling places in Friday's election, this offers a better-than-ever opportunity for the neighborly offer of a ride. Particularly in the rural districts, where one polling place serves several precincts covering a large area, this suggestion is a good one. Vote as you please Friday, but vote. And if you can offer a ride to someone lacking transportation, so much the better.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"WANT YOUR BACK SCRUBBED?"

Difficult Questions Face U.S. Attorney In Grand Jury Case

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent

Washington—It is news when a man bites a dog or when a mouse nips a cat. So it must be news when a potential criminal in a heckles and harasses a U. S. district attorney to indict him.

The heckler and potential criminal is William F. Buckley Jr., editor of a smartly conservative weekly news magazine called National Review. Potential criminal he may be, but Buckley's conscience in this matter is as sweet and clean as a babe's.

If anyone is in trouble it is Paul W. Williams, U.S. district attorney in New York City and, perhaps, the U.S. Department of Justice.

What it's all about is this: Beginning last Dec. 14, in a special article full of embarrassing questions and implications, Buckley's National Review began suggesting that something smelly had happened to a Grand Jury which was supposed to be investigating charges of income tax evasion against Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.).

Powell is a clergyman, pastor of the largest congregation in Harlem where is concentrated most of the Negro population of New York City. He is one of three Negroes in Congress and powerful politically with his race.

On Oct. 11, 1956, Powell bolted Adlai E. Stevenson, the Democratic presidential nominee, to endorse President Eisenhower for reelection. Republicans welcomed Powell's support. Republicans know they probably must remain a minority party unless they can win back from the Democrats the Northern Negro vote which was absorbed into Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal.

The Powell Grand Jury was impaneled in December, 1956.

Buckley admits all. In its current edition, Buckley writes:

"National Review pleads guilty."

It looks like Williams' move. And if he moves to indict Buckley how can he prevent the trial from becoming an investigation of: Who called off the Powell Grand Jury, and why? Tough questions!

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Fantastic note in the news: Vice-President Nixon has been planning tentatively to visit European capitals late this summer on a friendship-making mission. However—in the light of rowdy demonstrations that have greeted some of his Latin American appearances (notably the stone-throwing ruckus in Peru the other day)—a question has now arisen in Washington as to whether the good will he might engender overseas would outweigh the AMERICAN resentment that would ensue if he were greeted with the kind of Yankee-Go-Home displays the communists are said to be able to organize in some Western European countries.

As a result of this situation, Washington correspondents report, Vice-President Nixon's European trip may be called off.

WHAT is to say: It may not be a good idea to send our vice-president to European capitals on a friendship tour because he might be heckled and insulted and this heckling and insulting of a high American official might MAKE US MAD.

That is a pretty pass to be reached by a nation that has given some 60 BILLION DOLLARS of its treasure to help out peoples who are less fortunate than we.

It calls for some rather serious thinking on our part.

THIS thought is advanced by those who support continued American aid spending in Europe and Asia and elsewhere in the older world.

If we don't do it, RUSSIA will. Well—Why not let Russia do it? CONSIDER this possibility: It isn't wholly improbable that if we retire from a giveaway field and Russia goes into it in a big way the peoples who receive Russia's bounty will TURN AGAINST HER, as they have turned against us.

We have proved rather conclusively in our foreign aid experiment that you can't BUY friends.

Short Step Toward Negotiations Seen in New Russian Talk Offer

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent

Soviet Russia seems to have taken a short step toward agreeing to start negotiations on disarmament.

Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev, in a letter to President Eisenhower, accepted in principle a United States proposal that experts start discussing means of supervising a possible agreement to suspend nuclear weapons tests.

Khrushchev's offer was hedged about by qualifications which left a lot of room for doubt whether he is acting in good faith or is merely launching another propaganda balloon.

But it was received in Washington as appearing to justify some hope that the long deadlock on disarmament talks might be broken.

A White House statement said that Khrushchev's offer might "serve as the basis for progress toward agreement on disarmament."

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles was considerably more cautious. He called Khrushchev's offer gratifying. It appeared to recognize "to some degree at least" the insistence by the United States that the problem of

controls is the prime essential in any disarmament agreement.

Dulles added that he did not mean to say that he thought the prospects for any disarmament agreement were good.

He said it would take a lot of study to determine whether there was any ground for optimism. "But at least," he said, "there is some progress."

The Washington reaction showed plainly the feeling of officials in allied countries toward a development, however slight, in the attempt to negotiate a "summit" conference on world issues and get started on discussion of disarmament by experts.

First, there was eagerness to grasp at any apparent concession by the Soviet government. Secondly, there was the natural suspicion of every Russian move, and the doubt whether the Russians will agree to conditions that would justify a summit conference or would permit the first step to be taken toward

communications of a candidate in addition to the recommendation of the Bar.

I had no intentions of taking any part in the campaign for the judicial offices and I do not now intend to help any candidate nor to harm any candidate, however, I do resent the attacks being made upon the lawyers generally for trying to do their duty in assisting the voting public. The foregoing facts are history.

J. F. Fliegel
34 North Central ave.
Medford.

From "Coming Out" To Coroner

To the Editor: I am a grandmother and heartily agree with Mrs. Farfan's answer to "coming out gowns," in May 7 edition. I sincerely hope and pray that my four grandsons will grow up to be reverent Christian men. I think they will be helped by their modern parents who respect other people's rights and opinions.

I would also like to mention our appreciation to Mr. Carlos Morris for the many fine pictures we have seen, free of charge, shown by him at Grange and PTA meetings during the 14 years we have lived in Jackson county. We also appreciate the fine weather reports on TV.

When we get through with our sun tanned bodies, certainly we expect Conger Morris to be in charge of the things necessary at such times, whether or not Mr. Morris is county coroner.

We hope he will be.
Fayette Gribble,
Box 461,
Gold Hill, Ore.

Oppose Tax Base

To the Editor: The board of governors of the Jackson County Taxpayers League by resolution state that:

"After careful study and consideration we find that the establishment of a permanent tax base is not needed in Jackson county at the present time or in the foreseeable future."

"We know that a tax levy is unnecessary. The county will have an expected income from all sources this year of at least \$4,080,000. We believe that the people of Jackson county should decide by their vote at regular election if and when an emergency should arise making a tax base necessary to the financial security of our county government."

Tom R. Williams,
North Stage rd.,
Central Point.
(More Communications On Page 5)

Let's Keep an Experienced Fair and Competent Judge on the Bench!

VOTE FOR

Judge Edward G. KELLY

(Incumbent)

CIRCUIT COURT POSITION No. 3

(Non-Partisan Judicial Ballot)

PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 16

Remember! Vote

43-X - Edward G. Kelly

"Incumbent. Judge Kelly experienced by thirty years varied active practice."

Pd. Adv. Kelly for Circuit Judge Committee, Otto J. Frohnmayer, Chairman, 1656 Spring St. Medford.

(More Communications On Page 5)

Mr. Perl is qualified by experience to administer efficiency and economy, co-operate with funeral and law enforcement men. Extend freedom of choice to families—first, use the Rotation Plan second. Will keep records safely and supervise deputies carefully. A vote for Perl is a vote for fairness, and justice to All. Favoritism is none.

We need a change in Jackson County. Vote 29 X Frank Perl.

C. M. Litwiller, G. W. "Bill" Drew and Chapel Mortuary

Pd. Pol. Adv. Litwiller Funeral Home, 88 North Main, Ashland, Ore.

Communications

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The Verdict is Yours — Friday YOU Decide . . .

Shall we continue a coroner in BUSINESS another 4 years? (making 20 out of the last 22 years)

OR— Shall we bring Jackson Co. up to date and nominate Frank Perl with the "Rotation Plan"?

Mr. Perl is qualified by experience to administer efficiency and economy, co-operate with funeral and law enforcement men. Extend freedom of choice to families—first, use the Rotation Plan second. Will keep records safely and supervise deputies carefully. A vote for Perl is a vote for fairness, and justice to All. Favoritism is none.

We need a change in Jackson County. Vote 29 X Frank Perl.

C. M. Litwiller, G. W. "Bill" Drew and Chapel Mortuary

Pd. Pol. Adv. Litwiller Funeral Home, 88 North Main, Ashland, Ore.

FALSE TEETH That Loosen Need Not Embarrass

Many wearers of false teeth have suffered real embarrassment because their plate dropped, slipped or wobbled at just the wrong time. Do not live in fear of this happening to you. Just sprinkle a little FASTEETH, the alkaline (non-acid) powder, on your plates. Hold false teeth more firmly, so they feel more comfortable. Does not sour, checks "plate odor" (denture breath). Get FASTEETH at any drug counter.