

MEDFORD 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.

10 YEARS AGO
Oct. 22, 1948 (Friday)
Medford's League of Women Voters plans to sponsor a Campaign School for discussion of ballot measures.

A Medford hunter made a fruitless trek into eastern Oregon, only to discover after his return two bucks grazing with his cattle—but he had already put his gun away.

20 YEARS AGO
Oct. 22, 1938 (Saturday)
The San Francisco ballet is coming here next month.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Politics hereabouts continue so quiet, voters can hear a candidate drop a promise."

30 YEARS AGO
Oct. 22, 1928 (Monday)
This year's deer season has been "one of the best for years."

The Ashland city council is considering plans for a \$300,000 sanitarium and hospital in Lithia park.

40 YEARS AGO
Oct. 22, 1918 (Tuesday)
The Marine corps recruiting office here has been closed.

Medford orchardists are holding back their apples pending a new freight rate.

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

1. In Russian roulette, where a 6-shot chamber containing a single live bullet is used what are the odds against the player forfeiting his life?

2. Name the American author who wrote "A Message to Garcia."

3. Astrologers assert that persons born between July 23 and August 23 are influenced by which zodiacal sign?

4. Turtles and tortoises are members of the reptile family; true or false?

5. Name the author of "Tarzan" stories.

6. A common name for sodium silicate is water—?

7. In what U.S. war was the battle cry "Remember the Maine"?

8. The name of Samuel Jackson Snead suggests which of these games: golf, tennis, football?

9. The name of Seth Thomas is famous in connection with what industry?

10. Is Iceland northwest, northeast, southwest, or southeast of Greenland?

Answers: 1. 5 to 1. 2. Elbert Hubbard. 3. Leo. 4. True. 5. Edgar Rice Burroughs. 6. Waterglass. 7. Spanish-American War. 8. Golf. 9. Clock-making. 10. Southeast.

"Half-Truths" and "Savagery"

Somewhere not long ago we read a comment to the effect that those who would abolish capital punishment "hide behind half-truths, religion, and the fact that the wealthy may escape and the poor may suffer the extreme penalty."

First of all, let it be said that we would probably vote to continue capital punishment IF it were shown to be a deterrent to murder.

But it does not. To the contrary:

"... Capital punishment is not in fact a deterrent, but—apparently be example—incites others to homicide." Warden Lewis E. Lawes, late of Sing Sing.

"A world-wide survey shows that nowhere has the abolition of the death penalty led to an increase in the number of homicides... Capital punishment is not a deterrent to murderers who commit suicide, who are insane and mentally deranged, who kill in a quarrel, in drunkenness, in passion, to those who wish to be hanged, to the one who believes in his own perfect method. This amounts to 50 to 90 per cent of all murderers. It leaves only the professional criminal class and all agree that 'murder is not a crime of the criminal classes'—British Royal Commission on Capital Punishment. From 1914 to 1920, when Oregon had no death penalty, it had the lowest homicide rate of any of the Western states. When the death penalty was restored, the homicide rate jumped from 4.1 to 7.7 per 100,000 people.

IF it is granted (in light of almost unanimous informed opinion) that capital punishment is not, in fact, a deterrent, what then is left? Vindictiveness? Revenge?

How about "hiding behind religion" (that's a phrase for you) long enough to point out that Christian morality, for some 2,000 years, is all against the type of vindictive and punitive thinking implicit in the demand for death as the maximum penalty. And, the last we heard, quite a few people still have respect for Christian teachings.

Now as to the "fact that the wealthy may escape and the poor may suffer the extreme penalty":

"The death penalty is an arbitrary discrimination against an occasional victim."—House committee on the District of Columbia, 69th Congress.
"Until capital punishment is abolished, there is little hope of even-handed justice in murder trials."—August Vollmer, distinguished former police chief of Berkeley, Calif.
"Capital punishment is applied so unevenly and with so much controversy and sensationalism that it probably does more harm than good."—Richard A. McGee, commissioner of corrections for California.
"I have escorted 150 men and 1 woman to the death chamber. They came from all kinds of homes and environments, but they had two things in common. They were all poor and most of them were friendless."—The late Warden Lewis E. Lawes of Sing Sing.

THE fact that innocent men have been executed is not a "half-truth."
Neither are these:
Only 2 per cent of convicted murderers in this country are executed.

Imposition of the death penalty is unequal; some juries are "tough," some "soft-hearted."
Never in the history of Oregon has a paroled or pardoned murderer been recommitted for a crime of violence.

Some juries hesitate to convict a murderer on the basis that the punishment is too severe.

It may be "cheaper" in dollars and cents to execute a man than to keep him in prison the rest of his life—but not always. In California, for instance, the state has paid some half-million dollars in attempts to execute Caryl Chessman, who is still alive. Appeals from men sentenced to death can, and often do, drag on for years.

The Constitution of Oregon (Section 15, Article I) says: "Laws for the punishment of crime shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice."

The bill to end capital punishment, and refer it to a vote of the people, passed the state senate 29 to 0, and the house 38 to 19.

ALL these facts ("half-truths"?) add up to one thing, which was well put by the late Warden Lawes, quoted above, when he said:

"... The death penalty is a relic of savagery, perpetuated by custom and an ignorance, maintained by false assumptions, and consummated in a killing that is legal in name only; it condones in an act of an agent what would be a murder for an individual; it carries out in secrecy what would be revolting in public; it is man-made and fallible and, therefore, subject to gross miscarriage of justice; it is ineffective and sets an example for murder; it violates the teachings of Jesus and the conscience of an enlightened mankind."

We will vote No. 4 "Yes" to remove the death penalty from the state constitution as the maximum penalty for first degree murder. — E. A.

Slippery Words

"Words are slippery," Henry Adams once observed. "What's in a word?" Shakespeare inquired.

Roy Bashaw, Medford's city attorney and legal expert, has defined "goods, wares and merchandise" to exclude insurance policies. He did so in clarifying a city zoning ordinance.

But the city attorney at St. Helens (we learn from a League of Oregon Cities newsletter) contends that "goods, wares and merchandise" should be given a broad meaning—"which includes insurance policies and contracts."

Bashaw was upheld by the city planning commission and city council. The unnamed St. Helens city attorney was upheld by the court in which he proclaimed his definition.

"What's in a slippery word?" we say.

—E.W.A.



HEY, MARGARET! LOOKA ME! I'M A BIG HIT, NO?

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 a view 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.

How About Sales Tax?

To the Editor: Eve Nye, in her political ads, keeps stressing the fact that she, if elected, will work for a tax program fair to all.

This statement is quite broad when compared with her pre-primary statements that, if elected, she would work for a state sales tax. Somehow, during the past few months, she has realized that the majority in Oregon despise the sales tax. Therefore, the words "sales tax" are taboo with her now.

Would not a prompt and clearly defined statement from her regarding this issue be in order?

M. J. Olsen,
Rt. 4, Box 325,
Medford.

Silly Season

To the Editor: The respective central committees of both major political parties are excellent organizations from the standpoint of purpose, even though there appears to be some question when it comes to principle. No one quarrels with the fact that the committees are elected by popular vote. However, if I had to side step the point of issue as you have Mr. Redden, I would indeed feel inclined to need a "ghost writer."

I repeat—as was proven by events subsequent to the primary election—the man chosen by party vote is not the man chosen by popular vote. Whether the central committee feels morally obligated to secure the "withdrawal" of the people's choice or whether his "withdrawal" is a convenient method of replacing the unwanted with the wanted is simply two ways of saying the same thing. The fact remains, Mr. Redden, Sheehan is not the choice of his party, as you would attempt to lead us to believe.

Mr. Sheehan's integrity or the legality of his election is not questioned—we will be balancing on the qualifications of the man Sheehan or the man Walsh, the real difference being between a man rewarded for past party service or a man elected by reason of past community service.

I certainly agree the silly season is upon us—and the local (vochal) chairman is making it even sillier.

Bill Schulz,
Eagle Point, Ore.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A GREAT VIOLIN PLAYER stalked into the African jungle armed with nothing more formidable than his fiddle and a bow. What's more, the music he played was so beautiful that a variety of wild beasts, come to dine on him for dinner, remained to listen in enchantment. His admirers soon included three blood-thirsty lionesses, a wild elephant or two, a leopard, a cougar, and a couple of hooded cobras.

In the middle of "The Moonlight Sonata," however, a panther leaped out of a tree and before you could say "Johannes Schmierkase," slew the poor musician. The other animals were simply amazed.

"How," demanded one outraged lioness, "could you bear to do away with a man who could produce such exquisite melodies?"

The panther shook his head and said, "I'm afraid you'll have to speak louder, my friend. I'm very hard of hearing."

Have you heard about the spaceman who landed in Paris and told the first gendarme he spied, "Take me to Brigitte Bardot. I'll see your leader later?"

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pie. He saves \$2, comparatively, but he assumes that this waitress either deserves no tip nor share of the saving, or else he supposes she's accustomed to never receiving tips and he'd hate to set a new precedent. This waitress, not nearly so chic, cannot afford a hairdresser, and her hands are red and she is not chippy and full of wit. She has one or more kiddies at home whom she loves and supports and for whom she has hours of work after her "regular shift." She takes his order, often goes back and cooks it, serves it, makes the milk or other drink, hauls away his dirty dishes, washes them, puts them away, then mops the floor after him at the end of her shift. She is paid from 75 cents to 90 cents an hour (seldom \$1 an hour), and she never makes over one thin dime a day in tips.

Leave a Tip—you saved money on this meal—Leave a Tip—this lady probably works five times as hard as you do—Leave a Tip—this gal is fighting a hard battle to support a family without training and on scrape-the-bottom-of-the-barrel wages—LEAVE A TIP.

(Name on file)
Medford.

Two to a Customer
To the Editor: I have noted the lead editorial in The Mail Tribune for Sunday, Oct. 19, wherein E. A. tries to belittle the charges brought by Mr. Stathos against the congressman supposed to represent this district.

I think that E. A. served notice some weeks ago that, even though there might be no other sacred calves about, any criticism of his dear friend Charles would receive prompt editorial defense. We will expect that and discount it.

At the time I saw Mr. Stathos' article, I was about to write one on the same subject. Of course the lead is a reprint from the Congressional Record; that's about the only way that the law could be evaded and the expense of sending it shunted from a campaign fund to the public. Yes, it is a report on the 85th Congress, but why was it timed so perfectly just before election instead of coming out weeks ago after Congress adjourned. Isn't it a little like the man who kissed the bride and wondered why the husband objected? It was a year after the ceremony.

I could forget most of the above, however, if it had just been sent out to the same mailing list that other such reports were sent to in non-election times. Instead, this report, at this election time, was apparently sent to the regular mailing list and further sent out broadcast under the discredited "box holder" address; consequently many people like myself, got two of them.

You and I and everyone else except Mr. Porter and others like him, are paying 4 cents a letter instead of 3 cents because the postoffice department needed the raise to break even. I thoroughly approved of that raise because I think the government should follow good business practices, but I do resent having Mr. Porter adding to that campaign letters, regardless of how he has camouflaged them, free of charge. If he'd been paying for the postage, as he should, he would probably have seen, at least, that they didn't go out two to a customer.

D. H. Barber,
Trail, Ore.

Plea for the GOP
To the Editor: Friends, election time is almost upon us. Our Tribune editor calls this the "silly season." Never has he been more wrong. There is more at stake in this election than there has been for many a year, or is apt to be for some time to come.

We stand at the cross-roads. If the Democrats put their candidates back in power again we will be wrapped up so tightly by political labor bosses we will never be able to break loose.

Paid political politicians from Portland are taking over the government in Oregon. Their financial resources are unlimited. They are full time paid political workers. Governor Holmes has been bought and paid for by them. He is their puppet.

I talked to him at the Candidates Fair and asked him about the \$16,000 deficit in his campaign that was mentioned

Rip Van Winkle Couldn't Sleep with Nagging Backache
Now you can get the fast relief you need from nagging backache, headache and muscular aches and pains that often cause restless nights and miserable tired-out feelings. When these discomforts come on with over-exertion or stress and strain you want relief—fast! Another disturbance may be mild bladder irritation following wrong food and drink—often setting up a restless uncomfortable feeling. Doan's Pills work fast in a separate way: 1. by speedy pain-relieving action to ease torment of nagging backache, headache, muscular aches and pains. 2. by soothing effect on bladder irritation. 3. by mild diuretic action tending to increase output of the 15 miles of kidney tubes. Enjoy a good night's sleep and the same happy relief millions have for over 60 years. New, large size saves money. Get Doan's Pills today!

Harvey W. Robertson
103 North Central Ave.
Medford

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Hot spot in the news:
The Chinese communists broke their own cease fire Monday and began shelling the offshore islands before Secretary of State John Foster Dulles could arrive in Formosa to try to fashion a permanent peace settlement. The fire was described as HEAVY.

FOLLOWUP on the hot spot: Former President Truman, taking his daily constitutional in New York, tells the reporters who tag him regularly that the Dulles foreign policy is to blame for it. He adds that the crisis in the Far East is the result of the Eisenhower administration's sur-render in Korea. (The Korean armistice was signed in 1953.) "The chickens," HST added, "are just coming home to roost."

HMMMMMMMM.
Let's go back farther than 1953. When the Republicans were on the outside looking in, they blamed the ACHESON foreign policy (Mr. Acheson was Mr. Truman's secretary of state in those days) for the START of the Korean war. They claimed that if Acheson hadn't practically told the commies we wouldn't fight for Korea there would have been no Korean war.

WHAT'S wrong?
Who is to blame? What shall we do?
I WOULDN'T know.
But I have the feeling

Wasco County Gas Hearing Postponed
Salem—UPI—Public Utility Commissioner Howard Morgan today postponed until Jan. 6-7, 1959, a hearing on the applications of Northern Utility company and Northwest Natural Gas company to provide natural gas to The Dalles and nearby Wasco county areas.

Morgan said he was postponing the hearing, originally set for this month, on advice of Northern Utility lawyers that they had other cases scheduled for trial in other courts.

He said he did not have to tell who picked it up or if it had been picked up. And he is right. It seems there is a loop-hole in the present law that permits this.

Before I talked to Holmes I had decided he was one of three things, either very dishonest, very stupid, or very naive. However I find he is none of these. He is an opportunist.

Before he went into politics he was unable to make a decent living and was deeply in debt. He went into public office because he was a failure at everything else, and he will co-operate with anyone who can keep him there, regardless of their aims.

He said in a talk on TV that he has sold Oregon. And so he has, to the wrong group. But whether he can deliver us is a different matter. That must wait until after Nov. 4. The Democrats claim the Republicans are backed by big business. What are political labor bosses but big business? A big business that has made an unholy alliance with all the underworld gangsters and racketeers in the United States.

I beg of you, all Republicans, Independents and clear thinking Democrats, vote for the Republican candidates and we can break the hold of these political labor bosses before it is too late.

If the Republicans are put in office we will get a law with teeth in it that will do some good. For we are not trying to play both ends against the middle.

Leila A. Morrow,
531 North Bartlett st.,
Medford.

PUT
MEL LATTIE
in the
State Legislature
Nov. 4
Ballot No. 111
Paid Adv. Lattie for Representative Committee, Dick Gray, Chmn., Cherry lane, Medford.

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