

Medford 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.

10 YEARS AGO

Nov. 21, 1948 (Sunday)  
A total of 2,624 persons in the Medford area have now been x-rayed for tuberculosis in the Jackson County Public Health association's drive.

20 YEARS AGO

Nov. 21, 1938 (Monday)  
Medford merchants plan their formal Christmas opening for Dec. 3.

30 YEARS AGO

Nov. 21, 1928 (Wednesday)  
D. G. Tyre, chairman of the Copco Forum, says Medford needs more parks and playgrounds and remarks that at least one bonding house would be interested in buying a bond issue for this purpose.

40 YEARS AGO

Nov. 21, 1918 (Thursday)  
Mayor Gates is busy examining sites for a 40-acre landing field here at the request of the San Diego Army aviation camp asking such a field for an airship on a trial flight from San Diego to Seattle.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. Do you associate the name Izaak Walton with the sport of hunting, trapping, or fishing?  
2. A wooden frame or tripod for supporting a canvas is called an e-...?  
3. A measurement denoting a fourth of a bushel is identical to the same as the surname of a popular movie star; what is it?  
4. Where in Georgia is located the "Little White House," so named by Franklin D. Roosevelt?  
5. What is the name of Jack Benny's car which was frequently mentioned on his radio program?  
6. Identify the noted classical musical composers who are collectively known as the "Three B's."  
7. In measuring gold, would you get more if it was measured under the troy, or avoirdupois, scale?  
8. Would a buxom person most likely be plump, or thin?  
9. Blue laws usually refer to purity of laundry bluing, ban on athletic or other forms of entertainment on Sunday, or to water pollution?  
10. What are the fundamentals of education which comprise the three R's?  
Answers: 1. Fishing. 2. Easel. 3. Peck. 4. Warm Springs, Ga. 5. Maxwell. 6. Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms. 7. Avoirdupois. 8. Plump. 9. Ban of athletics and entertainment. 10. Reading, riting, and rithmetic.

Protection of Sources

A possible first step toward a law guaranteeing Oregon newsmen the right to protect confidential news sources has been taken this week. The Portland Newspaper Guild voted Tuesday night to ask the state legislature for such a law. As proposed by the Guild, it would apply to newspaper and press association reporters, radio and television reporters and newsmen from other publications.

Twelve states, according to the Guild, already have such laws.

WHY does the Guild—and many other reporters—want such a law?

Some news stories, often important ones, must be gotten the "hard way"—by going beyond those facts public officials or other news sources want people to know.

In accomplishing this the reporter relies on confidential sources—individuals willing to give him the facts he needs, or at least, valuable tips, but who are unwilling to be mentioned or quoted in the story when it is published.

The reporters give them his word he will not reveal his source. He knows how important this trust can be to his helpers—often their jobs are in danger if it becomes known they gave him certain facts, even though the public has every right to know those facts.

AFTER confirming the facts and perhaps adding others, the reporter writes the story. He refers to his contacts as "informed sources," or by some other non-revealing phrase. Next time, these contacts will be ready to help him again.

If in providing the public with information it is found necessary on some occasions to protect news sources, then such protection, being a guarantee of public knowledge, should itself be guaranteed by law.

But this has not been the case recently in New York state. New York has no such law. A New York Herald Tribune columnist, called as a witness in a civil suit, has been found in contempt of court for refusing to name a confidential news source. This finding was upheld by the U.S. Court of Appeals. The case now appears headed for the U.S. Supreme Court.

"We find no reason," the appellate court said in its opinion, "to depart from the precedents, Federal and state, refusing to recognize such a privilege in the absence of a statute creating one."

SHOULD the Supreme Court either uphold or decline to review the Appellate Court's opinion, a two-fold threat is created. The first is that the precedent will extend to other cases, and may even reach beyond the courts to legislative investigations.

Second, and more important, news sources will begin to run dry, still trusting the reporter but fearful of later implication. The more important or controversial the story at stake, the more likely this would be to occur.

Unless reporters can track down these stories and relay them to their readers, the public's right to know is violated.

SUCH a law creates a basic conflict. One side is the reporter and his source. On the other is the right of a court to elicit all the facts of a case in the pursuit of justice.

But there is precedent for such privilege. Doctors and ministers, for instance, cannot be compelled to reveal information given them in confidence. In the case of reporters, there is the added fact, that protection of the confidential sources is a protection of the people's right to know. As such, we believe it would be sound public policy to sanction that privilege by statute.

Situations where such a law would come into play are not common, but they are sufficiently frequent to justify affirmative action by the legislature.

It is a right of the people—a right to information—which is at issue.—E.W.

How Many '59 Cars?

In the recent upward spurge of stock prices, those of the Big Three auto makers—General Motors, Ford, Chrysler—have gone along. Thus investors testified to their belief that 1959 will be a good year for the U.S. car makers.

But the Big Three stocks failed to rise as volcanically as did that of American Motors, maker of the fast-selling little Rambler.

American Motors stock, from its low of 8 for the year jumped to 33 on Nov. 13, a rise of over 300 per cent. Thus investors showed their awareness that many an American car-buyer wants a smaller, or at least a cheaper, car. (Some Rambler models are far from small.) During this time the stock price spread from low to high was about 35 per cent for Chrysler, 30 per cent for Ford, 60 per cent for G.M.

HOW many sales mean a good year for the U.S. auto industry?

Everybody says 1958 is a bad year because it will see only about 4.3 million new cars produced. Everybody says wistfully we'll never again have a year as good as 1955, when a record 7.9 million cars came out.

One prominent "expert," a banker, predicts only 4.7 million for the 1959's, and is called for his pains a dyed-in-the-wool pessimist. Another expert, an economist, predicts 6.3 to 7.3 million, and is called starry-eyed. Harlow H. Curtice, before retiring recently as G.M. president, made it 5.5 million for the 1959's.

Average production for the last 10 years was 5.7 million. That was just about the figure for 1956, and as a whole the industry considered 1956 a good year.—E.R.R.

Dennis the Menace



"YOU HEARD ME, SONNY! I'M NOT LEAVING UNTIL YOU CALL YOUR MOTHER...."

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.

Personal Appearance, Too

To the Editor: This past month the Medford Mail Tribune has printed pictures daily on "Make Medford Beautiful." This is fine and many have taken the hint and are making improvements. However, what about one's personal appearance when dining out in a well known place such as Kims, Top Notch, Pings, and many others?

This is our second year in Medford and the first time we dined out, we were greatly disappointed as we were one of the few families dressed up! By dressed up I do not mean formal wear. Just nice clothes as one might wear to church, etc.

Bear Creek Freeway

To the Editor: Speaking of beautifying Medford, for which we must congratulate the Medford Mail Tribune for its pioneering spirit, we should be proud and happy to support such great opportunities and cooperate.

Now, why not give Medford a \$1,000,000 break, cleaning "the most dirty and filthy streak in the county—clean Bear Creek's sewer, mosquito beds, frog ponds and malaria holes by a simple system of economy and efficiency—putting Bear Creek beneath the proposed Freeway.

Stop Malicious Talk

To the Editor: I am very much interested in the welfare of the Medford Public Library, having served for a number of years on the Medford Library Board, and several years of that time as chairman.

There is a great deal of malicious talk which should be stopped. Difficulties have arisen between the Medford Library Board and the boards of some of the surrounding towns and should be corrected at once. Should the present arrangement break down, the Medford Library would lose about 50 per cent of the books they have on hand as a large part of the reading material has been purchased with money belonging to the surrounding towns.

The Medford Library Board is working only under a contract to serve the other libraries and has nothing to do with the pay, hiring, firing or operation of anyone outside the city limits of Medford. The Medford Librarians is solely an employee of the City of Medford and should be looked upon as such by the County Court and all outside Library Boards.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

LEON FOREM tells about a farmer, "a bit over 90," who strolled over to the town graveyard one afternoon with a crosby. The crosby pointed to one stone and said "There lies Timothy Oberdorf." "How old was he?" asked our farmer. "In his sixties," said the crosby. "Well," philosophized the farmer amiably, "a man's got to go sometime." He was equally unmoved by the graves of others who had passed on in their 60s and 70s.

All was changed, however, when the crosby said, "Why, here's the last resting place of Manfred Jones who died at 92."

The farmer, now visibly shaken, said, "Tarnation! So they've reached that age, too!" Customer in a Tulsa gift shoppe announced "I want to send a good luck card to a man who's drilling for oil on my property." "I've got just the thing for you," said the clerk—and handed him a "get well" card.

Wilson Asks: What's Difference Between Labor Outrages, Civil Rights Outrages?

By LYLE C. WILSON  
UPI Correspondent

Washington —(UPI)—A fair and reasonable question to the Eisenhower administration right now could be this: If local law is deemed sufficient to cope with bomb outrages in labor disputes, why is it not also sufficient to cope with identical violence in civil rights disputes?

The question seems to arise reasonably. On Nov. 13, Attorney General William P. Rogers said the administration was considering broad new civil rights legislation aimed particularly at dynamiters of schools and churches. It was explained that specific proposals to be submitted to Congress had not been worked out. Rogers said, also, that the federal government did not desire to infringe on local responsibility or to relieve local officials of their duty to clear up the bomb cases.

These qualifications to the Justice Department's plans for new legislation aimed particularly at dynamiters seem, what clouded Rogers' intent and a meaning. Something, however, evidently is on the fire. Moreover, Republican

ing over natural Bear Creek would eliminate thousands of dollars in expense by winding intersections and crossings. In my opinion, this would be a really beautiful sight, with ample additional property salvaged for parking and buildings instead of, as today, malaria beds.

No one can show me where by nothing but efficiency, savings and a greatly beautified Medford would result.

Meaning Cloudy

The probable greatest personal winner is Vice-President Richard M. Nixon. As the Senate's presiding officer, he may well decisively shape the outcome. The probable collective loser, at least to some extent, is the Democratic party. Possible eventual losers may be all future minorities—economic, religious, racial or sectional—to the immediate gain of the currently mistreated minority, the Negroes.

The argument will involve a dusty thing, the Senate anti-filibuster rule—"Rule 22." A filibuster is endless talking to prevent a vote. It can be halted not only by decision of two-thirds of the entire Senate membership—or simply by wearing out the filibusters.

In the second place, a Freeway elevated as planned would cost more than a canal under the Freeway large enough for the Rogue River. An overhead Freeway would also spoil the view across the city and interfere with Hawthorne Park, also destroying property instead of gaining valuable property. Bear Creek channel, in general, lies directly between the two suggested routes mentioned previously, and a straight logical by-pass through the heart of the city without destroying any property BUT adding plenty more.

E. M. Tucker Sr., Tucker Sno-Cat Corporation, South Pacific Highway, Medford

Streets and Playgrounds

To the Editor: More facts about the closing of Homes St. in Talent. The inspector for the state accident commission was here and looked over the possibility of trucks leaving the pole yard through the narrow alley that will be the only way out if the street is closed. He said that it is dangerous both to the trucks and anyone trying to pass when the trucks are coming out. Now the city council claims that if Homes St. is opened it will cut out of a part of the so-called playground. Well if anybody cares anything about their children they would not let them play there in the weeds that have broken bottles and other trash in them. We the people of this community have invested a lot of money in playground equipment and all there is left of it is some iron pipe stuck up through the weeds which is dangerous for children to play on. This weed patch that there is so much trouble over is a disgrace to any town. If the man that takes the pictures that we see every day in the paper on "Make Medford Beautiful" would come out here and take some pictures of this piece of city property and put them in the paper he would be doing a good service to a town that needs to know what this is all about.

Ray Garland, Box 27, Talent, Ore.

HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK

Washington —(UPI)—President Eisenhower has proclaimed Dec. 10-17 Human Rights Week and urged all citizens to observe it by studying the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

Sen.-elect Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, with 11 others, has announced plans to propose in the new Congress several federal penalties against church and school terrorists and to put the FBI in charge.

Washington Report

By William S. White

FILIBUSTER FIGHT

Washington—Three sets of men are preparing now for the most important and the least understood struggle of the new Congress. I mean the complications—traditions, emotion, political ambitions—will bedevil the great conflict, to open in January. It will bear on the 1960 Presidential election. It may result in a profound change in what for nearly two centuries has been our most nearly changeless institution, the U.S. Senate.

decades-without any change in the rules. This, however, has never satisfied the liberals, who think it did not go far enough. And their cause has been immeasurably aided by some Southern defiance of the courts in integration.

BUT the filibuster in Senate history has been more often a liberal than a conservative implement. Indeed, the holder of one of the all-time filibuster records, Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, is an advanced liberal. He talked for 22 hours and 26 minutes in April, 1953, in resisting what many called the "giveaway" of the oil tidelands.

Moreover, the Senate is fundamentally a non-majority institution; the smallest state has equal representation with the largest. But so, indeed, is the Bill of Rights. That unlimited debate has been much abused is undeniable. But the Fifth Amendment, under which a single man can refuse to testify against himself, however guilty, also has been undeniably abused.

Some conservatives would destroy the Fifth Amendment for its shortcomings, forgetting its towering nobility. Now, many liberals forget that the filibuster weapon, deemed by them to be in unworkable hands, has many times halted vindictive legislation that a thoroughly "democratic" House was all too ready to approve.

Finally, civil rights legislation in plain fact has suffered most of all, not because of rules, but because far more rank and file Senators have had it on their lips than in their hearts.

A SOUTHERN old guard faction would resist any change whatever. It is, however, a tiny group, and it is melting fast.

A faction of advanced liberals is demanding an alteration so extreme that its adoption would end the Senate as a unique deliberative body. This group is led by Senators Paul H. Douglas of Illinois and Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, Democrats, and Clifford P. Case of New Jersey and Jacob K. Javits of New York, Republicans.

They are unwittingly doing Nixon's work as well as their own. And if they succeed, it will be he, and not they, who will receive most credit. For, after all, there are many Senators but there is only one Vice-President.

They wish to make it possible for two-thirds of those Senators voting to clamp down on a filibuster by a process called cloture after two days' notice. But they would go much beyond this moderate reform—and this is the kernel of it—to permit the barest Senate majority, or 49 members, to put on cloture after 15 days.

THIS would make the Senate only a somewhat slower House of Representatives. The slimmest Senate majority, after 15 days, could adopt any kind of bill under public pressure, informed or uninformed. The House already can do so. Indeed, it did so during the Truman Administration in cheerfully approving within about 90 minutes a measure to draft striking railroadmen into the Army—a bill Mr. Truman himself has since publicly regretted having offered.

The third and probably the largest of the Senate groups wishes to harden the cloture rule by permitting two-thirds of those actually voting (instead of two-third of the entire membership) to put on cloture—but never less than this two-thirds in any circumstances.

These forces will be made up of moderate Democrats, some retreating Southerners, some Western liberal Democrats and some Republicans.

For many years, the liberals have blamed the filibuster for their inability to enact legislation in behalf of Negro rights. Last year a bill was passed—the first in eight

arising from labor disputes. "It seems to me," Mitchell said "that... we don't need Federal laws to check mugging and goon squads and criminal tactics. What we do need is a recognition at the community level that these (local) laws should be enforced; and what we do need is support given to the law-enforcement people so that intimidated workers can testify without fear of reprisal, and that grand juries can indict arsonists and thugs at the local level. No one has to wait for Washington to pass a law to check these evils."

Local Enforcement Needed

On another occasion, Mitchell said: "What I have stressed, has been the fact that federal law can never cope with such things as assault, destruction of property through arson and bombing, intimidation, blackmail and just ordinary hoodlumism and thievery. There are local laws to deal with these types of crimes, and these laws must be enforced, in addition to the passage of a federal law."

AFL-CIO President George Meany sees the problem about as does Mitchell. In a speech before an AFL-CIO affiliate, Meany gave Mitchell a fast okay on the idea that there is plenty of unenforced law on the local level to deal with union goon squad violence. Meany complained, however, that the local citizenry does not support organized labor's efforts to utilize those laws in cleaning labor's house.

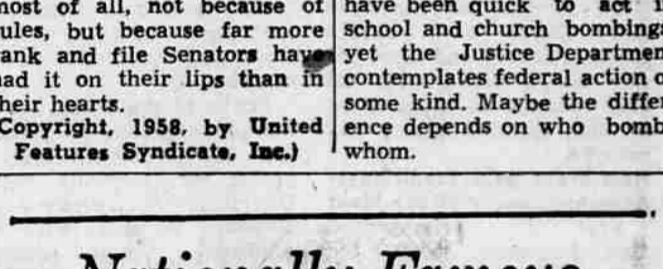
"There doesn't seem to be a district county attorney in this country," Meany said, "who is interested. In not one single instance of violence or other violation of local law do we find where any local district attorney has taken interest."

If that be true, Mitchell's policy of leave-it-to-the-locals would appear to be founded on considerable misplaced confidence in local law enforcement. Local officials have been quick to act in school and church bombings, yet the Justice Department contemplates federal action of some kind. Maybe the difference depends on who bombs whom.

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