

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. 27, 1948 (Saturday)
The Rogue River Ramblers motorcycle club sponsors its second annual "turkey run," with first, second and third prizes being a turkey, a duck and a chicken.

20 YEARS AGO
Nov. 27, 1938 (Sunday)
A large deer comes to school in Phoenix, but after bounding over the fence into the school yard thinks better of it and retreats to play hooky in the hinterland.

30 YEARS AGO
Nov. 27, 1928 (Tuesday)
The Copco Players go on the air with the latest Helen Norris radio drama, "The Guardian."

40 YEARS AGO
Nov. 27, 1918 (Wednesday)
The Medford school board eliminates the Christmas vacation except for Christmas itself and New Year's day.

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

1. A famous duel occurred in the early history of the U. S. at Weehawken, N. J. Who were the two duellists?

2. Which tribe of American Indians were engaged in the battle at the Little Big Horn river, in which Custer's command was destroyed?

3. Correct the following sentence: "He did noble."

4. What is the name for the hat customarily worn by a Mexican peon?

5. What aromatic herb is liked by cats?

6. Which is the capital of South Carolina—Columbia or Columbus?

7. Is lead heavier, or lighter, than quicksilver?

Talking Turkey

The increasing popularity of fresh-frozen, pre-stuffed turkeys, their gizzards neatly packaged in foil, is becoming something of a national crisis.

Gone—or well on their way—are the days when Tom Gobbler made his appearance in the backyards weeks in advanced, and strutted about sedately between forced feedings to the delight of children and fur-bearing pets.

Gone—or growing scarce as hen's teeth—is that traumatic scene, The Chase, with Papa wielding a hatchet sharp enough to shave the entire Yankees infield and Mr. Gobbler giving ground with much fuss and flutter like Mr. Khrushchev at the prompting of Peiping.

GOING too is the ritual of the kitchen—the hours of singeing, plucking, cleaning, scraping and trussing up—the pounding of bread crumbs, the chopping of celery, the grinding of herbs.

Today, it seems, we have not only the last word—or thereabouts—in kitchen appliances, but are insisting that someone else do most of these simplified operations for us. The era of "Brown 'n Serve," we contend, takes not only the chores but much of the joy out of cooking.

We are well aware that in discussing this subject we have invaded to our peril the province of womenfolk. Our real concern, however, is in the broader implication of "Oven-Readiness."

After all, Thanksgiving Days were originally harvest festivals. Families who had plowed and sown, cultivated and reaped, gathered together to enjoy the fruits of their toil and to ask the Lord's blessing.

AND what of us, today, we tillers of the supermarket's bright shelves? We have worked, yes. We have earned that money we spend at the check-out counter. But somehow it's not the same.

Wishful as we might have been once for modern conveniences, and thankful as indeed we probably were when they first appeared, nevertheless we now are taking many of them for granted.

And what is more, almost imperceptibly, we may be beginning to take Thanksgiving itself the least bit for granted too.

SOMEHOW, between the cold war and the fresh-frozen turkey, we find it a little more difficult to count our blessings. Possibly it takes too much time, more likely too much concentration.

It's easy enough to say there just aren't that many blessings around today, and point to recessions and international crises and all the spiritual uncertainties that surround us.

But they are there, believe us. And on this one day at least, let us take the time and the effort to recognize them.—E.W.

Moviemakers' Hazard

One of the silly little extra-curricular activities we enjoy is watching for technical errors in movies. While fiendish, this harms no one, and delights us out of all proper proportion when we spot one.

Such things, in particular, as telephone wires showing up in westerns presumably located in the "old west," long before there were such wires, we look for. The same goes for automobile tire tracks in the dirt, and so on.

These often are difficult for movie-makers to eliminate, but their increasing skill and care has made them more and more rare in today's motion pictures.

HOWEVER, the advancing skills of the U.S. Air Force have posed a new problem for movie makers.

Over in the Bend area they are filming a western picture, and at one point had to hold up shooting for several hours.

The cause? A high-flying jet had gone overhead, and left a long, white contrail across the sky—a mark of modern civilization ill-befitting a story of the last century.

And the Bend Bulletin recalls that in another picture, "Oregon Passage," filmed in the Mt. Hood area, there was a scene with Mt. Hood on the skyline, with a covered wagon train rolling along the base—while high overhead was the contrail of a warplane.—E.A.

It Was Nice

His wife and two daughters took a man we know to the Bolshoi ballet movie the other night. Everyone enjoyed it thoroughly (including, rather to his surprise, our friend).

But the thing that impressed him most, aside from the film itself, was the almost total silence of the audience. No whistling, no hooting, no foot-stamping, and only about two sacks of rattling popcorn in the entire place.

He had just about forgotten that movie audiences could be courteous, quiet and thoughtful of the rights of others. It was nice.—E.A.

Education Board To Discuss Budget

Portland—UPI—The State Board of Higher Education has scheduled a meeting here Friday to talk about money problems. Education leaders will discuss a threatened cut of \$7 million to \$8 million in the proposed biennial budget. The State Department of Finance and Administration made the

WANT CONVENTION
New York—UPI—New York City will put in a bid for the 1960 National Democratic Convention. Mayor Robert F. Wagner will head a delegation which will discuss the matter with the Democratic National Committee Dec. 5. The city will offer \$300,000 to the Democrats as an incentive.

Dennis the Menace



"KISS AN' HUG! KISS AN' HUG! SMACK YOUR SWEETIE ON THE MUG!..."

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

NASSER'S DILEMMA
Beirut, Lebanon—Gamal Abdel Nasser has not had a particularly merry fortnight. The disastrous failure of the attempt to kidnap King Hussein of Jordan was bad enough. The Khartoum coup d'etat was worse, since it is known to have not only forestalled a virtual Egyptian political take-over in the Sudan, but installed a government committed to keeping the Sudan independent.

All the same, the Egyptian dictator is probably just as much disturbed by another, much less noted current development. For, even within the ranks of the most convinced Nasser-style Arab nationalists, a certain resistance is clearly developing to Nasser's claim to be the unique, all-powerful leader of all the Arab lands.

The core of this resistance is the difficulty Nasser has encountered in Syria, where the cheers for Arab union have died down into a low, ominous grumble about Egyptian rule. But Syria is not the only place where Arab nationalists have been challenging Nasser's unique authority.

FOR example, Kamal Chaderchi is the Arab nationalist leader with the greatest personal following in Iraq. He was not included in the new Iraqi government of Brig. Gen. Karim Kassem, perhaps because his moderate views on all subjects except Arab union made Chaderchi repugnant to the Iraqi Communists. Yet Chaderchi retains great influence. Hence he had much to offer Nasser when he went to Cairo after the coup d'etat in Baghdad, to talk about the terms of Iraq's association with the United Arab Republic.

According to highly authoritative reports, however, the Nasser-Chaderchi talks ended in a blazing disagreement. Chaderchi was passionately anxious to help in realizing his long-cherished dream of Arab union under Nasser. But he also dared to insist that Iraq ought to be allowed a certain local autonomy within the union, that political parties ought to continue to exist in Iraq, that a measure of free discussion should be permitted within the press, and so on. Nasser apparently rejected all these claims, insisting his own way was best.

Both Chaderchi's bargaining and Nasser's violence were no doubt motivated by the already-mentioned experience in Syria. Here the development has apparently reached an acute stage, judging by the Cairo radio's recent demure announcement that the Syrian Vice President of the United Arab Republic, Akram Hourani, has been deprived of all his executive powers. In order to understand the extraordinary character of this announcement, a little past history is needed.

In brief, the Kremlin, rather than Nasser, was the prime mover in the first Syrian coup d'etat last summer. Until this coup d'etat occurred, all Soviet dealings with the Arab nationalists in Syria and everywhere else had been channeled through Nasser personally. The Damascus coup d'etat greatly strengthened the Nasserite nationalists in Syria. But it produced an even greater increase of Syrian Communist strength. For example, the coup installed a party member, Gen. Asis Al Bieri, as Army Chief of Staff, and it gave wide powers to the Kremlin's chief local agent, Defense Minister Khalid Azm.

For just this reason, Akram Hourani was visibly disquieted when this reporter visited Damascus just after the first coup d'etat had taken place there. As the leader of the ultra-Nasserite but non-Communist Baath party, Hourani then enjoyed vastly more influence in Damascus than Chaderchi has ever had in Baghdad. In the person of the formidable Chief of the Syrian Army Intelligence, Col. Abdel Hamid Serraj, Hourani also had a loyal and immensely strong partner in the Army at that time.

Hourani and Serraj, working together, were therefore able to stage what amounted to a second coup d'etat. They nipped the bulk of the Communist strength in Syria in the bud, by the simple device of taking Syria into the United Arab Republic. The effect of this sudden union of Syria with Egypt was so dramatic that the Syrian Communist leader-in-chief, Khalid Baqdash, left the country for a while.

BUT the temporary absence of Baqdash by no means settled the grave question of the future working relationship between the central government in Cairo and the new Syrian province. Hourani very obviously expected Syria to enjoy the same measure of autonomy that Chaderchi asked for Iraq. He further expected to be recognized as the effective viceroy of Syria, as his service to Nasser demanded, and he was in

deed granted great authority when the United Arab Republic was first formed.

Yet even at the outset, still greater authority was concentrated in the hands of the former Egyptian Ambassador to Damascus, Gen. Mahmoud Riad, who now in effect became Nasser's High Commissioner in Syria. If the Hourani-Serraj partnership had nonetheless continued, different arrangements might have been forced upon Nasser in the end. But Serraj now dropped Hourani, and seemed to be content to serve as Nasser's Syrian Deputy-High Commissioner and Police Chief.

THUS the way was prepared for the recent Cairo announcement. It was issued shortly after Akram Hourani had been temporarily called to Cairo and reportedly ordered not to return to Damascus. The announcement transfers all Hourani's former executive authority in Syria to Dr. Nureddine Kahla, the technician who heads the executive council of the "Syrian region." Dr. Kahla is expected to be a pliant tool of Gen. Riad's without any of Hourani's inconvenient tendencies to have ideas of his own about his country's future.

What had happened to Hourani, whom Nasser owed so much, is ironically and wonderfully Nasser's fundamental dilemma. His dilemma consists in the fact that all the cheers for Arab nationalism and Arab union in these last years have not silenced and cannot silence the still, small, obstinate voices of Arab particularism and Arab localism.

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Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A FAMOUS MOVIE QUEEN agreed to lead the Thanksgiving Day parade in a Southern city, but cancelled by telegram at the last minute. This is how the local gazette handled the story day by day:

First day: Miss Fifi Whosis, reigning beauty of the screen, will be our guest this year.

Second day: The ravishing Fifi Whosis, irresistible siren of Hollywood, tells the secrets of her beauty.

Third day: Fifi Whosis, who will lead the parade day after tomorrow, will live up to her reputation for charm and affability and sign all autographs.

Fourth day: Fifi Whosis, 53-year-old former motion picture actress, has cancelled her appearance in our fair city.



Editorial Comment

PAROLE FOR D'AUTREMONT

The attempted robbery of Southern Pacific train No. 13 at tunnel 13 near Siskiyou in Jackson County on October 11, 1923, was no crime of passion. It had been planned for weeks by Ray and Roy De Autremont, 23-year-old twins, and their 19-year-old brother Hugh. The young men had bought a car in Portland in which they hoped to escape after robbing the train. They stole dynamite and a detonator, set up a camp in the mountains, carefully burned a tarpaulin and tool box to destroy evidence of their guilt and devised a hideaway in the mountains near tunnel 13 to which they hoped to take their loot.

The four murders they committed in attempting the robbery were as cold-blooded as the earlier plans. Their first victim was E. E. Dougherty, the mail clerk, whose body was consumed by fire which swept the mail car after it had been dynamited inside the tunnel. Engineer Sid Bates and Fireman Marvin Seng were shot through the head when the robbers discovered that the dynamite blast had been too strong and that the crime was a failure.

Brakeman C. O. Johnson was shot as he came through the tunnel with a red light to see what was wrong with the train.

If the three De Autremont brothers (the name is now used correctly as D'Autremont) had been caught immediately there is no doubt they would have been sentenced to die. But it was nearly four years later that Hugh, arrested in the Philippines where he was serving in the Army under an assumed name, was brought to trial in Jackson County. By then tempers had cooled somewhat and the jury undoubtedly also was swayed by the youth of the bright young man. It found him guilty but recommended life imprisonment.

The older brothers were captured in Ohio while Hugh was on trial. They pleaded guilty and received the same sentence as Hugh-life.

For years, the D'Autremont case has come up regularly before the Parole Board, as do the cases of all prisoners. Roy has no chance for release, as he is insane. Ray apparently is not being considered for parole, at least not at the present. But Hugh will go free, by action of the Parole Board, as soon as he completes pre-release schooling.

The Parole Board's action was courageous. It is bound to be criticized strongly by those who believe all the D'Autremonts should spend the rest of their natural lives in prison. But prison is for rehabilitation as well as to protect society. For more

than 31 years in the penitentiary, Hugh D'Autremont has been a model prisoner. The likelihood is that he will live as peacefully outside the walls as inside.

Recently Nathan Leopold was paroled from prison in Illinois. His crime was perhaps even more repulsive than D'Autremont's, if that is possible. Thousands of murderers who were sentenced to life imprisonment have been released on parole, and penologists say that as a class murderers are the best risks for parole.

Hugh D'Autremont has demonstrated that he is as good a risk as the majority of prisoners who are released. If we are to have a parole system, it should be applied on an equal basis among those whose prison records indicate they have been rehabilitated. Despite D'Autremont's extremely vicious crime of 35 years ago, the parole seems justified.—Oregonian.

Best Advice
To the editor: About the best advice that has ever come out of our court house in Jackson County was given to us by the late Judge Coleman when he stated that every one was complaining about our high taxes yet would vote on every bond issue that would come along.

Our County Assessor in the Wednesday communication, gave us some real food for thought. He stated that after the bond issue had been defeated by the voters, that the city officials of Medford provided in the budget for 1957-1958 \$50,000 for off street parking, also for 1958-1959 the sum of \$7,000 was budgeted for the same purpose.

Would it not be well for the officials of the city of Medford to report to the tax payers how much of that \$57,000 had been spent and for what purpose?

A public official is such only as long as they realize that they are a public servant. When they feel it is not necessary to respect the will of the public their value as a public official has ceased. This theory was completely vindicated at the polls on Nov. 4.

The tax payers who pay the bills have a right to know what the score is.

Frank Howell
205 Laurel st.
Medford.

From John Gribble
To the Editor: A few corrections are apparent with reference to the "Mystery Tree" writeup in Thursday evening's paper.

The writeup states, "Gribble enclosed a seed of the tree with leaves when he wrote the school of forestry." My letter (which I let the reporter read, along with Mr. Randall's reply, knowing the bungle some state things) reads: "Herewith are a few leaves and seed keys, etc. 'Twas a handful or so of seed. 'A seed of the tree' sounds rather silly, don't you think?"

But the "Boasts Knowledge" heading and "boasts prodigious knowledge of trees, according to his fellow workers" adds a lie and insult to injury. I'm sure my "fellow workers" never heard me boast or brag of a "prodigious knowledge of trees," or anything else, and I'm just as sure they never made such remarks. Indeed, I feel very humble, for I realize that my knowledge is limited. Such a writeup needs both explanation and an apology.

However, if I was of a bit of service in helping on the "free-gratis-for-nothing" program of city street parking tree inventory I am thankful for having been able, and glad to have helped. The work was fascinatingly interesting, and it was a pleasure to work with Mrs. Eden and Mrs. Tucker.

John Gribble,
139 Kenwood ave.,
Medford.

(Editor's note: The Mail Tribune freely apologizes if

Russian Note

Seen To Reduce Military Threat

Washington—(UPI)—American officials said today the Russian note on Berlin appeared to reduce the immediate military threat, but throw it into the realm of diplomatic and propaganda pressure.

They said, however, that the Russians have now made it abundantly clear that their eventual aim is the complete ouster of Western Allies from the former German capital.

This was true, they said, even though the Kremlin is trying to reach this goal by successive sugar-coated steps instead of a single blunt approach.

No Formal Comment
A spokesman said there would be no formal comment from the State Department until officials had received and studied a translation of the lengthy document released in Moscow early today.

Informed officials, however, described the Russian communication as being more or less along the line of what they had expected from the Kremlin.

They noted that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles Wednesday had said the Russians might be trying to decide how to present their demands in a form which would appear more reasonable than Khrushchev's original Nov. 10 blast.

Will Have To Be Met
The Russian demand for creation of a "demilitarized free city" in West Berlin with possible United Nations observation to guarantee the integrity of such an arrangement, did not delude anyone in Washington into believing the Russians were backing down on their long-range objective to expel all Western influence.

It was noted that the Russians said it was "natural" that such a "free city" should eventually be brought together with Communist-controlled East Berlin. Soviet insistence that whoever is in West Berlin must there deal with the East Communists for access emphasized that the blockade problem eventually would have to be met one way or another.

THAT isn't just conjecture. It is established FACT. It was PROVED in Hungary a couple of years ago. Only Russian troops and Russian guns, shooting to kill, held the Hungarians in line. It seems reasonably probable from what we read and hear that only Russian troops and Russian guns hold the Poles in line.

The Poles are a bold and courageous people. Over the centuries they haven't hesitated to stake their lives at long odds on rebellion against oppressors. But they are also a rational people. They realize that with bare hands they can't hope to win their freedom from communist Russian WITH GUNS.

IT'S a pretty safe bet that if Khrushchev withdrew the Russian guns from East Germany—which is all of former Germany east of the Elbe river—the GERMANS of East Germany would rise and throw out the communist carpetbaggers who now rule there. It is only RUSSIAN GUNS that keep the GERMANS of East Germany in submission.

The myth that the Russian satellite empire in Mid-Europe continues to exist because the people of these conquered countries prefer communism as a way of life is too flimsy for even the Kremlin to believe.

If Khrushchev pulls his troops out of East Germany and relies on the East German commies to handle the situation, he'll have to send his troops back in again. If he sends them back, they'll have to come back SHOOTING.

Maybe Khrushchev isn't ready for that yet.

Lumber Index Down 87 Cents

Portland—UPI—Crow's lumber price index dropped 87 cents in the last two weeks with declines in green Douglas fir mainly responsible. Dry fir and Western pine species also slumped.

The lumber market news service said quarter-inch AD fir plywood managed to hold its \$76 level on the whole, with unsanded 5-8 inch CD panels at about \$95 for DFPA-stamped stock.

Hungary has some of the world's largest deposits of bauxite, used in the production of aluminum.

Mr. Gribble, long an ardent and effective worker in the realms of conservation and beautification, feels he was misrepresented. Indeed, he could "boast," if he were that kind of man. In the story, however, the word was used in the dictionary-approved sense of "possess" knowledge which Mr. Gribble does, to the admiration of his co-workers.)

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The latest on Berlin:
Walter Ulbricht, the East German communist boss, predicts the Soviet Union will announce its Berlin intentions this week, but the feeling is growing in the West that Russia is having second thoughts about precipitating a major crisis now.

WHAT'S in the wind?
Nobody knows — perhaps not even the communists. But here is an interesting little dispatch that came out of Washington last week.

"American officials say they are convinced that one of the principal motives behind Russia's Berlin moves is Khrushchev's intense desire to prove that a communist satellite government can maintain authority without the presence of Russian guns."

He rules a mid-European satellite empire by cold, brutal force. He is seeking to convince the backward peoples of a large part of the world — including Asia, Indonesia, the Arab countries of the Middle East and most, if not all of Africa—that communism is a better way of life for them than the way of life offered by the Western nations.

But—
He has to contend with the perfectly obvious fact that if Russian troops and Russian guns were removed his satellite empire in Mid-Europe would fly apart like the fabled joint snake.

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As many as the stars—Our Blessings. For these we are thankful.

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