

MEFORD 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
Dec. 5, 1948 (Sunday)
Medford firemen report they have already run out of toys to repair for Christmas gifts and ask again for more.

20 YEARS AGO
Dec. 5, 1928 (Monday)
A one-day district meeting of the League of Oregon Cities is in progress here, primarily to discuss a proposal that cities receive a share of state gasoline tax receipts for street work.

30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 5, 1918 (Wednesday)
The fog that appeared Monday lingers on, denser and colder than ever.

40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 5, 1918 (Thursday)
Traffic is held up on the Bullis railroad after a carload of machinery and lumber comes in contact with a street car post at the Main st. crossing.

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

- 1. The Bible story tells that Samson's hair was cut by Delilah; true or false?
- 2. What is the name of the temporary residence used by President Truman while the White House was undergoing reconstruction?
- 3. What does the given name "Christine" mean?
- 4. From which of these languages is the name "Elizabeth" derived; Greek, Hebrew, Teutonic?
- 5. The famed movie actor, who was known as "the man of a thousand faces," was L. C. _____?
- 6. What is the principal ingredient of snuff?
- 7. What is the W.C.T.U.?
- 8. In which of these does the wind blow spirally; hurricane, cyclone, or tornado?
- 9. Should crabs be cooked alive?
- 10. King, Queen, Knight and Pawn are terms applying to what game?

Answers: 1. False. 2. Blair House. 3. Belonging to Christ. 4. Hebrew. 5. Lon Chaney. 6. Tobacco. 7. Women's Christian Temperance Union. 8. All three. 9. Yes. 10. Chess.

NUCLEAR EXPERTS MEET
Vienna - (UP) - Nuclear experts from nine countries are meeting here to discuss ways to prevent contamination of oceans by radioactive waste.

Military "Fire Insurance"

A multi-million dollar "SAGE" installation was opened near Corvallis the other day—another link in this nation's electronic system designed to warn of the approach of enemy aircraft. "SAGE" means "semi-automatic ground environment," a fancy name for a highly complex, vastly expensive electronic network including radar, communications, computers and other electronic devices to sound the alarm if hostile aircraft ever cross our borders.

It is tied in with the "DEW" (distant early warning) line across Alaska and Canada, and with such installations as the "gap filler" radar facility at the northwestern corner of Jackson county.

AS A warning against aircraft, this network probably is the finest, slickest and fastest-acting thing ever devised by the mind and hand of man.

But it is obsolete—or if not obsolete, at least obsolete—almost before it is fully placed in service. For the age of aircraft in warfare is ending. The sky giants, which can carry nuclear destruction in their bellies, are fast being replaced by missiles. One defensive squadron already is scheduled for the Willamette valley. And offensive missiles are at a stage of development where they soon will replace bombers.

AN ATLAS intercontinental ballistic missile the other day was given its first full-range test. It flew more than 6,000 miles across the south Atlantic, and landed within 30 miles of its target.

The Russians are (depending on whose estimates one reads) slightly behind, equal, slightly ahead, or far ahead of the United States in development of such "ultimate weapons."

As a result, the long-predicted era of the "missile deadlock" is at hand. For the past decade, it has been an atomic or nuclear deadlock. Now this is combined with missiles which cannot be successfully detected, and cannot be destroyed even if they are detected.

DETECTION and destruction systems for guided missiles may be developed eventually. In warfare, actual or potential, most weapons in time produce their own defenses, and vice versa. It may be that the end is not yet.

But, with the weapons of today, we cannot conceive of anyone—be he Russian or American—pushing the button which will set in motion automatic weapons of destruction which will kill millions of persons, and, perhaps more important from the button pusher's point of view, automatically set off retaliatory weapons of equal potency and destructiveness.

PERHAPS we are too sanguine. Perhaps an imbalance in the "deadlock of terror" will make it possible for one side to start a missile-nuclear war with some hope of winning. (It is this possibility which has so exercised Joseph Alsop and others.)

Perhaps new weapons developments will destroy the balance, and make one side so far ahead, technologically, that the opposing side could not afford even to continue the race.

All these things are possible—particularly with the space age already in its lusty infancy.

IT IS also possible that our own short-term optimism about the chance of general war is due to lack of information. Our government has been less than candid with its own people as to our progress in military arts, and in many cases far too pollyanna-ish in what it has reported.

But, in balance, we believe that the U.S. is at least sufficiently on a par with Russia, militarily, that neither side can afford to start anything major.

And we must work to maintain our technological progress, simply to keep the balance, let alone forge ahead. This will take sacrifice.

ARMAMENTS are unbelievably expensive, and it is into these that by far the largest part of the federal tax dollar is poured. If it were not for armaments, the federal government could do all those things which so many citizens believe are important and necessary if our nation is to move ahead in the things which it needs, and which only government can provide.

But some of them, at any rate, must be postponed until the day when the fear of a major catastrophic war abates.

Armament expenditures are like fire insurance. One hopes it will never be needed, but one cannot afford to take the chance to do without it.

MEANWHILE, this fat, rich, materialistic America—which at the same time is developing so rapidly in non-materialistic ways—must make-do with perhaps fewer of the amenities which we would like, simply in order to pay for the fire insurance.

Never before in history have so many people lived so well as in America today.

It would be nice to believe that this will continue, and even improve.

But it is the cold war which deters this progress in material things, and, to an extent, in the non-material. For if ever there were to be an all-out nuclear-missile war—or one fought from the depths of nearby space—our comforts, our luxuries, our "progress" in all lines, would be gone. We don't see it happening, as long as we keep the fire insurance until the house is fireproofed.

Dennis the Menace

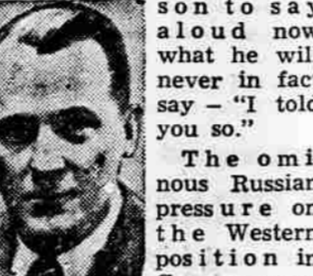


"HEY, MOM! YOU'D BETTER FIX PLENTY OF DINNER!"

Washington Report

By William S. White

THE GRAND MANNER
Washington—A sturdy old man who has just passed his 84th birthday has every reason to say aloud now what he will never in fact say—"I told you so."



William S. White
The ominous Russian pressure on the Western position in Germany would not exist today had Sir Winston Churchill not been overborne 15 years ago at the wartime Tehran Conference by Franklin D. Roosevelt and Josef Stalin.

Roosevelt's gaudy was truly that; Mr. Churchill's gaudy overlay a deep philosophic skepticism. And because of his martial gusto he had the habit in Allied war councils of throwing off grandiose ideas, if only to stir laggard minds. Because of this, because he was unashamedly a Tory and because he behaved in a grand manner that seemed to take little account of the cost, his advice, even when given in mortal seriousness, was sometimes discounted at the wrong time. His personal acts tended further to foster the notion that "Winston" was as erratic as he was brilliant. Both the American and British high commands were in terror on and after D-Day in Normandy that "The Old Man" would come over and insist on taking personal charge. There was an amiable conspiracy "to keep the P.M. at home." For a little while, he submitted. But a few weeks after the invasion beachheads had been driven in, he could stand it no longer.

ONE day, in August of 1944, this correspondent happened to be at a British fighter base in Normandy. Word spread across that part of the front: "Churchill is coming over!" Soon, as we all anxiously watched the skies, a captured German observation plane, a Storka, began a wobbling descent.

Out stepped the pudgy figure in his square black hat and with something in his pocket, which may have been a bottle of brandy. The Prime Minister's pilot was an air vice-marshal, who did not succeed in his earnest efforts not to look disapproving at this adventure. After all, to fly over an active British front in a German aircraft was, so to speak, a little dangerous. But Churchill himself was in high good humor. He announced he had come to brief the troops on the attempt that had been made on Hitler's life in Germany in July. "They missed the old bastard," he said with a grin to the airmen sitting in a semi-circle around him.

"But," he added, with a great wave of his cigar, "there's time yet." (Copyright, 1958, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

Make Favorable Report
Warsaw - (UP) - A Polish parliamentary delegation just back from a visit to the United States reported favorably today on America's know-how in construction of one-family houses. Members of the group, which included state planning commissioner Boleslaw Jaszczuk, said they believed some American home-building methods might be applicable in Poland.

THESE were both great men. But Mr. Roosevelt persisted in a sunny confidence in the Soviet Union which the wiser partner, Churchill, knew to be as unsound as it was attractive. And these were both gay men. But Mr.

TO GIVE YOU a rough idea of what newspaper editors in frontier towns were up against in the days of the "Wild and Woolly West," Harry Oliver tells about a subscriber who was stopped at the entrance of the Wahoo City Bugle. "Where's the editor?" he roared.

"First," insisted the clerk on duty, "you gotta tell us what you want to shoot him in reference to."

Alfred Hitchcock conjured up the most ingenious "lead-in" for a TV commercial I've heard in years. "When I was a lad," recalled Mr. H., "I had an uncle who often stood me to dinner. He always accompanied these dinners with interminable stories about himself. But I listened carefully because he was paying the check. I don't know what reminded me of my dear uncle, but we are about to have one of our commercials."



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Communications In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initials 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 Mail Tribune.

Other Person Pays
To the Editor: I see by your paper that the council wants the taxpayers educated on the coming city election.

Mr. Robert Duff gave me a thorough education on all Medford city elections.

When I complained, following a former election when we voted a great deal of money and continuing levy, that we were told it would be used as we were told it was not used, Mr. Duff informed me that it did not make any difference what we were told by newspapers, radio or any person. The only thing they were forced to do, was just what it said on the ballot that we cast.

These ballots are very brief and rather indefinite, providing many loop holes.

We are told that it will not cost the taxpayers anything. The cost will be assessed only against those who will benefit. Why not let the people who are to pay and benefit decide if they want the off street parking? Why should people who are not even taxpayers vote this expense on them?

Many people will vote for anything if the other person is to pay for it.
Mrs. Edward Canoose
555 Ross court
Medford

Sixth Grade Visits
To the Editor: Thank you for the exciting and educational visit to the Medford Mail Tribune.

This visit gave us the information we needed for making our own paper, the "Oak Grovian." Not all of the pupils in our class are going to work on the paper but we all understand the production of the newspaper better and its use as a valuable means of communication.

Sixth Grade
Oak Grove School
Medford

Make Medford Beautiful
To the Editor: The drive by our daily to spur all to definite action in making our city and vicinity beautiful should be approved by all, for even for our own viewing as well as possible settlers an attractive city and vicinity is inviting. Heartily, success to the effort.

However, the same urge prevents us allowing in ourselves the likeness of the ostrich who by hiding his head in the sand supposes himself hidden from view. The basic moral and spiritual conditions should be on a par if not in better trim than physical appearances, and should give us more concern. Discriminate tourists, visitors, and possible settlers major most seriously in judging these basic qualifications. In this respect we also need to make Medford beautiful.

Quite recently the word pictures of undesirable, even shocking things existent in Medford, made all our faces red and stunned our minds with astonishment.

A juvenile sex club in Medford; Liquor consuming, sex promiscuity, youth parties in homes with parents absent! Aghast we ask, how come? But a little matter-of-fact reflection gives us the answer.

How can we rule out these disastrous enemies of moral and spiritual values? Can the atmospheres in our homes, and the general aura of juvenile surroundings be improved? Are we allowing pitfalls to plunge our youths to disaster?

Are not the following ever-fruitlet pitfalls? Pornographic movies and television shows. Unclean literature in cheap form fed by news stands and other sources to our unsuspecting and plastic teenagers. Programs in our schools that feature leg-shows and shameful exposure of the body. Parents who consider modesty old-fashioned and prudish—and since fashion says undress and get tanned—turn their teenage daughters out in warm weather on streets and elsewhere half or less than half clothed. And alcoholic beverages! Note the plenty sufficient outlets we have: Grocery markets, restaurants, clubs, and vending stores make intoxicants easily obtainable.

What spurs youth to wrongdoing? No one who has his head hidden in the sand can answer, neither can he who says, "My mind's made up, don't confuse me with facts."

Every agency that contributes to the demoralization of our populace should be excluded from our midst.

Let's get back to God and to right standards of living. Let's make Medford beautiful in these basic respects also.

H. R. Bulman,
Route 4, Box 316A,
Medford

Interesting note in the news:
The armed forces told a house subcommittee in Washington on Tuesday that the government owns nearly one and a half BILLION dollars worth of industrial plants that are producing nothing.

Reports submitted to a house armed services subcommittee by the army, navy and air force showed that the un-

used plants originally cost the federal government \$1,409,392,221 but would cost much more than that to replace now.

The reports said the government is spending about \$1 million dollars a year to maintain the plants.

HOW did it come about?
Well, one must presume that it came about because our federal government has become so UNIMAGINABLY big that mere trifles like a billion and a half dollars worth of industrial plants are FORGOTTEN—much as an ordinary citizen lays a package of cigarettes aside in a seldom used drawer of his desk and forgets all about it.

That's the trouble with bigness. It gets unwieldy.

WHAT to do about it?
That brings up an interesting story. The McNary dam site, up on the Columbia river near the town of Umatilla, has just been leased to a couple of California industrialists—Robert and William Schultz, owners and operators of the R. S. Engineering and Manufacturing company of Los Angeles.

The Schultz brothers will hold a five-year lease, with an optional renewal clause. They will pay \$1,200 a month for the site, which includes homes built by the government for dam construction workers. These homes have stood empty since the McNary dam was completed.

The new owners presently plan to build a house trailer manufacturing plant on the 344-acre site. Under their contract, they can in the future sublease any part of the town-site to other industries. The homes now standing idle will then be occupied by workers in the new private enterprises that may be attracted to the location.

WHAT'S good business.
Letting a billion and a half dollars worth of industrial plants, owned by the federal government, stand idle at an annual maintenance cost of 31 million dollars ISN'T good business.

It is sheer careless oversight. This carelessness, we must remember, if we are to be fair about it, arises NOT out of dishonesty or incompetence but out of the fact that our federal government has become so big and so unwieldy that it can no longer be managed in a businesslike manner.

SWEETS FOR CYNICS
Chicago - (UP) - The Retail Candy Store Institute is sending 50 pounds of candy to Stillwater, Okla., where cynicism runs high among the town's youngsters. The move is aimed at restoring the city's faith in Santa Claus, who was roundly booed by the small fry when he paraded down the main street dispensing Yuletide cheer—but no candy.

From the Teachers
To the Editor: On behalf of the teachers of Jackson county I wish to express our appreciation for the voters' approval of Proposition 13.

This proposal, enabling school employees to serve in both legislative sessions of an elective term and to teach during the interim, was passed by every county in the state. It parallels the decisions of thirty-three other states.

Viola Pomeroy,
President,
Jackson County
Teachers Association,
Medford

Vote for Progress
To the Editor: We have an important election in Medford next week on the City Off-Street Parking Proposal. This will be a special election on Dec. 10 and very "special" for the city of Medford as it spells PROGRESS for our city.

What we will really be saying by voting "yes" on this proposal is:

"Yes, Mr. Mayor and City Councilmen. We elected you because we knew of your concern for our city's problems and your good judgment in solving them.

"Yes, because we know what is good for the business of Medford is good for all of Medford.

"Yes, because being the fourth largest city of the state of Oregon, we have an obligation to provide for its further growth.

"Yes, because we understand that this formal approval of the charter amendment will enable us to solve our own problem.

"Yes, because this plan will make it more convenient for us to park our cars when shopping.

"Yes, because our tourists and guests will see further proof that Medford is among the most up-and-coming cities of the state of Oregon."

Let's vote for confidence in our future! Vote "yes" on the City Off-Street Parking Proposal on Dec. 10.

Mrs. Frank Bash
1325 Bundy st.
Medford

He Says "Vote No"
To the Editor: The promoters of this vicious off-street parking bill have had over four years to work out at least some of the details and what do they have to date? The only sure thing they know is that they want the voters of Medford to hand them a signed blank check for a half million dollars.

A few questions—
If they are so careful and saving of public funds, why wasn't this bill put on the regular ballot a few weeks

ago instead of calling a special election? Elections cost money and taxpayers pay the bill. They evidently decided that the taxpayer was fed up with spend, waste and more spend and their pet bill would be defeated. (This decision was sound as the results of the November election proved.) So they decided to hold a special election which would draw relatively few voters, thus giving them a distinct advantage. This delay also allowed them to determine if their men would be elected to the city council.

Present taxpaying private parking lots are used less than half of capacity. One owner of three downtown private parking lots was forced to sell one lot because of lack of patronage. Incidentally, he offered this lot for sale at a fair price to the people who are so urgently pushing this controversial bill, but they were not interested. Instead they have visions of getting their hands on lush public funds to do with as they please. It would be interesting to know what distress property would be sold to the city (at a fat profit) if this bill should pass.

Any private taxpaying property sold to the city becomes tax free—with the resulting deficit added to the already overburdened taxpayer.

Is there a genuine need for off-street parking? When Portland felt a need for off-street parking, private capital rushed in and established tax paying lots which proved financially sound. But I repeat, the need was there and the taxpayer was not asked to finance the government in this venture. What government-run project ever proves anything but a waste and a rat hole for public funds?
Keep your taxes down. Vote No!!!
M. J. Olsen,
Route 4, box 325,
Medford.

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