

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
Dec. 23, 1948 (Thursday)
Santa arrives by train from the North Pole and passes out candy and oranges nearly 700 children.

The traditional all-school Christmas music program in the high school auditorium draws enthusiastic comment.

20 YEARS AGO
Dec. 23, 1938 (Friday)
Lee and Bob Brown have gathered some 1,500 pounds of mistletoe in the Applegate district for shipment to Portland.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Dear Kris Kringle: Make the fish in Rogue River bite, whether or not they feel like it."

30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 23, 1928 (Sunday)
H. W. Conger, "genial county coroner," protests having to pay a city parking ticket, but eventually relents and remits.

Headline for Outdoor Christmas Lighting contest fast approaches.

40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 23, 1918 (Monday)
Flu masks are no longer required on the street, but must still be worn among people indoors and at public gatherings.

A reconstruction program gets underway here to provide jobs for returning servicemen.

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

1. Identify "The Perfect Fool" of stage, screen and radio.
2. Who was King of Spain when Columbus discovered America?

3. Galleon is the name of a trade wind, unit of measurement, or 15th century sailing vessel?
4. Where is the "Grand National Steeplechase" run?

5. A nonprofessional financial backer of theatrical ventures is called a...?
6. On the top part of many compass scales, one will see depicted a rose, a fleur-de-lis, or a daisy?

7. A truffle is a table delicacy, true or false?
8. Complete the quotation: "New brooms..."
9. What sort of serpent is said to have caused the death of Cleopatra?

10. Are there any movie stars who are unable to sign their names?
Answers: 1. Ed Wynn. 2. Ferdinand V. 3. Sailing vessel. 4. Aintree, England. 5. Angel. 6. Fleur-de-lis. 7. True. 8. "sweep clean." 9. An asp. 10. Yes; Mickey Mouse etc.

Dewey To Leave Hospital Today
Palm Springs, Calif. — (UP) — Former New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey expected to leave the hospital today and return to New York.

The two-time GOP presidential candidate was visiting here Sunday when he was stricken with the flu and taken to Palm Springs Desert hospital.

An "M" on Roxy Ann?

The Medford Hi-Times, the well-edited student newspaper at Medford High school, proposes that a big "M" should be erected on the slopes of Roxy Ann butte.

The paper finds it "odd" that this idea has not been taken up seriously by anyone before, and adds, "There is very little that could hamper putting an 'M' on the mountain."

It further bolsters the idea as follows:

"Almost without exception, the schools in Washington, Idaho and Montana all have their school letter on the nearest available hill, and many of our Oregon rivals do too... As a matter of pride, we ought not to be outdone by our rivals. With so many outstanding achievements to our credit in sports, music and other activities, it doesn't seem right to let neighboring towns, with less reason, identify themselves as though they had more to boast about than we do. So why not show our school spirit with an 'M' for Roxy Ann?"

WITH all due respect to the student editorial writer, we would like to ask the counterquestion. He asks "Why Not?" We ask, "Why?"

What would be gained by putting a big "M" on the slopes of the lovely little butte to the east? Would it really assist school spirit? Would it make Medford High's undoubted accomplishments any greater?

The editorial cites the fact that a lot of other schools do it. That's about the poorest reason we can think of. So what? Does Medford have to do something just because a bunch of other schools did so in the past?

WE'D much prefer to see Medford High school write its records where it matters — in scholarship, in athletic competition, in musical and forensic accomplishment, in the training of good citizens — than in the artificiality of a concrete letter on the slope of a hill.

Rather than follow the lead of less-gifted schools, we'd like to see Medford High school continue to exert its leadership where it counts, not in the realm of questionable or even phoney "school spirit."

Real "school spirit" can't be measured or perpetuated except in the souls and hearts and brains of its students and alumni. — E. A.

Old and New Stars

Does it make any difference how old the stars are?

Probably not, as a practical, everyday matter. But in the world of science — which is the world created by mankind's innate curiosity and desire to know the whys and wherefores of our universe — it is a big and important question.

For the question has implications which are fundamental to our entire concept of space and time. Are we living in a universe which was created suddenly in some ancient explosion? Or are we living in a universe which is constantly being renewed — in which Creation is a continuing thing?

ASTRONOMERS, or many of them, are now tending toward the second answer. An article in the Scientific American says:

"... Astronomers now agree that the sky is populated by objects of all ages, from very ancient stars to those still in the process of birth."

The process is still not too well understood, but basically it is suggested that vast clouds of hydrogen form the raw material for new stars, and that the process has been going on for billions of years, with the ancient "cold" stars being located nearer the center of the spiral galaxies, and the younger, hotter stars in the swirling arms.

The life of a man is but a fleeting microsecond in the formation of heavenly bodies, but somehow it is more satisfying, philosophically, to think of living in a universe which is itself growing, developing and changing, than in one which is static and dying. — E. A.

Lying Figures

"Figures don't lie, but liars figure," is an old saying which has a lot of truth to it — the same as the similar one that "You can prove anything with statistics."

For instance, the national debt is now about \$283,000,000,000, or about 2 per cent higher than just after the end of World War II, in 1946. But, because of the growth of population, it is 17 per cent less on a per capita basis.

Do we, then, have more debt or less? The correct answer is "Both" — more debt than the total twelve years ago, but less per person.

ANOTHER example: Some forecasts place automobile production at 5.7 million units in 1959, which would be about the same as in 1956 and a little more than 1954, both good years. But, on a population or per capita basis, the predicted 1959 output would be 6 per cent below the 1954 production.

All of which proves little except that most things are relative, and that flat statements of fact often have to be fleshed out with some "background" or added explanation before they give any true meaning. — E. A.

Cheer Up!

If it makes anybody feel any better, the days are going to start getting longer now. Monday was the first day of winter, and the "shortest day of the year." — E. A.

Dennis the Menace



"MOM! DAD! THIS IS REALLY FUNNY! 'BOU A MILLION PEOPLE SINGIN' SILENT NIGHT!!"

Washington Report

By William S. White

London—Hugh Gaitskell has closed a civilized, highly decent but quite decisive hand around the British Labor party.

The party, in short, is firmly in the grip of this leader of the British opposition — and all this is good news to the United States. Those who by American standards are Labor extremists—specifically Aneurin Bevan—are no longer able to raise much thunder on the left. The left-wing of the Labor party, of course, is not finished. But it has been driven back to a more moderate position by the realities of British politics.

Thus if the Labor party should oust the Conservative government of Prime Minister Harold Macmillan in the next elections, Gaitskell would come to power as a reasonable man, by our measurement, and not as any threat to the Western alliance.

This correspondent recently estimated Prime Minister Macmillan to be an excellent politician. At the risk of seeming now to be saying that everything here is simply peachy, it is necessary to record that Gaitskell, too, is a thoroughly grown-up, professional politician.

THIS evaluation is based mainly upon conversations with detached people here. It is based in part upon a talk with Gaitskell himself, in his little office in one of the most beautifully shabby places in the world—the House of Commons.

It should be emphasized, however, that what follows are purely personal impressions and that all that is said here is solely upon the responsibility of this columnist and not upon Gaitskell's responsibility.

What has occurred in the Labor party is much the same as what has happened in the Democratic party at home. The moderates are in control. The old quasi-revolutionary spirit among labor has largely died away because of the vast improvement in the lives of the ordinary people, much as that spirit has gone from the Democratic party since the Roosevelt-Truman era.

Certainly, there are important differences between the Labor party here and the Democratic party. But having accepted these differences it may be fairly said that Gaitskell in London is in a party position not too dissimilar

from that of the untitled Democratic chieftain at home, Lyndon B. Johnson, the Senate majority leader.

IN OTHER words, Gaitskell is the man of responsibility in the opposition. He has got to run the railroad. And because he runs it in a practical way, he is under pressure from leftward colleagues very similar to that being applied to Senator Johnson from the equivalent Democratic quarter.

In neither case have these more liberal colleagues any chance — or perhaps any real desire — to throw out the moderate leader. But neither leader — Senator Johnson in Washington and Mr. Gaitskell in London — is wholly comfortable at suggestions from the left that he has become too soft with the opposition.

Gaitskell is lightly philosophic about these troubles, whereas Johnson is often bitterly and deeply wounded. There are other divergences, too. Perhaps the most important is that in British politics, the boss is more truly the boss of the party than can be the boss at home. Indeed, this may explain why Gaitskell is more relaxed than Johnson when party associates angrily and vainly urge him on to fights with the Conservatives that would be very dramatic — but also very foolish.

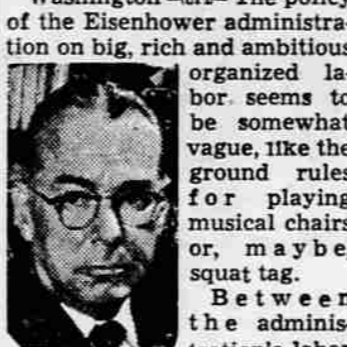
BUT in deeper senses, the Gaitskell-Johnson equation is quite real. Each has been required by current history to draw back a little from previously more liberal views. Each understands that political leaders must do more than engage in stirring — and losing — battles. And each — as different as they are in many ways — symbolizes the whole story of the retreat on both shores of the Atlantic from the politics of protest of the 1930's.

Gaitskell simply cannot believe that the trade unions in his party are always and automatically right. Johnson must be aware that Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman have departed, and that for good or ill we live in a new political world in which the quiet tone and the centrist policy are the facts of political life.

As is true at home as between the Republican and Democratic parties, the old vast gulf between Conservatives and Liberals here has narrowed almost beyond belief. Nearly everybody, really, is in the center — the Conservatives barely to the right of center and Labor barely to the left of center.

Administration's Policy on Labor Union Control Vague as 'Rules for Squat Tag'

By LYLE C. WILSON



Washington—(UP)—The policy of the Eisenhower administration on big, rich and ambitious organized labor seems to be somewhat vague, like the ground rules for playing musical chairs or, maybe, squat tag.

Between the administration's labor policy and squat tag there is a rather resemblance—all hands can get into the act at any time. For example: Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield was in New York the other day speaking before an assembly of manufacturers about what he called the reckless wage and political demands of a few union leaders.

Summerfield also discussed the problem of currency inflation which began under FDR, continued with Harry S. Truman and is being carried on more slowly, under President Eisenhower. Summerfield said one of the causes of inflation "is found in the demands of union bosses—the new monopolists—for wage increases not warranted by productivity gains." Summerfield continued:

Need For Legislation
"To prevent the extension of these inflationary wage increases, we need legislation to restore democracy and responsibility in our labor unions, to curb the present powers of the union dictators, and, no less necessary in the public interest, to redress the balance of power as between unions and management."

The question arises, for whom was Summerfield speaking and, further, will he take that bold stand when the cabinet shortly considers the labor sections of Eisenhower's message to the new Congress on the state of the nation? Another question: If Eisenhower's message rejects absolutely—which it surely will—Summerfield's call for bare-knuckled labor legislation, what will Summerfield do? Will the Postmaster General seize his hat, resign from the cabinet and return to Michigan to see first hand how Democratic Gov. G. Mennen (Soapy) Williams and Walter P. Reuther are doing?

den City were not ready to risk a big war to win Quemoy. Both sides in the Quemoy fighting in fact allowed their tactics and their decisions to be largely controlled by the Soviet strategic deterrent power of the other side. Respect for the Soviet strategic deterrent caused President Eisenhower to reverse all his "bigger bang for a buck" directives, and to forbid our forces to base their planning on the use of tactical nuclear weapons. The effect of the American strategic deterrent on the Communists was even more striking.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

QUEMOY AND BERLIN

Paris — The Paris rally of the leaders of the West at least showed absolute agreement on one point: that surrender to Berlin will amount in the end to surrender everywhere. The most cautious and provincial NATO partners were as sure of this as Secretary of State Dulles himself.

Nevertheless, the contrast was striking between the Western leaders' approach to the Berlin problem and the approach of Nikita Khrushchev. All Khrushchev's declarations, notes, and cocktail hour menaces about Berlin can be boiled down to three simple propositions, as follows:

First, free Berlin is a "cancer" on the body politic of the Soviet satellite empire, and the "cancer" must be cut out.

Second, "nobody" (meaning nobody in the West) is going to fight an H-bomb war for Berlin.

Third, however, the Soviet Union is entirely ready to use its great military power in support of the East German government. If the West makes any attempt to break a Berlin blockade imposed by the Kremlin's Pankow puppets.

By continuing the Quemoy blockade, and by mobilizing more of their enormous military resources, the Chinese Communists could surely have taken the Quemoy islands in the end. But they could not do this without risking more intense and much wider fighting. The Chinese Nationalists, for instance, would surely have used their airpower against mainland targets before they let Quemoy fall.

IF THE fighting had been widened and intensified, in turn, no one could be sure where the process would end. Therefore the Chinese Communists called off the attack. They did this not because they had been locally defeated, but because they feared, or because the Kremlin feared, the American strategic deterrent.

There is one great difference, however, between the Quemoy crisis and the Berlin crisis. At Quemoy, there was room for a prolonged test of will in actual combat. The strange test, conducted with real weapons, went on for many weeks before Moscow and/or Peking were convinced that the will of the Chinese Nationalists and their American allies was too firm to be tampered with.

At Berlin, in contrast, there is almost no room at all for this kind of prolonged test of will with real weapons.

One side cannot probe the other side's intentions with conventional arms without forcing an immediate decision, for or against the use of the weapons of total destruction. Any probing with conventional arms by either side will immediately engage the other side's prestige to the utmost. The side that backs down after such a probe will be universally considered to be the defeated side.

In these circumstances, since Khrushchev so plainly conceives the Berlin problem in straight military terms, there is only one sane course to adopt. This is the course of using every means possible, in advance of any final test on the Berlin supply lines, to convince Khrushchev that he is altogether wrong in his second proposition. If he can be made to believe that the West would rather fight a big war than surrender at Berlin, and if he is also offered a line of retreat into East-West negotiations, then there is every reason to hope that a disaster can be avoided. But on the face of the facts as known at present, this is the only way to avoid disaster.

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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.

Preserving History

To the Editor: Congratulations to the Illinois Valley Federated Women's club.

I hope their plans for restoration of the Stith-Nauvoo house are fulfilled and supported not only by Josephine county but all southern Oregon.

Lessons of history are best taught by this third dimensional method and are well patronized by the traveling public.

Janice G. Houghton, Secretary Siskiyou Pioneer Sites Foundation Medford

Sales Tax? Yes

To the Editor: The working men have been paying taxes since the 13 states were organized and will as long as we have a government of these United States, the state of Oregon, county of Jackson, and the city of Medford. As for the sales tax, if it will reduce property taxes 10 or 20 per cent, I am for it.

Mr. Lauren Seymour stated he lived in the Portland area for many years and had seen the Washington sales tax in action.

Has he seen an Oregon sales tax in action? Let's all do a little clear thinking and tax all the people, not only those that are being taxed.

Yes, we have been paying property tax, county, city, federal, state, hidden, and other taxes. But if a sales tax will benefit the state and all the taxpayers by taxing all the people, I say let's have a sales tax.

R. H. Singler, 27 Rose ave., Medford.

Doll Showing

To the Editor: I wish to state my sincere thanks to the staff of the Medford Mail Tribune and KBOY radio station for their wonderful cooperation, for the part they had taken in letting the people of Medford and other vicinities know about the

Equal Cause
Summerfield could leave now for equal cause. Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell challenged and repudiated the Postmaster General's labor policy the moment it appeared. Mitchell said Eisenhower would make his own labor policy.

That is reasonable enough. But, after the President has made his policy, how will he keep his cabinet associates in line? Mitchell and Summerfield are so far apart on labor that one of them might as well be on the moon.

Perhaps Eisenhower and Summerfield are less far apart although not likely. Eisenhower did say during the campaign in California that corrupt unions should be fumigated. He did not repeat that line, however, when he campaigned in New York—tip-toed through New York, as one reporter put it. Nelson A. Rockefeller, running then for governor, pointed up that omission when asked about the fumigation remark. Rockefeller said he would not have used the word.

"open house" showing my doll collection.

I am very much pleased with the pictures, story and the ad in Sunday's paper, and thanks again tenfold.

To the folks who were unable to see my doll collection during the Christmas rush, and would like to see it, for their convenience I will continue to show them until New Year's. School children are welcome and small children should be accompanied by an adult. If at any time you wish any information, don't hesitate to call me at SPring 3-3433.

Thanks again to everyone who took part in my "open house." It was greatly appreciated, and here's wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year.

Mrs. Flora Moore, 136 South Holly st., Medford.



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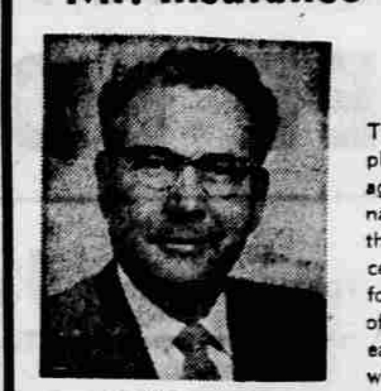
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QUITE A CARD!

The same economy we use in planning your insurance coverage has prompted us to eliminate our usual Christmas cards this year. You'll find our sincere season greetings in the form of a glass card on our office window. It belongs to each of you with our best wishes.



Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

"MY POOR HUSBAND," sighed a well-upholstered housewife. "Last night he lost his entire savings."
"What are you going to do?" sympathized a friend.
"My present intention," said the housewife, "is to invest half of it in a new mink coat and take a slenderizing course with the other half."

"I've really got to do something about my snoring," mumbled a patient. "It's gotten so loud that now I even wake myself!"
"Nothing to it," soothed the doctor. "Why don't you just sleep in another room?"

An eager scanner of maps declares he's located these fascinating towns right here in the U. S. A.: Noahs, Ark; Near, Miss; Fiveand, Tenn.; Dinah, Mo.; and Whis, Ky.

A staffer on a Dallas newspaper has revealed the true identity of Santa Claus. As you probably have suspected, he's a millionaire Texan with a hobby.

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