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**Flight 'o Time**  
Medford and Jackson County  
History from the files of The  
Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40  
and 50 years ago.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
Feb. 8, 1949 (Tuesday)  
Officials report city and county roads in poor condition as a result of snow and cold which has plagued the area recently.

**20 YEARS AGO**  
Feb. 8, 1939 (Wednesday)  
The Southern Oregon Humane society undertakes a subscription campaign to raise a \$1,000 reward fund for information leading to the arrest of any dog poisoner.

**30 YEARS AGO**  
Feb. 8, 1929 (Friday)  
The Legislature receives a bill to allow counties the right to regulate country dances.

**40 YEARS AGO**  
Feb. 8, 1919 (Saturday)  
Five pertaining to Rogue river fish are among the 525 bills introduced so far at the Legislature.

**50 YEARS AGO**  
Feb. 8, 1909 (Monday)  
A shower of Rogue river fruit greets an excursion group from Spokane, Wash., here.

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

1. A British pound has how many shillings?
  2. In baseball, "dusting 'em off" means kibitzing from the grandstand, brushing off home plate, or pitching at the batter's head?
  3. What linemen on an American football team are prohibited from receiving a forward pass?
  4. Is a mersanser a measuring rod, an antitrust suit, or a duck?
  5. Did Napoleon Bonaparte die on the island of Corsica, Elba, St. Helena, or Devil's Island?
  6. What little girl in a nursery story found herself in a house inhabited by three bears?
  7. A cappella choirs have no musical accompaniment; true or false?
  8. The United States government's stock of gold bullion is kept in which of these states, New York, Kentucky, Colorado?
  9. Is linseed oil made from the seeds of wheat, flax, buckwheat, or soybeans?
1. Twenty. 2. Pitching at batter's head. 3. All but the ends. 4. Duck. 5. St. Helena. 6. Goldilocks. 7. True. 8. Kentucky. 9. Flax.

## Objectionable Loyalty Oath

Most Americans are patriotic, and completely dedicated to the welfare of their nation. They abhor this nation's enemies. And many of them cannot understand why anyone would object to taking a so-called "loyalty oath."

They, in their patriotic fervor, would be willing to raise their right hands and swear that they never have, do not now, and never will, advocate the forceful or illegal overthrow of the U.S. government.

And they can't understand why anyone else would.

LET'S look at it this way: If they were applying for a job, and one of the conditions of employment was that they swear they have never beaten a small child to death, and will never do so, they'd probably be mad as hops.

"What kind of a stinking bum do you think I am?" would be their rejoinder, as they stalked off in search of a job where they could hold up their heads in pride and dignity.

IT IS FOR very similar reasons that the teaching profession feels discriminated against when asked to take such a negative "loyalty" oath.

They have no objection to a "positive" oath—one in which they declare they will uphold and support the constitution and the laws and the ideals of the nation.

One of the most lucid explanations of this situation we have seen is in a recent editorial in the Eugene Register-Guard, which said:

"The idea of the loyalty oath is a direct slap at the intellectual community. It is a hang-over from the 'Know-Nothingism' that swept America before the Civil War and that recurs periodically in the form of Ku Kluxism or McCarthyism. The target, in all cases, is the educated man.

"We do not think it can be shown that a loyalty oath has ever, been used to trap a spy. Any spy worth his rubles will sign anything if his signature will help him in his dirty business. Those who refuse to sign have been persons of principle who objected to being singled out as unduly suspect because of their professions. If refusal to sign is taken as an admission of guilt—a 'Fifth Amendment Communist' kind of thinking—are we to believe that any really subversive person would refuse?"

THE president of Reed college, Richard H. Sullivan, recently announced the college would turn down a \$3,349 grant from the federal government for scholarships, because of the fact that beneficiaries must take a form of the "negative" and discriminatory loyalty oath.

Dr. Sullivan objected because "singling out teachers and students as people not to be trusted gets under my skin."

The objections can be summed up in two points:

1. It is useless.
2. It is a gratuitous insult to an honorable profession.

That is why teachers object to it, and we think they're right.—E.A.

## Shoe Bill Opposition

The proposed shoe labeling bill, the idea of Medford's Wilbur Gardner, and sponsored by this district's Congressman Charles O. Porter, is making sort of a "splash" in some circles.

In the January issue of the trade magazine, Leather and Shoes, one full page is devoted to discussing the measure and its implications for the shoe industry, and another half-column tells of reaction by the Boot and Shoe Workers union.

THE bill was drawn up at Porter's request by the federal trade commission, and specifies that the major parts of shoes be labeled with the materials they are made of. It was Gardner's idea, based on years of experience as a shoe-repairman, that people are getting gypped when they pay for what they think is leather, and it turns out to be paper, and not repairable.

It is evident that the measure will have some opposition.

THE Boot and Shoe Workers, for instance, base their opposition "on the grounds that it would be legislation based on misunderstanding of the shoe industry's problems and it could do the consumer serious injustice."

It suggested that the shoe industry establish its own code of shoe standards, and grant approved labels only to footwear which qualified by meeting these standards.

Rubber footwear manufacturers also are opposed, and claim they should not be covered, as rubber footwear generally is non-repairable.

Some of the "technical" arguments set forth sound as though they may be reasonable, but the basic idea of the bill—to protect consumers by letting them know what they're getting—is a good one, and should be established in law.—E.A.

## Leave 'Em Alone

For several years now Oregon has had attractive auto license plates, with sort of orange-yellow letters and figures on a blue background. They are clean-looking, dignified, and satisfactory.

If the legislature passes a bill now under consideration, however, the Oregon licenses of the future will be cluttered up with a slogan. It will say "Scenic Wonderland," unless a statewide contest among school students doesn't bring forth a "better" one.

Let's calm down, back off and try again friends.

Let's save our money, save the good looks of our license plates, and save the time of the students who have better things to do.—E.A.

## 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.

**The Mexican Hoax**  
To the Editor: Last Sunday's M.T. editorial commenting on the outmoding of not-too-long-ago prideful highways, brought to mind an incident on our way back from a Christmas visit with family and friends to the north.

Wheeling down the broad new free-ways that make the mountain ranges of only passing notice, we got quite a shock coming through Grants Pass to the arched concrete bridge spanning the Rogue river. It seemed so narrow, of near traffic bottle-neck size. It was indeed hard to believe that it was the big new two-lane plus affair we helped celebrate in 1926.

"Give 'em hell" Gen. Smedley Butler was there to do the orating and cut the ribbon for waiting traffic, preceded by music and dancing on the big new bridge.

But there was much more to it than all that. It had been grape-vined around that a delegation of big-wigs would arrive from somewhere to highlight the gala bridge opening. Sure enough, here they came, a big black shiny seven-passenger car, topped down with six swarthy military men therein. At least they wore the green and black Mexican army uniforms, especially the royal gold general at the wheel.

U.S.A. and Mexican colors floated grandly from each side of the shiny brass bordered windshield. They grandly returned the smiling greetings from the cheering people.

Word was rushed to the waiting welcoming committee at the chamber of commerce who got outside just in time to see them roll grandly by, smiling and waving. A hasty welcoming committee was alerted at the court house but the visitors had vanished, never were seen there again.

It was told later that it was no other than the one and only, resourceful, ever ready Heine Fluhrer and boom companions, in a pay-off for a fast-one Grants Pass booster pulled on Medford, whatever that was. It is said they got away homeward via the old stage road, Dry-diggins, Bloody-run, Hunters ferry, Rock Point and Blackwell Hill. I can vouch for what I saw, but how true the details may be, I tell 'em the same as was told to me.

F. J. Clifford  
Route 2, Box 200F  
Central Point, Ore.

**Insurance Costs**  
To the Editor: Why is it that so many people just sit by and let these insurance companies drain us of all our money?

Auto insurance is a racket and a good one for the insurance companies.

Does anyone know what happens to the insurance dollar? Salesman, 10 to 30 per cent, office 10 per cent, claims department 10 per cent, legal expense 5 per cent. It seems to me that the small amount they pay out on claims don't add up to very much alongside what they take from the people every six months. Those insurance companies must be making money hand over fist.

They say you should carry insurance, then if you have too many accidents they cancel your insurance right now.

My two boys have to pay 90 some dollars apiece every six months, for what? Neither of them have had any kind of an accident.

I guess we are paying for the people that do have wrecks.

No one has a right on the street anymore. Now it's a privilege. Why should it be the people pay taxes for roads?

As long as everyone sits by and does nothing the insurance companies are getting rich and each year they hike up the price to where common working people can't afford to pay it.

They talk about people in other countries that are forced to do this and that. What about this country? It's getting worse all the time.

First thing you know we will have to have a permit to eat.

Mrs. Alyce Veach  
Route 1, Box 52  
Eagle Point, Ore.

**The "Egg Racket"**  
To the Editor: In the Tribune for Thursday, Feb. 5, was the following news item: "Food, Drug Administration Investigating Egg Racket." It occurred to me that it might be of value to inform our homemakers of my experience with the egg racket.

During the war I worked for a while in a plant in Portland that canned poultry. One day the foreman asked for

two volunteers to work that afternoon in the egg packing room. I volunteered.

Each worker stood before a table on which was a box of infertile turkey eggs from a hatchery. These eggs had been held in the hatchery from 10 to 18 days at incubation temperature, the length of time depending upon when the plant had time to candle the eggs. On the table also was a gallon can for the good (?) eggs and another for the spoiled eggs. The worker cracked an egg, held it to her nose, then disposed of it in the proper can. At the end of the day the good (?) eggs were frozen and sold to a firm in Portland that made salad dressings, cakes and cookies.

I have never since purchased at the store any product that contained eggs.

Anna M. Streed,  
36 North Peach St.,  
Medford

**Two-Legged Dogs**  
To the Editor: The people of Medford are complaining of too many dogs and the welfare of these homeless dogs.

I'm all for this and also while we all have our feathers ruffled let's clean up the two-legged dogs, the men in Medford who walk the streets insulting little girls and decent women.

How can the same man commit the same crime—and to me it is one—indecent exposure, over and over again. Sure these men are sick, but let's put them away where they can do no harm to little kids.

There is a man who does nothing but park on the street in his car and expose himself to women. Ask me how I know, I'm just one of the many victims of this man. You can read about this one crime almost every week in the Medford paper. A little seven-year-old was his last victim.

Okay, we can find a place to put poor little dogs who have very few faults, but let the other kind roam loose, without giving it a second thought. Please print this.

Joan Hughes,  
2154 Crater Lake ave.,  
Medford

**TV Competition**  
To the Editor: It was with great joy I recently read the news of a new TV station coming into Medford.

This will greatly improve the entertainment offered the residents of this large viewing area. There is nothing so boring as having reruns, reruns and more reruns as we are forced to patronize the sponsors, which we do willingly, but does the sponsor who is sold these rerun fragments get the full benefit of his advertisement expenditure? I think not.

I believe it is high time the TV viewers voice their desire to have some competition on the viewing screen that will result in an end to reruns and TRASH.

P. S. Shogren,  
1705 South Columbus,  
Medford

**Teen Age Facilities**  
To the Editor: I would appreciate being able to write a few words in your column concerning teen-agers, and the horns nest started up some little time in the past. Being the parent of two teen-agers and more or less on a speaking acquaintance with them, I feel that perhaps I am a little closer to their problems than some.

The recent letter by Orville Bunn was needed. Admittedly he was a little on the salty side, and perhaps he trod heavily on some toes that didn't deserve the rough treatment; however there were some of the things he hit squarely on the nose. After reading the letter over carefully, it seems that he was not interested so much in placing blame, nor was he bemoaning the loss of these activities, but seemingly he was trying disgestedly to bring to the attention of Medford and surrounding areas some of the shortcomings insofar as the activities for all teen-agers are concerned, not only in Medford, but all the surrounding towns and the valley as well, but as other people wrote in to the paper in reply it developed that quite a number of people that should have been old enough to be considered as adults, proved by their words that they were more short sighted than the flightiest of teen-agers.

Since those articles were written I have been very pleased to note in the Tribune articles concerning the contemplated erection of facilities for the activities and pleasure of young people in several different places and diversified activities.

I think the Tribune deserves a vote of thanks for its interest, and treatment of

## Dennis the Menace



"LET'S GO, DAD! I PROMISED THE GUYS A FAST RIDE!"

## Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

**MCELROY'S TROUBLES**  
The swirling controversy over the Eisenhower-McElroy budget the inquiring bystander must, I believe, accept the fact that the basic issue is not one which can be settled definitely. There is a race of armaments. But who is "ahead" now, and who will be "ahead" two years from now is not something that can be measured quantitatively, even if there existed perfect intelligence with exact and complete knowledge of the quantity and quality of all the weapons on both sides. What statesmen really have to estimate is what is likely to be the judgment of other statesmen about the existing balance of the power. In making these judgments they have to listen to the calculations of the experts in various specialties. But they must be able to make the necessary discount in these expert calculations, remembering that they are essentially about war games and not about the whole reality.

For these calculations are invariably theoretical abstractions—what, for example, would happen if there were a war in which one side had X number of missiles and the other had X plus Y missiles?

At bottom the argument between the Administration and Sen. Symington is whether the balance of power should be calculated in terms of intercontinental missiles or whether it should be judged in terms of the whole complex of armaments and of the international political situation.

MY POINT in all this is not to say that Mr. McElroy and the Administration are right. I think they are very wrong. But I do not think that they are deliberately

the different ideas. It is not my intention to kick a sleeping dog, so to speak, but it is my hope that this letter might help to keep the thought of improvements that are contemplated fresh in the mind's eye of the people who have made statements that they intend to do something about it, and to remind them that these activities are still needed, and maybe they will get the job done.

Larry Turner  
Route 1, Box 333  
Central Point, Ore.

**Any Ideas?**  
To the Editor: Just wanted to write this letter to find out how many of your readers have had the same trouble we have had in regard to collecting from people on "welfare."

We rented to this party, but before I did, I called the Jackson County Public Welfare and was told this woman's check would cover the rent, electricity and fuel. After the first month we had to ask her to move because the neighbors complained of parties and fights. The house was left in a mess, a broken window and a torn up window-screen, and she owed two months for electricity. When I called the Welfare office I was told they were sorry, but they couldn't do anything and that the party had moved again and they couldn't tell me where she hadn't left a forwarding address.

Anybody got any good ideas?

Mrs. James Hayes  
263 North 5th St.  
Central Point, Ore.

## POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

The newspaper is often used as a sort of living encyclopedia, expected to provide answers to almost any question, from batting averages to the name of the prime minister of Canada. We try to dig up the answers, and usually are successful.

One out-of-the-ordinary request last week nearly stopped us, though. A highly-respected Medford professional man called to say that he is the president of an organization, and could we please tell him who the other officers are?

We had a clue, for just a day or two before the secretary of that organization had come in to the office, saying that she knew two men were president and first vice-president of the group, but she wasn't sure which was which.

With this lead, we dug into the old files of the paper, found the story of last year's election, prepared a roster of the officers, and got everyone straightened around—we hope.

Aside from the names and proceedings of the various 4-H clubs in the county, we find the best source of interesting names in some of the sports leagues in Medford. The game scheduled yesterday in the high school recreational basketball league was between teams named the *Bony Five* and the *Buzzards*. Sort of appropriate, somehow.

Potluck editor: Overheard in the Groceria, where a very small boy and his mother were "sampling" the sausage on demonstration:

"Mamma, get the wicpie."

Once in a while a picture will particularly strike the fancy of editors across the country—and throughout

There are some occupations in which men and women are "on duty" or "on call" 24 hours a day. The workers take it pretty much for granted, but often their wives take a dim view of it.

The wife of a newspaperman, for instance, never knows for sure how soon her husband will be home for dinner, or when a sudden news-break might break up an evening.

The wife of the operator of the Medford Ambulance service, likewise, is used to emergency telephone calls at any hour of the day or night—and also she never knows when a paper or radio station will call for information about an accident.

The other day she called the Mail Tribune to inform us she was going to bake bread and would have her hands in dough for the next two hours. And she didn't want to be disturbed!

## Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

**THE FIRMINESS PEDDLER**  
Washington—No one has made very much of John Foster Dulles's latest journey to London, Paris, and Bonn, maybe because perpetual motion is now expected of the Secretary of State. But this is not just another Dulles trip. This is a crucial, even desperate venture.

The truth is that the loudly proclaimed Western united front on Berlin is by no means as firm or as united as it has been made to seem. Dulles has gone off to peddle Western firmness and unity amid some pretty somber omens.

The Soviets, to begin with, have been using language about Berlin at the Communist Party Congress in Moscow that is even more menacing, if anything, than the language Nikita Khrushchev used at the NATO meeting in Paris. The threats to Berlin have been underlined by Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's public branding of the new Soviet intercontinental missiles. As a further gesture, just as Dulles departed, an American military convoy was denied its guaranteed right of free passage on the Berlin-Helmstedt Highway.

THUS there has been no substantiation of the earlier State Department story about the Kremlin being "impressed" by Western firmness, and therefore wanting to "get off the Berlin hook." For just this reason, the new State Department line is that the Kremlin now plans to "test the West's unity to the utmost." Perhaps, therefore, it is an even worse omen that Prime Minister Harold Macmillan apparently decided to accept the Soviet invitation to discuss the Berlin question in Moscow, without bothering to consult the American, French, or West German governments about this fairly vital step in the Berlin formula committing the Berlin guarantors not to abandon any access-route to Berlin, whether by land or air. But when this fact was published, the Foreign Office passed out the strange word that the commitment just given did not foreclose abandonment of the land routes and resort to the dead-end expedient of an air lift. The talks here were also marred by some fairly unpleasant scenes; and Secretary Dulles has therefore hurried off to use his own influence of course been consulted, and he too is firm.

There was a moment when the British also seemed ready to be firm. This was more than a fortnight ago, when London accepted a French formula committing the Berlin guarantors not to abandon any access-route to Berlin, whether by land or air. But when this fact was published, the Foreign Office passed out the strange word that the commitment just given did not foreclose abandonment of the land routes and resort to the dead-end expedient of an air lift. The talks here were also marred by some fairly unpleasant scenes; and Secretary Dulles has therefore hurried off to use his own influence of course been consulted, and he too is firm.

Meanwhile, the Defense Department is continuing the cuts in the armed forces, and the President has gone quail shooting with George Humphrey.

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