

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Reads The Mail Tribune"

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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. 11, 1949 (Friday)

Mayor Thomas Williams of
Ashland files an answer to
the city council's amended
complaint concerning tenure
of city officials.

Irrigation water prospects
are reported as "excellent"
by the soil conservation ser-
vice.

20 YEARS AGO

Feb. 11, 1939 (Saturday)

The Daughters of the Amer-
ican Revolution postpone
dedication of a memorial
marker on Old Stage rd. be-
cause of inclement weather.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye
Smudge Pot" column: "The
snow continued the past week,
and the general opinion is
the time has come to break
the backbone of winter, even
if it does start ye spring
poets."

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 11, 1929 (Monday)

Judge Walter H. Evans is
the main speaker for the Lin-
coln Day banquet at the Med-
ford hotel tonight.

A 10 per cent tax on to-
bacco is proposed at Salem.

40 YEARS AGO

Feb. 11, 1919 (Tuesday)

A suitcase containing 12
quarts of liquor is taken off
the northbound train by the
sheriff here.

The Supreme court affirms
the previous decision in the
Sweeney vs. Jackson county
case.

50 YEARS AGO

Feb. 11, 1909 (Thursday)

The later Lake road bill
is reported out favorably at
Salem by the House Ways
and Means committee, and a
vote is expected tomorrow.

Editor George Pines' libel
case is argued before the
state Supreme court.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Which Biblical character
had a coat of many colors?

2. In which of Shake-
speare's plays is Shylock a
character?

3. On which side is a cow
usually milked?

4. How many thousand
dollar bills would there be
in one million dollars?

5. Which American college
is named for two English sov-
ereigns?

6. In what city is the fa-
mous Newgate Prison?

7. Correct the following:
"He don't come here any
more."

8. What is a thespian?

9. In postal usage, what is
a "nixie"?

10. What was the name of
Esau's brother?

Answers: 1. Joseph. 2. "The
Merchant of Venice." 3. Usually
right. 4. One thousand. 5.
William and Mary. 6. London.
7. "He doesn't." 8. An ac-
tor. 9. Dead letter. 10. Jacob.

GRANT JORDAN AID

Amman, Jordan — (UPI) —
U.S. international develop-
ment loan fund officials said
Tuesday they had decided to
grant the Amman Electric Co.
a \$1,200,000 loan for con-
struction and improvement of
power plants here.

Progress in Cuba?

Slowly, the pieces are beginning to fall in place, and the American public is starting to get an idea of what is happening, what has happened, in Cuba.

In part, the fact that it is taking time can be laid at the doors of the "American press"—that is, the wire services, the news-magazines and the large daily newspapers which as a regular thing make foreign coverage one of their aims.

First of all, the Batista dictatorship is showing up to have been far worse than it was pictured. If recently uncovered evidence is to be believed, it was a terroristic regime, with murder, torture and rape not at all unusual.

THE fact that this was not generally known is, in part, because Batista used the weapons of dictatorship to prevent their being known. But the agencies of news dissemination are partly at fault, too.

Secondly, the revolution of Fidel Castro appears to be a real revolution—a genuine change in outlook and approach—rather than just another Latin American coup d'etat, or the forcible changing of the palace guard.

And third, the executions, despite their summary nature and their lack of safeguards and restraints, appear to have been the dispatch of genuine criminals (albeit operating from the safety of official positions); men who committed revolting atrocities in Batista's name.

IT IS significant that virtually no one, even the most severe critics of Castro and his government, have claimed that those executed were innocent; they have, rather, claimed that democratic and judicial forms and procedures were not followed.

This is a valid criticism, but of an entirely different order. And if one reads aright, the Batista atrocities make the executions at least understandable, even if one cannot condone them or approve the way they were conducted.

A correspondent whose letter appears on this page points out that a growing accumulation of evidence is becoming available, substantiating the hope that the Castro regime, inexperienced and rash as it may be, does indeed represent the feelings of the people of Cuba.

THAT Castro has much to learn is apparent.

If he does learn, and turn out to be an embodiment of democratic ideals, it may be at least in part due to the experience that this district's representative in Congress, Charles O. Porter, has had in Latin American affairs.

His interest in Latin America is well-known, and was used as campaign ammunition against him in last fall's political campaign. But the measure of his growing stature can be seen in a letter recently addressed to him by the American charge d'affaires in Cuba, Daniel M. Braddock, who wrote:

"I am glad to learn from your letter that you plan to come again to Cuba about February 20 and to make a visit to Santiago. Before that time Ambassador Borsari will have arrived and I know he, like the rest of us, will be very glad to see you.

"Your recent visit to Havana was most timely and helpful in counteracting some of the anti-U.S. feeling that was being expressed. Your report on Castro to Congress was so reasonable and persuasive that we had it translated in full into Spanish and offered it to the press, most of which published it in its entirety. . . . We are encouraged by the progress so far. Fidel Castro seems to be heading your good counsel, and particularly the suggestion that he stop talking and give the Government a chance to get down to work."

In sum: The Castro regime has yet to prove itself a respected member of the American community of nations, but the signs are beginning to indicate it will do so.—E.A.

Lent Begins

Today, Ash Wednesday, is the beginning of the Lenten season—a period with great meaning to members of some churches, less meaning to others, and with few emotional connotations to those without Christian church affiliations.

Lent in many countries is preceded by festivities, marking the beginning of a period of self-sacrifice, worship, and austerity.

"Mardi Gras," the name of many of the festivals, is literally translated as "Fat Tuesday," or the Tuesday of Fats, when celebrants stock up, as it were, on fatty foods prior to the 40-day period of self-deprivation.

IT IS also known as Shrove Tuesday, a day for confession and for shriving—receiving absolution or pardon for sins.

Many devout people on Ash Wednesday have the sign of the Cross marked on their foreheads with consecrated ashes, which traditionally come from the burning of palm leaves left from Palm Sunday the preceding year.

Lent is a word which derives from the Anglo-Saxon "lencten" or "lenten," meaning spring. It begins 40 days before Easter, excluding Sundays, concluding Easter Sunday, and therefore varies in time with when Easter is celebrated.—E.A.

Something for Everyone

This is a week with a little something for everyone—the devout, the festive, the historically-minded, the superstitious, the sentimental.

Tuesday was "Mardi Gras" or Shrove Tuesday, today is Ash Wednesday, Thursday is the 150th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, the president who has come close to being a secular saint in the minds of Americans, Friday is the first Friday-the-thirteenth of the year (the others are in March and November), and Saturday is the 100th anniversary of the admission of Oregon to the United States, and is also Valentine's day.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"ROLLER SKATING? AT NIGHT?"

New Interior Head Slates Busy Year; Expresses His Views

By Congressional Quarterly

Washington — (CQ) — The chairman of the House interior and insular affairs committee is going to have a busy year.

Rep. Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.), plans to schedule early hearings on the Hawaiian statehood bill.

He also plans to go aboard to inspect foreign water projects financed by the United States under the foreign aid program.

Aspinall told Congressional Quarterly in an interview that he thought Hawaiian statehood has "a better chance than it has had for many years."

As the new chairman of the interior committee, Aspinall said his main goal is to avoid the legislative logjam that stymied much legislation in the committee last year.

Hawaiian statehood got caught last session, along with the Hells Canyon and Trinity River power projects and the Fryingpan-Arkansas project.

Reclamation Bills
The Coloradoan plans to order staff studies of foreign water projects and of all reclamation laws passed since 1902, when the reclamation program began.

At the end of the session, he said, he plans to inspect several water projects abroad built with U.S. dollars.

Legislation reserving certain wilderness areas solely for recreation: "The West is generally almost unanimously opposed to this controversial legislation," he said.

Partnership
Administration "partnership power" projects: He will probably oppose them. He favors over-all multiple-purpose basin development of water resources by the federal government.

Mining: He is "hopeful" that legislation will be enacted to protect our domestic mining industry. But he cautioned that the mining industry is itself divided as to the proper solution of its problems.

Indians: Any bills introduced to terminate federal wardship over Indian tribes will "get very careful scrutiny to see that no injustice is done to the tribes involved," he said.

NAACP BIRTHDAY
New York — (UPI) — The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People celebrates its 50th anniversary Thursday with meetings, dinners and other ceremonies across the nation.

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Congressional Quarterly

February 11, 1959
Oregon's newest county, Willows, was created today by the state legislature out of a part of the eastern portion of Union county.

The county is bounded on the north by Washington Territory, on the east by the Snake River, on the south by Baker county, and on the west by Union county. Its county seat will be Joseph.

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Berlin Crisis Tough One; Neither East Nor West Can Afford Retreat; Stakes Are High

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Editor

The tough thing about the Berlin situation is that neither Soviet Russia nor the Western Powers can afford to retreat very far.

As of now, the Russians say they will turn over to their East German satellite controls for all means in Berlin, including West Berlin, on May 27.

Along with this, they demand that the 10,000 Western troops in Berlin be removed before that date and West Berlin made a "free" city within the Communist zone.

There has been no sign up to now that the Soviets have retreated from that position, first announced more than two months ago.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles returned from his West European conferences this week and announced that the Western Powers also were determined there would be no retreat.

It is only necessary to visit the two sectors of Berlin to understand the opposing positions.

Two Extremes
Prosperous West Berlin, free in every respect, including freedom of speech, presents the toughest problem Communist propaganda has had to face.

Here in a restricted space, along a boundary sometimes marked only by an imaginary line running down the center of a city street, lie examples of the free world and the Communist world.

Last winter this correspondent visited the two Berlins, witnessing the prosperity of the West and the poverty of the East, seeing on the one side the smart restaurants, the smartly dressed people, the luxurious shops, and on the other, the rubble, the thinly disguised emptiness of the Communist-controlled shops and the vast silence along what was once one of the busiest streets in Berlin.

This comparison is what the Communists now want to eliminate.

But there is more than that. To those who live behind the Iron Curtain but who still oppose the things for which Communism stands, West Berlin remains a hope.

It is one of the few escape routes left for those hoping to make their way from East to West. More than 20,000 East Berliners earn their daily bread in West Berlin, crossing and recrossing the line each day by elevated train and on each day trading in their solid West German marks for inflated East German marks.

Of those who cross the line daily, many elect to remain in the West. Last week more than 2,600 abandoned their homes and other possessions for a future, which however uncertain, still would be better than what they left.

For the West, its position in Berlin also has advantages. The Western message to the imprisoned people in the East can be directed from Berlin better than any other place. And for the West, Berlin is a peephole to the East. These are other reasons why the Communists want the U. S.

GENERAL Gruenther didn't say that.

He didn't in words say anything like that.

But he left his hearers with the feeling that he HAD said it. He left with them the feeling that it will be accomplished.

He is a remarkable man.

Will there be war?
Will Russia attack us? General Gruenther thinks not. Our power to retaliate is too great. The Russians won't take the chance. Or so he believes.

What of their economy?
What of their technology? Will they surpass ours?

ON THAT point the general isn't utterly certain.

The Russians are in dead earnest, he says. THEY AREN'T AFRAID OF WORK.

They go to school to LEARN, he adds. Not to have fun. Going to school, they feel, is a great opportunity.

They go in for science. And for foreign languages. Ten million Russians are learning to speak English.

They could catch up with us, he thinks. They MIGHT pass us.

San Francisco Opera To Show in Portland
Portland — (UPI) — The Oregon Centennial Commission has voted to bring the San Francisco Opera to Portland over Labor Day week end.

The Commission thus reversed a decision of its fine arts committee, which had turned down a request by the music subcommittee that the opera be brought here.

Turkey lays claim to 4,300 residents who are 100 or more years old out of a population of 22 million.

France and Britain to get out. Berlin a Liability

For the West, Berlin never will represent a military advantage. Instead, it can only be a liability. The Western garrison there represents only a token force against the great

power that the Russians say they will turn over to their East German satellite controls for all means in Berlin, including West Berlin, on May 27.

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Conceivably in this dangerous international gambling game, a war could start over Berlin.

But it's a chance the West must take. To so would mean to abandon to Communist revenge the 2,000,000 West Berliners who took the West at its word. And to do so would mean to rewrite every U. S. treaty which promised protection to those who oppose Communism.

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