

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, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO
March 25, 1949 (Friday)
Ashland's mayor and its surviving councilmen plan to meet and decide who will occupy the three recently vacated council seats.

20 YEARS AGO
March 25, 1939 (Saturday)
The Central Point and Roxey Anne Granges plan to present one-act plays.

30 YEARS AGO
March 25, 1929 (Monday)
Federal aides rate Medford an ideal spot for an airport center.

40 YEARS AGO
March 25, 1919 (Tuesday)
Pears are blooming on schedule but peaches are reported late.

50 YEARS AGO
March 25, 1909 (Thursday)
Not enough merchants have signed up for his services this year, so the water wagon man who sprinkles the dust on downtown streets may seek business in Portland.

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

1. Is the word data singular or plural?
2. Name a word in the English language that rhymes with the word orange.
3. Who was the President of the United States in 1930?
4. How many cubic feet are in a cord of wood?
5. Is a vicuna a bear, muskrat, llama, or fox?
6. The color in wine is derived from a pigment of the grapes; is the pigment in the skin, or the meat, of the grapes?
7. In what country is Teheran?
8. What was Abraham Lincoln's profession before he was elected President?
9. What two other conditions are found in combination with a violent storm or wind, to make a blizzard?
10. What was the name of the French luxury liner that burned and capsized at her Hoboken pier in 1932?

Answers: 1. Plural. 2. None does. 3. Herbert Hoover. 4. 128. 5. Llama. 6. The skin. 7. Iran. 8. Lawyer. 9. Dry, driving snow and intense cold. 10. "Normandie."

Sameness of the News

Charles A. Sprague, who besides being editor and publisher of the Oregon Statesman in Salem is also a former governor, one of the state's most distinguished citizens, and an acute and thoughtful observer of the passing scene, recently returned to his office after an absence of three weeks.

(He had been on assignment to a couple of his multitudinous public-service chores, and also sandwiched in a short cruise around the Caribbean).

He found it necessary to "set about picking up the thread of events" that happened while he was gone, and he finds "the script about the same."

SPRAGUE explains:

"Khrushchev and Eisenhower are exchanging pronouncements, battling the ball labeled Berlin back and forth across the net. Eisenhower and the Democrats in Congress are trading verbal blows over appropriations, inflation and the balanced budget. Joe Alsop is still warning about the missile gap, and Senator Symington continues his battle for bigger and better armament.

"President Nasser is still throwing insults, this time against Kassem of Iraq whom he hailed so cordially eight months ago. Fidel Castro's outfit is still lining up old Batistans in front of firing squads. The stock market is still in orbit, shares receiving fresh propulsion from rocket issues.

"The Oregon legislature is still wrestling with problems of appropriations and taxes. New is the fillip over daylight saving time, which has sparked more of a response than the previous gripes over taxes. Governor Hatfield and President of the Senate Pearson still are busy with press handouts in the running battle between Republicans and Democrats.

"So, you might say, the news is just 'more of the same.' Perhaps, but in the intervals of quiet, storms may be building up. The Oregon legislature will emerge from its mid-session doldrums. Congress will continue to upset the precarious balance of the President's budget. And the west is reaching the time of decision for its confrontation with the Soviet Union over problems of Berlin and Germany."

THE news, indeed, is always the same—and always different.

There is always strife, controversy, dissension—the working out of human problems in the arena of public life.

One wonders sometimes, however, whether Harry Golden isn't right when he says that the truly significant news of our generation is to be found on the back of old clippings.

By this he means, of course, the process of social, as opposed to political, change; the difference in the human condition between generations, as opposed to the day to day fluctuations of public events, which seem important and exciting at the time, but which fade into insignificance as the years roll by.—E.A.

Vernal Urges

Vernal urges are coursing through the nerve-endings of young people there days.

One might say the sap is rising. At the moment it is being chiefly manifested by college students seeing how many can squeeze into a telephone booth. On other occasions it was swallowing goldfish, or going on "panty raids," or moving outhouses into the center of campus lawns.

MOSTLY, such activities do no lasting harm. Some of them, indeed, are tinged with a certain antic genius.

An article in the Oregonian recalls the "ghost" of Hoover tower at Stanford where, one morning, huge black footprints were seen tracking a course up the 218-foot tower. A year later the footprints reappeared, this time walking down the tower.

Filmy undergarments have suddenly appeared upon bronze statues of staid college founders. Small cars have been found in tree-tops, or on the second floors of administration buildings.

THESE, and similar hi-jinks, hurt no one much, and serve as an outlet for youthful high spirits in the spring, as the long road to final exams looms ahead.

Insofar as they are truly clever and imaginative, they are positively beneficial to the disturbed souls of earth-bound and crisis-weary humans.

But there is a line beyond which they are no longer funny; when people are hurt, or property is damaged.

Most youngsters are essentially sensible, and can distinguish that fine line which separates harmless fun from harmful vandalism—or worse.

Haw, Alas

Our two new states—Alaska and Hawaii—pose something of a minor problem to letter-writers addressing envelopes to friends in the new states.

How should they be abbreviated? "Ala." is preempted by Alabama. "Alas." is hardly an acceptable abbreviation. Likewise "Alak." And "Al." is both confusing and overly informal. "Aa." is meaningless, and also brings connotations of alcoholism, which no state would appreciate. "Alask." is only one letter short of the full name.

Solution: Don't abbreviate Alaska.

A SIMILAR situation occurs with Hawaii. "Ha." isn't fitting; neither is "Haw." "Hi." may be a short and graphic substitute for "Aloha," but leaves something to be desired.

Just plain "H." could be used, of course, but as the St. Louis Post-Dispatch points out, "nobody, not even a lei-bedecked tourist, wants to go to H."

Solution: Don't abbreviate Hawaii, either.

Dennis the Menace

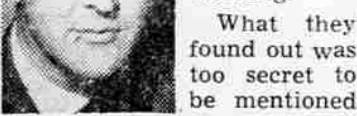


"SHE SAYS IT'S A PICK 'N' SNEEZE. WHATEVER THAT IS!"

Congressmen Debate Propriety Of Special Foreign Aid School

By FRANK ELEAZER

Washington — (UPI) — There were three psychologists, see, and they spent three months overseas looking into the way our military aid program was working.



What they found out was too secret to be mentioned in public but the big brass at the Pentagon pretty soon decided to start sending our foreign aid experts to school.

The research people that furnished the three psychologists, at a cost to the government of \$45,000, got a contract to set up the school, at a price of \$607,251.

Then they hired for their staff a bunch of retired military officers. Included was a brigadier general who, as a \$50 per day consultant to the Defense Department, helped make the decision to give 'em the contract.

Adds Up Salaries

And that's where Chairman James C. Davis (D-Ga.), and his House subcommittee on manpower waste got into the picture. The Defense Department man, the research boss, and the general said the whole thing made sense and saved money. The subcommittee, at the end of two days of hearings, still wasn't sure.

Davis said he had added up the salaries paid all the school's staffers, and the retirement pay they continued to draw, and had discovered they all could have been called back to active duty, for

school teaching purposes, at a saving of \$33,288 yearly.

Rep. Robert J. Corbett (R-Pa.), said a school staff of 39, teaching a class of 89, looked sort of padded to him. John L. Holcombe, the Defense Department man, said the usual thing in military schools is one staffer to every two pupils.

Corbett Flabbergasted

"That flabbergasts me a little," said Corbett. Dr. Dale Alford (D-Ark.), a physician, said what he couldn't see was what special competence psychologists had to go round the world making judgments on military matters in the first place.

Dr. John Flanagan, president of the American Institute for Research, which hired the psychologists and is running the school in a big apartment house near the Pentagon, was afraid security precluded an answer.

Holcombe took a chance and lifted one corner of the security curtain. He said for instance it wouldn't make sense to give somebody a destroyer if their sailors weren't able to run it. He said psychologists might make decisions on the sailors' ability to learn.

Hire Outsiders

Alford said evey so, the Army, Navy and Air Force have thousands of their own psychologists, and why was it necessary to hire three outsiders through Flanagan? Holcombe said Uncle Sam's people were busy.

Rep. H. R. Gross (R-Iowa), probably made the unkindest remark of all. He said it looked to him that Brig. Gen.

Intelligence Expert Believes Russia Not Ready for War—Yet

Washington — (UPI) — Robert Amory Jr. probably is the second-best or third-best informed American on what the Russian Communists are doing, thinking and planning.



Lytle C. Wilson, intelligence agency (CIA), CIA is the United States spy apparatus or, in more polite language, it is a counter intelligence organization.

This well informed American was making a speech the other day in Columbia, S.C. Amory's speech did not get the publicity it deserved despite the fact that what he had to say was pretty good news for U.S. citizens.

His story was that the Soviet Union is neither ready nor preparing for a war; that the Kremlin does not want a war although Communist Russia would fight if it must. Amory said the Russian leaders decided 18 months ago that their Communist economy had to have 15 years of peace to achieve their internal development plans.

Not Mobilized Now

"Their economy is by no means mobilized for war or preparing for war," Amory said. "They strike a balance between military and other expenditures just as we do."

He believes that the Soviet Union is not ready to risk a nuclear war over Berlin. Nikita Khrushchev, instead, thinks he can force the West to "chicken out."

"If the West is resolute," Amory said, "then I believe that the Soviet Union will be the ones to back down."

During the 15 years of peace which Amory is convinced the Soviet Union must have and urgently wants, the CIA expects the Kremlin to follow this general pattern:

Red Pattern

—Play its Sputnik diplomacy to the limit.

—Stand pat against all pressure in the areas now dominated by Communism.

—Insist either upon two-nation talks between the Soviet Union and the United States or demand that satellite powers sit beside Soviet conferees in numbers equal to the number of allies sitting beside the Americans.

—Maintain at high pitch the work of trouble-making among the peoples of non-Communist nations.

But softening this fifth column activity with some show of willingness to cooperate with governments over which the Kremlin exercises no control.

—Continue an effective foreign policy of "no strings" foreign aid towards nations which neither are Communist allies nor expected to become allies.

Amory evidently believes events of the next 15 years largely will shape the long haul pattern of the future, war or peace or whatever.

"We face a race for leadership in the world against militant Communists with fervent faith," he said. "We must never tempt them into a major path while letting down our strength although they haven't got what it take rationally to challenge us this spring."

Amory said the Russian leaders had no doubts on the future. In a comparatively short time they are confident that the Soviet Union will be tops-world-wide.

Lebanon Slowly Feeling Its Way Back To Normality, Six Months After Revolt

By PHIL NEWSOM

UPI Foreign News Editor

Beirut — (UPI) — Almost exactly six months after the last U.S. troops left Lebanon, this little nation still is felling its way back toward normality.



Instead of the American landing craft plying between the beaches and the warships outside, Beirut's beautiful harbor is almost deserted now. Smoke drifts idly from the single stack of a small steamer lying about halfway out between Beirut's sandy shoreline and the mountains on the other side.

Beirut has had an unusually severe winter which caused suffering to many in this nation neither used to nor equip-

ped for cold. But you'd never know it now. Snow still caps the mountains but swimmers are on the beach and umbrellas are up against the blazing sun on the terrace of the Saint George Hotel.

Notes Some Tension

Nothing could look more placid nor more normal. But there is an undercurrent of tension which rises partly from the still-unforgotten revolt against the regime of former President Camille Chamoun and partly from the tensions gripping Lebanon's neighbors.

Part of the tension here is the result of an early lack of confidence in the new regime of President Fuad Chehab. Confidence only now is being restored.

But in its early months, the Chehab government refused to use the means at its disposal to crush the bickering that sometimes led to fighting between the almost evenly divided Christians and Moslems. Cites Kidnap-Murder Case

Strangely, one of the factors leading to an upsurge of confidence has been the government's vigorous handling of a kidnap-murder case here. No such vigor had been demonstrated in the days during and immediately following the revolt.

Now it is expected the government also may move more vigorously to maintain peace between the Moslem Basta section of Beirut and the Christian sector on the other side of the Place de Canons.

There are two strong pro and anti-Nasser feelings, for and against the Egyptian President's policy of Arab nationalism and positive neutrality.

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 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 paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Old Folks and Taxes

To the Editor: It is hard to understand why Oregon, after 100 years as a state, would enact a law requiring the old people, who have struggled and saved enough to buy and own their own home, to have their home confiscated by legislation. It is difficult as it is to squeeze out an existence until their time comes to be laid under the sod.

How about the old folks that have no home of their own and have no property taxes, but have to pay rent? Seems to me the whole thing is bunk, and is only an excuse by the state legislature for passing out bills to tax old people of this state.

How much taxes do you want the people of this state to pay, anyway? We already have taxes on every imaginable thing except the air we breathe. Give us a sales tax to support the schools, and fix it so it goes to school support and nothing else for 99 years — not this thing of voting taxes for one thing and have the money gobbled up for every conceivable thing under the sky.

Well, we are not voting a sales tax before we are sure we know where the money is going. This is the first time I have expressed my views on any subject, taxes, old age, or anything else. But I am getting to be old, and am growing older all the time. Where an old person is required to put a lien on his property in order to pay his taxes or to be able to exist, isn't very desirable. I will admit that we are getting a lot of things through the legislature. That is all right, but we also are getting a lot that we don't really need.

G. S. Elder
3579 Table Rock rd.
Medford.

Must Find Other Means

To the Editor: People go their merry way with, seemingly, little recognition of the fact that we are living in what many thinkers believe to be the most dangerous time in all human history. It is dangerous, of course, because we have learned to control great natural forces before we have learned to control ourselves. Or, at least, before we have effectively demonstrated the ability to control ourselves. In these days of germ warfare, fear gas and fallout (to say nothing of those ever bigger banes) the possibilities for destruction are practically unlimited.

During World War II the military men on our side were often criticized for being "behind the times." They were charged with being "always ready to fight the previous war."

Will our "preparedness" prove to be as badly outmoded again? Is our thinking so fixed in the past, when it was

possible for one side to subdue the other by force, that we are unable to recognize the fact that we have entered an age of different conditions? Will we deliberately choose death? It is foolish to talk of "holding back" our lethal weapons in the heat of all out war.

Unless we can find some other means of resolving our differences, even learn to accept humiliation at times, death is what we will get.

E. Whealdon,
Route 1, Box 2105
Anderson, Calif.

What Is an 'Amateur'?

To the Editor: Since I was a small child, I have continually heard about people "biting the hand that feeds them," but it was just a few days ago that I finally saw an instance of lack of appreciation so great I felt the phrase truly fitted it.

I refer to the letter from Alvin Reiss, published in last Friday's Mail Tribune. Mr. Reiss seems to feel that Wednesday's review by Olive Starcher of the Footlighters' production "The Tender Trap" was inadequate in some ways. In fact, he went so far as to refer to Mrs. Starcher, who has been covering plays and social events for the Mail Tribune for many years, as an "amateur."

Mr. Reiss, as a sometimes actor for the Footlighters, is well aware of the fact that these productions are given in an inadequate theater, on an inadequate budget, by actors to whom the word "amateur" said accurately applied. Said actors include not only Mr. Reiss himself, but his wife, who appeared in the play in question.

Mr. Reiss should also be aware of the fact that Mrs. Starcher has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the Footlighters, the Shakespearean Festival, and all other dramatic efforts in this area. It is largely due to substantial coverage in her articles that the public is aware of such plays at all. The number of times that the Reiss family's names have appeared in such publicity is substantial.

The source of Mr. Reiss' discontent is fairly obvious when one reads Mrs. Starcher's review. Perhaps her efforts to make the play successful give me another living example of a well-known phrase: "If you can't say something nice—don't say anything at all."

Next time, perhaps we could get Brooks Atkinson or some other "professional" reviewer for the Footlighters. I am sure he would enjoy doing a detailed critique of Mrs. Reiss' performance, as well as a number of other things which Mrs. Starcher apparently felt it better to leave out.

Maggie Christensen
404 1/2 North Grape st.
Medford.

In motion picture theaters, it expresses itself in boos and hisses from the one side for Nasser but cheers for Gen. Charles de Gaulle.

Anxiety Over Pro-Red Trend

There is also anxiety about the pro-Communist trend of the Iraqi government.

But long-time observers here say there is no chance this government will go Communist. The Lebanese are bus-

nessmen, and they believe their ties are with the West. The American troop landings are seldom mentioned now. There are too many other problems.

American prestige is not particularly high but it is higher than it was. Even the most rabid nationalist admires the United States because it got out of Lebanon when it said it would.

Figures Show GOP Candidates Could Win Race in 1960

By Congressional Quarterly

Washington — (CQ) — A Republican candidate can be elected President in 1960 even if the party as a whole does no better than it did in 1958.

He can be elected without carrying a single state of the once-solid South. He can win without carrying one of the Border states.

He can also lose Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Rhode Island to the Democratic nominee — and still he will win.

All he has to do is run between 1 and 5 per cent ahead of the Republican Congressional ticket in the 23 remaining Northern states, and he will win — even if the Congressional Republicans in those states do no better than they did in 1958.

That is the surprising fact that is demonstrated by an analysis of official 1958 election returns by Congressional Quarterly.

The analysis makes available for the first time a breakdown by Congressional Districts of the official returns on the 1958 races for Governor, Senator and Representative.

Example Has Been Set

Is it reasonable to suppose that anyone the Republicans nominate in 1960 can run 1 to 5 per cent ahead of the GOP Congressional ticket?

This is what the CQ figures show: Mr. Eisenhower ran 5.6 per cent ahead of the Republican Congressional ticket in his 1952 victory, and 8.7 per cent ahead in 1956.

More to the point, New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller (R) ran 5.8 per cent ahead of the state's Congressional ticket in 1958.

Four other Republicans — Sen. Barry Goldwater (Ariz.), Gov. Mark Hatfield (Ore.), Sen. J. Glenn Beall (Md.), and Gov. Christopher Del Sesto (R.I.) — ran even farther in front of the GOP ticket in their states in 1958, but none

of them is running 5 per cent ahead of the ticket, he gains Idaho, South Dakota, Vermont and the big prize of New York — another 56 electoral votes.

By running 3 per cent ahead of the ticket he gains Minnesota's 11 electors, and his total is up to 195.

He runs 4 per cent ahead of the ticket and he gains 50 more electoral votes in Indiana, Maine, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Finally, he runs 5 per cent ahead of the ticket in Illinois, wins its 27 electoral votes, and has 272 in all — three more than he needs for election.

A numbers game? Perhaps. But remember: Rockefeller ran almost 6 per cent ahead of the ticket in New York. Nixon, with a boost from Warren, ran 7 per cent ahead of the ticket in California.

It's enough to give pause to the Democrats.

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Morse Sees Need For Castro Stand

Washington — (UPI) — Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) says now is the time for the State Department "to reach a new firm decision in regard to the Cuban situation and our official relations with Cuban Premier Fidel Castro."

Morse noted that the American Society of Newspaper Editors had invited Castro to address its annual meeting in Washington next month and that Rep. Charles O. Porter, a fellow Oregon Democrat, has asked Castro to attend Oregon's Centennial Celebration.

Both invitations were issued without prior State Department or White House approval.

In a letter to Roy R. Rubottom Jr., assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, Morse demanded "an unequivocal statement of policy . . . in regard to this problem."

He said the invitations could develop "into a rather delicate situation."

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