

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Flight 'n 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 29, 1949 (Tuesday)

Two state tax commission
representatives will be at the
courthouse to help local resi-
dents fill out their tax re-
turns.

Jackson county's Green
Guard members are invited
to take part in the statewide
Keep Oregon Green poster
contest.

20 YEARS AGO
March 29, 1939 (Wednesday)

A Jackson County Cham-
ber of Commerce committee
reports on possibilities of re-
lief to local taxpayers.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye
Smudge Pot" column: "The
first smudging of the season
occurred this morning. It left
no havoc among the pears,
blondes, lace curtains and
white dogs."

20 YEARS AGO
March 29, 1929 (Friday)

The new machinery at the
new S.O.S. plant is to be test-
ed June 15.

Frost is forecast for tonight
and orchardists stand by for
the season's first smudging.

40 YEARS AGO
March 29, 1919 (Saturday)

Medford's clocks are to be
advanced at midnight for day-
light saving.

Jackson county seeks aid
for building a road between
Eagle Point and Blue Ledge
mine.

50 YEARS AGO
March 29, 1909 (Monday)

Much interest is expressed
in who will be appointed to
the commission for the Cra-
ter Lake road.

The formal dedication of
the new high school building
is scheduled for next week.

What's Your I.Q.?

- Nine or ten correct is superior;
seven or eight is excellent; five or
six is good.
1. Of which North Amer-
ican colony was Peter Stuyve-
sant the governor?
 2. In music, what is meant
by pianissimo?
 3. If you were interested in
"horse opera" where would
you go?
 4. "My cup runneth over,"
is found in what Psalm?
 5. The title of which of
Shakespeare's plays comprises
the names of the famous lovers?
 6. In weighing merchandise,
would a silversmith use avoird-
upois, troy, or apothecary
weight?
 7. Did the Communist Par-
ty register with the Depart-
ment of Justice within the
deadline set by the Internal
Security Act?
 8. What name is given to
puppets worked by means of
strings?
 9. Is the vampire bat an ac-
tual, or an imagined, creature?
 10. How many points are
there on a Maltese Cross?

Answers: 1. New York.
(New Netherlands). 2. Very
soft. 3. "Western" movie. 4.
Twenty-third. 5. Romeo and
Juliet. 6. Troy. 7. No. 8. Mar-
ionettes. 9. Actual. 10. Eight.

About 83 per cent of a nor-
mal man's span of knowledge
comes to him through his
eyes. The other four senses
share in the remaining 17
per cent.

Home Rule Bill

State Representative Eve Nye of Medford, in her column written from Salem which appeared in Thursday's Mail Tribune, answered a question which we have been pondering since the legisla- tive session opened.

This was, what is happening about county "home rule"?

She points out that a bill has been drawn up—House Bill 616—to put into effect the home rule provisions which voters approved last Fall.

THE bill is not as clear, nor as lucidly written and logically organized, as we would wish.

While we support and applaud its objectives, we hope it can be rewritten.

Even if it is not, however, and is adopted in substantially its present form, it will do the job it is intended to do, which is to make it possible for voters in any Oregon county to approve a county charter, which, like the Constitution for the state, would prescribe the form of county government, its organization, powers and limits.

UNDER the bill, a proposed county charter would be drawn up by a committee comprised of members appointed by each member of the county court, and by each state senator or representative, plus such additional members as the committee feels to be needed.

The proposed charter would then be subject to the vote of the people of the county.

If approved, it would be the basic document of county government, and under it the county could enact legislation concerning county affairs, much as cities now do in regard to city affairs.

THIS authority for self-government is something Oregon counties have long needed.

In recent years the need has become stronger, for with the rapid rise in population which came with and after World War II, the suburbs started growing at a great rate, thus bringing problems which were outside the domain of incorporated cities, and which there was inadequate govern- mental machinery to handle.

If the counties can legislate for themselves, they will have a far better chance of doing a responsible, careful job to solve county problems than they can do at present.

The bill in its present form would make this possible. If it were better-drawn, however, we feel it would be more effective.—E.A.

The Managership Plan

What kind of county government is best? Should the proposed new law discussed above, if passed, be used to revamp the organization of county government? If so, how?

This newspaper has long advocated a county managership, where a county commission, or council, is the legislative branch, and where a county manager is the administrative or execu- tive head of the county.

Our belief that this would prove to be a good system for the county is based, in large part, on our observation of the city manager form of organization in operation.

THE city manager plan is not perfect. We don't know any form of government which IS perfect. But it offers, to moderately sized cities, what is probably the best and most efficient system devised to date.

In two cities in Oregon right now, Coquille and Albany, there is considerable agitation to get rid of city managerships. In both, the ostensible purpose is to "save money" by eliminating the one salaried position.

In Albany, the additional objective of "getting the city government closer to the people" is also advanced.

WE DO NOT believe that either of these aboli- tion attempts will be successful. But if they are, we predict the cities will be sorry.

The Coos Bay World, commenting on the Coquille movement, declares:

"... The manager system is probably the most efficient manner found in which to get the job of city government done—particularly in cities which do not have a full-time elected chief. It has proven out too many times to deny."

Up in Lewiston, Idaho, where a campaign is under way to change over to a city managership, the Morning Tribune says:

"The council-manager system can bring a tremen- dous savings to a city. It provides businesslike methods without destroying democratic controls by the voters. It encourages high caliber citizens to continue serving on the council, confident that they can establish policy and leave its administration to a specialist without spending endless hours in part-time administration themselves."

And in Eugene, the Register-Guard adds:
"To residents of both Albany and Lewiston, we'd observe that experience in Eugene and Springfield has shown there can be no question as to whether a city can afford the council-manager system. The question for both Lewiston and Albany is whether those cities can afford to be without a business-like city hall operation."

TO THESE comments, we add our own that, despite some doubts and differences, the city of Medford is now being operated better—more efficiently and economically, in the face of ever- rising costs—than at any time in its history.

It is for these reasons we would like to see this time-tested and proven system adapted to county government.

The government of Jackson county is right now operating probably as smoothly as it ever has. But how much more efficient and responsive it would be if the county government were better- adapted to today's needs.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"Hi, Mom! I'm tryin' out the new can opener!"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

THE RISKS AT BERLIN

Washington—UPI—The chief unannounced result of the Eisenhower-Macmillan talks was a semi-final agreement on a Berlin contingent plan.

A Berlin contingent plan is official jargon for a conditional plan of military operations, which would be carried out if and when Nikita Khrushchev gives the signal to his East German puppets to renew the Berlin blockade.

Washington and London have been deeply divided on this problem. Hence the Anglo-American agreement is a major step forward, although the agreement will not be final until it has been approved in Paris and in Bonn.

The plan that was agreed upon calls for the use of force, if the need arises, to defend the Western right to use any and all access routes to Berlin, on the ground or in the air.

In the most extreme case that can be foreseen, if the roads to Berlin are blocked to the West's military transport, armed convoys will be sent to open the roads.

THE decision to defend the Western right to use ALL the access routes represents a substantial concession by the British, who have preferred the less uncompromising plan of answering a renewed Berlin blockade with another air lift.

At the same time the President's repeated insistence that "we won't shoot first" has been spelled out in practical terms. It means that the Western convoys will go peacefully about their business, using engineer troops if need be to remove physical obstacles placed in their way.

No force will be used unless and until the other side uses force first.

A more important British objection to the contingent plan was also overcome by ending the debate about "risking war for a rubber stamp."

It is not known whether the agreement that was reached here fully covered this point, or whether the British simply made a reservation on this point.

At any rate, the British were not asked to commit themselves to "risk war for a rubber stamp," by which they mean forcefully resisting the use of an East German rubber-stamp instead of the Russian rubber-stamp that is already required on the travel documents of Berlin-bound Western convoys.

In other words, the contin- gent plan both is as firm

as necessary and as moderate as it can be, if it is to work at all. The importance of the plan really cannot be exaggerated.

The Western leaders have agreed to go to the summit under threat of force. No one can negotiate under threat unless he knows quite clearly what he means to do if the threat is carried out.

Nikita Khrushchev's grand design has been to split the West on the Berlin issue. His best hope of success lay in a row about the contingent plan. That hope has dimmed.

Nonetheless, it is extremely premature to say that all Western disagreements have been eliminated. For reasons which are mysterious, President Eisenhower is wonder- fully confident that the Soviets will not risk a big war for Berlin.

After his Moscow reconnaissance, Prime Minister Macmillan has decided that a big war must be expected, if the Western allies are ever driven to carry out the contingent plan he has agreed to. Thus there is a real gulf between Eisen- hower's and Macmillan's assessments of the risks at Berlin.

THIS difference in the as- sessment of risks undoubt- edly contributes pretty im- portantly to the other differ- ence that survived the Eisen- hower-Macmillan talks. The American government, like the French and West German governments, strongly tends to stand firm on Western rights "without giving an inch," as the President has said.

Prime Minister Macmillan is by no means infirm about the specific problem of West Berlin. But Macmillan wants to give a good many inches, in the sense of grant- ing a sort of de facto recog- nition to the entire Eastern European status quo, includ- ing the division of Germany and the new frontiers of Poland.

In British quarters, there is even talk of the need to persuade Chancellor Aden- auer to make some sort of gesture of acceptance of the new Polish frontier on the Oder-Neisse line.

To sum up, Eisenhower and Macmillan agreed on the need to go to a summit meet- ing. They also agreed about what must be done, if Khrush- chev makes a unilateral grab for West Berlin before, dur- ing, or after the summit. But they still must debate what should be offered to Khrush- chev, in order to dissuade him from making such a grab.

In this debate, the President's negotiating position is going to be sadly weak, if he per- sists in saying, "I won't mi- sericordize a man," while he also swears that he "won't give an inch."

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Try and Stop Me

—By BENNETT CERF

JEAN ROATH writes about a small town drug store she visited while motoring through Wyoming. The store was full of happy youngsters consuming banana splits and other concoctions.

In the center of the group sat a sunburned old cowhand in blue jeans, flannel shirt, and sombrero.

"I'm just an old feller having myself a time," he explained happily. "Many's the time I used to come to town to get drunk, but now I get a much bigger kick out of buying the kids all the ice cream they can eat!"

Michael Brown, songwriter, told Caskie Stinnett in Phila- delphia that he gets ideas for music and lyrics at all sorts of odd moments, and jots them down on any scrap of paper that is handy.

"Just today," he boasted, "I wrote one song on a paper towel, another on a book wrapper. Let me play them for you. What do you want to hear first, the paper towel or the book wrapper?" Stinnett, a loyal book man, says the book wrapper is a surefire hit.

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Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

THE SOFT PURSUIT

Washington—The soft pur- suit of the 1960 Democratic Presidential nomination is be- ginning to provide to the press the most arresting political drama of our times.

This is an extraordinarily complicated and subtle search for the Presidency, and no wonder.

In the first place, there is the matter of sheer numbers. Not in decades has the field of obvious and potential aspirants been half so large.

In the second place, never in history has that field been so overwhelmingly dominated by United States Senators.

The traditional powerhouses at national conventions, the governors, are overshadowed this time, as one of them, Gov. Pat Brown of California, has himself observed.

Of the five young to com- paratively young Democrats who are now Presidential "possibilities" four are mem- bers of the Senate—John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, Hubert H. Humphrey of Min- nesota, Stuart Symington of Missouri and Lyndon B. John- son of Texas.

AND in the third place, no party has ever faced a Presidential election with a sharper awareness among its top contenders that being nominated, and even getting elected, is only a part of the job. There is, way past the necessities of nomination and election, an even more severe necessity.

This is the requirement to be able actually to govern, once a man has reached the top place. There is a perhaps unexampled understanding of this last and greatest necessity precisely because so many of the field of possibles are members of the Senate.

And as it happens, the fifth and non-Senatorial member of the field, Adlai E. Steven- son, is himself wholly savvy. He made as much clear to some of his campaign associates when he was running in 1956 as the Democratic nomi- nee.

The fundamental and unal- terable reality is this: any Democrat nominated this time must face the fact that a mid- die-road Democratic regency is deeply lodged in control of Congress. This regency can- not conceivably be overtur- ned.

ed in the Senate short of four more years and is unlikely to be overturned in the House in any lesser time. This reg- ency, in a word, has now and will long maintain so much power that it could paralyze and break any Democratic administration, before it had been three months in office.

BY WINNING three consecu- tive Congressional elec- tions while the party was los- ing two successive Presiden- tial elections the Democratic Congressional wing has reached a uniquely dominant place in that party.

Thus, whatever Democrat is nominated for President, assuming his election, will be under unavoidable necessity to seek and keep some form of peace and partnership with that regency. His only possible alternative would be to walk into the White House on inau- guration day and embrace the failure of his administration on the doorstep.

This, then is the special na- ture of the difficulty confront- ed by the Democrats in the 1960 Presidential test. The Republicans, though certainly not without their own prob- lems, have none of equivalent delicacy. Their Congressional party simply has no power of which any GOP Presiden- tial candidate need be afraid.

All this is why the pre-con- vention contest on the Demo- cratic side can accurately be called a soft pursuit. All pre- sent candidates and hidden candidates are aware that it would be a hollow triumph to gain the nomination and even the election at the cost of mortal breaks with the Congression- al party. The Senators who are in the race—or, like John- son, will be in it before the thing is over—have not served in the Senate for nothing.

AND Stevenson himself is already so aware, though he never spent a day in the Senate, because he under- stands the true base of power in the Democratic party. This is, no doubt, one of the rea- sons why he has so far resist- ed all pressures to move from about the center of the party over to the identifiable left.

True, a man may refuse to accept these realities and may conceivably still be both nomi- nated and elected as a Demo- crat. He will not, however, win real power in the White House; it will be to him a costly victory, indeed.

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Drummond Reports

(Walter Lippman is again traveling in Europe. Roscoe Drummond reports from Washington in his absence.)

THE UGLY CONGRESSMAN

Washington—By now mem- bers of Congress must have a pretty good idea how dis- tressed foreign service officers are to see so many taking the novel, "The Ugly Amer- ican," as the typical U.S. diplomat.

For weeks the newspapers have been reporting the news of how Congressmen are packing their payrolls with relatives, paying some chil- dren attending college high salaries for work way beyond their experience; how some use government money to pay henchmen back home to do political chores; how another Congressman paid himself rent for the use of his front porch as an alleged "office," and all the while trying to cover it up with that certain of "classified" secrecy which they criticize so virtuously when the executive branch of the government does the same thing.

It is well to have all this in the open. It is the only way it will be corrected. But just as the "Ugly American" is a por- trait of the exception among Americans serving abroad, so the "Ugly Congressman"—who hires his relatives in order to keep his office-pay al- lowances in the family and who is so proud of it that he wants to keep it secret—is the exception among honest and honorable members of Congress.

I AM NOT one who believes that the instant answer to any problem is to pass another law. It is not useful to lay down a blanket rule that a Congressman must never employ a relative on his staff.

I have known Senators who have drawn their wives from their secretarial staffs and who have employed their wives on their staffs to very good purpose. All relatives are not incompetent and all non-relatives are not necessarily competent.

It seems to me that the cor- rective for the abuse by Con- gressmen of the right to em- ploy incompetent relatives to do useful work and political henchmen to do useless work is publicity. And that's what many of the "ugly Congress-

men" have been getting. This publicity will either bring about some payroll changes, as it has already, or at the very least it will let the voters in the Congressmen's own dis- tricts know what's going on so they can take appropriate action at the next election.

BUT UNLIKE the House of Representatives which makes public the Washington payroll of every member—whom he hires and what he pays them—the Senate is fighting off the corrective power of publicity as though it were a plague.

This practice of covering up the salaries of the Senators' staffs is relatively new. It has begun in 1948 when the Re- publicans were in control of the Senate. The Senators found this secrecy so much to their liking that both parties have perpetuated it ever since.

Some prominent Senators, like Senators Jacob Javits and Kenneth Keating of New York, Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois, Sen. Richard Neuberger of Oregon, and others, favor dropping this secrecy. But Senate Republican leader Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois wants to keep the secrecy. He is morally indignant at the very thought of making Sen- ate staff salaries public.

"We have a high sense of morale in the Senate," he said. "We don't want girls gathering at the water foun- tain and one saying to the other, 'Well, kid, you get \$60 a month more than I do.'"

IT DIDN'T seem to affect the morale in the Senate before 1948. It doesn't hurt the morale in the House to reveal how Congressmen use the money provided to them in Washington. Senate commit- tees disclose their staff sal- aries without any impairment of morale. Wonder if this moral argument isn't phony.

Bear in mind that the law, a statute passed in 1842 and never repealed, requires a "precise" public accounting for every penny the Senate spends, but the Senate now makes its accounting so im- precise that there is no telling how a Senator disposes of his

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under cer- tain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publica- tion is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publica- tion must not exceed 400 words.

Many Helped
To the Editor: I am using this means to express my sin- cere appreciation to all of those who volunteered their services and equipment in searching for Mr. Andrew Kolstad of Pleasant Creek.

Although the search had a tragic ending it is gratifying to know that so many persons are willing to make sacrifices for someone in distress.

Joseph D. Walsh,
Sheriff

Dog Story
To the Editor: It surely was no intention of mine to get into this dog controversy. But it was forced on me when a smallish mongrel dog darted out to bark and bite at the slow moving tires where chil- dren were playing. There was a sudden yelping following a slight bump. We stopped to find the dog sitting up at the roadside. We inquired if the dog was bad hurt. "Don't know," "Call and see." The dog hobbled away. "It don't seem much hurt so we'll wait and see how it comes out," and we hurried on our de- layed way.

A half hour later the hu- mane officer came to our humble home, wanting to know if we had run over a dog. Being assured of that, he wanted to know if I would stand good for veterinary hospi- tal cost of caring for the dog. Being assured we would not, he gave us the alternative of going to the police station. This I also refused as there appeared no reason for both- ering them about it. So we finally went to the owner of the dog who said if I would pay her the \$15.00 license she was out of, everything would be OK. With this agreed to, the humane officer left.

But the deal rankled, trying to coerce me into giving a signed blank cheque that would not be less than \$5 for examination and x-rays, that's right, x-rays, and might run up to \$15 or \$20 or even more, the humane officer admitted, was too much for me to live with it, especially when we found out that the owner had called the humane office to have the dog destroyed and had signed a paper to that effect and supposed the case closed.

So the sheriff's office was called and they promptly sent out their dog control officer who said my stopping to find the owner (or phoning police) was all that was necessary when a dog attacks, or paying the license was not necessary but was an act of good-will, that dogs have full pedestrian rights, not even confined to safety cross-walks as people are. He also promised to get the humane officer's side of it for me but not doing so, this letter is written for those who might be coerced into unneces- sary veterinary hospital costs.

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

About Society
To the Editor: When you were viewing "Reach for To- morrow" over KBES-TV Wednesday, did you know Ore- gon has these same benefits for the crippled children and adults?

Eugene is the home of Ore- gon's crippled children's school. Orthopedically handi- capped children from 3 to 15 years may attend this school if they are educable. They are given occupational, speech and physical therapy by the society. The public school system furnishes four school teachers to assist the children with their education.

Many of these children are later able to join their age group in the public schools. Thirty or more children at- tend this school each year. They either live at home or in foster homes and spend their days at the school. Sev- eral youngsters from Jackson county have benefited from this service.

A craft shop for the handi- capped is located in Portland, where articles made by Ore- gon's handicapped are on sale. Camp Easter seal in Coos county offers camping activi- ties for our youngsters from 6 years on. They swim, fish, boat and hike under super- vision. Besides the camp di- rector, therapists, nurses, and many volunteers help in this program. This year there will be six 10-day sessions. Each session is composed of chil- dren of congenial age and many times camperships are provided by interested groups or individuals. Two boys from Jackson county have received

staff allowances.

If the Senate is going to make its voice heard in break- ing down secrecy elsewhere in the government, it must show clean hands by break- ing down its own secrecy.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Among the niceties provid- ed by West Coast airlines aboard its new F-27 turbojet airplanes is a little "souvenir packet" of information about the airline, the planes, and so on, including schedules and maps.

One of the folders in the packet is entitled "Welcome Aboard." One paragraph we plan to send to the "Our For- getful Authors" department of the New Yorker magazine. In part, it reads as follows:

"If you are subject to motion sickness (we never use the term 'air sickness,' be- cause it can happen in a bus, automobile or train as well as in the air) you'll want to Mareline, a war-time discov- ery which really works."

By the way, if you do become airsick, please don't feel em- barrassed. . . .

Our sports editor is tell- ing the sad, sad story of a group of young people who decided to go skiing in the Siskiyou, but were pre- vented by lack of snow, and who then decided to go kite-flying, did so, and then found there wasn't enough wind. . . .

Ogden Nash, the justly fa- mous American versifier, once wrote a couplet which went this way:

"The one-L lama, he's a priest;
The two-L llama, he's a beast."

This verse, having been called to the attention of our proofreader, motivated him to add a postscript, as follows:

"The one-L lama
Wear pajamas.
But two-L ones
It looks to me
Seem to avoid
Such dignity."

Two women were en- route to a meeting which they felt duty-bound to at- tend, but without much en- thusiasm. One of them said, "My, it's cold. Should I go back and get my wrap?" The other replied, "Never mind. There will be plenty of hot air before the eve- ning is over."

SKYWATCHERS
COMPLAINT
I often stay awake at night looking for a satellite. So far my search is unre- warded.

Sometimes I wish I'd never started. But having started, I'm duty bound.

To