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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 31, 1949 (Thursday)
Medford firemen answer a
call to a fire on Iowa st.—but
it turns out to be Iowa st. in
Ashland.
Orchardists fire their
smudgepots for the first time
this season, and a smoke pall
hangs over the valley.

20 YEARS AGO
March 31, 1939 (Friday)
Medford Police Chief Clatous
McCredie announces that
effective April 1 all dogs in
the city must be tied up or
enclosed on their owners'
property for a three-month
period to protect neighbors'
gardens and lawns.
From Arthur Perry's "Ye
Smudge Pot" column: "Great
Britain threatens to fight if
Germany threatens the inde-
pendence of Poland, and
France would probably fol-
low. It is not known yet what
Hitler will do to save his face,
and also keep his mustache."

30 YEARS AGO
March 31, 1929 (Sunday)
All stores in Medford are
to be closed next Tuesday for
the airport bond election.
A large throng turns out to
view a night flight at the air-
port.

40 YEARS AGO
March 31, 1919 (Monday)
More than 5,000 people visit
the war relics train during its
stop in Medford.
The county roads are now
dry, and dust flies.

50 YEARS AGO
March 31, 1909 (Wednesday)
Medford's commercial
growth reportedly continues
"as never before."
C. H. Snyder completes a
huge downtown garage.

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

1. What agricultural crop does the boll weevil attack?
 2. In which State is the White Sands National Monument?
 3. Where is it proverbially supposed to be most difficult to find a needle?
 4. Complete this quotation: "Laugh and the world laughs with you, —"
 5. Correct the following: "I forbid you from entering the house."
 6. Is ichthyology the study of plants, fishes, birds, trees, or minerals?
 7. What is the meaning, in English, of the name Puerto Rico?
 8. Why do snakes sleep with their eyes open?
 9. Which is the most common commercial fur animal in the U.S.?
 10. How often each year does an equinox occur?
- Answers: 1. Cotton. 2. New Mexico. 3. In a haystack. 4. "... weep alone." 5. "I forbid you to enter." 6. Fishes. 7. "Ruck Port." 8. No eyelids. 9. Muskrat. 10. Twice.

WHOOPIES WRONG POCKET
Messina, Sicily (UPI)—Prof-
essional pickpocket Alfio
Leonardi has a deft touch but
bad judgement. The pocket
he tried to pick at Easter ser-
vice in the cathedral here
turned out to be the police
chief's and he wound up in jail.

On Educational Quality

Up in Marion county, school reorganization problems are posing some of the same questions which are being encountered here, with the big school consolidation election due next Monday in six districts.

Some of the same arguments are being heard. The Oregon Statesman in Salem condenses some of them into this paragraph:

"The school district, in many suburban or rural areas, is the only local unit of government. It is a symbol of pure democracy—the people who live in the district govern it, coddle it, boast of it and pay for it. To ask them to give up even part of it is to ask them to make a real sacrifice."

This sounds familiar. WE have a real and abiding sympathy with those people in smaller school districts who wish the district to retain its identity.

In addition, some of the arguments they give, about young people receiving more individual attention, and so on, are perfectly valid.

One such resident called us yesterday to point out that, while some school taxes may be saved in the next year or so if the consolidation is approved, in the long run people are going to continue paying more and more for schools, no matter how they are organized, or under those auspices, and that "saving money" as an argument isn't valid for the long run. And this, of course, is partly true.

THE Statesman goes on to review some of the basic reasons for consolidation, and since they are equally applicable here, we shall repeat them: Dr. James Conant, former president of Harvard, after a long and comprehensive survey of American high schools, has recommended the gradual elimination of high schools with graduating classes under 100 pupils. (Jacksonville, the only high school district among those proposed for consolidation with Medford, this year will have a graduating class of some 25 students.)

Conant points out that it is a rare high school with a senior class wherein more than 25 per cent of the students are capable of benefitting from the study of advanced sciences, mathematics and foreign languages. Unless a graduating class is as large as 100, not enough students can be interested in these advanced classes to make them practicable. A smaller, primarily rural and residential district, simply can't afford the equipment or teachers for, say, physics classes of 8 or 10 pupils.

BY trying to combine the teaching of several advanced subjects, the quality of teaching may be diluted so the students are not prepared properly for college work. This applies to vocational subjects, also.

The purchase of necessary equipment is extremely difficult in a high school without a broad tax base. Important "fringe benefits" such as counselling, visual aids and extra-curricular work must be trimmed sharply or eliminated in smaller schools.

These arguments, as set forth by the Statesman, certainly seem to apply here—even though, as indicated, we are fully sympathetic with the students and residents who hate to see their own high school "swallowed up" in what they fear will be the anonymity of a larger school.

But as we remarked before, quality of education and the needs of students should come before all else. The Statesman's conclusion is ours too:

"In weighing the pride of locally-controlled schools against the loss of children's educational opportunities, there is no question which way the scales should tip."

— E. A.

He'd Best Give Up

Richard Allen Hunt — the young gunman who eluded police after shooting one small-town police chief and kidnapping another — has not yet been found as this is written.

He will be. And, we'll hazard, it will come as a relief to him when it does, inevitably, happen.

The life of a fugitive from justice must be filled with horror: Every moment alert, every moment scared, every moment expecting the challenge which means surrender and jail, or a gunfight which will, at best, just make him that much more a wanted man.

HE would be smart if he gave up right now.

The Eugene Register-Guard notes some of the odds against him.

First, he has shot a police officer, and every policeman in the country would be doubly glad to be the one to catch him, for that reason alone.

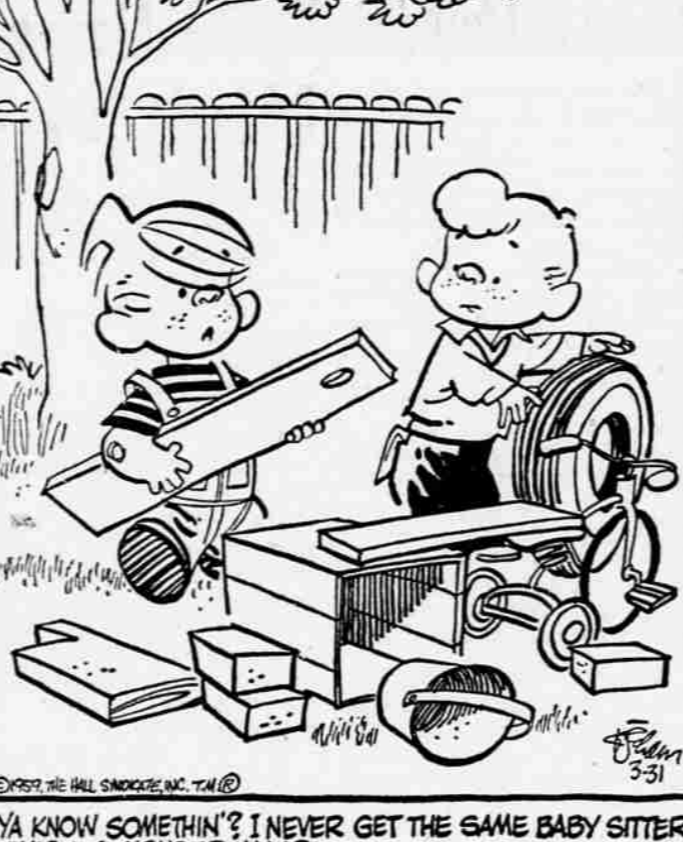
Second, he has a choice of continued crime, or seeking a job. If he continues a round of crime, he is compounding the chances that he will be apprehended. If he seeks a job, what can he do for a name? A social security number? A list of prior experience?

HUNT is a young-looking man. What happens if someone asks to see his draft card?

He's stolen a couple of cars, and if he is intent on "getting away," he'll be tempted to do it again. But he'd better drive carefully. Every red light, every temptation to violate the basic rule, is an invitation to arrest. Then what? Does he shoot — or does he show his driver's license?

It isn't easy, these days, to "get lost" in the crowd—and stay lost. He'd be smart if he gave up now, before he gets into worse trouble with the law which, eventually and inevitably, will find him — or before he winds up dead. — E. A.

Dennis the Menace



"YA KNOW SOMETHIN'? I NEVER GET THE SAME BABY SITTER TWICE. I WONDER WHY?"

Spring in Washintgon, D.C. Means Tourists and Children

By FRANK ELEAZER
Washington (UPI)—Congress spent \$10,000 each for those revolving doors in the Capitol that were guaranteed to be collapsible and panic-proof.

Now the first visiting high school girl has managed to get squeezed by one.

This means the Washington tourist season has started.

Easter week, with the lawmakers and lobbyists out of town, is as good a time as any to see the sights of your capital. Get reservations, though, if you care much where you sleep.

Next to making and administering the laws, the figuring out ways to get around them, tourism is Washington's biggest industry. The board of

trade says 6,500,000 visitors spent some time and \$360 million here in 1958.

That was a record year and 1959 has started out like another one.

Kids Really Spend
The school buses, those yellow and mud-stained harbingers of Washington's spring, already have begun to arrive. Some days between now and June they will be so thick on Capitol Plaza congressional leaders in their \$11,000 Cadillac limousines will be hardpressed to get through.

The Board of Trade happily estimates that 400,000 students, mostly high school seniors, will have been here in chaperoned groups of 50 or more before summer is over. It is not considered likely any school bus will make it from Hawaii, but on past experience most other states will be represented.

Where they get it nobody knows, but the boys and girls

part with respectable sums while here, probably only a little less than the \$50 per capita average of Washington visitors. For this the kids sleep four to a room and carry home souvenir hats, models of the Washington Monument, and the happiest memories of their lives.

Among sights you ought not to miss:
The White House—Happily still open to the public, despite wars and rumors of wars and security-minded police who may even take time to tell you what you are seeing as you wander through front hall and East Room where Dolly Madison once hung out the wash.

The Capitol—Don't worry, it hasn't been bombed. But the east front is being extended and the rotunda is closed. You can still see everything else, including House and Senate chambers and the Senate's \$25 million new office building, where the elevators persist in thinking taxpayers are as important as senators. This may soon be corrected, so hurry.

Mt. Vernon—The home of a well-known Virginia farmer who also dabbled in politics and the military. The most beautiful sight anywhere around here.

The Monument — For the most thrilling sight, ride for 10 cents the new 60-second elevator up the tall pillar of stone named for this same country gentleman.

The Slums—Too bad for the photo fans, but that famous shot of the Capitol Dome from beside a rickety privy can't be made any more. Many blocks of the worst slums south of the Capitol have been leveled. Deluxe new apartments are rising.

The National Gallery of Art — You have heard where the Post Office may bar Goya's famous nude from the mails. Here they call that kind of thing culture. Take a tip, fellows: Don't let the rest of the crowd catch this without you.

Grants Made for New Institute
Eugene—A professor of biology who joined the University of Oregon faculty in January, has been instrumental in bringing research grants to the university totalling more than half a million dollars.

Turkey's Military, Espionage Systems Keep Close Watch on USSR Over Border

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Editor
Istanbul, Turkey (UPI)—The Aras River flows along a great portion of the border between Turkey and its age-old enemy, Russia.



Phil Newsom, UPI Foreign News Editor, Istanbul, Turkey.

Watches on the Turkish side extend along the length of the Aras, each tower overlapping the distance from its nearest neighbor.

Sentries stand guard on the bridges crossing the Aras, on the one side Russian and on the other, Turkish. Each marches regularly to mid-span and then back to the river bank on his own side.

About seven to 10 miles back in the hills, away from the valley, are the encampments of Turkey's 3rd Army,

which is entrusted with guarding the frontier.

Approximately one-third of Turkey's \$800 million annual budget goes into its armed forces, on a constant alert against Communist encroachment, whether it be from Russia or from one of its satellites or friends.

Turkish watchfulness does not end there.

A Turkish spokesman invited this correspondent to lunch one day. We drove away from the city where wide avenues represent the new, and a Roman aqueduct and a ruined city wall, the old.

The drive took us along the Bosphorus to within about three miles of the gateway to the Black Sea.

It was the closest to other secret Turkish military installations a foreigner can go. Easily visible were the huge nets stretching across the narrow Bosphorus against Russian submarines and mines.

Nearby was the Russian Embassy's summer villa.

A Spy Center
The spokesman waved his arm in the general direction of the whole Turkish border. Radar and other sensitive lis-

tening posts provided other safeguards, he explained, and casually added:

"We can even hear tank commanders talking back and forth when the army maneuvers in Bulgaria."

Istanbul has been a traditional spy center. How about that?

"We catch some," he said. "Others we know about, but it is better to know who they are and what they do than to pick them up. If we picked one up, we would only have to learn the identity of the one sent to take his place. It is better this way."

He said about 40 Bulgarian refugees make their way to Turkey each month. Most of these, he said, are suspected of espionage.

Many, he said, are repeat-ers. A man arrives, is assigned to a refugee camp and finally sent to some distant point of his own choice. A few months pass and he appears again in another attempt to fulfill a spy role.

A Turkish population larger than Turkey's own lives inside the Soviet Union and some of these, too, are employed as spies. Out of one group of 170 who fled Russia to Turkey via Germany, 39 turned out to be Soviet agents.

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.

Sees Costly Mistake
To the Editor: We regret having to take issue with "Ye Editor" and other good people who are lending support to our current school reorganization program.

Such reorganization is reconcilable under certain geographical or financial conditions. The consolidation of Jacksonville, Ruch and Griffin Creek with Medford cannot be justified on these grounds. We think that the contributing factor in our local school problem was that Jacksonville was handicapped by persons who were incapable, or unwilling to formulate a workable program.

Neither have they solved their sewage problem. Should Medford take over both Jacksonville's children and sewage?

Those who favor over-consolidation do not realize that we are sacrificing one of our most democratic institutions and are moving one more step nearer centralized government or fascism. We refuse to surrender our personal responsibility to government.

Yes, there is a dearth of capable teachers, but we achieve nothing by spreading them so thin that only the most apt pupils capitalize from their skills. Because Medford has administrators who are supposed to have know-how is no reason others cannot profit by it.

Besides giving the proper amount of concern for our children, who are the most precious of our possessions, some consideration should be given to the state of mind of our adults. All are inclined to be mentally lazy to say the very least. It is so easy to lose the personal responsibility for public welfare and satisfy conscience by voting for some alleged specialist to run affairs for us. Hitler considered the people incapable of governing themselves and it didn't take long for him to acquire their cooperation in that way of thinking.

Our legislators who passed the reorganization law were not so democratically minded as they should have been. Our school technicians whom we pay to be watchdogs of our welfare to awaken us from our sleep. Surely this point should not be overlooked in the cause for which we are working.

We seem in danger of setting up a centralized administration so far removed from the electorate that it amounts to taxes on without representation. We are on the brink of taking a step that money-wise would be costly to undo.

Bert Harr,
Christine Harr,
Copper Road,
Box 77,
Jacksonville.

Helped Art Show
To the Editor: The Southern Oregon Society of Artists wish to extend their thanks and appreciation to those who made the recent Centennial art show possible, including Ben Trowbridge, who donated the use of his building on the corner of Eighth and Bartlett sts., the Tucker Sno-Cat Corporation, for help in preparing the building. A. C. Pierce, for his help, and Harry Marx and his wife, Mrs. Hollis Marx, for opening and closing the show each day.

Southern Oregon Society of Artists,
By Marie B. Starks,
Secretary

PLAN EXCHANGE TALKS
Moscow—(UPI)—Russian delegates are en route to the United States for talks on exchange visits of artists, the Soviet Tass news agency said today. The exchange is planned in connection with the forthcoming summer science, technology and culture exhibitions in New York and Moscow.

CRASHING REPORT
Winchester, England—(UPI)—When George Williams stopped his automobile Monday to report a two-car accident to a police patrol, three other cars struck his.

Novick said that the major portion of training will be at the graduate and post-doctorate levels. There will be some instruction at the undergraduate level, however, to introduce promising students to recent developments in molecular biology.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

COUNCIL OF ELDERS
Washington—Nearly all ancient societies had councils of elders which met in times of peril to direct or solemnly assist the course of public policy.

These old boys represented more than old wisdom. They stood as visible symbols of the long continuity of the civilizations of which they were a part. They were living proofs that the way of life of their tribe or country had long endured. And their continued presence suggested that it would go on surviving.

Some nations still have institutions quite similar in meaning to the system of elders. Great Britain has the monarchy, which is infinitely older and deeper rooted than any British government. The monarchy claims little political power, and that is its greatest strength. For a Briton may absolutely despise his government of the moment—officially "the Queen's government" — and still wholly love and respect the Queen or the King, and thus the country.

Belgium and Holland, too, have monarchical systems binding past to present. Of all the great Western powers, the joint custodians of what we call Western civilization, only three have nothing comparable to a council of elders. And of these, one—Italy—is the seat of Roman Catholic Christendom, with all its timeless, cementing tradition. And another, France, has something indefinable, a concept of "La Patrie," the Fatherland, that is above and beyond any given political leadership.

Thus, the United States alone in the West puts its full faith upon a passing administration. Many believe we need something more—something that would never intrude upon the government but would advise and shore up that government in time of danger.

Each would have nothing whatever to gain—and all that was in him to give.

A bipartisan group of Senators headed by Jacob K. Javits of New York proposes that we place our retired Presidents upon a new advisory council on national security. Mr. Javits and his associates also want to appoint to this council 25 other leading citizens. Their plan may be open to objection in detail. But surely in its principle, in its central purpose of putting the sage memories of the past into the service of the present, they are on the right track. (Copyright, 1959, by United Features Syndicate, Inc.)

NOT TO USE the talents of such men—and not to find a way to use the talents of all who will become ex-Presidents in the long tomorrows—seems hardly sensible. Even Federal judges after retirement may be still called to emergency duty on the bench. And five-star officers, generals of the Army and admirals of the fleet, remain five-star officers for life.

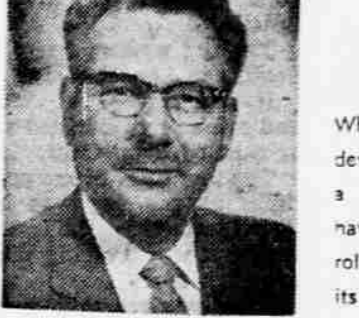
Those who suppose that Mr. Hoover or Mr. Truman, or Mr. Eisenhower after he leaves the White House, could contribute nothing do not well understand the country. Each of them has a rocklike personal following and will have as long as he lives. Sitting together on a council of elders, whatever its title might be, they could immensely add to national strength and unity in any crisis. For each would be above any possible suspicion of personal ambition or partisan malice.

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