

**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  
April 5, 1949 (Tuesday)  
The flowering plum tree on the Jackson county courthouse lawn bursts into bloom, confirming beyond a reasonable doubt the arrival of spring.

Two "eggbeaters" (U.S. helicopters) pay a whirlwind call at Medford airport.

20 YEARS AGO  
April 5, 1939 (Wednesday)  
The Medford city council urges residents and owners of business properties to conduct a "spring cleaning" before the tourist season.

From A. T. H. Perry's "Ye Snudge Pot" column: "Wanderers in the wildwoods of late, report running into poison ivy, but no democratic picnics, so far this spring."

30 YEARS AGO  
April 5, 1929 (Friday)  
City police order that dogs must be kept tied up or face a trip to the pound.

The county court declines to provide gasoline for stranded tourists.

40 YEARS AGO  
April 5, 1919 (Saturday)  
Taxpayers rush to Jacksonville to pay their taxes.

The first Medford auto of the year negotiates the pass over the Siskiyou.

50 YEARS AGO  
April 5, 1909 (Monday)  
A vein of bituminous coal is uncovered on the Broad-bent property and Desert Oil company drills even deeper in its well on the Gore tract.

Central Point's new Commercial club plays host to the Medford Commercial club.

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

1. During World War II, what was the OPA?  
2. If a contest took place in Santa Anita, would it most likely be a horse race, dog race, or foot race?

3. Name the three ships commanded by Christopher Columbus on his first voyage.  
4. Correct the following sentence, "He must go and lay down."

5. The city of Taipei is on what large island off the coast of China?  
6. Name the five States that have coastlines on the Gulf of Mexico.

7. A female deer is known as a --?  
8. "Gopher State," is a nickname for which state of the United States?

9. Was Nathan Hale a hero of the French and Indian, Revolutionary, or Mexican War?  
10. In the nursery rhyme, what sat down beside Little Miss Muffet?

Answers: 1. Office of Price Administration. 2. Horse race. 3. Nina, Pinta, Santa Maria. 4. "He must go and lie down." 5. Formosa. 6. Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas. 7. Doe. 8. Minnesota. 9. Revolutionary. 10. A spider.

Salem—UP—Gov. Mark Hatfield has appointed Charles W. Fox of Portland, a member of the State Board of Forestry, to the Forest Protection and Conservation Committee.

### Best School Plan

Tomorrow, the people of six school districts in Jackson county will have a chance to vote on whether or not the six should be consolidated into one big school district.

The opposition to the change has been fairly vocal. Those who support it have been less so, perhaps on the theory that the plan has such obvious merits that its passage is a foregone conclusion. There's nothing foregone about it.

**A COUPLE** of points should be made at the outset.

First, make no mistake about it, costs of education are on the rise, and will continue to go up. It isn't as much a question of "cutting taxes" as it is a question of keeping them from rising faster than necessary. If anyone tells you to the contrary, he either doesn't know the facts of life, or he's pulling your leg.

Second, the most important thing involved is the education which we can offer to our youngsters. In today's world, a good education is probably the most vital thing we can give to any youngster. More, education is vital to the nation, not only in its "cold war" with Communist imperialism, but in the new space and nuclear age, which will demand the best trained, thinking minds available.

**THERE** is a lot of sentiment connected with small schools.

This is not only understandable — it is right and proper.

And the old adage about the best education being a top educator on one end of a log and a bright student at the other has a lot of truth to it.

But you can't put 7,660 kids on one end of a log and 339 teachers on the other. You need buildings. And books. And special equipment. And good administration. The "little red schoolhouse" won't do any longer.

If high standards are to be maintained, you likewise need a district which has the resources to provide special equipment for instruction over and above the "Three R" level — audio-visual aids, laboratory equipment, school buses, extracurricular activity equipment, and so on.

**THESE** things can be done by a larger district.

They can be done by a small district only at a much greater comparable cost, and with real effort.

A larger district has the advantage of a unified administration, a lack of duplication in purchasing, services, bus routes, and so on.

It has the advantage of uniform standards.

It can maintain special education classes for handicapped and retarded children.

It can obtain a higher quality of teachers, not only by offering adequate pay, but also by being able to let them fulfill the roles in which they do their best work — not asking an English teacher to coach a team or teach elementary arithmetic on the side.

**THE** changes in tax levels in the various districts under the consolidation proposal will be negligible — a few dollars a year, at most, either way.

As remarked earlier, there are some valid arguments against the consolidation proposal.

But the advantages — to the youngsters themselves, who are the most important consideration in the whole thing; to teachers; and, in the long run, to taxpayers — far outweigh the disadvantages.

The clinching argument, for us, is that the school boards of all six districts — the people who have devoted hours and hours to studying the problem over the years — have come to the conclusion that the consolidation proposal is sound, and in the best interests of all concerned.

**THERE** is no selfishness in the proposal.

It has been made soberly by intelligent, public spirited citizens, who, many of them, realize that in proposing a plan for the best good of all in the long run, some sacrifices will have to be made by everyone involved.

But good schools are not a luxury. They are a necessity in today's world. They form the whole basis for the American ideal of an educated, literate citizenry.

And, despite whatever slight disadvantages may attend the consolidation proposal, it is, under present circumstances, the best way to continue working for the best possible education of our children.—E.A.

### Early Tax Dodging

Most people, these days, are perfectly willing to pay taxes if they know where they're going, and if they are convinced they're getting their money's worth for what they pay.

A hundred years ago, in southern Oregon and northern California, there didn't appear to be quite the same spirit.

In the delightful little historical booklet entitled "The Pictorial History of Southern Oregon and Northern California," just off the press, the author, Grants Pass Teacher Jack Sutton, has this to say:

"The areas covered by this text cannot be divided in presenting a true history.

"Neither Indians nor early gold seekers bothered to determine the actual location of the border between the two states. Close elections were completely confused when miners of Jacksonville, Waldo (Sailor's Diggin's), Democrat Gulch and other Southern Oregon gold producing centers voted in both states but refused to pay taxes in either.

"Whenever a tax representative of the Oregon Territory called, he would find the miners had just decided they were Californians, but they became staunch Oregonians by the time the California collector arrived on the scene . . ."

### Dennis the Menace



...AND WHEN DENNIS ENTERED THE TAYLOR BATHROOM, HE STARTLED MR. TAYLOR, WHO THEREUPON DROPPED AND, CONSEQUENTLY, BROKE HIS UPPER DENTURE. IS THAT ESSENTIALLY CORRECT?\*

### 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.

#### Put Aside Selfishness

To the Editor: I have been dismayed to note during the past few days the tone of a number of letters-to-the-editor opposing the consolidation of our schools. These letters seem to be motivated by considerations other than that of giving every child in this area the best education possible.

The arguments advanced against consolidation range rather widely in content but none seems especially concerned with this most desirable goal. Many appear prompted by various personal cant and others have made reasons while others exaggerate inconsequential factors, such as minor changes in the rate of taxation. Nowhere does anyone contend that continued separation into smaller districts will give a better opportunity to every child in an area already bound by economic, social, cultural and other ties.

In this post-Sputnik era the whole field of education has been subjected to considerable criticism because of our failure as a nation to keep up with our potential enemy in several critical zones of endeavor. It becomes clearer with every new development in foreign affairs that the most urgent task of our time is that of meeting the challenge posed by a nation avowedly bent on destroying us. A conflict seems inevitable unless we make ourselves invincible.

To do this requires us as a nation to excel in many highly complex and difficult fields, but particularly in mathematics, the sciences and in certain technical skills. Toward this end Dr. James Conant and others have made some specific recommendations for the education of as many of our children as we can. The reorganization and consolidation of our schools is in line with their suggestions. It is important that we do not let trivial or selfish considerations influence our voting on this matter.

I should, therefore, like to make a plea to all of those who are also concerned with educational improvement on a national scale, no matter what district they live in, to exert the effort to vote for consolidation.

O. T. Heyerman, M.D.,  
125 Winema Way  
Medford.

#### Facts Not "Beclouded"

To the Editor: In answer to Mr. Fred Edens' communication in the April 1 Tribune, I'd like to bring out a few of the facts he deems "beclouded" about consolidation with the Medford School district.

First: It was stated that we wouldn't receive a reduction in taxes due to the fact the drop in millage would be tabled and held in reserve for future improvements. Surely this must be his own point of view. To my knowledge no official has stated, nor did an article in the March 25 Tribune (one of a series of articles written to acquaint the people with consolidation) state that this saving was to be set aside for future improvements or expansion. The article did point out that the millage rate in all but the Medford district would decrease.

Second: It is true we have graduates attending colleges, but what percentage of our students go on to higher education, and what vocational training is provided for those students who do not wish to go on to college?

Third: Devaluation of our property would be no threat because through this consoli-

ation we would offer the same education per tax dollar as the other districts. This in turn would bring potential property owners into our community, resulting in more building and prosperity to our city.

Fourth: Of the 13 teachers we are supposed to lose as residents if this consolidation goes through, only four live in Jacksonville. The other nine live in Medford and elsewhere in the valley.

Mr. Edens prefers to wait for future legislation and government gifts to solve our problems. He is forgetting the school boards involved spent many months studying and analyzing the consolidation program and that they highly recommend it. Why wait years when we can solve this problem at the April 6 election? Actually the study and planning of this consolidation started in the fall of 1952 so it can hardly be called a hasty decision.

I, too, say let's forget about taxes and think of this consolidation from the education standpoint. Let's think of the broader curriculum it has to offer in the field of sciences, foreign languages, vocational training, music, sports and a few of the "extras" our children so richly deserve.

A. E. Reinking  
P. O. Box 66  
Jacksonville, Ore.

#### On Outside School Aid

To the Editor: School boards of the school districts proposing consolidation have been criticized for not waiting for State and/or Federal Aid on our school problems.

Additional state aid now being considered by our legislature will not be sufficient to solve the serious problems facing our school district. Furthermore there is no basis to assume that federal aid will be forthcoming soon, since this issue has been before Congress for several years. It is also a question whether or not we would qualify for any funds so appropriated.

Opponents of the consolidation plan object to some loss of local control. Surely any federal aid would entail far greater loss. It should not be necessary to remind anyone that the federal government cannot give us anything it has not first taken from us. It's a long pipe line from Jackson county to Washington, D. C., and return, and there are many leaky faucets en route.

This issue is of great importance to all the children involved and should not be resolved on the basis of emotion, personal prejudice or lack of information.

Harold M. White,  
Box 643,  
Jacksonville, Ore.

#### Give Children The Best

To the Editor: Having seen in various places the big schools eat up the little ones, and the different types of problems brought on by such consolidation, being forcefully brought to my attention, I would like to state that here is more headache than anyone is entitled to. Taxes may go down for a year, then go up higher than ever, and you just can't do anything about it. Transportation is one item that is always being used as a lever to raise the cost. The board in control will no longer be your board, but of the other district you consolidated with.

You will have no say! Also the larger schools have a tendency to regiment all children to the place where very few do any individual thinking.

The new school aid bill before the state legislature

### Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

**THE UNRENOVATED REPUBLICANS**  
Washington — The resignation of Meade Alcorn as Chairman of the Republican National Committee will be lamented by the party's orthodox professional politicians. The orthodox professionals have liked Alcorn precisely because this able, businesslike man was also completely orthodox and completely professional. The question remains, however, whether orthodox professionalism is really what the Republican Party needs.

The question is raised, for instance, by the story of Neil McElroy's bad beginning as Secretary of Defense. When first appointed, McElroy considered bringing in as Under Secretary one of the principal authors of the Gaither Report, William C. Foster. But Foster had been Under Secretary of Defense once already, at the end of the Truman administration. He was "tainted with Trumanism," as the orthodox professionals like to phrase it.

Still another, even more important part of the pattern was the heavy preference given by Eisenhower to men "who had met a payroll" — industrial executives, as opposed to lawyers, bankers, and men with academic backgrounds. Practical experience showed that industrialists commonly find it more difficult than almost any other group of men to adapt themselves to the peculiar ways of government. Furthermore, the competition for promotion in the great industrial hierarchy makes it very dangerous for the able junior executives to shift to government work; so the second-raters are more easily available. All this was plainly proven by the appalling effects of the Charles E. Wilson years at the Defense Department.

**IT** WOULD take too long to analyze all the other elements in the Eisenhower pattern, such as the very great behind-the-scenes influence that Robert A. Taft exercised over many of the earliest appointments.

Since Harry Truman's time, the Democratic party has been largely renovated, by the kind of men who organized the California and other state victories in the last election. But the Republican party will have to wait for renovation by Richard Nixon or Nelson Rockefeller. Both men have strong ideas about how to do the job, and both frankly admit that the job needs doing.

for our "own little school," but we are equally convinced that it would be foolish pride that would not allow us to transfer our affection and support to any school which would provide our children with greater opportunities in education. We sincerely believe that we and our children can make this adjustment, and even further, we earnestly hope that in doing so we can bring with us some of the school spirit of which we have so long been proud.

Those opposing the plan have studiously avoided making any mention whatever of the obvious and important advantages this consolidation will bring to our young people. Many opportunities for intellectual advancement will be available which Jacksonville cannot offer now nor in the future.

We want to commend the Jacksonville School Board for their conscientiousness and hard work on this matter.

We also wish to thank Mr. Becken for appearing at one of our meetings and thank the Medford School Board and Administrators for their cooperation.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Davis,  
P. O. Box 671,  
Jacksonville, Ore.

### Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

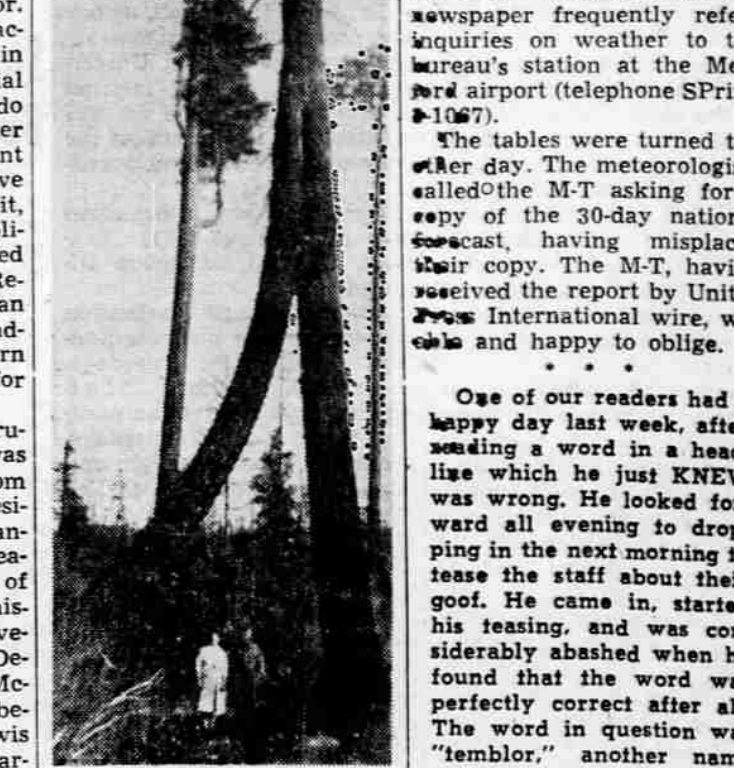
**DOROTHY SIMS** tells this story with a moral worth remembering. There once was a lady named Mabel Jullup who had taste. She bought a lovely vase at an auction and put it on her table. It was Ming, and very elegant, but it made the rest of her furniture look tacky. So she sold the rest of the furniture, and had an expensive interior decorator re-do her entire apartment. That made Mr. Jullup look cheap. So she got a divorce from Mr. Jullup, and married a Mr. Preston Potter, of the Social Register.

But here's the sad ending to the story. Mr. Preston Potter made HER look cheap!

"What are you reading?" a mother demanded of her 7-year-old. "A story about a cow jumping over the moon," was the answer. "Throw that book away at once," commanded the mother. "How often have I told you're too young to read science fiction?"

# POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)



Joseph Hall of Shady Cove wrote us a nice letter last week about a tree which he calls the "Teamsters' Tree" or "the perfect graft."

Just in case we didn't believe him, he enclosed the snapshot of it reproduced above.

The trees (or tree) grow (or grows) a few miles south of Prospect, Mr. Hall reports, are fine, and he speculates that the soil is so poor that it took two stumps to support one tree.

With all the fuss about the little foreign cars these days, it fell to the unintentional lot of the Mail Tribune to figure out the perfect name for them — a fact drawn to our attention by our persistent friend down Phoenix way. In a story the other day we made reference to an "antomobile" — and if you can come up with a better name than that, we'll put it with you.

A telephone call to the weather bureau for the forecast is a daily occurrence at

### In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In Washington, President Eisenhower addresses the 10th anniversary session of NATO. "NATO" is alphabets for North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is the alliance of Western nations whose job is to protect the Western free way of life — which is threatened by the communist objective of world conquest.

**OUR** JOB, he told the members of this 15-nation alliance, is to follow the road that leads to lasting peace and universal justice. If we are to reach our destination, he said, we must:

1. Have the courage to stand fast in the face of menace and of threats.
2. We must be willing to make the sacrifices needed to maintain and improve our collective strength over a long period of time.
3. We must have the perseverance to explore every avenue which offers reasonable hope for just solutions to the issues between ourselves and the Soviet Union.

The hunt for Hunt, the young Brownsboro gunman, has spread far and wide, and there have been several false alarms about him being seen in this area — each of which are carefully checked by law enforcement officers. We are told that one of the city's conscientious Western Union messengers is the one most frequently mistaken for him.

April Fool's Day has come and, fortunately, gone, and no one is much the worse. There was an abominable snowman reported in the La Grande area. A search for a lost gold cache got under way in eastern Oregon. Kids switched over from crowding into telephone booths to crowding into tiny cars.

And up at the Kivans club that day, Dr. Tom Anderson, president of the club, was presented with a sandwich consisting of a hollowed-out loaf of bread containing two baby chicks.

At the same luncheon, Police Chief Charlie Champlin was handcuffed to his chair by a couple of his officers.

Isn't it about time for Medford High school boys to start demanding the right to wear Bermuda shorts to school?

We still see a few Centennial beards around, but the attrition is something awful. Is it wives revolting? Or itchy skins? Or just a yearning for that old, smooth-shaven feeling again?

**A** THOUGHT in closing: A lot of gloom has been peddled. We've been told that the Russians are too much for us. That they have us over a barrel. That they are going forward while we're slipping back.

He says it isn't so. And — He is the world's top soldier.

**LET'S** take him at his word. Let's BELIEVE IN OURSELVES. Let's get back the old American confidence that the bigger they are the harder they fall.