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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 16, 1949 (Saturday)
The Ashland Junior Chamber of Commerce plans an Easter sunrise service in the Shakespeare theater.
Oregon's longest Legislative session closes after 97 days.

20 YEARS AGO
April 16, 1939 (Sunday)
The Medford High school class B band and the trumpet quartet ensemble win first division ratings in competition here.
From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Taxes are still the subject of considerable informal and impromptu cussing, and vitriolic attacks to whack."

30 YEARS AGO
April 16, 1929 (Tuesday)
Local dog owners rush to buy licenses.
The probable sale of the Blue Ledge mine is reported.

40 YEARS AGO
April 16, 1919 (Wednesday)
An Easter egg hunt for children is to be held in the city park.
Nine lawn mowers are stolen from local lawns.

50 YEARS AGO
April 16, 1909 (Friday)
A syndicate purchases the Moore hotel property on Main st.
Swift and company starts to erect a warehouse here as a distribution point for southern Oregon.

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

1. A young mare is called a—?
 2. A precocious child is one who is bashful; true or false?
 3. If your car is stuck in the mud, would you get more traction if you further inflated your tires, or if you slightly deflated them?
 4. How many baseball teams are in each major league?
 5. What colors are the silk fibers in U. S. currency paper?
 6. The young of elephants are called what?
 7. Name the U. S. general who organized the "Flying Tigers" for the Chinese government?
 8. The Atlantic ocean is saltier than the Pacific; true or false?
 9. Which two principal powers fought "The Hundred Years War"?
 10. In the Bible story, what did Esau sell?
- Answers: 1. Filly. 2. False. 3. Deflate. 4. Eight. 5. Red and blue. 6. Calves. 7. Claire L. Chennault. 8. True. 9. Britain and France. 10. His birthright.

Teacher Liability Insurance Defeated
Salem—UPI—A bill which would have required school boards to buy liability insurance to protect teachers and other employees from damage suits was defeated by the Senate Wednesday, 16-14.
Lawyers argued that the bill would add to school costs, result in nuisance suits and constitute legislation for a special suit.

Let's Go Slow

We hope that the disturbing reports from Salem, to the effect that there is a legislative plan afoot to let the state run into a serious deficit situation during the coming biennium, are unfounded.

There is evidence to indicate they are not. Dr. Edwin Durno, Jackson county's state senator, makes a passing reference to this possibility in a letter which appears elsewhere on this page. He confirmed this in a telephone conversation yesterday afternoon.

Members of the chamber of commerce's committee on governmental operations ran across the same report during a visit to Salem Tuesday.

IF THESE reports are correct, the Democratic majority simply plans to pass the appropriations measures it feels are essential to the bed-rock needs of the state, let taxes continue much as they are at present, and make no provision for the increased needs of the state, nor for inflationary trends and natural increases in costs due to population growth.

Thus, if the figures of some members of the ways and means committee are correct, the state will be broke—or worse—by the end of the biennium.

IF THESE reports are correct—if, indeed, the legislature is going to put the state into a position of running into debt—it is fiscal irresponsibility of the worst kind.

It is, in fact, a higher degree of irresponsibility than letting many of the state's pressing needs go hang.

Dr. Durno reports that appropriation measures which have come, or are still, before the ways and means committee, contain spending requests totaling some \$369 million, compared to a contemplated budget of \$300 to \$305 million.

Many of these are necessary to the continued well-being of the state. He cites some of the more important ones in his letter on this page.

PRESSURES for the legislature to adjourn are mounting.

An "official" report on expected state expenditures is not due until this week end, according to Sen. Alfred Corbett, co-chairman of the ways and means committee.

Governor Hatfield is being asked about his attitude toward increasing basic school support funds (and thus holding down local property taxes).

The House taxation committee hasn't said yes, no or "boo" about what sort of a tax program, if any, it will present.

The sales tax proposal, calling for a vote of the people in 1960, whipped through the senate, and may come to a dead end in the house.

THE picture, in short, is one of confusion; of lack of direction; of a scatter-brained, piecemeal, breath-taking and jittery conclusion to the session, without anyone knowing exactly what is happening, or why.

We concur with Charles A. Sprague, editor of the Oregon Statesman and former governor of Oregon, who this week advised the legislature not to make a paramount issue out of how quickly they get home, and to conclude its labors "in a resolute and unhurried manner."

In the closing days of a session, the pressure can get so great that discretion and horse sense can fly out the window.

We've seen it happen. We'd like to suggest that the legislature slow down a bit, and ponder on their responsibilities to a growing state in its Centennial year.—E.A.

The Tax Dilemma

If the needs of the state are to be met, and the state is not to run into debt, that means new taxes.

No one likes taxes. But they are necessary. If services are to be rendered, they must be paid for. We have always contended that taxpayers will pay, if not happily at least willingly, if they know where their money goes, and if they approve the purpose.

The sales tax proposal, even if it is not killed in the house, cannot become effective for another two years.

What happens in the meantime?

THE state can use up the "surplus" of some \$30 million plus what it will have on hand at the end of the biennium. It can collect an added estimated \$8 million within the biennium by the bookkeeping expedient of permitting no installment payments of 1959's taxes come next April.

This much probably will serve to support the "bed-rock" budget of some \$300 plus millions, without providing any "cushion," any allowance for increasing costs, or for any material inroads on the needs for more buildings, added school support, other badly-needed educational measures, or perhaps even the increased requirements of the public welfare program.

ANYTHING beyond this presumably will require an increase in income taxes, by hiking rates, lowering exemptions, or by similar devices. This should be done.

The Mail Tribune traditionally has opposed a sales tax. It is not yet ready to endorse one. But the time may come, and in the foreseeable future, when a sales tax will be necessary for fiscal integrity and the needs of a growing state.—E.A.

Hint to the weatherman: We REALLY could use some rain.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"I'M NOT GONNA SIT IN THAT OL' CHAIR!"
"ALL DAY, I MEAN."

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE UNREADY ALLIES
Only a month remains before the Foreign Ministers are obliged to meet in Geneva, and there is much to be done before the Western powers have anything like a sound negotiating position. We are in fact not ready for serious negotiations at the level of the Foreign Ministers or at the summit. If we could do what would be most convenient, we would postpone these meetings for a better day.

This is, however, not possible. For while May 27 is not the deadline of an ultimatum demanding that we accept the Soviet terms, it is nevertheless a deadline which the Western governments have not thought it prudent to ignore. They have realized that if serious negotiations about the two Germans and Berlin are not under way during the summer, the Soviet government is almost certain to take measures which would damage severely the Western position.

THIS does not mean that the Soviet government is likely to blockade West Berlin or that it is likely to use military force to oust us from West Berlin. They are playing chess and they will not sweep all the pieces off the board. They are likely to make a move which it is very difficult to reply to. Most likely they will do what they have threatened to do, which is to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany, and to let the East German government administer the whole problem of access to West Berlin. This would be a very baffling but a very powerful move. It would be powerful because once the East German state has a peace treaty it will, whatever we may think of it, a sovereign state. Very quickly it will receive diplomatic recognition by all the governments of the Communist orbit, and almost certainly also from many of the governments which take the line of "positive neutrality."

This would seal publicly and formally the partition of Germany. Yet it would be a baffling move for us. There is nothing that we can do to prevent it. Most of the talk about how firm we are going to stand is addressed to the notion that the Communists may blockade West Berlin. What we must be thinking about is what we will do supposing they do not blockade Berlin, not now nor in the probable future. How then do we stand firm against a measure which, without any physical action on their part, deprives the people of West Berlin of confidence in their own future, which deprives the people of West Germany of hope that the Western powers can reunite the two Germans?

THE basic reason why the Western powers are not now ready for a serious negotiation is that they are faced with an ugly reality—the partition of Germany—and they have not yet been able to adjust their policies and their internal politics to this ugly fact. The public tragedy of Mr. Dulles' illness is that he is uniquely qualified to lead the Western coalition in adjusting itself to the ugly reality. It is in this context that Dr. Adenauer's decision to seek the Presidency can most plausibly be explained. When I was in Paris before I went to Bonn, several people in the know said somewhat cryptically that the Chancellor was

a sad man and needed to be reassured about his future and his place in history. In Bonn it was evident that there was great anxiety about the outcome of the German elections—the Presidential elections this year and the parliamentary elections in 1961.

The anxiety arose from the fact that there is a powerful tide of opinion running against Dr. Adenauer's policy. The tide is not only among the Socialists but also within his own party and on the right of it. There was a chance that the Social Democrat Carlo Schmid, who is a popular figure, might win the Presidency against any of the available Christian Democrats—and there was a chance that Dr. Adenauer might not obtain a reliable majority in the next parliamentary elections.

ANY public demonstration that Germany will not be reunified might prove to be decisive against Dr. Adenauer's party. By accepting the Presidency now, he is insuring the continuation of his political influence against what might happen in the elections of 1961.

Seen this way, Dr. Adenauer's decision is a wise one. He is like batten down the hatches and reefing in the sails for the storms which are ahead. His decision will make it less dangerous to the Western alliance to work out a policy which is based on the reality that Europe and the two Germans and Western Berlin must find a way to live for a long time without a settlement which restores the old German Reich.

Now that Dr. Adenauer has taken out insurance for the political future, the unity of the Western alliance on a firm policy which is negotiable depends on this country, Germany, France, and Great Britain cannot achieve this unity among themselves. To tell the truth, there is too much jealousy and suspicion among them and when the leaders are candid, they are at one in saying that there will be no Western policy unless and until Washington speaks again in a clear and confident voice.

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Costello's Health Declared Improved

Atlanta—UPI—Gambler Frank Costello "is in better health here than when he began serving his sentence," Atlanta Federal Penitentiary Warden Fred Wilkinson said Wednesday night.

Costello, who began serving time here Oct. 21, 1958, on an income tax evasion conviction, is assigned a moderate duty job because of a heart condition.

The warden's statement came after reports that the gambler was "very sick."

Lumbermen's Group To Meet Monday

R. E. Mahaffay, general manager of West Coast Lumberman's association, will discuss the proposed moisture content amendment to the Southern Standard Building code at a district meeting of the association at the Jackson hotel Monday.

There will be a no-host dinner with a social hour starting at 6 p.m. Other matters of industry interest will be discussed.

Also expected to attend are Emmett Stoddard and Harry Fimmel, field staff members of the association.

Senator Durno Gives Position on Sales Tax; Sees Possibility of Fund Deficit

To the Editor: It was my pleasure Tuesday morning to discuss Senate Bill 495 (the sales tax measure) on the floor of the Senate. I presented in detail my feelings on this matter, in the following manner.

I arise to support Senate Bill 495. I think that you will have observed that in the infrequent times that I have arisen to speak, I have not been the mouthpiece of labor, industry, education, or even the thinking of a committee. I have spoken as an individual, and that is the manner in which I speak now.

Some of my contemporaries might say that I am no authority on taxes. They would be right. However, I did campaign on the issue of the sales tax in the primary and in the general election. This issue today so nearly coincides with my concept of taxation that I expressed as long as one year ago, that I think my reasoning then applies now.

I said then, while the ability to pay should always be a dominant factor:

1. That the property tax payer was paying more than his share.

2. That the personal income taxes in Oregon could not be raised substantially without the law of diminishing returns setting in.

3. That we were going to reach a point in the economy of this high service state, when we were going to have to seek a new tax base, namely the sales tax.

4. That I was in favor of a sales tax providing it was not just another tax, but one which would effectively reduce the other tax bases.

I admitted a sales tax to be somewhat regressive, but I submitted—

1. That we already had a selective sales tax in many categories.

2. That a sales tax eliminating drugs and food would not place an undue hardship on those people of moderate and fixed incomes.

3. That I believe all people should have a part in government, whether they exercise their right of franchise or not. That I further believe that all people should pay something for the services of government that they receive. It is a fact

that those who receive most pay little or nothing in income or property taxes.

4. I further submit, as a part of the second or third industry in our state, the tourist visiting our state should pay something for the conduct of our government beyond the selective sales taxes that we already impose. We would collect many millions of dollars which remain in the pockets of our tourist friends as they pass to the North or the South and start to collect the pennies in their pockets from business transactions there.

I further submitted that the sales tax is simple, the administration and collection is relatively inexpensive, and its enforcement is not difficult. I do not like earmarking of taxes, but I do approve of equality of participation of state and local government in education, and I do not see how we will achieve that without a new tax base.

There has been a continuing pressure on Ways and Means for the appropriation of moneys for many projects. To enumerate a few, I could mention House Bill 514 or Senate Bill 94 which would appropriate \$20,000,000 for the Basic School Support fund; educational television, \$450,000; a request for an interim study of the whole problem of secondary education, \$150,000; an open-end appropriation for the establishment of community colleges; a corollary bill that would cost in the neighborhood of \$200,000 biennially; a bill for the aid to the blind which will cost between \$280,000 and \$350,000; a measure to aid the gifted child program, \$250,000; a measure appropriating money for an improved county health program of \$838,000; the creation of an interdepartmental agency for the study of mental retardation \$200,000.

These are just a few. We do not have the money and the pressure has been growing for these services of state government.

I am asking the Democratic majority of this Senate to initiate legislation in the form of income taxes which would provide for at least some of these services which we need so much. I am asking that

they extend this income tax legislation to help solve the problems of the 1961 session which will undoubtedly leave us with a deficit of \$80,000,000 unless steps are taken to correct it. I firmly believe that if such legislation is enacted and the income taxes are increased that such taxes will be so onerous to the people of the state that they will be very happy to consider the feasibility of a sales tax. They will have almost two years to

study the philosophy of this line of reasoning and can so advise their Representatives and Senators before we meet again.

Dr. Sly so wisely said, "The people of the State of Oregon will know when they need a new tax."

I submit that this legislation should determine and take into consideration the will of the people.

Edwin R. Durno, M.D., State Senator.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

THEIR HEARTS BELONG TO ADLAI

Milwaukee, Wisconsin—The first thing one learns from a political safari through strategically crucial Wisconsin is the present strength of Sen. John F. Kennedy's Democratic Presidential candidacy. This Kennedy strength may

be overtaken here by the other hard-running Democratic candidate, Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, who plans to cultivate Wisconsin before next year's primary as no political vineyard has been cultivated in recent memory.

As of today, however, the Kennedy strength is highly impressive.

Almost equally impressive, it must be added, is what may be called the second-line strength of Adlai Stevenson. Since the two active Democratic candidates, Kennedy and Humphrey, are almost certainly coming into Wisconsin to fight the key primary here, the local Democrats are making their first-line choices between these two. Barring unforeseen developments, Wisconsin can therefore be expected to send either a Humphrey delegation or a Kennedy delegation to the Democratic convention in Los Angeles.

BUT whether it is a Humphrey delegation or a Kennedy delegation, the band from Wisconsin will also, in a quite important sense, be a Stevenson delegation. In this respect, a minor episode of the mid-Western Democratic conference at Milwaukee some weeks ago is usefully illustrative.

In brief, virtually all the grandees of the Wisconsin Democracy had gathered for a late drink after the wind-up of one of the Milwaukee rallies' evening sessions. The local party organization is by no means united, being divided both into adherents of Gov. Gaylord Nelson and adherents of Sen. William Proxmire, and into a pro-Humphrey and pro-Kennedy group. All the same, the gathering was amiable, and the argument about potential Democratic candidates was friendly.

Finally, one of those present said, "Come on, tell the honest truth. Leaving practical politics on one side, which Democrat would you really like to see nominated?" The whole room was polled, and Adlai Stevenson's name was heard on every lip.

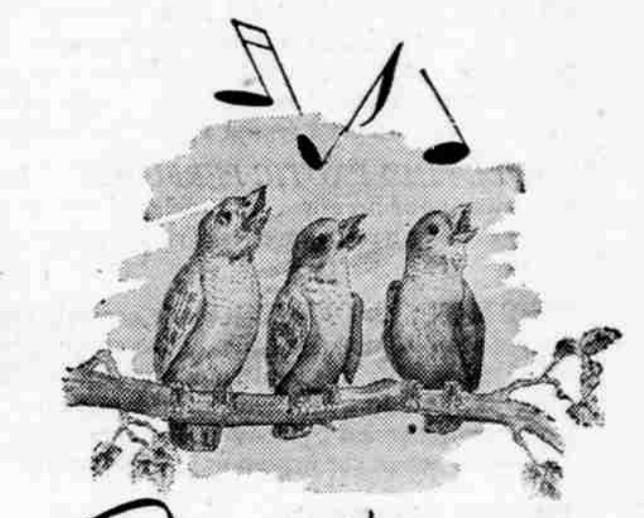
THIS strong residual sentiment for Stevenson will have no effect, of course, if one of the active Democratic candidates wins nomination

in short, despite the bitter opposition of President Harry S. Truman and many others among the older professionals, Stevenson is going to be a hard candidate to stop if he loses. But he still commands much affection. Even among those who think he would make a good President "if I could only name the President myself," as one Wisconsin leader put it.

For Symington, all this perhaps means that he has not gone far enough, by going from inactive to active-inactive candidate status. He might have to get out and beat the bushes like a fully active candidate, if his strategy is to have a serious chance of working.

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