

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"
Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PUBLISHING CO. 150 33 North St. Ph. SP 2-6141
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An Independent Newspaper
Entered as second class matter at Medford Oregon under Act of March 3, 1879
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail—In Advance, Copy 10c.
Daily and Sunday—1 year \$13.00
Daily and Sunday—6 mos. 8.00
Daily and Sunday—3 mos. 4.25
Sunday Only—One year \$4.20
By Carrier—In Advance—Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, Gold Hill, Phoenix, Shady Cove, Rogue River, Talent and on motor routes.
Daily and Sunday—1 year \$18.00
Daily and Sunday—6 mos. 11.00
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1959 PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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 20, 1949 (Wednesday)
The Medford city council proposes a \$75,000 bond issue to finance completion of the municipal swimming pool and other park projects.

20 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1939 (Thursday)
The annual public school music festival gets under way at Southern Oregon college.

30 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1929 (Saturday)
Grain buyers are in the area seeking Table Rock wheat.

40 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1919 (Sunday)
The Klamath orchard starts thinning, with 18 women and girls employed because of the scarcity of male labor.

50 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1909 (Tuesday)
Medford city council plans to discuss possible extension of the city limits.

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

1. Complete the following Mother Goose line: "Johnny Shافت's gone to sea . . ."
 2. Name the famous Roman who was assassinated on the Ides of March.
 3. "Cape Cod Turkey" denotes what piscatorial food?
 4. The maximum adult life of some May flies is approximately six hours; true or false?
 5. What does "Indian file" denote?
 6. Paas Day is another designation for which Christian religious festival?
 7. In the human body, which organ secretes bile?
 8. Is a chantey a type of dwelling, a sailor's song, or a deep-baked apple dish?
 9. Name the lower branch of the English parliament.
 10. Two vowel sounds, which follow one another so closely as to form but one syllable, are called a d-h-g.
- Answers: 1. . . . sliver buckles on his knee." 2. Julius Caesar. 3. Salted codfish. 4. True. 5. Walking in single file. 6. Easter. 7. Liver. 8. Sailor's song. 9. House of Commons. 10. Diphthong.

BERLIN COMPLACENCY
New York (UPI)—Sen. A. S. Mike Monroney (D-Okla.) just back from a visit to Europe, said he met "total complacency" over the Berlin issue wherever he went. He said he had heard 100 times more talk on the Berlin question in Washington than he heard during his trip.

Men in Space

We live in an age of heroic adventure. The past few years have seen such feats of courage and skill as the climbing of Mount Everest, overland treks across the Antarctic wastes and the cruises of the Nautilus and the Skate under the waters of the Arctic Ocean. But even these bold accomplishments pale before the adventure now on humanity's agenda: man's first flight into space.

Whoever first accomplishes this feat assures himself immortal fame alongside Columbus and Magellan. We Americans should not too readily assume that it will be one of the seven Mercury Astronauts who will be the first. No doubt Moscow is already training its own astronauts, and it may be a Russian rather than an American who first pits his frail body against the terrors of the cosmos.

But whether that Columbus of space is a Russian or an American is relatively inconsequential as compared with the fact that this dramatic feat is virtually certain within the foreseeable future.

THE extreme demands that this adventure will impose upon the first pioneers is clearly indicated by the rigorous testing to which the Mercury Astronauts were subjected. In the seven who survived the elimination process we have men of great courage, outstanding physical development, first-class intelligence, and emotional stability.

A word should be said too for the courage of their wives and children who have agreed that these husbands and fathers risk the supreme hazard of our time. It is good that we have such outstanding human beings in our society, and our young people can properly look to these astronauts as examples to emulate.

No doubt the day will come when a flight to the moon will be considered as routine a matter as a flight from this city to Chicago is today. But before then the new crop of astronauts and their successors will certainly write many a shining page of courage, endurance and faith in humanity's annals.—New York Times.

Castro And The Cold War

High hopes for fundamental reforms in Fidel Castro's Cuban revolution have been considerably dashed. Even those whose hopes were highest for establishment of a democratic government in the island nation which is snuggled against our Florida coast have had those hopes dampened.

—We not that columnist Drew Pearson, who was high on the Castro-government possibilities just before and immediately after Batista's fall, has since discovered things in the Cuban premier's background and recent actions to give him pause.

—This also has occurred with many leading newspapers, such as the New Orleans Times Picayune.

—And Congressman Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.), who felt a surge of optimism for democracy in Cuba after Castro's revolt, is quoted this week by Time Magazine, as saying, "I don't think Castro is a dictator yet, but I do see an ominous trend." What Porter feared early this year—that Castro was "young and naive in politics and government" and might thereby come a cropper—is the basis for the "ominous trend."

MOST worrying to U. S. officials is the apparently left-orientated trend to Castro's dictatorship, if it is a dictatorship. The United States tends to see every action by anybody, anywhere, as favoritism of either the U.S. or the Soviet Union. We have a habit of contending that everybody is either for us or against us. We are joined in that attitude by Russia.

Thus it's difficult for us to truly see where Castro's government is headed, left or right. Either kind of dictatorship is undesirable.

If Castro is leaning toward "neutrality" as between the U.S. and Russia, or even leaning toward Soviet sympathies, there is a partial logical explanation in historic Cuban fears of the Big Brother to her north, and also in that Big Brother's attitude toward the Castro revolution itself.

THE U. S. government gave every appearance of backing Batista's rightist dictatorship in order to protect American investments and the U.S. foreign sugar supply right up until the State Department embargoed shipments of arms to Cuba a scant few weeks before Batista fled.

Even after the embargo, actions of the U. S. envoy in Havana could hardly be construed as anything but American support for the repressive, brutal, bloody Bastista dictatorship.

All that is past history. What matters today is Castro, whose policies are still being swept along on the popular enthusiasm of a majority of Cubans.

His policies, young and naive perhaps, are not pro-United States. The U.S. has a difficult job ahead of it in changing Castro's attitude. The job may be impossible. If it is, the blame is not all Castro's.—Coos Bay World.

Interesting Election

It should be a mighty interesting election in 1960. Besides the Presidential race and one senator in Oregon, it looks as if we might get to vote on daylight savings, a sales tax and a power bill. All these things sure make life tough for an editor.—Corvallis Gazette-Times.

Dennis the Menace



"YOU SPOKE WE CAN GET MOM TO COUNT THIS AS A BATH?"

Matter of Fact

THE MERELY SMOKING VOLCANO
Washington—There is something remarkably revealing in the President's private reason for delaying the announcement of his choice of former Gov. Christian Herter as Secretary of State.

In brief, the choice itself was made long since, on the warm recommendation of Secretary Dulles. But President Eisenhower had the curious notion that, at the moment of John Foster Dulles's final resignation, all attention ought to be concentrated on the tragic figure of the retiring Secretary. Eisenhower wanted Dulles alone to hold the center of the stage, instead of sharing it with his successor.

Hence the President made his remarks about the other men besides Herter whose qualifications deserved to be examined. The President's sentiment about Dulles thus led him to cast an inevitable cloud of doubt on the degree of confidence that would be accorded to Dulles's successor. Once again, in this strange manner, the uniqueness of the position that John Foster Dulles enjoyed was sharply underlined.

IN THE realm of foreign affairs, until his terrible illness began, John Foster Dulles was President of the United States in fact though not in name. In the most critical situations his recommendations were never questioned. Nor were questions ever put to him about any situation that he did not bring to the President's attention.

This last feature of the Dulles regency produced some pretty strange results, in view of John Foster Dulles's highly personal way of doing business. Since no one but Dulles himself had the authority to deal with any major problem, no problem was ever attended to that Dulles had no time to attend to. Despite his incredible industry and self-discipline, Dulles could not make one day grow into two days and thus only the most urgent problems were seriously tackled. Volcanos in active eruption absorbed all the Secretary's attention, so to say, while volcanos that were merely smoking angrily had to be neglected.

THE results of this system are most clearly visible in the strategically crucial Middle East. In periods of acute tension—during the first Jordanian crisis, for example, and during the Lebanese crisis—all Secretary Dulles's efforts were focused on the Middle East. But American Middle Eastern policy has been, with rare exceptions, a crisis policy rather than a continuing policy. At present, it is fair to say that the United States has no Middle Eastern policy at all.

The clouds of smoke pouring out of several Middle Eastern volcanos meanwhile indicate that a policy is badly needed. Above all, decisions are demanded by the rapid increase of Communist power in Iraq. This has produced the increasingly bitter quarrel between the Iraqi leader, Brig. Abdel Karim Kassem, and Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser, who has begun denouncing Communism as another form of anti-Arab imperialism.

British Middle Eastern policy is desperately concentrated on protecting their oil rich holdings in the Persian Gulf. Hence the British were at first delighted by the Nasser-Kassem row. They thought Kuwait and the other Gulf Coast sheikhdoms would be safe, as long as the leaders of the two principal Arab states were busy slanging one another. For a long while, there-

fore, the British Foreign Office smiled on Kassem, and refused to believe in his surrender to the Communists.

IN RECENT weeks, however, the evidence of total Communist domination in Iraq has become too great to be ignored. The British Ambassador in Baghdad, Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, has been called home "for consultation." Consultations are certainly in order, for as soon as the Communists are solidly established in Iraq, the Kremlin and its local agents can be expected to put the most severe pressure on neighboring Iran. The position in Iran is already pretty shaky. A Communist success in Iran, which seems entirely possible within the next 18 months, will in turn have the most explosive effect in the Persian Gulf, in the Arabian peninsula, and everywhere else in the Middle East.

The very fact that Nasser and Kassem are so violently at odds meanwhile gives an opening for a bold Middle Eastern policy. But the British are too weakly situated, and too dependent on Middle Eastern oil. They dare not even think about a bold Middle Eastern policy without an American lead. But "Let her rip" is the rule being followed by the State Department; so rip she will, with a vengeance.

The face of the globe is dotted with other, quite comparable though less acute situations. Secretary Herter cannot do some things that Secretary Dulles did, if only because he cannot hope for a comparable grant of power from the President. But perhaps he will do what Dulles did not do—organize the State Department to begin a new, preventive approach to all these potential or probable trouble spots.
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Communications Washington Report

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.

Why Complain?
To the Editor: I agree with the poor distraught housewives that smudge is terrible. But what are they complaining about? Do they have to wash the clothes saturated in oil? Do they have to stay up nights getting extra meals? What are a few scrubbed walls and soiled drapes to the thousands of dollars represented in payrolls?

I figure things in the house need to be well scrubbed at least once a year and why not wait to do it till after smudge season? Who likes to go to town and be covered with cinders and filth from the mills in about a half-hour's time? It penetrates clothes, cars and house as well as lungs, but we figure it as a necessary living hazard and if we didn't like it we are free, white and over 21 to seek employment elsewhere. If there were no orchards with smudge and no mills with smoke there would be no jobs in the Rogue valley, so you would have to move then. So why not move now and quit complaining? Move to California?—No, they have smudge pots too, in spite of word to the contrary. I guess only Hawaii would be ideal, but watch out for fire in your grass skirt or a coconut on the head. Maybe some day a Utopia will be found but I am certain it will not be in this world.

If taxes were lowered to the point of enticing industry into the valley, the orchardist could then pull out his trees and sell his land for building sites and pavements.

I don't hear the orchard laborer, his wife or kids complaining, only the city dwellers who are afraid of a little work. Put your brain to work on a solution and I am sure it would be appreciated by all.

Mrs. Rae Williams, Central Point, Ore.

R. R. Working Conditions
To the Editor: Railroad workers in train and engine service are still laboring under some conditions that are unheard of in most other industries today.

President W. P. Kennedy of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen points that out in calling attention to the fact that these railroad employees are not paid a differential for night work, receive no payments for away-from-home terminal expenses, nor do they get premium pay for work performed on Saturdays and Sundays.

"It is difficult to believe that railroad workers, performing highly important service in one of the nation's principal industries, are still denied those modern-day conditions—benefits which nearly all other workers enjoy today," he said.

Representatives of railroad management, who are busily engaged nowadays conducting a vicious campaign to turn public opinion against rail employees by unfairly charging them with "feather-bedding" on the job, never mention those outdated conditions under which "rails" must toil.

"The railroads see fit now to snipe at their faithful and dutiful employees, and their labor unions, on various working conditions to which they agreed in collective bargaining sessions over the years," Kennedy says.

Charles A. Fisher, Legislative Representative, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, No. 314, 1310 West 15th st., Eugene, Ore.

Jobs Are Important
To the Editor: Now, ladies of Melrose ave., let's not be vindictive. Every man has to earn a living to the best of his ability, and they can't all be good clean jobs. There cannot be fruit without heat of some kind and I am sure if you can just be patient a bit longer all will be taken care of by the mighty atom—one way or another.

Right in the same paper with your letter was an article pertaining to working out a solution. I am sure the orchard owner, and I know the orchard laborer, is as anxious as you to find a better method. The only one who won't be happy will be the oil men, but we can't keep everyone happy all of the time—can we?

Think of it this way, ladies, when you are scrubbing and cleaning you don't have time to talk about your neighbors or get into any "idle hands" mischief. I'll take a little dirt in order to keep work for the thousands of men, women and children who make their living from our fruit harvests, both directly and indirectly.

Mrs. Ellen Doran, Table Rock Orchards, Central Point, Ore.

NIXON'S ANTENNAE

Washington — Vice President Richard M. Nixon has put away one weapon — his old mastery of producing useful headlines built upon intense controversy within the nation. He is now brilliantly employing a not a softer tactic, in new circumstances.

He is progressively drawing favorable attention by persuasion and calm reasonableness, where he used to demand it by loud threatening in the national scene. He is a world away from the Nixon who, only short months ago, led a hotly partisan GOP Congressional campaign because this seemed the only possible way to stir the Republican sluggards.

There will be here, however, no nonsense about "new Nixons" and "old Nixons." A golfer is not a "new" golfer if on the 14th hole the lie of the land and of his ball requires him to put the iron back in his bag and begin a series of spoon shots.

TO watch Nixon these days is to approve him or disapprove him, is to watch a truly virtuoso political performance. The fact that his antennae to public moods and changing public attitudes are extraordinarily sensitive has, of course, long been obvious. What is now striking is the way in which Nixon—who underneath is a curiously lonely and a one-man operator—is using those fabulous antennae to master his great problem for 1960.

On all form, on such "gut" facts as his present control of much of the regular GOP organization, he is the distinct favorite for the 1960 Presidential nomination. No one, however, is more acutely aware than is Nixon that Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York already poses a real threat and might offer a massive threat before convention time.

The Vice-President's vulnerability lies in this: He came up strictly via the route of controversy, and the soundest single objection to him is the fear that he might be a divisive force in the White House. To be thought of at that kind of symbol is, to some degree, always harmful to a Presidential contender. To be seen in that light in 1960, in a perilous world, probably would be fatal to him.

THUS, given this as his basic potential weakness, what is he doing to strengthen his position? He is presenting himself as an ever-mellowing public figure, and he is doing a good job of it. He is staying out of the partisan fighting that used to occupy him almost endlessly. He is equally staying out of such infighting as there is among the Republicans—who, unlike the Democrats, never forget that their true antagonists are not each other but rather the opposition party.

He is accepting only a very few speaking engagements, and of these all are in markedly high-level, and preferably even academic, surroundings.

Mrs. H. D. Garrison, Route 2, Box 255, Central Point, Ore.

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