

MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune" Published Daily except Saturday by MLDPOD PRINTING CO. 33 North First St. Ph. SP 2-0141

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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 \$15.00 Daily and Sunday—6 mos. \$8.25 Daily and Sunday—3 mos. \$4.25 Sunday Only—1 year \$4.25

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. \$10.50 Daily and Sunday—3 mos. \$5.50

Carrier and Dealers copy 7 1/2c All Terms Cash in Advance

Official Paper of City of Medford Official Paper of Jackson County United Press International Full Licensed Wire

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NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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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 June 11, 1949 (Saturday) Registration for the YMCA's learn-to-swim program ends today.

The Medford budget committee approves 1949-50 outlays with a general fund levy \$35 under the 6 per cent limit.

20 YEARS AGO June 11, 1939 (Sunday) The Girl Scout day camp is attended by 289 youngsters in a two-day period.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "A trio of prospectors were in from the hills Tues. with a liver pill bottle full of yellow stuff that glittered."

30 YEARS AGO June 11, 1929 (Tuesday) A labor shortage prevails in Medford and the Rogue valley.

The hay crop in Eagle Point so far has escaped rain damage.

40 YEARS AGO June 11, 1919 (Wednesday) Congressman Hawley procures a German cannon for Medford, to be placed in the city park.

Fed W. Scheffel, of Rupert, Idaho, is in Medford for a few days.

50 YEARS AGO June 11, 1909 (Friday) P. and E. railroad construction gives Eagle Point a new lease on life.

Medford police round up 22 hoboes and tramps along the railroad tracks.

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

1. Of what is chronology the science? 2. Before the Bolshevik revolution of 1917, what was Red Square in Moscow called? 3. In what country is the famous village of Waterloo? 4. Who carried off Helen of Troy?

5. Who wrote the music for "Naughty Marietta"? 6. What is the smallest known hoofed animal? 7. There are living pygmies in Africa; true or false? 8. The name of which State contains four a's; begins and ends with a; and has every alternate letter the same? 9. To what place was the stolen Stone of Scone returned a few years ago? 10. What two signers of the Declaration of Independence later became Presidents of the U.S.?

Answers: 1. Measurement of time. 2. Red Square. 3. Belgium. 4. Paris. 5. Victor Herbert. 6. Mouse deer (East Indies). 7. True. 8. Alabama. 9. Westminster Abbey. 10. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.

WISH GRANTED London—UPI—Sponsors of a visit of three Russian women doctors arranged a high-brow itinerary included a Shakespearean performance, a ballet and a concert. The visitors somewhat hesitantly suggested there were two things they'd rather see—"My Fair Lady" and a five and 10 cent store. They will.

Gratifying Support

The reaction of the patrons of the Ashland and Medford school districts to the annual budget problem this year is exceedingly gratifying to anyone who has the welfare of our schools at heart.

It is undeniable that the schools take the biggest chunk of local property taxes, as well as a substantial portion of state income tax revenues.

But in Ashland and Medford, unlike situations elsewhere in the state, the voters looked at the budgets, considered the job the schools are doing, and came up with an overwhelming vote of approval. In each district it was about 4 to 1.

THE vote, of course, was not particularly heavy in either district. But it seldom is in school elections.

Those voters who stayed away from the polls must be considered to have given a tacit vote of approval, although they lacked the active interest or energy to vote in person.

But the fact that fewer than 300 voters in the two districts were sufficiently upset to vote "no" means, to us, that the districts are doing a highly commendable job, both in education, their first responsibility, and in "public relations"—that is, letting people know what they're doing, how they're doing it, and why.

OPERATING schools during a period of rising costs, of a shortage of really top-flight and conscientious teachers, of high taxes at federal, state and local levels, and amidst a debate on how well American education is doing, is not the easiest task in the world.

By every criterion available, the schools in Jackson county are doing well, with only a few minor exceptions.

The academic programs generally are at a high standard, the physical needs of the schools are being attended to through construction as necessary, and the non-academic subjects and extra-curricular activities — those things some people call the "frills" of modern education — are ably handled and well-accepted by a majority of the residents.

IT IS the "frills," incidentally, which would be the first to go if the time ever comes when taxpayers decide that the schools are costing too much.

We do not, and most thinking people do not, consider them to be "frills" at all, but adjuncts to a rounded program of education for an increasingly complex world. Such things as band and orchestra, vocal music, debate and speech, arts and crafts, sports of all kinds, and the like, may not be as vital as the so-called "three Rs," but they do have an important role, one which the majority in Jackson county acknowledges.

In any organization as large as a first class school district, there are a few sour apples and a few deficiencies. It is good to know that it is recognized that these are the exception, and that the people of this county approve, generally and in overwhelming numbers, of the job which is being done.—E.A.

Faint Hope in Poland

"Over this city (Warsaw) palely shines the light of a new hope — the hope of human evolution in the iron Communist society that already grips almost half the world."

In this sentence Columnist Joe Alsop, in a dispatch appearing elsewhere on this page today, describes the thought—fleeting, vagrant and wistful as it may be—that the world behind the Iron Curtain eventually will humanize itself.

He finds the example in Poland, where at least the mind, and to some extent action, are free. And he cautiously examines the faint possibility that this potent ferment might spread to other lands. He even reports on the belief that this is what Khrushchev himself wants.

THE hope is, we fear, a faint one.

Yet nothing is impossible. A century and a half ago western Europe was in "the clutch of the Corsican," the hated Bonaparte, who was feared throughout the world with the same passion that the Kremlin is today.

Bonaparte was the product of the French Revolution, as surely as Stalin was the product of the Russian Revolution. The excesses of the early 1790s revulsed the world, and made France the bogey then that Russia and China are now.

YET France came back into the community of civilized nations. It took Waterloo to start this return, and in other ways the situations are not comparable.

But it does tend to suggest that, given time and an inch of freedom, freedom-loving men can make inroads against the grimmest tyranny.

Can the example of Poland, teetering on the balance between freedom and bloody repression, be the spark to set off a chain of humanizing evolution in the Communist world?

It is entirely doubtful. But stranger things have happened. Freedom, especially when it is once-tasted but threatened, is heady, infectious stuff.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



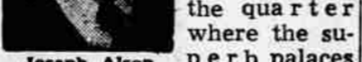
"I WANT YOU TO PROMISE YOU'LL NEVER STICK A GUN IN MOTHER'S RIBS AND SAY 'BANG' AGAIN!"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

NEW HOPE'S PALE LIGHT

Warsaw—This is a city worth seeing, just for its strange contrasts. It has the ugliest building in the world—Stalin's gift, the Palace of Culture. It has one of the most enchanting urban prospects in the world, in the quarter where the superb palaces of the Polish aristocracy have been lovingly rebuilt by the Polish Communists.



Joseph Alsop of the Polish aristocracy have been lovingly rebuilt by the Polish Communists.

This city, in truth, has shabbiness and glamor, squalor and beauty, excitement and ordinariness. Life here can be bizarre, or passionately interesting, or dullly workaday. But among all these violently opposed qualities, there is one that sets Warsaw apart. Over this city palely shines the light of a new hope—the hope of human evolution in the iron Communist society that already grips almost half the world.

IN THIS respect, the outlook is distinctly more encouraging today than it was a year ago or two years ago. When this reporter first came to Poland in 1957, the ferment of Poland's new-won freedom was so uncontrolled that the freedom itself seemed unlikely to last. This effervescence could not go on, one felt, without imperiling the regime. Yet the regime could not be imperiled without risking another Hungarian tragedy, on a far more dreadful scale.

Last year, in contrast, Wladyslaw Gomulka and his Communist colleagues had begun to take the situation in hand again. And last year, one wondered whether the process of getting the situation in hand would not in itself end the new freedom of Poland.

Now, however, a very curious but seemingly stable equilibrium seems to have been achieved. There are limits which no one is allowed to transgress, whether artists and intellectuals, or priests or peasants, or members of the new class of small entrepreneurs whose tiny but remarkably smart shops along the Marshalowska are one of the more curious sights of Warsaw. Yet these limits that no one can transgress leave the life of the individual citizen and the larger life of the mind substantially free. As the worst enemies of the regime will tell you, in all of Communist Poland today, no one is held in jail or camp for a political offense.

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THE last quotation, from one of the wisest American experts on the Soviet Union, seems to me to sum up the problem. There is no promise in Poland of a defeat for the Communist system. But there is a possibility, a hope even, of the kind of change that will make many millions upon millions of human lives more tolerable and decent. And even if this change is highly unlikely to end the world struggle between the Communist and free societies, no humane person can fail to pray for it.

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MAYBE this curious equilibrium between the Communist party and government on the one hand and the Polish people on the other would be considerably less stable in less favorable economic conditions. It must be understood, moreover, that the economic conditions are only favorable by comparison with the bleak past.

There is the beginning of a meat shortage here, because the planners failed to realize that the goods-starved Poles would first spend their money on clothes to put on their backs and then would in-

GIFT EXCHANGE

Geneva—UPI—Mrs. Mary Herter, wife of Secretary of State Christian Herter, and Mrs. Lydia Gromyko, wife of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, have exchanged gifts, it was disclosed today. Mrs. Herter started it off with an unidentified gift, informed sources said. Mrs. Gromyko returned the gesture with a bottle of vodka, a wooden box full of Russian candy, and a book about the Soviet Union.

Somozas Appear Little Worried About Revolution Threat to Their Nicaragua

By PHIL NEWSOM

UPI Foreign Editor

President Luis Somoza of Nicaragua has boasted he is "no Batista who can be forced to board a plane and leave the country."

He does, indeed, hold important cards in his defiance of the rebels who invaded from neighboring Costa Rica and whose numbers have been reported variously at from a few score to a few hundred.

His younger brother, Anastasio Somoza Jr., is commander-in-chief of Nicaraguan armed forces which number around 4,000 and are better armed than most Central American armies.

He has only a tiny air force, but the rebels have no air force at all, and apparently no heavy weapons.

Commercially, Luis Somoza holds the trump card over disaffected businessmen who might be tempted to throw in

with the rebels. Nicaragua exports cotton and coffee but for almost everything else is dependent on imports. The government controls those all-important import licenses, without which the businessmen must starve.

A Heady Business Yet rebellion is a heady business and in Latin America the smouldering hatreds of the out for the ins gained strength, prestige and hope from Fidel Castro's Cuban victory over forces which at the outset numbered his ragtag army better than 1,000 to 1.

Both Somozas have gone out of their way to belittle the strength of the present rebellion, although Luis lost no time in calling upon the Organization of American States (OAS) for help in quelling it.

The OAS refused to intervene but has appointed an investigative group.

Since 1933, Nicaragua, largest of the Central American states, has been operated almost as a private corporation by the Somozas.

Killed By Assassin An assassin's bullet cut down Gen. Anastasio Somoza in September, 1956, but his sons moved in and took over with scarcely a hitch.

Luis' immediate reaction to the present difficulties was:

"My father often warned me that you cannot feed too much meat to a young baby and now I know what he meant."

His reference was to the liberal reforms he claims to have instituted in Nicaragua.

His opponents say the so-called reforms are so small as to be invisible and that the dictatorship in Nicaragua today is as severe as it ever was under the elder Somoza.

Despite the Somozas' efforts at belittlement, there is ample proof of real and widespread unrest in Nicaragua.

The opposition runs from conservative business men through opposition political groups to the Communists.

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Housing for Elderly Persons Changing; Improvement Noted

(Editor's note: Growth of the number of old people in the population is fostering interest in provision of adequate housing for them.

New ideas now catching on include retirement hotels and retirement villages. The still largely untapped market for housing for the elderly is believed to hold good profit possibilities for private builders.)

Washington—Going, going, and probably soon to be gone

for good are the days when many old people, quitting work, had to move in with the family of son or daughter or seek shelter in a public or private home for the aged.

New housing accommodations specially designed for the elderly are beginning to spring up around the country. And social security benefits, plus retirement allowances from former employers, are enabling men and women with modest savings to take

advantage of these opportunities for a more satisfying mode of living than was available to old people in the past.

Types Vary The new housing accommodations range from small, easy-to-keep cottages and apartments in so-called retirement villages to low-rate residential hotels in downtown sections of large cities. For old persons who can no longer live independently, or who prefer to reside with others, there are modern institutions that bear more resemblance to resort establishments than to old-fashioned homes for the aged.

The increasing proportion of old people in the population has been a prime factor in spurring interest in housing for the elderly. There are now 15 million men and women in the country aged 65 or over, and the number is expected to reach 25 million by 1980.

The group is already big enough to command political attention. Congress amended the National Housing Act three years ago to encourage provision of more rental accommodations for elderly persons and to ease sale terms on houses suitable for persons of advanced years. Now private real estate developers are finding that there is money to be made in meeting the housing needs of the elderly.

Many Still Active Persons in the upper age groups have been migrating to the South and Southwest in increasing numbers, but some New England and Middle Western states still boast the largest proportions of old people. The common assumption that most retired persons want to spend their time "sitting in the sun" is being rapidly discarded. People are stopping work now at an age when most of them still want to lead active lives. The fact seems to be that they are more contented if they stay where their principal interests lie and where their friends live.

Elderly persons who can no longer afford to keep up their old homes, or who have lost a mate, may find their problem solved by moving into one of the retirement hotels that are being opened in the large cities. Most of them are renovated hotels, no longer convenient for transient visitors but often ideally located for permanent residents who like to be near public transportation and other in-city facilities. Rates for furnished rooms and three meals a day range from as little as \$65 up to \$200 or more a month, and the charges sometimes can be cut by taking a part-time job in the hotel.

Where's an answer? One is: "The Best Advice I Ever Had," up in No. 1 front position of June Reader's Digest by Sen. Richard Neuberger. He tells of the remarkable success of a Canadian Mountie in the far northland and the man's success in winning affection and respect for himself and obedience of law by the natives there, which he might add is difficult enough in that harsh and primitive land where laws of nature demand priority, all too often.

Visiting with this Lincoln-like man, Senator Neuberger got a surprising but a simple, humble answer: The mountie held, the other fellow may be right.

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

How Long? To the Editor: Evolution took a turn one day—

A Rhesus primate had to pave the way For man—then mice, in fiery display, Did likewise. So, now earth-bound man can say He can finally get to heaven, but who, I pray, Will let him in—and how long can he stay?

George Distell, 156 Vashli Way, Medford.

THERE ARE warning signs that that is already beginning to happen to us. For example:

In 1957 (only two years ago) the United States produced 62.4 per cent of all the automobiles built in the world, and the rest of the world produced only 37.6 per cent.

In 1958 (only a year later) the rest of the world produced 50.4 per cent of all the automobiles built and the United States produced only 49.6 per cent.

The source of these figures is the Automobile Manufacturers Association.

THAT ISN'T a pleasant picture because it means that A LOT OF JOBS HAVE MOVED FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

WE NEED these jobs.

NOISE NOT TAXED London—UPI—The British government has turned down a proposal to tax automobile noises. G. R. H. Nugent, joint parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Transport, told Parliament Wednesday "Taxation of motor vehicles on a noise basis is not a practicable proposition."

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

WHEN PAMELA BIANCO visited the late Walter de la Mare, what looked like a brown velvet cushion in one of the parlor armchairs. Suddenly it moved, however, and Miss Bianco was amazed to see it was just about the biggest—and the tamest—rabbit she had ever seen. De La Mare assured her that the rabbit's name was Rupert. When found in the meadow he had been all but frozen to death. De La Mare wrapped him in one of his woolen undershirts and placed him in a warm oven. After a short sleep Rupert awoke—miraculously cured—and from that moment was undisputed lord of the De La Mare abode.

Herbert Rogers, a sentimentalist to the core, recalls "I got up and gave her my seat. For how could I let her stand? She reminded me of my mother. With that strap held tight in her hand."

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