

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 July 31, 1949 (Sunday). A brush and timber fire on the left fork of Poots creek showers ash and charred leaves on Medford.

20 YEARS AGO July 31, 1939 (Monday). Some 100 Red Cross swimming and lifesaving school members stage a water carnival at the Medford natatorium.

30 YEARS AGO July 31, 1929 (Wednesday). Bait for the local earwig killing is reported ready for use.

40 YEARS AGO July 31, 1919 (Thursday). The Medford plane flies to Grants Pass in 23 minutes, according to Pilot Floyd Hart.

50 YEARS AGO July 31, 1909 (Saturday). The Medford Elks lodge may be instituted about Sept. 15.

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

1. Is the earth a sphere, or a spheroid? 2. Name the man who debated with Lincoln in a famous forensic series before Lincoln became a candidate for President?

3. After World War I, did the U. S. withdraw from the League of Nations? 4. What are perennial plants?

5. Is oil a good conductor of electricity? 6. Do both male and female rattlesnakes have rattles?

7. Are sheep bovines, ovines, or equines? 8. Which is greater in area—the land surface or the water surface of the earth?

9. Name the popular movie actor of the 1920's whose "Sheik" roles brought him world-wide fame. 10. Which is larger in area, Africa or South America?

Answers: 1. Spheroid. 2. Stephen A. Douglas. 3. No (never joined). 4. Those that live several years. 5. No. 6. Yes. 7. Ovines. 8. Water surface. 9. Rudolph Valentino. 10. Africa.

OUT OF TUNE Copenhagen (UPI)—Two 17-year-old boys were arrested Thursday for stealing two organ pipes from St. Augustin's church to use for exhaust pipes on their motorcycles.

Isn't This Important?

Jackson county is a delightful place to live. But it's not as delightful as it once was. Medford is a beautiful and pleasant town. But not as pretty and nice as it used to be.

Much the same can be said of Ashland, Talent, Phoenix, Jacksonville, Central Point, Shady Cove, Gold Hill and Rogue River. Even Prospect and Butte Falls, removed as they are from the valley floor and surrounded by natural beauty, have some of the same problem.

WHY is this? It is because of the "growth" of the valley. More people, more automobiles, more houses, more industry, more smoke, more sewage, more traffic congestion, more noise. Similarly, less freshness and greenery, less privacy, less peace and quiet, less beauty.

Some hundreds, or perhaps even thousands, of people in the valley are aware of this, and are doing what little they can, as individuals, to slow down this deterioration of pleasant living, to preserve some of the natural features, and to establish islands of beauty in the growing sea of asphalt, billboards, shacks and dirt.

IS THIS growth, then, incompatible with gracious, pleasant living? It need not be. And what is the price we will have to pay for a return to something resembling the beauties of the past?

The price is this: The willingness to plan ahead; the willingness to give up some of the unfettered liberty to do anything one wants, regardless of its effect on others; the willingness to pay out a little extra money in taxes to permit the governments which are supposed to serve us to do the necessary work.

MORE specifically: It means minimum subdivision ordinances to prevent the development of slum-like areas, either urban or rural.

It means planning commissions which really plan, which look ahead realistically, which have the resources to lay out a plan and then to stick to it, with only sufficient flexibility to adjust to special situations.

It means zoning—county-wide zoning to protect property rights, to tie into the plans worked out by the planning commissions.

It means working out, and then enforcing, measures to protect the valley against air pollution and water pollution—from whatever source.

It means heavier emphasis on parks and recreation areas, on "green strips," on trees and shrubbery.

A START has been made. But it is a woefully inadequate one up to this point. It is painfully evident that these measures are not even holding the line.

This county has grown helter-skelter. It can't afford to do so much longer. For every day that passes, for every week, for every month, the population increases.

No individual can be blamed for wanting to do as he pleases when he arrives. But if Jackson county is going to remain habitable on the same terms it has been in the past, minimum controls are going to HAVE to be instituted.

IF THEY aren't, the fringes of this valley's communities, and many rural areas, are going to go the same way as some of the cities in California—nothing but great expanses of treeless dreariness, packed with sub-standard housing, and granting nothing to the graces and niceties which, after all, are what make life worth living.

The responsibility for seeing that this does not happen lies with everyone who gives a tinker's dam about the Rogue valley and its future as a place to live.

Call your city councilman, your mayor, your city manager, your county judge or commissioner, your planning commission member. Tell them how you feel. Demand they take action—not in some distant tomorrow, but now.

Or, if you agree with what is said here, clip this editorial and mail it to them, and sign it. It is only with this demand, this evidence of backing and support, that they can take the steps necessary.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



... AND RUFF COULD SLEEP DOWN THERE!

Nixon Wins Favor for Quick, Apt Arguments With Nikita

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor. The man-of-the-week: Vice President Richard M. Nixon. The place: The Soviet Union.

The quote: "The moment we place either one of these powerful nations (the U.S. and Russia), in a position where it has no choice but accept dictation or fight, then you are playing with the most destructive force in the world."

Never in the history of the Soviet Union had the Russian people been treated to such a spectacle. Here on quick-tongued Premier Nikita Khrushchev's own totalitarian grounds, a visitor was trading verbal punch for punch with him and arguing the American case as Ivan, the Russian man in the street, had never heard it before.

Khrushchev Seems Pleased. Strangely, Khrushchev seemed to like it. And Nixon was on the way to becoming a popular Russian hero. The start of Nixon's Russia visit had not been so auspicious. Khrushchev had wondered publicly what his motives were in making the trip.

At the moment of Nixon's arrival, Khrushchev was at a mass meeting denouncing the U.S.'s "Captive Nations Week." It was, he said, "provocative" interference in "our internal affairs."

Longest High-Level Talk. It was the longest, highest-level talk ever held between a member of the U.S. government and Khrushchev. Whether either man actually won the debate or had succeeded in getting the other to change any of his ideas would be doubtful.

In general, as Nixon proceeded to Leningrad, to Novosibirsk in Siberia and to Sverdlovsk, he attracted crowds which were both large and friendly. Occasionally, he ran into hecklers who appeared obviously to have been primed.

From Russia Nixon was to proceed to Poland where another study in contrasts was possible. Khrushchev was there last week and his reception was polite but less than enthusiastic.

AS TO PROPOSAL No. 1: It means writing it on the cuff and adding it to the national debt. The effect of Proposal No. 2 would be to STRETCH OUT the program, so that less money would be required each year.

WHY NOT raise the gasoline tax—if the roads MUST be built? The answer is rather simple. The politicians don't think that a tax increase—even for building roads—would be popular in an election year.

MORE from Washington: The house of representatives today passed a \$3,186,500,000 foreign aid bill that, if finally enacted into law, will cut about 700 million dollars from the President's request for foreign aid money.

WOULD IT? IT MIGHT? But—There can be little doubt that if approached seriously and purposefully the problem could be solved by cutting 700 million dollars of WASTE out of the foreign aid program.

THAT PROMPTS a thought: IF ALL the waste could be cut out of government spending, taxes could be reduced materially and the huge national debt could be paid off in a reasonable period of time.

GOP 'Operator' Credited With Victories For Republicans in Recent Hawaiian Vote

By LYLE C. WILSON. Washington (UPI)—Margaret Johnston sat up night-long and far beyond the dawn of Wednesday listening to the election returns from Hawaii.

Margaret is Mrs. Victor A. Johnston. Vic Johnston is the wise political sharpshooter who masterminded the Republican campaign in the fiftieth state. He achieved the impossible.

Vic is a notable loser. Margaret stayed up in their handsome suburban home on election night because she couldn't possibly sleep. The Republican campaign in Hawaii was the best chance Vic Johnston ever had to prove something which you correspondent and some other political buffs around Washington well know to be a fact. It is that inside

Alaska. The forty-ninth state went Democratic in a big way in its first election. Johnston is executive director of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee. He was sent to Hawaii to head off another Republican calamity.

Hawaii this week elected a Democratic U. S. Senator and a Democratic member of the House. But the new governor, lieutenant governor and the other senator are Republicans. That outcome was close to a political miracle. It should boom Johnston's stock with the Republican party leadership.

The country is likely to know more about Vic after the 1960 presidential campaign. He is a high-ranking member of the Richard M. Nixon board of strategy in addition to his committee duties. If the vice president is elected next year to the White House, Vic Johnston surely will go with him.

There has not been much good news for Republicans of late. Election returns from Hawaii may be a good omen. If Vic Johnston's luck has turned, things will be picking up soon for the GOP.

has offended practical politicians. Never Ran For Office. If Johnston were not such a swell guy all around and so obviously a master of the political art, he probably would have been out of the political business long ago.

When Johnston loses, he loses big. He lost with Harold E. Stassen back there in the 1940s when the young man from Minnesota tried to build his way to the Republican presidential nomination. Thomas E. Dewey borrowed Johnston for the opposition stable in 1948, and Vic's man lost again.

Despite association with Stassen and Dewey, Vic Johnston's true political love affair was with the late Robert A. Taft. Losing that one in 1952 hurt.

There has not been much good news for Republicans of late. Election returns from Hawaii may be a good omen. If Vic Johnston's luck has turned, things will be picking up soon for the GOP.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

NIXON IN RUSSIA. Washington—The striped pants set, as the old career diplomats are called, tend to tut-tut Vice President Richard Nixon's barked "politician's" approach in Russia. But the truly responsible chiefs at the State Department—those who, under the President, actually run our foreign policy—are delighted by his performance in the first, or Moscow, phase of his mission.

Indeed, it can be stated responsibly, these controlling heads believe that if Nixon is able to wind up his trip without a major mistake, he will have done well all he went to the Soviet Union to do.

Three circumstances have confused many estimates as to the effectiveness of the Vice President's trip. There is the quite unhidden fact of his fierce ambition. Of course, he wants to be President after 1960—as do some of his critics, too. There is the fact that, partly because of his past partisan savageries, he has enemies who will never credit him with doing anything well.

THE views of career diplomats and their followers to the contrary, it is "politicians" and not diplomats who in the end control our system—and the Soviet system, too. Secretary of State Christian Herter, for example, is a "politician," and a good one.

Diplomats, after all, are employees, if elevated ones. "Politicians," however dreadful the word, still make the policy—and run the show. This we do because the Constitution gives them the right and because they represent the facts of life, which are the facts of power.

Certainly Nixon is running hard for President. But the very fact he might one day be President of the United States was the very ultimate reason why he was sent to Russia in the first place. This was done not to assist Richard Nixon but to assist the high policy of this country. If it all helps him politically, as well it might, everybody concerned will just have to live with that fact.

IF the real purposes of his journey are understood, this much can be said with complete confidence: It is not necessary to be for Nixon for President, or to "like" him or "approve" of him in the smallest possible way, to demonstrate that the Moscow phase has gone very well.

The complaint has been made that Nixon is "not a diplomat" and has not acted like one. This is absolutely correct—and absolutely irrelevant. The complaint has been made that he has been trading some tough and highly unreserved words with Nikita Khrushchev. That he has. But there was no mistake in this; quite the contrary.

For to trade such words with Khrushchev and other Soviet leaders was one of the two main reasons Nixon was sent to Moscow by the Administration. His other main purpose was to set at rest, if he could, what our top people are willing to concede were some honest misconceptions by Khrushchev about the United States.

THE State Department was fed to the teeth with a series of easy world propaganda victories Khrushchev had scored in his previous conversations with unofficial envoys like former Gov. Averell Harriman of New York and Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. State Department leaders had no criticism of the motives of such envoys.

The department felt, all the same, that they were not in a position to do full justice to our side of the world argument. And the department wanted

ed some person of great power—Nixon—not only to put our side to the world but to warn the Russians against miscalculating our basic determination. The Vice President was briefed "up to the neck" by departmental experts on these points. He knew just what he was going to do and why. For example, his decision to come home by way of Poland was not "sudden," though it looked to be. It was, in fact, a decision made here weeks ago.

For the bottom truth about the Nixon mission is simply this: The time had come when the cold war was too important to be left to the diplomats—as old Premier Clemenceau of France once said that hot war was too important to be left to the generals.

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.

How To Become Famous. To the Editor: Do you ever dream of being a great actor or actress? Of smiling graciously when you are recognized as a star or relative of a star?

Perhaps it makes you feel good inside to be able to contribute to a worthy cause and make others happy. If so, here's a great opportunity! The Footlighters' new production "On the Bridge at Midnight" will be presented Aug. 18-29. We need costumes and furniture of the late 19th century and in return for the loan, we promise you the happiest, tear jerkiest, villain-boogiest evening of a lifetime!—starring members of your own household.

So if you're able and willing to be a Good Samaritan and a star, please contact Mrs. Shirley Quincy, SP-3-1665. Mrs. Jack W. Ruch, (SP-3-5008) 30 Hawthorne st., Medford.

Air Pollution. To the Editor: We read with a great deal of interest the article on air pollution in Tuesday night's paper, which brings us to voice a complaint about another case of flagrant disregard for air pollution laws.

Dirt, soot and oil boil into the sky from an asphalt plant operating on Bear Creek near the Airport. This filth cascades into our open windows, creating a distinct health hazard.

Robert A. (Bob) Boyer, Attorney at Law, 28 North Oakdale ave., Medford.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A BUXOM DRIVER became involved in a minor accident and had a few million words to say about it to the motorcycle cop who drove up to investigate. "Yes, yes," the cop interrupted her harangue, "but tell me this: Did you manage to take down the other car's license number?"

"Did I!" crowed the mad madam—and whipped out a battered license plate for his approval. Have you heard about the two fish who met in a Gulf Stream bar to discuss business conditions? Said one, "I hope the current will reverse itself soon. As it is, I'm barely keeping my head under water!" (Oh, yes, the speaker was a sale fish.)

Precautionary ad in a fashion page: "Bargain sale in slacks—but be sure your end justifies your jeans!" © 1959, by Bennett Cerf. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.

Washington Report

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Construction to Start on Launchers. Corvallis (UPI)—Construction is expected to start next month on 28 launcher shelters and support facilities for a Bomarc missile base at Camp Adair north of here.

The Bomarc base will be in addition to the SAGE (Semi-Automatic Ground Environment) facility at the Adair site. The Air Force Wednesday released \$5,300,000 for construction of the missile base, according to Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.).

Apparently low bidder for initial construction of the missile facility is the Donald M. Drake company of Portland. The firm bid \$2,496,758. Norblad said in Washington, D. C., that original cost of the entire missile base was estimated at \$9,500,000 but that newer and more efficient models of the Bomarc would require fewer facilities.

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