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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
Aug. 26, 1949 (Friday)
A Tru-Mix Concrete company bulldozer clears Bear creek between the Cottage St. and Jackson st. bridges as a health measure.

20 YEARS AGO
Aug. 26, 1939 (Saturday)
A CCC youth at the Camp Applegate post recovers from two days in the wilds.

30 YEARS AGO
Aug. 26, 1929 (Monday)
A special speed boat will be placed in service on the lower Rogue to stop fish law violators.

40 YEARS AGO
Aug. 26, 1919 (Tuesday)
Word received that the price of hogs is the highest in history as living costs continue to mount.

50 YEARS AGO
Aug. 26, 1909 (Thursday)
Southern Oregon pioneers hold their annual meeting in Ashland.

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

1. Is apiculture the growing of apples, keeping of bees, growing of avocados, or training of apes?
2. Where was the Boer War fought?
3. Name the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee To Investigate Improper Activities in Labor-Management Relations.

FIRE GUTS BLOCK
Limerick, Ireland - (UPI) - About 300 persons were left jobless today by a \$5,800,000 fire which gutted a block of offices, shops and homes Tuesday in the heart of Limerick.

Is This Your Dish?

"The Footlighters" is a little theater group. It is not a very successful little theater group. But then, few such organizations are fabulously successful. Few of them have (as the Footlighters do) their own building. Many of them are born, struggle along for a while, fade away, and then, as some new and vigorous personality puts forth effort, are reborn.

The problems of such organizations are not hard to find.

An adequate number of talented amateur thespians is difficult to come by. Directorial skill is even more scarce.

And, while the chief attraction is in acting, each theater needs steady, reliable people to do the endless behind-the-scenes chores required in each production.

THERE are other factors, too. For instance, in a small group of this nature, largely involved in dramatic endeavors, temperaments and personalities are bound to cause conflicts and jealousies.

Mix all these difficulties into one pot, stir well, season with chronic lack of funds and limited public support, and the wonder is that ANY little theater, ANYwhere, ever survives at all.

But survive they do. (Perhaps "persist" is a better word.)

And there is a never-ending search for clues as to how their problems can be ameliorated.

IN THIS search, the local daily newspaper frequently is called upon, for publicity, for reviews, for editorial support.

This, more often than not, is forthcoming. For such a community theatrical effort is a worthwhile thing for any community to have. It performs a valued public service. It offers an outlet to those with theatrical bent. And, in many cases, it offers genuine entertainment.

So much for preliminaries. Now for a few specifics.

THE Footlighters are, as their major Centennial effort, presenting a melodrama, "On the Bridge at Midnight." It ran for several days last week and "didn't draw flies."

It resumed again last night, and will wind up its series of performances Saturday night.

Our reviewer told us, "off the record" as it were, that "the play's lousy, the acting is lousy, the directing is lousy, no one knows their lines—but it's a hatfull of fun all the same. Maybe, because it's a melodrama, it's even more fun than if everything went right."

And he added, "I'm going back."

BETWEEN acts the company presents an olio (from the Latin olla, a pot, later a hodge-podge), a variety of acts in conformity with the general "mellodrammer" theme.

Coffee is served. The atmosphere is friendly and informal. The organization is deserving of support and encouragement.

If these things combine to tickle your fancy, it's probably just your dish.—E.A.

Down With "Culture"

The word "Culture" (with a capital "C" please) scares some people.

It arouses connotations of long-haired aficionados of classical music listening with eyes closed. Or of bearded artists splashing paint on a daubed canvas. Or of a bookish pedant buried between the covers of some obscure volume. And so on.

The theater, opera, ballet, libraries, art museums, concerts, universities, study and discussion groups—these all at one time or another have been lumped together as "Culture," and, through a process of a distorted or inverted snobbery, shunned.

LET'S forget about "Culture," because, first, it is a loaded word, and secondly, because it isn't really descriptive any more. For today millions upon millions of people are finding that things which once were reserved to a favored and wealthy few are, in fact, a lot of fun.

The improvement of the radio and the phonograph, and particularly the long-playing record, has brought the joys of good music to vast throngs who once would have missed them.

The pictorial arts, painting, sculpture and their experimental cousins, are more familiar to everyone, largely because of the quality of reproduction now possible, and the fact that the "mass magazines" have featured them.

DRAMA in all its forms comes alive and close over television.

And the world of ideas has never been so easily accessible as it is now, through good magazines, and in book form, particularly the handy and inexpensive paperbacks.

Let's not, then, call this "Culture" (even if that's what it is). Let us, instead, call it an increasing appreciation and savoring of our heritage of the arts and humanities, and an increasing active participation in them and their development.

And people—lots of them—are finding that it is, indeed, fun.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



Today & Tomorrow

SOME GUESSWORK
The time schedule of the visits—the President's to Western Europe and Mr. Khrushchev's to this country—show that both visits are almost certain to be sketchy, impressionistic, and for the most part concerned with generalities.

Western government feels it can be candid. There are, to be sure, public men in every Western country who sincerely want reunification because they believe that in the long run the divided Germans will be unhappy and dangerous.

France and Great Britain prefer the partition of Germany because they both fear the economic and political power of a united Germany. Moreover, France and Adenauer's Germany are both committed to an economic union of six continental allies which, while now it has powerful economic interests behind it, is also a great political venture.

THE movement toward Franco-German unity, which is full of crusading zeal, is a very deep and very powerful, though not an avowed opponent of All-German unity. Thus, after 14 years the Great Powers have not only become used to German partition, they have acquired very strong vested interests in continuing the partition.

IT MAY sound like it but I do not think that this is a cynical view. It is, I admit, a deflated view. It rests on an estimate, which may of course be mistaken, of the situation of the two contending alliances.

I do not believe that this situation can or will be changed significantly by Mr. K's personal impressions in this country. Very many of our people take an inflated view. They talk as if they were fascinated with the hope and the belief that Mr. K. will change Soviet policy because of what he sees during his visit to this country.

THE West also has its reasons for avoiding a showdown and playing for time. Showdowns are not only nerve-racking in themselves but nobody can be quite sure what a showdown would show. There are other reasons why the West wants time—to catch up in the race of armaments, to promote the booming economy of the Western world, to work its way through the transitional period—which is the present—between the old colonial system and the new independent states of Asia and Africa.

IN OUR Western coalition, the existing situation, which means the partition of Germany, is not only not intolerable to any of the leading governments, it is, in fact, better than any alternative. On this crucial subject no

March of Dimes Head Tells of Paradox: Disease Up Despite Vaccine; Asks Help

By DON OSTENSOE
State Chairman
March of Dimes
In a year when polio, one of our most dreaded contagious diseases, should be at its lowest, we are experiencing a case level higher than any year since the advent of Salk vaccine.

epidemic year — and two months left before our peak season is passed. Paralytic cases are doubling the median for the last three years. Funds Exhausted

Public inertia to the problem has increased through low incidence years in 1956, 1957 and 1958. For instance the March of Dimes in 1958 raised a total of \$489,148. In 1959, March of Dimes revenue dropped to \$366,147.09. I feel that a large part of this drop is a result of negative publicity led by the uninformed pressure groups last January in which statements such as "Polio is whipped" and "The

National Foundation is trying to perpetuate itself" predominated. The fact that a large part of this drop was in Multnomah-Clackamas-Washington counties area — actually \$73,408.10 of the total state drop of \$123,000.91 — would lead me to believe that since the attack originated in Portland this area was most strongly affected.

View Holds Russ Want Test Ban Due to Fear of Chinese

By K. C. THALER
London — (UPI) — High allied diplomats see behind Russia's stepped-up pressure for a nuclear test ban Moscow's growing anxiety to keep Red China out of the exclusive nuclear club.

A year ago, Red Chinese Foreign Minister Marshal Chen Yi announced in a press interview that Peiping intended to have the bomb. The announcement coincided with an ominous letting-up of Red Chinese propaganda for a nuclear test ban.

references to atom weapons production has mentioned Russia's assistant. Western intelligence believes that, apart from the supply by the Soviet of atomic reactors, the Chinese have been left to their own devices in this crucial field.

Some suggestions have put forward 1960 as the possible date for the first Red Chinese nuclear atom bomb explosion. Hence, the Western diplomats believe Russia's pressure for a test ban this year to beat the deadline.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

JOE E. LEWIS, night club favorite, discovered that a race horse had been named after his long-time piano accompanist, Austin Mack. "You know what a sentimental cuss I am," sighed Lewis. "I made a bet on good old Austin Mack. And to my amazement, out of nowhere, he came in strong to finish last!"



A cute young stenog in the Wall Street sector confided to Broker John Straley that her roommate was causing her some concern. "She's convinced herself," said the stenog, "that she's an alarm clock! And what's worse, sometimes when I set her so I can get down here in time for the opening of the market, she doesn't ring until it's too late!"

A New England wired a fashionable Florida resort hotel for "something nice and relaxing at about \$20 a day." The return telegram read, "Try warm milk."

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From staid old England: "Locomotive drivers (we call them engineers on this side of the big water) report a new game among the youngsters of the town of Bootle. They line up along the track, put their HEADS ON THE RAILS and issue challenges to each other to see who will stay there longest.

edge of a haystack without going over. The engineer will be pretty likely to see you and slow down, and if he doesn't you can pull your head back in the remaining second. When you start head first over the edge of a haystack there isn't anybody there to yank you back to safety.

An official of the state-operated railroad system says drivers are getting so nervous over this practice that many of them refuse to operate trains anywhere near Bootle."

Anyway, I can't help thinking that today's younger generation isn't any wilder or woollier than the younger generations of bygone days. Maybe they just get into the papers oftener.

I suppose that will be interpreted widely as further evidence that in this day and age the younger generation—not only in our own country but elsewhere in the world—is going hog-wild and unpredictable.

HERE are some statistics: In 1958, 91,000 persons were killed in America and nine million others were disabled in a record number of accidents.

Thumbing back through memory's album, I recall a game that was current more decades ago than I care to confess in a quiet, predominantly agricultural neighborhood back in the Mississippi valley.

Last year's accidental deaths—on the highway and elsewhere—amounted to 52.5 fatal accidents per 100,000 of population. In 1923, 35 years earlier, there were 77.4 accidental deaths per 100,000 persons—50 per cent MORE, on a per capita basis, than last year.

It went like this: With a group of your companions, you climbed a tall haystack. You then dared each other to see who could jump closest (landing belly-buster) to the edge of the stack WITHOUT GOING OVER.

Leo Weisfield, president of Weisfield's Inc., was reelected to a three-year term as a director of the Retail Jeweler's association recently.

If you went over, as you sometimes did, you could break your neck, but generally you just got the breath knocked out of you—in which event everybody came down from the haystack and pounded you on the back until you could get your breath again.

Weisfield, who heads a group of 28 credit jewelry stores in Washington, Oregon and California, was elected at the New York jewelry and trade show earlier this month.

AFTER all, laying your head on a railroad track and trusting to luck that the engineer will see you and pull his train to a screaming stop isn't much sillier than seeing who can jump closest to the

Mrs. Sheridan W. Scott, Chairman Social Welfare American Red Cross, Jackson County.

Donald Nelson Suffers Stroke

Los Angeles—UPI—Donald M. Nelson, former war production board head, remained in serious condition today at Good Samaritan hospital suffering from a stroke.

Have a happy vacation! get money at "MONEYLAND" Pacific Industrial prompt, courteous personal loans and new or used car financing. 16 S. Central SP 3-5308 Bob Griffith, Manager

WEDDING CHAPEL Mrs. Litwiler

LITWILLER Funeral Home Mountain View Chapel Hwy. 66 at Normal Office 88 N. Main ASHLAND We Never Close "It is better to know us and not need us than to need us and not know us."

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