

Medford, Oregon 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.

Persons to Persons

A small steering committee here has embarked on a course that can heighten the vision, deepen the understanding and broaden the horizons of every citizen of Medford.

This course, already undertaken in 59 other cities across the nation, has been charted to let the American people communicate directly with those in foreign lands at a level where housewives and school children, merchants and millworkers can participate.

Its title is the "person to person" town affiliation program. Its purpose is to foster mutual understanding and trust among the citizens of cities all over the world. Its goal is Peace.

At the outset, the steering committee led by Robert Baccus, city councilman and principal of Wilson school, will be at the helm. The committee will be expanded as the project progresses.

Once Medford's sister city is selected, however, and the first hands are extended across the sea, then the more citizens who take part the more rewarding the general experience will be.

President Eisenhower, in endorsing the town affiliation program three years ago, commented:

"If we are going to take advantage of the assumption that all people want peace, then the problem is for people to get together and to leap governments—if necessary to evade governments—to work out not one method but thousands of methods by which people can gradually learn a little bit more of each other."

SELECTING a sister city requires careful consideration. It calls on the one hand for imagination, on the other for judgment.

The suggested limits to this choice are that the foreign city be comparable to Medford in size, in geographic situation and in economic interests.

But even with these points in view, anyone who glances at a map of the world can see a whole firmament of possibilities, and the shape of a stimulating challenge.

For if the program's purpose is understanding, should we not choose from among the peoples we understand least? And if its goal is Peace, should we not look to those not already firmly allied to our government?

WHAT about a city in Africa, or in the Middle East? In Latin America, or India or elsewhere in southeast Asia? Here we would find people who not only speak a different language and wear different clothes, live in different homes and eat different food, but people whose skin is a different color. Here we would find ourselves communicating with people whose spiritual and political outlooks may vary greatly from ours.

These people, whom we least understand—in today's troubled world, are they not the ones we need to understand most?

AND as for working toward Peace, we are informed no other American city in the program so far has affiliated with a city behind the Iron Curtain, or the Bamboo Curtain, or any other stifling curtain that shrouds the Communist-dominated world from the light of freedom.

What about a Polish city, an East German city, even a North Vietnamese city? What better way could there be for demonstrating what America is really like and dispelling the distortions of Communist propaganda?

IF MEDFORD does establish a town affiliation, we are also informed, it would become the smallest U.S. city yet to do so. This in itself is a certain distinction.

It also provides a challenge, since our search for a sister city in some parts of the world at least may not be as easy as it would appear at first. In the underdeveloped Asian and African nations especially, a city the size of Medford may have nowhere near the same degree of economic, social and cultural development.

Simply to be the smallest U.S. city in the program is at best a limited distinction, however, when so much more is involved. The smallest boy on the football team does not achieve prominence ordinarily just because he's small. He must be good, too. And likewise, Medford's real success would be measured in no small part by the degree to which we set and meet the challenge of an affiliation that would most promote understanding and Peace.

WHATEVER the eventual choice, the affiliation's success will also depend greatly on how many citizens of both cities participate.

The possibilities for exchanging personal visits, letters, art and hobby exhibits, informative literature and the like, and for developing friendly relations between school children, Boy Scouts, members of civic groups and service clubs, senior citizens and others, are infinite.

Basically, a "person to person" town affiliation is really a sum of the affiliations of numerous individuals each seeking to enlarge the scope of his experience and increase the hope for a peaceful world.

While statesmen meet at the summit, we can meet among the foothills—and who's to say for certain which will accomplish most?—E.W.

Dennis the Menace



"YES, I HEARD YOU. BUT I DON'T BELIEVE A 'GREAT BIG EAGLE' SWOOPED DOWN AND SWIPE THE STEAK. WHERE'S RUFF?"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
WHAT IS COEXISTENCE? Tokyo—What is coexistence? This will be the true central theme of the talks between President Eisenhower and Nikita S. Khrushchev.



IN THE last seven years, one must remember, the opportunities for a serious liberation policy have been very great indeed. The situation in Eastern Europe reached the potential explosion point in this period, because of the death of Stalin and the post-Stalin disillusionment. Twice, in fact, great explosions have actually occurred in Eastern Europe, in East Germany in 1953, and in Hungary in 1956.

What we did about it was to eat the phoney words about "liberation" as soon as they were taken seriously. All the resources of the CIA were used to help the Soviets damp down the East German rising of 1953. Our reaction to the Hungarian tragedy, by the same token, was too unpleasantly impotent to bear thinking about.

IN THIS manner, the West has tacitly accepted the Kremlin's rules for coexistence. These are: (a) that we cannot even support a legitimate government struggling to be free, as in Hungary, on their side of the line that divides the world; and (b) that the Kremlin can freely attack any conveniently vulnerable position on our side of the line.

THE MEANING of "peaceful coexistence" to Khrushchev and his subordinates and satellites can be easily summarized. They mean by "peaceful coexistence" playing the game of the world power struggle according to the strange prevailing rules, and thus avoiding any serious risk of major war. The rules they play by, although we have largely accepted them, are rules made in the Kremlin.

These rules permit Khrushchev to tear up the most solemn Soviet commitments, given only a few years ago, because these commitments do not any longer "correspond to the facts"—meaning the facts of the greatly changed world power balance. They further permit Khrushchev to indulge in the crudest military threats to Berlin, after repudiating the agreement in Berlin reached by the Soviets and the Western powers in 1949. The result of these actions, moreover, is not American mobilization, but an invitation to Khrushchev to drop in at the White House.

AGAIN, these Kremlin rules also permit Khrushchev, even when newly invited to the White House, to sponsor a naked Communist military aggression. The aggression is duly fuzged up and disguised a little, of course, as a "popular" guerrilla movement. But under the rules, any position can be attacked in this manner, where the attack seems safe and the aggression seems likely to pay off. This is what is happening in Laos.

In other words, Khrushchev looks at the current state of the power balance, and especially at the deterioration of the American deterrent. He looks at the mood of the President and the rise of peace-at-any-price feeling in London and elsewhere. After calculating these factors, he then looks for a vital position which he can grab for, without undue risk of a general conflagration. And he promptly grabs for that position, in full accord with the rules of the game as he understands them.

It is bitterly ironic to recall that an attempt to change these rules was once made by President Eisenhower, who came to power with a pledge to "liberate" the free peoples enchained by Soviet imperial-

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.

Green Quartz

To the Editor: This is still the age of miracles, in fact the wonderful period of the past 100 years has produced fantastic discoveries.

According to Ecclesiastes, Chap. 1, v. 9, there is no new thing under the sun. That reminds us some 60 years ago some prospector on Green's creek in Josephine county found a green quartz boulder weighing nearly 100 lbs. Upon examination there was no more green quartz found. The specimen yielded considerable gold, being distributed all through the rock. The assumption then among the mineralogists was the single chunk of green quartz had been carried by a former glacier drift. However there are a number of instances of green quartz having been found in Jackson county and when such carries gold, it is always of a high grade.

Bert Kissinger, 520 Boardman st., Medford.

Back To School

To the Editor: I have been re-reading your "Back to School" section and find it very interesting. Dr. Mayfield's message, the pictured new administrators and the plans for pre-school training seem to bode well for the new school year. I have a great appreciation for our teachers and an glad of this chance to say so.

Incidentally, outfitting the small girls called for a bit of shopping and I was happy to note that it was done with a representative number of local merchants.

Veldon J. Diment, 213 Portland ave., Medford.

Mother's Pleat

To the Editor: Barking dogs, fighting kids, Wax the floors, everyone skips Dirty handprints on the wall. Wished for summer, now pray for fall.

Where are the grapes? Who ate all the plums? Don't clean the house and company comes. Come and get some dry clothes on, it is her turn to water the lawn. What time is it? Have you been fed? Keep those fish hooks off the bed!

My Father's BIGGER. Yeah? Your Father's bigger. My, aren't we having a lovely summer?

A pile of clothes, and greasy "keds", Aren't they darlings . . . in their beds. Who is that hawk looking in the mirror? September's becoming nearer and dearer! Maurine Rydick, Route 1, Box 105, Gold Hill, Ore. Secretary, Jackson

Slow Progress Noted

To the Editor: With our concern over air pollution and the smoky haze which so often hangs over our beautiful valley, we have neglected to publicly express our appreciation and gratitude to the Medford Corporation.

On their own initiative, and without public pressure, they have taken the lead in reducing to a minimum the smoke from their mill. Elk Lumber Co., I believe, will run a close second. Mr. Flanagan informed me they were purchasing a "hog" this winter, and by spring the smoke from their one burner would be almost nonexistent. The only waste to be burned would be large chunks of wood which the hog is unable to handle.

Mr. Flanagan very graciously took me on a tour of their power generating plant, explaining its operation to me in detail. I'm sure he would welcome anyone who would care to see it. I know you would find it a fascinating and informative experience as I did.

We also wish to thank Timber Products for stopping the open burning which had been disturbing everyone living in that area. Mr. Oliver told me they were now shipping ALL their chips, which amount to eight carloads a day. They have three burners going day and night, but hope to cut it down to two in the near future.

Slowly, but surely, progress is being made in ridding our valley of excessive smoke. Mrs. Leonard Mathews, 1124 West 10th st., Medford.

Opposes Consolidation

To the Editor: Just a few lines why I am not in favor of leaving District 6C and joining with Rogue River.

First, their representatives say our taxes will be lower. Maybe they will be for one year, but what about next year when their new school will be on the tax rolls?

Also, the few students that they will gain will not help their district half as much as the taxpayers they would gain to help pay their debts.

Another reason I do not

of having nothing whatsoever to do with the China regime. All this, then, briefly, is the domestic scene. As to the international scene, Mr. Khrushchev has already let it be known that among the things he will talk about here with President Eisenhower will be American recognition of Communist China.

THERE are some officials here, who work in foreign intelligence who doubt that Khrushchev is really very keen to bring about this recognition. They reckon that Soviet fear of the emerging and gashly giant in China has already overtaken Soviet satisfaction at seeing that va.l neighbor communized.

They believe, in short, that Khrushchev is talking big for recognition mainly so that the Red Chinese can overhear and thus credit him with working in their behalf. Finally, in this estimate lies the sole possibility for any real change in the American attitude toward recognition. It is conceivable that we would slowly move toward some form of recognition if — but only if — it became plain that such an act could well and truly detach the China monolith from the Soviet monolith, and so weaken imperialist communism.

It is hardly possibly morally — at any rate, it is surely not politically possible — to defend recognition on any other ground or for any other reason. Neither the Administration nor Congress has forgotten what some have forgotten: The Chinese Reds made aggressive and thus far unrepeated war on us and on all of the United Nations in Korea.

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Morse Plan To Leave Today For Germany

Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Morse were scheduled to leave Seattle today for Germany where they will tour the country for two weeks as a guest of Volkswagenwerk. Morse is Medford Volkswagen dealer. They are part of a group of 30 Volkswagen dealers who are making the trip. Similar trips are being held for dealers throughout the country.

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Not all the mistakes get into print: Our summer reporter (not dreaming, he claimed, of the fact that he's leaving shortly) turned in a story last week about vandals who struck at a local home while the owner was on vacation.

The vandals "dropped open her freezer door and let her dogs loose," he wrote. "What sort of dogs are these?" the city editor wanted to know. "And who keeps dogs in freezers anyway?"

No, no, our reporter explained, there were two separate acts. The vandals turned her dogs loose and they also propped open the freezer door, he said.

Take it from there. The news staff came up with sixteen puns within two minutes. ("Hot dogs" and "cool cats" don't count.)

Our girl Friday (and Thursday, too) can always be counted on to help out with a potluck paragraph. She asked if we heard about the family who lost all the water in their swimming pool when a horse jumped into it.

No, we hadn't. How did it happen? "Well, they had to pull the plug out," she said, disappearing—rapidly—around the corner.

One more while we're talking about animals in difficulty. There was the fellow whose cat got run over by a steamroller . . . He didn't say anything; he just stood there with a long puss.

The Medford weather bureau modestly denies that it really had any influence in breaking the summer-long drought, but herewith we present the true story. The staff of the Medford station held its annual picnic on Aug. 19 and threatening clouds arose during the evening.

The weather men weren't caught in any humiliating shower but in the early hours of the following morning the local area had its first rain in 54 days.

A member of the news room staff recently had a birthday which went unnoticed by the majority of the reporters. Another reporter, slipping out of the office for a quick trip to the bank, on her return mentioned that a friend, who is employed by the bank, also celebrated her birthday that day.

"She was treated to a luncheon at the country club and had a pink and white carnation corsage and a basket of flowers on her desk," she said.

The staff member, whose birthday was that day, grumbled. But, so she wouldn't be completely ignored, a single birthday candle was stuck in an ashtray, lighted and then placed on her desk.

The reporter who received the "birthday gift" asked, "May I have a wish before I blow out the candle?" "Certainly," the staff said. "Okay," she said, "I wish I worked for the First National Bank!"

Faithful readers will recall that last Sunday we reported a bat trapped under the hood of a local car. Here is act two:

A Medford homemaker was called outside last week by her husband to look at the motor of their car.

"Honey, you know I don't know anything about motors," she said stepping outside, "why should I—eh!"

Yes, sir. There was a dead cat wrapped around the water pump. Whodunnit?

Skeptics will say that the cat crawled in to get warm one night and was conked over the head by the fan when the driver started the car up the next morning.

But we wonder if that hasn't been at work, protecting its lair from prowlers. Strange things are happening . . .

Somewhere we picked up a matchbook with a recipe for shepherd's pie on the inside.

The recipe calls for, among other things, 1½ cups cooked left-over string beans, 1½ cups cooked left-over carrots, and ½ cup left-over gravy.

The question that comes to mind, of course, is whether you can make shepherd's pie out of fresh food.

Come to think of it, though, the Army used to serve a lot of shepherd's pie. Maybe THAT'S why it tasted as it did.

At the bottom of the recipe it said, "Tear off and save." Obviously, for when your recipe calls for left-over matchbooks.

And we'll never forget the roadside diner we stopped at somewhere, someplace. The menu boasted of steaks smothered with onions, hamburgers smothered with chili, potatoes smothered with gravy, and so on.

All we ordered was coffee. We were just too choked up.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

CHANGE ON CHINA

Washington — The unequal sides in an old argument over how we should deal with Communist China are marshaling for a new struggle with the arrival of Nikita Khrushchev of the Soviet Union.

Both the legislative and executive branches of the United States Government are massively and repeatedly committed to nonrecognition of the Red regime. Indeed, the House of Representatives, in anticipation of new pressures for recognition, for the 14th time has just resolved, by 368 to 2, against any such course. The Senate time and again has done the same, and will again if a similar resolution is presented there before the adjournment of Congress.

The State Department seems more than ever opposed, if this is possible, to giving the slightest international respectability to the Chinese Reds. This is notably true of those American diplomats most directly responsible for the remaining free areas of Southeast Asia. These men are saying that to recognize Communist China now, at the very hour Communist pressure is being applied to our friends in Laos—in what used to be French Indo-China—would be catastrophic. "Unimaginable disaster" is the phrase used by the ablest in this diplomatic group. To

make any deal with the Communists, he says, would shake every free world position left in Asia.

EVEN so, though Washington would thus appear practically unanimous against any accommodation with the Chinese, this is not the absolute end of the thing. Down underneath, primarily in the Senate, there is some growing insistence for a complete reassessment, at least, of our policy.

This demand, though cautiously put by men who are not "appeasers" and naturally don't want to be called that, is not inconsiderable. And it could become actually substantial. It rises mainly from Western Senators with perfectly good anti-Communist records who are interested not so much in ideology as in trade with the Orient and in facing reality as they see it.

Sen. Warren Magnuson of Washington has long been concerned in a trade revival eastward. Sen. Gale McGee of Wyoming is another who would like at all events to see a re-examination of our policy. Ironically, and importantly, so is the successor to the man who more than any other symbolized absolute opposition to any conceivable arrangement with Red China, former Senator William F. Knowland of California, an orthodox Republican.



William S. White