

MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 33 North St. Ph. SP 2-6141

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Subscription Rates: By Mail - in Advance Copy 10c; Daily and Sunday - 1 year \$15.00

Official Paper of City of Medford; Official Paper of Jackson County; United Press International

MEMBER OF ADVERTISING BUREAU OF CIRCULATION; Advertising Representatives: W. H. B. CO., INC.

NEWSPAPER 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; Sept. 28, 1949 (Wednesday); First-day enrollment at Southern Oregon college this week stands at 572, including 378 men and 194 women students.

20 YEARS AGO; Sept. 28, 1939 (Thursday); Dean Wayne Morse of the U. of O. law school, acting as coast maritime labor arbitrator, confirms an order to longshoremen in San Francisco to load pears on a ship in the Bay City's harbor.

30 YEARS AGO; Sept. 28, 1929 (Saturday); Jackson county is to receive \$92,994 from the federal government as an O and C timber land tax refund.

40 YEARS AGO; Sept. 28, 1919 (Sunday); The Mail Tribune will be taken to Eagle Point every night by jitney.

50 YEARS AGO; Sept. 28, 1909 (Tuesday); Ladies of the Greater Medford club plan to develop a park on the Sage donation tract on North Central ave.

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

1. Rhode Island is the smallest state in area; what is the next smallest? 2. What is the square root of one? 3. Did the Lewis and Clark expedition explore California, the Great Lakes or the Oregon Country? 4. Is the U. S. Secret Service a division of the Department of Justice? 5. Are Yosemite Falls in Wyoming, Colorado, or California? 6. According to Benj. Franklin, what effect will "early to bed and early to rise" have on one's fortunes? 7. An object can never be wider than it is long; true or false? 8. According to a proverb, what kind of a stone gathers no moss? 9. Which of these South American countries has the greatest area - Brazil or Argentina? 10. What is another name for the flower, "Rose of Sharon"?

Answers: 1. Delaware. 2. One. 3. Oregon. 4. No. (Treasury Dept.) 5. California. 6. Make one "healthy, wealthy and wise." 7. True. 8. A rolling stone. 9. Brazil. 10. Althea.

There are 159 counties in Georgia, second only to Texas which has 254.

Who's Kidding?

Elsewhere on this page is a letter which far exceeds our 400 word limit on "Communications." We are making this exception because the letter is critical of the Mail Tribune, and for that reason only.

This does not mean that very letter critical of the M-T will be permitted to exceed that arbitrary 400-word limitation. But the exception is made because the author of the letter has, we think, a point. It is a point with which we strongly disagree, but, nonetheless, a point.

The letter discusses the ethics of the newspaper business, and generally, the division of opinion (in the editorial columns) and of straight reporting (in the news columns).

THE letter indicates that the news stories were written from a biased standpoint which jibes with the editorial view of the paper.

It so happens that this is utterly false. The reporter who wrote the story did not know what the paper's editorial viewpoint on the situation was, or might be. His instructions were to write the story, factually, as he saw it. This he did. (And a competent job it was, too.)

As for the editorial position of the paper, in about 99 cases out of 100, that is derived from the facts presented in news stories. And in no case of which we are aware has the situation been the other way around.

It is for this reason that this letter is presented in full. And we leave to knowledgeable readers of the M-T, both of the news and editorial columns, the "ethics" of the matter, and who's trying to kid whom.—E.A.

Crummy

SOME words are easy enough to use in casual conversation. They move along briskly, without a stutter, in the day-to-day necessities of communication but under the closer, more rigid application of the typewriter or editor's pencil, they cause the mind to stammer, the typing fingers to falter.

Take the word "crummy." It's use came up for discussion during a recent logging tragedy, and in such a context, it sounded downright irreverent and disrespectful, once it reached the news column. Between reporter and source, such as a police officer, it sounded all right to say that the injured victim was brought out of the woods in a crummy. But in type, the word loomed larger than the thing symbolized, and somehow exuded some of the implications in the dictionary definition of the word in its established meaning: "Slang; very inferior, mean, shabby."

TO ANYONE living in a logging community, however, a crummy—is well, a crummy. It's a vehicle for transporting loggers to and from their jobs in the woods. It's inclined to be an expendable, dilapidated vehicle large enough to accommodate a number of men.

The use of the word evokes images of men in tin pants, caulk boots, stag shirts, tin hats, with lunch boxes tucked under arms, scrambling aboard an old station wagon, school bus or panel truck of uncertain origin and bouncing over rough logging roads. They are a familiar sight in any community where timber pays for the bread and spreads the butter on it.

Like the pigs of the semanticists classic illustration, who were called pigs because they were so piggyish, the crummy is called a crummy because . . . well, can anyone think of a better word?—Coos Bay World.

A Death at Kappa Sig

A USC student choked to death Thursday on, of all things, a quarter-pound, oiled piece of raw liver. Why was he trying to swallow a piece of raw liver? It was part of his initiation into Kappa Sigma fraternity.

These days more people recognize the value of a college education than ever before. Students work harder, and the education being put out is better. In the midst of all this serious effort it is strange to find fraternities which still make stupid and dangerous initiations their stock in trade.

The episode at Kappa Sigma gives a black eye to the whole fraternity system. We're sure that fraternities, properly organized, can promote, rather than retard, the development of intelligent and responsible citizens our universities seek. Yet all we get from USC's Kappa Sigma is this juvenile humiliating—and tragic—performance.—Bend Bulletin.

Hoo-Hoo Club to Hold Initiation

Initiation of members and election of officers for the Rogue Valley Hoo-Hoo club will be held Tuesday, Sept. 29, at the Rogue Valley Country club.

The meeting will be the final stage of reorganization efforts by the local club and degree teams from both Eugene and Redding will conduct the ritual work.

The local club is a member of the International Concocted Order of Hoo-Hoo and is a fraternal order for lumbermen and closely allied forest products industries.

HEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS; New York (UPI)—Alaska and Hawaii may have been slow in joining the Union, but there's nothing backward about their bright young men and women. Students from the two new states won six of the 402 Health Scholarships offered this year by the National Foundation. The scholarships are worth \$2,000 for four years of college training in medicine, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, or medical social work.

be initiated at the Tuesday meeting may pick up application blanks at the door. This includes new members and those who wish to be reinstated.

A cocktail hour will precede the 6:30 p.m. dinner.

Dennis the Menace



YOU SURE HATE TO SEE A ROOM LOOK RELAXED!

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.

A Matter of Ethics

To the Editor: Your editorial of September 17th, entitled "Ethics of Public Debate," as related to the Phoenix - Talent School consolidation raises a number of worthwhile points. These are particularly commended for your personal study and guidance. Particularly is this so in view of another recent editorial of your paper expressing self satisfaction to the effect that your readers are generally satisfied with your newspaper. I would be the first to commend you on the makeup of your paper and wish that the substance measured up equally well.

Ethics in journalism, I should think, are no less important than the ethics of parents, children and taxpayers of these districts. Seemingly these persons are not entitled to the privilege of free expression or the right to have the courts pass upon the legality of a particular question. Many of your readers deplore, others resent, your thinly disguised and readily transparent use of your "news" columns to advance your personal viewpoint. All should recognize your right to express your personal views editorially.

Your "news stories" covering this election offended what I would conceive to be two important journalistic ethics - integrity in reporting the news impartially, as facts - and accuracy. To demonstrate: In a "news" story reporting the suit filed by me, you referred to it as "an eleventh hour attempt to scuttle the election." The quiet forum of a law court should be a better arena to resolve the legal merits of an issue than can be done in a news column. You interpret my suit as an effort to block the election. It was and is not. Your news staff badly confused a suit to stop an election with a declaratory legal action. Your own ethics did not prevent your checking the views of an elected judge on my complaint before he had ever seen it. Nor did your editorial admission that you knew nothing of the merits of my suit prevent your resorting to brainwashing adjectives in reporting it. Likewise, your ethics did not interfere with your electioneering "news" story on the day of this election. You should again read the election law to save you the embarrassment of someone, some day, insisting that you, too, comply with the "electioneering law." Many of your readers still recall your ethical standards in securing and reporting a secret grand jury report before it was legally returned to the court. Your editorial readers are frequently reminded, however, of their personal duty to follow and respect the law.

Your ethics did not permit you to comment on the "gerrymandering" approved by the boundary board to affect the outcome of this election. You did carefully speculate in a "news" story that the voters thereby disenfranchised could not have changed the result. You overlooked the support, as well as the votes, of these people. You express no concern that the democratic process might be endangered by repeatedly calling elections on the same issue when certain persons determined to secure a personal result did not get what they wanted the first time. Your desire that we "accept the results in good grace" seems to have had no application to the first and larger election. Some might say that the last election was not very American and establishes a dangerous pattern in this county to keep hacking at the

voters until they finally give up. In "news" stories you sought to discredit the "keep Phoenix independent" view by reporting that the Reorganization Board refused to say whether Phoenix can remain independent. I challenge you and the Reorganization Board to show any law which says a school district cannot remain independent if its voters so desire.

Your account of my suit completely failed to mention the principal point which is that the Reorganization Board can call a consolidation election only if it found and recommended such consolidation as being desirable and not in conflict with an overall plan of reorganization. It did not do so, as shown by your own quotation of the secretary of the board on the day of the election to the effect that the board was not recommending anything as to how people should vote. If this were a correct quotation it should be of interest to the court in deciding the legal question.

If the results of this election stand, the Phoenix School District, which is of about average means, will find it is saddled with the poorest district in Jackson county as well as the fastest growing subdivision in Jackson county with a high pupil attendance and low assessed valuation.

Because of your apparent concern with school issues, I hope you will let your readers know of the glaring mistake of the Legislature in permitting the County School Superintendent to set his own administration budget outside the 8 per cent limitation and without any vote of the taxpayers. The results of that law are sensational. That administrative budget has increased 106 per cent in a single year and the action of the Superintendent on his own salary is interesting. I believe it now exceeds any school salary in Jackson county, including Medford. Any law which permits empire building by even the most dedicated public officials is not in the public interest.

As a monopoly newspaper, yours is a greater than ordinary journalistic responsibility to report the local news accurately and with integrity. Perhaps a person of your journalistic talents should examine his own conscience and ethics before commenting upon those of others.

Bertha W. Gammill, Route 1, Box 428, Medford.

Prices; To the Editor: In the summer of 1920 in Grants Pass, I purchased a 1918 vintage car. After a few months ownership I chanced to find under the front seat cushion a complimentary paperback account book sent out by the Hamilton Carhart Manufacturer of Detroit, Mich. There was no personal name in the ledger, but on page 13 there was this entry of Nov., 1916: "Flour, 4 bags, \$9.75; one box apples, \$1.20; one can oil, \$1.50; 50 feet rope, \$1.05; 500 pounds wheat, \$10; paid for box at box social, \$5.75. Stayed overnight in town Oct. 21, 1916, \$1.65.

The box social date was Oct. 21, 1916. Except for a few miscellaneous items without the unit cost there was no further entry. At top of page was: Cash on hand, Oct. 20, 1916, sum of \$18.

This account was perhaps made by some single person, probably a miner, anyhow it is only a wild guess, although it does give us a clue to prices paid in 1916, 43 years ago.

Bert Kissinger, 520 Boardman, Medford.

Political Lynching of Nixon's Ambition Seems To Be Abandoned, Wilson Notes

By LYLE C. WILSON; United Press International; Washington—(UPI)—A political lynching which seemed inevitable only a few months ago has been postponed by now and, likely, abandoned.

To be lynched were Vice President Richard M. Nixon's presidential ambitions. Not Nixon's renomination for vice president. Stassen has performed several political belly whoppers of which the stop-Nixon effort of 1955-56 was the gaudiest and splashiest to date.

Stassen's effort could have some carry-over effect, however, into 1960, and it is far too soon in this September of 1959 to say that it will not carry over at all. The anti-Nixon politics have a bright new face going for them now and into 1960 just as the Taft lynching party had a bright new face going for them in 1951-52. That face, of course, belonged to Dwight D. Eisenhower. The bright new face is the smiling trade mark of Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York.

Smile Would Fade; Rockefeller did not stick to his November in deciding whether to run next year. If he had stuck to that plan, his smile would be fading now and fast. The polls are doing a job for Nixon right now which he, least of all, could do for himself.

The polls are refuting the Nixon-can't-win idea. They plug the idea that Nixon can win. There is nothing dearer to the heart of a party fat cat, stuffed shirt or plain politician than a winner.

However that may be, the most deadly of the shots fired at Taft in 1952 were three little words: Taft-can't-win! Republicans, especially the stuffed shirt party big shots, repeated the phrase among themselves and to themselves until they believed it. That was the end of Taft.

Something like that was in the works for Nixon. Harold E. Stassen began it in 1955-56 when he tried to prevent Nixon's renomination for vice president. Stassen has performed several political belly whoppers of which the stop-Nixon effort of 1955-56 was the gaudiest and splashiest to date.

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All of this is pleasing to Nixon's friends and advisers. Friends and advisers, however, often are a nervous lot. They are counting their blessings as the polls come in, but they have their worries, too. Their principal worry is that it may not last, that something may happen before convention time to put volume into a chorus of Dick's a fine fella, of course, but he can't win.

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Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

Washington—Two men from two worlds—worlds that will never meet in mind and spirit through they may indeed "co-exist"—have addressed the National Press in succession.

The first of these was Nikita Khrushchev. He used this forum for his first major address to the United States in his strange cold war mission here. He spoke of power, for a way of life based not upon compassion but upon an evil of highly "practical" compulsion.

The second man to appear before the press club is a newspaperman. And ordinarily newspapermen are not supposed to write about other newspapermen. But this speaker, too, is a public figure, though he holds no office and never did.

He is Walter Lippmann, the great commentator. He is more than that, really; he is a public institution. And so are two of those who sat at the head table with him, Arthur Krock of The New York Times and David Lawrence, whose work includes running the U.S. News and World Report and writing a syndicated column.

No other profession and no other country has three such persons as Lippmann and Lawrence and Krock. One may often disagree with each and all of them—this correspondent often does. But no one can escape the fact that they are monumental men, hardly less important to this country and its intellectual life than is a President or a famous Senator.