

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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Flight 'o Time: Medford and Jackson County history from the files of The Mail Tribune 70, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO: Oct. 9, 1949 (Sunday). George Flanagan and Frank Bash, leaders of the Community Chest drive, put the final touches on a sign in the window of the new Chest office on West Main st. near Holly st.

20 YEARS AGO: Oct. 9, 1939 (Monday). Dean Wayne Morse of the U. of O. law school resigns as Pacific Coast waterfront arbitrator after longshoremen fail to recognize his arbitration award.

30 YEARS AGO: Oct. 9, 1929 (Wednesday). Medford's banks show a heavy gain in deposits during the past three months.

40 YEARS AGO: Oct. 9, 1919 (Thursday). The local mercury plummets to a mere 27 degrees.

50 YEARS AGO: Oct. 9, 1909 (Saturday). The federal court term in Medford is to open Oct. 13.

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

1. How many days did it rain during the Biblical Flood? 2. Do tracer bullets leave a trail of smoke, or light? 3. Will a piece of ice in direct sunlight melt more quickly if covered with a black cloth, red cloth, or a white cloth? 4. Are there two, three, or six ways in which a pair of dice may fall to make a seven? 5. How many times was F.D.R. inaugurated as President of the United States? 6. How many lines are there in a sonnet? 7. Is the temperature of the earth's upper atmosphere always below freezing? 8. Complete the proverb: "You have made your bed and..." 9. Name the assassin of President Abraham Lincoln. 10. Are the "Flannder's Fields" of John McCrae's poem located in France, Belgium, or The Netherlands? Answers: 1. Forty. 2. Light. 3. Black cloth. 4. Six. 5. Four times. 6. Fourteen. 7. Yes. 8. "...you must lie in it." 9. John Wilkes Booth. 10. Belgium.

'Basic Rule' Under Attack

ORS 483.102 Basic speed rule. (1) No person shall drive a vehicle upon a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard to the traffic, surface and width of the highway, the hazard at intersections and any other conditions then existing.

(2) No person shall drive at a speed which is greater than will permit the driver to exercise proper control of the vehicle and to decrease speed or to stop as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle or other conveyance on or entering the highway in compliance with legal requirements and with the duty of drivers and other persons using the highway to exercise due care.

The paragraphs above constitute the essential parts of Oregon's so-called "basic rule." They are supplemented by various "designated speeds," violation of which constitutes prima facie evidence of a violation of the rule.

The law is under considerable criticism these days, both in the press, and among law enforcement officers (as well as others interested in traffic safety), who believe a flat speed limit would be better, clearer, more conducive to safety, and easier to enforce.

These critics have a point. A FLAT speed limit law most certainly would be clearer and easier to understand. And it would be easier to enforce.

But would it be a better law? And would it tend to make highways safer?

We have yet to be convinced that they would. What, for instance, are the relative per capita (or rather per driver) safety records of Washington and California, which have flat speed limits, compared with Oregon, which has the basic rule?

The answer to that is one test to apply. And nowhere have we seen that either Washington or California highways are safer than Oregon's.

IDEALLY, the basic rule is a good law, designed for intelligent and prudent drivers. It is not really difficult to understand.

It is the minority of drivers who refuse to drive safely, or who honestly don't know what safe driving is, that have caused it to be criticized. And these drivers wouldn't be much more inclined to obey a flat speed limit than they are to drive prudently under a logical and reasonable law.

To our mind, the critics of the basic rule have yet to prove their case. —E.A.

Work Relief Problem

Americans have pretty generally accepted the idea that no one in this country should ever be permitted to go hungry, no matter what the circumstances.

In depression days, it was not at all unusual to have a man come to the back door and ask for a bite to eat.

It is unusual now, however, not only because of a far higher level of employment, but also because of the dozens of agencies, both public and private, which are equipped to render assistance to the destitute, not to mention industrial accident coverage, unemployment compensation, and so on.

BUT, an odd thing has happened. Despite the general level of prosperity in this country, relief (or "welfare") rolls continue to grow.

In part this is due to an increase in the average age of the population, with more older people who receive old age assistance.

In part it is due to what appears to be a growing problem of fathers who are either unable or unwilling to support their families, which is reflected in increases in the "aid to dependent children" programs.

THIS growing tax burden has, in turn, brought with it a demand that relief programs be administered with a sharper eye on grafters and cheaters — people who find that it is easier to get along on relief than it is to find a job and earn their money.

This has led to another demand, best phrased in the old adage, "Those that won't work, don't eat."

The state public welfare commission is now actively proposing to Oregon's 36 counties that seasonal work projects be set up in the counties, so that able-bodied relief recipients can, if nothing else, make a gesture of working for their keep.

There is much that is appealing about such a plan.

BUT there are many pitfalls, too. We would hate to have the responsibility of administering such a program. For the possibilities for injustices are multiple; the red tape would be formidable, and objections, both from welfare recipients and others, would be frequent.

However, if these can be overcome, good could result from such an experiment. There is certainly enough work which the county needs to have done — if not on roads, then on trails, parks and other recreational facilities.

In any event, we do not see how the ideal, that no one, good or bad, lazy or ambitious, sick or well, should go hungry, can be abandoned. —E.A.

Dennis the Menace



Chocolate soda and a pan of water, please.

Washington Report

By PHIL NEWSON, UPI Foreign Editor

The man-of-the-week: Sir Winston Churchill.

The place: London.

The quote: "I think we are nearer today to having positive and fruitful negotiations with the Soviet Union than we have been for a long time."

What had started as a gentlemanly general election campaign to determine the next British government was winding up in a storm of name-calling and charges and counter-charges.

The Churchill who campaigned in the bright autumn sun of 1959, did so from the back seat of an open car, clad in overcoat, with a scarf wrapped snugly about his throat and a car robe covering his knees.

When he mounted a platform to speak, it was slowly and his words came more slowly still.

But it made no difference to the people who would send him back to Parliament regardless of whatever party won the majority, regardless of whether the Conservatives were to continue in power or the Laborites were to take over.

Churchill spoke in terms of today's problems, of dealing with the Russians, of disarmament. But it was doubtful whether the people of Woodford either heard or saw him in such terms.

They would hear such words as these, uttered by Churchill in the dark days of 1940:

"We shall not flag or fail... we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

They were Churchill's rallying words to the British people, but they also are a description of the man himself, a man whose ailments have been such that a lesser one would have succumbed long ago.

Political Implications Contained in Pending Union Dues Supreme Court Test

By LYLE C. WILSON, Washington—UPI—The legal test, now pending before the Supreme Court, of political activities under union shop contracts throughout the United States was preceded by these events:

The Congress in 1951 amended the Railway Labor Act specifically to permit the carriers and unions to make union shop contracts.

Suit was brought to challenge this authority and came, finally, before the Supreme Court. This was known as the Hanson Case.

The court upheld the union shop contracts but included in its opinion a significant reservation.

This reservation was as follows: "Judgment is reserved as to the validity or enforceability of a union or closed shop agreement if other conditions of union membership be imposed or if exaction of dues, initiation fees or assessments, is used as a cover for enforcing ideological conformity or other actions in contravention of the First or the Fifth amendments."

Now before the Supreme Court on appeal from the Georgia Supreme Court is the Looper case.

In this case several employees of the Southern Railway complained that unions to which they are compelled to belong to hold their jobs misuse union funds.

The alleged misuse consists of spending dues money for purposes other than the negotiation and administration of collective bargaining agreements. More specifically, it is alleged that dues money obtained under compulsion of a union shop agreement would be used for political and legislative purposes opposed by the complaining union members.

Georgia's Supreme Court found valid the complaint of the protesting union members. The complaint in its broadest form was that to exact dues and other money from union members for such political and legislative purposes would be unlawful and in violation of the members' constitutionally guaranteed rights of freedom of association, thought, liberty and property.

The Georgia court noted that the Supreme Court had not passed on this question.

"We must render judgment now," the Georgia court said, "upon this precise question. We do not believe one can be constitutionally compelled to contribute money to support ideas, politics and candidates which he opposes. We believe his right to immunity from such exactions is superior to any claim the union can make upon him."

The U.S. Supreme Court, if it desires, may decide the case at once without argument. If so, the decision could come any time, perhaps next Monday. More likely, the court will order argument. That would come sometime next winter.

A decision, in that event, still could be made months before the 1960 presidential election and in time to reduce the flow of political funds into union treasuries.

The ultimate political effect would be considerable.

Sir Winston's Campaigning Evokes Wartime Memories

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Applied to your situation, an incident illustrating it was a morning quarrel between Brother John and me over whose turn it was to carry the dinner-pail the mile and a half walk to school. How impossible to do so, by suddenly appearing with his heavy luggage backpedaling in belt in hand and 200 lb. snapping around our ankles. That old tin snapper became light as a feather and no trouble at all to carry to school.

Two teachers had been "run-out" by young boys from the old brick school, partly county, Michigan. He is the black-eyed teacher, a smiling Hoffman, it was generally supposed, in your own class, kindly to you young boys, but steady of lying, and a most awful ringer for the teacher who carried down the aisle, with his tongue sticking out purple-black as he equaled "teacher-teacher-teacher." I ducked down under my desk and made walnut seed as best I could from gettin' killed, remember like. John was dragged up front, his feet kicked out under him, slammed to the floor a couple of times and kicked head-on back up the aisle with the warning, "If I catch you chapin' your old spittin' down that hallway again, this is just a sample of what you'll get!"

There was no more kidding in school. I tried to get out, Teacher Hoffman went out for damages either. Got the word went around. Got the man Springett gettin' the worse whalin' for somethin' much trouble.

A veteran reported on a New York paper tells how the juvenile trouble started there when the new chief of psychiatrist (that Dr. Alvarez) writings in the NY Times for so much of our social troubles) talked former Mayor LaGuardia into the taking away of night-sticks of police who had walking of New York streets as by "workin' said night-sticks over the rumps of youth trouble-makers," on each one's particular beat.

R. E. Clark, Route 2, Box 1005, Central Point.

Seeks Ex-Teacher: To the Editor: I am wondering if some one can give me any information of a former schoolteacher, Mr. William Ludwig, who taught at the Mt. Pitt school, five miles east of Butte Falls, fall of 1937 and spring of 1938. I met one of his sons in 1939 but don't hear nothing of him since.

Floyd R. McCarty, Mt. Pitt School, Butte Falls, Ore.

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Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

A Milestone: Although there was little drama about them, the meetings last week of the World Bank and the Monetary Fund marked a turning point in our time.

In our relations with the economically advanced countries of Western Europe and of Japan, the post-war period has come to an end. For our principal allies and principal enemies alike, the devastation and the dislocation of the war meant a period of years, roughly ten, for reconstruction and recovery.

During this period of reconstruction their greatest need was a supply of hard currency, of which the dollar was the chief example. The great American measures, beginning with the Marshall Plan and including many others, were designed to overcome the shortage of dollars, of which we had a surplus and our allies and enemies a deficit.

This policy has been brilliantly successful. Japan and the industrial part of Western Europe have not only made a full recovery but are in a condition of expanding prosperity, and indeed of boom. For them the dollar shortage has been turned into a dollar surplus, and it is self-evident, as their financial representatives in Washington have been the first to admit, that they must now take their place as partners rather than as dependent relations in the task of financing the development of the under-developed countries of the world.

THIS change has become visible in the past two years. Since the last quarter of 1957, it is the United States, not the principal beneficiaries of the Marshall Plan, which has been running a deficit in its balance of payments.

These deficits are now growing. During 1958 the deficit amounted to over three billion dollars. In the first six months of this year, 1959,

the deficit has been even higher than in the first six months of 1958. During the second quarter of this year, 1959 (April to June), foreign countries increased, through their transactions with the United States, their gold and dollar assets by well over a billion, actually by 1,160 million. This does not include new capital contributions to the International Monetary Fund. Most of this rise in liquid funds accrued to the industrially advanced countries of Europe and to Japan.

IF THE United States is to remain the chief banker of the non-Communist world — and somebody will have to play that role — we cannot afford to lose gold at the rate of the past year. Our gold reserve is, to be sure, the largest in the world. Even after the recent losses it is still nearly 20 billion dollars. But as against these reserves we have outstanding foreign liabilities of over 15 billion. Another year or so of the deficit we are now running, would make the position very tight.

This is a big change in the past ten years. At the end of 1950 we had a surplus of gold reserves over our obligations of more than 10 billions over our obligations. In another year or so we may have no surplus.

If we approach this point, we must expect a serious speculation against the dollar.

It is plain, therefore, that we cannot afford indefinitely to run deficits in the balance of payments and gold losses such as we have had during this past year.

THE situation will have a great influence on the formation of American foreign policy in the months and years to come. It is too early to attempt to foresee the whole effect. But a few things can perhaps be foreseen.

There will be an increasing insistence that the advanced and recently recovered nations of Western Europe and of Japan should finance the cost of their own defenses. There will be an increased recognition that in the financing of the development of the backward countries, the emphasis must be shifted gradually from military to economic aid. This is not going to mean the disarmament of the small peripheral countries. But it is going to mean a much more careful scrutiny into what happens to our military aid.

In a broader sense, the new situation will generate wide and active interest in the possibility of the reduction of armaments. For being the banker and the arsenal of the non-Communist world, we are in sight of the day when we cannot go on as we have been going.

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Anti-Court Measures Fail During Session

Washington—(CQ)—Bills to curb the Supreme Court made little headway in Congress in 1959. It was a sharp contrast with the previous session of Congress, when far-reaching Court-curb measures failed by only a few votes.

A Congressional Quarterly survey shows that Congress in 1959 completed action on only two bills reversing controversial Supreme Court decisions. One, a provision in the labor reform bill, closed the "no man's land" gap created by the Court's 1957 Guss case decision by letting states take jurisdiction over minor labor disputes involving interstate businesses.

The other knocked out two 1959 Supreme Court actions permitting states to tax the net income of an interstate business even if the firm's only activity in the state was to send a salesman to get orders that would be filled from outside the state.

Partial Action: Six other Court-curb measures passed the House in 1959 but none reached the Senate floor. The most important was the "anti-preemption" bill sponsored by Virginia Democrat Howard W. Smith. It involved the legal doctrine that permits the Federal Government to exclude states from legislating on subjects where the Constitution gives the states and the Federal Government concurrent jurisdiction.

Smith argued the Federal courts had been abusing the preemption doctrine, striking down state laws in situations where Congress clearly never meant to exclude the states.

Under the Smith preemption bill, the states would be permitted to punish all subversive activities, and the Federal courts would be prohibited from applying the preemption doctrine to strike down state laws unless Congress had said specifically that it meant to preempt the field involved. The bill passed the House but never reached the Senate floor. In 1958, it had failed to be enacted into law by the margin of only one vote in the Senate.

The other five House-passed bills that died in the Senate involved passports (the Court in 1958 ruled Congress had never given the State Department power to deny passports to Communists), criminal confession (the Court in 1957 ruled a confession could not be used in court if police had delayed unnecessarily in

arraigning a prisoner), and subversive activities (the Court in 1957 ruled that to "organize" a subversive group meant only to participate in the initial act of setting it up, not continued activities like recruiting), and two minor cases dealing with appeals from deportation orders and habeas corpus writs.

No Action: There was no action in either chamber on Court decisions limiting the Federal Security Program only to sensitive jobs, casting doubt on Congress' right to investigate Communist activities, or banning secret information from defense plant security hearings. And no general bill limiting the Court's appellate jurisdiction won approval from any Committee, although such a bill almost passed the Senate in 1958.

Three reasons were cited for the change in Congressional climate: the influx of "pro-Court" northern Democrats into the Senate after the 1958 election; several 1959 Court decisions widening state powers in business matters; and two 1959 security decisions: Uphaus, making clear a state had the right to investigate and punish subversive activities directed against itself; and Barenblatt, holding the House Un-American Activities Committee had a right to investigate Communist activities.

However, all measures remain alive for the second year of the 86th Congress, so further action next year on any of them is possible. (Copyright 1959, Congressional Quarterly Inc.)

Three Men Hurt In Sandy Explosion

Gresham—UPI—Three men remained hospitalized here today, two in "poor" condition as the result of injuries suffered in the Wednesday explosion of a gasoline drum at a Sandy, Ore., sand and gravel plant.

Robert Rhode, 20, a welder, and Gerald Gage, 26, both of Sandy, were reported in poor condition with severe burns and other injuries suffered in the blast at the Sandy Sand and Gravel Co.

Walter Hager, 50, Boring, was reported in fair condition with burns. Another man, Ray Farmer of Sandy, was also burned