

CRANBERRY FARCE

"The great cranberry farce of 1959" is how a friend of ours referred to the flurry over the fact that traces of a weed-killer, known to be a cause of cancer when applied in heavy doses to rats, have been found in recent cranberry crops.

The flurry has had some destructive consequences. It has, and will, hurt growers of this crop, many of whom operate small acreages in Oregon, along the coast and in the Willamette valley.

It has scared a few people. It has caused some markets to remove the berries from their shelves.

THE cranberry incident was almost a comedy of errors, with one government agency going in one direction, another in another, and the growers, the public and the retailers being caught in the middle.

If cranberries were a diet staple, eaten five or six or seven times a week—like bread or potatoes—and if the weed-killer were shown to be an active cause of cancer in humans, even in minute amounts, then there might be cause for mild alarm.

As it is, the chemical is not known as a human cancer-cause. It has caused cancer in rats ONLY when applied in heavy, repeated doses over the life of the test animal. Its concentrations in the "contaminated" cranberries were infinitesimal.

And who eats cranberries more than once or twice a year anyway?

THERE is mounting evidence that cigarettes are a million times more potent as a cause of cancer than the will-o-the-wisp suspicions the "contaminated" cranberries.

But cigarette sales continue to climb. There is mounting evidence that air pollution, including automobile exhausts, is also a leading cause of cancer.

But what do we do about it—except start slow-moving "surveys," wring our hands, and deplore our cruel fate?

Doesn't it make this flap about cranberries look a little silly?

BUT, if viewed in perspective, it may result in some good as well.

For instance, it does focus attention on the fact that in recent years many chemicals have been added to the foods we eat, not all of them beneficial. Some, in fact, may be beneficial or may be harmful, or neither—for no one knows.

The increasing use of pesticides, insecticides, herbicides—and all the other...icides—may not inevitably lead to race homicide, but it certainly is a cause for caution, and for a vastly increased amount of research to prevent harmful chemicals from being used indiscriminately in the foods we eat.—E.A.

Significant Project

While on the unpleasant subject of cancer, it is interesting to note that the people of Jackson county are being called upon to do something about it—beyond hand-wringing and gifts.

One thousand families are to be asked to assist in a monumental, nation-wide project designed to determine, if possible, what effect environment and personal habits may have on cancer incidence.

The families chosen will have at least one member aged 45 years or more, and will be from all parts of the county.

THIS county-wide effort will be part of the state project, involving some 17,000 families, which in turn is part of the national program in 22 states. Up to a million people will participate.

This tremendous "sample" of the population, questioned carefully about living conditions, diet, sleep, exercise, occupation, family relations, physical complaints, personal health history, family health history, and other pertinent matters, should provide data never before available.

While the research project is under the sponsorship of the American Cancer Society, its importance is not limited to that disease, and can give valuable information about heart ailments, tuberculosis, and others.

THE program should not be much of a burden on anyone, if all cooperate readily. Leaders will enroll 100 researchers and each of these will contact 10 families, a total of 1,000.

The families will fill out the four-page questionnaires which will be completely confidential. That is the first phase of the program.

But it will continue for six years, with the volunteer researchers maintaining contact with the cooperating families. Each two years they will be asked to fill out brief supplementary questionnaires covering illnesses. Causes of death will be obtained and recorded.

THE initial questions will reveal such things as occupational hazards related to cancer, familial tendencies toward the disease, relationship of cancer and other illnesses, childbirth factors in cancer, relationships of diet, food and beverages to the disease, and cancer's relation to cigarettes, air pollution, living standards, and so on.

An analysis of these, in turn, is expected to be helpful in yielding clues as to causes and contributing factors in the disease, to determination of the earliest signs and symptoms, and, eventually, to the prevention of cancer by removing responsible factors, plus early detection to permit early and successful treatment.

In our view, this is one of the most interesting and significant projects in the cancer field ever to be undertaken.—E.A.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. Name the four qualities of taste sensations.

2. Is nectarine a variety of plum, or peach?

3. Ascension Day is 20, 30, or 40 days after Easter?

4. Nespolita would denote a native of which city?

5. Is there a law requiring a Supreme Court Justice to be native born?

6. Complete the proverb, "Spare the rod and..."

7. When an adult has a full set of teeth and the 14, 15, or 16 in each jaw?

8. If you wanted to have permanent flowering plants, would you use annuals, or perennials?

9. Why is a horseshoe nailed over a door open end up?

10. Does the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution contain 6, 8 or 10 amendments?

Answers: 1. Sweet, sour, salt, and bitter. 2. Variety of peach. 3. 40 days. 4. Naples, Italy. 5. No. 6. ... spoil the child. 7. Sixteen. 8. Perennials. 9. To keep the luck from running out. 10. Ten.

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

Nov. 13, 1949 (Sunday)

The first local model airplane speed contest since last spring scheduled today by Medford Prop. Nuts.

First post-war city-wide sales promotion event sponsored by Medford merchants scheduled Dec. 1.

20 YEARS AGO

Nov. 13, 1939 (Monday)

P. G. Deuber will climb to the top of Mt. Pitt today and flash Morse code signals by mirror.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The Governor of Washington has announced he'll smoke no more cigarettes because citizens in his state spend more money on cigarettes than they do on butter."

30 YEARS AGO

Nov. 13, 1929 (Wednesday)

State Horticultural meeting opens today with speakers urging more publicity for pears.

More than \$5,000 raised in Community Chest campaign here.

40 YEARS AGO

Nov. 13, 1919 (Thursday)

Two men injured when struck by auto operated by drunk drivers on South Riverside.

Enid Bennett stars at the Liberty theater in "The Virtuous Thief."

50 YEARS AGO

Nov. 13, 1909 (Sunday)

Medford leads United States in the number and quality of cash registers in city per capita population.

It is gratifying that Southern Pacific will erect a new depot, but something should also be done about the dingy warehouses and long lines of freight cars strung through the middle of the city.

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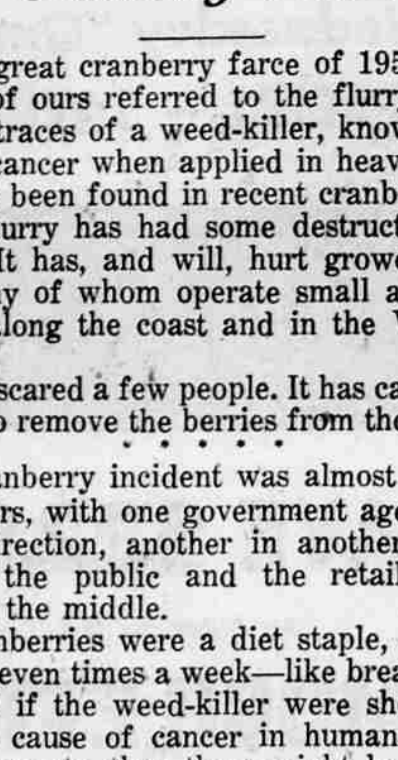
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30 N. CENTRAL

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AYS 9 to 5

Dennis the Menace



"I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU I'M SORRY I GOT SO MAD. AN' I GOD BLESSED YA AFTER ALL."

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 initial 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.

Ludicrous Contrast

To the Editor: I suppose I should be more approving than I am of the current warnings from the government on the possible contamination of cranberries with a probable cancer-producing agent. For several years, I have been concerned about many things that happen to our food supply, to increase its saleability, from the sprays on crops and animals, to food colors, bleaches in flour, preservatives and chemical flavorings to say nothing of various denaturing processes.

We should be grateful that a start is being made—but it seems to me that most people who forego their cranberries in the coming holiday season are straining at gnats—so to speak. Those who are cancer-prone if they smoke—will probably die of cancer of the lungs several hundred years before cancer from cranberries can lay them low.

All this concern about the harmful effects of a residue on the bright red berries coming from a government that has until recently sought to justify the contamination of our atmosphere with radioactivity seems to this cynic just a wee bit ludicrous.

Our culture and society are full of irrational aspects which only make sense when viewed from the point of view of "Economic Determinism." In other words, we act as we do because in our competitive society, the most powerful motivation is personal economic gain. Only a cooperative economic system can afford to place human welfare on a high priority. Only then, it will be practical to do unto others as we would be done by.

One small bouquet in closing. Of all the many papers, I see from time to time, I feel your editorial page is perhaps the most intelligent.

Clark F. Hull, 1577 Benton dr., Redding, Calif.

Majority Rights

To the Editor: I live in Ashland and we are proud of the editor of our paper is willing to stand out in protecting the rights of the majority against a few. The Shakespearean theater is the result of many and is the symbol of the finest in entertainment, to say nothing of the cost of \$275,000, an achievement of which any city would be proud.

I will wager, if Mrs. Miller

Crime and Punishment

To the Editor: This is an answer to Mrs. Seavey and Mrs. Miller of Talent, on the subject of name use of the juveniles involved in the destructive acts at the Shakespearean theater. It is my understanding that paint was used to write obscene words, etc., on walls of the building, which is not just destructive mischief, but shows more of the character of those who did it.

This is not the ordinary Halloween prank. There is a type of child that is apt to do this sort of thing at any time of the year, if they think they

can get away with it, or don't happen to get caught.

After 13 years as a school bus driver and raising a family of three children, I have some knowledge of the thinking habits of children in this age group.

They take their punishment with a variety of attitudes, and the things they do are looked at with as many different views, both by adults and other children. Some see as the only crime the fact that they were caught. Others, with the proper punishment, can be made to see the light and they get straightened out. If they are let off with easy punishment the first few times, they are made a big shot in the eyes of a certain percentage of the other children.

In correcting children when they get out of line, I find that a punishment that really jars them the first time has a real and lasting effect.

Other boys that I have continually had trouble with on the school bus, but who were given very light correction by those in authority, have gone into larger things until finally they have to serve time in a state penitentiary.

I believe the Ashland police and paper are correct in what they did, and I also believe it would be the correct thing to do in most cases. Letting the names and addresses come out, is feared by these children as much or more than a jail sentence where their name is withheld. I have heard boys over 18 years old refuse to let younger ones bring liquor into their cars because the older boys, if caught, would have their names printed in the newspaper. They feel the disgrace of the situation more when this happens. Consequently, I believe if the names were printed and the sentence the first time is heavy enough to go on record, it's going to make them stop and think and to see that society disapproves and will not baby them and shield them for acts that do not deserve it.

Carroll E. Stevenson, Route 1, Box 519, Central Point, Ore.

Tobacco Advertisements

To the Editor: Well, the teenagers of this area are being arrested and fined for being in possession of tobacco. So who sponsors a program on TV that is primarily a teenage show? None other than a tobacco company.

Maybe the residents of Medford and the TV station could be a little more selective about their sponsors for programs aimed at teenage audiences.

At any rate, let's be sure our young people are not being urged to buy tobacco and then re-arrested for having it in their possession.

I for one will not let my children watch at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The TV station is being informed of my feelings also.

Mrs. H. M. Cox, 2816 Corey rd., Central Point, Ore.

Editorial Comment

REVISE THAT MENU

Looking forward to a bounteous Thanksgiving dinner? Look again, if you're jumpy about cranberries.

When you cross cranberries off the list, cross off that stuffing bread, too. It's treated with preservatives which, the food faddists say, louse up your innards.

Cross off those mashed potatoes. They come from seed that has been dipped in chemicals which, in a different form, are used to kill flies.

Cross off those sweet potatoes. If their seed hasn't been dipped in near-fly spray, they've probably been irrigated with polluted water.

Pumpkin pie is all right, except for the crust. Preservative again. But scratch apple pie. Arsenic in the spray.

What about the main dish? Scratch it, too. Old Tom may have been treated for both lice and fungus disease by dipping in a grand mixture of toxic brews.

Don't substitute a capon. It's been shot full of hormones that give nice cancer of the endocrines.

Throw out all the rest of the goodies, too. They've either been washed or cooked in chlorinated water, unless they were shipped in from one of the dozen areas of the state where they were processed in fluoridated water.

Just sit down and have a delicious big multiple vitamin tablet, if you don't mind the side effects of all that nicotine and ascorbic acid.—Capital Journal, Salem.

IT'S A FACT!

The USSR has budgeted 96.1 billion rubles for military expenditures in 1960—and 102 billion rubles for education. In the United States we are spending about 15 billion dollars for education—and 45 billion dollars for defense.

—Eugene-Register-Guard

Confusing

To the Editor: This cranberry furor has me a bit confused. Maybe someone can tell me why there is such a rush to take the cranberries off the market when none of the growers to my knowledge has taken the cigarettes off his shelves. The danger there has been proven, and the cranberry scare is so far only an investigation.

Personally, I wouldn't take a chance on either one of them, but you'll have to admit the inconsistency is a bit confusing!

Puzzled (Name on file) Medford

Drive Success

To the Editor: The Young Christian Workers wish to thank the many who helped to make our salad dressing drive a big success.

Two families will receive baskets for Thanksgiving because of your generous support of this project.

Again we thank you and wish you a very happy Thanksgiving Day to you all.

Miss Kathryn Oppelt, President of the Cardinal Section, Y.C.W.

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Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A STALWART GENTLEMAN with a stunning blonde gazing adoringly into his eyes drew attention at Sardi's East one evening. "He's a western industrialist," explained Vincent Sardi, "who is working on his second million. She's working on his first."

Accused by Critic Paul Nathan of being a ghoulish, horror-story author, Robert Bloch replied, "Not at all. I have the heart of a small boy. I keep it in a jar on my desk."

Max Lief, who refers to himself as a "juvenile delinquent," submits this limerick:

"A fellow they called Aloysius Of his wife and a gent got suspicious, And as quick as a wink Found the two by the sink— But they only were doing the dysius."

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Tunisia's First Election Is Landmark; Western Ties Firm

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

The man-of-the-week: President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia.

The place: Tunis.

The quote: "I feel very moved in accomplishing this gesture (casting his ballot in Tunisia's first general election), which signifies that the Tunisian has today a dignity which reflects our national sovereignty and provides more respect for the individual man."

No one was surprised when Bourguiba and his Neo Destour (New Independence) party won the election and Bourguiba returned to Tunisia to hold his Tunisia's independence was proclaimed in 1957. His only opposition came from the Communists

and they scarcely counted. But it must indeed have been a moving moment for Bourguiba, who spent nearly half of his 55 years in exile or in and out of French prisons, and who today is credited more than any other with Tunisian independence.

In the midst of turbulent nationalism among both the Arabs and the Africans, Bourguiba has stood as a firm friend of the West.

President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt once accused him of being one of the last agents of imperialism among Arab leaders.

To this, Bourguiba replied bluntly that his ties were with the West and would remain so.

While espousing the cause of independence for neighboring Algeria, he has at the same time retained close ties with France and is looked upon as one of the soothing influences in North Africa.

The slight, firm-jawed

Bourguiba was born in the small fishing village of Monastir, Tunisia, in modest surroundings in 1904. His schooling was primarily French and he read law and political science at the University of Paris.

Formed Party in 1933

He formed his Neo-Destour party in 1933, and five years later began his first tour in a French prison.

From then on it was a story of jail, recall and exile.

It was in 1954 that the then-premier of France, Pierre Mendes-France, recognized the inevitable and brought him to France for negotiation on a home-rule plan.

The climax came three years later.

Next month this conservative revolutionary meets President Eisenhower aboard a U.S. cruiser in the Mediterranean. It is a gesture by Eisenhower to a man recognized as a power in Africa—last continent of the infinite frontiers.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Let's talk of big things today.

This MIGHT be one of them:

PRESIDENT De Gaulle of France, a strange and mystical character, announces this morning that Mr. K will visit France on March 15 of the upcoming year. He adds that France hopes Mr. K will "remain until the end of March if he so wishes."

For the first time he gives Russia credit for trying to ease tension in such troubled spots of the world as Laos, India and Central America.

He concludes: "The personality of Nikita Khrushchev, OVERALL LEADER OF THE RUSSIAN PEOPLES, has determined the new conditions."

HOW come?

Mr. K scratched De Gaulle's back by agreeing to come to France, thus recognizing France as still one of the world's great and powerful nations. That feeds Monsieur De Gaulle's nationalistic ego. So Monsieur De Gaulle pats Mr. K on the back by recognizing him publicly as one of the world's GREAT leaders.

SILLY?

No, it's sensible. You win few friends with harsh words. You win many friends with mild words. If the nations are to be able to get along in a reasonable approximation of peace, their LEADERS must be able to get along in a reasonable approximation of peace.

WHY does Monsieur De Gaulle think Mr. K might be in the mood for peaceful co-existence?

He gave two reasons this morning:

1. Russia, he said, has not been successful in winning over the countries of Eastern Europe. He added: "There is NO doubt that if the populations of these countries could express themselves freely they would reject communist control with an enormous majority."

2. The Soviet Union and the West are now on EQUAL terms of strength and Moscow recognizes that another world war would mean general annihilation.

QUESTION:

Can the rest of the world get along with Russia?

For an answer we can turn to history. For a quarter of a millennium, the rest of the world HAS got along with Russia—in one way and another.

AND—

Ever since Peter the Great Russia has been potentially as grave a menace as she is today.

More than half a century ago, no less a pundit than Rudyard Kipling, in his The Truce of the Bear, warned: "Make ye no truce with Adam-zad— "The Bear that walks like a Man!"

NOW HE KNOWS

Trenton, N. J.—UPI—Melvin Tumin, a Princeton University professor, was sworn in Thursday as Mercer county coroner. The job carries no salary and the coroner's duties were abolished in 1938. Tumin said he ran for coroner in this month's election because "I wanted to find out if the office is an office or not."

We Give GREEN STAMPS

CENTRAL REXALL DRUG

Main and Central

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

GOLD RUSH

Washington—The '59ers in search of political nuggets are working California's lodes in the spirit of the '49ers who poured in just a hundred years ago in search of gold.

This is the new mountain of hope to nearly all of next year's Presidential aspirants. For the first time in our history the main thrust of political maneuver is moving from east to west rather than the other way round.

Presidential hopefuls are repositively stepping on each other's heels going in and out of California. For the Democrats, Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri is currently there. Before him it was Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts. Agents of Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota have already chased the state, casting their boss's shadow before them.