MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"

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

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An Independent Newspaper
Entered as second class matter at Medford Oregon under Act of March 3 1897

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail—In Advance Copy 10c
Daily and Sunday—1 year $15.00
Daily and Sunday—6 mos 8.00
Daily and Sunday—3 mos 4.25
Sunday Only—One year $4.20
By Carrier—In Advance—Medford Ashland Central Point Eagle Point Jacksonville Gold Hill Phoenix Shady Cove Rogue River Talent and on motor routes
Daily and Sunday—1 year $18.00
Daily and Sunday—1 mo 1.50
Carrier and Dealers—copy 10c
All Terms Cash in Advance

Official Paper of City of Medford
Official Paper of Jackson County
United Press International Full Leased Wire
MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION
Advertising Representative: WEST HOLIDAY CO. INC Offices in New York Chicago Detroit San Francisco Los Angeles Seattle Portland St Louis Atlanta Vancouver B.C.

Oregon 1959 NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION 1959 ABC & A.B.P. MEMBER

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. 25, 1949 (Friday)

Ten Southern Oregon college students have biographies in "Who's Who Among College and University Students."

Central Point football squad to be honored at dinner; haven't lost league game in two years.

20 YEARS AGO
Nov. 25, 1939 (Saturday)

Defending national basketball champs, University of Oregon, defeat Southern Oregon Normal, 64-44.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Quite a number are planning trips to California soon, and will pay the sales tax, they vote against at home."

30 YEARS AGO
Nov. 25, 1929 (Monday)

Definite plans for a theater at Sixth and Holly sts. have been announced.

Next week is "No Radio Static" week.

40 YEARS AGO
Nov. 25, 1919 (Tuesday)

Portland Chamber of Commerce back re-establishment of the normal school at Ashland.

Thanks are given for peace this year.

50 YEARS AGO
Nov. 25, 1909 (Thursday)

Gridiron games kill 29 players so far this season; 20 more expected to die from serious injuries.

Lou Martin, Medford hold-up man, escapes from county jail.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Would it have been possible for Napoleon Bonaparte and George Washington to have visited each other?
2. Who won the battle of Bunker Hill, the Americans or the British?
3. Which arm of the famous statute, Venus de Milo, is wholly missing?
4. When daylight saving time is changed back into standard time, are the clocks retarded, or advanced one hour?
5. In what war did Jeb Stuart gain his fame as a cavalry leader?
6. What was the Claremont?
7. What does the Latin phrase post-mortem mean?
8. Where did the owl and the pussy cat go?
9. Name the most used letter in the English alphabet.
10. Correct the following: "She purchased three pair of gloves."

Answers: 1. Yes. 2. British. 3. Left arm. 4. Retarded one hour. 5. War Between the States. 6. Fulton's steamboat. 7. "After death." 8. To sea. 9. The letter "e". 10. ". . . three pairs of gloves."

TO VISIT INDIA

New Delhi–(UPI)–Kliment Y. Voroshilov, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Court of the U.S.S.R., will visit India in January.

The Real Glory

"The majority in a democracy has no more right to wrannize over a minority than, under a different system, the latter would have to oppress the former . . . The saying that the voice of the people is the voice of God may be quite as untrue, and do quite as much mischief, as the old theory of the divine right of kings. The distinguishing feature of our American governmental system is the freedom of the individual; it is quite as important to prevent his being oppressed by many men as it is to save him from the tyranny of one."

And who said this? Theodore Roosevelt.

It is reminiscent of Reinhold Niebuhr's comment:

"Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary."

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THESE quotations get at the essence of the American ideal of government — the maximum amount of individual freedom commensurate with the public welfare.

In other words, you and I should be unrestricted in our actions, just so long as our actions do no damage to others. At that point, however, social sanctions (laws, ordinances, customs, traditions) become necessary.

And it is to the eternal glory of this nation that it has, over the years, maintained this balance between individual freedom and the protection of society as well as it has, despite changing circumstances and changing customs.—E.A.

Who is That "Leader"?

We don't know precisely where it originated (although it was probably in a New Yorker magazine cartoon), but the phrase, "take me to your leader," has entered the language.

It is supposed to be funny—and on occasion it can be, it and its variations.

(The space man speaks to an earthling and says, "Take me to Brigette Bardot. I'll check with your leader later.")

• • • • •

A WRITER on the Coos Bay World, however, takes it seriously enough to inquire what you would do if a one-eyed, spiral-skulled, balloon-bellied creature in a space suit should sidle up to you and ask to be taken to your leader.

"Who," the writer asks, "would you take him (or her, or it) to?"

Who, in other words, IS your leader? The mayor? The police chief? Your minister or priest? The secretary of the chamber of commerce? The women's editor?

Who WOULD you take the visitor to see?

It may be a futile speculation, for no one is expecting a Martian or Venusian or Alpha Centaurian to drop in for tea tomorrow or soon.

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AND yet, serious scientists tell us that there may be as many as a billion planets in the galaxy of which our solar system is a part which are capable of supporting life as we know it.

One group of scientists is using expensive radio telescopes to monitor the heavens on the chance that intelligible messages may be discovered coming through the void.

And, the Coos Bay writer concludes, it might be a good idea to figure out who the leader is you would take him-her-it to see upon demand.

For, if you do, he says, it might even have beneficial results if he-she-it never shows up, because, in the meantime, "you might have a better idea in which direction you are heading if you know whom you are following."—E.A.

Nowhere

Elsewhere on this page, Floyd McCabe of Butte Falls—one of our more regular and more irascible correspondents—has two complaints.

One is upon the quality of music available for listening on local radio stations.

The other is that fact that an earlier letter of his on the same subject has had little effect.

We have news for Mr. McCabe.

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A LETTER in the Mail Tribune "Communications" column isn't likely to change things over night. Neither, it should be added, is an editorial on this page.

This we know from long and sometimes frustrating experience.

And it can be stated as a fact, incontrovertible and established, that while the vast majority of letters (and editorials) may furnish food for thought, it is the rare exception which stirs up any immediate action.

(One of the rare exceptions was a letter some months ago concerning the county dog pound. It resulted in a flurry of other letters, a restudy by the county court and dog control board, and a major revision in the operation of the pound.)

• • • • •

AS TO the radio music locally available, Mr. McCabe complains of too much rock 'n' roll, and not enough good, old-fashioned, fiddle-style country music.

From our admittedly circumscribed radio listening, we would be inclined to agree as to the abundance of rock 'n' roll. But the Good Lord deliver us from too much of the other, either.

Tastes differ, friend Floyd. What titillates the fancy of a teen ager may depress a country music enthusiast. And a surfeit of country music may nauseate an afficionado of musical comedy, light opera or symphonies.

Don't try to dictate others' musical taste. It gets you absolutely plain nowhere. We know.

And, what with all the talk, we doubt that "payola" would do much good either—right now, anyway.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace

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.

He Likes Fiddle Music

To the Editor: About a year ago I wrote a letter in the Communications column of the Medford Mail Tribune, complaining of the "music" available over Rogue valley radio stations. As yet I have been unable to note any improvement in the fare we are able to get from the local stations. The program directors evidently think their listeners are all rock and rollers. They should conduct a poll to determine the type of programs desired by the listeners.

I suggest that local people try to tune their sets to KNBC San Francisco, Monday through Thursday, 8:05 to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 to 9 p.m., and KFI, Los Angeles, 4 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, for the Polka Party. They (the listeners) can hear the best available music there, far better than that offered by local stations.

Our local stations evidently consider a fiddle as one of the poorest types of instruments, if the programs here are any indication.

I'd certainly enjoy hearing some decent music on the local stations, but will probably die of shock if I am so lucky.

Floyd R. McCabe
Mt. Pitt Star Rt.
Butte Falls, Ore.

50-Plus Delinquent

To the Editor: My parents adopted this chubby li'l brat way back when, supplied a happy home where we prayed, worked and played together.

We weren't wealthy, but Father could make playhouse furniture, a wonderful tree house and flower beds just for me.

Mother made my room a girlhood haven, but I had my mouth soap-washed and my caboose carpet-slippered many times. (I can taste that home-made soft-soap yet!)

There was love mixed with the corrections and it wasn't lack of parental watchfulness and training that made me put a hog bladder under the "prof's" cushion, soda in the teacher's powder, and frogs in her desk. I would not have sketched her on the blackboard if she had taken the chalk away when she stood me in the corner, or proved to her that "CANT" was in the dictionary. (I put it there.)

I filled Father's mouth with salt when he napped, stuck Vernice McGarrity's curls in my ink well, shot paper-wads with good aim, and every Oct. 31 I helped tip over–well–we won't go into that. But I really didn't destroy property.

I snapped outta my smart stage and I am sure teenagers of today will also "grow up." They do seem peppy, don't they? Every neighborhood needs to supply outlets for youthful vim: vacant lots, balls, bats, trees to climb and supervised games.

Parents, teach your little tads to be honest and to respect others. Go to church with them. Perhaps – just perhaps – they will be good teenagers.

Don't tell the Fifty Plus members that I was a juvenile delinquent or they won't let me be the publicity chairwoman. If I don't get too old to dream, I'll be at Fifth and Oakdale next Friday at 12:30. I'll bring an extra sack lunch for a visitor. That Medford Fifty Plus Club is the MOST.

Pearl Spackman,
Jacksonville.

How About It?

To the Editor: How many people in the city of Medford are proud of the record made because of us not having a proper dog control law? The county dog control office advises that on an average, 200 dogs have been killed every month for the last three years. We have often been told that dog is man's best friend. Have we proven by our actions that we have reciprocated in this friendship?

The city council in Portland is acting on this serious situation and at the last council meeting took preliminary steps to place a proposed law on the ballot to be voted on at the May election to prohibit dogs from running at large.

May we see a little action by our city council along the same line?

Frank Howell
205 Laurel st.
Medford

What It Will Do

To the Editor: It may interest your readers to know what the pennies, nickels and dimes collected on Halloween by children in your area in behalf of the United Nations Children's Fund will mean to the 55 million children and mothers assisted by UNICEF in 106 countries and territories this year.

The "Trick or Treaters'" selfless efforts, and your community's generous response, will be translated into any of the following:

Enough vaccine to protect 31,184 children from tuberculosis;

155,920 glasses of milk;

The penicillin to cure 6,236 children of yaws, a crippling tropical disease;

124,736 vitamin capsules for children suffering from malnutrition; or

The sulfone to treat successfully 312 young leprosy victims for three years.

To all those who made this possible go our most heartfelt thanks.

Victor de Keyserling
Director of Publicity
United States Committee for UNICEF
United Nations, N.Y.

Disputed Art To Be Offered for View

Hollywood–(UPI)–The owners of 10 disputed paintings said Tuesday the reputed masterpieces shortly would be offered for public viewing and examination by experts.

The announcement was made after owners of the paintings and their agent said they had resolved their "internal differences" stemming from last Thursday's press conference in which finding of the paintings was made public. The owners claimed they weren't told about the press conference until it was over.

Disputes about the authenticity and worth of the paintings raged in both Europe and the United States, but attorneys for the owners—Tony and Alfonso Follo and Maria Hataburda—and their agent, Charles Di Renzo, said they "firmly announce their belief as to the authenticity of the collection."

NEW TREATY AGREEMENT

Washington–(UPI)–The United States, Russia and 10 other countries are near final agreement on a treaty to demilitarize Antarctica and freeze the region's territorial status quo. Treaty negotiators are expected to hold a final session Friday to sign the pact.

POPE MARKS BIRTHDAY

Vatican City–(UPI)–Pope John XXIII quietly celebrated his 78th birthday today by treating it as any other working day. The portly Pontiff was up before dawn to say Mass in his private chapel.

Union Deductions Lend Financial Muscle To Hoffa's Political Drive; Decision Due

By LYLE C. WILSON

Washington –(UPI)– There is shocking muscle behind Jimmy Hoffa's threat to knock off in next year's election the members of Congress who voted for labor reform.

Lyle C. Wilson

The muscle adds up to a little more than $250,000 a month. That is what Hoffa's teamsters will put up each month on a basis of a 15-cents-a-head deduction from their dues. Hoffa will have a political war chest to goggle the eyes of fund raisers for mere political parties.

Neither the Republicans nor the Democrats have a money tree such as that. The Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 laid a heavy hand on Big Labor's political spending. John L. Lewis in 1936 dumped nearly $500,000 into Franklin D. Roosevelt's second term campaign. The CIO Political Action Committee in 1944 accumulated about that much from various union treasuries for political purposes.

The Taft-Hartley Act amended the Corrupt Practices Act to restrict union spending just as political spending by national banks and corporations is restricted. Taft-Hartley forbade unions to make contributions to candidates or to spend money in connection with primaries and elections for the selection of federal officials.

Invalidated by Supreme Court

This prohibition of political expenditures – not of political contributions – was invalidated by the Supreme Court. Big Labor may spend but it may not contribute. That did it, so far as any real restriction on labor's political spending was concerned. Big Labor went into the field of political education in a big way – educating the voters for some candidates and against others.

The CIO moved in 1954 to knock the remaining bars way down. CIO funds paid for nine television programs boosting the U. S. Senate candidacy of Democrat Pat McNamara. The Justice Department got an indictment but lost in the courts. The courts held that the CIO merely was spending for "political education." McNamara won.

The head-tax system is used widely by Big Labor to finance its expenditures for political activity. Big Labor in Michigan levies six-cents-a-month on AFL-CIO members to raise about $500,000 in good times. Recession and unemployment have cut the take now to about $300,000.

This gentle bite is ample. The end political result of this levy on union members should arouse the envy of Republican fund raisers, causing them to wish they could lay a head-tax of even a nickel on somebody. They cannot do that. Neither can the heads of the great corporations lay a head-tax of even one-cent-a-month on their stockholders or their employees. There would be coast-to-coast commotion about that. Many so taxed could and would object that they were being compelled to contribute, however little, to political purposes of which they did not approve.

Some union members have made that same complaint. There is moving now toward late winter decision in the U.S. Supreme Court a legal dispute which might spoil Big Labor's big political take.

In this case, a few union members seek to limit strictly to purposes of labor negotiations and collective bargaining all use of their dues money. If the protesting union members win that one, Big Labor is likely to get out of the political education business, fast.

Afghanistan Teeters on Verge Of Communist Land, Powers

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor

When President Eisenhower visits Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on his 11-nation tour next month, the magnificence of its mountain setting may remind him of Colorado Springs.

Phil Newsom

But Kabul's magnificence ends with its view of snow-capped Hindu Kush mountains.

It is a muddy, dark-brown city with only a few modern shops. Russian buses and cars dominate its streets, which also were paved by the Russians. Green lawns and attractive flower beds are hidden behind walled compounds.

Afghanistan is one of five nations the President will visit which have common boundaries with the Iron Curtain.

Close to Becoming Satellite

Of them all, Afghanistan is the closest to becoming a Russian satellite.

The reasons are many.

One is the country's geographical location which makes it a buffer between Russia and India and Pakistan, and a natural for Soviet infiltration. At the same time, Afghan-Pakistan relations have been strained over Afghanistan's demand for a free Pathan state which would include some of Pakistan's northwest territory.

But, as is often the case, the real reason for Afghanistan's present close relations with Russia is economic.

Afghanistan has received economic aid both from Russia and the United States, but by far the greatest amount has come from Russia which has granted the country a $100 million loan and flooded it with Russian experts of all categories.

In contrast, U.S. aid, while steady, has amounted to a comparatively small five million to seven million dollars per year.

Russian and Afghan barges ply the Oxus river, bringing in Russian machinery, petroleum, sugar, fabrics and other goods in exchange for Afghan wool, cotton, oil seeds and dry fruits.

Assist in Explorations

Russian experts assist in Afghan oil explorations. Russian engineers build power and irrigation projects, and drive a tunnel through the Hindu Kush mountains, bringing closer Afghanistan's southern and northern provinces by nearly 150 miles. Other Russian aid builds airports, cement factories and metal works.

While small by contrast, U. S. aid also has been substantial, including dam and airport construction and assisting in Afghanistan's substantial educational program.

In years past, Afghan trade flowed southward through the Kybet Pass to Pakistan. Today, the bulk of it is moving northward into Russia.

Afghan leadership is in the hands of Prime Minister Sardar Duad, a bald, tough man who is driving hard to improve his country. But his critics have declared him naive, so far as the Russians are concerned, and even have suggested he would not object too strenuously to a Communist take-over.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From London:

Britain's leading disc jockeys reacted angrily to charges by a member of parliament that "payola" is as rampant in Britain as it is in the United States.

The member of parliament referred to is Mr. Roy Mason, Labor party spokesman on broadcasting affairs. He has filed a demand in Parliament (British version of our congress) that the postmaster general immediately ban some of the most popular British radio and television record programs.

He says:

"The evidence suggests that undesirable practices and discrimination may be taking place."

• • •

HMMMMMMM.

The yen for the quick buck, it appears, is an international yen. It exists in Britain, where radio and TV are government owned and – or controlled, as well as in the U.S.A., where private ownership is the rule.

• • •

NOW ONE from Hollywood: Marie "the Body" McDonald has discovered her own private gold mine. The blonde veteran of movies and night clubs now is traveling around the country for a manufacturer, starring in a private show for businessmen. Accompanied by orchestra leader Ted Fio Rito and a flock of company executives, Marie belts out a 40-minute act, then invites the firm's distributors to join her for a cocktail party and a show. She says:

"I do my regular night club act and then chat with the people. Believe me, it helps sell air conditioners, even at this time of the year. This is more lucrative than acting, and in addition to the money I get more publicity and meet more people. Most important of all, there's nothing temporary about it. I am looking forward to a 10-year association with the company."

• • •

AT THIS POINT, a question: Assuming that you are in the market for an air conditioner, would you be PRIMARILY influenced in your choice by the fact that Marie "the Body" McDonald has wowed a bunch of big shots at a convention? Or would you be MORE concerned with whether or not it will really condition the air to a satisfactory degree of comfort and purity and won't break down too often?

I may be wrong, but I'd be willing to bet my last shirt that when you finally sign on the dotted line or lay the money on the counter you don't give a hoot about Marie and her parties for the bigwigs.

• • •

I CAN'T HELP thinking that in these modern days the boys in the gray flannel suits, whose habitat is Madison Avenue, in the Big Burg, rather than out in the sticks where the customers live, are FORGETTING something.

They're forgetting the better mousetrap and the path buyers are supposed to beat to the place where the better mousetrap is to be had. If they'd pay more attention to making better mousetraps (and telling in simple words just WHY they're better) and less attention to the carryings - on of characters like Marie "the Body" McDonald, BIG TIME advertising (as contrasted to retail advertising, whose job is to sell good goods to satisfied customers) would be more productive.

Eleazer Straightens Out Thanksgiving; Date Shifts Recalled

By FRANK ELEAZAR

Washington –(UPI)– Among things to say thanks for on Thursday, besides cranberry jelly without aminotriazole, is that we've got it all straight now when to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Frank Eleazar

Well, we've got it straight for this year, anyway.

Practically any school boy can tell you that Thanksgiving day is the last Thursday in November. So give that boy a zero, and get on with the story.

Thanksgiving in one form or another dates back to the pilgrims. It was George Washington who proclaimed the first national day of Thanksgiving, on Nov. 26, 1789. But – who knows? – maybe the turkeys all smothered that year. Anyway, the celebration failed to take hold.

Washington didn't try again for six years, when he picked a day in March. Our forebears thereafter were thankful only irregularly and on such diverse days as Feb. 19, the second Thursday in April, Aug. 6, and the first Thursday in December.

Proclaims Last Thursday

In 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed "the last Thursday in November" as a day of Thanksgiving for assorted boons including recent advances by the Union armies against the Confederates.

That particular point possibly didn't go over too well in some sections. Nevertheless, this time the observation caught on. By 1939, everybody North and South knew that Thanksgiving was always the last Thursday in November.

But 1939 was a year when not everybody could think of as many reasons to celebrate as in some earlier times. For one thing, retail sales had been off. President Roosevelt moved Thanskgiving day up by a week, to give Christmas shoppers longer to get rid of their money.

Nov. 23, the day he picked, was the fourth Thursday all right, but it wasn't the last. There were five Thursdays in November that year.

From the uproar that followed, you would have thought Roosevelt had rejiggered Christmas. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale as a matter of fact warned that this might be next.

Railroads and bus lines enjoyed two holiday jams. One airline served turkey dinners aloft each Thursday in the month.

Roosevelt, undismayed, tried it again in 1940. This time he proclaimed Nov. 21, the month's third Thursday, as turkey day. In 1941 he proclaimed one more early Thanksgiving and then said Lincoln's way would have to suffice thereafter.

By 1941, Congress was getting fed up. The House shoved through a bill to say "the last Thursday in November" was going to be Thanksgiving day from here on, and no more fouling it up.

But, alas, the Senate, as usual, felt obliged to think up an amendment. It changed the bill to read "fourth" Thursday instead of "last." When the late Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio), mildly protested this trifling with history, the judiciary committee explained that in five years out of seven the fourth and last Thursdays in November were the same. The least we could do, the committee said, was give the merchants a break the other two years.

In the House by that time members were more interested in Pearl Harbor than Thanksgiving. They accepted the change without debate and the bill became law.

Well, this is one of those years when history triumphs over commerce. So far I haven't heard any merchants complaining.

Have Your Doctor Phone Your
Prescription
Then you can pick it up while you PARK & SHOP or we'll
DELIVER IT FREE
Park & Shop
Open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Daily
CLOSED SUNDAYS
S&H Green Stamps
Central Rexall DRUG
Main and Central

Worry of
FALSE TEETH
Slipping or Irritating?
Don't be embarrassed by loose false teeth slipping, dropping or wobbling when you eat, talk or laugh. Just sprinkle a little FASTEETH on your plates. This pleasant powder gives a remarkable sense of added comfort and security by holding plates more firmly. No gummy, gooey, pasty taste or feeling. It's alkaline (non-acid). Get FASTEETH at any drug counter.

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