

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune" Published Daily, except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 23 North St. Ph. SP 2-6141

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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.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 9, 1949 (Friday) Ashland apartment house gutted by fire yesterday.

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 9, 1929 (Monday) Report on proposed Crescent City railroad and harbor to be filed by officials soon.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 9, 1919 (Tuesday) Local area records record low temperature, but is only area in state free of blizzards.

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 9, 1909 (Thursday) City votes \$28,000 to district school board for next year's expenses; highest yet.

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

It's Our Choice

The weather was superb in the Dead Indian country last Sunday.

The sky was clear, sparkling blue. The air was crisp and fresh, and the streams had a covering of ice on the quiet spots.

It was warm in the bright sunshine, but chilly in the shade.

Visibility was unlimited, and the snowless, stark gray slopes of Mt. McLoughlin loomed up as clearly as if they were only a mile or so away.

COMING down the grade into the valley, we watched as atmosphere began to change. From bright blue, the sky gradually changed into a light gray.

The visibility changed from unlimited to a hazy three or four or five miles.

The far mountains, seen clear and sharp at a short time before, blurred and faded.

And the floor of the valley below was obscured by a blanket of murky haze.

AS THIS is written, Roxy Ann and Baldy Mountain are invisible from the Mail Tribune.

The First National Bank, less than a block away, can be seen with fair clarity, but the tops of the trees on South Central, five blocks away, are barely visible as their tops poke indistinctly over the roof of Crater Lake Motors.

At the Medford airport, the Federal Aviation Agency rates visibility at 1 1/4 miles.

Call it what you will—haze, smog, smoke—it still is pollution. It still is dirt in the air. It still is man-made. And it still is inexcusable.

CIVILIZATION dirties everything it touches.

A hundred years ago this hardly mattered, for the touch of civilization was less dirty than today, and there were fewer people, and more good clean land to move to.

Today the frontier is gone. People are far more numerous. And civilization's internal combustion engines, mill burners, furnaces, smudge pots, and open fires pour an endless stream of filth into the air we breathe; tons and tons of it.

WE HAVE three choices:

1. We shrug and tell ourselves it can't be helped and continue to breathe in dirty air (at what cost to our health we still don't know) and look vainly through the haze for the sight of the everlasting hills.

2. Or we move somewhere else in a fruitless search for cleanliness about us, before mankind dirties it up again.

3. Or we do something about it; we insist that the air we breathe is our own property; we refuse to let others continue to dirty up our lungs and spoil our view; we insist that our RIGHT to cleanliness and health comes before the well being and the dollar profits of any group, be they mill owners or orchardists or garbage collectors or automobile manufacturers.

THE choice is ours.

If it is No. 1 or No. 2, we aren't facing our responsibility to ourselves or to our children.

If, however, it is No. 3—if we are to demand our right to cleanliness now and in the future, let us do so loudly enough so that our elected representatives and public servants, in the city council, the county court, the state legislature, and the congress, cannot mistake our meaning.

Many things are needed to combat this blight—research, legislation, regulations. But what is needed FIRST is a citizenry sufficiently aroused to demand that its clean air be returned.—E.A.

Vanishing Tradition

Some things once cherished are gone, and (unlike clean air) cannot be returned.

The pleasant old custom of going to the woods after the family Christmas tree isn't quite gone yet, here in southwestern Oregon, but it is fast vanishing, and in some places has disappeared.

The Rogue River National Forest still will permit a family to get its own tree—provided a permit is obtained, and the tree taken from a designated place where its removal will assist the timber potential.

BUT elsewhere—in the Willamette National Forest, for one, and on Bureau of Land Management land, and privately-owned holdings—the cutting of family trees is either prohibited or strictly limited.

This, of course, is understandable, even if regrettable.

We can still, in memory, feel the mittens, cap and mackinaw we wore some three decades ago on Christmas-tree outings; can still feel the sharp chill of the air and the ache of cold hands tugging the tree across field and fence; can still recall the smell of the greenery when finally and proudly it was put into place at the end of the long living room, and the sense of accomplishment and excitement and family love as, on Christmas eve, we stood around the tree and sang an old song, traditional in our family.

NOW that is gone—or almost so.

Trees are valuable, now. They furnish lumber, and this makes employment and payrolls.

Even Christmas trees have become a crop, to be raised in rows, and sold at so much per foot. And woe be unto the trespasser who would seek out a tree without payment, and without permit.

It is, as we said, understandable. But it is one of those things we don't quite like to understand.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



THAT'S PRETTY GRUESOME, BUT LET ME TELL YOU WHAT HE DID TO ME ONE NIGHT WHEN I WAS SITTING WITH HIM...

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.

EDITOR'S NOTE Once again it is necessary to call attention to the conditions under which letters will be considered for publication in this column.

It is out of this recognition that the Civil Air Patrol, which just celebrated its 18th anniversary, extends to cadet age boys and girls, 14 through 17 years of age, one of the largest aviation education programs in our nation's history.

At the close of the war, CAP sought a peaceful outlet for its capabilities. It found that outlet in a training program for the young people of our nation, a program to provide America's youth with timely aviation education.

Deserts and People To the Editor: I wonder whether the Russians are relatives of the Joneses? We do make such effort to keep up with them, and just when we almost catch up, they get re-financed—or something.

Charges of Waste There have been charges of waste against U.S.-administered aid programs and of high salaries to "gringos." The aid

Editorial Comment YOU BET IT WAS AN HONEST MISTAKE A bank clerk at Holyoke, Mass., hit the wrong keys on the machine that stamps checks and the amount came out \$4,000,022.75 when it should have been \$22.75.

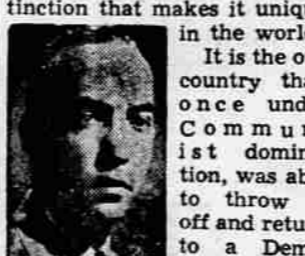
Cougar To the Editor: We were not greatly surprised to read of the appearance of a cougar near Gold Hill recently.

CAP To the Editor: Tomorrow it may be our son or daughter flying to the moon. Within the next 40 years the teenagers of today must recognize and accept their responsibilities in our rapidly developing aerospace age.

RADIO PIONEER DIES New York—(UPI)—John R. (Jack) Binns, 75, a radio pioneer who sent the world's first radio distress signal from a sinking ship in 1909, died Tuesday.

Democratic Guatemala Still Threatened By Communist Agitation Seeking Power

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor



Guatemala is a Central American republic with a distinction that makes it unique in the world. It is the one country that, once under Communist domination, was able to throw it off and return to a Democratic regime.

But the Communists and their fellow travelers have not given up, and last Sunday's election results demonstrate that once again they are in a position to threaten.

This was an off-year election, in that President Miguel Ydigoras Fuentes' office was not at stake. It was to elect 33 members of the 66-member single house, with President Ydigoras admitting in advance that he feared a leftist gain.

The government was the big winner, taking 20 of the 33 seats and doubling its strength in the legislature. Extreme leftist supporters of refugee ex-President Juan J. Arévalo captured six seats.

This was another Latin American election in which the United States was a campaign issue, and which had to be viewed by the United States with frank interest.

Overthrow Red President Guatemala emerged from Communist domination on June 27, 1954, when Carlos Castillo Armas at the head of a rag-tag force succeeded in ousting President Jacobo Arbenz Guzman.

Arbenz fled to the shelter of the Iron Curtain, and the United States began the process of firming up the Castillo Armas regime with loans and various forms of aid which now run around the 100 million mark.

With this aid, Guatemala was able to survive a severe drop in the price of coffee, its main export, and to maintain a respectable foreign exchange reserve.

In July of 1957 however, one of Castillo Armas' own guards assassinated him in the presidential palace. The Guatemalan government said the assassin carried papers proving he had Communist affiliations.

Ydigoras Takes Over After a considerable political scramble, Ydigoras, an army general, took over.

Ydigoras, in contrast to the popular and strong-willed Castillo Armas, is no strongman.

Rightist groups in Congress are divided, and Ydigoras' fights with Mexico over fishing rights and claims to sovereignty over British Honduras have not succeeded in uniting behind him the public support Ydigoras had hoped for.

Even an election-eve government charge that forces were being trained in Cuba to invade Guatemala failed to stir the voters.

Meanwhile, Communists and pro-Communists have filtered back into the country and are becoming increasingly vocal politically, with the United States their chief target.

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programs themselves have been attacked as interference in Guatemala's internal affairs.

This, even though the administration of the aid programs has been recognized as one of the United States' better efforts.

The aid not only bolstered Guatemala's foreign exchange, it also aided in betterment for the individual Guatemalan. Included have been road programs opening up new farmlands and new markets. It also has a small industry division, a teacher-training program and experimental stations to determine the best farming methods.

Q. What is the effect of this on the people? A. I think it is safe to say that the rapid expansion in the Russian economy is being paid for by the people in their lower standard of living.

Q. What were your general reactions to what you saw of the Russian economy? A. The first thing that impressed me was the tremendous rate at which the Soviet economy is expanding.

Q. How did their hydroelectric developments impress you? A. We saw ten hydro-projects on seven river systems, both old and new, big and small.

Q. Did you get a chance to visit any Russian schools? A. Yes, we did, and one of the things that impressed us most was attending a third grade English language class in Stalingrad.

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Oregon Man Reports on Visit To Russia; Tells Impressions

By SEN. RICHARD NEUBERGER (Mike Mapes, The Dalles attorney now serving as special counsel to the Senate committee on interior and insular affairs, has just returned from a 31-day, 12,000-mile inspection of Russian hydroelectric developments with a Senate delegation. We have asked him to answer a few questions about his trip for this article.)

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told us: "We're going to catch up with the United States. We're going to have just as high a standard of living as you do!"

Q. What was the general reaction of the people to your delegation? A. Extremely friendly. I think we were all surprised to have one of the top American correspondents in Moscow tell us, "You'll be amazed, but these are the most pro-American people in the world!"

Q. This view of the people's attitude—and this is in contrast to their government's position—was confirmed by other correspondents, by our own experience, and even by members of the American Embassy Staff, who commented that the official anti-American propaganda seemed to run off the people like water off a duck.

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Front-Runners In Politics Vulnerable

Washington—UPI—This year's front-runner for next year's presidential nomination is a man who merits your compassionate sympathy.

Almost anything can happen to a front-runner, and often does.

He is the patsy, the fall guy, the common enemy of all other runners.

Among the Democrats, Massachusetts' Sen. John F. Kennedy probably best understands the foregoing facts.

Among the Republicans, of course, Vice President Richard M. Nixon is the man out in front and, therefore, the man who must be brought down before any other Republican can take seriously his own chances to be nominated for President.

Ground rules such as these make the great game of politics a mean and bruising contest. All's fair, as the man said, in love and war.

So it is that the full weight of political misfortune implicit in the current public discussion of artificial birth control fell heavily on the head of front-runner Kennedy.

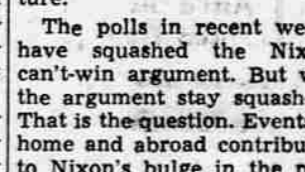
There are other Catholics among the numerous Democrats who are playing with the idea of being President of the United States.

It was to Kennedy that the newsmen hurried for a statement when the bishops of his church spoke up again against birth control.

The advantage of being front-runner, of course, is that the prize can be won if the pace can be maintained.

Nixon, equally with Kennedy, is aware of that. What troubles some of the vice president's most ardent supporters right now is that the polls will

Now Many Wear FALSE TEETH With More Comfort FASTEETH, a pleasant alkaline (non-acid) powder, holds false teeth more firmly. To eat and talk in more comfort, just sprinkle a little FASTEETH on your plates. No gummy, gooey, pasty taste or feeling. Check a plastic odor (denture breath). Get FASTEETH at any drug counter.



Lyle C. Wilson

Children Found Filthy, Hungry

Portland—UPI—Seven children, found hungry in an apartment here Sunday, were receiving care from two county agencies today.

The children, ranging in age from 10 months to 14 years, were apparently left by their mother last Friday, police said.

Police said the mother left \$40 with a 14-year-old daughter for "food and Christmas presents" and said she was going to a hospital for a month or so.

She has not yet been located, police said.

The three youngest children—10 months, 2, and 3—were taken to the Albertina Kerr nursery here.

The four older ones—aged 4, 10, 12, and 14—were taken to the Multnomah county juvenile home.

Authorities said all the children were pale, filthy and apparently suffering from malnutrition.

The manager of the apartment on North Albina street notified police Sunday that the children were apparently abandoned.



C. M. Litwiler



Mrs. Litwiler

In Peaceful Surroundings LITWILLER Funeral Home Mountain View Chapel Hwy. 66 at Normal Office 88 N. Main ASHLAND "It is better to know us and not need us than to need us and not know us."