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MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU... 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 Dec. 25, 1949 (Sunday) Nearly 50,000 persons attend St. Peter's in Rome to hear Pope Pius celebrate first papal masses of 1950 holy year.

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 25, 1939 (Monday) Adolph Hitler is spending Christmas with his troops on front lines in France.

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 25, 1929 (Wednesday) Post office here to deliver Christmas mail by midnight. Local man fined \$300 for possessing a quart of Christmas moonshine.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 25, 1919 (Friday) Heavy Harvard line will be chief worry for Oregon in Rose Bowl game. City observes Christmas with many family reunions and much rejoicing.

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 25, 1909 (Saturday) Today is most prosperous Christmas in Oregon history; bank clearings set record; record high railroad construction in progress.

Christmas shopping in Medford sees more and better goods for sale, more money to buy with, and more goods bought.

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

CHRISTMAS QUIZ 1. In what country did the idea of Santa Claus originate? 2. What ancient priesthood in Britain used mistletoe in their religious rites?

Answers: 1. Holland. 2. The Druids. 3. Keeping watch over their flocks. 4. Christmas, literally "birthday."

Small World

All that needs to be said concerning the origin of Christmas, all that is really important, has been said before—many years ago—and in words far richer and more meaningful than we know how to employ.

Over the years it has taken on a warmth and universality throughout Christendom so that even the unbelievers, the unchurched, the agnostics and even atheists, feel the aura of charity and warmth which it brings each year.

Men of genius over the past two millennia have added to its traditions—as have the poor and lowly, the "little people" of the world, whose folk legends and traditions have added much to making Christmas the universal holiday it is today.

PREOCCUPIED as we are with our own celebration, it is easy to forget that those who observe Christmas as a holy day are in the minority in this world.

In much of Asia, for instance, Christmas is regarded as nothing but a "foreign" religious celebration, and there is little or no real understanding of the significance of the day, which has grown to be more than a purely religious observance.

To remember this should not detract from the joy and wonder we feel at this time of the year. But it should remind us that the world is small, and getting smaller, and if we are to retain the world's respect for our customs and traditions and beliefs, we owe at least an equal respect to theirs.—E.A.

Asian View of Christmas

An example of the sort of thing we were talking about above, is contained in a column in a little paper called "The Asian Student," published in San Francisco for students from Asia now studying in this country.

Parts of it are quoted below:

"Around this time of year the air is filled with Christmas music ranging all the way from 'Adeste Fideles' to 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.' Which might be called the sublime to the ridiculous . . .

"One of the more tuneless is called 'Good King Wenceslaus.' Unfortunately, having a somewhat warped sense of the niceties, we cannot help but remember that it was probably this same Good King who got clobbered, but good, by Kaidu, the grandson of Genghis Khan, some 750 years ago.

"This is not the true Christmas spirit, we must admit, and we should think of the Good King going out on a snowy night, presumably before his unfortunate encounter with the Golden Horde, and performing noble deeds. It hardly seems fitting that living in a predominantly Christian land we should associate one of the more beautiful Christmas songs with the horrible defeat of a Christian King at the hands of the 'heathen' Mongols.

"You must admit, however, that it shows our erudition and knowledge of Asian history (Did you know that Genghis sent a pleasant note to the Pope saying that if he—the Pope—acknowledged his—Genghis—mastery over the earth and sky, they could live harmoniously together and that the Pope could continue his practice of ruling the Christian world with Genghis' blessing? Genghis never received a reply, but then, mail service wasn't what it is today.)

"If any Christian reader of ours thinks that we are displaying a certain amount of levity about the most holy of Christian days, we hope he will read on a bit further before dashing off an indignant letter. The point we are trying to make is that an awful lot of people who celebrate Christmas don't know what it is all about . . .

"To a great many Americans and English and French and Filipinos and other Christians, Christmas is truly a holy day, the birthday of their Savior. They go to church or they attend midnight Mass, depending on their denomination. But to others less religiously minded it is an excuse for a celebration.

"Nonetheless—and let us be serious for a moment—to every Christian, be he Catholic or Protestant or agnostic (and that is not facetiousness, for many are born to a religion, but reject its dogmas) Christmas is a special time. You will notice, we are sure, that people appear to be a little kinder, a little more understanding, a little more companionable at this time of year. Unless you are made of stone we are sure that you will notice a subtle change. We think you should enter into the spirit of it yourself. If your religion forbids you to recognize that this is the birthday of the Son of God, then think of it simply as the dival or oshogatus of an alien culture. You would wish the Americans to feel the same way about your holy days, we are sure.

"There is a beauty in this season, and only the most arrogant could fail to see it. As millions before us have remarked, if only people would keep the Christmas spirit (the unbottled kind) the whole year around, it would be a much better world in which to live . . .

"Again, we would like to reiterate at the risk of protesting too much, that we do not hold up Christmas against Chanukah, Yidd or any other religious holiday.

"We understand from our learned friends that Christmas is really the pagan Yule, far antedating the Christian holiday. Fine. The pagans generally had a good time at their festivals. More power to the Christians for conveniently coupling their most holy day with a pagan festival. Makes everybody happy.

"To end this column, we shall borrow from Dickens . . . for we feel he put it rather better than we would be able to do.

"My best of wishes for your merry Christmases and your happy New Years, your long lives and your true prosperities. . . Here's a final prescription added: 'To be taken for life'."

—E.A.

Eisenhower Names Guatemala Envoy

Washington—UPI—President Eisenhower Thursday named career foreign service official John J. Muccio, who was U.S. ambassador to Korea during the Korean war, as ambassador to Guatemala.

Muccio, 59, was ambassador to Korea from 1949 to 1952, and is presently serving as ambassador to Iceland. He was born in Italy, but became a naturalized U.S. citizen at the age of 21.

EXPLOSION IN ALGIERS

Algiers—UPI—Two persons were killed and 41 others wounded Thursday when a booby-trapped automobile exploded in a busy shopping district of downtown Algiers. The bombing, attributed to Algerian Nationalists, showered a 100-square yard area with splintered steel and other debris, sending hundreds of last-minute Christmas shoppers ducking for cover.

Emperor penguins—largest of the penguin species—may live for 35 years in the germ-free air of the Antarctic.

Dennis the Menace



"GUESS WHAT, MOM! JOEY GOT A GREAT BIG TEDDY BEAR FOR CHRISTMAS, BUT HE'S AFRAID OF IT!"

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

HUMPHREY LOOKS BACK

Washington—The long, long shot in the field of Democratic Presidential aspirants, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, faces the new year hoping most of all that the political calendar can be turned back to a far yesterday.

White, Humphrey, the most liberal of all the candidates, has a single real—and thin—chance. This is that the Democratic party can be persuaded to return to the tone and purposes it had in the days of the New Deal and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Curiously, therefore, this outstanding "progressive" must depend, in the end, on looking backward.

His hotly intensive campaign has of late taken him into some 30 states. Even his friends do not claim that all his amiably frenzied exertions have set the public aflame.

The polls, for what they may be worth, are not kind to him. Campaign money—and the importance of this folding stuff is undeniable—is not flooding the Humphrey headquarters.

But some silver linings are seen by the Humphrey people. These are rising from among "the politicians" rather than "the people." And for purposes of the coming Democratic National Convention, "the politicians" are far more useful than "the people."

A good many former backers of one of the most authentic of the old New Dealers, Averell Harriman, are lining up for Humphrey, particularly in the Middle West. Some former "Kefauver men"—those who gave devoted support to the past Presidential hopes of Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee—are now moving in the Humphrey direction.

It would be all too easy to overestimate the value of these quiet marches into the Humphrey movement. For neither Harriman, a defeated ex-Governor of New York, nor Kefauver, who is concentrating now on re-election to the Senate, will be greatly important at the Democratic convention, in and of himself.

The Humphrey advisers are among the most realistic politicians in the business and have absolutely no belief in Mister S. Claus. And even the principal link to the Roosevelt era among these advisers, James H. Rowe Jr., is quite aware that 1960 is not 1932.

or '36 or '40 or '44. These men are the first to concede that the road is still uphill all the way.

Still, though not leaping with joyous confidence, they have drawn some heart from the continuing recruitments from among the old Harriman and Kefauver people. For these incidents do show at least this: Humphrey has got enough of what it takes to begin, at least, to draw up a party mosaic basically similar to that which served Franklin D. Roosevelt so well.

Roosevelt made and sustained a thoroughly improbable but effective coalition, running from aristocratic Delta planters to Detroit auto workers. Neither Humphrey nor anybody around him supposes for a moment that the South will give him so much as the time of day. The Humphreyites do believe, however, and apparently with some justice, that he, too, can raise a pretty good farm-labor alliance everywhere but in the South.

HE HAS the first requirement, the undoubted good wishes of most of big labor. He has the second requirement, the passionate loyalty of minority groups whose chief political interest is in civil rights. He has a part of the third requirement. The liberal big-state farm groups like him, even if the Southern farm groups surely do not.

But beyond all this Humphrey needs something else: to be able to prove in due time to the Northern party bosses that he can gather about himself the old New Dealers and become in their eyes the one true heir to Franklin D. Roosevelt.

And every local or regional Harriman or Kefauver leader who comes into the Humphrey camp will help in some degree to build up the argument that he is really the FDR of 1960.

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Importer's Widow Challenges Will

Los Angeles—UPI—The widow of wealthy steel importer Robert P. Oldham challenged Thursday a will leaving half his estate to his pretty blonde secretary.

Mrs. Ruth P. Oldham, 47, asserted in her contest action that the secretary, Bonnie D. Baker, exerted "fraud" on her husband, who died Saturday. Mrs. Oldham previously had named Miss Baker as co-respondent in a separate maintenance suit.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

WILLIAM FEATHER has come up with the 1879 Christmas dinner menu of the Maxwell House, which still does business as a hotel in Nashville, Tenn. For that holiday spread, diners were offered a choice of over 130 items—and all this for a fixed price of under three dollars! A few of the more exotic dishes included oysters in champagne, salmi of prairie grouse, boned wild boar's head, buffalo tongues, Tennessee opossum, saddle of Minnesota venison, broiled pheasant—and "old fashioned" New England pumpkin pie.

Under roasts and game were 21 items. What puzzles historian Feather is how all this was possible in the gadgetless kitchens and pantries of 80 years ago. How was the food kept fresh and tasty until it was cooked? Were the gourmets of those lusty days immune from ptomaine, indigestion, and other related ills?

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"AND ALL FOR THREE DOLLARS!"

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Wilson Lists Wants, Don't-Wants, for Politicians, And All the Rest of Us

By LYLE C. WILSON Washington—UPI—This Christmas morning would have been a lot better for these persons if—



Lyle C. Wilson Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) had a note from Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt saying, "All is forgiven. I'm for you."

Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller had found in the one-for-you note signed by one or two Republican pros.

Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) had found in his stocking as many as one big name northern Democrat as his pledged supporter.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) had gotten some marsh notes from a few southern Democratic leaders.

Adlai E. Stevenson had received promises from everyone to keep his name out of the 1960 Democratic national convention.

Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) had fished from HIS stocking a solid pledge of one or more first ballot votes at next year's convention.

President Eisenhower's stocking had yielded assurances that all of those cheers during his travels really meant what they seemed to say.

The common man's stocking had been overflowing with pledges of tax relief, stable money and, in general, less government rather than more.

Among things unwanted in their stockings by anyone this Christmas were these: Publicized political support by Jimmy Hoffa and some of his teamsters associates.

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 an eye to clarification and consistency. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Concerning Drinking To the Editor: The Dec. 20 Mail Tribune carried two news items that seem to clash a bit. Chief of Police Chapman gave some sound advice to holiday drivers. He stated that drinking reduces one's ability to react quickly and make proper judgments. Also that two cocktails can impair one's vision as much as dark glasses do at night. He suggested that at parties where drinking was done, for the nondrinkers to drive the others home. He was not trying to dampen the Christmas spirit, but merely trying to eliminate a source of accidents which disrupt many family holidays.

In the same issue, a jury returned a "not guilty" verdict for a man who had only "several drinks." It was stated at the trial by a former bartender that this was not enough to affect one's driving.

Who are we going to believe, the bartender or our Chief of Police? It was stated that the man in question was abusive and did not react too well to tests given at the police station. It makes one wonder. Do we have to call the undertaker before we can prove an individual unfit to drive?

The Oct. 27 Mail Tribune carried a very interesting item. The 10th annual convention of the National Licensed Beverage association was in session in Grand Rapids. They were addressed by the radio and TV director of a large religious organization of the city.

This pastor told these delegates to get rid of their "inferiority complex" because they are in an "honorable profession." He told them, and I quote, "to stand up and fight the blue nose enemies of the liquor industry." "You have every right to take your legitimate place in your community as a man who provides a legal and honorable service." "Controlled drinking," he said, "relieves tensions and relaxes."

"Because drinking creates a problem for a relatively few people we should not consider depriving the vast majority of normal adults," he added.

It would seem that our law officers, along with other clear thinking individuals, are going to have increasing problems in view of the fact that a representative of one of the world's great religious powers has taken such an open stand.

God in His inspired word has warned against certain soul destroying practices. Read and study its precious words and you'll obtain wisdom far above man's warped conceptions.

Henry Johnson Jr., 2400 Highway 66, Ashland, Ore.

Specific credit for the decision whereby the Allied armies pulled up and permitted the Russians toward the end of the war, to roll far into western Europe.

Another war! Another Summit conference like that 1955 blopper in Geneva.

More big industry-wide strikes.

Any more cocktail invitations—at least for some time. Responsibility for solving the traffic snarl on land or in the air.

Hi-fi recording by teen age torch singers.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Returning to Washington, President Eisenhower laughing told the crowds that had waited up to greet him that he "had had breakfast in Madrid, lunch in Casablanca and still reached Washington at an hour which by our getting up time is six o'clock in the (same) morning."

THAT is to say: The President and his party ate breakfast in Madrid, took a side trip to Casablanca (which is in Africa, almost due south of Madrid) stopped there for lunch, and came wondrously close to ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON BEFORE THEY LEFT MADRID!

REMEMBER, please that the President and his party were traveling by jet liner. The big jet liners don't travel as fast as the smaller bullet-like jet fighters. A jet fighter, if it could have carried fuel enough, would have made the trip much faster.

And— A missile travels faster than a jet fighter. The post office department is already talking of sending mail BY MISSILE. If they send mail by missile, you can bet your bottom dollar that it won't be long before somebody will be TRAVELING BY MISSILE—figuring that if a sack of mail can do it he can do it.

GOING ON from there— You've read, I suppose, these shivery nightmares of the space dreamers to the effect that if a man were shot into space in a space vehicle and kept on traveling in space for a million years and then by some hook or crook got back to the earth time would have died for him during these million years and HE WOULD BE NO OLDER THAN WHEN HE LEFT.

Imagine THAT! If, that is, you can.

HMMMMMM. It's getting about time to turn this off. When one gets started on such a subject, there's no telling where he'll end. It isn't impossible that he might wind up in the hands of the boys in the white coats.

So— Let's close on a hopeful thought: In a world as cockeyed as this one sometimes seems to be getting to be, THE IDEAL OF WORLD PEACE ISN'T TOO FANTASTIC TO BE CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBILITY.

Let's look at the doughnut rather than the hole.

Queen Extends Best Wishes

London—UPI—Queen Elizabeth wished her subjects a merry Christmas today in 126 words.

Her annual radio message was the shortest she has ever given. It consisted of only seven sentences.

"I do not want Christmas to pass by without sending my best wishes for a happy day to all of you who may be listening, and especially to my own people in the Commonwealth," she said.

"Wherever you are and whatever you may be doing, you have my constant interest and affection. I am particularly grateful to the many kind people all over the world who have sent me their good wishes at this time. I am glad to have this chance to thank you all very warmly indeed.

"As the old year passes, let us celebrate Christmas with thanksgiving and carry its message of peace and goodwill into the year ahead. All of us at Sandringham wish you a very happy Christmas. May God bless you all."

The Queen, who is expecting her third child early next year, was on television. Her speech was recorded.

Jerusalem, Israel—UPI—An Israeli soldier was killed Thursday when his border patrol clashed with a group of armed Syrians near Tel Takzir. The two governments later issued official statements blaming each for the incident.

Invitations from the Internal Revenue Service to stop by and add it up all over again.

Dull steak knives. Confederate money. Invitations to dinner timed for 7:30 but at which the food will not show up until nearly 9.

Opportunities for sure-thing investments.

What everyone really wanted for Christmas: Peace, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Old-Fashioned Time Marks Holiday at Richard Nixon Home

Washington—UPI—Christmas was an old-fashioned family affair for the Richard M. Nixon family today with early-morning gift opening, a waffle and sausage breakfast and carol singing featuring the vice president at the piano.

There was a big tree with gifts aplenty and a traditional turkey dinner with cranberries and all the fixings.

Nixon, his wife, Pat, and their two daughters, Tricia, 14, and Julie, 11, planned to make it mostly a quiet day at their big Norman-style stone home in a wooded section of northwest Washington.

Brother's Son Visits Visiting them for the holidays is Donnie Nixon, 14, the youngest of the four children.

The schedule then called for a casual late breakfast, cooked by Mrs. Nixon and featuring waffles, a family holiday tradition, and country sausage. Guests invited.

The Nixons invited their usual Christmas dinner guests, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Fuller and their son, Bill, old friends and former neighbors.

Fuller, a Washington public relations man, and Nixon are old friends from California. The families were close neighbors when the Nixons lived in the Spring Valley section of Washington and usually dine together on Christmas.

After the big dinner, the program called for carol singing around the piano, with Nixon at the keyboard accompanied by young Bill Fuller on the ukelele.

Prisoners Give Spare Time To Helping Children

Washington—UPI—Prison bars cannot lock out the Christmas spirit or keep it from touching the hearts of the men and women inside.

"There is treasure, if you can only find it, in the heart of every man," James V. Bennett, director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, used that quote from Winston Churchill to tell how Christmas revealed the "treasure" in the hearts of some of the nation's most calloused criminals.

Toys Repaired In his annual report to Attorney General William P. Rogers, Bennett said inmates of several federal prisons devoted their spare time through November and December to preparing thousands of toys for needy children.

The Marine Corps collected playthings and sent them for repair to penitentiaries at Atlanta, Tallahassee, Ft. A. Greenville, S. C., McNeil Island, Wash., and Terminal Island, Calif.

The same sort of repair work was done for the Salvation Army by inmates at Petersburg, Va., and for the Veterans of Foreign Wars at El Reno, Okla.

In the reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio, prisoners made strings of Christmas lights to decorate the city, and helped repair existing decorations.

Checks Contributed Atlanta prisoners distributed checks of \$7 each to 660 children of federal prisoners whose families could not afford gifts.

Women inmates at Alderson, W. Va., used their leisure time to make toys and clothing for children in a nearby school for the retarded.

Some prisoners have taken on the support of orphans abroad. Leavenworth inmates have been supporting a French boy and a Korean boy since 1954.

At the institution at Seago, Texas, inmates are sponsoring two underprivileged boys in Dallas. Prisoners at Milan, Mich., are supporting a 6-year-old Kentucky girl.

DEBT MEETINGS OPEN Washington—UPI—The United States will open negotiations with Russia here Jan. 11 in a new effort to settle the Soviets' big World War II lend-lease debt. The United States provided Russia with \$10,800,000,000 in supplies during the war.

The Toy House EXTENDS THE Season's GREETINGS to Everyone May Your Joys Multiply and Thanks for Your Help in Making This a Successful Year THE TOY HOUSE WILL BE Closed Saturday DECEMBER 26 The Toy House