

MEDFORD TRIBUNE
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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.

10 YEARS AGO
Jan. 8, 1950 (Sunday)
Shelley Cross, 18-month-old Medford boy suffering from polio, is in an iron lung in a Eugene hospital; he is one of the youngest ever to be in iron lung.

20 YEARS AGO
Jan. 8, 1940 (Monday)
Congress begins debate on anti-lynching bill; southern congressmen declare that idea is slap in face to South.

30 YEARS AGO
Jan. 8, 1930 (Wednesday)
Local orchardists are contesting attempts by several Californians to get a patent on a fruit spray wash solution.

40 YEARS AGO
Jan. 8, 1920 (Friday)
Press talks about drafting Herbert Hoover as Republican candidate for president.

50 YEARS AGO
Jan. 8, 1910 (Saturday)
Rogue valley representative en route to Washington, D. C., to organize opposition to Apple Bill that would set standards in boxing apples not practical for local apples.

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

1. During the Renaissance, what invention caused learning to become widespread?
2. According to St. Paul, what are the abiding virtues?
3. Name two games in which the term "balk" is used.

4. Of what island group is Mindoro one?
5. Do stalactites, or stalagmites, hang from the roof of a limestone cavern?
6. What produces ocean waves?
7. In what part of the world is the island of Trinidad?
8. Were any attempts made to establish colonies in what is now New England before the Pilgrims sailed in 1620?
9. What does the legal term amicus curiae mean?
10. Complete the saying: "I didn't know him from ----."

Answers: 1. Invention of printing. 2. Faith, hope and charity. 3. Baseball and billiards. 4. The Philippines. 5. Stalactites. 6. Wind. 7. West Indies. 8. Yes; several. 9. "Friend of the court." 10. Adam.

This Needs Saying

Perhaps it's about time that someone said, out loud, what a lot of people have been thinking quietly.

This is: The teacher tenure law in Oregon is bad for school administration, bad for students, and bad for the teaching profession.

It ought to be drastically amended. Lacking that, it ought to be repealed.

Few teachers will admit this publicly (although quite a number will do so privately).

IN THE larger school districts of the state (of 4,500 or more students) teachers, during their first three years of employment, can be refused renewed contracts if, in the judgment of the administration, they are not good teachers.

Once they get their fourth annual contract, however, they come under the protection of the tenure law, which provides, briefly, that they can be discharged only for inefficiency, unbecoming conduct, insubordination, neglect of duty, or refusal to comply with reasonable rules calling for improvement of their skills.

While these sound, on first reading, to offer little protection to a really poor teacher, in practice they are almost impossible to prove except in extreme cases.

THE result is that, throughout the state, there are teachers who should not be teaching at all—and there's virtually nothing anyone can do about it.

Teachers who are uninterested, unskillful, marginally prepared for the profession—these are the ones conscientious administrators and school boards would like to eliminate from faculties, but have found they cannot.

Some protection for teachers, from the one-in-a-million administrator who may wish to fire a teacher capriciously, because he doesn't like the way he or she parts his or her hair, should be retained.

But the law should not be made a blanket protection for lazy, or inefficient, or disinterested teachers.

THE Oregon Education Association supports the tenure law. We are surprised that it should do so, for ostensibly it is a "professional" organization—not a "labor union"—and boasts of its dedication to raising standards in the profession.

The tenure law, in our view, is the one single greatest drawback to this very aim. The good teacher, the conscientious one, with the professional skills and dedication and incentive to teach the rising generation, should be the first to demand that it become possible for the lesser breeds to be weeded out. For this would make his or her own job more rewarding and meaningful. The good teacher is the one with nothing to fear if tenure, in its present form, is abandoned.

IT IS even possible that, with this artificial protection removed, sub-standard teachers would find the incentive to become good ones. Over-protection is good for no one.

The first consideration should be for the youngsters being taught. That is what the whole thing is about.

We yield to no one in our support of education, the schools, and the teaching profession. It is for this reason that we hate to see competent teachers supporting a law which serves to keep incompetent ones in a position of guiding the destinies of our sons and daughters.—E.A.

Civil Service, Too

What applies to the teacher tenure law also applies to many positions under civil service—both state and federal.

Once an employee falls under civil service protection, it is almost impossible to dislodge him, short of proving moral turpitude.

Thus, again, the inefficient, sub-standard worker is protected, and drags out his years on the public payroll without doing the job for which he is being paid.

DON'T misunderstand—we are convinced that this is the exception to the rule. We have found that by far the biggest majority of civil servants—and teachers—are good, conscientious people, doing their best for the public which pays their salaries.

But the exceptions, be they ever so few, discredit the public service, drag down standards, destroy the incentive of others, and wreak havoc with morale.

Again, public employees should be protected from capricious firings. But they should not be protected against legitimate discharge as undesirable employees.—E.A.

The Good Rain

The rain and snow of the last few days may have been miserable—but they are gratifying, indeed, to those worried about the supplies of available irrigation water for next summer. And surely they are no worse than cold, foggy weather.

We'll need more rain and snow—a lot of it—to make up the deficit left by last winter's lack of precipitation, and the long dry fall last year. So let us hope for more rain, keep our fingers crossed, and if it comes, enjoy it.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"HE'S REALLY MY BIRD, BUT I LET MOM TAKE CARE OF 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 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.

Figures Misleading
To the Editor: I wish to take exception to some of the statements used in your editorial of Jan. 6 concerning the pay of Medford teachers.

I realize that the material you used is from the O.E.A., but it does not represent fairly the pay of Medford teachers. The reason this is true is that the reports as sent to OEA include on the high school staff many of the supervisory personnel of the district. As a result the average pay of the high school teachers is stated as being somewhat higher than is actually the case if the average of TEACHERS were taken.

The same is also true relative to the maximum pay possible for high school teachers. The only way such a salary could be reached is by being under contract to work for a longer period of time than the regular contract period and to have additional duties of a supervisory nature.

Regardless of the level taught, Medford teachers are paid on the basis of training and experience, and the maximum pay according to the salary schedule for a teacher with a masters degree and several years experience is \$6,730. Not all of the teachers have attained this maximum, in fact the majority have not, and many of the younger teachers in the system are being paid the minimum of \$4,000.

The only way a high school teacher can attain a higher salary is by being assigned additional duties such as department head, counselor, coaching, or being a member of the administrative staff.

I believe on further investigation you will find the same is true of the averages reported by OEA for Junior High and Elementary teachers, which were also raised by the inclusion of the supervisory personnel.

I send you this information not to be critical of either the salaries paid Medford teachers or to be critical of your editorial, but merely that the information as mis-represented by the OEA might be made straight in the minds of the readers of the paper.

James A. Johnston, Physics Instructor, Medford High School.

Editor's note: Mr. Johnston is correct. We are at a loss to understand why the O.E.A., the teachers' own organization, should distribute widely information which, in essence, misrepresents the pay-scales of the average teachers—those who do not receive extra pay for additional duties. Another point made in the editorial, however, is unchanged and, perhaps, made even more important—that the teaching profession as a whole does not receive financial rewards commensurate to its responsibilities.

Richards, Again
To the Editor: It takes a courageous, but forgetful, Congressman to make the statements Congressman A. Porter made in his recent letter to the editor. For example:

(a) He denies he urged immediate recognition of Red China on Nov. 24. But the Washington Post on Nov. 25 reported: "Speaking to a meeting of the Young Democrats Club at the Mayflower Hotel, the Congressman said the United States should recognize the Red regime, back its admission to the U. N. trade with it in non-strategic goods."

The experts in the field classify the three general po-

Indonesian Minister 'Man of the Week'; Seen as Learning Lessons of Democracy

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor
The man-of-the-week: Lt. Gen. Abdul Haris Nasution, Indonesian minister of security and defense.

The place: Jakarta. The quote: "The rights of your finger and where my nose begins."

Thus the Indonesian strongman ruled out eye-gouging or a punch in the nose as a democratic principle to be practiced either among nations or at home.

In an era when national leaders seek out the Madison Avenue-type phrase to come their ideas, Nasution has not been noted as a public speaker. But in his appearance at

a dinner given in his honor by foreign correspondents in Jakarta, he demonstrated that he is learning.

His theme was that while he still favors democracy, it also carries with it certain obligations.

"Indonesia's misfortune has been the fact that democracy is only observed from the standpoint of rights," he said, "and not considered from the standpoint of limitations and obligations."

This deeply religious man is the one credited most of all with the steadily improving relations between Indonesia and the United States and the renewed confidence among western nations that the Indonesian archipelago is not going to fall to the Communists.

In the last year in Indonesia, it has been President Sukarno who remained the

popular leader and made the speeches, but Nasution has been making the decisions.

It was Nasution who in 1958, reportedly without consulting Sukarno, contracted for \$10 million in U.S. small arms.

Until that time, the United States had been unwilling to supply arms to a nation which appeared to be on the high road to Communist control.

Nasution's firm action against Indonesian Communists and the Communists' hatred for him convinced the U.S. otherwise.

To Deal With Khrushchev
The arms deal was but the forerunner of others to be concluded between the U.S. and Indonesia.

One was a \$70 million U.S. loan for Indonesian economic development. Another was a credit for nearly \$7 million to buy U.S. machinery, equipment and services with which

to expand the capacity of the Gresik Cement Corporation in East Java.

It seems probable that one of Khrushchev's roles will be to seek to act as peace-maker between Indonesia and Red China in their growing dispute over Indonesia's decision to freeze out alien Chinese merchants. One of the men with whom he must deal will be Nasution, the man who makes decisions.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Hodgepodge in the news: A National Airlines plane with 34 persons aboard is down on a non-stop flight from New York to Miami. Search activities began immediately.

The news has been full of plane trouble recently. Does that mean that plane travel is getting more dangerous? Probably not. We can assume that the real reason is that there are more planes in the air. There are more highway fatalities because there are more cars on the road.

LET S put it this way:

More people are being killed and injured by slipping in bathtubs. It isn't that bathtubs are more dangerous. There are just more bathtubs and more people taking baths.

SPeaking of traffic:

George A. Walter, who invented the nation's first traffic signals, died the other day in Stratford, Conn., at the age of 87.

His invention was a manually operated jigger consisting of a square ock at the top of a pole. Two sides of the box carried the word GO. The other two sides carried the word STOP. The cop manipulated it by means of handles. When, in his judgment, traffic had flowed long enough in one direction, he changed the GO sign to STOP. He had a barricade around him to keep careless motorists from knocking him for a loop.

A LOT of water has flowed under the bridge since then.

IMAGINE A JIGGER LIKE THAT AT A COMPLICATED CORNER ON A LOS ANGELES FREEWAY!

PRISON doors in Havana swing open for 1200 Cuban criminals granted a blanket pardon in observance of Epiphany—the day when Latin Americans traditionally exchange Christmas presents.

QUESTIONS:

In a system like that, WHO is a political prisoner? Answer: He's a guy who isn't going to vote for you—if you happen to be running the show.

A COLUMBIA University graduate who worked his way through college has just presented to his alma mater the not inconsiderable sum of \$5 million.

No money will be used to help build an 18-story medical research building at Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Who is the donor? He is William Black, founder and president of Chock Full o' Nuts Corporation.

How did he make his money? He got a good idea and ran it into a big pile.

able, too, from Kennedy's viewpoint. For generally speaking, the kind of potential support open to the one is about equally open to the other. Humphrey and Kennedy, on the other hand, are really rivals only in the surface sense. The groups favoring Humphrey would not want Kennedy, anyhow; and the other way around.

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left, or eight minutes longer than Humphrey.

On his way out, Humphrey noticed that some of us newsmen were still in the press gallery enjoying the performance. Reaching into his coat pocket, he extracted a piece of cardboard and jocularly waved it.

It was a sign he had snatched from one of the reserved seats and it had two words: "White House."

Presidential Hopefuls Provide Side-Show During Ike's Talk

By DICK WEST

Washington — UPI — While everyone else was watching the President deliver his State of the Union Message to Congress, I was watching the presidential candidates.

In some respects, the side-show was more entertaining than the main event.

There were at least five

known or suspected presidential hopefuls in the House chamber during the speech.

Nobody knows how many others were secretly picturing themselves in Eisenhower's place at the rostrum.

I wouldn't want to accuse anyone of politicking on the President's time, but a couple

of Democrats sure made the most of the audience he had attracted after the speech was over.

Nixon Announced
First to check in was Vice President Richard M. Nixon, the leading Republican contender. As head of the visiting Senate delegation, he got his title mentioned orally—loudly, that is—by House doorkeeper William M. Fishbait Miller.

Miller announced the entrance of each group of dignitaries in the style and accent of a Mississippi station master calling trains. "Mistah speakah," he bawled, "the vice prezadunt and membahs of the Senate!"

Thus heralded, senators from both the South and North filed in two-by-two, like members of a wedding party or animals entering the ark.

Up front was Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (Tex.), another of the hopeful five.

Johnson also got special mention—by Nixon, who, in a softer voice than Miller's, appointed his possible future rival to the committee which escorted the President into the chamber.

Humphrey Late
Nobody individually mentioned Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), but he made up for this by arriving conspicuously late and making a solo entrance. Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) distinguished himself by sitting apart from senators in the rear row.

I was unable to detect anything exceptional about the actions of Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.). However, normal behavior in itself is unusual for someone said to be eye-balling the White House.

After the speech, Kennedy and Humphrey, the only announced candidates, lingered in the chamber, shaking hands and slapping backs of well-wishers. They appeared to be waiting each other out.

Slowly working their way towards the doors, Humphrey and his group almost collided at one point. The two campaigners studiously ignored each other and headed up separate aisles.

For whatever significance it may have, Kennedy won this preliminary skirmish. He stayed in the chamber for 20 minutes after the President

left, or eight minutes longer than Humphrey.

On his way out, Humphrey noticed that some of us newsmen were still in the press gallery enjoying the performance. Reaching into his coat pocket, he extracted a piece of cardboard and jocularly waved it.

It was a sign he had snatched from one of the reserved seats and it had two words: "White House."

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

KENNEDY FIRING

Washington — The race for the Democratic Presidential nomination is hardening into what may well become the wildest and fiercest struggle within the party since the early part of this century.

Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts is not only the front-running aspirant. He also is firming up his hold on the initiative to the point where he is likely to be, at least until the last ballot is taken, the most powerful single force at the Democratic convention in July.

Put it this way: if he himself is not nominated he will at worst hold the key as to what other aspirant is to be chosen.

The decision of Gov. Mike DiSalle of Ohio to go all-out for Kennedy is one of the biggest breaks of the campaign to date. Its immediately obvious meaning is that almost certainly Kennedy will have the fourth largest state delegation to the convention. But it means a good deal more than simply this.

DiSalle's action will put pressure on other urban states with large traditionally Catholic-Democratic populations to look with growing kindness upon the young Senator. (Kennedy, of course, is a Catholic, as is DiSalle.)

The Democratic bosses of at least two highly significant states—Gov. David Lawrence in Pennsylvania and Tammany leader Carmine DeSapio in New York — will surely not be left wholly unaware of this new breeze from Ohio.

There is also some evidence here of a break in the Truman wing of the party toward Kennedy. DiSalle, in the past at any rate, has been a faithful Truman man. The wide belief heretofore had been that "Mike" was going to turn Ohio toward Harry S. Truman's own apparent present choice for the nomination, Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri.

The real strategy of all of Kennedy's rivals has been based on the assumption that he was all but certain to overreach himself and fall short of a majority at the convention. This assumption, though not necessarily now destroyed, is looking shakier all the time.

Kennedy's own strategy, in the meantime, is plainly looking up. Rivals, for illustration, must either go into the Ohio primary against DiSalle, who will run there as a Kennedy man, or give up.

The Kennedy plan is and always has been to force some of the other hopefuls into primary contests with him or with his people. Practically speaking, it is so to force not "some" but actually one contender: Senator Symington. One candidate, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, has already taken the plunge and agreed to contest in the primaries. Another "possibility," who denies being an aspirant, Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, can reasonably avoid entering primary fights by pointing out that as Senate Democratic leader his plate is full already.

It is true, my family and my friends don't have to see the show, which we certainly won't, but I can't help but wonder about how our sons and our daughters will be affected by those who do see these pictures.

J. Edgar Hoover advises an all-out war against pornography and obscene movies and TV. Why can't we wage our own little battle right here in Medford?

As you have gathered, I'm angry.

Mrs. E. D. Bennett 914 Grant ave. Medford.

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