

Medford Mail Tribune

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE 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

March 30, 1950 (Thursday) First degree murder and kidnapping warrants were issued in Vancouver, Wash., today for Turman and Utah Wilson who are accused of abducting and slaying a Portland nurse.

Superintendent of the city water department, Robert A. Duff, outlines reasons for proposed bond issue for construction of a new city pipeline from Big Butte springs.

20 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1940 (Saturday) Al Wimer, senior at Medford High school, wins first place in state American Legion oratorical contest.

From Arthur Perry's "Spring Smudge Pot" column: "Yes football practice started at the high school this week, with barely a quorum on hand."

30 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1930 (Monday) Fire destroys Coy and Robinson restaurant at Gold Hill.

County Republicans will form a Hoover club, starting April 3.

40 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1920 (Wednesday) Mayor Gates says he will not be a candidate for third term.

Medford Commercial club recommends that valley products again be shown at National Apple Show at Spokane where Rogue valley apples won sweepstakes last year.

50 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1910 (Wednesday) Four local census takers quit because government will pay them only 3 cents per person counted.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. Who is the boy who would not grow up? 2. What President of the U.S. served in that office the shortest length of time? 3. Who was the world heavyweight boxing champion during the year 1948? 4. Does the Vatican have an Ambassador to the United States? 5. What is the chief source of malt? 6. Do deciduous trees shed their leaves in the fall? 7. Does the "Lindbergh law" deal with aviation, kidnapping, or narcotics? 8. What is a goober? 9. In England, what is the B.B.C.? 10. Who were Athos, Porthos, and Aramis? Answers: 1. Peter Pan. 2. William Henry Harrison. 3. Joe Louis. 4. No. (There is an Apostolic Delegate). 5. Barley. 6. Yes. 7. Kidnapping. 8. A peanut. 9. British Broadcasting Corp. 10. Three Musketeers.

AD WRITER DIES

New York (UPI) - Myron A. Mahler, 46, a writer of advertising jingles for radio and television and a distant cousin of German composer Gustav Mahler, died Tuesday.

Questions About Schools

What are the Medford schools trying to accomplish?

What is our tax money being spent for? Are we getting the most for our dollar? Should we vote for the three-quarters-of-a-million dollar bond issue tomorrow? And then vote for the multi-million school budget on May 2?

These are live questions these days. So "live" and so "controversial," apparently, that a meeting called Monday night to discuss some of them drew a grand total of 13 people—of whom seven were interested citizens. There were also five school officials, and one Mail Tribune reporter.

ONE can draw one or two conclusions about people's reactions from this minuscule turnout for this meeting. People may feel:

- 1. "I already know enough about the school system to make up my mind on the bond issue and budget"; or, 2. "Who cares?" The second group probably won't vote anyway, so these lines are addressed to those who believe they already know about Medford schools, and have already made up their mind how to vote. Of these there are two types, those who plan to vote for the bond issue and budget, and those who plan to vote against.

THE school district's plans for new buildings, and for operations for the coming years, have been covered in painstaking detail in a series of articles in the Mail Tribune in recent weeks.

The articles were written by City Editor Earl Adams, and are based not only on the statements and documents of school officials, but also on his own personal knowledge, gained from regular attendance at school board meetings, budget committee meetings, and tours of the school district.

It is possible that they tell (to paraphrase the student's famous remark) "more about the school district than I care to know."

But anyone who has read them can't complain he doesn't know about the district's building and operational plans.

BUT even these articles, detailed as they are, still don't fully answer all the questions which people have a right to ask.

Answers of some of these are contained in a document entitled "The general philosophy and educational responsibilities of the Medford Public Schools," which appears, almost in full, elsewhere in today's paper.

We feel it is an important document, and that school patrons are entitled to read it before casting their vote tomorrow and May 2.

Work on preparing it started in 1957, and was completed only a few weeks ago. It has the approval of the school board, of the administrative staff, and of the teachers who were consulted in its preparation. Subsequent revisions are contemplated if and when changes make them necessary.

THE full document goes into the district's beliefs in detail. But we repeat below its conclusions:

"The American plan is state and local control of the public education program which is best attained through a non-partisan, non-salaried school board composed of lay members elected by their fellow citizens. This plan keeps schools close to the people. Upon the school board's shoulders rests the responsibility for developing America's most precious resource—its youth. The board is expected to carry out this responsibility efficiently, wisely, and economically. "Through the school board, local control guarantees freedom for expression of local ideas, freedom of the staff to plan and to implement the school program, and freedom to offer educational opportunities beyond accepted state standards. "As a result of the individual's school experience, certain intangible learnings will accrue which cannot be classified. Among these are a desire on the part of the individual to continue to learn, and an appreciation of the things yet to be learned. Under able teacher guidance, development of individual social skills, personal standards of excellence, and acceptance of the role of a group member working on common social problems are realized. "The Medford Public Schools accept the task of assisting the individual to realize fully his potentialities as a person and to equip him to fulfill successfully his place as a responsible member of our democratic way of life. This can best be achieved through a program of 'competitive spirit' and 'self discipline,' which motivates one to do his best, to excel, and to achieve his greatest potential both as an individual and as a contributing member to the society of which he is a part."

THAT'S a tall order. It is a tremendous responsibility. In attempting to do the job, the Medford school district has had it failings, its difficulties, its problems.

But we believe that anyone who has been at all attentive to the situation will agree its TRYING to fill the order, and that its successes and victories have been more important than its setbacks and defeats.

It is up to the citizens and taxpayers of the Medford school district to support the district in doing the job it is trying to do.

And one of the most important ways this support can be given is to vote to give the district the tools it needs.—E.A.

A Question

If a man approves when a fellow citizen is deprived of constitutional and legal rights, by what logic can he complain if his own are threatened?—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"If you don't get that dog out my way, I'm gonna let ruff fight 'im!"

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.

Sing It, Too To the Editor: I, too, would like to say something about these letters to the editor concerning the Smiths and other colored people.

Thank you, Mr. Selleck and Mrs. Spackman for your kind letters. We need more printed like yours. I would like to tell you of what happened over two years ago in Portland when my mother and my 11 year old son and I waited for a Jackson Park bus to get to the Doernbecher hospital. As we entered the bus, it was terribly crowded but did any white man offer us a seat? No. But there were two Negro men who jumped up from their seats and said, "You're both welcome to sit here, we don't mind standing up." We will always be grateful to them and shall never forget it.

Also while in Portland, we were shopping in the Meier and Frank store when we decided to get on the escalator to shop in another part of the store. My mother hesitated about stepping on the escalator, but as I turned around a young Negro woman put her arm around my mother and said "Do not be afraid, I will go with you and help you."

So many of you who are so bitter against the colored people but still attend church every week and call yourselves Christians, are you really a Christian? The Lord made the colored people same as he did the white people. Can they help it if they are colored? And, may I add, can we help it if we're born white? As Mrs. Spackman says, "Most colored people are kind and good Christians."

Our God is their God too, and there is only one God, you know. So let us all welcome the Smiths to our wonderful city and say, "Make yourselves at home, Mr. and Mrs. Smith." Our six year old daughter sings this song quite often: "Jesus loves the little children" "All the children of the world" "Red and yellow, black and white, "They are 'precious' in His sight. "Jesus loves the little children of the world."

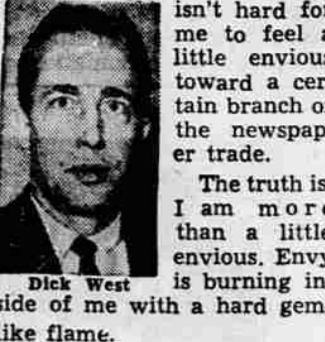
Now why don't you sing it often too? Mrs. Mary Jones, 428 North Holly st. Medford.

Not News, Nor News

To the Editor: Restless, famishing millions in India, starving, battling millions in China; seething, forced-back millions in Africa; landless, bewildered, scattered native Americans, have suffered needlessly through exploitation of their people and their lands, by European-American white civilization. It has been continuous. When George Guess, Chief Sequoia, and his Cherokee people showed ability to farm, weave, and with his syllabary, printed a paper in 1826, they were driven beyond the Mississippi. More than a third of the 14,000 died or were killed en route. The Alabama-Georgia Indians driven to Oklahoma suffered the same way. When Chief Osceola met soldiers under flag of truce they tried to force him to sign a surrender treaty. He plunged his knife through the paper, saying "That's the only way I'll sign." He was dragged to prison and left to die. The Senecas had a treaty of 1794 signed by George Washington, stating they are

Dick West Invents Washington Gossip Column, a la Hollywood; He's Jealous

By DICK WEST Washington (UPI) - As one who has grown spavined in the service of journalism, it isn't hard for me to feel a little envious toward a certain branch of the newspaper trade.



Dick West inside of me with a hard gemlike flame.

The object of my cupidity is that group of my colleagues who write away the hours writing Broadway and Hollywood gossip columns. It seems to me they enjoy the benefits of newspapering without encountering the occupational hazards.

For one thing, they don't have to worry about sentence structure and stuff like that because most of them don't write sentences.

Moreover, they don't have to bother with punctuation. Trial Balloon

I don't suppose there is much market for a Washington gossip column but I thought I would send up a trial balloon on the off chance that it might catch on.

On April 1, means a treat, for Alexander's Hawaiian Band will play from 3 until 4 o'clock.

We are hoping to have visitors from the Grants Pass club that day. There may be others, so perhaps members should bring a large dish for potluck lunch, or 50 cents for that kiddy, just in case.

We find dancing to be great as a physical exercise, card games stimulating mentally, and just plain visiting good for all of us.

Sometimes we have an impromptu program, so if you can do - please DO. Pearl Spackman, Jacksonville

Liked Letter

To the Editor: I should like to thank Jim Selleck publicly for his contribution in Monday's paper; in trying to remove a little white-wash. It is one of the most worthy letters I have ever read in your paper.

Mrs. Helen Prevo 222 West Jackson st. Medford

For Dog Control

To the Editor: Please print this letter about these stray dogs. At one time I counted four dogs in my yard, and two had licenses and I had to clean up their calling cards after I chased them out. If any one cares enough about a dog to own it, let him keep it in his own yard to dig up the flowers and mess up the yard. I get so mad at them I could kill the lot of them.

We have a dog, but she never gets outside and I sure don't turn her out to leave her calling card in some one else's yard. I clean up after her myself. But to clean up after other people's dogs is going too far. I hope the dog control goes through. We need it bad. Maybe so many children wouldn't be bitten or the paper boys could deliver the papers without being chased down the street. (Name on file) Medford.

She Wouldn't Trade

To the Editor: In Sunday's "Bird Watchers" story, the writer talked of our weather of the first three months of this year, saying that the warm weather of this month made a new record.

We have lived in Jackson county the last 31 years and I can say that every year has a record of its very own. No two years have ever been exactly the same. We came here April 1, 1929. The March of 1930 was hot and dry all month, also most of April.

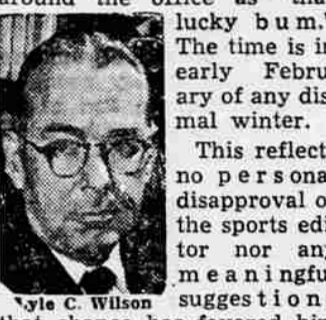
Then in May dreary showers came which relieved the growers' worry.

Then the 4th of January, in 1930 or '31, I can't just be sure which it was, we had four inches of snow and it was 4 below zero. I can remember that very well as it was four of each. Also on that day the men folks chased a runaway cow with the car and got stuck, and they left the car where it was over

Preparatory to this experiment, I stopped by the Senate stationery store and bought myself a large size name-dropper. Then I purchased a box of dots (.) and a sack of dashes (-). Put the mall together and they make the day's news look something like this: . . . Ike huddling with Mac at Gettysburg . . . nice guys . . . whatever happened to Zachary Taylor??? For that matter, whatever happened to Stanley Baldwin??? Speaking of Gettysburg, whatever happened to Robert E. Lee??? . . . Senators still snarling over civil-type rights . . . northerners optimistic over chances of getting a bill soon . . . southerners optimistic over chances of not getting a bill soon . . . Whatever happened to pessimism??? Look Alikes . . . Look alike: Sen. John F. Kennedy and his brother Bob . . . more look alike: Sen. John F. Kennedy and his brother Ted . . . still more look alike: Sen. John F. Kennedy and his sister Eunice . . . Capitol Hill newshawks buzzing over Sen. Hickenlooper's comment . . . Sen. Leverett Saltonstall . . . Hickenlooper alleged to have said "good morning" . . . reporters on scene missed Saltonstall's reply . . . Look alike revisited . . . Sen. John F. Kennedy and his sister Pat . . . State Dept. diplomat with names that fit their jobs: T. Archilles Polyzoides, Philander P. Claxton and Wymberley Der Coerr . . . Seen in the office of Sen. John Marshall Butler . . . Sen. John Marshall Butler.

Wilson Sees Demo Convention Of 1960 as Battle of Century

By LYLE C. WILSON Washington (UPI) - There comes a time each year when the sports editor is known around the office as "that lucky bum."



Lyle C. Wilson

This reflects no personal disapproval of the sports editor nor a meaningful suggestion that he should be replaced. This merely is an acknowledgment that the sports editor's calling enables him to fly southward at the onset of the awful, awkward age of any year.

The sports editor files to Florida or Arizona or wherever. There, with all bills paid, including bar checks if they are not too large, the sports editor observes and comments on the spring training of the athletes of major league baseball.

This annual chore is regarded as a light touch by other reporters, including political writers, most of whom began in the sports department somewhere and most of whom wish each February that they had stayed in the racket.

(Editor's note: It should be obvious to the reader that Mr. Wilson is not referring to a small daily paper such as The Mail Tribune.) Year for Politics

All things come, the saying goes, to he who waits. And

this is the year when sports writers, if they are any good at all, will wish that they were political writers, instead. No mere matter of weather and sunshine will be involved in this. On the contrary. This is the year when the political writers will brave the awful smog and worse traffic of Los Angeles, Calif., to report the goings on at the Democratic national convention. Let the sports writers have baseball in Florida and Arizona during the cold and slushy season of the year. I will take the Democratic national convention in July. There is coming up in Los Angeles next July the best show of the year, more likely the best show in many years. If the sports writers were going it, they would call it the battle of the century. Eddie Follard, who writes politics out of Washington, says when the Democrats get into a family quarrel they like to say that it doesn't mean they are divided but only that they are keeping fit. South on Defensive That does not cover what is coming up next July. The Democratic Party is headed for a convention which will compare in bitterness and impact with the granddaddy of them all. That one was the 1924 Madison Square Garden, New York, affray. In 1924 the embattled southerners were fighting for prohibition, mostly, and to some extent against the nomination for president of a Roman Catholic, Alfred Emmanuel Smith. This year the southerners will be fighting for what they regard as their way of life; fighting against the combined effort of their own party and the federal government to break down the racial customs of the South. It is a fact that Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) is a Roman Catholic and a strong contender for the 1960 Democratic nomination. But it is issues of race and racial relations which inflame the South today and which will burst with nuclear impact among the Los Angeles delegates. Something must give in a situation of that kind. What gives and who is politically killed or wounded when it happens will be the basic story of the Los Angeles convention.

Iraq Situation Now Favors West; But Future Uncertain

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

For nearly a year now events have been taking place in Iraq which combine to news for the West.

Maj. Gen. Abdel Karim Kassem, Iraq's premier and a strong man, has been cracking down on the Communists.

This does not mean that Kassem is moving toward Western alignment. Rather, it appears to mean that he is moving away from his Soviet ties toward neutralism. And a neutral Iraq, with its oil and

its port of Basra controlling the entrance to the Persian Gulf, is vastly to be preferred to one aligned with Russia.

The latest clear indication that Kassem is clipping Communist wings came in the announcement that the death sentence pronounced on former Premier Fadhil Al-Jamali has been reduced to life imprisonment.

Jamali's early execution had been one of the key planks in the Communist platform.

Kassem's growing disenchantment with his Communist allies first became apparent last July.

On July 5, 1959, Kassem ordered that the Communist-dominated people's resistance movement place itself under army control. This was a semi-military group of about 35,000 members, most of whom were club-swinging youths who took over the streets of Baghdad and spread terror after dark.

But last July, Kassem finally cracked down. In that same month, he shook up his cabinet, reducing the powers of Dr. Ibrahim Kubba, his pro-Communist minister of economics.

Drops Altogether In February of this year, Kubba was dropped from the cabinet altogether. Also in this year, while discussing other political parties in preparation for a return to parliamentary government, the Kassem regime refused a license to Iraq's main Communist party. Instead, it licensed a splinter group referred to by the main party as a "disrupting gang."

Control of Iraq would provide international Communism with its most important mid-eastern plum, and fulfill the Soviet Union's historic wish for an outlet to the Indian ocean.

Time still must tell whether Kassem can remove the Communist influence or whether he did indeed go too far.

I noticed once when I was looking at the children's geography book that the Rogue River Valley of Oregon was mentioned, saying that it was subject to frost or snow any time of the year.

I wouldn't trade it to live again in any place I have been. Mary E. Atkins, 1634 Orchard Home dr. Medford.

X-15 in Ninth Powered Flight

Edwards AFB, Calif. (UPI) - The experimental rocketship X-15 took a simulated long flight harnessed under a mother ship Tuesday and then successfully made its ninth powered flight.

Test pilot Scott Crossfield of North American Aviation sat in the cockpit of the tiny craft for an hour and a half as a B-52 mother plane flew over the desert with the X-15 under its wing. The captive flight was to determine how controls of the ship would function with the 210-degree below zero fuel in the craft.

At the end of the tethered flight, the X-15 was cut loose and Crossfield flew it at 4,000 miles an hour at an altitude of 50,000 feet for six minutes before landing at this Southern California base. The X-15 is designed to carry man up to 100 miles in the air at speeds of 4,000 miles an hour.

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A Quarter of a Century . . .

Sounds like a long time, doesn't it? That's how long we have served this community, and tried to do our best, too. We have been happy here among so many friends. The stay seems so brief. We shall continue to give of our best, always.

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