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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

Acting station manager here says Southwest Airlines and West Coast Airlines have filed application for merger.

20 YEARS AGO

Some 21 members of Portland Chamber of Commerce, visiting Medford, heard resume of business conditions in this part of state.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Placatorial enthusiasts are agog over the opening of the fishing season next Saturday."

30 YEARS AGO

Final dividends paid on defunct Bank of Jacksonville. Double shifts start April 15 at Owen-Oregon mill.

40 YEARS AGO

Oil drilling to start in Sam's Valley soon. Showers comes to valley and frost danger passes.

50 YEARS AGO

Congressman W. C. Hawley introduces bill in Congress asking for \$125,000 Federal building for Medford.

What's Your I.Q.?

- 1. In what state does the major portion of the area of Yellowstone National Park lie? 2. One of the Marx brothers was distinguished for wearing a red wig; which one?

Cars and Smog

It will be interesting to see how well the new California legislation requiring anti-smog devices on automobiles works out.

There have been some pretty optimistic forecasts about it. Smith Griswold, director of the Los Angeles county air pollution district, said "there is no question" but what the new law will mean southern California will be rid of smog within five or six years.

Final design of the devices has not yet been chosen. Auto manufacturers and others are working on several different designs, and the law sets up a state board to certify successful ones.

AFTER this is done, all new cars will be required to be equipped with anti-smog attachments, and, unless counties or air pollution districts provide exemptions, all used cars and commercial vehicles will have them after a certain period of time.

How well they work will be of interest in Medford, particularly in view of the new freeway which in a few years will go through town along the east bank of Bear creek, some 35 feet in the air.

That will be bad enough, from an aesthetic and town-dividing standpoint. But, if, at the same time, it became a chief contributor to a gaseous pall over the downtown area, that would be insupportable.

A two-day survey was conducted... to determine if significant concentrations of the gases and particles which create the Los Angeles type of smog are present in Medford.

"This form of air pollution is created by reactions between unsaturated hydrocarbons, mostly from gasoline and other petroleum fuels, with oxidizing substances in the presence of sunlight."

We may be needing anti-smog devices hereabouts yet.—E.A.

Confusing the Issue

Voters in Pendleton this week, by a majority of better than 2 to 1, turned down a proposal to junk the city manager form of city government.

It appeared that a group of Pendleton residents were mad at the city manager, so, after they failed to persuade the city council to discharge the manager, they attacked the entire system of government.

THEIR effort failed, as it deserved to do. No public official, no matter what his talents, can please everyone.

If a form of government needs changing, change it, on the merits of the matter. If a public official isn't doing his job, see that he's fired. But don't confuse the two.

That's what some Pendleton voters did, but happily for Pendleton, they were in a minority. Now the city council can proceed to exercise the responsibilities for which they were elected.—E.A.

Computer

In a letter to this page the other day, Max Wimmer tossed in some questions about the state motor vehicle department's computer which intrigued us enough to find the answers.

The computer, which over a three-year period will replace between 50 to 100 employees, will cost \$375,000, plus a monthly rental of \$44,599.

Other pertinent figures supplied to the Salem office of United Press International, at our request, are these:

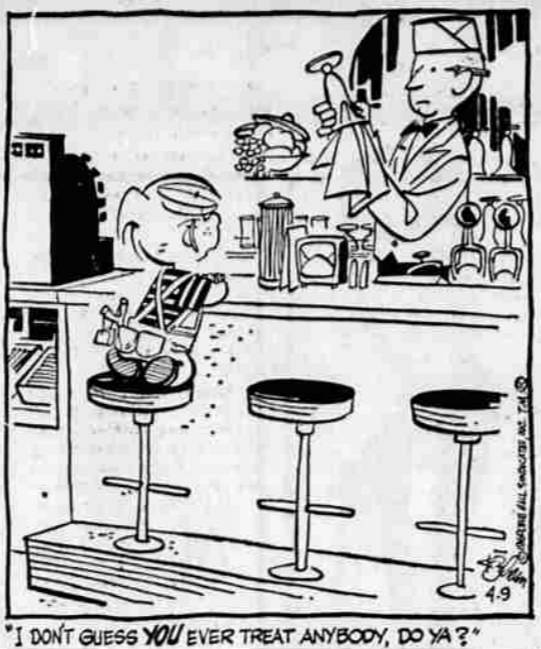
- Present operating costs, per month, of the department (including personnel, equipment and supplies) in the registration, license, financial responsibility, and accounting departments, plus an added 10 per cent for estimated increased cost of operation for the next 5 years—\$51,126.

WHAT the department of motor vehicles didn't bother to mention when the story first came out was that these savings won't be realized during the next five years. At \$75,000 per year, it will take until some time in 1965 to pay off the \$375,000 cost of installation.

The original story said, "The computer will assist in handling the state's mushrooming motor vehicle and driver licensing business."

Of course, if that computer is obsolete by 1965... Who knows?—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"I DON'T GUESS YOU EVER TREAT ANYBODY, DO YA?"

Matter of Fact

UNDERDOGGERY Washington—After the Wisconsin primary, one of the least clear, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota is a past master of underdogger, which is an important branch of political gamesmanship.

Only the most brilliant underdogger could have persuaded a so many people that the Wisconsin victory of Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts was really a rather shabby performance.

FOR Humphrey, meanwhile, the arts of underdogger have this defect, that they may soften a defeat in the eyes of the politician. If do not conceal it from the Humphrey is running as a serious candidate in his own right, his defeat in Wisconsin can be considered as close to final as anything ever is in American politics.

He has far less chance than he had at the outset to secure the Democratic Presidential nomination, and his chance at the outset was exceedingly slim.

It may be, of course, that Humphrey is not running as a serious candidate. He may be running as a stalking horse for some other candidate, such as Adlai Stevenson or Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri.

IN that case, the Humphrey effort can only be judged after the West Virginia voting. Otherwise, his effort has failed already.

WISCONSIN It is only the morning after the Wisconsin primary as this article is written, and there are not yet available detailed analysis of the vote.

But even without these details it is evident that the result in Wisconsin is indicative, that for Kennedy, Humphrey, and for Nixon as well, it has brought forth a Scotch verdict of "Not proven."

Another dubious assumption is that the best candidate and the best President will necessarily be a man who has the time to enter the primaries, who has the money and the energy and the endurance to fight them, and who has an appetite for the trivialities and the half-truths and the special pleading and the personal exhibitionism which are almost the whole of the actual campaigning.

It is not so, and the Wisconsin primary campaign, like the Stevenson-Kefauver campaign of 1956, has reduced, it has not raised, the Presidential stature of the contestants.

AT BOTTOM, the attempt to reach the nomination through the direct primaries poses the wrong question. It asks whether X can rally more votes than Y, and it bypasses the real question, which is whether X or Y would be the better President of the United States.

Thus, as against Humphrey, the Kennedy vote is 57 per cent. But while this is a substantial victory, it throws very little light on the national election. Kennedy's vote, for example, is around half-a-million. This is only about one-third of the total Eisenhower-Stevenson vote cast in Wisconsin in the national election of 1956.

More over, though there is evidence that Kennedy's half-a-million contain a percentage of Catholic Republicans who would probably stay with him in November, there is no way of telling how many of Humphrey's substantial minority would vote for Kennedy in November.

THE outcome confirms the view that many of us have held for a long time, that the primary system as it now exists, and the Wisconsin primary rather especially, are not a satisfactory test of who should be nominated for President.

And, therefore, I say, let each of them take out some

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.

How About That? To the Editor: I read your story on April 6 about the poor soul that waited 2 1/2 hours for adequate medical care.

Of course, in your next to the last dying breath, you could tell them if you had the money for their help. And if you have the loot, you got it made. That is if the nurses could diagnose your ailment.

It is also nice to know that our ambulance service is so thoughtful in saving our lives. As for the Camp White doctors turning the man down, that's nothing new to them.

What is wrong with people here? Does a dime mean so much more to them than helping a poor man who needs help?

The poor soul is no doubt a war veteran. And it was all right that with our so-called helpers that we went out to fight for them, but asked nothing from them unless you had a little green stuff in your pocket book.

The article said it wasn't known whether Rogue Valley hospital had been contacted. You needn't worry about what they would have done. I can tell you. When my husband was in there with a heart attack, the third day, still under an oxygen tent, the office help came to his room and asked him for money to pay his bill.

I realize that the man that was picked up Monday night might be a drunk, and never paid his bills. But I don't think that gives anyone the right to refuse help to someone that needs help and medical care.

The only one out of the whole mess that was human was the Medford policeman who tried to help.

Yes, we live in a modern civilized world, as long as we remember one thing, not the Good Book, but the green money.

Thank you for reading this, even if you don't print it, which I hope you do. Keep up the good work. Print my name, if you like.

Mrs. Helen L. Bartley 3428 Chicory Lane Medford

Everett Acklin, Ashland, Ore.

He Was Shocked To the Editor: I was, to say the least, shocked to read a news item in Wednesday's paper, that a person was denied admittance to Sacred Heart hospital because he had previously not paid his bill.

Not long ago I remember reading that both hospitals had been receiving county funds for this purpose and were asking for more.

What is this world coming to when humans are given less consideration than we would give to a dumb animal? Camp White is maintained by public tax funds and is supposed to care for veterans, yet they would not send an ambulance for the man.

Do the people who refused to help this man consider themselves Christians? If so I would refer them to Matthew 25: Verses 31 to 46.

Benjamin F. Glenn, 315 North Second St., Central Point, Ore.

What Would Christ Have Done? To the Editor: The front page article in Wednesday's Mail Tribune concerning the 2 1/2 hours spent obtaining hospitalization for an ill man, has made me do some thinking.

My mind went back to an accident scene last summer just over the Siskiyou summit.

The man was in a hurry, the corner was too sharp for the speed he was traveling. Result: he piled up.

I came on the scene a few minutes later. A state highway crew radioed for an ambulance. We dared not move the victim. He presented a sight we don't care to think of. He lay on his back in a mass of broken fruit jars with tomato preserves, jam and blood all mixed together. We waited and waited. Finally

time from this rushing around shaking hands. Let them stand up on the floor of the Senate and let them speak on some of the great issues. Let them speak to the nation.

That would give public opinion and the convention in July something to chew upon.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

One of our readers called to remind us that this Thursday, April 14, is the 48th anniversary of the fatal night when the Titanic struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic, and sank in less than three hours.

It was a dramatic and tragic moment all right, and we were glad to be reminded of it. The fellow who did the reminding is named Russ Osborne.

We are certain that it is nothing but PURE coincidence that he is manager of the Varsity theater in Ashland where the film, "A Night To Remember," which is about the sinking of the Titanic, starts playing today.

Which reminds us that Bob Corbin, manager of the Medford theaters, brought us a magazine a week or so ago, containing an article praising him for the job he did in promoting "Dog of Flanders," which was given a preview showing in Medford at Christmas time.

We've been idly wondering ever since, in our few idle moments, how we could legitimately get a plug in for him, but haven't figured it out yet.

You know, we thought we were all through with beives, covies and nides of pheasants and quail.

But we weren't. Not yet. So let it be recorded for us to see that we received two (2) letters, one from Roland Beach and the other from (Name on File) sometimes known as "Mr. Medford," to the effect: "A bunch of pheasants is a 'nye."

With a nye of pheasants, a pride of lions, and a gam

the ambulance arrived. We'll briefly skip on from here, but our friend was taken to Ashland General hospital where the 24 facial fractures, plus the cuts were all taken care of.

Later, when Wally was better, he showed us the ambulance service's bill. It so happened that this ambulance was in Medford on that fateful day. Now it came to light why our long wait. To add to it, our friend's bill showed mileage from Medford and back again. I might add, you don't travel in an ambulance at Greyhound bus rates either.

Now back to Wednesday's tale of the 49-year-old transient who was suffering from convulsions. Our friend Wally got help and it was evident from the new car he was in that it probably would be a paying case. But with this fellow on Medford's Front street—well, it seems the odds were against him.

Do human beings have to have a signed statement from the President before they feel authorized to lend a helping hand?

What do you suppose Christ would have done had He been there the other evening? Are not we to help the needy? Does one have to be driving a Rolls Royce and have his pockets bulging with gold to have help?

We can sit on a church seat every week and and be a member in good and regular standing and be worse off spiritually than the transient in the gutter. Let's look above monetary gain and remember our blessed Lord who did so much for us.

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

Depends on Us To the Editor: The world is not using to capacity the greatest Power available to it. A Power that cannot be defeated, creates no radioactivity or suffering. It is the Power of God, to be had for the asking by those who love Him.

Love God? Perhaps we think we do, but most of our service is with our lips only. Our heart and mind and strength is burdened too much with seeking material gains, fame and power. There is no time to really love our God. And so we miss doing the great things He could do through us if we only loved Him.

How much do we love God? Let us check ourselves. If we love God, we will keep His commandments. We show the depth of our love that way. Do we love our neighbors as ourselves, as He has commanded? What have we done to prove this? Do we work to have justice done? Are we concerned about Truth and Righteousness? If we love Him, we must work to achieve these things in the world until it happens.

The Herald is catholic in its taste, and its articles range the full gamut of its editors' interests.

In the April 2 issue, our friend Bob has an article which goes like this: ELECTION BY BOB BENNETT

"It is getting time again that we elect new staff members. All staff members should be thinking of who they want for certain positions."

End of article. Neat and concise.

Bob Kolkemo has a list of his favorite TV programs. Bill Bennett reports on a recent hockey game, held at Rice Court, 216 Haven street. (The game was a 3-all tie between the Haven Arrows and the Oakwood Cardinals.)

Richard Barnard has a report on Lent. Jack Rice had a by-line story in an earlier issue which says, in full, "Jack Rice is growing a grapefruit plant and is about 2 1/2" high."

You get the idea. The Haven Herald is full of news, information, editorial opinions, features. It's well worth the nickel it costs its 20 or so subscribers.

Maybe they'll start taking advertisements one of these days, and then they'll probably have to increase their size from two pages to three.

We salute the Haven Herald.

Contributed: The Penguins are a funny lot. Both baritone and trebles. They haunt a vast Antarctic spot just playing with some pebbles.

The author of that one is NOT Ogden Nash—but he's working at it.