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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
April 19, 1950 (Wednesday)

"Hawthorne park" is name given to new city pary, city council decides last night.

Ashland—The city council ordered all sawmills within the city limits to install cyclonic type combustion aids in their burners.

20 YEARS AGO
April 19, 1940 (Friday)

A masked gunman held up a clerk in the Riverside Market, 313 North Riverside ave., last night and escaped with an undisclosed amount of cash.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Three New York toughs were each sentenced to 50 years in prison, for the hold-up and murder of an aged woman, that netted them .34 cents. In case you care, their crime will yield .068 cents per year while being cooped."

30 YEARS AGO
April 19, 1930 (Saturday)

Groceteria No. 2 opens with a rush of customers.

Ten more local autoists purchase license plates as sheriff threatens to arrest drivers without current plates.

40 YEARS AGO
April 19, 1920 (Monday)

Railroad switchmen's strike causes shortage of gasoline fuel and gas sells here for 45 cents per gallon.

Trigonia oil well now down 200 feet.

50 YEARS AGO
April 19, 1910 (Tuesday)

A Table Rock woman was killed yesterdey when she leaped from a runaway horse and carriage and hit a rock. An infant she held in her arms was not hurt.

The Rogue River Fish Protective association starts campaign to prohibit commercial fishing in Rogue river and its tributaries.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. What Hebrew prophetess helped free the Israelites from the Canaanites, and celebrated the victory in a famous song of triumph?
2. In the late 1850's, Northern Democrats and Northern Whigs joined with the Free Soilers and abolitionists to establish what political party?
3. Was Argentina once a colonial possession of Portugal, Spain, or Italy?
4. In England, a streetcar is a t---?
5. How many bananas are required to make a half pint of banana oil?
6. In what sort of container did Whittaker Chambers secrete microfilms of government documents on his farm in Maryland?
7. In rowing, does the rower face the prow, or the stern, of the boat?
8. What is the N.S.S. Nautilus?
9. Is Syria in Europe, Africa, or Asia minor?
10. Who was the tallest President?

Answers: Deborah. 2. Republican Party. 3. Spain. 4. Tram. 5. None. (banana oil is amyl acetate.) 6. A hollowed pumpkin. 7. Stern. 8. The Navy's first atomic-powered sub. 9. Asia Minor. 10. Abriham Lincoln; (6'4").

Close-To-Home Government

A pattern of city development was revealed in comments of elected officials of Jackson county communities when they met last week.

Among the smaller cities, two problems were foremost—and universal. They were obtaining adequate supplies of good, clean municipal water, and adequate means of disposing of sewage.

In the smaller communities, practically everything takes a back seat to these two major problems—although that doesn't mean they are the only problems that mayors and city councils have.

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AS A CITY grows, the water and sewage disposal problems stay with it, but here it is mostly a case of expanding an existing service, and keeping up with the demand.

But other problems come to the forefront of the larger communities — demands for parks (which usually are a project of a service club in the smallest towns), for swimming pools, for hospital services, for library service, for more street paving, for more and better police and fire protection, for community planning, for adequate municipal buildings, for airports, for street trees, and so on and so on.

Small towns struggle to solve a few major problems with limited resources; larger towns struggle to solve a multiplicity of demands with more adequate, but still limited, resources.

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LISTENING to the mayors and councilmen of Jackson county's cities, one is impressed more than ever with the amount of voluntary work which features this level of government.

None of these men receive money for the countless hours of time they put in serving their communities and neighbors. The time is not confined wholly to attending meetings, either, for an effective public servant is, at least in part, a "public relations" man for his city, and endeavors also to learn the needs and desires of its citizens.

In addition to spending the time necessary to do a job, an office-holder in a small community (and large ones too, for that matter) lays himself wide open for criticism from constituents who disagree with what he has done, or how he is doing it.

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BUT that is all part of life in America.

One of the chief things which sets America apart from many other countries is simply the fact that anyone, particularly in a small town, can participate in his own government.

This can be done in large cities, but it is far easier to do when your mayor or councilman lives "next door," or at most down the street a bit.

It is here that Americans are closer to their government than anywhere else, where council meetings can be, in truth, "town meetings," and where practically everyone can find out what the problems are.

It's too bad that more people don't participate personally in municipal government. But those who do are a credit to themselves and their cities.—E.A.

Who Is Guilty?

When Beverly Aadland was first publicized as the "protege" of the late Errol Flynn, we idly wondered what her mother could be like.

Now we know. And now we no longer wonder how come a 17-year-old girl was sharing the bed and board of the swashbuckling actor.

Mrs. Adland is coming to trial on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of her minor daughter. Whether or not she is convicted of the technical crime, she is guilty of the general charge. Of that there can be little doubt.

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SOMETIMES in a "preachy" mood we have deplored the breakdown in America's moral fiber, and have reiterated that this begins in the home. When the home breaks down, what chance do the youngsters have to be raised up in rectitude?

No—when a child has the proper home environment, the proper guidance, the love and understanding and discipline which each of us needs when young, there is little that can cause him to go wrong.

Television, bad comic books, pornographic literature, amoral motion pictures—none of these can penetrate the essential armor of his training.

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BUT when a child lacks that protective armor, he is vulnerable to the wiles and temptations of the world. He lacks the strength of family unity and love, which last through life.

And the end product, too often, is a degenerate and delinquent child like Beverly Aadland.

Maybe Florence Adland contributed to the delinquency of her daughter, and maybe she didn't. We don't know.

What we do know is that she did little or nothing to give her daughter the ability to tell right from wrong; to teach her the standards of proper behavior, or give her the strength to resist temptation. To that extent, she is guilty. —E.A.

How Much?

We have nothing against the United States' "favorite sport."

But it occurred to us to wonder how much it cost the taxpayers to fly President Eisenhower from Atlanta to Washington and back, just so he could throw out the first ball of the season in the capital's ball park.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace

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 tha contrary is often the case.

Landlords and Taxes

To the Editor: Let's forget about the dogs for a while, and talk about bond elections, coming up at the rate of one a month.

Last month, $4,409,756.46 was voted for school buildings, this month they want $1,978,404.99 more, and see by the Sunday paper there is another one coming up on a proposed budget.

How much longer are the tax payers going to let them get by with this?

The ones that do not own property get out and vote while the property holders sit at home and then wonder why their taxes are going higher and higher. They put the bonds over and the tax payers pick up the checks.

The only way out as I can see is to either get out and vote, or raise the rent after each election.

How about it, landlords? Let's get out and do something about it.

How about the bridges over Bear creek? When they get the 10th street bridge in, there will be four bridges across Bear creek in five blocks, and I understand they want another one at Fourth st.

And how about the Eighth st. bridge? They bought the land, put in the bridge to take some of the traffic off Main st., then ran the new street right into Main st. less than three blocks from where it was before.

(Name on file)
Medford.

Editor's note: In the interests of accuracy, it should be pointed out that the school building bonds approved last month totaled $750,000, not $4,409,756. The latter figure is the total amount of the proposed operating budget for School District 549C. This budget exceeds the 6 per cent limitation by $1,978,404. The budget hearing mentioned by our correspondent is the one on the county budget, which will require no election, and no tax levy.

Senses Vs. Census

To the Editor: The census taker came to our house yesterday. It was a woman so I had to hold my temper. Anyway here is the conversation word for word or, you might say, to the best of my recollection.

The first question the census taker asked was: "How many people live in this house?" My wife said six.

I said we are not living, we're just existing.

Then I asked the census taker a question. I said, Are you working for the state or government?

I already knew but I wanted to see what attitude she would take in answering it. Her answer was that she worked for the Federal Government under Civil Service.

Then I asked her if she thought the Government would pay her.

She said yes, she thought that they would. Then I said to her maybe you trust them but I don't. I said, I haven't voted for about nine years. My wife shook her head at me and I stopped long enough for my wife to answer the questions.

I sat there listening until the census taker asked my wife where my father was born. I guess I should have told her that Ex-President Truman, Jessie James and my old man all came from Missouri. But instead I said are you sure you're getting all this information for the United States Government or are you getting it for Khrushchev.

Because Mr. K seems to be more interested in our country than he is in golf. Being interested in other countries seems to be his hobby.

Leo. J. Townsend
Route 1, Box 620,
Eagle Point, Ore.

Man's Best Friend

To the Editor: I have to sit here and laugh, yet get darn mad at some of the stories they write about the best friend a human has, The Dog.

I had one of the smartest dogs that walked the streets of Medford, Oregon. The only time he ever had a leash on him was when I was teaching him not to jaywalk. The leash was a belt, and when he started to go bad, all I had to do was let on I was going to take off my belt, and he was a good doggie again.

It is when a man has no one to love him that he commits suicide. So long as he has friends he will live, because to live is to love, be it but the love of a Dog, it will keep him in life. But let that go, and he has no contact with life, no reason to life.

It might hurt some people, what I am going to say here. You have to be smarter than the dog to teach him so he will obey you. They sure give the dog the devil. But when it gets dark he comes home. Maybe if some of these people that are doing all this crying would teach the children and cats to come home at dark, instead of up town throwing eggs, tomatoes and water bombs at people, they wouldn't have to cry about the dog.

Why not put a tax on these hollering cats at night, too? Let's everybody that likes a dog vote against the silly leash law.

Leon Miller,
312 North Bartlett st.,
Medford

Please Consider It

To the Editor: I feel that the modern ways are to be made useful and appreciated, but we humans have gone overboard to extremes. The demand for moderate conveniences sometimes warps our whole way of life, because it changes the way of the home.

Each and every one in the home seems to live apart from the others. In the past the family was one, and very few outsiders. Now when one goes, he or she is forced to take the whole neighborhood to show off the new car, new boat, or some other new device. It is getting to be a world of New Wonders, and we are forgetting "why," the real purpose of life.

Progress must be made, the future depends on it. It must never be said of a great country as America is, that because of progress we are above reproach. If we are to leave our children anything except worldly things, we must start to build a foundation on moral righteousness.

I am asking the good people who read these many letters, please think what it would mean to our young folks, and also adults, to have an evangelistic crusade come to Medford. It can be done if each would have his own minister, who would be interested in sponsoring a crusade, their official invitation should be sent as soon as possible. Their schedule is usually filled six months in advance.

I know that thousands would be healed, and souls saved, if we think of the future. Every nation on earth is thinking seriously of their young children under 18 years old. I believe that the evangelists of this earth are the ones who are going to play the big role in saving the people of the world. I believe the Rev. Oral Roberts is a man of God, and has the Spirit of Christ in his very soul to heal the sick and save human souls. I know Brother Roberts is just a man, and can only heal if he be right in the sight of God. I am a shut-in, and cannot do anything except in this way.

Please consider it.

Leo A. Rifenbark,
1131 Pinecroft ave.,
Medford

Predictions

To the Editor: The old belief that a late Easter meant a late Spring may have some logic.

The planet Mars governs the solar year 1960, and the general trends are that the Springs are dry and cold, with late frosts. The summers are hot, sultry and oppressive. Wells and rivers will be very low in water. The Falls will be quite dry, and it will be clear, except wind and lightening, in the summer. The winters will be cold and changeable. A year of many spontaneous fires. There are wars predicted and rumors of wars. Snakes and grasshoppers will be numerous. Grain and vine crops will be good where sufficient water is available.

All told, it seems to be a turbulent year, as Mars represents a fire symbol among the early star gazers who named the planets. 'Tis said the early astrologers later became astronomers, and that the ancient pyramids are a symbol of the Zodiac built in a pillar of stone as an altar to the four elements, earth, fire, water and air.

Bert Kissinger
520 Boardman st.,
Medford.

Matter of Fact

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

Huntington, W. Va.—The locale is what the pollers call a "D" block (meaning a poorer working class block) of First ave., in this city's swing Fifth ward. Looking at the identical, shabby little houses, you might expect them to contain identical, shabby little people. But ring the doorbells, and see what you find.

JOSEPH ALSOP

Door one is opened by a grim harridan, with a face ravaged by rage, suspicion, pride and deprivation. On the political front, she is chiefly enraged by "this waste of all these billions to go to the moon, where the Almighty didn't never mean us to go." In West Virginia's crucial presidential primary, she supports Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, "although he seems pretty no account." She points out that Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts is a Catholic.

"I wouldn't never want the Pope in the White House," she declared.

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DOOR two reveals an idyll. The gloriously pretty young wife is briskly preparing supper. The handsome husband, just home from work and towel-girt after his bath, is in gales of laughter over some private game invented by the two seraphic children. Both husband and wife are intelligent and informed. The wife chooses Humphrey, because of his labor record, which she knows in detail. The husband prefers Kennedy, because he is disturbed by our foreign and defense policies, and thinks Kennedy will do better in these fields.

Door three discloses a roly-poly old lady with a sweet, distracted smile, who says that "What this country needs is a whole lot of love. If we all had a lot of love in us, and a lot of the Lord in us, we'd do better and we'd live better." These remarks are interrupted by an unloving yelp of fury from the back of the house. The husband suspected "them blank blank cencus takers have turned up again."

"Don't you mind him," says the wife calmly. "He's always a mite nervous. Now what was you askin' me? Oh yes, about the primary. Well, if I get to vote, I guess maybe I'll vote for Kennedy, because he looks like a nice young fellow.

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THIS richness and variety of human contact are the great reward of poll-taking, as sore feet are its chief penalty. But under the variety, a strong and well-marked pattern is eventually discernible. You invariably find the pattern if you just ring enough doorbells for enough days on end—as this reporter has now done, here in Huntington; and in Slab Fork; and in another mining camp, Layland, which is like an inhabited ulcer because the mines have been closed; and in the small town of Chesapeake. The pattern takes the form of strikingly standardized responses from people who appear to differ as widely as possible. The four responses that follow were closely echoed by many scores of others.

"Kennedy's the better man, more intelligent and more honest. I've listened to him, and I've been greatly impressed. I'm going for him. Religion doesn't bother me, the way it does my husband." Mrs. L. C. Kearns, the wife of a young industrial worker in the 2400 block of 4th Avenue, Huntington. Kearns backed Humphrey.

"We've talked about it a lot, and we'd like to choose Kennedy, but his religion is going against him. He seems real fine to us; we like what he does and says, but we just can't vote for a Catholic." Mrs. Ethel Wood, a widow, and her son, an industrial worker, on Nancy Street in Chesapeake.

"I'm for Humphrey, strictly on his labor record. He's been a true friend to the working man." Willard Gill, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers local in Layland.

"I just don't know, because I tell you, you've certainly got something when you go tryin' to read and find out about people. I'm kind of funny. I always just aim to pick the best man, but I haven't decided yet. No, it don't bother me in the least that Kennedy's a Catholic. God said every man could be his own free moral agent." Mrs. Eva Wilks, 2033 Fourth Avenue, Huntington.

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THERE, in those four quotations, you have the pattern. Just about half of those who have made up their minds have chosen Kennedy, quite often in spite of objections to his Catholic faith.

Of the other half who have chosen Humphrey, well over 50 per cent have made their choice on grounds of pure religious prejudice, and quite often in spite of an admitted preference for Kennedy as an individual. One voter in ten is undecided between the two candidats, and of the undecided, only about half resemble Mrs. Wilks. The rest are torn between liking for Kenney and worry about his Catholicism.

The pattern says, in fact, that Kennedy would be in like Flynn in West Virginia if he were not a Catholic. The pattern further says that if Humphrey wins, no matter what he himself may say on the stump, his victory will be a triumph for prejudice. This is an unpleasant but undisputable fact. It raises a whole series of questions, which need careful analysis in a further report.

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'Other' De Gaulle Revealed as Wartime Leader Visits in U.S.

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor

The people of the United States get a chance this week to see the "other" Charles de Gaulle.

Phil Newsom

This is the warm-hearted man who emerges from behind the screen of mysticism, stubborness and pride which mark his words and actions as leader of France, and shows himself one who delights in the human touch, be it a ticker-tape parade or a handshake between individuals.

This is one of the qualities which enables him to maintain his popularity and authority despite the iron discipline and economic sacrifices he has demanded of 45 million individualistic Frenchmen.

Parades Await Him

This will be de Gaulle's first visit to the United States since 1945. Ticker tape parades await him in New York and San Francisco. The warmth will be there for this man who has become a legend in his own lifetime, even though its enthusiasm may not match that which greeted him in those first pent up months after the war.

De Gaulle's visit to Washington, and the hours he will spend with President Eisenhower, just about wraps up the high level consultations which have been preceding the four-power summit meeting scheduled for May 16 in Paris.

De Gaulle then will have conferred separately with Premier Nikita Khrushchev of the Soviet Union, with Prime Minister Harold Macmillan of Britain and with Eisenhower.

Each of the others may also have held their separate conferences, so much so that it almost might be said that the summit meeting already has been held.

As the most recent to have seen Khrushchev, de Gaulle may be expected to relay his impressions to Eisenhower.

An important one, shared last fall by Eisenhower, is that Khrushchev plans no immediate new pressure on Berlin.

Another topic between the two will be the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance which Eisenhower regards as a keystone of U. S. foreign policy. De Gaulle believes that relaxing world tensions have reduced the importance of NATO.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

TESTING H.S.T.

Washington—This is a great testing time for one of the few very important persons within the Democratic party who is NOT running for President.

William S. White

This VIP is the sturdy Harry S. Truman. Mr. Truman is resolved to have a strong voice in naming this year's Presidential nominee at the Democratic convention in July.

He is unashamedly determined to be a big wheel not simply because, as a fromer president, he is entitled to that status. There are also these motives: To see that the convention picks a man Mr. Truman believes can win; to put the sheen back upon the Truman reputation as a political tactician.

As time has gone on, many have concluded that on the big things, anyhow, Mr. Truman was a big President. There has been, however, a corresponding estimate that he is not always the ablest possible politician, perhaps because his blow-up point is so very low.

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IN 1956 he troubled friends and rejoiced enemies by going in with too little too late for Averell Harriman of New York against the then inevitable Presidential nominee, Adlai E. Stevenson. Harriman was run over as though by a hundred loaded trucks, and Mr. Truman with him.

It has been widely said since that the old master has lost his touch. Mr. Truman recently observed that he is, after all, getting on to 76 years old. It is thus permissible to point out that he is not likely to have too many more national conventions at which to try his hand.

So he deeply wants to do a real job this time – because of his lifelong love affair with the Democratic party, his enormous respect for the Presidency, and his wish to go out as a winner in the evening-time of life.

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HE IS still keeping close to his chest the name of the aspirant he will eventually back. This aspirant is not inevitably Sen. Stuart Symington, though Symington's geography as a fellow Missourian will surely do him no harm with Mr. T.

But two major candidates are already pretty well rejected – subject to those possible turns in events that happen in politics. These are Stevenson himself, and Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts. Mr. Truman's objection to Kennedy probably lies mainly in his hope that the issue of the Senator's Catholic religion can be kept out of the campaign.

But the Truman objection to Stevenson is complicated. First Stevenson, in his initial run in 1952, drew the hem of his garments away from the then highly unpopular occupant of the White House, Harry S. Truman. Mr. Truman was not deeply pleased. More importantly, however, it is not so much Stevenson himself as it is some ecstatic Stevenson backers who keep widening the gulf between the two leaders.

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THOUGH some Stevensonians tirelessly peddle a contrary line, Mr. Truman is not really against "intellectualism." But because he is a competent politician, he naturally recoils from the picture of Stevenson so assiduously cultivated by some who are too madly for Adlai for words. They present him as far too fine to have any truck with low and earthly "porfessional politicians." They seem to assume that for a politician to be a professional – that is, a truly competent one – is somehow wrong, even though the Presidency is the most demanding political job on earth.

Endlessly they proclaim Stevenson's snow-white amateurism and his alleged distaste for the organizational politics which is usually the means for winning elections. (This, by the way, is a great injustice to Stevenson. An able and perfectly sensible man he is by no means so precious. He is not the first to be injured by friends seeking their own image in him.)

And so they increasingly convince Mr. Truman and other deplorably practical types that Stevenson is much too "cultured" to run the hard, tough pitiless gantlet of a national campaign.

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Timber Committee Schedules Meeting

The timber committee of Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association will meet at 7 a.m. Wednesday, April 20, at the Tower restaurant, Medford, according to Dick Swan, Ross Lumber company, chairman.

The meeting was originally scheduled April 12, but was rescheduled because of conflicts with other lumber industry meetings.

Representatives of the public forestry agencies, the Jackson county court, and members of the committee are invited to attend to discuss mutual problems of forest land management, access road development and forest fire prevention and control, Swan said.

Bob Rucker
Counsellor
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