

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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10 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1950 (Thursday)
James Dunlevy, manager of radio station KVCJ, elected president of the Medford Rotary club.

Medford had the highest temperature in the state when the thermometer soared to 87 degrees yesterday.

20 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1940 (Saturday)
Portland Beavers break five-game losing streak with a 9-2 victory over the San Francisco Seals.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "There was a rainbow around the moon Thursday night. It was pretty, and needed only a pension plan attached, to be chased by the voters."

30 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1930 (Saturday)
Irrigation water here will be released after June rains, if any.

40 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1920 (Tuesday)
Non-Partisan league movement organizer visits valley and talks to farmers.

Local high school boys join businessmen in wearing overalls as a protest against the high cost of living.

50 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1910 (Wednesday)
Ashland residents, in special election, vote to amend city charter to grant 50-year electric trolley franchise.

Medford city council raises salary of city health officer from \$25 to \$50 a month and the driver of the fire team from \$60 to \$75.

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

1. The period of what Presidential administration was referred to as a "Return to Normalcy"?

2. Henry M. Stanley went to Africa to find and rescue what Scottish missionary and explorer?

3. In what African country have Mau Mau terrorists been active?

4. Who was the author of "The American's Creed"?

5. Who invented the process of rubber vulcanization?

6. What is the capital of Florida?

7. A supplementary measure, attached to a more important piece of legislation, usually of unrelated subject matter, is called a—?

8. Whose was the face that launched a thousand ships?

9. What befell Paul on the road to Damascus?

10. For the manufacture of what kind of musical instrument was Antonius Stradivarius famous?
Answers: 1. The Harding administration. 2. David Livingstone. 3. Kenya. 4. William Tyler Page. 5. Charles Goodyear. 6. Tallahassee. 7. "Rider." 8. Helen of Troy. 9. Jesus appeared to him. 10. Violin.

POLITICIAN'S HOLIDAY
New York—Mayor Robert F. Wagner, who is 80 years old today, said he expected to celebrate by "listening to speeches all day."

Election Vaudeville

An editorial in a recent issue of the Hi-Times, the school newspaper at Medford High, was entitled "Circus Acts, Plays, Dominate Elections." The editorial was about the campaign for student body offices, which was conducted recently. It quoted some "contributed" editorial comments on the matter.

One said, in part: "Recent days at MHS have seen campaign speeches turned into circus acts and one-act plays. Why was the recent vote-getting activity switched to vaudeville? ... Some candidates have brought out noisemakers, so-called authorities, and people dressed in costumes of the opposite sex. It has been found that many of these gimmicks take meaning from the candidate's speech."

"The thought is that the person running for office should show his qualification. When a student is not somewhat sincere, but instead displays many signs, costumes, and made-up personalities, he could be considered unfit for office. "The voting of yesteryear was based upon sincere speeches; speeches were for the candidate's benefit, not for laughs."

NOW it may not be a world-shaking matter who is elected to office in the Medford High school student body. The school probably could survive a one-year term of even an unqualified candidate.

Nevertheless, student government is important to the students, and even more significant, it is excellent training in civic responsibilities later in life.

But what the heck...? What can we expect, when political campaigns waged by adults are not much better than "circus acts and one-act plays"?

Some candidates for the Presidency of the United States, the most difficult and most prestigious office in the world, find it incumbent upon themselves to engage in all sorts of "vaudeville acts" and "gimmicks" in the search for votes.

(We wouldn't for a moment, of course, put being grand marshal of the Pear Blossom parade in this category. Or would we?)

IT IS, in fact, a screaming shame that the process of naming a president cannot be conducted in dignity, and with attention to the issues.

Coonskin caps, Indian war bonnets, cowboy costumes, hand-shaking and baby-kissing — all these are part of our electioneering tradition, and, in the long run, probably do no harm. Sometimes they are even good for a laugh.

But, conversely, they do no particular good in the intensely serious matter of selecting the best man for the toughest job in the world.

What applies to the Medford High school elections applies, in spades, to the United States presidential election.—E.A.

Common Sense Ruling

A sensible decision by Circuit Judge James W. Crawford of Multnomah county must have been something of a relief to the Medford school board.

Judge Crawford ruled, and in doing so overruled Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton, that school boards have authority to pay for out-of-state business trips for school administrators and teachers.

Up until some months ago, there had been no question about such expense-paid trips, when properly authorized, but the attorney general, at the request of a Multnomah county tax group, had ruled such trips illegal.

JUDGE Crawford, according to the Oregon Journal, stated that: 1. School districts have broad authority to use reasonable discretion in promulgating rules and regulations governing the educational process.

2. Specifically, districts have authority to spend tax funds for out-of-state as well as intrastate travel for educational purposes, even though existing law does not specifically authorize such travel at public expenses.

THE Journal, quite properly, we think, hailed the decision as one of "common sense and a liberal interpretation" of school law, and characterized the attorney general's opinion as "legalistic" in interpretation of the "narrowly written statutes."

In Medford, the school board was convinced that it had the authority to approve out-of-state travel, and, while School Superintendent Leonard Mayfield's trip to Russia was paid for from private funds, his attendance at an educational conference in the east was made possible by tax funds.

In approving this, members of the board were making themselves personally liable for these expenses, had the attorney general's ruling been upheld, and had an issue been raised.

ACTUALLY, it would be difficult to see how an efficient and progressive school district could operate without authority to send its employees to professional meetings, conferences, or, on occasion, on teacher-recruiting trips.

Dennis the Menace



"I WOULD'VE STAYED AND SEEN IT AGAIN, BUT I'M FULL!"

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.

Editor's note: An increasing number of communications which exceed the 400-word limit have been received in recent weeks. The limitation cannot, in fairness, be waived for one writer and enforced for another, so except in unusual circumstances it will be observed. Letters in excess of the limit will either be returned for condensation, or reduced in length by the editorial staff.

Music Important, Too
To the Editor: There have been two letters in your column, dated April 13 and 17, about the choir director of the school I attend.

I am a member of two of his choral groups, and he is, indeed, an artist of the highest order. And I'm sure that most of his students will agree.

When the question of dress for an occasion arises, he asks us what we want to wear, and we wear what the majority happens to choose. When a member cannot provide his own clothing, this gentleman has secured the necessary apparel.

But something that has not been brought out is the fact that this gentleman has tried for years to obtain choir robes which would solve the problem of dress, because the clothes would be covered up. This, however, has not met with the approval of the school board.

Our present school board seems to be more inclined toward sports, with buses available to various games. In order for the choir to attend concerts out of town, it is necessary for the choir members themselves to contribute funds for the rental of a bus.

It seems to me that musical competition between schools is just as important as sports events.

Nancy Beacham
Route 2, Box 208A
Central Point, Ore.

Ode to the Applegate
To the Editor: A few days ago in the paper I read an article about the Applegate and this it said, "It's a wonderful place out here to be" and with that my friend we fully agree.

I'm afraid some of it was a little over-done, but of course we know it was meant in fun. We have a beautiful valley and the air is pure and we're all well fed of that you can be sure.

In every garage you'll find a car or two but some I'm afraid are not too new. Our taxes are high just like the rest but of all the valleys we like this one best.

In the winter time we have little fog, in the Spring of course we have no smog. Our summers are busy, we all work hard, in the fields and the garden, the house and yard.

Our meadows are green our cattle fat, that's true enough we won't argue about that. So we invite you all we're not a bit contrary your article was okay and we thank you Harry.

An "Applegate" (Name on file)
Jacksonville Ore.

Brainwashing
To the Editor: Dr. Royal Lee, D.D.S., writing in the January issue of Natural Food and Farming describes an intelligence test — to detect how much you have been brainwashed. He says that today insidious propaganda is being constantly fed to us by people who profit by our failure to rigidly screen information as to its truth and soundness.

Sincerely yours, Mrs. Ivan Aikin-Bunyan, Upper Foot's Creek, (Usual residence elsewhere) (Name on File) Gold Hill, Ore.

"There... Go!"
To the Editor: I don't expect everyone to agree with me, certainly not those on the opposite side of the fence.

Tourists Outnumber Cherry Blossoms in Washington; 'Immobile' Tours Planned

By DICK WEST
Washington—UPI—On a clear day sightseers here can see a lot of sights. But what they see the most of are other sightseers.



Dick West

I do believe we are breaking all records this year in early season tourist travel. I don't intend to be numb you with statistics, but more than 100,000 persons congregated around the Tidal Basin last week end when the cherry trees were in full bloom.

One of the local newspapers estimated the Tidal Basin had more blossom watchers than blossoms. At any rate, it was a lot of nature loving for such a short period. The trees weren't so much admired as overwhelmed.

The blossoms are gone now but the city is still swarming with visitors. From a distance, Capitol Hill looks like an ant hill that has been seeded with sugar lumps.

Travel Takes Longer
I have just completed a round trip stroll from the Capitol to the Health, Education and Welfare department, during which I made an informal census.

Along the circular drive around the statue of General Grant at the foot of Capitol Hill, I counted 58 chartered buses and five ice cream carts.

I couldn't begin to count the number of visiting automobiles but I do know one thing — we now have all the ingredients for a congested traffic. It is taking me 15 minutes longer than usual to drive to and from work, and I travel after rush hours.

The traffic situation is one of the reasons why I walked to the Health, Education and Welfare Department. The other reason was to see a demonstration of a new closed circuit color television projector called the ediphore.

According to a press release, the demonstration was planned to test the feasibility of using live TV to "replace time-consuming visits and tours for orientation and information purposes."

Had Second Thoughts
Here, I said to myself, might be just the thing Washington needs for the tourist season. I figured if sightseers gathered in one place and saw the sights on television it would save them a lot of walking. Better yet, they wouldn't need to drive from one place to another.

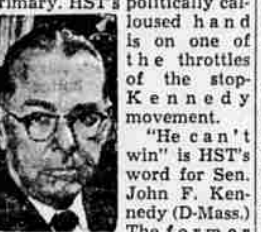
While watching the demonstration, I began to have a few second thoughts. But I still think it might work. If you will send me \$28,000, we can buy one of the machines and organize a company called Immobile Tours, Inc. By charging a small admission, we ought to get rich by the Fourth of July.

However, we will have to arrange a more appealing tour than the one I took by television through research laboratories of the National Institutes of Health.

I mean I don't think the average sightseer would be thrilled by color shots of a chimpanzee's brain or cotton to close-ups of cancerous mice.

HST Is Chief Engineer for Stopping Kennedy, Stevenson

By LYLE C. WILSON
Washington—UPI—Harry S. Truman got the message of the Wisconsin presidential primary. HST's politically caloused hand is one of the throttles of the stop Kennedy movement.



Lyle C. Wilson

"He can't win" is HST's word for Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) The former President seems to have a throttle in either hand. He is chief engineer of another stop operation.

This one is to prevent the nomination for President of Adlai E. Stevenson. "He can't win either," is HST's word for Stevenson. Truman did not say directly of either Kennedy or Stevenson that they could not win; did not say it, that is, in just those words.

What HST did say was the Republican newspapers were conniving to promote the nomination of Kennedy or Stevenson by the Democrats.

"But our party is going to nominate somebody who can win," Truman told tag-along newsmen on a recent early morning hike in New York City. Heretofore HST has insisted that ANY Democrat could lick Vice President Richard M. Nixon next November.

HST for Symington
It is obvious by now that HST's boy is Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.). Politics being a fabric of gossamer delicacy, it could be that something

If I were afraid of being criticized, I would be afraid to criticize. I just can't keep quiet if I truly believe an injustice is being done. I may not always go about it in the right way, but I go about it.

In the case of my "Concert and Clothes" letter of the 13th — the facts I had given were sworn to be absolute truth. I believed it. It may or may not be all or part true — I'll probably never know for certain. The young lady may have misunderstood or misinterpreted. At least I'll give her the benefit of the doubt.

I never really believed for one minute that any instructor can lack confidence and face group after group of resisting students day after day and educate them in spite of themselves. They have to have confidence and knowledge of their subjects — not to mention a goodly amount of good old intestinal fortitude.

The Sunday edition of the Mail Tribune carried a letter directed to me by a Miss Fishback. I did not mention the name of any school, nor the name of any instructor. Why jump to conclusions? There are concerns all over the valley every spring and surely more than one school will participate in the contest. One can't help but wonder, does the shoe fit; methinks she protesteth too much. I had the one instance in mind and was stepping on toes in general — we all know who said such.

Favoritism goes on all over, why not in schools? Anyone that thinks it doesn't, is in dreamland. You would have the underprivileged stay the underprivileged, and only the privileged few belong to the choirs and other elective — but educational — courses. The three R's are essential, but who wants to live by bread alone? It's monotonous and dull, if nothing else.

Why can't the dress be kept simple enough so that everyone who can sing can feel free to participate? The most beautiful music I ever heard was sung by a group wearing dignified black and white — the same for every appearance.

Why not give someone a hand up — why can't we remember to think "there, but for the Grace of God, go I" — and act accordingly toward those less fortunate than ourselves?

Mrs. Doris L. Webster, 64 Orr Drive Central Point, Ore.

time and I believe Stevenson made some mistakes."

Truman tried in 1956 to prevent Stevenson's nomination. HST's candidate was Gov. Averell Harriman of New York. Harriman's loss of New York governorship to Nelson A. Rockefeller in 1958 cancelled him, politically, so Truman sought another protégé to help stop Stevenson. That protégé, so far, is Symington.

Harry S. Truman is a political feudist of character and determination. He is endowed liberally with an attribute of character without which no feudist can amount to much anywhere. That attribute is pride. Stevenson stabbed Truman in the pride in the 1952 presidential campaign although HST more than any other man was responsible for Stevenson's nomination.

Brush Off By Adlai
What Stevenson did in 1952 was brush off HST after the nomination and by-pass HST's hand-picked chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Frank E. McKinley of Indiana. Those things Stevenson did for sure.

It seemed to some others, perhaps including HST, that Stevenson delicately held his nose as though offended by foul stench whenever he was reminded of President Truman or of the Truman Administration.

Stevenson withdrew as best he could from any relationship with the Democratic President. He mentioned once "that mess in Washington." Truman's hurt is as severe as when that incident occurred almost eight years ago. The second volume of Truman's memoirs tells about the Truman Stevenson rift. It can be summarized in a single Truman sentence:

"... Stevenson's attitude toward the President (Truman) he hoped to succeed was a mystery to me for some

relations improve. In one sharp note last week, the United States noted that the Cuban government was obtaining arms far in excess of normal needs, and that mounting tension in the Caribbean had accompanied the rise of the Castro regime.

In another, it refused to reinstate a labor leader fired from his job on the U.S. Naval base at Guantanamo on Cuba's eastern tip. Suggested Talks

None of these actions could be calculated to alter the course of the violent anti-U.S. campaign waged for months

by Fidel Castro and his propaganda outlets. Nonetheless, this week Castro rather mildly suggested that relations between the two countries might be improved if he could talk personally with Eisenhower or Secretary of State Christian Herter.

This suggests that both Castro and the United States are on the horns of a dilemma. The United States is disturbed both by the Castro regime's economic policies, the wide-scale seizure of properties without compensation, and by Communist infiltration into the Cuban government.

Finds Sympathy
In the latter it finds growing sympathy among other Latin American governments but an equal reluctance to intervene.

The Organization of American States, founded in 1948, would be a natural instrument to bring hemispheric pressure against Cuba, at the same time relieving the United States of any charge of intervention on its own.

But in the south-of-the-border states there so far is no enthusiasm for any such move. One reason is that no Latin American state is ready yet to associate itself with the U.S. in action against another Latin American state.

The image of U.S. "big stick" diplomacy still is too fresh. Another reason is that intervention on grounds of Communist infiltration, conceivably could open the door to action against other states.

Court Rejects McDonald Writ
Salem—UPI—The Oregon Supreme court Tuesday denied a petition for a writ of mandamus that would compel Clackamas County Circuit Judge P. K. Hammond to institute contempt proceedings against the Oregon Journal and the Oregonian.

The petition was filed with the Supreme court by attorneys for Levi S. McDonald, Stereotypers union member charged in connection with the dynamiting of 10 trucks under contract with the two Portland daily newspapers.

McDonald's lawyer requested Judge Hammond to sign an order on the contempt charges. He took no immediate action and the attorneys then filed the petition for writ of mandamus here seeking to compel him to sign it. Hammond announced at the time that he would continue the attorneys' request until the Supreme court decided on the matter.

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