

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
AFFILIATE MEMBER

10 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1950 (Friday)
Fire Consultant Leo Weidner said Medford definitely needs an aerial ladder truck and points out this is one of few cities in U.S. of more than 10,000 population which does not have one.

20 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1940 (Monday)
Nylon hosiery, called the "miracle" stocking, will be available in Medford stores for the first time Wednesday.

30 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1930 (Tuesday)
Local primary election interest centers in selection of courthouse site.

40 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1920 (Wednesday)
Fair association plans to buy 60 acres of town and hold a fair this fall.

50 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1910 (Friday)
Capt. J. T. C. Nash, a veteran sea captain and capitalist from Berkeley, visited Medford today and predicted city will have 50,000 people by 1920.

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

1. From which game did bridge evolve?
2. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November has what national significance?
3. Name the large island directly south of Florida.
4. Is the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn., or Norfolk, Va.?
5. What is the official name of Siam?
6. Is the upper limit of sound range audible to the human ear 1600 or 16,000 vibrations per second?
7. Is Argentina or Brazil the largest South American country?
8. Are there 1, 2, or 3 apostles in the New Testament named James?
9. Linseed oil is obtained from cotton; true or false?
10. What famous structure is at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.?

Answers: 1. Whist. 2. Election Day. 3. Cuba. 4. New London, Conn. 5. Thailand. 6. 16,000. 7. Brazil. 8. Two. 9. False, flaxseed. 10. The White House, home of the President.

Administrative Problems

We have in the past disagreed with those who would abolish Oregon's board of control, and place the administration of Oregon's many non-educational institutions (penitentiary, state hospital, and the others) directly under the authority of the governor.

In about 16 years of watching the operation of state government, we have come to the conclusion that the board of control (governor, treasurer, secretary of state) has been a relatively good, and largely non-political, method of administering the institutions.

And we have felt that making the governor exclusively responsible would bring with it the threat of political backing and filling, and the instability implicit in changes of administration.

FOR this reason, we were much interested to read that Governor Hatfield's advisory committee on mental health has recommended the creation of a state mental health department, which would be responsible for that phase of the state's health program.

It had some other recommendations which, on their face, appeared to be a step in the direction of consolidating the state's institutions into a more logical pattern.

OUR support of the board of control has not been based on any feeling that it was a perfect administrative unit, but simply that it was the best so far proposed, and far better than giving the sole authority to the governor.

We can envision an entire state reorganization which would encompass administration of health services (including institutions) by the state board of health, and administration of penological activities by a state penology authority (including the penitentiary, the intermediate institution, the "reformatories" for boys and girls, and the state board of parole and probation).

These would fit into the pattern already established by the state board of higher education, the state welfare commission, and the state highway commission, for example.

SOME thoughtful students of government have objected to the "board and commission" system of administration on the ground that they remove much of the direct authority from the governor. The governor, as an elected official, is responsible directly to the people, and as such should be directly responsible for administration of the state's business. So goes the argument.

The point is a good one. But, pragmatically, the board and commission system in Oregon has worked, and worked well.

It does remove the governor's authority by one step, although as the appointing authority, he still wields great influence.

AND, with departments governed by a board or commission, there is allowed a degree of continuity, a degree of professionalism, and a degree of protection of professional personnel from capricious firings by newly-elected governors, which tends to provide both stability and progress.

There is also provided, through this means, possibility of a broad representation of skills, knowledge, background, and representation impossible under other systems.

Hatfield's reorganization proposals are interesting. But we would favor emphasis on boards and commissions, rather than a so-called "cabinet" type of administration where the governor is the dominant figure.—E.A.

Mosquito Ecology

"Ecology" is a four-bit word meaning the natural relationships of living things with each other and their surroundings.

Everywhere that man has gone in numbers in the past, the ecology has been upset.

For instance, when settlers came to Australia, they brought rabbits along with them. The rabbits found virtually no natural enemies in that continent, and multiplied until they became a bane to settlers and indigenous flora and fauna.

THE extinction of the Dodo, the near-extinction of the Whooping Crane (the last survivors, about 33, are now en route to Canada for the summer, by the way), the near-extinction of the bison, and the decimation of other species, are similar examples.

When a forest is cut or burned, the local wildlife either perishes, or must find new homes, or adapt to new patterns of living.

And now we learn that even our efforts to exterminate (or, at any rate, control) the pesky mosquito offers a threat to nature's ecology.

ROLAND EISENBEIS, superintendent of conservation for Cook county, Illinois, said that "Filling the air and ponds with toxic killers like DDT takes care of the mosquito, but it also wipes out a great percentage of other wildlife that depends on the little pest for existence."

Birds, all forms of aquatic life, and other animals are natural enemies of the mosquito. When they eat one which is filled with poison, they, too, die.

When this happens, he pointed out, the mosquitoes will have lost their natural enemies and they will then start to repopulate.

Eisenbeis sees the day, however, when mosquitoes will all be gone—killed by industrialization and toxic, smoggy air. But by that time, humans may be gone too, for similar reasons.

If we had to make a wager, we'd bet on the mosquito.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"IT WAS THAT DARN OLD SANDMAN... YEAH, THAT'S WHO IT WAS! HE WAS THROWIN' SAND ALL OVER THE PLACE LAST NIGHT!"

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.

Law of Compensation
To the Editor: In an editorial you called the antics of some folk "cheap, silly and irreligious." This caused letter-writing which causes the undersigned to write, demonstrating the law of compensation, a law which is flagrantly ignored.

I wish to go further and accuse an editor of being "silly" because you insinuated that the fundamentalists are being influenced by Communists. The infiltration phobia seems to be the most popular of all our phobias. Either it is an insult to the intelligence of the membership of organizations, or the organizations are undemocratic and therefore un-American, and therefore should be investigated by the U.A.A. committee.

Pardon me for using a personal application to prove the point. For 25 years I have been a member of the Grange, yet it is over-stretching the imagination to say that the Grange has become even slightly pink. I tried my level best to get the organization to take some action for peace. This, of course, was considered Communist until Mr. Dulles went to his reward and Mr. Eisenhower, seeing the handwriting on the wall, began to talk peace. One of the last public actions of our late National Grange Master Albert Goss was to express the Grange's opposition to the International Stockholm Peace Appeal. I wonder how he will justify such an act with the Prince of Peace, the great Master of the universe.

It was a blow to my ego that I failed to convince my fellow Grangers that peace was more important than some of the things they were sponsoring, but because the Grange is democratic no individual could change what the group thought was best.

I recognize to what extent brain-washing has been successful in our land. Since I lack what it takes to finance a chain of newspapers and, or, radio stations, I must be content to let the law of compensation take its course.

Our social and economic structure is so decomposed that it will soon be time for Mr. Khrushchev to make the burial he has so solicitously offered, especially if we have another administration like the one we seem about to live through. Please excuse my selfish mistake—many who need medical help they cannot afford are not going to make it.

"Though he mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small; Though with patience he stands waiting, with exactness grinds He all."

Bert Harr, Copper Road, Box 77, Jacksonville, Ore.

Dogs and Responsibilities
To the Editor: I have written several letters on dogs, but I was under the impression that the farm dog was classed as a farm animal, not just a lap dog. I know you can't run a farm without a dog. These farm dogs and hunting dogs should be free to do their duties and they should not have collars or anything which obstructs their activities.

They should be tattooed in the ear for farm (F), for hunting (H), and so on. The seeing eye dog must have a collar with the name of the owner, and also the dog's name.

All these valuable animals when missing longer than normal should be reported lost at once to the proper channels for recovery.

He Agrees
To the Editor: I read a letter in your paper several days ago which was written by a Mr. McCabe. I agree with him 100 per cent and then some. The only thing was he didn't say half enough.

It could be that he only knows about half of what is going on in the state of California. The reason that I can say so is I had an occasion to have to go to the city, county, state and government offices. The latter one was an F.B.I. office and I was thrown out of it. I was only trying to protect my own family and our rights as American citizens.

If anyone has any doubts about my statement, my name and address are:
Leo J. Townsend, Route 1, Box 620, Eagle Point, Ore.

"Good Old Days"
To the Editor: Just why people, every now and then, call earlier days of the Great West "the good old days" is a bit puzzling. They seem to have in mind times that were better than these times. What do they mean by "the good old days"? It would be my guess that the end of those times would date back to the Theodore Roosevelt administration in America. Certainly, they would not refer to anything this side of the Wilson administration or the Franklin Roosevelt regime. The good old days would, therefore, have ceased after World War I, and even been largely forgotten after World War II.

What change has occurred that leaves us a little, perhaps a great deal, short of having days that are good to live in? Much depends upon the experiences of men, of course, when an answer is attempted. Based upon my personal experience that covers a considerable time out of the "old" and the "new," I should say, for example, that the manner or mode of family life has suffered most by change. I should say, moreover, that the earlier concepts of democratic government have suffered, modified by intimate contact by Americans with Europeans, Asians, even Africans. Also, that the continued gathering of people from these parts of the world has brought into our midst a new theory of the nature of our own government, times and nature of our own people. This has taken place under conditions far different than the earlier migrations to America and has, in many respects, undoubtedly left us in poorer times by one way of thinking.

So it is, that there is an issue in the very words, "the good old days" in these respects and others that could be offered, that could reasonably enough be subject to debate by forums, panel groups, and contemporary writers. It suggests opportunity for discussion, certainly.

Fee Clifford Estee, P. O. Box 1022, Medford.

Khhrushchev Tough Bargainer And Spy-Plane Incident Helps

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor
Man-of-the-week: Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

The place: Moscow. The quote: "If the summit conference does not take place—well, we have existed 42 years without one. We can go on for another 100 years."

It was a good bill, a step in the right direction. But more than likely he was under indirect pressure from the OEA (teachers union) and the State Board of Education. The latter gains greater powers over local school affairs now and can better dictate from upstairs what the people "want" in education.

"What follows now?" "Within a couple of months a countywide convention will be called of all school boards. They'll nominate and elect a countywide school reorganization board.

"This board will decide what schools should be combined. "If the people object to the idea, they can vote on it, and if they vote heavy enough against it—over 60 per cent—they win for a time. But eventually, the state will put on the pressure and you may well find one school district in Jackson County.

"And what is all this going to cost?" "A nominal estimate for getting the ball rolling was \$350,000. But that's a piddling amount to what will finally be added up.

"You can say goodbye to your local school board. Soon they will be a thing of the past. You can say goodbye to any control over your school and you can expect to spend more money for less education."

End quote.
John D. Koelmel, 1956 Ross Lane, Medford.

P.S.—I doubt if you'll have to decipher this, it is signed, it isn't vulgar, personally insulting or in bad taste as it was written by another editor who in my own estimation will print the truth.

Seed of Brotherhood
To the Editor: I see where Nixon has endorsed the wonderful plan that Ike and Flemming designed for the benefit of the aged, where they pay the first \$250 regardless. Would be a little better if they paid the second \$250, but those chaps are too clever to make such a mistake because they figure that by the time the first \$250 is expended the older will get well or croak, preferably the latter, then he or she will be out of the way.

I presume those who can not dig up the \$250 will be accorded Walter Reed treatment along with retired Generals, Admirals and government big-wigs, where the patient pays only for cigars, cigarettes and chewing gum, and if he uses neither is given a cash refund.

I am a firm believer in "actions speak plainer than words," and judging this bill from the action angle I feel that if the sympathy, understanding and brotherly love of this group for the older could be concentrated into one capsule it would loom up small beside a mustard seed.

Claude M. Hall, 2860 Hartley Lane, Grants Pass, Ore.

Mosquitoes at the Polls
To the Editor: In the Medford Mail Tribune of May 9 I read "Mosquito Nibbles on Eisenhower."

I wonder—I'm at my best when wondering, snoop, huh? Now if a Republican should bite a mosquito, would that be news? And would a mosquito to hustle away to slather the bite with iodine, ammonia or turpentine?

I always turn to turpentine for bites, chest colds and cramps. In fact turpentine is good for many uses. Once when a neighbor's dog kept tearing up my flowers, I—Oh, well, dogs are kept under control here in Jacksonville, anyhow.

I wonder whether those little pesky mosquitoes bite Democrats? Just in case, let us destroy all mosquito breeding places we find. Even small cans tossed out where they can catch rain water, can be just real apartment housing for several mother "skeeters."

Oh, Mr. Editor, I wasn't mud-slinging. Even mosquitoes taste better than Democrats and they even pick on the ones higher up; regular little purple people eaters.

Fellow Democrats, should it be cloudy on voting day, it would be safer to take a bottle of turpentine in your pocket, for mosquitoes swarm out on cloudy days. Anyhow, weather or pests—do get out and vote!!! See you at the polls! Mrs. John Spackman, Jacksonville, Ore.

Utters Soothing Words

The next, he has uttered soothing words of hope for progress at the summit sessions.

There was no doubt that the U.S. reconnaissance mission that failed gave Khrushchev a golden opportunity to preen himself as a tough guy on the eve of the summit.

But to trained observers his words seemed designed to get the most propaganda mileage without really endangering the top-level meeting he has sought for so long.

Furthermore, the angry blasts from Khrushchev and his Soviet sycophants had for the most part avoided putting any blame directly on President Eisenhower for the abortive jet spy flight.

But as the President stood firm in his view that such intelligence operations were perhaps distasteful but vitally necessary measure for Western defense, Khrushchev became personal in his attacks.

He purported to be "horrified" that Eisenhower had endorsed such missions, which he termed "aggressive acts," and indicated he might be thinking of hedging on the President's planned visit to Russia in June.

When a reporter asked him if he still wanted Eisenhower to visit the Soviet Union, Khrushchev hedged, and then replied: "we can exchange views with the President on that in Paris."

Thus, another hot issue loomed for the heads-of-government sessions that already looked loaded with such items as the future of Berlin, Germany and disarmament.

He will meet with President Eisenhower, British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan and French President Charles de Gaulle next week in sessions that can shape the future of mankind.

The Western leaders—who already know their man—will be prepared for a hard-headed, opportunistic bargainer.

They are the heads of government for their nations, but Khrushchev is the kind of man who can say, as he did this week: "I am responsible for the Soviet government."

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the basic issue in our politics, at this particular period of our history, lies in the choice between conservatism and radicalism—particularly radically reckless spending, with no regard for the future.

Humphrey represents, probably more decisively than anyone else prominent in this year's national campaign, the idea of adherence to heavy spending with... let us say... relatively little thought given to how we are going to pay the bills.

So—It seems to me that sincere and patriotic conservatives can find in the outcome of the West Virginia primary election some reason to hope that in the future the battle for intelligent and patriotic conservatism may be won.

In the Days News

By FRANK JENKINS
The West Virginia election, which has been dominating the political news for weeks, is finally over.

As a result of it, Senator Kennedy is on his way. He has a commanding lead in the race for the Democratic nomination for President. Senator Humphrey has withdrawn and the rest of the candidates, declared and undeclared, are scratching their heads and wondering what to do next.

THE BIG issue was the religious issue. The question that West Virginia was expected to answer is this: Is it possible for a Catholic to be nominated and elected President?

In West Virginia, only about 5 per cent of the population is Catholic. Yet... after a hard-fought campaign in which the religious issue was a dominant issue... Senator Kennedy, a Catholic, won decisively.

That seems to indicate that an ancient prejudice has been eliminated from our politics.

ONE MORE word on that point. At one of his recent press conferences, President Eisenhower was asked by a reporter to comment on what the reporter called "injection of the religious issue" into Presidential primary campaigns.

Ike pulled a sheet of paper from his pocket and said he wanted to quote from two sections of the Constitution. He first read from Article VI, which specifies that there shall be no religious test as a qualification for office. Then he read from the Bill of Rights the part saying that congress shall make no law prohibiting the exercise of religious freedom.

The Founding Fathers of our nation, wise and far-seeing, put those sections into our Constitution. Ike's answer seemed to be adequate. At least the reporter asked no more questions. The voters of West Virginia seemed to feel the same way about it.

WHAT of Senator Kennedy? What of Senator Humphrey? As between the two, Kennedy is the more conservative. Personally, I find it difficult to escape the conclusion that the basic issue in our politics, at this particular period of our history, lies in the choice between conservatism and radicalism—particularly radically reckless spending, with no regard for the future.

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