

Election Next Friday

Oregon's primary election is five days away. Locally, interest has been somewhat limited, since there are only three intra-party contests. They are: Republican nomination for house of representatives, where three candidates are vying for the two nominations. Republican nomination for county surveyor. Democratic nomination for county commissioner.

ON THE state and national level, things are a little livelier, but not too much so. Attention, of course, focuses on the Democratic Presidential nomination, where Senators Morse and Kennedy are the leading candidates. Kennedy is seeking another in his string of primary victories to help sew up the nomination at the convention in Los Angeles, and Morse is seeking approval as a "favorite son" candidate. He declares he is a serious candidate for either the Presidency or the Vice Presidency, although his ambition is being largely discounted.

SENATORS Lyndon Johnson, Stuart Symington and Hubert H. Humphrey also will appear on the ballot, but Humphrey has withdrawn from the race, and neither Johnson nor Symington is expected to attract any major support in Oregon. Not on the ballot, but still very definitely in the race, is Adlai Stevenson. A strong showing of write-in votes for him in Oregon could strongly affect his chances as a "compromise" candidate at the convention.

The Senatorial nominations are generally conceded to Mrs. Maurine Neuberger, seeking to succeed her late husband, on the Democratic ballot for both short and long terms, and Elmo Smith, former governor, on the Republican ballot for both short and long terms.

Each has some opposition (except that Mrs. Neuberger is unopposed for the short term nomination only), but it is generally believed their opponents don't stand much of a chance for the party choices for November.

FOR Congress, Charles O. Porter, of Oregon's fourth district, is unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

Dr. Edwin Durno, Medford physician and state senator, seems to be a shoo-in for the Republican nomination. His only opponent is Springfield dairyman Leslie P. Fleming, who is running on an ultra-far right platform.

For state treasurer, Howard Belton, of Canby, legislator for 22 years, farmer, businessman, and acting governor on occasion, is seeking election to the post to which he was recently appointed. His opposition is Miss Shirley Field, Portland lawyer and legislator, whose main campaign tactic so far has been to challenge her opponents to declare they would be "full time" officials.

THE state treasurer has an undemanding office, and in the past it has been filled, sometimes, by incumbents who have devoted two or three days a week to the job.

Belton hasn't replied to Miss Field's "challenge," and says he doesn't see why he should. But he told the Mail Tribune last week that in 22 years in the legislature he has never, to his recollection, missed a session, has always given any job the time it needs, and "I've been giving full time to the job of treasurer since I was appointed; I don't see why I should change."

Ward Cook, Portland legislator, is conceded the Democratic nomination for treasurer. His opponent is Joseph A. Jaross, a "political unknown," as the phrase goes.

Robert Y. Thornton is unopposed for re-nomination as Democratic candidate for Attorney General.

Carl Francis, lawyer and legislator, is again seeking the Republican nomination. He is opposed by Merlin Estep, Salem lawyer, who is making his first attempt at political office, and who is waging an aggressive campaign.

HOWELL Appling Jr. is unopposed for the Republican nomination for Secretary of State.

Monroe Sweetland, Milwaukie newspaperman and legislator, is waging a strong campaign for the Democratic nomination, which he is expected to receive against Vic Davis and Walter W. Kendrick, neither of whom are well known throughout the state.

The worst (or best, depending on viewpoint) of both ballots, but particularly the Democratic one, is the long, long list of candidates to the two national conventions. In these contests, the best-known names are apt to be the winners — unless voters pay attention to the often silly, sometimes misleading, virtually worthless "ballot slogans" which Oregon law permits.

LOCALLY, the Republican contest for state representative is between Mrs. Eve Nye, an incumbent; Lawyer John Dellenback, making his first try for political office, and E. H. (Ed) Mann, former representative, a retired businessman.

The candidates for Democratic nomination for county commissioner are Ralph James, who now holds the office, and Edwin H. Taylor, whose business has been making pickles.

The Republican candidates for nomination as surveyor are Mark Boyden, a young surveyor's staff member, and Lowell E. Ager, Ashland surveyor.

All other candidates are unopposed. The Mail Tribune seldom makes recommendations for candidates in the primary election, believing this is properly a party function. It does make recommendations, on all measures and candidates, in the general election in the fall, and will do so this year. — E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"AW, PLEASE LET HIM COME, DAD! HE HASN'T EVEN SEEN THE NEW SHOPPIN' CENTER!"

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.

Food and Conscience
To the Editor: Sure hate to do this to our good friend, Humorist Farm Writer Nealon, over Sam's Valley way. But, it's being much like watermelons that we considered more or less public property, providing the lifting is unobtrusively done. Now this "melon" was snatched right out of Tablet's Nealon's own home patch, almost in sight of his well-kept sanctuary that he keeps that way by working over tomatoes when their numbers get too numerous.

This melon-like incident, relayed to us by visiting kinfolk, occurred quite some time ago. It was at noon mealtime. The son and family were weekending at the old homeplace. The four year old grandson was taking a second helping of a favorite dish. His Pa casually remarked about not taking too big a second portion, more than he could eat, as there were others there who were to be considered. The youngster failed to heed the fatherly advice, for he confessed later on his inability to down all he had taken.

"Oh, that's all right," his Pa remarked. "Grandma will put it away in the cupboard. You will finish eating it before you eat anything else at suppertime."

The boy took a long hard look at the provender. Heaved a mighty sigh as he manfully resumed eating it, remarking dolefully, evidently remembering like past experiences, "I better finish it up 'cause Grandma might have something for supper I like better'n this."

All of which not only shows up some real philosophy in one so young, but some old fashioned child training that might indicate the old pendulum of folk custom has started its return from the starchy-eyed, wishful-thinking indulgence of children that has created the need of the modern youth detention home.

So, with all due apology to Writer Nealon, we wish to remark that we are feeling real good, though something hard hurt a bit, like Ben Hur Lampman of the Oregonian once defined conscience.

F. J. Clifford,
Route 2, Box 200F,
Central Point, Ore.

Blast 'Em
To the Editor: Thank you for your editorial in Friday's Mail Tribune. It's about time we quit trying to hide the faults and misgivings, by ignoring them, of Eisenhower and his administration, and those who surround him.

The plated tin halo he wore is long in turning green, has become tarnished, and like the wearer should be changed for something else.

And the SPY! Gads and zooks! They didn't even wait until the poor fellow hit the ground before cutting his throat, throwing him to the dogs, blabbing. It doesn't take guts to keep quiet, only common sense. PEARL HARBOR! It shall NEVER happen again! Look at the well, listen to 'em holler.

BLAST 'em mister.
(Name on file)
Medford.

Brush With Death
To the Editor: Last Monday our family came so near to tragedy that I feel moved to write this letter in the hope that it might, in some way, help to avert tragedy for someone else.

After alighting from a school bus, our son was struck by a car and through no fault of his own came close to being taken from us forever.

"It appears," the bulletin says, "that this utility will become debt free in 1963, only 28 years after it began operation with a debt ratio of 111 per cent."

Manager J. J. Stein said the PUD's AA rating is the highest available. This is higher than the ratings received by Seattle and Tacoma electrical utilities.

Matter of Fact

Washington—Very obviously, the West Virginia primary was a remarkable event, which puts Sen. John F. Kennedy several laps ahead in the Democratic presidential race. Much less obviously, this event was also a remarkable and quite traceable demonstration of the usually untraceable process by which voters make their choices.

For those who are interested in the "how" of voters' choices, the West Virginia story really has to begin with the poll by the professional opinion tester, Lou Harris, which tempted Kennedy into the West Virginia race. This poll taken last December showed Kennedy with a 70-30 lead over his opponent, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey. It has been much mocked, yet it was a wholly accurate poll. Its fault lay in being wholly undependable.

It was undependable, simply because all opinion tests are undependable which are taken before the persons tested have formed settled opinions. It was accurate, because it reflected two factors with great influence on the final result.

THE final factor was simply Senator Kennedy's quite exceptional knack of making a strong and generally favorable impression of American voters. The West Virginians could not have known much about him in December, but what they knew, they remembered and liked. The "image," as the jargon-makers say, was already favorable.

The second factor was Senator Humphrey's curious inability to "project an image" to voters outside his own state. This failure by the vivid, articulate, and intelligent Humphrey is a mystery of political chemistry. It was noted by all reporters who did any legwork in West Virginia, right up to the end of the hard-fought campaign here.

At the outset, then, the West Virginia voters liked Kennedy, but were at best neutral towards Humphrey. The moment when they began to reflect more deeply on their choice undoubtedly came when they were told they would have to make a choice.

It came, in short, when both men announced they would enter the West Virginia primary. This was during the previous contest in Wisconsin, and at the very time when the widest possible publicity was being given to the Wisconsin Catholics' preference for Kennedy.

THIS Wisconsin emphasis on Kennedy's Catholicism was quite certainly the influence, a few more organizations and change the name.

I intended no implication of guilt concerning the chaplains. All of the active and out-of-service chaplains I have personally known are the finest people I know and I do not believe that any of them would have a thing to do with the NCC.

Nor was it my intention to "divide and disrupt Christians." They are already divided into nearly 300 groups and no one has proved that denominationalism is essential to our way of life, and certainly not to the furthering of the Kingdom of Christ. The Bible gives the answers but few want them.

My statement about evangelism was not clear. The incident referred to was one in which an evangelist (not a military chaplain) wanted to hold services on military bases and had to get approval from the NCC. The word "control" may have been ill-advised.

One of the staunchest supporters of the NCC during the fuss was the Communist party. "The Worker." The NCC and the Communist party both work for the dissolution of the un-American activities committee openly.

Those "disgruntled critics" are often the most victorious Christians I know.

Dorlan F. Woods, Minister
Star Route, Box 191
Prospect, Ore.

Comedy in Communications
To the Editor: After reading a letter to the editor by a party on route 4, which criticized the YMCA auction, I am convinced I have been missing a great source of entertainment.

That letter reminds me of the quip by the wild horse trainer — "Sometimes I get carried away." Hereafter I'll be getting more of my comedy laughs from this page.

Dave Redmond
Route 4, box 393,
Medford.

Is There a Hell?
To the Editor: Like Mr. Wirth, I couldn't harmonize a God of love with an eternally burning hell. But I made

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

NEW 3 BDRM. MOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

We rush to call attention to this marvelous bargain before that Man From Phoenix writes one of his jocosely little notes pointing it out.

We're too late, however, to forestall him altogether. We received one of his communications earlier in the week, pointing out that we'd called Gus Triandos an "all-stars" catcher for the Baltimore Orioles.

"Wideawake, heads - up never takes his eye off the ball, eh?" was TMFP's comment.

Another story he pointed out was one in which Ted Williams was identified as a "battling professor," when presumably, "battling professor" was meant. But from what we hear about Williams' general temperament, maybe the story wasn't so wrong, after all.

Up in Albany there's a man named Russell Tripp. He's called Russ for short, or course.

And the Albany paper reports that poor Mr. Tripp is already feeling the results of President Eisenhower's projected trip to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

When a headline comes along which says, for instance, "Rises Doubt About Russ Trip," Mr. Tripp immediately becomes fair game for all his friends who fancy their senses of humor.

And the paper adds there are tremendous difficulties ahead for Mr. Russell Tripp, unless international relations calm down a bit.

How would a cope with headlines which say "Nikita Blasts Russ Trip," "Russ Trip Doomed to Failure," "Russ Trip Could Avert War," or "Russ Trip Off?"

Friday was May 13th, the traditional bad-luck day. And it didn't pass without incident, either.

The great, big, happy family in the newsroom had rather more than its share of disagreements, and it was so exhausting for the Tall Farmer's Tall Wife (who is sitting in while Potpourri is on vacation) that she wound up by sticking the brush into her coffee cup instead of the paste pot.

She shouldn't let it make her feel badly, though. We know of several newsroom inhabitants who have done exactly the same thing near the end of a long hard week. We've done it ourselves, and narrowly missed doing it again not long ago.

Speaking of coffee, for 10 these many years the news staff has prepared its own coffee and drunk it at the various desks, in between phone calls and sessions at the typewriter.

The well-known coffee-break, therefore, is not for us.

We are, apparently, right in tune with the wave of the future. A clipping from the New York Times says that one of the big New York insurance company offices now brings coffee and rolls around to its employees' desks, and figures only about half as much time is lost as in the conventional coffee break.

We could have told 'em that. Anyway, Schrafft's is making a good thing out of it, carting around about 31,600,000 cups of coffee for the mid-morning breaks.

On Highway 101, right next to the Pacific ocean, is a motel. In front of it is a large sign advertising "World's Largest Pool." Can't argue with that.

more." (Ezekiel 28: 18, 19.) One more, "And fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." (Revelation 20:9 last part.)

B. F. Blank
1510 Barnett rd.
Medford.

Scores, Yes! Bowling, No
To the Editor: In answer to your question about box scores of major league baseball teams, yes, we want all the information you can give.

We appreciate the local news, but the world is a big place, and many people now living here don't know the local people.

I am a bowler and would suggest the bowling scores be omitted, as the bowlers all get a sheet each week with their team and personal standings. This is a personal interest and not to the public.

Larger write-ups about teams and personnel would be appreciated.

Isabel Shaw
Eagle Point, Ore.