

Medford Mail Tribune

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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 July 6, 1959 (Thursday)

A proposal is being considered by the Ashland city council that would reorganize the city government making all city departments responsible to a city superintendent.

20 YEARS AGO July 6, 1949 (Saturday)

A 5-year-old Medford boy was shot and seriously wounded yesterday while he and another youth were playing with a shotgun which they thought was empty.

30 YEARS AGO July 6, 1939 (Sunday)

A local bootlegger was nabbed while trying to peddle moonshine during the fireworks show here Friday.

40 YEARS AGO July 6, 1929 (Tuesday)

A three-week long revival meeting, under the leadership of Jerry Jeter, started here during the week end.

50 YEARS AGO July 6, 1919 (Wednesday)

Medford's baseball team will meet Eugene in a double-header here Sunday that will decide the championship of southern Oregon and the Willamette valley.

What's Your I.Q.?

1. Tass is a news agency of what country? 2. What animal secretes a waxy substance known as ambergris?

Answers: 1. Soviet Russia. 2. The sperm whale. 3. The Four Hundred. 4. Yes. 5. Oregon. 6. Four inches. 7. The same four-cycle principle. 8. Soviet Russia. 9. Calf liver. 10. Two weeks.

The Forests Need Help

Yesterday we commented on the increasing use of the outdoors by recreation-bound Americans.

The two agencies chiefly responsible for this chore are the U.S. Park Service, a part of the department of the interior, and the U.S. Forest, a part of the department of agriculture.

(Another agency, the Bureau of Land Management of the interior department, is just now getting started on recreational development, but progress is hardly sufficient yet to justify comment.)

BOTH agencies have embarked on programs of improving their recreational facilities. The park service's is called "Mission 66"—a 10 year program started in 1956 and due for completion in 1966—thus the name. The forest service's program is called "Operation Outdoors"—a five-year program started in 1957.

Both are about half-way along now. And the May-June issue of the magazine "Camping Horizons" has reports on progress from Conrad L. Wirth, director of the national park service, and John Sieker, director of the division of recreation and land uses of the forest service.

"Mission 66" is doing pretty well. "Operation Outdoors" is coming along, but needs a push.

THE park service expects nearly 5 million campers to use its facilities this season—about 5 per cent more than in 1959. (In the past few years, increases have tended to be underestimated, and the total may go well above that.)

This means some 21,000 campers every day of the camping season, with more on peak week ends.

To accommodate these campers, to protect them, to provide facilities for them, and to protect the scenic resources (which is a major job of the park service) is a big task.

Thus far, 2,956 new campsites have been completed, and 2,884 others have been rehabilitated and improved, or 5,840 out of a total of some 12,000 campsites now existing in the national parks.

The objective is to provide 28,000 campsites by 1966, and the park service expects to complete this goal—plus the other objectives of "Mission 66"—on schedule.

THE forest service's "Operation Outdoors" isn't as well along. There are two chief difficulties, first, an unprecedented explosion in the use of the forests by recreation-seekers, and second, the reluctance of congress to appropriate enough funds to keep up with the demand.

Between 1946 and 1956, for instance, the number of recreation visits to the forests almost tripled—from 18.2 million to 52.5 million.

"Operation Outdoors" is now at the half-way mark, and Sieker says, "developed campgrounds, picnic and other recreation sites are receiving adequate policing, cleanup and maintenance. They have never been in better shape, and continued progress in this phase of the program is expected."

BUT, at the same time, only 8,900 of a total of 40,000 family units needing rehabilitation by 1962 have been reconstructed. And Sieker says that a similar lag was reported on winter sports, swimming and other facilities.

Original estimates were that 66 million visits would be made annually by 1962. But already it is approaching the 75 million mark, and revised estimates indicated 92 million visits by 1962.

This means that, instead of the original target of 40,500 new family units within the next two years, there will be needed at least 60,000, for a total of 102,000—just to keep up with minimum necessities.

And Sieker added: "Actual financing, which has been less than the program called for, has held up expansion and rehabilitation. Because of this, over-crowding in national forest campgrounds and picnic sites continues to increase. At the present time there are almost TWICE AS MANY campers and picnickers in national forest areas as there are facilities to accommodate them safely."

THIS overcrowding leads, not only to disappointed and irritated campers and picnickers, but also to fire hazards, destruction of natural surroundings, and the menace of inadequate sanitation.

Some of this load must be absorbed (as it is now, to a certain extent) by state, county and city facilities—the agencies, incidentally, which keep yelling about the federal government playing too big a role, and then frequently failing to do the job themselves.

But the national forests belong to the federal government—that is, to all of us. And it is the government's responsibility, not only to protect the forests, but to provide for their use by the people who own the forests.

DESPITE valiant efforts by the forest service, it can't do the job alone and unassisted.

If everyone who, at one time or another, uses a forest camp, or a stream or lake or picnic spot in the forest, would let his congressman know that the job must be done, it will be done.

If not, it could drag along, too little and too late, with the forests overcrowded, overused, and endangered.

They belong to all of us. We should be willing to see that their caretakers get the tools to do the job of service and protection that the forests need.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"WE DON'T LET A DIRTY OL' MENU CARD SPOIL OUR APPETITE, DO WE, DAD?"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

THE NORTH AND SOUTH OF IT Washington—The real story of what has passed between Sen. John F. Kennedy and his recent deadly enemy, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, is considerably more interesting than the crude version in common currency.

To set the stage for this small drama full of nuances, it is necessary to note that the Kennedy-Humphrey enmity was one of those briefly poisonous political plants which wither fast under the warm wind of expediency.

Kennedy now wants Humphrey's tidy bloc of delegates. Humphrey has the gravest doubts about the movement to draft Adlai Stevenson for the Democratic nomination. He fears that he cannot sell Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas in Minnesota. And he regards the candidacy of Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri as no better than a soufflé that never even started to rise.

THE key episode was Kennedy's approach to Humphrey. Kennedy musingly inquired whether Humphrey was in the running for the Vice Presidential nomination in 1960, as he was in 1956. Humphrey replied that he had no intention of becoming an active candidate for the Vice Presidency, because he could not risk the damage to his prestige of a further defeat after his misfortunes in the primaries. He confessed, however, that if the Vice Presidential spot were offered to him, he might accept.

Kennedy commented that it "helped him" to know what was in Humphrey's mind. And there the matter ended in as near a glow of mutual good will as is likely in such conversations. There was no offer, there was no commitment. But there was an exploration of terrain, useful and potentially fruitful for both parties.

It must be added that the magnetic attraction of the nice little bloc of delegates that Humphrey largely controls is not the only influence that may persuade Kennedy to offer Humphrey the Vice Presidency, if he wins the first place on the ticket himself. Clumps of the less devout Stevensonites are drifting into the Kennedy camp, especially in California. Almost all of them come out with the same message: "We're for you, Jack, but please, please give Hubert second place and reserve the Secretaryship of State for Adlai."

MORE important still, there is the recent, really major Republican disaster in North Dakota. The horrifying depth of the farm discontent was glaringly revealed when this normally rock-ribbed Republican state narrowly elected a Democratic Senator to fill an unexpired term. To be sure, Vice President Nixon's polls, which showed the Democrat, Rep. Quentin N. Burdick, winning the Senate seat by a hair, also showed North Dakota going for Nixon against Kennedy by a comfortable margin. But North Dakota's certain meaning is that Nixon may be in very bad trouble indeed in the more closely balanced mid-Western states.

If Kennedy is nominated, the choice of Humphrey for the Vice Presidency will maximize the Republican difficulty in the farm states of the mid-West. It will also maximize Kennedy's own difficulties in the South, which are

Youth's Letter Tells Tragic Tale of Cubans Mised Into Suspicion of U.S.

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

From the outpourings of a son's letter to his mother comes another side of Cuba's tragedy:



Phil Newsom UPI Foreign Editor

"The Yankee embassy put up some signs to protect American property, as the moment of their attack is getting near. Guantanamo naval base is receiving much artillery and is bursting with Marines. But none of that scares us any more."

"After all, what is worst that could happen - that we all die? So what! You only die once, and it is better to die with honor than to suffer the death of a coward."

The writer of the foregoing is a student at Havana university. His mother is in the United States.

The letter is a bleak portrayal of Castro's Cuba, of a people fed up by a campaign of hate, keyed to a frenzy of patriotism by false charges that blind them to the tragedy that has befallen them.

At the beginning, the letter might be from any boy to his mother. It speaks of a visit to his grandmother and grandfather. But then ...

"Here in Havana everything is perfectly well - we are continuing our militia drills, more than half a million people are in the militia and all of them practicing with modern rifles, machine guns, hand grenades and 105mm cannons. Our coastline is under careful surveillance. Fidel has purchased 12 coast guard and 20 small but very fast motorboats that are being heavily armed to defend the revolution ..."

"Our great sugar mills are being armed with heavy artillery such as cannons and 50mm anti-aircraft machine-guns so they can repel any attack. Whoever dares to try anything will not live to talk about it. The peoples' militia will not take any prisoners - the people will attack and kill without giving any quarter. The password is: 'War to the end ...'"

"The people here are in a state of high nervous tension - our labor force has detailed instructions to blow up all major buildings and installations if we are attacked ... This will be a war to the last man ..."

"If Fidel should fall, the people of Cuba will fall at his side - without Fidel there is no Cuba, because Fidel IS Cuba, and we have to protect him, no matter at what cost, no matter how many of us have to die ..."

"There is positively no doubt now that the United States, that is, the American government, is helping, protecting and preparing the criminals of war to attack and destroy the people of Cuba."

"Well mother, I have no more to tell you. You know how much I love you even if you choose to be so far away, but I am almost getting used to it, as it seems this is how it has to be."

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Religious Issue Still Alive, Wilson Finds in Los Angeles

By LYLE C. WILSON

Los Angeles—(UPI)—The liveliest political corpse you ever are likely to encounter is the dead and buried issue of Sen. John F. Kennedy's Roman Catholic religious faith.

The issue of religion in United States politics died and was buried, you will remember, in the May 10 West Virginia presidential primary. West Virginia is an overwhelmingly Protestant community.



Lyle C. Wilson

Kennedy won that one. He won by so big a margin that his opponent, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), abandoned his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

When the returns were in, it was logical to conclude that religious prejudice was not much of a factor in U.S. politics, not, anyway, in West Virginia. Kennedy's Roman Catholic religion, however, seems to survive as a political issue. Americans are talking about it and they are responsible Americans. For example:

Chairman Paul M. Butler of the Democratic National committee suggested last month to a National Press club audience that Catholic voters would punish the Democratic party if Kennedy came to the nominating convention with almost enough votes to win but was rejected by the delegates. If Butler is right about that, religion certainly is an issue in next week's Democratic convention.

Ten days after the West Virginia primary, a Miami, Fla., dispatch to the New York Times said: "Thirteen thousand Southern Baptists unanimously adopted a resolution here today expressing strong fears about electing Sen. John F. Kennedy or any other Catholic as president of the United States."

This Southern Baptist convention represented 9,500,000 members. It is the country's second largest Protestant denomination. A United Press International dispatch from Rochester, N.Y., on June 7 said: "American Baptists spoke out strongly today against what they called 'Roman Catholic influence' on political issues. Delegates denounced the Catholic interpretation of the U.S. Constitution and its views on separation of church and state."

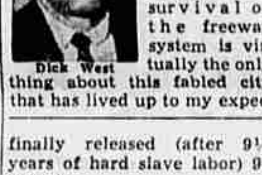
"The Sign," a national Catholic magazine, devoted much of its July issue to discussion of Catholics and the presidency. The editor, Father Ralph Gorman, C.P., wrote that many Americans have been misled by anti-Catholic propaganda. "It is our duty," he said, "to inform them correctly and to do it with gentle patience."

The foregoing are lively examples of the survival of the religious issue beyond its death and burial in West Virginia.

West In L.A.; Traffic Jams Up To Snuff, But Smog Isn't

By DICK WEST

Los Angeles—(UPI)—This is the only place I've ever been where a motorist can drive along at 60 miles an hour and still be in the midst of a traffic jam.



Dick West

I predict that within 24 hours I won't have an illusion left.

My preconceptions began disintegrating into misconceptions almost as soon as I boarded an airliner in Washington to join the westward migration headed for next week's Democratic National Convention.

For one thing, I was under the impression that passengers aboard Hollywood-bound planes are always seated next to beautiful movie stars who are traveling incognito.

Incognito, incidentally, is an old California expression which means that a celebrity is only accompanied by two press agents.

My seatmate, however, turned out to be a dowager member of the Maryland delegation who had a marked tendency toward air-sickness.

I was beginning to feel a bit queasy myself before the plane finally landed, and I stepped down the ramp and to my second big disappointment—fresh air.

Yes, I said fresh air. When I first inhaled it I couldn't believe my nose. It is not that I have anything against oxygen. I like to breathe as much as the next man. But I had my heart set on describing the 1960 Democratic nominee as the first U.S. presidential candidate ever chosen in a smog-filled room.

"Where's the smog?" I asked the taxi driver who brought me in from the airport. "It's here," he said reassuringly. "Sometimes you can't see it, but you can feel it."

Tilting nostrils into the ozone, I filled my lungs to the bursting point, but I still couldn't feel any smog. I just felt dizzy.

It was this same taxi driver who introduced me to the Los Angeles freeways, a thrill that, for the moment at least, made me forget about movie queens and smog. In truth, I forgot about everything except a wild desire to increase my life insurance.

As I understand the situation, Los Angeles has 50 per cent more automobiles than it has parking places. This means that at least half of them must be in motion at all times. Whenever they run out of places to have traffic jams, the city builds another freeway.

Thursday, if I can summon up the courage, I plan to ride out to the Convention Hall and otherwise get into the political swim. But if the smog doesn't return soon, my whole visit here will be ruined.

And what is their record in general? The moment a political sore breaks out anywhere on earth our cultured Commies are there like hungry maggots. Should threat of revolution blaze up they are first on the job, to pour oil on the troubled flames.

One writer recommends a broader view. Did it ever occur to you that one can be so broad as to have very little depth?

There is one way to judge a tree, a man or a political movement: "By their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt. 7:20.) By this test they seem a bit lousy.

Jack Finel 3710 Hilsinger rd. Medford.

Later Than You Think To the Editor: D. D. Jansen, Elk River, Minn., says we have the highest standard of living the world has ever known and are getting our share of record wages.

Americans always have had high standards and education is constantly bettering them, as well as honest work of all citizens—with God's guidance, and God doesn't stay in Washington.

When my foster father toiled 10 hours a day for one dollar, we lived as well as now. People voted for whom they wished and mud-slinging was little known.

Getting our share? Getting our earnings grabbed three ways for Sunday! If you don't know how come, we Democrats will give you three guesses.

Text Omitted? To the Editor: Did your editorial of Sunday, July 3, referring to Time magazine and titled "Time Brings All Things," omit a fitting text of scripture (Job 12:2) - "No doubt but ye are the people and wisdom shall die with you?"

I am reminded that humble attitudes cannot create resentment and that the observance of the Golden Rule in every walk of life would quickly bring a heaven of happiness to this rebellious planet.

Isn't our greatest need a long and frequent look at "The Incomparable Christ?" Dorothy Swan L.B. Star Route, Box 55 Eagle Point, Ore.

Color Ads To the Editor: I would like to say that I have been watching the Mail Tribune with interest, since they have been using the new press, especially since I took journalism this year at Medford Senior high.

But one thing seems to me a shame, namely this: since they have been using the colored pictures, there has not been one used except for advertisements of beer or the like, that I have seen.

Could something be done about this? Evalyn Pleyer 2911 Table Rock rd. Medford

Now Many Wear FALSE TEETH With Little Worry Eat, talk, laugh or sneeze without fear of insecure false teeth dropping, slipping or wobbling. PASTETH holds plates firmer and more comfortably. This pleasant powder has no gummy, sticky, pasty taste or feeling. Doesn't cause nausea. It's alkaline. Non-acid. Checks "plate odor" (denture breath). GAS PASTETH is say drug counter.

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

"By Their Fruits..." To the Editor: I note that of late some of your correspondents have come little short of praising Russian communism. They no doubt get these views from people who have been permitted to visit Russia's front yard. I like the saying: "When a boy's face shines with soap, look behind his ears." It applies to nations as well. The Commies can be quite gracious to visitors on the front lawn. Let us take a squint at the back yard.

As a starter, let me quote a few extracts from "Grit's" condensation of John Noble's book, "I Was a Slave in Russia": "... As I lay down that evening I had no idea that on the following morning would begin a 12-day starving period. ... Men went out of their minds, women prisoners became hysterical. Some Moslem prisoners chanted their prayers. Then death struck right and left in the prison. Some 700 prisoners had entered the starvation period. I was one of the 22 or 23 who survived."

The above took place in East Germany. Noble was then transferred to a Siberian coal mine. ... "I looked at the 'bunk' I had been assigned to. It was a segment of a two-foot width of long, hard, wooden shelf, one of two shelves, upper and lower, that ran the length of both sides of the barracks. ... There was no sheet, mattress, pillow or blanket—just a hard wooden slab. ... It was a human jungle, smelly, over swded."

Noble was never tried. He was simply arrested and condemned. When arrested, he weighed 155 pounds, when

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A Quarter of a Century... Sounds like a long time, doesn't it? That's how long we have served this community, and tried to do our best, too. We have been happy here among so many friends. The stay seems so brief. We shall continue to give of our best, always. LITWILLER FUNERAL HOME Highway 66 at Normal Ave. Ashland - Dial MU 5-4541 Mrs. Litwiller