

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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The Recreation Explosion

Joe Cowley's excellent feature story printed in the M-T Sunday, telling of progress in converting the new Howard Prairie Reservoir into a recreation area, bears out, factually and in detail, the same story we've been singing for years.

There is in this nation a "recreation explosion." People in general have more time, more money, and more inclination to take to the outdoors for their family fun. And they're doing it.

In the process, they are overrunning some of the nation's choicest recreation spots to a point where the very things they are looking for are being destroyed.

IN THE course of a one-week trip, covering nearly 2,000 miles, we saw some of the things of which Cowley's article warned.

On every mile of highway, one sees a constant procession of cars carrying campers and boaters. The cars may have luggage carriers on top, or they may be pulling trailers or boats.

At Manzanita Camp Ground, near the headquarters of Lassen Volcanic National Park (which is only about four easy hours drive from Medford, by the way, and well worth the trip), what once was a pleasant, well-policed, well-appointed and cleanly camp ground is now a sea of volcanic grime and dust, with campers parked cheek by jowl, in an appalling outdoor transient slum.

The pressure was so great, in fact, that we saw people gathering firewood along the roadsides (strictly in violation of National Park rules), and even in the better-kept, newer campgrounds at higher elevations, desperate camp-seekers were carving their own campsites out of the woods.

AT LAKE Tahoe, California's spic, span, and tightly-run state parks are protected from these ravages, but only at the cost of turning away dozens, or scores, or hundreds, of would-be campers every evening.

Also at Tahoe, a Forest Service campground, less exclusive than the California parks, was filled by late afternoon and turned away many campers after that. Privately-operated camps were overflowing (and a pretty sorry mess most of them were, too). The Forest Service camp showed the ravages of too many people and too few services — odoriferous toilets, hacked-off limbs, thick dust, overflowing garbage cans.

Oregon's state parks, we are happy to report, are clean, well-maintained, well-run, with ample services provided to keep them so, and to satisfy the thousands who use them. But here, too, the "Sorry, No Vacancy" sign goes up regularly every week end, and frequently on week day evenings.

COWLEY'S feature article also said:

"Outdoor recreation authorities point out that only a comparatively small part of the overall population uses such outdoor areas. . . . Such recreation projects are not proven vote-getters so are not popular with many legislators. With increasing numbers using recreation areas, this view may soon change."

It's already changing. If we recall correctly, County Judge Earl Miller reported recently that the court has been under more pressure to increase its parks and recreation program than for any other single thing, in recent months.

And, if the sight of highways crowded with recreation-seekers, and campsites filled to overflowing night after night, are any criteria, those public officials in the parks and recreation business (including state and federal legislators) could be impelled to do what is needed if only one in ten of them would take the trouble to tell his representatives about it.—E.A.

New Agency

The Forest Service is a land and timber management agency. As such, it does its level best to employ the forests for the "greatest good for the greatest number in the long run."

But, with the "recreation explosion," it has been swamped with such an influx of visitors that it can't begin to keep up with them.

After all, a district ranger, trained in silviculture and forest management, doesn't particularly like to devote much of his time to being a housekeeper and janitor and wood-bearer for a horde of campers. And who can blame him?

WE HAVE now the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service, with a certain amount of jealousy between them over their roles in forest and wilderness administration.

Perhaps a new category, somewhere between the two, is called for—an agency which would administer the recreational aspects of federally-owned properties below the caliber of National Parks, and essentially separated from the forest-management jobs of the Forest Service.

It could be responsible for the nation's wilderness areas (which have high recreational values), for the National Seashores so much debated, and for the forest camps and parks which the Forest Service is now struggling to maintain and expand—with limited success.

WE CAN just hear the moans and groans arise at a proposal for a new agency. And we can hear the bureaucratic grumbling if and when one agency is threatened with the loss of some of its functions.

But after all, the whole purpose of government is to serve the people. And in increasing millions upon millions, they are now calling upon their government to do something for them—something which neither "Mission 66" of the Park Service nor "Operation Outdoors" of the Forest Service is getting done rapidly enough nor well enough.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"PSSST! MAKE THAT A HOTDOG 'STEAD OF HAM. AN' ROOT BEER 'STEAD OF MILK!"

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.

The Dunes Proposal

To the Editor: On July 5, 1960, in the House of Representatives, I discussed in detail "The Oregon Dunes in Perspective and in Detail. . . . My comments also covered the recreation crisis at the seashore and elsewhere.

In my opinion the burgeoning population in Oregon and throughout the nation within the next 40 years will present us with problems we have not dreamed of. For example, by 1975, according to a study based on information available prior to the 1960 census, Oregon will have 2,865,000 residents.

Increased population, more emphasis on outdoor recreation, fantastic climbs in park attendance (National Forest areas' use rose 150 per cent) and the trend by Americans to travel point up the need for preserving seashore and lake areas. Did you know that Dr. J. Granville Jensen in a pioneering study of the economic impact of increased population in Oregon estimates that by 1990 Oregon will have a tourist visitation of 7 1/2 million as opposed to 3 1/2 million in 1957?

There are many areas to be carefully worked out in the proposed legislation which would establish an Oregon National Seashore. The writing of the legislation is not finished. Patient and careful analysis can bring the project to reality.

I believe that here is a tremendous opportunity for Oregon and the nation to preserve and develop our unique recreational resources. Charles O. Porter, Member of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Going to the Dogs

To the Editor: In an article "Enforcing Agencies Are Unprepared for Dog Control" in the Sunday, Aug. 7, issue of Mail Tribune, it states "this apparent tendency to ignore the law is especially prevalent among members of Medford's city administration. They may know they were not elected to ignore the law, and have the city of Medford 'go to the dogs.'"

For my part, I am sick and tired acting more each year as chambermaid to neighbor's dogs, who leave their daily deposit on my lawn and garden, and at the same time paw up the flower and vegetable garden and the lawn. It is the exceptional dog that does not follow this practice.

Furthermore what has county dog control have to do with city dog control? Our family dog control? Our family dog control? Our family dog control? Our family dog control?

Also in the city of Medford, we voted for control of dogs running at large WITHOUT the added proviso of "unless the dog is muzzled." With law enforcement of city laws, it is very apparent why city resident property owners are selling and moving to the suburbs outside the city. This is forcibly brought to light in this year's Federal census.

(Name on File) Medford

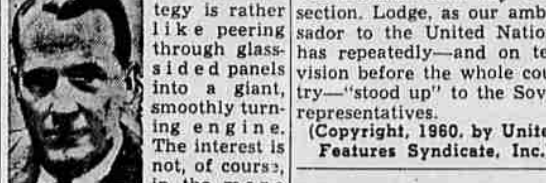
Platform vs. Platform

To the Editor: The political conventions are over and a study of the two platforms reveals the difference between the parties. The Democrats have again committed themselves to a program in which artificial stimulus plays a vital role — they want everything taken care of from Washington — everything com-

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

THE "MACHINE" Washington—To be given a close look into the inside of the Nixon campaign organization and strategy is rather like peering through glass-sided panels into a giant, smoothly turning engine.



Now—and a abandoning forthwith all mechanical metaphors—here is the way it looks within the Nixon operation:

THERE are two top men, next to Republican Presidential Candidate Richard Nixon himself. One is old-pro Leonard W. Hall of New York, a former Republican national chairman. Hall is general chairman of the Nixon strategy board. His main function, apart from acting as presiding officer over all, is strictly traditional. It is to work among the orthodox, the regular, Republicans who are estimated to make up 40 per cent of the nation's registered voters.

In a high-level way—and subject, of course, to all manner of state and local G.O.P. organization cooperation—Hall's job is to hold every last cherished one of the voters the Republican ticket already has. Let the smallest smoldering trouble appear among the faithful and "Tell Len about it!" He must rally these faithful to give their all, throughout the campaign and on election day.

He must also do much of the total GOP fund-raising effort. And this task, this time, is no pretty one. The Nixon people are genuinely—and probably rightly—concerned that the Kennedy-Johnson Democratic slate may have an appeal to wealthy contributors which no Democratic ticket ever had before.

TOP MAN No. 2 is young Robert Finch of California. For some time he has been Nixon's chief administrative assistant in the vice-presidential office. Now he is Nixon's personal campaign director as well. Finch's life in politically dippy-doodle California long since taught him that many "registered voters" can change their party as readily as their shirts—or their hem lines.

So his main job is to work among the 12 per cent of the country who are described as "independents"—men and women of no automatic or emotional commitment to either party. His closely related assignment is to move among all those Democrats who are now—or might become—unhappy with one end or the other of the Kennedy-Johnson slate.

Finch is a calm, stocky, laconic political "natural" at 34. He sometimes calls himself "the poor man's Bobby Kennedy," in smiling jest at Robert Kennedy, who also at 34, is chief campaign aide to brother John Kennedy, the Democratic presidential nominee.

So much for the structure of the Nixon organization. Now for its plans: FINCH'S recent journey to New York has produced an invaluable—and now a truly all-out—Nixon ally in Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. Rockefeller, it is understood, has agreed to put his popularity among the urban-liberal Republicans on the line for Nixon in the big and pivotal states of the North, New York itself, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois. And so on.

The leader of the opposite right-wing of the party, Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona, will be heavily used in the conservative South. So, too, on present planning, will be President Eisenhower himself. And so, too, will be the vice-presidential candidate, Henry Cabot Lodge.

It is believed among the Nixon people that Lodge will be surprisingly helpful in the South—for two very different reasons. One is that he is from a very old family, if a New England one; the South is still attracted by the old-family tradition. The other reason is that the South is "tougher" toward Russia than any other section. Lodge, as our ambassador to the United Nations, has repeatedly—and on television before the whole country—"stood up" to the Soviet representatives.

There is no mere matter of Republican policy or Democratic politics, either. The gravity of the decision that must ultimately be made between the President and the Vice President is only too clearly indicated by the true story of Secretary of State Christian R. Herter's special journey to Newport on the Tuesday before the Republican convention.

The President went to Newport to warn the President that the whole tone and character of Soviet policy had now changed in a deeply disturbing way. Herter put Eisenhower on notice that he must now consider the possibility that the Kremlin is planning a wartime showdown in the election year. But he did not stop there.

HERTER also asked the President to take immediate action, to sober the Kremlin policy-makers, by showing that the United States is still strong, alert and far from paralyzed, even in an election year. In the present super-charged political atmosphere it will probably be denied. But it can be stated as a fact that a request to the special session for a major increase in defense appropriations was the first action which Herter courageously-

Drummond Reports

(Walter Lippman on his vacation. Roscoe Drummond reports from Washington in his absence.)

THIS RECESS CONGRESS Washington—Something new is happening in Washington.

With the recess session of Congress this week, the United States will be experimenting with something very near to the parliamentary system of government.

The essence of the parliamentary system is that the executive officials of the government are drawn from the parliament, remain members of the parliament, and are directly responsible to parliament.

Now, for the first time, the alternative future executive leaders of the American government will be active participants in Congress during a legislative session.

As Vice President, Mr. Nixon will be presiding over the Senate and as the nominated leader of his party will be shaping Republican policy and directing Republican Congressional strategy.

As the Democratic presidential team, Senator Kennedy and Senator Johnson will be the floor leaders of their party in the Senate and in association with Speaker Sam Rayburn will be vastly influential with the Democratic leadership of the House of Representatives.

This will be the first time the Democratic and Republican presidential nominees have ever faced each other on the floor of Congress. Since suggested to the President.

It is hard to imagine any suggestion that would be more unpalatable to Dwight D. Eisenhower, yet it can be further stated that the President's initial response to this proposal of a defense increase was quite surprisingly favorable.

The train seemed to be on the rails. Seemingly, it got off the rails again, because the President was so annoyed by the Nixon-Rockefeller compact and the Republican party's resulting implied demand for a change in the Eisenhower defense policies.

The President was apparently able to consider requesting a defense increase on his own motion, as a riposte to a new pattern of Soviet behavior. But he was much less willing to consider making such a request after "that egomaniac" (the President's phrase for Nelson Rockefeller) had joined in jimmying a statement of the need for a defense increase into the party platform.

THIS does not mean that no action will be taken on the basis of Secretary Herter's Newport warning. The President has already taken certain quite significant actions. Redeployments calculated to sober the Kremlin have been ordered. A third aircraft carrier has been sent into the Mediterranean, for instance.

But the main recommendation, for a defense increase, now seems likely to be rejected. Instead, the extra funds appropriated by Congress for certain vital projects like the airborne alert, which had been promptly frozen by the budget bureau, will now be grandiosely unfrozen. And this will be presented as a defense increase—which, of course, it is not.

Equally of course, Vice President Nixon believes completely in the language which he so dramatically forced into the party platform. He has always believed in the need for greater defense spending. Perhaps present indications are wrong. Perhaps Nixon will persuade the President, in the end, to follow Herter's recommendations to the full.

Why this may be almost a matter of life and death—why mere unfreezing of already appropriated funds will not give the services "all they can usefully spend," as so loudly alleged—will be shown in another report. (c) 1960, New York Herald Tribune Inc.

Colombia Bandits Kill Dozen Farmers

Villavieja, Colombia—(UPI)—Bandits killed a dozen farmhands in a raid Saturday on the village of Carmen in Colombia's eastern plains, long a scene of outlaw activity.

Gov. Ernesto Jara Castro of Meta province set police and troops on the trail of the raiders, but at latest reports they were still at large.

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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

Aug. 9, 1950 (Wednesday) Medford's justice of the peace court will pass out of existence tomorrow with the establishment of a district court with W. P. Tucker as district judge.

Lightning caused five fires in the Rogue River national forest last night, one of which is now under control.

20 YEARS AGO

Aug. 9, 1940 (Friday) The government gave its official approval yesterday to a \$120,000 improvement project at Medford's municipal airport to be done by the WPA.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Snudge Pot" column: "Boy Government" week at Portland was a success. Elsewhere throughout the world, government raged from a sublime fizzle to just tolerable.

30 YEARS AGO

Aug. 9, 1930 (Saturday) Early action on the development of a park on top of Roxy Ann has been predicted.

Attendance at Crater lake Sunday was 3,581 — a new record.

40 YEARS AGO

Aug. 9, 1920 (Monday) Due to a rain and lightning storm last night the union services in the city park were called off.

Hunters have been warned that hunting season does not open until Sept. 1, and all violators of this date will be punished.

50 YEARS AGO

Aug. 9, 1910 (Tuesday) A passenger train of the Pacific and Eastern railroad collided head-on yesterday with a work train just east of the Butte creek bridge. Slow speed is the only thing that prevented a bad smash-up.

A New York man, who owns one of the largest investment companies in the Midwest, came to Medford for the first time yesterday, spent 24 hours here and then left with the statement that he would return as soon as possible, buy 40 acres of land and settle here.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. What is cloture?
2. For what product is chicle largely used?
3. Is coke made from mineral, vegetable, or animal?
4. Who customarily administers the U. S. presidential oath of office?
5. Who composed "Rhapsody in Blue"?
6. David overcame Goliath armed with what weapon?
7. Is the modern birthstone for April a diamond, ruby, or emerald?
8. Is blue point a type of dog, oyster, or drawing?
9. Does the Statue of Liberty hold the torch in the right or left hand?
10. Obverse is the back or the front of a coin?

Answers: 1. A method of eliminating debate in parliamentary bodies; 2. Chewing gum; 3. Mineral, coal, which originally was vegetable matter; 4. Chief justice of the U.S.; 5. George Gershwin; 6. Sling and stones; 7. Diamond; 8. Oyster; 9. Right; 10. Front.