

Medford Mail Tribune

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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. 17, 1950 (Thursday)

Two of the most spectacular fires in recent Rogue valley history burned more than 1,000 acres in the Gold Hill and Table Rock areas yesterday.

20 YEARS AGO Aug. 17, 1940 (Saturday)

In a heroic rescue yesterday three southern California youths were saved after they had spent more than 24 hours clinging to a ledge on the steep wall at Crater Lake.

30 YEARS AGO Aug. 17, 1930 (Sunday)

An electric smelter is expected to be in operation at Tolo by the first of the year.

40 YEARS AGO Aug. 17, 1920 (Monday)

The band concert in the city park has been called off because too many members have gone on vacation.

50 YEARS AGO Aug. 17, 1910 (Wednesday)

The efforts of more than 100 men to control a forest fire which has raged unchecked over some 1,000 acres of timber in the Ashland Divide have proved futile and troops may be called to help.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. Which bodies of water are connected by the Dardanelles? 2. Which four states of the U.S. have names beginning with A? 3. Preceding what war was the famous "message to Garcia"?

Answers: 1. Aegean Sea and Sea of Marmora. 2. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, and Alaska. 3. Spanish-American War. 4. St. Helena. 5. Boxing. 6. 3rd. 7. Two. 8. Evangeline. 9. New York State. 10. 23rd.

Both Sides Are "Right"

It sounds paradoxical, perhaps, but there are situations where two groups disagree violently, and are on diametrically opposed sides of some issue—and yet both of them are largely in the right.

In our judgment, such a situation is evident in the current hassle over a small portion of the Phoenix school district where the residents want to join the Medford school system.

Each side, according to its own lights, has right and justice on its side. And each side puts up mighty convincing arguments.

THE Phoenix people, quite rightly, resent any attempt to further dismember their district, which isn't overly large right now. It would chop off quite a few tax dollars from their assessed valuation, and remove a number of children—who also represent quite a sum in per-pupil payments to the district from state and county.

They declare that the area has always been in their district, that they are offering an adequate educational program, and that it would be the rankest injustice to move this small but valuable area into a "richer" district.

The people who live there, on the other hand, are within the Medford city limits, have their ties with the city, and would like their children to go to Medford schools. Hoover school is only a block or so away, while the Phoenix schools are some distance.

IT WOULD take a Solomon to settle the dispute with justice and fairness to both sides. And if a Solomon came along and settled the problem, there would probably still be some unhappy and disappointed people.

Thus, pity the members of the boundary board. They are bound to be in bad with some people no matter what they decide.

And we can see no compromise which would satisfy, or even mollify, both sides.

In such a case, where there is right on both sides, what standard does one use in making a decision?

As we see it, the overriding question must be what is best for all the children involved, both immediately and ultimately.

Where will they obtain the best education? How will their transportation problems be minimized? And what will be the effect of any change on other children in each school district?

AS WE see it, the boundary board had better make up its mind that it's going to be mighty unpopular with some people, no matter what it does; then go ahead and make its decision as objectively and forthrightly as possible.

And the people so intimately and emotionally involved on both sides of the issue would be well advised to stop calling those on the other side names, and impugning their motives, intentions and ancestry.

Our impression is that all the disputants are good people, honestly and sincerely interested in their children, their schools and the areas in which they reside.

It's a shame that, when both sides have so much to be said for their arguments, both can't be satisfied. But they can't.—E.A.

Mouthy Partisanship

On the national level, party politics furnishes a responsible vehicle for debate and dispute. It does so (less perfectly, to be sure) at the state level.

But when you get down to counties and cities, the emanations of partisan politics often sound downright stupid.

We wonder, for instance, how the many people who think of themselves as "independents" in politics (no matter how they may be nominally registered) will take to the Democratic ultimatum that the new home rule study committee must be split down the middle on a party basis.

ARE the Democratic partisans who are so loudly proclaiming injury at the appointment of a majority of Republicans to the committee sincerely interested in this as a matter of good government? Or is it possible they are using it as a means of taking a political sideswipe at the county court?

For their information, city politics in Medford has been non-partisan for years—and with great success.

The judiciary is non-partisan. And rightly so. The same is true of the schools.

In our view, local level sewage, zoning, planning, parks and recreation, roads, welfare, police, health services, and administration problems should not be subjected to the vagaries and vicissitudes of partisanship. They are close enough to the people to be subject to public control without the intermediation of political parties.

WE HAVE often been critical of the county court. But in this instance, we are convinced they did their best to pick the best people for the important committee job, and that partisan considerations either were secondary or not present at all.

If, as a result of the hoo-raw raised by the Democratic chairman, the committee is prevented from doing the calm, thorough, unbiased and careful job that should be done, the rabid and mouthy partisanship of the Democratic chairman can take the blame.

Spare us further such asinities.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"IT WASN'T MY FAULT! I'M A GOOD BARBER! BUT HE'S A TERRIBLE CUSTOMER!"

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.

Vall, Vall, Vall To the Editor:

If Hatta-da-field were to flirt Wild da Cabinet poshish to York, Den da Reps. would be filled with re-Morse. To da Kicka-da-man by da horse.

So they twista da arma da Mark, Till dey slippa da limb from da bark, Den dey putta da ear to da ground And barrin a slippa da lip, They hear an encouraging sound.

It is isa touch of da youth, By littela kiddies, foresooth, With Pat on the Whita House grounds, But dey filla da elephant's trunk With a lotta political junk. Dey rattle da bones of da Linc. And throw in da kitchena sink.

So I tank ders noddin be vorse Dan to marka da cross For a painted-up hoss, And hitcha a donk to a hearse. John Byrne Route 2, Box 55J Jacksonvile

Liquor Traffic

To the Editor: I would like to take this means of inviting as many as will come out to this coming Thursday's (Aug. 18) W.C.T.U. meeting, which is being held at 2 p.m. in the Fireplace room at the First Presbyterian church at South Holly and West Eighth sts., in Medford.

I have been asked to present a short but informative tape recording featuring the story of "Prisoner at the Bar." The narrator is pastor J. L. Tucker, well known radio evangelist. This is a professionally recorded, broadcast-quality tape. The story will arouse all who hear to the evils of the liquor traffic.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union welcomes visitors to this meeting. If you are not able to attend contact me by phone and we'll arrange for you to hear this outstanding program. Henry Johnson Jr. 2400 Highway 66 Ashland, Ore.

Thanks, Anyway

To the Editor: The following is a copy of a letter I wrote Mr. Shapiro in answer to his Communication of Aug. 10: Mr. Samuel Shapiro, Assistant Professor American History, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio

With mingled emotions I read your letter in the Medford, Ore., Mail Tribune of Aug. 10. First, with pride that our Mr. Porter is appreciated in faraway places; second, with gratitude to you for helping to piece out the pattern of his supporters.

Yours is the second letter from afar in praise of Mr. Porter's extracurricular activities. The other was from a friend's discussion group in Pennsylvania which he had addressed. Their prospectus listed as a previous speaker none other than the mystical, double dealing, pacifist neutralist from India, Mr. Krishna Menon. If I mistake not, Oberlin is one of the colleges listed in opposition to the loyalty oath for college students.

House. Of the 500 and more, only two swallowed the bait, Adam Clayton Powell and our Mr. Porter. They witnessed the bloody "liberator" assume his irresponsible rule and alienate a friendly nation.

At our Congressman's invitation, the bearded one came to Washington, addressed Congress, further inflated his bloated ego, gave him prestige in Latin America. As a professor of history, you are of course familiar with the ancient pattern south of the border: liberator-dictator, plunderer-fugitive.

In your article you say "The possibility of a Soviet-Cuban alliance less than 100 miles away from U.S. territory dramatically points up the importance of your Congressman's knowledge and experience in Latin American affairs." Well, thanks for your gratuitous advice, Neighbor, but that statement's just plain funny. We've had too much of Mr. Porter's "knowledge."

He is not a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. His legislative record as Congressman from the Fourth Congressional District is singularly unimpressive. He wants to admit the red murderers from Communist China to the circle of civilized nations. His vote was one of 20 in opposition to extension of the draft.

With one statement you make, "He faces a hard fight for reelection," there can be agreement. John Q. Stewart 9333 N.E. 12th st. Grants Pass, Ore.

How It Started

To the Editor: The phrase, "They said the equipment was crushing rock in a ditch along the highway," in Wednesday, Aug. 10, MT, is confusing and lacks much in explaining the cause of the disastrous fire over Sams Valley way that destroyed two valuable barns stored with baled hay, and also other buildings and also much high-cost farm equipment.

Better reporting would have told how the two state mowers equipped tractors were cutting road-side-shoulder grass. Just beyond the Hutchison barn (burned) the left side tractor-mower ran into some partly hid gravel. People living just across the road said, "It sounded awful, like a lawn mower hitting rock or iron, but much louder." It was just that. The hardened cutters of the sicklebar chewed into the flinty rock, and of all things, a rusty old horseshoe, and set off a shower of sparks as hard steel and flint can always do, igniting the clump of dry grass and weeds. A young boy watching the tractors saw a curl of smoke coming up where the tractor had stopped, and then went on. He called to his mother who, "near paralyzed with fright and worry," sent the boy running to bring the tractor men back as she raced away to the nearest telephone. But the up-canyon wind had fanned the blaze across the ditch and soon had the big barn and stored baled hay in a roaring furnace.

The rest has been well told in the Mail Tribune. But we might add that had it not been for the ready help of the forest department and Central Point fire fighting equipment that saved many homes and got the fire under control, the whole north county could have become a blackened, heart-breaking waste. Also, a one-time resident of New Mexico tells how a fire-fighting tank-truck follows road-side mowing tractors there, where they seem to have more

Meetings Between Chiefs of State Produce Few Results

By ALBERT E. KAFT Taipei—UPI — Do the little summit conferences between two chiefs of state produce results? The Nationalist Chinese on Formosa might well say no.

What happens when rulers meet? Do they actually roll up their sleeves and grapple with the great problems of the globe? Or do they merely sip tea, reminisce and exchange notes on the weather and scenery?

The answer depends to a large extent on the relationship between the two nations. When President Eisenhower met Premier Khrushchev in Camp David, they wasted little time on the weather and grappled with such flinty problems as Berlin.

Endless Talks But meetings between two such powerful leaders are the exception in this new era of personal diplomacy. Buried in the newspapers are reports of an endless but expensive round of talks between friendly leaders. For what?

Governments call them goodwill visits because their primary purpose is not to solve problems but to express undying friendship—sort of a mutual admiration society at a little summit.

Few, if any, definitive problems usually are discussed. That is the business for the professional diplomats.

Formosa has spent millions of dollars entertaining state guests but with few concrete results.

Lavish Banquets The Nationalist Chinese regard for tax-paying ranchers' holdings.

Here, our state highway department seems to have a different outlook, including the ignoring of modern routing of free-days around cities, but seems to prefer to bulldoze their right-of-way through smaller ones, unable to protect their park-playgrounds and business centers against such incursions.

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

War, Politics and Music To the Editor: Several times I've been informed that every time this country has been at war, Democrats were in office.

Seems to me some Republicans have become rather hated by other lands, and the ones who believe the Democrats are war mongers have to look around them at good neighbors and friends who are Democrats. We are down-to-earth humans; good citizens, too, and no good citizen likes or wants war—much less to provoke one.

We won't crawl under a plank if war comes. Those who believe our country is second best in preparedness, should keep still about it and make hay.

Personally, I believe we are equally prepared, but it's not a time to get careless, or to quit manufacturing whatever it takes, with several tricky surprises thrown in. I am sure we already have those.

Anyhow, let us bury doubt; look wise, cocky and satisfied.

Surely, enemy spies are on the job. Let us keep 'em guessing and afraid to jump into our frying pans.

Perhaps they do not know that Paul Bunyan still lives, carries a big stick, gas mask, and some brand new, and very large, traps.

Our enemies aren't fools, so it is up to each of us to keep any fears we may have to ourselves.

If it boosts the Republicans' ego to lay wars at our door—just grin and keep whittling. The Bible tells us that God has taken a hand in past wars and that "Right" won.

Let us just leave things to Him; trusting, entirely, but keeping our powder dry.

Bring your musical instruments Thursday at 10 a.m. and join with the Senior Citizen's Orchestra at 601 East Jackson. We're a merry group of oldsters. Yeh—some are Republicans.

Gram, Jacksonville.

Still Have Letters To the Editor: In reply to Mrs. B. J. Wyatt's letter in last Thursday's Communications, I didn't know that the Devil is an extremely beautiful creature. I'm sorry I pictured him as an ugly monster. But beautiful or not, you can have him if it makes you happy.

The old fashioned way of scaring little children with a bogie man is a thing of the past. The Devil theory should have gone out with it. Just like the old witchcraft theory of burning innocent people at the stake, while at the same time they were trying to convert the heathen Indians into Christianity.

We can accept a God, be-

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

WHEN Groucho, Harpo, Chico and Zippo Marx were headlining the bill for the first time at Broadway's famed Palace Theatre, their father attended a matinee to reveal in his sons' success.

The man sitting next to Papa Marx was also watching the proceedings intently, and suddenly announced, "Those fellows don't look alike at all. I bet they're really not brothers. I bet they're only cousins at most."

Papa Marx pondered a moment, then asked, "What odds will you give me?"

Linda and Dick Levine, daughter and son-in-law of composer Richard Rodgers, are gradually acquiring a very respectable art collection in their home. Already they have hanging a Picasso, a Monet, a Renoir, and a Rouss.

Recently the Levines hired a new cleaning woman. She was working in the drawing room when Linda passed by for breakfast. "Say," called the cleaning woman cheerfully, "You've got a pretty good looking lot of pictures in here. Who paints in this family?"

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Christ. After years of work, the painting was finished except for the two most important figures, the Christ Child and Judas Iscariot.

As he searched for models for these two figures, he met a boy whose face stirred the painter's heart. It was the face of an angel. The boy was engaged and sat patiently until the face of the Christ Child was finished. But the painter found none to serve as a model for Judas. For years he searched, until one day by a tavern, gaunt and tattered figure with cigarette staggered up to him, begging the price of a drink. The face startled the old painter. It seemed to bear the marks of every sin of mankind. Greatly excited, the painter said, "Come with me. I will buy you drink, food and clothing." Here at last was the model for Judas.

Many days the old painter worked to complete his masterpiece. But a change came over the model. A strange tension replaced the stuporous languor, his bloodshot eyes were fixed with horror on the painted likeness of himself. Perceiving his subject's agitation, the old painter said, "My son, I'd like to help you, what troubles you?" The model sobbed and buried his face in his hands, while he told his life of sin, and how tobacco, alcohol and disease that follow their use, had made a wreck of his life spiritually, physically and financially.

Lifting his pleading eyes to the old painter's face he said, "Don't you remember me? Only a few years ago I was your model for the Christ Child."

Legendary, perhaps. Today millions are living it out in their lives. It is real and a sad truth to them and their families. Would Christ make and give to His people an alcoholic wine that would wreck their lives? Do you give these poisons to your dog? Then why teach your children by example to use them, and why use them? They are for killing germs and bugs. Christ died to save you. Why poison yourself?

F. E. Beverly 634 Crater Lake ave. Medford.

Girls Helped To the Editor: I wish to thank the following people for their kindness and courtesy to my two daughters, Jean and Kathy Rightmeyer, following the car accident in which they were injured Aug. 6, 1960, on Scenic Drive in Central Point.

The family that gave them first aid. The Medford Ambulance Service. The entire staff of the Sacred Heart hospital. The man that witnessed the accident and helped to remove the girls from the wrecked car. The state patrolman. The minister and congregation of the Open Bible church on Table Rock rd. Dr. Wayne Roberts. My insurance company for their cooperation and help. The numerous phone calls from personal friends.

Both girls are home and recovering very nicely. A very grateful mother, father and sister, Audrey Roberson, W. J. Rightmeyer Mrs. Ann Engel 4609 Gebhard rd. Central Point, Ore.

He's Disturbed To the Editor: I wonder if other people who read the news item of Aug. 12, under Regional News, regarding the wanton destruction of public property at McKee bridge park were as disgusted as I was.

The chances are that the people who would do the sort of things described in the news article are too ignorant to be able to read, but in case someone reads the article to them, I hope they are very proud that they made the headlines. We holler about paying taxes and then turn right around and charge ourselves more taxes by allowing this kind of foolishness. Maybe a \$500 fine for the offenders would help defray the costs, and any taxpayer who sees this sort of destruction going on owes it to himself to report it.

Gene M. Williams 1017 Reddy ave. Medford.

Oh, my aching back

Nagging backache, headache or muscular aches and pains may come on with over-exertion, emotional upsets or day to day stress and strain. And folks who eat and drink unwisely sometimes suffer mild bladder irritation... with that restless uncomfortable feeling. If you are miserable and worn out because of these discomforts, Doan's Pills often help by their pain relieving action, by their soothing effect to ease bladder irritation, and by their mild diuretic action through the kidneys—tending to increase the output of the 15 miles of kidney tubes. So if nagging backache makes you feel dragged-out, miserable... with restless, sleepless nights... don't wait... try Doan's Pills... get the same happy relief millions have enjoyed for over 60 years. Ask for large, economy size and save money. Get Doan's Pills today!

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