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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
Jan. 30, 1951 (Tuesday)

The civil aeronautics board yesterday denied petitions from West Coast Chambers of Commerce, including Medford's, to drop its case seeking a hike in commercial airline rates on the coast.

Two youths in a stolen taxi cab surrendered to Medford police last night after an officer fired two warning shots at them.

20 YEARS AGO
Jan. 30, 1941 (Friday)

Approximately 250 couples danced to the music of Steve Whipple's orchestra last night at the President's ball, held in the Oriental Gardens here.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "There was a beautiful sunrise this morning. Unfortunately, it occurred while a goodly portion of the population were still in bed, so only a small crowd was on hand to see it."

30 YEARS AGO
Jan. 30, 1931 (Saturday)

A total of seven feet of snow now lies on the ground at Crater Lake National park.

The Jackson county grand jury began taking evidence today in the case of a man who is accused of murdering an Ashland city policeman.

40 YEARS AGO
Jan. 30, 1921 (Tuesday)

The mayor of Gold Hill has promised a "moral cleanup" after an illicit still was found in that city near the Rogue river.

The Greater Medford club, a women's service organization here, is planning a grand ball in February.

50 YEARS AGO
Jan. 30, 1911 (Monday)

A $100,000 appropriation for construction of the proposed Crater Lake highway lies idle in the offices of the state treasurer, and will soon revert to the state unless a highway bill can be agreed upon that will be acceptable to the U.S. Supreme court.

The state legislature is now considering a bill that would create a state forestry bureau and a forest fire patrol system.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. The ports of Colombo and Trincomalee are on which island in the Indian Ocean?
2. Complete the proverb, "Beware the fury of a _____ man."
3. Does the phrase "bib and tucker" refer to the rigging of a yacht, a species of fish, clothing, or a kind of mental condition?
4. Name the new Secretary of the Air Force.
5. How many legs do house centipedes have?
6. From where did the Moors emigrate to Spain?
7. Paganini was a composer of opera, a famous violinist, or an orchestra conductor?
8. Which of these does not grow on a bush or tree: walnut, butternut, doughnut, hazelnut?
9. The Armed Forces have dental charts of every person in the services; true or false?
10. In which field of art was Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney notable?

Answers: 1. Ceylon. 2. Patient. 3. Clothing. 4. Eugene Zuckert. 5. 15 pair. 6. North Africa. 7. Violinist. 8. Doughnut. 9. True. 10. Sculpture.

Pullman on Welfare

If the possible consequences weren't so serious, the hassle between Gov. Mark Hatfield and the State Public Welfare Commission might almost be classed as comic opera.

But, in the exchange of unpleasantries, one aspect has been largely ignored — that of the career people who do the real work.

Jim Pullman, administrator of the Jackson County Public Welfare Commission, last week stuck his neck out and wrote to the Governor. It took courage for him to do this. Because of the forthright nature of the letter, and the interest the situation has generated, Pullman's letter is printed almost in full:

• • • • •

Dear Governor Hatfield:

It is with great discouragement that I read of the plan to eliminate the Public Welfare Commission as the administrative welfare agency in Oregon. The Commission, with a sincere interest in the needs of indigent persons, has established one of the most stable, realistic, fiscally responsible and humane programs in the United States. The Commission has effectively carried out the intent of the state and federal laws within the funds available, although sometimes limited by lack of skilled staff. It is my opinion that politics has no place in a public welfare program except to establish laws, establish broad rules and policies which can be carried out fairly and uniformly, and to require accountability that these are carried out. If we assume the goal of the public welfare program is to provide financial assistance to those who apply and are eligible and that we also have a responsibility to encourage self-help and rehabilitation, we will need money, a skilled staff, adequate staff, and an attitude by the administration, legislature and commission that these are desirable and necessary.

I am deeply concerned regarding the civil service plan as it relates to caseworker positions and casework supervisor positions. The recommended salaries by the Civil Service Commission are not adequate nor do they compare fairly with similar jobs and responsibilities in state employment. I am even more concerned about the number of positions allocated by the Department of Finance & Administration. The caseload of 150 that they expect us to carry per caseworker is unrealistic and unreasonable if the intent of the legislature is that public welfare carry out an aggressive program to insure that all applicants and recipients are eligible and that we offer services that promote rehabilitation and self support.

The casework staff of the public welfare agency carry out the basic tasks of determination of eligibility and providing services. These people are expected to carefully evaluate and verify resources and give financial aid only to those eligible. Each worker is responsible for approximately $120,000.00 of expenditures each year. He is expected to contact all legally responsible relatives in the county to develop support. He must report all nonsupport cases to the District Attorney and work closely with that office to obtain support. The caseworker is expected to answer many requests from other welfare agencies, Motor Vehicle Accident Fund, State Mental Hospitals, State TB Hospitals, and others. These usually require interviews, verification of facts, and letters. We expect the caseworker to have an attitude of disciplined compassion toward all people. He must give aggressive casework services to hard core families. We expect him to actively help employable men and women find jobs. Caseworkers interview an average of seventy persons weekly in addition to paper work, travel time, supervisory conferences and coffee breaks. They are busy dedicated people.

In Jackson County we have spent five years to achieve improved fiscal responsibility plus improved casework services. Turnover of staff has been reduced from 50 per cent to 15 per cent. Staff has an average of 3½ years of experience. Services have improved to the point where we can show examples of physical rehabilitation and examples of people, once considered helpless and hopeless, who are earning a living. We have many ADC mothers earning either all or part of their needs. Support from fathers has increased. We can show many happier families. We have kept families together by counselling services. We have a consistent medical program and offer better services to recipients. We have tight control on hospital patients and nursing home patients. We have promoted "friendly visitors services" in nursing homes. We helped promote the Rogue Valley Council on Aging and the Fifty Plus Club. . . .

Our expenditures for General Assistance are considerably lower than other counties. We operate an aggressive system of helping people search for work with exceptional success. Our ADC expenditures have been reduced considerably and are maintained at a lower cost and a lower number of cases than counties of similar or smaller population. We hope that we have helped all those whom the laws and rules and regulations intended for the agency to help.

We have accomplished this by developing an attitude of fiscal responsibility and with a goal of maximum self-help from recipients. It took guts, hard work, a lower case load, cooperation of County, State Commission and staff, imagination and experience. We have operated without adequate public assistance casework supervision and without a badly needed child welfare supervisor.

We hear and read much criticism of the public welfare program but we receive very little thanks, remuneration, help and understanding. Although a basic social work concept is to treat the client with respect and dignity we are seldom accorded this respect. . . .

We are not interested in creating a bureaucracy but we need a conviction that the basic needs of indigent people need attention. How many material needs can be met depends on the legislature and administration. The quantity and quality of service depends on the legislature, the administration, the Department of Finance and Administration and the Civil Service Commission. We cannot produce results in rehabilitation, self-help and services, with caseloads beyond our ability to handle and without adequate salaries to hire and keep good staff.

We certainly make many mistakes. Casework staff are often inexperienced and unskilled and sometimes not qualified for the job. Our plea is — give us adequate staff and salaries. We will accept the criticisms and the problems and continue to care for the needy in a humane way, encouraging them to do much more to help themselves, and promote an active program of rehabilitation. . . .

James L. Pullman
Administrator
Jackson County Public Welfare Commission

Why Should They Resign?

Oregon's governor, Mark Hatfield, this week demonstrated one of the mixed up attitudes that sometimes beset the young in office.

Some members of the state welfare commission disagree with the governor. They are opposing some of his policies. Therefore, Gov. Hatfield said, "I wish they had the courage of their convictions to resign."

That seems a peculiar, twisted way to live up to the courage of one's convictions. By resigning, these welfare commissioners would leave the road open for the governor to accomplish things which the commissioners believe are wrong. By staying in office, they can fight for their beliefs, at the risk of personal loss and personal criticism.

They are to be commended for having the courage of their convictions.

A major reason for having an independent commission is to allow it to resist political pressure from all sources. Gov. Hatfield should reexamine his political ideals and personal philosophy. Perhaps he chose the wrong profession.

—Portland Reporter

Dennis the Menace

"DID YA BUY ANY GLUE THAT FIXES A BROKEN LAMP?"

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 condensaton. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in his column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Criticism Balanced

To the Editor: In view of the letter published recently in your Communications criticizing your stand regarding the Un-American Activities Committee, I would attempt to balance such negatives by a word of appreciation.

You are criticized by the "status-quoers" but in my opinion your positions are usually supported by facts and reason. Also, you have the courage and the conviction to support what you believe.

Gerald Q. Gardner,
Star Route, Box 355,
Trail, Ore.

The JG Show

To the Editor: This has nothing to do with your fine paper. It's about an experience I had last night that was so revolting that I have to uncap my safety valve. What I did — I watched the Jackie Gleason Show on TV. When I want to see a chubby, conceited (undoubtedly) guy sit for that length of time and prattle and drink coffee (sloppily) and blow cigarette smoke in my face, I can go to any off-street cafe or bistro and see one. One that might be interesting or amusing, even. I'd heard so much about JG that instead of going for a drive with my husband in the beautiful night, (to mail some letters and have maybe, an ice-cream cone) I sat through the whole JG Show — growing more disgusted by the minute — the ride I gave up for this, and the ice cream cone!

Was it above my head? Was he talking to mental giants, maybe? Or what do TV producers think the public is made of? The JG Show is an insult to normal sensibilities, and it is not the only one, unfortunately.

Advertising is fine, it makes dollar-sales for manufacturers. It gives thousands of people employment and makes money go round and round. Some of the nauseating, infantile commercials make something else go round and round too, as far as I'm concerned. I wouldn't buy some of those products if they were the only things available. The cutest guy on TV sells Burgie.

Mrs. John Hall
946 Park Ave,
Medford

Sore Losers and Tax Money

To the Editor: Well, I see the Republican losers are getting in their licks to the new administration. The Senator from N.H. must have been tricked at some time to say such things he said in Friday's paper. It seems awfully funny that President Kennedy can do a couple of things in a few days, that the Eisenhower administration and a few of his so called big shots couldn't do in eight years.

Where are those Republicans that said Nixon was robbed? Oh, what a bunch of sore losers. Another thing, how come Eisenhower gets $25,000 retirement pay and also $50,000 besides? They say the $50,000 is for his staff. I thought when a person retired they were on their own. Of course Ike does need a golf caddy and a few farm hands, but all the farmers around here have to pay their own hired hands out of the money their crops produce. Eisenhower in eight years made $800,000 and that is not hay.

Of course the small $66.15 that the World War I veterans get, and I may say he has to be very, very sick in order to get that little pension. It seems that all the money the government is spending for foreign aid and a few million dollar rockets that are blowing up in order to get to the moon. Well, the least they could do is to give these veterans a decent living pension in their late years. At least they did give their lives up to whatever emergency, for the U.S. flag and country.

At least 7 out of 10 countries that have gotten foreign aid have gone communist. I and a few thousand other people are wondering just what are they going to do when they get to the moon. From what I have read in several magazines, a human being could not survive on the moon at all. So, why waste millions on rockets in the first place?

B. F. Smith
136 South Holly st.
Medford

Dick: Don't

To the Editor: A word of caution to Mr. Richard M. Nixon. Don't plan to run against President Kennedy in 1964. Nuf ced.

David Frisch
P.O. Box 292
White City, Ore.

The Other Side

To the Editor: During the last two years, thousands have read Leon Uris' novel "Exodus" and during the coming years many more will see the movie version of the same book.

It is, of course, natural for Mr. Uris, a Zionist Jew, to praise Israel. But his unwarranted attack on the Arabs and distortion of facts are unjustifiable. To Uris, the Arabs, the English and others are all bad; the Jews all good. This black-and-white analysis, cowboy-story-style, has a great appeal to those unfamiliar with the facts and the historical events.

Of course, there is no room here to analyze the book and present the full picture. Should you be interested in a critical review of "Exodus" to show the other side of the story, you are invited to write to the address below.

Mohammed T. Mehdi, Ph.D.
Director
Arab Information Center
World Trade Center
San Francisco 11, Calif.

No More Satire

To the Editor: Some weeks ago I wrote a letter to the MT on the subject of Communism and the hysterical response in the Medford area. It was quite absurd and through the use of satire I hoped to point up the foolishness of the reaction — I recommended that we abolish schools, etc.

Since my letter was published, several letters with the same viewpoint — and just as absurd — have been published. However, these other letters are evidently intended to be serious! I'd like to assure my friends in Medford that mine wasn't, and that I haven't gone out of my head, just yet.

The previous letter would have been clearer if the following quotation marks were removed: in calling Franco, Trujillo, and Chiang Kai-shek "dictators"; in saying that our power supporting these Christian leaders keeps people in "poverty"; in the sentence declaiming people who call HUAAC, Senator Eastland, and the McCarthyites blind, greedy, proud — who call THEM Un-American by virtue of their "intolerance and closed minds"; and in calling the John Birch Society "fanatics."

If in the future I express myself in Communications columns I shall try to be straightforward and accurate — although in that area E.A. needs little assistance.

The facts show that when Communism has come into a country by revolution, that it has been a revolution against tyranny and exploitation; and that never has a truly liberal Democratic country fallen from within.

I've got more on my mind but that's all for now.

Truman O. Price, Jr.
2633 14th ave. West
Seattle 99, Wash.

President Kennedy's News Conference Performance Likened To Roosevelt's

By LYLE C. WILSON

Washington – (UPI) – Republican Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire recognized the weak spot in President Kennedy's first live TV news conference.

Wilson

This weakness – developed near the end of last Wednesday's conference. It was related to the President's announcement that the Soviet Union had released two members of a U. S. Air Force RB47.

Subsequent questions and answers revealed that Kennedy had forbidden further flights such as that of the U2 over Soviet Union territory. The RB47 was not engaged in such an overflight when the Communists shot it down.

The newsmen returned toward the end of the conference to Kennedy's order that U2 overflights should not be resumed. They wanted to know whether that order was part of a deal to obtain release of the two Americans. Kennedy preferred not to answer precisely. The second of two questions was the most direct, as follows:

The Questions

Q. "Did they (the Communists) request reassurance of no more overflights in exchange for release of the American prisoners?"

A. "It is a fact that I have ordered that the flights be not resumed, which is a continuation of the order for suspension given by President Eisenhower in May."

That is indeed a fact. But, what about the question which could have been answered yes or no, but which wasn't? Bridges wants an answer to that one and, being a persistent type, he may get it.

The avoidance of direct answers or of any answer at all to news conference questions is a device well established by custom for the protection of presidents of the United States. Some presidents needed protection more than others. For example, Warren Gamaliel Harding.

Harding Weakness

Harding was a news conference innovator. His recent predecessors had made limited very limited, use of the news conference technique. Harding, publisher of an Ohio newspaper, brashly announced on taking office that he would hold regular press conferences and answer up to oral questions. He didn't last long.

A question relating to Pacific area and Asian matters came up in an early Harding conference. The President glibly gave the wrong answer and there was instant trouble in interested capitals, notably Tokyo and London. Charles Evans Hughes was secretary of state. Hughes forbade further oral questioning. The device of the written news conference question then was born.

Coolidge Fix

Calvin Coolidge made the written question stick. He would stand before us in his office sometimes with our written questions in his hand, some of them identifiable to us by paper color or the manner in which the paper had been folded or torn. Coolidge would examine the questions. If he didn't care to answer any he would remark that "I have no questions today," and we would file out of his office.

Herbert Hoover also was a written question president. When FDR came along he announced that reporters could fire at will, orally. Roosevelt almost always knew what he was talking about. He enjoyed the swordplay with the newsmen and almost always licked 'em.

Kennedy is more in the Roosevelt pattern than in that of Coolidge or Hoover. He is not at all like Harding, who didn't know much.

Foreign News: China Unrest; Destroyer Size; Trade Rift

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

From the foreign news cables:

China Unrest

Leading Japanese experts on Communist affairs in China say that secret anti-Communist organizations are springing up on the Red-held mainland. The slogans used by these groups feature reference to "cutting hair" or "removing hair." The Chinese word for hair is "mao," sur-name of Communist boss Mao Tse-tung.

Newsom

German Destroyers

Despite support from Gen. Lauris Norstad, the allied supreme commander in Europe, West Germany's request for permission to raise the tonnage ceiling on its destroyers from 3,000 tons to 6,000 tons has been shelved by the Western European Union, but it probably will be resubmitted under more favorable circumstances this spring. The Germans appear to have missed out on their first bid because they coupled it with a request for permission to manufacture influence (magnetic or acoustic) mines. Every other WEU member opposed the mine plan, and France is against any increase in the size of West Germany's warships. However, Norstad still thinks West Germany needs 6,000 tonners, so eventual approval is likely.

Planned Obsolescence

Students of Soviet affairs say Russia's race to fulfill its seven-year plan is making it difficult for the country to keep up with technical improvements in industry. There have been complaints in the Soviet press about the fact that many proposed improvements never get off the drawing board because the time necessary to install them would cut into the required quotas of factories where quantity comes before quality. Low-paid workers also object to plant modernization because the time required cuts into their bonuses.

European Rift

Prime Minister Harold Macmillan may seek the help of President Kennedy in his efforts to bridge the rift created in Western Europe by the existence of two rival trade blocs. France has so far blocked British efforts to achieve an alignment with the "common market" group, apparently because President Charles de Gaulle feels it would endanger his plan to make France a leading European power. British ministers are known to believe Europe is too small to be able to afford rival groupings within the Western camp. Macmillan is expected to use this argument in seeking U.S. help when he meets Kennedy this spring.

UN Closeout

Sources in Vientiane say Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold favors "phasing out" the UN "presence" in Laos, created to forestall reported threats of Communist invasion in 1959. They say Edward Zellweger, Hammarskjold's personal representative in Laos, probably will not be replaced when he leaves next month, making the UN technical aid chief the world organization's chief representative in the country.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

KENNEDY AND CONGRESS

Washington – In his attitude toward congress, President Kennedy has taken up an early position about midway between that of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

White

He will lead but not harshly drive congress, as did Roosevelt. He will cooperate with congress but he will not let congress overshadow him, as often it did Eisenhower.

Mr. Roosevelt treated congress always as though it were properly his servant – and sometimes as though it were his enemy. Mr. Eisenhower, at the other extreme, treated congress most of the time as his rightful master.

He never used the word "must," and rarely tried to lay down just what congress should do on this or that issue. Roosevelt never hesitated a moment to give congress public instructions to the last semi-colon.

• • •

MR. Kennedy has decided on what might be called a cool position of informed respect – meaning that he knows both the strengths and the weaknesses of that institution – toward congress. He has committed himself personally to stay out of all strictly internal congressional affairs; for example, the fights over rules and procedures.

The outer form of this Kennedy policy has superficial similarity to that of Mr. Eisenhower. It differs greatly in substance, however. For Mr. Eisenhower tended to restrict himself to the role of outsider not merely on internal congressional rows but also on congressional struggles dealing with public legislation.

Mr. Kennedy by no means promises to stay out of congressional disputes which involve legislation as distinguished from congressional procedures. Thus, he proposes to be less masterful with congress than was Roosevelt and far more masterful than was Eisenhower.

• • •

THE new President's choice of this middle course reflects the central political lessons he has learned to date. As a young member of congress first elected in 1946 he watched from the back benches of the House one of the great, avoidable tragedies of American politics.

On the one side, a Republican congress, in power again after long years of frustration, set out to avenge itself for all the slights, real or imagined, inflicted on it by Roosevelt.

On the other side, the Roosevelt successor in the White House, Harry S. Truman, took a line of "give 'em hell" toward congress, which would end in the almost-total repudiation of his very dubious domestic programs and in grave and largely needless harm to his brilliant foreign programs.

• • •

THE consequence was a long era of bitter partisan clack and clamor which hurt the country and benefited nobody, as those who were there observers will now mostly testify. Mr. Kennedy, too, was there, if as a politician rather than an onlooker. And he has not forgotten what he saw. At the core of the lessons he learned are these facts:

1. A president who is arrogantly demanding of congress may gain his immediate objectives. But he will surely do so – for a while – only if he has the unique power of a Franklin Roosevelt. And such a president will build a great kennel of leashed animosity, toward himself or his party. At the instant his hold weakens the waiting hounds of hostility will leap upon him.

2. And a president who is too easy with congress will lose much of its respect – and much of his program – however largely he may gain in its genuine affection.

Thus Mr. Kennedy intends no "give 'em hell" attitude toward congress. And equally he has no intention to lie down and let congress walk over him.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Can anybody tell us?

Andrew Genzoli, who writes an interesting column that he calls "R F D" in the Humboldt Times over in Eureka, got off the other day on the subject of how traveling salesmen, in the olden golden days, came to be called DRUMMERS. He says:

"I have often wondered why old-time traveling salesmen were called 'drummers.' I had never thought about looking it up in a dictionary because I didn't think there would be a satisfactory definition of it there.

"But I tried it the other day. My copy of Thorndyke-Harnhart simply says: '1. A person who plays a drum. 2. (Colloquial.) Traveling salesman.' Webster, however, goes a little beyond this to explain that early salesmen sometimes attracted attention to their wares with the beating of a drum."

HMMMMM.

Mr. Webser lived quite a while ago. One wonders if, when he put that definition together, he might have been thinking of what at one time was quite a sales institution – the old - fashioned medicine show.

The old medicine shows used drums – and how! They'd set up their itinerant displays and then they'd get out the drum – a good, loud bass drum that could be heard over about a half a township. The people flocked in to see the show, and when the show was over the barker would go into his act. When he had finished with his selling pitch, the amount of horse liniment (good for man or beast) that he had passed out would have floated a good-sized motorboat – if there had been any motor boats in those days.

BUT that doesn't explain satisfactorily how the old time country salesman came to be called a drummer. I suppose it would be interesting to know.

THE old-time drummer had his troubles. Columnist Genzoli, quoting an old-timer in the business, tells about them. He says: "Back in 1912, I had a good customer in Bandon. I needed to call on him. But I also had a good customer in Marshfield . . . and the only way to get to Bandon from Marshfield in those days was by the Steamer Elizabeth. It took me all day to get through with my Marshfield customer, and by that time the boat had left. The next boat left FIVE DAYS LATER."

They had their problems in those days.

BUT—

There were compensations. Mr. Genzoli's old-timer tells about them. He says:

I used to stay in a hotel at Ferndale. For two bucks I got my supper, my all night overstop and for breakfast the next morning I got (along, probably, with ham and eggs, hot cakes, fried potatoes and so on) whipping cream in my coffee and on my dessert. Boy, how I'd lacke it out."

TWO dollars for supper, lodging and breakfast! In this day and age, two dollars will just about pay the tip for having your bags carried out.

And—

At that—

I'll bet the old-timer ate at what was then called the "commercial table." The commercial table had a white cloth, whereas the other tables normally had red-and-white checked cloths. Otherwise it was apt to be all the same.

But—

At the commercial table the food cost just TWICE AS MUCH — which was apt to be four bits instead of two bits to the home folks when they got extravagant and came down to the hotel for a night out.

Ah! Those were the days!

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A HOPEFUL SPECULATOR bought a champion bull for $25,000, but soon discovered the bull had no interest whatever in cows. To realize even a token return on his investment, he was reduced to exhibiting the bull at state fairs, charging a quarter for admission.

In Utah, one prospective customer boasted to the bull's owner, "I've got more wives and more children than any man alive in this state."

"How many children?" asked the owner.

"Ninety-six," said the man.

"Come in and have a look at my champion bull," begged the owner. "There's no charge. I really don't care whether or not you see my bull. I want my bull to see you!"

• • • •

A dubious character staggered into a bar and whispered hoarsely to the barkeep, "Fix me a double martini, old man, but make it weak—you know, no vermouth."

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