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
Feb. 8, 1951 (Thursday)

Forty-one Boy Scouts received 100 merit badges at a court of honor held to acknowledge Boy Scout week in the junior high school here last night.

The Ashland city council is considering a plan to add fluorine gas to the water supply there.

20 YEARS AGO
Feb. 8, 1941 (Saturday)

Rubinoff, the foremost violinist of these times, will be in Medford Feb. 12, and will present two concerts.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Ashland was visited by a high wind Wednesday evening that travelled 20 miles slower than its outstanding speed idiots. A blustery wind blustered here."

30 YEARS AGO
Feb. 8, 1931 (Sunday)

The city is observing Boy Scout week this week.

There is a hint that Governor Meier may veto the Rogue River fish bill which prohibits commercial fishing in the Rogue.

40 YEARS AGO
Feb. 8, 1921 (Tuesday)

The dozen or so local Chinamen in this area are observing the Chinese new year.

Butte Falls is the first rural community to gain its quota for the European relief fund.

50 YEARS AGO
Feb. 8, 1911 (Wednesday)

Representatives of the Rogue River Fish Protective association argued in Salem yesterday against a proposed bill to reopen the Rogue river to commercial fishing.

The Medford city council last night voted to set aside $2,000 for library purposes in the city.

How 10?

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

1. In tennis, what is the term for no score?
2. Name the parents of John the Baptist.
3. Is a pintail a deer, wild duck, or western saddle horse?
4. About whose life did Plato write in "Apology" on the future life?
5. Upon what two articles of food and drink were the Greek gods supposed to have lived?
6. What is the customary fuel of rural Ireland?
7. What type of naval vessel is an E boat?
8. Is an armadillo a biped or a quadruped?
9. What river flows for 1,765 miles through Alaska?
10. Name the Postmaster General of the United States.

Answers: 1. Love. 2. Elizabeth and Zachary. 3. Wild duck. 4. Socrates. 5. Nectar and ambrosia. 6. Peat. 7. Motor torpedo boat. 8. Quadruped. 9. Yukon. 10. J. Edward Day.

QUOTE IS RIGHT

Detroit—(UPI)—Convicted Patrick Henry Daniels, 26, told Judge W. McKay Skillman he knew what the man he was named after was famous for.

"Give me liberty or give me death," Daniels quoted the original Patrick Henry.

"That's right," Judge Skillman said, "but I can give you neither." He sentenced Daniels to two to four years in prison.

Emigrant Dam

We have a great deal of respect and admiration for E. M. Tucker, whose invention of the Sno-Cat has brought fame to Medford.

But we think that in voicing publicly his private fears about the safety of Emigrant dam, without adequate engineering background, training or experience, and without giving any notice to documented, detailed reassurance from qualified experts, he has done a grave disservice to this community.

Since he has done so, however, perhaps it would be just as well to reassure those living in the valley that highly competent, qualified and experienced engineers have drawn the plans for the dam, followed it through the construction period, and have pronounced it completely safe against any possible hazard.

* * * * *

MR. TUCKER has cited such disasters as the Texas Tower and Vanport.

There is no similarity whatsoever.

And Mr. Tucker has chosen to ignore replies from the Bureau of Reclamation which answered his questions and fears in detail.

Life is, of course, full of uncertainties. One literally takes his life in his hands each time he ventures on to the highway, or into the airlanes. But still more people die in bed than anywhere else.

If there is one thing that is as certain as any other, it is that Emigrant dam is as safe and secure as human ingenuity, skill and experience can make it.—E.A.

"Why Not?"

Under the title, "Yes, but Why Not?" an editorial writer on the Salem Capital Journal gets in a few free-swinging blows at a number of matters of topical interest.

Taking a deep drag off his dream-pipe, he asks:

> "Why not make it a misdemeanor to ride in an auto without wearing a safety belt? . . . Why not give state police all criminal law enforcement duties outside incorporated cities? . . . Why not do away with the remaining constables in Oregon and give their duties to the sheriffs? . . . And . . . why not move over into archaic courts . . . why not shift over entirely to district courts? . . . . In fact, why not simplify the structure which is the foundation for so many of our outmoded offices? Why not combine about half our counties? . . . Why not?"

The answer, of course, is that change in a government by consent of the governed moves exceedingly slowly; there is always resistance to change; there are always those who have a vested interest in the status quo.

And, sometimes, though not always, the status quo happens to be a better way of doing things than the changes proposed.

So, while some of our friend's reforms sound as though they might be improvement on what we have now, it will be a long, long time, if ever, before all of them are placed in effect.—E.A.

Just Try!

As to seat belts, yes, it has been shown statisically that car drivers and passengers wearing safety belts are far safer than those who don't.

But just try to legislate it!

People would be far better off if they didn't drink or smoke, too, but look what's happened to attempts to legislate these things.

People, oddly enough, often pay more attention to laws which are for the protection of the other fellow than laws which are for their own protection, presumably on the theory that "It can't happen to me."—E.A.

Police Enforcement

The state police force in Oregon is a good outfit, and getting better. Their law enforcement score is excellent. And, in too many cases, there is friction between a local state police detachment and the local sheriff's office, to the detriment of law enforcement.

We have long thought there is a certain overlapping and duplication of effort in this field, even when the two get along as well as they do in Jackson county.

But seriously propose a law to wipe out the sheriff's law enforcement duties, and listen to the howl that would go up. It would come from sheriff's, their deputies, the deputies' wives and children, their friends, and those who just plain like things the way they are.

* * * * *

STILL, it should be talked about.

The best way for such a change to come might well be on a county-by-county basis, with the gradual coming of home rule.

But it would mean giving up one more symbol of local autonomy from the county to the state, and there is a strong feeling of resistance to this.

As a matter of fact, the one best hope of obtaining well-thought-out home rule charters in the various counties is that very feeling—that government should be kept as close to home as possible.—E.A.

There is logic in the idea of abolishing the anachronistic position of constable, and to end the justice court in favor of the district court.

But the consolidation of counties, while it might make for some tax savings and administrative efficiency, is long way off. There just isn't enough demand or real need for such a reform to overcome the inertia which confronts such ideas.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace

"BOY! IT SURE TAKES WATER A LONG TIME TO FREEZE IN THE BATHTUB! I BET THAT WINDOW'S BEEN OPEN A WHOLE HOUR!"

Violence, Poverty Still Plague Colombia

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Cali, Colombia – (UPI) – The headline in the Cali newspaper said: "Armed Band Assassinates Twelve."

Newsom

Only the day before, at a roundtable briefing for visiting American newsmen, an official had remarked:

"Once Colombia's second export next to coffee was violence."

Although driven deep into the mountains now, violence by murderous small bands still is a problem.

Colombians blame only themselves for these bands of murderous men who swoop down on small villages or lonely vehicles and seldom leave their victims alive to tell of the attack.

The violence occurs mostly in the coffee-growing districts and officials lay it to Colombia's massive health and education problem as well as to land reform. No other industry in Colombia is as much a family affair as the raising of coffee.

Profit Vanishes

A family may live for two or three generations on a single plot but the profit vanishes as it is subdivided among the sons. Finally, seven to ten persons may take an improverished living from as little as seven acres. These are the families hit the hardest by falling coffee prices. Today, their income is less than $1 per day and debts continue to mount.

The younger sons, illiterate and incapable of holding another job, may turn to the roving gangs, most of whose members are under 20 years of age.

A further complication is alcoholism. The liquor industry is a state monopoly here and its widespread use was encouraged by the government, a situation which now is being reversed.

Contributing also to Colombian violence was the political war which raged at its peak for five years between conservatives and liberals beginning in 1948. A fast gun became the order of the day. It began with the assassination of a Colombian labor leader on April 9, 1948, in disturbances in which Fidel Castro is supposed to have had a hand.

With political warfare largely eliminated, the problems of health and illiteracy remain.

In Colombia it is estimated that 60 out of every 100 children will die before they reach the age of ten years. Death may come from smallpox, tuberculosis or any one of numerous gastrointestinal ailments brought on by poor sanitation.

More than half of Colombia's population is illiterate. In education and health, as in its industrialization program, Colombia is a nation in a hurry.

Twenty per cent of Colombia's public income now is being set aside for schools. Special emphasis is being laid on vocational training and upon local conditions.

Physicians are being trained with special knowledge of the communities they will serve.

With United States help and advice new roads are being built to open up rich new land. The Rockefeller Foundation and other groups are aiding the education program. Colombians are grateful for this help. They hope to have more.

... 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.

She Thanks Medco

To the Editor: I feel I would like to attempt to point out that there really is another side to the Medco logging truck private road story, and perhaps help some people to feel less fearful of it. If anyone in the valley has reason to feel deep concern about logging trucks, it is my husband and myself, because it was a logging truck which caused us to lose our little girl in an accident on Highway 62.

As I see it, there are four alternatives: Shut Medco down, keep using the train, use logging trucks on Highway 62, or use the private logging truck road.

Of course, nobody wants Medco to shut down. Every one of us profits from the activities of this corporation, either directly or indirectly.

I don't see how we can insist that Medco use a logging train and allow other companies to use trucks. If Medco feels that it is desirable to abandon the train, it seems to me it is entirely their affair, just so they do it with the utmost consideration for the public welfare.

If we are to choose between a private trucking road as proposed by Medco and their trucks using the public highway, my husband and I feel strongly that a private road is infinitely safer, more desirable and will have far less of a nuisance value. We do NOT need any more logging trucks on Highway 62. If these trucks are kept on a private road, they will affect regular highway traffic only at relatively infrequent intersections. But when they are on the regular highway, they are a hazard every step of the way.

I feel that Medco is doing us all a public service by refusing to add another logging truck to the public highway and I for one want to thank them from the bottom of my heart. A big company like Medco keeps its trucks properly equipped at all times with mufflers in working order and other nuisance-reducing and safety-insuring features.

If we are going to have a lumber industry, we are just going to have, to resign ourselves to the fact that the logs are going to have to be transported somehow or other, and no matter where it is done, it will of course inconvenience someone. The only thing to consider is to reduce the inconvenience to the minimum.

Marie Ottosen,
109 Geneva st.,
Medford.

High Climber

To the Editor: Now Charley, don't you go to "mistering" me. We've waggled our old heads together too many times over problems and perils of the day. You know full well it's not my way to square off in wordy waste of high-cost space and printer's ink. But, you must be reminded, both of us have worked the full ten hours and at the same number of cents per hour. But it bought us the same wherewithall then that the high wage buys today. And what of that other reward, Charley? The big objective? The sum total of all our efforts: happiness? Seems like we had it a bit easier, with less tension, than now. Happiness: that which many a millionaire and union men are vainly seeking.

But my interest in your letter is that natural artistry you employ in word phrasing. So remindful of Ben Hur Lampman of the Oregonian, master artist. "Like stringing beads in happy pattern," he once told me. Yet, like Ben, you are pretty much self-schooled, uninhibited by "sheepskin" quest.

You, a frail state-of-Mainer lad seeking health on the sea, shipping out on the Glengarry Castle, or one of the Irish Castle Line, as cabin boy. Soon monkey-shinnin' shrouds, spar, foot-and-brace ropes, hand-hauling to sailorman chanty on stren-spanker, t'gallant, and bow-sprit ballooning kite and on up to first-mate status.

Restless-footed found you here, a husky six-foot-two west-coast logger, taking vital part in lifting the skid-road logging to the high-lead and skyline way. The steel-climbers were then in use but the spur was dangerously short for the deep creased Doug fir bark. So you, Charley Burrill, stood on your five inch wide five foot plus long springboard and axed in the notches for the steel-heeled springboard, kneeling on that skimpy strip of wood to reach the one below to the notch up above, on up, 40 feet, 50, 100 feet to set your ring of powder, light the fuse from a match handy on each ear, then hot-rope down to hit the ground running from the falling top of the spar-pole.

All this we tried to promote to radio and TV for a change. But a top official finally and firmly told me such reminiscences send their listening-line into nose-dives. Sorry, such is the way it is. Be seeing you.

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

The Shemale

To the Editor:

"Is it a male, or shemale?"
Asked the small boy, of the bird.
In staid old days of long ago
That seemed a curious word.
But, as I watch the ladies flit
In fashions weird and late,
I wonder if that "shemale" term
Is inappropriate.

Jack Finel
3710 Hilsinger rd.,
Medford.

Tribute

To the Editor: In tribute to Miss Charolette Daily, deceased, staff member of the Jackson County Farm Home, a group of her colleagues in nursing and other departmental personnel, accompanied by Mrs. W. H. Hoffman, co-superintendent of the domiciliary, observed funeral services, 1 o'clock, Monday afternoon, at the Hillcrest Memorial Chapel, in observance of her passing and to express . . . in meditation . . . their individual thoughts of one so highly esteemed.

A wreath of flowers and foliage, carefully arranged, dedicated to her memory and placed at her bier by the entire staff of some 23 Mesdames who, by their attendance, conveyed in prayer the condolence from patients, all of whom will remember the many kind and attentive services rendered to them in their moments of need.

F. Cozad Howard
Jackson County
Farm Home
Phoenix, Ore.

Square Dancing

To the Editor: We want to go on record agreeing whole heartily with the letter in Sunday's paper, referring to the square dance jamboree at Ashland college.

We attended as square dancers, and agree a good time was had by all, meeting square dancers from all parts of Oregon, and other states as well.

We would like to see more families, from teenagers to grandparents, enjoying square dancing. We are looking forward to the day our children will participate, keeping a closer family relationship.

One important thing most families must consider is the family budget. We find square dancing very inexpensive, compared to other family entertainment.

We would like to see the young and old alike enjoying this wholesome family entertainment.

Bea and Willis Morrison,
White City; and Betty and Elbert Hefley, Dot and Duane Lemon, Jean and Jim Martinson, all Eagle Point, Ore.

The Lost Is Found!!

To the Editor: Please straighten out something of an empty error, will you?

Last year you published a drawing of the proposed Medford Motel with the west line shown as Oakdale ave. Recently you outlined the start of construction, and again placed the west line on Oakdale, thus wiping out four businesses located on Mr. Huson's property.

Pruett's Lunch, Boyer & Holmes, Gatter's Insurance and Lady Medford Beauty Salon vanished without a trace!

Perhaps our neighbors were not embarrassed, but Lady Medford has had to go back into the "Lost and Found" to reassure our clientele that, while lost by the M-T, we have been found, right at 32 North Oakdale, along with our good neighbors!

You have done us a great disservice, sir, and right on the front page!

Lady Medford Beauty Salon,
32 North Oakdale ave.,
Medford.

Stamp for Robert Burns

To the Editor: The following verses, together with a Burns 'stamp,' were sent to the American Postmaster General, and due to this, the United States Postal department has added the name of Robert Burns to its list of candidates who are to be considered for inclusion in their stamp issue 'Champions of Liberty.'

The British Empire wadna prent
A stamp tae to be his monument;
It didna rate him worth a cent
Or farthin' bit;
Although his poems represent
The best o' it!

But noo I'll tell ye o' a plan
Tae circumvent this foolish ban
An' thwart "the best-laid schemes o' man"
Tae skelp our doups;
I'll sen' his portrait owre the lan'
On envelopes!

Postscript to the American Postmaster General:

Since Burns was Poet o' the free
An' loved the Land o' Liberty—
Americans should heed my plea
An' prent a stamp
Tae honour him, for surely he
Was Freedom's champ!

Wallace G. Kerr
105 Scollard st.,
Toronto 5, Ontario,
Canada

P.S. Upon receipt of a self-addressed and stamped envelope, I will affix a 'Burns Stamp,' which I have had printed, and send it on its way. Admirers of Burns are enthusiastic about the stamp. A Scottish friend would welcome a gift of a letter mailed with such a stamp.

Crime Investigation

To the Editor: The other day our phone rang. Just for a joke I picked up the receiver and I said, "One man crime investigation headquarters," and lo and behold, who do you think was on the other end of the line?

None other than the "one woman crime investigating committee," Mrs. Ann Todd.

Leo J. Townsend
Route 1, Box 620
Eagle Point, Ore.

Wilson Speculates on Kennedy Program For Added Revenues

By LYLE C. WILSON

Washington – (UPI) – Putting two and two together you get some idea of what President Kennedy has in mind regarding taxation.

Wilson

For example, the Democratic platform said:

"We will close the loopholes in the tax laws by which certain privileged groups legally escape their fair share of taxation."

In his second news conference, Kennedy said:

"We will suggest to Congress a source of revenue with every program for new spending."

The AFL-CIO research department is out now with its own estimate of how much new revenue the Treasury would obtain by means of tax reform to eliminate loopholes. Big Labor estimates the additional revenue at $18 billion. These loopholes, Big Labor contends, are, in fact, special privileges.

Oil Allowance Rapped

Organized labor wants tax reform in the rate areas where business, industry and capital are most acutely interested. Big Labor takes dead aim on the oil industry's 27½ per cent tax depletion allowance, and lower allowances enjoyed by other extractive industries.

The AFL-CIO News tags excessive depletion allowances to the oil and mining industries the most flagrant among all revenue law special privileges. It is significant, however, that Big Labor does not propose outright repeal of the entire depletion allowance but only that portion of the allowance deemed to be excessive.

"The effect of these special exclusions and deductions," says the current AFL-CIO News, "both as to individual and corporate taxes, is to treat income differently according to its source. That is, income from wages is taxed at one rate, income from dividends at another and income from oil wells at still another.

"The special treatment for capital gains, the special tax credit for dividend income, the continuing existence of tax-exempt interest are but a few examples," the department of research said in citing tax situations Big Labor desires changed.

Platform Promises

These tax objectives of organized labor fall generally within the pattern of the Democratic platform to which the Kennedy administration is committed without any qualifications whatever. The language may vary but the meaning and intent are the same. Where labor demands repeal of excessive depletion allowances, the platform promises repeal of allowances which are inequitable. Neither is a proposal for outright repeal.

In short, labor and the Kennedy administration defintely seek or are committed to reduce depletion allowances but not necessarily to repeal them. This somewhat fine distinction was not much emphasized when the party platform was presented to the Democratic Convention last July. Some left wing elements of the Democratic Party may be expected to resist any interpretation of the platform to limit the pledge to mere reduction of depletion allowance repeal.

This may lead to a considerable hassle within the Democratic Party when the time comes—if it ever does—to make good on that part of the Democratic platform. Americans for Democratic Action, for example, would be expected to protest.

Either way, business, industry and capital stand to pay the tab.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

THE "COMER"

Washington – Every cabinet eventually develops a "strong man," who by some seemingly inevitable process becomes the big, clear voice next to that of the President himself.

White

The Kennedy cabinet is already turning up such a muscular figure, very early in the game though it is.

Much less than a month in office, Robert S. McNamara, the new secretary of defense, is not only comfortably astride the vast Pentagon. He is also –by that word-of-mouth report which informs the Washington world outside the cabinet room – being identified as "the comer in the Kennedy outfit."

He is the first of the new cabinet to take a public step of the first magnitude. This is his urgent plan to build up our troop air transport so that by July – rather than four years later – jet troop carriers will be available to haul our infantry upon any brush-fire war anywhere.

* * *

BUT previously he had taken important private steps, too, which established in a matter of day two points other defense secretaries had not always been able to establish in years. One was that the civil authority – McNamara's – was to be unarguably final at the Pentagon. The other was that the general and admirals were to stop disagreeing in public with the high policies laid down by their constitutional superiors, the civil authority.

And McNamara in a cabinet meeting is described as "something to see." One source puts it this way: "You watch that young fellow (44) only a little while and you no longer wonder how he got to be president of the Ford Motor company."

An unimpressive figure, his gold-rimmed glasses glittering, his hair slicked back in the fashion of 30 years ago, he looks rather like a small-town insurance agent. But he stirs an impression, indeed, by the quality of the pleasantly firm, cool decisions he makes for the President's approval and for the somewhat amazed attention of his cabinet colleagues.

* * *

HIS power of concise expression is described – by people who know something about expression–as unmatched in a cabinet which, after all, has some other pretty articulate men.

The least "political" and far the least-known of the cabinet when he came into it, he is rapidly becoming the best known of all. Already, his unpartisan, undoctrinaire attitude is serving him well, at the Capitol as in the administration.

As secretary of defense, he must deal in Congress with the two least-partisan committees it has, those on military affairs. And, as it happens, both these committees are headed by conservative Democrats who will not be happy with every aspect of Mr. Kennedy's New Frontier but are still very happy that an old frontier, national defense, is in the hands of McNamara's band.

Now, to repeat, he is "not a politician." But in one of the central political skills, the handling of men, he may be more of a politician than he looks. For one of his first acts was to relieve an embarrassment of the chairmen of these two powerful Congressional committees, Sen. Richard Russell and Rep. Carl Vinson, both of Georgia.

* * *

IT HAD been incorrectly reported that Russell and Vinson, both highly reserved and highly correct old-school southern gentlemen, had been "pressuring" President Kennedy to appoint the Georgia governor, Ernest Vandiver, to a Pentagon post. McNamara picked up his hat, went to the Capitol, and told Russell and Vinson he would be glad publicly to affirm that this was untrue.

They declined his offer, with thanks. But the fact he made it didn't exactly do him any harm anywhere in Congress.

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National Committee For Arts Proposed

Washington –(UPI)– Rep. Carroll D. Kearns (R-Pa.) has proposed a National Committee for the Arts with Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and former President Dwight D. Eisenhower as honorary co-chairmen.

Kearns made public Tuesday a letter to the new First Lady asking if she would be willing to be honorary head of a bipartisan committee to work for cultural legislation.

Kearns said he was confident the committee could be organized quickly if she agreed to serve. He said governors, civic and cultural leaders in all states would be glad to join.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

HOW OLD, inquires Cleveland's Bill Feather, is the story of a passenger in the crowded washroom of a Pullman car who picked up a toothbrush and began brushing. An indignant fellow-passenger, suspenders dangling, yanked the brush away and hollered, "Confound it, that's mine!" "Sorry," apologized the appropriator. "I thought it belonged to the railroad."

Well, it's pretty old, Bill, but it's still funny!

* * *

An inebriated gentleman found his way into a bar with three entrances. He staggered into the first door and the bartender refused to serve him. He left in a huff and came back through the second door. Refused again, he exited and tried door number three. Confronted once more by the same intractable bartender, the drunk asked indignantly, "Say, do you own every saloon in this town?"

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