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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
March 15, 1951 (Thursday)

All but nine of Medford's 173 school teachers were reelected to their positions at a special meeting of the school board this week.

The Medford Kiwanis club this year won the achievement award in the Pacific northwest district of Kiwanis international.

20 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1941 (Saturday)

The Douglas county court today selected newspaper editor Harris Ellsworth as the new state senator and he took his seat in Salem with prospects he would serve about nine hours before the end of the legislative session comes.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Col. Tou Velle of J'ville slipped by another mile-post Thurs. He is still as young as he ever was, but growing older."

30 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1931 (Sunday)

Emergency work programs on county roads ended yesterday.

A Jackson county grand jury has exonerated state law-enforcement officers in the death of a man during a recent raid on a moonshine still near Eagle Point.

40 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1921 (Tuesday)

The newly-organized Medford YMCA is planning a twilight baseball league program.

Burglars blew open the Talent bank vault last night, but got nary a cent for their troubles.

50 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1911 (Wednesday)

Mann's Department store is holding its first annual spring opening event this week.

Many persons locally are predicting war soon between the U.S. and Japan.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Which U. S. President was nicknamed "the rail-splitter"?
2. How old was Moses when he died?
3. Royalty, the press, or the legal profession, is called the "Fourth Estate"?
4. Did the U.S. acquire the Virgin Islands from Denmark, Norway, or Sweden?
5. Name the author of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."
6. Are the Hawaiian Islands north or south, of the Equator?
7. Name the American naval hero who is famous for the saying, "I have not yet begun to fight"?
8. What is a somnambulist?
9. Albany is the capital of which state?
10. Which King sent the Spanish Armada against England in 1558?

Answers: 1. Abraham Lincoln. 2. 120. 3. The press. 4. Denmark. 5. Washington Irving. 6. North. 7. Jonh Paul Jones. 8. Sleep-walker. 9. New York. 10. Philip II of

A Great Day For The Irish

The Irish— and a great many others who like to think of themselves as Irish—will be talking, naturaly enough, of blarney and leprechauns, of Killarney and the fair city of Dublin, of the River Liffey, and of counties Meath and Cork.

New York and Boston, and other cities with large Irish communities, will bubble and blaze with gaiety. And down in Washington, D.C., there will be what President John F. Kennedy, the first real Irish-American to be elected to that office, calls "our own little celebration"—when he receives a gift of shamrocks from the Ambassador of Ireland, Thomas J. Kiernan.

As always, St. Patrick's Day will be full of surprises and paradoxes. It's a great day for the Irish—but it's also a great day for Polish, Hungarians, Jews, or what you will.

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LAST year an enterprising reporter took down the surnames of what he called a fairly typical rank of marchers in New York City's St. Patrick parade. The assorted Irish were: Mennit, Campagna, Neill, Goldner, Gillespie, Corbo, Cotata, de Prophets, Caughlin, Carney, Hall, and Janelli. At least two Chinese were among the paraders.

This figures. The influence of the Irish in this country, as Paddy's Day always demonstrates, is out of all proportion to their number. The U.S. Census Bureau hasn't even prepared working sheets on national origins indicated by the 1960 enumeration, but in 1950 there were only 504,961 natives of Ireland resident here, and only 2,396,456 first-generation plus native Irish.

Actually, Great Britain has replaced the United States as the nation to which most Irish emigrate—and Ireland loses about 25,000 young people a year, enough to offset the normal increase in population. The peak representation of native Irish, like President Kennedy, whose forbears came from Wexford County in southeast Ireland, have roots going back more than one generation.

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MORE paradoxes and surprises. St. Patrick's Day is a social but not a legal holiday in New York City, when most smart employers figure they're not going to get any work done anyway, so why not let the help have some fun? In Dublin it's a legal holiday, but all the pubs are closed.

Reviewing the traditional New York parade will be, presumably (he doesn't enter the hospital for minor surgery until two days later), Mayor Robert F. Wagner, a Catholic but of German descent. Not since bumbling John P. O'Brien won the mayoralty election of 1932 has Tammy Hall, the traditional political wigwam of the New York Irish had a true son in the top office at City Hall. (Bill O'Dwyer was Irish enough, born on the ould sod, in Bohola, but he owed little to Tammany.)

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THE feast celebrated by wearers of the green on March 17 is supposed to be the 1500th anniversary of the death of St. Patrick. No one knows exatcly where Ireland's patron saint is buried, but most opinion settles on the graveyard of the Church of Ireland, a Protestant institution in Downpatrick, Northern Ireland.

A couple of years ago a Presbyterian pastor in Indiana, Pa., created quite a stir by contending —and these are his words, please to remember— that Patrick was "firmly linked with the Protestant Church of Ireland, not with Roman Catholic Church." And the notion of a paradox like that, faith, is enough to chill the blood of a Cenneidigh —or any other self-respecting Gael.—E.R.R.

Tunisia and the Maghreb

The fifth anniversary of Tunisian independence next Monday finds that nation reaching its ascendancy in North African diplomacy. Habib Bourguiba, its Western-oriented president, is acting as the main intermediary between French President Charles de Gaulle and Algerian rebel leaders.

It is no little credit to Bourguiba that he has the confidence of both sides to the Algerican dispute. To the French he represents an Arab leader who by and large has protected vulnerable French interests in Tunisia in the years following independence. The Algerian rebels remember that two days after independence had been won Bourguiba had declared that the Tunisian people "cannot be truly happy . . . until their sister nation Algeria regains her sovereignty."

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WHILE much of the Arab world has been drifted away from the Western sphere, Tunisia has remained faithful. The London "Economist" notes: "President Bourguiba has always stood as President Nasser's chief Arab opponent, and he has lately been exerting himself to mobilize the moderate nations of Africa as a counter to the more militant ones."

He also has looked to the West, principally the United States, for the economic aid and private investment Tunisia needs to save his already poor country from becoming poorer.

Bourguiba's long-range goal is that of a "united Maghreb"—a political and economic federation or union of Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. In a communique issued in Rabat, March 2, Bourguiba, King Hussan II of Morocco, and Ferhat Abbas, premier of the Algerian nationalists' provisional government based in Tunis, "reaffirmed their determination to build the Great Maghreb" when Algeria becomes free.

Bourguiba is in a position to play a leading role in such a union; his nation's economy is making heartening progress and his political leadership at home is virtually unchallenged. —E.R.R.

Dennis the Menace

"ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME FOR A COCOA BREAK?"

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.

Reply to Letter

To the Editor: In regard to your letter, Virginia Card, I must admit that I agree with you in at least a few instances, such as Bishop Pike being a wise man in step with universal evolution.

It would be interesting to know what you use as your measure of truth, or false, realizing that most text books are revised from year to year. Personally I cannot see that we could safely use such information.

I am sure that no one cares when you rest or shop or what you do in your private chambers, so long as it is within the bounds of man's law. Also man cares not for what you believe or think.

I would like to inform you however that God is Love (John 4:8). In fact God loved you so much that He sent His only Son to die that you might live. God not only loved you who no doubt is a good person, who does good for your neighbor and will one day be repaid for that goodness, on this earth. But also God loves the liar, the drunkard, fornicator, and even the murderer. Can any of us claim such love? God also has given you a free will to believe this or disbelieve this. And I am sure you shall never be coerced against your will.

But I beg of you to use your human reasoning power, and ponder just one question. If Jesus Christ is false, and I have preached a lie, what have I lost? It would matter not because there would be no God to judge me anyway. But if I have believed and preached the truth, what have you lost? Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the Life, no man cometh to the Father but my me." (John 14:6.)

I know it is difficult for one who does not believe the Holy Bible is the Word of God to be converted, but if we believe in a truth or false, we must have some means to weigh the facts. "In Jesus Christ I put my trust, the Author and Finisher of my faith." The fear of God was placed in my heart when I was 10 years old, 33 years ago. The scripture says "The fear of God is the beginning of Wisdom." (Psalm 111:10.)

Donald Ullom
Star Route, Box 32
Eagle Point, Ore.

Reviews Correspondence

To the Editor: I've been reviewing some interesting correspondence from some of your readers. One gentleman tells me he spent six hours writing the letter I received from him. It was interesting, even though I cannot agree with him that Christ has come the second time and that the days of creation were 7,000 years each in length. Another writer wants to send me literature that she claims proves that there is no devil.

Many of us have been enjoying the "It is Written" program. Anyone can view this program without getting provoked at the speaker even though his remarks might cut across preconceived ideas.

I do realize that the religious organization which sponsors pastor Vandaman's "It is Written" program has in the past and even present been the subject of remarks and propaganda from some sources.

I would like to quote a portion of a paragraph from a letter received this week from the Bible Study Hour, which is affiliated with Eternity magazine. They are speaking of the same group which sponsors "It is Written." I quote: "We are delighted to do justice to a much-maligned group of sincere believers, and in our minds and hearts take them out of the group of utter heretics . . . to acknowledge them as redeemed brethren and members of the body of Christ." The late Donald Barnhouse, a well known Presbyterian radio speaker is the one credited with the quote.

Dr. Barnhouse went on to list "areas of thought with which most evangelicals would be in agreement," including those who sponsor "It is Written." I give the list:

1. "The Old and New Testament, inspired by God, containing the all-sufficient revelation of God's will to men; the only unerring rule of faith and practice." 2. "The Trinity." 3. "The Deity of Christ." 4. "The necessity of the new birth." 5. "The resurrection of the just and the unjust." 6. "The second coming of Christ, as literal, personal, visible."

By the way, I understand that pastor Vandaman will make a personal appearance in Medford on Wednesday (today), March 15, at 7 p.m. at the McLoughlin Junior High gym. It will be interesting to hear him in person.

Henry Johnson Jr.
2315 Highway 66
Ashland, Ore.

Gets Clarification

To the Editor: In the Mail Tribune of March 7, I had a letter in regards to the student riots in San Francisco last May when the House UnAmerican Activities committee was holding its hearings on Communist activities in California.

In this letter I quoted from a talk by Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco to the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce and later broadcast over radio by Fulton Lewis Jr. To this letter Mr. Allen appended this comment: "Mayor Christopher's views on the riots are a bit clouded by the fact that he wasn't in town when they were taking place; he was attending a luncheon in Burlingame and did not return until the trouble had subsided." (Christian Science Monitor Feb. 15, page 3).

I sent Mr. Christopher the letter with the comment and asked for a clarification of the matter. I received the following:

"Mayor Christopher has requested that I respond to your communication of March 8 concerning the unfortunate incident at the City Hall during the hearings of the House UnAmerican Activities Committee. For your information the mayor arrived fifteen minutes after the riot started and took immediate command of the situation by calling in student representatives and others involved.

"I also wish to inform you that during the three-day disturbance he was at all times in touch with the situation and is fully aware of the circumstances leading up to this most unfortunate incident that happened on the final day.

"The Mayor wishes to thank you so much for the clipping that you enclosed with your comment, and thank you for taking the time to write him in this regard.

"Signed:
Joseph J. Allen
Executive Secretary
to the Mayor."

Anna M. Streed
36 North Peach st.
Medford.

Does Not Like Stamps

To the Editor: Reading Vera Stewart's letter about a bill designed to regulate trading stamps now pending before the Oregon state legislature, I seized three postal cards and, for the first time in my life, wrote to state representatives, expressing my views. I do not – repeat, do not – like trading stamps.

To my mind, they are a waste of time, space, patience, energy, and money. They are a whelming nuisance; they take up kitchen drawer space, clutter my pockets, and sift through the cracks in my wallet; they choke the vacuum cleaner, plug the washing machine, and give my child indigestion.

When, finally, I struggle down to the premium store, clutching and counting, I find little that I really want. And pillow cases are on sale downtown that week for less than the $2 to $3.50 value of the stamp books, anyway. Then, I have a quarter of a book too little, or three-fifths of a book left over. Here, the pages are stuck together, because I had to use glue when the stickum wouldn't stick, and there, I somehow missed two whole pages, and can't get what I had chosen, after all.

The whole concept of trading stamps is an insult to my intelligence, thrift, self control, and common sense. Vera Stewart cannot have checked prices carefully or inclusively. She does pay for those stamps. Many housewives are willing to pay for them; it is the easiest way to sneak money out of a household allowance. I would rather save my own time, space, and money, and spend them without the restriction imposed by what someone else thinks I might want to do with them.

I do not know, of my own knowledge, whether the bill in question is designed to regulate trading stamps, as it states, or to eliminate them, as Mrs. Stewart insists. Personally, I am for it in either case, but there are doubtless many to whom it would make a difference. E.A., could you clarify this for us?

Betty House
19 North Orange st.
Medford

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Editor's note: Following are excerpts from the Bill Digest, page 86, on the trading stamp bill:

"Comprehensive act licensing and regulating sale of trading stamps. Administered by corporation commissioner who must approve prices charged. Requires stamps and books to list value and other data to be redeemed in money or merchandise at option of stamp holder . . . Stamp company required to issue stamps to any merchant who can pay for them within 60 days of application." The bill also provides for trading stamp companies to be bonded of between $25,000 and $100,000, depending on gross income.

How About 'Demoreps'?

To the Editor: I have noticed in recent editorials a disposition to refer to errant Democrats as Republicrats.

Come, come – do you think this is quite fair?

If Republicans are to receive the credit for Democratic mistakes then justice demands that Democrats receive the reward of Republican boo-boos.

If you are going to persist in this, how about referring to Republicans who step out of your line as Demoreps?

Ilene Hull
7 Eastwood drive
Medford

UPI Correspondent Asks JFK Question Bothering Newsmen in TV Conferences

By LYLE C. WILSON

Washington — (UPI) — It was just like old times when the President smiled his recognition of UPI's Merriman Smith and began answering the newsman's press conference question. The President's answer wouldn't parse.

Wilson

The President was handsome young John F. Kennedy. The old times were those of Dwight D. Eisenhower. The occasion was last week's Kennedy news conference when Smith asked a question which has been troubling Washington newsmen.

The White House has been receiving a great deal of mail protesting the deportment of reporters who put questions to the President. TV viewers, being wholly uninformed of news conference tradition, believe the reporters are too direct, or abrupt with their President of the United States —that they do not accord him proper respect.

Plenty of Respect

Nonsense, of course. Respect is accorded in full measure to the man and to the office he holds. There is a scramble, however, for recognition. Reporters leap to their feet, there is the noise of their rapid movement. But no disrespect. That is what Smith asked about last week, whether the President felt himself abused or disrespected.

"Mr. President, I'm sure you're aware, sir —" was the way Smith began. That "sir" is the reporter's salute to the presidential office, that and a courteous tone and manner.

The President replied: "Well, you subject me to some abuse but not to any lack of respect, I don't — I must say that I do not know that there are any difficulties, but if, and I know that it places burdens on members of the press to have to stand up, particularly when I'm not able to recognize them.

"On the other hand, if it were changed, and one member stood up, then, perhaps, that would not be a satisfactory device. So that I think that along with the old saying about 'don't take down the fence until you know why it was put up,' I would say that we should stay with what we now have."

Dr. Syntax would shudder, if he were still alive, to read those two paragraphs. That is the way Ike used to talk in news conferences. The egg-heads who listened to or read Eisenhower were saddened. "His syntax," they would complain, "is atrocious."

Now comes the new President with news conference responses that simply will not parse. What to do? Best thing to do is to consider what meaning the President sought to convey. His crack that the newsmen did subject him to some abuse was facetious, obviously so. The reporters do not do that.

Neither are they disrespectful. President Kennedy made that fact clear enough. Nor does the President want any changes made at this time in his news conference routine.

This assay would serve its purpose if the TV viewers would read the President's scrambled words and consider the meaning of what he said.

The ill-informed TV critics of newsmen are trying to apply to the news conferences their own childish TV formula — the good guy (one) and the bad guys. Silly, isn't it?

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE RELIGIOUS PEACE

On March 3 Archbishop Alter of Cincinnati issued a statement on Federal aid to education. He summarized the views of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic conference which speaks in the name of the Roman Catholic bishops of the United States.

Lippmann

The statement says that "in the event that there is Federal aid to education we are deeply convinced that in justice Catholic school children should be given the right to participate. Respecting the form of participation, we hold it to be strictly within the framework of the constitution that long-term, low-interest loans to private institutions could be part of the Federal aid program."

This opinion on the constitutionality of such loans differs, as we know, from the expressed views of President Kennedy. The difference is very important indeed. But the different is not so important that it should be allowed to prevent the enactment of the President's program to give Federal aid to the public schools. Whether, as the bishops contend, there should also be Federal aid to private schools, is a separate question.

It is a question that can be settled conclusively only by the Congress and the Supreme Court. In the first instance the Congress must decide whether as a matter of national interest it is willing to grant long-term, low-interest loans to private schools. The President, it is fair to assume, would not veto the bill if Congress passed it. Then the Supreme Court would probably have to pass on its constitutionality.

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OVER this practical solution of the controversy a cloud has been cast by the final sentence in Archbishop Alter's statement. The sentence says that "in the event a Federal aid program is enacted which excludes children in private schools, these children will be the victims of discriminatory legislation. There will be no alternative but to oppose such discrimination."

This seems to say that if Congress refuses to authorize the loans to the parochial schools, the bishops will seek to defeat the Federal aid program. If this is what they mean, then with great respect it must be said that they are entering upon dangerous ground.

• • •

THIS ground is the assertion that to use public money for the public schools and to deny it to private schools is "discrimination." Why? Because the Catholic parent, or for that matter any parent who sends his child to a private school, is paying twice over – once as a taxpayer for the public school which his child does not attend, and once as tuition fees to the private school which his child does attend.

Whether it is fair to describe as "discrimination" such double payments for education can best tested by asking what would be the situation if private schools were supported by the taxpayer. In that case the parent whose child goes to the public school will be paying twice over – once to support the public school which his child attends and once to support the private school which his child does not attend.

The charge of discrimination cuts both ways and it cannot illuminate, it can only obscure, a very difficult question – that of the relation between church and school – which has troubled the Western world for many centuries.

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ON this question there is an American doctrine, enacted in the First Amendment and in all the state constitutions, which holds that religious freedom can most surely be combined with religious peace by making it unlawful to grant public money to the churches. This venerable American principle has never been interpreted harshly. For the churches and their educational institutions, though they are debarred from receiving public money dirctly, enjoy the privilege of tax exemptions.

The origin of the First Amendment is in the controversy of 1785-1786 over the Virginia tax levy for the support of the established (Episcopalian) church. It was then that Madison and Jefferson made articulate what is now the American doctrine. This doctrine is, as the Supreme Court held in 1947 in the Everson case, that "no tax in any amount, large or small, can be levied to support any religious activities or institutions, whatever they may be called, or whatever form they may adopt to teach or practice religion."

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THESE words are quoted from the majority opinion of the Supreme Court handed down by Mr. Justice Black. The majority spoke these words in a decision which upheld the right of the State of New Jersey to spend public money to reimburse parents for the bus fares of their children attending parochial schools. The dissenting Justices argued that bus fares are unconstitutional, so strong was their feeling that what Jefferson called "the wall of separation" between church and state must not be lowered.

In effect, the bishops maintain that despite the strong language of the Everson case, the court would hold that long-term low-interest loans to private schools are, like bus fares, constitutional. Whether the bishops are right in their views on the constitution can best be tested by submitting the question to Congress and, if Congress agrees with the bishops, to the courts.

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IN candor it must, however, be said that the chances of Congress and of the courts upholding such a loan bill appear to be very small. The chances would not be increased by threatening to defeat the measures to give Federal aid to the public schools.

The defeat of the President's program under such conditions would have grave consequences for it would introduce into the center of American public life the profoundly troubling issue of clericalism. Under the rule of the First Amendment we have been happily free of this issue. We have been free of it, thanks to the principle built into the constitution by Madison and Jefferson.

If we are to maintain the religious freedom which we enjoy, we must preserve the religious peace and tranquillity which is the air that freedom breathes.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Text for today:

Douglas William Johnson, the man who found the money bag on a busy Los Angeles street. It had fallen out of a Brink armored car. The driver hadn't noticed the loss. Nobody had seen the bag fall out.

It contained $240,000 in crisp new greenbacks--none of them marked. The finder himself hadn't noticed the printing on the bag, which stated the contents. When he did notice it, the thought apparently never occurred to him that here was an unexampled opportunity to SKIP THE COUNTRY and live the life of Riley from that time on.

He took immediate steps to find the owner.

WHY?

The answer is simple:

He is an HONEST man.

IT WAS quite a story.

The radio newscasts picked it up and made a feature of it. The newspapers front-paged it.

J. B. Allen, general manager of Brink's division, was in Houston (Texas) when he heard it and shortly afterward saw it confirmed in print. He grabbed a plane and rushed back to L.A. Describing his emotions, he says this morning:

"I spent a sleepless night. All I could think of was HOW COULD WE FIND A WAY TO EXPRESS OUR THANKS TO A MAN LIKE THIS?

"What could we possibly do to properly express our gratitude and our respect for his integrity?"

HE ADDS:

"I thought, of course, of giving him a MONEY reward. But – THE TAX WOULD TAKE A SIZEABLE PART OF IT. Besides, he has been getting along without help for 50 years. The chances are a man like him doesn't need money now."

HIS decision?

It was a good one.

A LIFE JOB FOR JOHNSON, and a college education for his oldest son, a boy of 16.

AS FOR Mr. Johnson, the finder, he can say to himself with sincere conviction:

HONESTY is the best policy.

He will be right.

QUESTION:

Who coined the phrase: Honesty is the best policy?

The earliest recorded user of it was Miguel de Cervantes, author of Don Quixote, and creator of Don Quixote, the ragged knight, and Sancho Panza, his wise-cracking squire.

He wrote back in the 16th century.

OUR own George Washington, in his Farewell Address to his countrymen, picked up Cervantes' advice in these words:

"I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is ALWAYS the best policy."

Bill To Eliminate Youth Group Boat Fees

Salem—(UPI)—A bill eliminating boat fees for small boats used by youth groups was approved Tuesday by the House.

The measure now goes to the Senate.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

AFTER A KNOCK-DOWN, drag-out fight with his wife, a husband with a low burning point was in such a rage that he cried, "I'm through! This is the last straw. I'm heading out of this place and do what I've always wanted to do. Me for the wilds of Africa where I can track down lions, tigers, cobras and cannibals!"

He strode determinedly to the door, flung it open, then ran quickly back into the living room.

"Lucky thing for you," he muttered in a strangely subdued voice. "It's drizzling!"

• • •

A man with a very sore throat indeed went to the home of a doctor and rang the bell. The door was opened by the doctor's wife. In an almost inaudible croak, the man inquired, "Is the doctor in?"

In a conspiratorial whisper, equally low, the doctor's wife answered, "No. Come on in."