

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 April 2, 1951 (Monday): The Rogue Valley chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing will present its first annual show here April 28.

20 YEARS AGO April 2, 1941 (Wednesday): The Medford city council last night authorized the purchase of slightly more than half of the 90 acres necessary for runway extension and enlargement at the municipal airport.

30 YEARS AGO April 2, 1931 (Thursday): County road work is in full swing with projects under way on Dead Indian, Lake Creek, Sams Valley and Applegate roads.

40 YEARS AGO April 2, 1921 (Saturday): A five-mile strip of highway is currently being paved between Grants Pass and Medford, which will complete this section of the Pacific highway.

50 YEARS AGO April 2, 1911 (Sunday): Several lawyers in town are reported to be seeking ways of circumventing a new state law that prohibits commercial fishing in the Rogue River.

What's Your I.Q.? Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. If someone threatened to "pin back your aricular appendages," what would he be referring to? 2. The opening words of which American classic are: "Four score and seven years ago"?

1. Name a Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. 2. Sloth. 3. Fable. 4. Antenna. 5. Deer. 6. Golf. 7. The Netherlands. 8. Sucky Harris. 10. Woodrow Wilson.

An Easter Pause

We'll have to confess that we were getting all set to write a heated editorial for this column for today, laying about in fine style at what we consider to be some of the uglier aspects of life in America today.

Then, the letter from Mary Williams, which is printed at the top of the Communications column today, arrived on the desk.

It gave us pause, Easter Sunday, in which is implicit the promise cherished in the hearts of millions of people, isn't the time to slay dragons.

So we'll save the acrimony for another time, and content ourself today with thanking Mary Williams for her gracefully-voiced sentiments, and Arnold Eugene Jenny and his poets for their lovely Easter thoughts, and a warm sense of appreciation that Easter, and Spring, really are here. —E.A.

Civic Center

One of these days, the city of Medford is going to have to build itself a new city hall.

And, as Medford keeps growing, the state of Oregon is going to need a new office building in Medford. It's building one in Eugene now.

When the time comes for these, we hope the powers that be will go along with Medford city officials, and the planning commission, in fulfilling plans for an attractive, centralized civic center around the west side park.

THE PLAN, first dreamed up many years ago, began with the courthouse. (It's too bad the library was built IN the park, rather than adjacent to it, but that's water over the dam.)

Anyway, we regret that the federal government didn't go along with the proposal, and locate its new office building facing the park.

If anyone wants to see what can be accomplished by combining attractive public buildings with attractive, green and open park, let him look to Eugene. Medford, too, has all the ingredients. We hope the long-range plan doesn't die from just being ignored. —E.A.

Unified Approach Benefits

Not long ago the 18 O & C counties of western Oregon organized to coordinate planning for roads and recreation purposes.

They operated on the theory that each county has a vital stake in roads and recreational facilities; that the counties and various state agencies, and several of the federal agencies are all working in this field, and that, rather than have each one go off on its own, there should be a coordinated, sensible program for orderly development.

They succeeded in getting the cooperation of everyone involved, and as a result there are high hopes that such a development will proceed.

MORE RECENTLY, the eight counties of southern Oregon and northern California have been discussing a somewhat similar project. These counties (Douglas, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath and Lake in Oregon, Siskiyou, Modoc and Del Norte in California) are all inland, and, as far as tourist and recreational income are concerned, are in "competition" with the coast.

There is much to be offered in this region. And there is every reason to believe that it could easily become one of the major "playgrounds" for the ever-growing populations of central and southern California — with a resulting substantial economic boost for this area.

Seven of the eight counties have agreed to budget small amounts this year, to be added to contributions from private and business sources, to underwrite a modest start on a coordinated program somewhat similar to the O & C project.

THIS IS not envisioned as a tub-thumping publicity project, nor even as a chamber of commerce type of operation.

Rather, the thought is that an office could be set up on a modest scale, a good man hired, and then assigned to do three main things:

- 1. To keep in close touch with each of the eight counties, to know their resources and their needs, and to compile a coordinated program of development which would be of benefit to each. 2. To work closely with the state and federal agencies involved. After all, more than half of the land, and most of the major recreational resources, in this area are owned by the federal government, and no program which overlooks this, and the federal participation in such projects to which the area is entitled, is realistic. 3. To work with private industry in encouraging development and improvement of privately-owned and operated facilities (resorts, lodges, ski-tows, and so on) in the area.

IF THESE counties could, through such coordination, speak with one voice to the state and federal agencies, that voice would have far more authority than the counties scrambling, alone, for what they want.

The benefits of a unified approach have been proven time and time again.

In this matter it offers a sound way of obtaining a program of recreational development which is the single most promising avenue for economic growth in this area.

It should also be noted that in addition, it would also provide far greater recreational opportunities for the people of the area, too. And anyone with half an eye these days knows that this is no small matter —E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"NO, I HAVEN'T SEEN LLOYD. WHO'S LLOYD?" "FLOYD! HE'S A WHITE RAT!"

Matter of Fact

LEADERSHIP REGAINED By Joseph Alsop

Bangkok - What did not happen is one of the best tests to use in judging the just-finished SEATO meeting here in Bangkok.

Specifically, the whole complex of forces resisting the Communist advance in Asia did not come apart like a rotten melon dropped from a third story window.

Precisely that result was quite inevitable before President Kennedy gave the meeting here a wholly new basis, with his advance announcement that he would fight for Laos if need be. The anguished pleas for hard action, from Thailand, the Philippines, Pakistan, and South Vietnam, clearly indicated what might have happened if Kennedy had not responded.

In the United States, there is a general tendency to take too late or not at all, the rest of the conference united against Couve de Murville.

IN the end, somewhat to the surprise of many here, the French settled for a resolution permitting rapid action if the need should arise, but expressing this permission in cool words. The Americans did not object to the toned down language, as more dramatic words had already been spoken, much more usefully and in private, by President Kennedy to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

The results, then, was the unanimous resolution which has been published, which effectively favors military intervention in Laos if the terms of President Kennedy's press conference declaration are not met by the Soviets within a reasonable time.

It is not a lurid resolution. It contains none of the old familiar language about the "world Communist conspiracy." But it is a workable resolution which is also a living proof that American leadership in the West, only a fortnight ago in direct, immediate danger of final bankruptcy, has begun to be regained by a show of moral firmness which most of our allies had really ceased to expect.

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Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Uppmann

ON THE FIRST PHASE As I am writing a final article before leaving for a few weeks in Europe, it is tempting to look back and do a bit of generalizing about the first two months of the Kennedy administration.

The general character of this first phase has been, I would say, preliminary and preparatory. Unlike 1933, there was no emergency when Mr. Kennedy took office, and the grave problems which he is committed to deal with do not call for crash solutions but for careful planning and perseverance over the years.

AS YET the Administration has made no frontal attack on this problem. It has not done so because of a deliberate decision that the country is not yet ready for it. Despite the unemployment and the unused capacity, the feeling that we are in bad times is spotty and local, not general and national.

Because of the likelihood that a kind of recovery, probably a shallow recovery, is just around the corner, the President has felt that for the present he must follow the Eisenhower economic ideology which was the fiscal orthodoxy of the age before the Great Depression. Yet his principal advisers are, so far as I know, unanimous in the belief that a very considerable departure from the Eisenhower ideology is necessary if the American economy is to meet the needs of the Sixties: international, national, and local.

But despite these opinions the Administration is operating within the Eisenhower slogans and stereotypes about the budget. This is not because the Kennedy men believe in them but because there are a large majority in both parties who do believe in them.

As between the Kennedy doctrine, which is being held back, and the Eisenhower doctrine, which holds it back, the crucial and central issue is not whether the Federal budget should be balanced. The Kennedy doctrine, which is stated but not heavily emphasized in last week's budget message, is that Federal revenues and expenditures should be in balance "over the years of the business cycle"—about four or five years. The Eisenhower doctrine is that, regardless of the business cycle, the budget should be in balance every year. If the budget is not in balance annually, even as now in a year of recession, the Eisenhower ideology demands that politicians and editors should regard this as deplorable, and that the President should apologize for it.

HOW did Yreka get its rather unusual name? There is an interesting, but apparently apocryphal, legend to the effect that it arose out of a bakery sign. The sign is said to have consisted of a board carrying the word BAKERY, which had been cut in outline with a crude jigsaw. The story goes that a somewhat illuminated miner, leaving one of the saloons one evening, was struck by the odd notion that the B of the word bakery would make a fine pistol target.

So, it is alleged, he hauled his trusty six-shooter out of its holster and cut loose. By the time his gun was emptied, the B had been shot away, leaving only the letters AKERY. AKERY, read backwards from the other side of the sign, spells YREKA.

BECAUSE it sounds so plausible, the bakery sign story has had wide currency. The historic truth of the matter, however, appears to be that the name Yreka arose out of the Indian word for Mount Shaasta, which was IEKA. By more or less natural process of corruption, this came in time to be pronounced Y-REKA.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Down in Yreka, the Junior Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a worthy project—Discovery Street Park, designed to mark the site of the first discovery of gold in the area. The actual spot where the discovery was made is already marked by the Thompson Dry Diggins monument.

IN Klamath, where this is written, we're inclined to be at least pale green with envy of the progress Yreka is making with its Discovery Street Park. We too have a historic spot. It is the little flat up on the Williamson river where Highway 97 crosses the stream, just south of Chillico. This little flat is steeped in history. It was there that Captain Fremont fought his toughest battle with the Indians. It was there that he saved the life of Kit Carson by riding down with his horse Sacramento a brave who was drawing a bead with his bow and arrow on the intrepid scout.

THE secret message he carried (it was so secret that on his way across Mexico on foot he committed it to memory and ATE the paper on which it was written) led Captain Fremont and Kit Carson and their party to make all haste back to Sonoma, where they joined the rest of their party and in company with American settlers in the Sacramento valley raised the Bear Flag and proclaimed the Bear Republic.

But separate principle in respect to public institutions, it is this very principle in all other respects that millions of Negroes now seek, in their hearts. It is not to be wondered at, I suppose, that, in the foreign policy gyrations over the Congo and Lumumba, great numbers of American Negroes reacted as Americans second and as Negroes first. I do not understand all the psychological mysteries involved in man's reactions to pigmentation of the skin. But I am aware that even in countries like Brazil, officially segregated in all realms of life, the blackest men generally do the roughest and dirtiest work; that the same is true in the all-Negro Republic of Haiti; and that in the rising rebellion against economic exploitation all over Latin America the ideology of skin shading is a very real, if unacknowledged, force for hostility.

But the age of the conquistadores is long past. This is the twentieth century. One can hope, at least, that dark men in power in this age will prove more enlightened than did white men in power in their dark ages. (Distributed 1961, by The Hall Syndicate, Inc.) (All Rights Reserved)

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

We are inordinately proud of the news staff of the Mail Tribune, and now is as good a time as any to say so.

This thought occurred to us last week when we got to thinking about the work our reporters and deskmen do, day in and day out, and often under terrific pressure, to bring our readers the news of within their income and why should the government be disreputable?

It is a complicated thing to explain why the earth is round. It is a complicated thing to explain that the Federal budget is not only an accounting of revenues and expenditures. It is also a great fiscal engine which as a matter of national policy has to be managed in such a way as to promote a stabilized growth of the economy. If it is a makeaweight which has to be swung from deficit to surplus and from surplus to deficit to compensate for the ups and downs of the business cycle.

There is nothing sinister or mysterious in this idea. But it is a new idea, new at least to a great many people. (c) 1961 New York Herald Tribune Inc.

Tempest Storm has blue eyes.

"How's that for objective reporting?"

Eric Wentworth is a different kind of reporter, but in his own way as talented as Bob (and, no, we're not going to get into any invidious comparisons of talent and ability, either).

Eric, too, started out on the Oregonian's police beat, but soon his talent was also recognized, and he was named education editor of the Oregonian.

In sober, detached and thorough fashion, he has gone about the business of learning the ins and outs of educational problems in Portland and the state and the nation, and has turned in some excellent copy, amply justifying the trust the Oregonian's editors had in him when they named him to fill the very large (hypothetical) shoes of Wilma Morrison, who was one of the outstanding education editors in the nation.

Last week, Eric departed a bit from the strictly educational front, and did an impartial, objective job of telling a bit about the origins of the John Birch Society in Portland, as seen through the eyes of one of its founders.

We don't see how anyone — violent anti-Bircher or dedicated member — could find anything about his series to criticize. And that's a real test of reportorial ability, particularly when it is a job which goes into a subject in some depth and detail.

In short, we predict these young men will have distinguished careers in the newspaper field, and are glad they were Mail Tribune staffers for a while. Meanwhile, we are equally proud of those who have chosen to stay with the Medford paper, devoting their considerable talents to doing a job for the Mail Tribune's readers.

Speaking of the John Birch Society, which has been the subject of a lot of nationwide publicity the last few weeks, we can't help but feel that a rough sort of poetic justice is being wrought.

Some members of the society have been mighty quick to throw the words "communist" and "pinko" and "left-wing" around at people who disagree with their own political views. Now that questions of their own methods and Americanism have been raised, it is interesting to hear their screams of indignation.

"Why, we're patriotic, loyal Americans!" they cry in outrage. Well, maybe they're finding out how other patriotic, loyal Americans have felt when they've been called "pinko" and "red," simply because they believe in a future for America based solidly on an open society and on the Bill of Rights of the U. S. Constitution.

But, this is Easter, and that fellow E.A. across the page, and Mary Williams in the Communications column, say we should be tolerant and forgiving and thankful at this season of the year. So we should. Happy Easter, everyone. And you too, John Birchers.

Sevareid Muses on Variations of Color

By ERIC SEVAREID

Trinidad, W.I. - What is happening with the "underprivileged" peoples on this earth, virtually all of whom are, by giant coincidence, dark of skin, is something happening inside individual breasts. It is for poets, novelists, artists - those who observe persons - to understand it; it is not for economists or ideologists - those who observe people - however much they dominate the Western approach to the phenomenon with their funds and missions and committees and propaganda.

This much penetrated my own skin, calloused by years of exposure to the dry winds of sociology, after some travels through Africa. Now, moving through the supposedly tranquil islands of the West Indies en route to see the new Brazil and its massive crisis, I can feel again the prickings of this uneasy, ill defined awareness.

An American woman artist was talking on the veranda of her lovely villa on one of these jeweled "holiday" islands. She could see the Negro fishermen stretched in the strip of shadow beside their boats on the curving beach, the local taxi-man sound asleep in the front seat of his Chevrolet. Her domestic servant, dressed in flowing, antebellum garb, including bandana, padded among us with the ice-cold daquiris and slipped away with the silent submissiveness of the British-trained black.

toward independence, but I have learned a few apparent principles of behavior among the "emergent" peoples. One is that the closer, the farther away, they stand in relation to realization of the inchoate desires in their breasts, to release from their ancient frustrations, the more angry and violent they become.

"Pure reflex action." We are seeing it now on a world scale. Centuries of white racism have produced the inevitable black racism. It is racism, not Communism, that is likely to become the dominant characteristic of this generation, and Russian Communism will be no more able to escape its ravages, in the long haul, than Western democrats.

We have treated black men as a race apart so long that they are bound to act like a race apart, in spite of the appeasements of citizenship and "civil rights."

It is too late - many generations too late - to expect general integration save in terms of public institutions. It is no longer because of the white man's racism only, but now because of the black man's racism as well.

It is one of American history's bitter ironies that while the Supreme Court has thrown out the old southern "equal