

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 18, 1951 (Wednesday) The Medford city council last night postponed awarding contracts for construction of a city fire station and sewer projects because of possible flaws in the bids.

Water in the city's Big Butte springs pipeline will be turned off for several hours tomorrow to allow the new pipeline to be cut in to the old intake at the springs.

20 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1931 (Friday) From Arthur Perry's "Ye Sausage Pot" column: "Mushrooms hunters here have been very successful of late, both in finding the fungus, and in securing same, without paying for a doctor's phone call."

From old considerable damage to unharmed fruit last night.

30 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1901 (Saturday) Members of a Congressional committee on appropriations will visit and inspect Lake and park facilities here.

40 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1861 (Monday) W. H. Kilgus, chairman of the YMCA Athletic League, announced the spring ball schedule.

50 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1811 (Tuesday) Page one headline: "Fruit-Who Heated Saved Their Lives; Part Week Has Witnessed Most Strenuous Battle With Frost in History of Rogue Valley."

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. What was the relationship between Augustine Washington and George Washington? 2. When a submarine submerges, does the temperature of the air within increase or decrease? 3. What city is called the Eternal City? 4. A Fourdrinier machine is principally used in which industry? 5. Is the order of calling the roll of states in national political conventions alphabetical, geographical, or by population? 6. What is the name of the highest military decoration awarded by the U.S.? 7. Who was Henry Wallace's predecessor in the office of vice president? 8. Name the body of land that connects the North and South American continents. 9. In which New England city was Henry Wadsworth Longfellow born? 10. In which country is Rangoon? Answers: 1. Half-brothers. 2. Increase. 3. Rome. 4. Paper manufacturing. 5. Alphabetical. 6. Congressional Medal of Honor. 7. John Adams. 8. Pennsylvania. 9. Portland, Maine. 10. Burma.

Sherman County Charter

The Sherman county home rule study committee is the first in the state to finish work on drafting a proposed county charter.

The document runs to less than six pages, and is a very simple charter, providing the general outline for county government, and reserving the active governmental powers to a new board of county supervisors and, by delegation, to a full-time, appointed county executive.

Existing county officials are eliminated under the proposed charter, but the supervisors may appoint such officials, boards or commissions as they deem necessary.

THE supervisors—five of them, one from each school district in the county—would receive \$50 per month plus travel expenses, and that is all.

The supervisors would have extremely limited legislative authority, and the charter specifically provides, "The people of this county reserve for themselves the right to propose laws or resolutions and the right to amend the county charter."

THIS may be an excellent charter for Sherman county. It does not follow that it would be a good one for Jackson, or any other, county in Oregon.

The reason for home rule is so that counties can work out charters applicable to their own situation, and what might be right in Sherman (population 2,430, area 880 square miles) may be all wrong for Jackson county (population 73,316, area 2,817 square miles).

A county less than one-third the size of Jackson, with a population little more than that of Central Point, does not have the same kind of problems we do, and therefore the form of government need not—probably should not—be identical.

Without commenting on the merits of the Sherman county charter, we find it of interest, but only academically. When there is a charter proposed for Jackson county, then will be the time to decide whether it is right for us.—E.A.

Varieties of Freedom

One man's freedom is another man's injustice. And vice versa.

Sound paradoxical? It isn't, really. It is all part and parcel of the development of rational government, and the protection of one man's rights from another's depredations.

Under our theory of government, all men are free to do whatever they want—just so long as they do not infringe on the rights of others.

Thus, men are restrained from committing murder—the ultimate crime. And, as populations have grown and society become more complex, the restrictions have grown and grown. They have, in truth, limited unfettered freedom. But freedom which injures others isn't freedom at all—it is license.

THIS all may sound theoretical and abstract. But in Jackson county, this year, it isn't at all abstract. It is a very live issue, one which is being debated hotly, and of which we will hear more.

The debate at the moment surrounds such things as county subdivision ordinances, zoning, planning and building codes.

Yes, some of these things involve certain restraints on unfettered action. But, in truth, if properly applied, they result in greater—not less—freedom.

A MAN can say:

"This is my property. I own it. I can do anything I want on my own property. And no one is going to tell me otherwise."

This is fine; this is freedom—up to a point. This point is reached when, by his use of his own property, he begins infringing on the rights of others, by depreciating the value of their property, by limiting their freedom.

Does a man have an unrestricted right, say, to establish a wrecking yard on his property, if, in doing so, he damages the property values, the peace and quiet, the rights of privacy, of his neighbors?

WHICH should predominate in such a case? His "freedom" to do as he will, at no matter what cost, inconvenience or loss to his neighbors? Or the "freedom" of his neighbors to enjoy their property unimpaired by ugly scenes or other distractions?

This is the problem, reduced to its most fundamental aspect. And the ramifications go through our entire social structure, through all phases of our community life.

AS indicated, this is more than a theoretical debate. It is an intensely practical one, here and now.

The problem is this: We must design our legal safeguards to permit a maximum of individual freedom on one hand; and on the other hand the safeguards must furnish protection from the admitted abuses which can arise out of unlimited freedom—which verges onto license when it damages others.

This is not an easy task. It is one which has occupied the best brains of America ever since our nation was founded. And it will be a continuing task, here and everywhere, as population continues to grow, and as society continues to become more complicated and condensed.—E. A.

Dennis the Menace



A PERSON HAS TO GET USED TO DARK GLASSES IF SHE'S GOING TO BE FAMOUS SOME DAY!

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.

Registered Rabbits To the Editor: At this time of year many people just starting, and some trying to improve on what they already have, buy rabbits.

As for motels, well I have seen quite a few in Rogue Valley and Medford, and I have yet to see any of them filled up winter or summer.

The Same Error To the Editor: Your error seating Judge Main on the bench in place of Judge Kelly caused me to make the same error you did. I therefore apologize to Judge Main.

Spare Them a Calamity To the Editor: A recommendation by the County Planning Commission, reported last week in The Mail Tribune, has caused deep concern of the residents South of Talent.

AWFUL Thing To Do To the Editor: I was just reading about the new Federal building.

Correct Solutions To the Editor: Since your communications cannot agree on the following issues, shall squander a few moments to give them the correct solution.

UNEMPLOYMENT: Cut wages in the middle. Fud, and cut again. Then maybe someone can afford to hire help.

COLOR LINE: Free all colored men from military service. If unfit to eat in our gobbleshops, why give them the honor of protecting our precious white hides?

HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICARE: This one is simple. Refrain from getting sick or injured.

STRAY CATS: Since humans cannot agree on this issue, why not leave it to the cats? They might see eye to eye.

HOME RULE: Agree with the wife from the start. Your jaw will never stand the argument hers will.

SMOG: If you can grope through the murk to the mailbox, I'll leave this one to you. Jack Fine!

For Franco it is the end of an international quarantine.

Cold War Realignment Bringing Franco Back To 'Respectability' Among Allies

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst Generalissimo Francisco Franco is about to complete the long, hard road back to international respectability.



Neither the United States nor its European allies have forgotten the fanfare with which Franco greeted a triumphant Hitler after Nazi armies overran France in the fall of 1940.

Political objections, once enough to touch off anti-Franco demonstrations in the streets of Paris and London, receded in the face of the new danger.

In 1953, the United States and Spain signed agreements providing for U. S. construction and use of air and naval bases in exchange for U. S. economic and military assistance to Spain.

That U. S. aid to Spain now totals more than \$1 billion. In 1955, Spain joined the United Nations.

Britain and France, once bitterly opposed to Franco Spain's membership in NATO, now travel to Madrid to discuss western defenses with Franco.

Spain is not now, nor will it be in the foreseeable future, a member of NATO. But it seems almost as much by Franco's choice as any other.

Strictly Personal

By Sidney J. Harris (c) General Features Corp.

BE ABLE TO ADMIT FRAILTIES

The willingness to admit ignorance is often an endearing trait, and it is surprising how, in so many cases, our pride and vanity inhibit us from the frank admission that we do not know.



Almost to a man, Hardwicke recalls, the audience shouted the lines and cheered as she smiled her thanks and returned to her place.

counts the most moving moment he has ever seen in the theater.

It was seeing Ellen Terry when she was close to 80, playing in the trial scene in "The Merchant of Venice."

"I am a very silly old lady," she said, "and I cannot remember what I have to say."

A lesser actress (and a lesser person) might have tried to bluff her way through, or might have collapsed in panic.

Except by a very few, this warning was almost wholly ignored. But towards the end of August in that same summer, the first open attacks were launched—not in South Vietnam but across the border of Northern Laos.

It is our strength that may attract people to us, but it is our weakness that makes them like us.

And, by an iron law of psychology, the desire to seem always strong and knowing is a symptom of some structural weakness in the personality.

THE incursions across the northern border quickly drew into the northern provinces almost all of the small, ill-trained Laotian army.

THE doctor who needs to play God is the furthest removed from Him.

Washington Report

By William S. White (c) United Feature Syndicate

DER ALT

Washington—The extraordinary importance of being Konrad Adenauer—and the extraordinary power of personal character and personal honor—is being curiously illustrated in the old West German Chancellor's current visit to the United States.



White Seventeen years ago this very spring American and British troops were marshaling all over the island of England for the greatest invasion in history against the most bloody-minded enemies in the long story of warfare, the Nazi Germans dug in on the soil of France.

IT IS true, of course, that American self-interest and high politics as well as sentiment have given the heads of an ex-enemy land this high, peculiar status among us.

BOTH evoke respect here. But Adenauer—perhaps because of the somber dignity of his years and achievement and perhaps because of a personality having the weathered strength of a great old tree—draws a special regard. It can be seen more easily than it can be described.

He seems to represent some quality of timelessness; of a traditional, patriarchal leadership; some strange and rare victory of age over youth rather than of youth over age, as it usually goes.

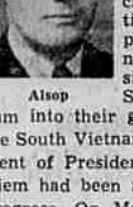
Nowhere in all the chancellor's official rounds here was this more plainly true than in his brief appearance before the United States Senate. This, too, is a traditional,

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

WARNINGS APLENTY

SAIGON—In the spring of 1959, the Communist leaders of North Vietnam and their senior partners in the Kremlin had been waiting for over five years, with increasing impatience, for expected weakness and division to bring South Vietnam into their grip.



Before Christmas of 1959, the guerrilla war on President Diem's government was started in deadly earnest. The first battalions ready in the Plaines des Jons moved secretly into their assigned provinces; they applied the familiar pressures of mingled terror and persuasion; and thus they spawned additional companies and sections in each province.

By the winter of 1960 much of the countryside in many of the provinces was already in Communist hands, at least by night. Further bases, like that in the Plaines des Jons, had also begun to be established in other especially impenetrable areas such as the Camau Delta and the forested region not far from Saigon and just beyond the town of Can Tho.

In September, 1960, a North Vietnamese Communist Party Congress reiterated the earlier declaration of underground war by the Party's Central Committee. Almost simultaneously, the attack on Laos was renewed, this time with open Soviet logistic support. The Communist Pathet Lao forces, previously defeated by the Laotian Army, soon gained the upper hand after being greatly stiffened by border crossers from North Vietnam.

MEANWHILE the formation of additional battalions began in the Camau Delta, the Plaines des Jons and the other difficult areas where the Communists had their South Vietnamese bases. The scale of the effort may be gauged from one of these bases which recently discovered and destroyed.

Besides mess hall, lecture hall, makeshift infirmary and other main buildings, the base in the jungle clearing had close to 300 palm-hut- or accommodation for somewhere between 600 and 1,000 men.

At the present juncture, therefore, the Communists have at least three, and more probably six, new battalions which are ready to move out of their jungle protected training bases and join the guerrilla war. In addition, a ceasefire will probably release three to four thousand border crossers for potential use in South Vietnam.

The fact that these large Communist reinforcements may soon enter the struggle in South Vietnam is truly significant in view of another fact. In a few provinces, like Kien Hoa where this reporter spent some days with the courageous Colonel Thao, the Communists have lately been losing ground. In many others, the struggle is evenly balanced, and in some areas the Communists have been gaining. Overall, you might say that the South Vietnamese army is like a bottle just large enough to contain the existing Communist strength. But let the Communists pour in much more strength, and they may not be contained.

If the record is surveyed, it will be seen that there have been warnings aplenty since 1959, most of which were blandly ignored by the American government until very recently. But a further warning is in order now, for this can become a supremely dangerous situation in painfully short order.