

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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 30, 1951 (Monday)

20 YEARS AGO: April 30, 1941 (Wednesday)

30 YEARS AGO: April 30, 1931 (Thursday)

40 YEARS AGO: April 30, 1921 (Saturday)

50 YEARS AGO: April 30, 1911 (Sunday)

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

1. Was the purchase price of the Louisiana Territory 10, 15 or 20 million dollars?

2. What was the Pharaoh of Alexandria?

3. Railroad mergers are considered by what federal regulatory agency?

4. Before Herbert Hoover entered public life, what was his profession?

5. The Solicitor General of the United States is under what cabinet officer?

6. Lead is the heaviest known metal; true or false?

7. What is metaphors?

8. The Big Inch and the Little Inch were built during W.W.II. what are they?

9. Is Daily Double used in contract bridge, baseball or horse racing?

10. Are there five, six or seven countries in Central America?

Answers: 1. 15 million. 2. Lighthouse. 3. Interstate Commerce Commission. 4. Engineering. 5. Attorney General. 6. False. 7. Figure of speech. 8. Pipe lines. 9. Horse racing. 10. Seven: Guatemala, British Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Cuba, Haiti, Panama.

Voluntary Censorship

President Kennedy was wrong — dead wrong — in the Cuban invasion.

And we think he is equally wrong in calling for "voluntary censorship" of the news by the newspaper industry, while at the same time rejecting a new agency along the lines of the office of censorship which operated during the war.

In calling on newspaper editors to refrain from printing news which is not in the "national interest," he is asking them to do something they are not equipped to do.

HE DID say the administration would cooperate with whatever plans the publishers may present. And it certainly would do no harm, and perhaps much good, to study the matter further, with both news people and government people in on the discussions.

But it would take quite a bit of talking to convince us that, in the absence of a shooting war, voluntary censorship would accomplish anything, except to reduce the amount of information available to the people of the United States.

The government of the United States should have nothing to hide, nothing of which to be ashamed — with the possible exception of certain cloak-and-dagger type of activities which, we sadly concede, may be necessary in a world as upset and dangerous as it is today.

PRESIDENT Kennedy is undoubtedly smarting from the Cuban fiasco in making his censorship proposal. United States support of the invasion forces was an "open secret" for months. Much has been said about the ineffectiveness of our own intelligence and military advice, and more about the assistance which the American press, notably the magazine press, gave to Castro's intelligence officers.

But the press's obligation is to inform its readers. It doesn't always do this very well.

And we do not believe it should be hampered in its efforts to do so by asking editors to try to decide, not whether an item is news, but whether it is in the "national interest."

There is a place for secrecy in some government operations — but that is where the secrecy should begin and end. It should not be extended into the nation's newsrooms, which, unless they print the news, are not doing their jobs. —E.A.

Space Colonization No Answer

Dr. Harold Ritchey is vice president of the Thiokol Chemical company (rocket fuels) and president of the American Rocket Society.

We hope he is a better chemist than he is a mathematician or demographer.

He was quoted the other day, in discussing the reasons for the exploration of space, thus: "I believe that the conquest of space will solve our problem of population explosion, which will have a serious effect on the human race within the next 30 years. We might run out of food and raw materials, and this would lead to a lower standard of living. By conquering space, we can indefinitely delay this situation."

Not so, Dr. Ritchey; not so at all.

PRESUME, first, that the moon and Mars and Venus can support human life in any quantity, or even provide human food (which is not a valid presumption — but let it go).

Then presume the world is capable of constructing space ships big enough to carry 3,000 people—roughly the number of passengers which can be carried on our biggest ocean-going passenger ships.

Third, presume that we have enough of them to blast one off into space every day.

In one year, they could carry 1,095,000 people off the earth.

MEANWHILE, in the United States ALONE, the population will have increased, in that same year, by about 3,000,000.

On the earth as a whole, the population is now about 3 billion, and is growing at the rate of several hundred million a year.

Even if the ENTIRE resources of earth were devoted to building and dispatching our hypothetical space ships, they couldn't come anywhere near matching the population growth.

There are two alternatives to "solve" the problem of the exploding population. One is wholesale slaughter by nuclear warfare. The other is by widespread, perhaps even compulsory, birth control.

If there is a third alternative, we don't know what it is. —E.A.

New Billboard Laws

On previous occasions we have expressed our disappointment with the current legislature.

This does not mean, of course, that it's been all bad. Some good constructive legislation has been enacted, although the overall score is somewhere around a C-minus.

One of the good accomplishments has been the passage of two bills which will provide a start on billboard regulation.

THEY ARE fairly mild, and only partly efficacious. But they are a start in the right direction, and as the people of the state begin to realize their benefits, they can be broadened.

Once more we should like to compliment the outdoor advertising industry for living up to its promise last fall, to seek such legislation.

The day is coming when the industry itself will realize it does itself more harm than good in marring Oregon's scenic beauty. These two laws bring that day closer. —E.A.

Dennis the Menace



YA GOT ANYTHING TO EAT? I GET HUNGRY WHEN I GOT A NAPKIN AROUND ME!

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

AFTER THE ABSCESS BURST

Paris—At about midnight last Friday, when he was getting ready for bed after attending a gala performance of Racine's "Britannicus," Gen. Charles de Gaulle first received from Premier Michel Debre the ugly news of a military putsch in Algiers.

The days of agonizing drama which followed were almost wholly dominated by this man of deep faith and iron will. It now appears, for instance, that General de Gaulle in person played the largest part in averting the parachute assault on Paris which the junta of rebellious military officers in Algiers had planned for Sunday evening.

According to rather well authenticated reports, the air officers on the scene in Algiers were at first uncertain about the course they ought to take—as well they might have been, since they were under the guns of the military junta's troops. But their minds were made up when they saw de Gaulle on television, a towering figure in a towering rage, and heard him give his famous order, with all the formidable force at his command to "bar the road" to the insurgents.

Some 3,500 paratroopers deployed on the Algiers airfield that night, for the planned descent on Paris. But the responsible air officers "barred the road" most effectively, by the rather simple expedient of leaving the paratroopers with no means of transport across the Mediterranean.

A MORE curious instance of General de Gaulle's impact is the story of General Goraud, on Saturday, when visited by the courageous Minister for Algerian Affairs, Louis Joxe, this important regional commander swore undying fidelity to the government in Paris. On Sunday, General Goraud received one of the junta leaders, General Zeller, with full military honors and at once rallied to the junta. But after the week end, having reflected on what he had seen and heard on television Sunday evening, General Goraud brisly rallied all over again, this time to General de Gaulle.

It is easy enough to smile at the effects on a weak man of this terrifying and primordial figure who leads France. It is wiser to be impressed by the air force officers, who were stirred to an action of very considerable courage by de Gaulle's example and command.

It is not good enough, either, to say what many people are now saying, that General Challe and others failed because they made all sorts of miscalculations about the mood of the conscript soldiers there.

In Algeria and other such matters. The plain truth is that these miscalculations would most probably have proved extremely superficial, without de Gaulle to "bar the road" and order others to do so.

TO de Gaulle, therefore, France owes an incalculable debt for the preservation of her free institutions, and to de Gaulle, so often an uncomfortable partner, all the other Western allies owe an incalculable debt for preventing the kind of result in France which might, quite literally, have proved the beginning of the end of the West.

So much is obvious. It is obvious, too, that the neo-Fascist abscess which history inflicted upon the brave French army has now burst for good and all. The neo-Fascist military threat, which made all Paris and all France tremble over the week end, which has repeatedly intimidated French governments of every political coloration, will not cause any further loss of sleep to anyone for a very long time to come.

That, in itself, is a great gain. But the aborted coup in Algeria was none the less a tragic business, because it somewhat has weakened General de Gaulle's hand and has somewhat restricted his power of maneuver in his dealings with those other Algerian rebels who constitute a far sterner problem for him, the F. L. N.

From the way people—even informed people—are talking in Paris today, you might suppose that the collapse of the military putsch in Algiers had removed the last obstacle to rapid negotiation of an Algerian peace. In reality, however, the outlook for early and fruitful negotiations is fairly discouraging.

The curious fact of the matter is that the F. L. N.'s alleged moderates, the political leaders including Ferhat Abbas himself, have become reluctant to negotiate. Having the bazaar bargaining instincts of most Arabs, they see that General de Gaulle is eager for negotiations, and they therefore hope for better terms if they hold back.

Meanwhile those who wish to negotiate are the supposed hard-nosed types, the F. L. N. military leaders like the legendary Kabyle, Krim Belkacem. They want peace because they fully understand the grim lot of the F. L. N. guerrilla units still in the field in Algeria.

What is this unexpected yet highly logical political pattern may finally produce, as yet unpredictable. But the pattern at least indicates that if negotiations are not soon agreed to, the countless Western quartermasters of General de Gaulle will have to be patient and to understand that he cannot throw in his hand in Algeria all at once if he desires a bearable peace there.

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

AFTER THE REBELLION

On Thursday, the day before the insurrection, the position of Gaullist government was that for France the Algerian question is decided. The remaining problem was when the Algerian Nationalists would find enough unity among themselves to assume the powers that would follow the independence which France had decided to grant them.

On Friday the Generals rebelled, and almost certainly the government in Paris had little or no advance notice. For 72 hours it was a question whether the government of General de Gaulle had misjudged its power.

During Saturday and Sunday the rebellion had spread widely in Algeria and by Sunday evening, when General de Gaulle spoke to the nation, the mood in Paris was desperate. One Cabinet Minister, for example, was saying privately that Paris was defenseless against the paratroopers, that neither the Army, nor the Air Force, nor the Secret Service, nor the Police, could be relied upon to defend the government. Only the Navy was reliable.

Sunday night in Paris was an anxious time, what with the reports that the paratroopers were already in their planes and would be dropping on Paris between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. M. Debre, the Premier, had told the French people that when they heard the sirens announcing the invasion, they should take their cars and drive to the airports and argue with the paratroopers! This was a measure of how desperate was the mood.

NEVERTHELESS, during that Sunday night the situation changed radically. For reasons which are not clear as yet, but can perhaps be inferred, the paratroopers did not start for Paris, or they were recalled. From then on the insurrection began to fail. Earlier that day I had heard Ambassador Gavin say that nobody could judge the situation until he knew whether there was a strike against Paris.

The big reason, I believe, why the attack on Paris failed is that the pessimists around General de Gaulle had underestimated his personal power and resourcefulness. When he had said on Thursday that for France the Algerian question was decided, he was speaking with the certainty that while the dissidents in the armed forces were strong men, the Gaullist measures during the past year or so had succeeded far more than most people realized, in weakening and breaking up the solidarity of the rebellious officers.

The second reason, and no doubt a smaller one—though I do not know this for certain—was that President Kennedy, acting on the advice of General Gavin—who is a mighty good man in a crisis like this one—had rallied to General de Gaulle, had offered him help if it were desired. The American presence in the Mediterranean of the air forces of the Sixth Fleet, which were quite capable of intercepting an invasion, may have done something to dissuade the rebels from taking

off for Paris. It was widely remembered in Paris on Sunday night, and perhaps also in Algeria, that on a previous occasion when the paratroopers were threatening Paris President Eisenhower had rallied to General de Gaulle with an offer of American help.

I repeat that I cannot prove this but I believe that the American presence in the Mediterranean was a factor, and that Ambassador Gavin's visit to General de Gaulle late Sunday evening marked an American decision in which we can take a certain quiet satisfaction.

THE prospects of an Algerian peace have almost certainly been improved somewhat. General de Gaulle has now had a showdown—either to something he has avoided—with the sworn enemies of his policy. In the aftermath, he will presumably take stern measures to break the back of the armed and organized military rebels, including that of the foreign mercenaries among them, and then will have a free hand to impose the terms of a settlement—if one can be agreed upon.

We must not, however, go overboard. A settlement in Algeria is exceedingly difficult. For nowhere in the world has any imperial power succeeded in creating a workable bi-racial independent state.

The British, with all their success in liquidating their empire, have never succeeded in doing this in their colonies where there are two different religious and racial communities. This problem of the dual communities extends from French Algeria down through to British Central and Eastern Africa to South Africa. If General de Gaulle can now succeed in establishing an independent Algeria, he will be a pioneer in international relations.

FOR us, bewildered and beset by events in Laos, South Vietnam, and Cuba, this French affair should be a salutary reminder not to lose our perspective in world affairs. By that I mean that we must continue to keep our primary attention fixed on what is central and crucial and not become divided, distracted, and engaged in the periphery.

Reading the clippings after being away for a month, I am astonished at the number of responsible men who want to use the Marines and the American paratroopers all over the world. They want to use them in Laos, in Vietnam, and Cuba. In my view, they have let their pride, their frustration, and their impatience exaggerate fanatically the importance of these small peripheral countries. This exaggeration is at the expense of a clear and steady and resolute view of the strategy of our great adversary.

I cannot imagine any course of action better calculated to lose the cold war than to become engaged in the jungles of Indo-China or in an occupation against the guerrilla forces of Castro. Let us never forget that the armed forces of the Soviet Union are not committed in any of these peripheral countries. It is our paramount duty in the strategy of the cold war not to become committed in costly little wars which cannot be won easily, if they can be won at all, while the Soviet Union and China have their hands free.

Have the addicts of these

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Contributed: "Gone are the days when a fellow could indulge in a bottle of that good, old-fashioned beverage called Birch Beer without being considered an extremist."

"I suppose Welch's Grape Juice is next on the road to oblivion."

It is said these days (not entirely accurately—but not without some accuracy, either) that tax-financed schools can hardly afford to flunk anyone out. As a result, some report card systems strain to see that each student gets a passing grade and some helpful comment. The height of something, or other, in the latter category, was reported recently on a note attached to a rather poor report card. It said, "He contributes nicely to group singing by helpful listening."

A bee recently accomplished what a husband couldn't. It made a woman remove her flower-bedecked hat, and stick to slightly more conservative styles.

She was listening to a sermon in a Jackson county church when the bee in question flew in through the window, and lit on the flowers on her hat. A tap on the shoulder by a fellow church member warned her of the bee in her bonnet.

She snatched it off, narrowly missing getting stung, and at last report hasn't worn it to church again.

It is not unusual that someone who has been arrested for some offense or other asks the paper not to publish his (or her) name. These requests are not

little was stopped to think what a little war in Indo-China would be like? If not, let them study the British experience in Malaya where it took ten years and a very large army to subdue these Chinese guerrillas. Have they thought what a little war in Cuba would be like after the Marines had captured Havana and a few cities and had then to govern a revolutionary peasantry?

OUR people have to fix it in their minds that the world-wide upheaval which has come to Laos and to Vietnam and to Cuba, which will probably come to Iran and to certain countries in South America, that this world-wide revolution cannot be stopped and settled by the United States Marines, great fighters though they are.

American armed engagements in these peripheral countries, with the Soviet Union's power uncommitted, would be the height of strategic folly. These peripheral countries, including Cuba, cannot pose a vital threat to the security of the United States, and we must not exaggerate their importance.

What is vitally important to the future of the United States is the central bastion of Western power. This is what checks the central power of the Soviet Union and preserves the peace of the world against a great war. In this Atlantic bastion France is a key country, as our actions in the past few days have testified.

granted, except in extraordinary cases. With this, preface we can recount the case of the man who asked district court officials to withhold his name from publication in the court records. Judge Sawyer had one of his clerks call the man's home to explain that his name couldn't be withheld. After talking to the man's wife for a few minutes, the clerk discovered the wife was the reason for the request.

This has been quite a week for alterations of one sort or another.

There was the heated hearing on the proposed building code for the county.

Then there was the one about the proposed Talent wrecking yard.

And the one about the Barnett road area, and which school district it should be in.

Between times were the county budget hearings, which are usually orderly, but which sometimes break out in displays of irritation as one budget or another feels the axe.

At the school district boundary hearing, Lawyer Richard Cottle, representing the Phoenix school district, was heard to remark that it is rumored the Medford school district doesn't particularly want Rogue Valley Manor because there are no football players up there.

The reporter who covered several of these meetings observed that they could have shut off the central heating in the courthouse because the hearings generated enough heat for everyone.

He said two men offered to punch a planning commissioner in the nose, declaring, "It will only cost us \$125 in court, and it might be worth it!"

And he also said that wives of participants were kept busy keeping their husbands under control.

Well, this is democracy in action, and in a way it's a good thing, even though people do sometimes say, and do things they'll be sorry for.

This week end marks the beginning of National Baby Week, Mental Health Week, National Home Demonstration Week, and National Invest-in-America Week.

Does anyone see a subtle connection between these, or is it just the Potluck editor's warped sensibilities?

And a juicy bill-of-fare begins tomorrow, which is the kick-off for the following: Butter With Corn-on-the-Cob Time, National Foot Health Month, White Bread Sales Month, Clean-up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Month; Better Hearing Month, National Ornamental Iron Month, National Tavern Month, National Radio Month, Personal Affairs Month, National Home Improvements Month, National Water Systems Month, Spring Milk Campaign, Cream Campaign, Boys' Kite Day, Child Health Day, National Correct Posture Week, and American Camp Week.

Whew!

What a sad, sad waste of time, talent, money, and, in this case, newsprint.

Castro High, U.S. Low, In Latin Lands

Recife, Brazil — As these words are written in the capital of South America's most blighted, potentially revolutionary region — half starved feudalistic northeast Brazil — all the evidence available here suggests that President Kennedy's newly launched Latin American policy has been badly gashed below the waterline on the Cuban reef. Castro's prestige has been enormously increased everywhere.

The left wing is jubilant. In propaganda terms they have carried the day. However remote Washington's responsibility for the invasion attempt, the well-meshed Communist propaganda apparatus operating out of Mexico City and Havana has successfully shouted down Washington's disclaimers. Scarcely a newspaper below the Rio Grande has come to the defense of the United States, and here in Brazil I have not encountered a single important politician, however anti-Communist, willing to speak out publicly in

favor of either the U.S. or the refugee Cubans. Fidelismo, which does not mean Communism to millions of Latin Americans, but a symbol of land reform and a living wage, has spread too far and too deep.

A pile of the State Department's new pamphlet convincingly demonstrating Castro's total betrayal of his own revolution lay on the desk of one American official in Recife. I asked him if he planned to give them to local Brazilian editors. Bitterly he answered, "I wouldn't have a hope of getting a line of it printed!" Brazil means nearly one-half of South America's land, nearly one-half its people. Brazil was our firm ally south of the border, the first in Latin America to join the Allies in both World Wars. But Brazil will not help us with the Cuban menace, however clearly its leaders recognize that Castro means to investigate revolution in many of the hemisphere's South American countries.

For years Brazil and other governments argued against unilateral United States actions in Latin America and in favor of multilateral action through the organization of American States. Now they are telling us, Handle Cuba yourself.

For domestic reasons they dare not do otherwise, and their paralysis of will is likely to make the May meeting in Quito of the hemisphere Foreign Ministers a critical episode and turning point in the whole history of hemispheric relations. The Cuban Embassy in Rio De Janeiro is very big and intensely active among the university students, where not only Fidelismo but Communism itself is rapidly spreading.

President Janio Quadros is surely going to recognize the Soviet Union. This will mean, among other things, a big Soviet consulate here in Recife. Soviet agents and agitators will swarm all over the northeast region, where the Communist powder trains have already been laid by the rapid spread of the Peasants' Leagues, the first serious rebellion in four hundred years by the landless plantation workers against their Asiatic conditions of life. Conditions of death would be the more accurate phrase. If they survive the Gastric diseases of infancy, they can expect to die by the age of thirty.

Northeast Brazil was a sleeper in the world's consciousness. It is an immense area with some twenty million people. What is now going on

here is literally a race between long delayed economic development and a prairie fire grass roots political movement that is thoroughly Communist in leadership, ideas and oratorical accents. It is a complicated story of which I expect to write in further columns.

But let it be said at once and plainly, that in spite of Brazilian official demurrers there is in the making a possibly violent test of whether the Brazilian union is going to survive intact. The Brazilian northeast is to the prosperous southwest, what our economically exhausted ex-slavery states were to the North in the period that followed the Civil War. In our case the passions were spent; here they are just beginning to gather. In this powder train Castro is the distant hero, the Yankee imperialist is the distant enemy. Preposterous as this devil theory is, on the factual record the recent events in Cuba have made Castro even more the hero, the U.S. even more the villain, here in the sad and ugly setting of what may well be the next great revolutionary convulsion in the western hemisphere.

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Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

FROM A LONG LIST of "definitions" being circulated surreptitiously in Washington's huge Pentagon Building: A program: An assignment that cannot be completed by a single telephone call.

To activate: To make carbons and add more names to a memo.

Consultant: Any average man more than fifty miles from home.

To implement: To hire more people and wangle additional office space.

Reorientation: Getting used to working again.

Committee: The unwilling, recruited from the unfit to do the unnecessary.

(Which reminds me of the definition of a camel: a horse made by a committee.)

