

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.

30 YEARS AGO

One of the last official acts of the late county school superintendent C. R. Bowman was to outline a new and stiffer procedure for dealing with truancy in county schools, and his successor Alf Mervold has said he will carry on the program.

Southern Oregon bee keepers will meet tonight in the courthouse to have new state laws pertaining to bees explained to them.

30 YEARS AGO

May 16, 1931 (Friday)

Jackson county's two draft boards together have received a May quota of 12 new inductees.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smude Pot" column: As usual, the first straw hats of the season show up the noodles of citizens financially able to stay in the shade until snow flies.

30 YEARS AGO

May 16, 1931 (Saturday)

The state of California has announced plans to build a 50-mile highway link between Weed and the state line south of Klamath Falls.

Only 11 couples remain in the walkathon championships at the Medford Natatorium.

40 YEARS AGO

May 16, 1921 (Monday)

More indictments have been returned by the grand jury in the bank of Jacksonville failure scandal.

More than \$7,000 worth of Crater Lake National park company stock has been purchased locally.

30 YEARS AGO

May 16, 1931 (Tuesday)

Because of the increase in business, the local telephone system will be expanded with four more sections of switchboard being added.

A supreme court decision breaking up the Standard Oil company trust has caused a flurry of excitement throughout the business world.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Which country in Central America is largest in area?

2. Was Roger Bacon a monk, chemist, or an authority on optics?

3. What legislative body exercises exclusive jurisdiction over the District of Columbia?

4. What Federal agency enforces requirements as to properly labeling wool products?

5. Does a wombat most resemble a snake, a bear, an alligator, or a whale?

6. Is an inviolable remark most likely to provoke laughter, ill-will, or good-will?

7. "Colonel Fyncheon" is a character in which Nathaniel Hawthorne novel?

8. In which European country did Wilhelm, former Emperor of Germany, die?

9. Norway is a republic; true or false?

10. The inhabitants of Madagascar are known as M-g-ans?

1. Nicaragua. 2. All three. 3. Congress. 4. Federal Trade Commission. 5. Bear. 6. Ill-will. 7. "The House of Seven Gables." 8. The Netherlands. 9. False. 10. Malagasy.

A Valid Question

Oregon higher education has suffered three major losses in recent months.

First it was the departure of Dr. O. Meredith Wilson from the presidency of the University of Oregon.

Next it was the announcement of the pending retirement of Dr. A. L. Strand as president of Oregon State college (university).

And now it is the resignation of Dr. John R. Richards as chancellor of the state system of higher education.

IT IS probably coincidental that the state's three top educators all are leaving within a few months of each other.

Dr. Wilson left to become president of the University of Minnesota; Dr. Richards will assume the new post of director of the California Coordinating Council on Higher Education, and Dr. Strand will go into semi-retirement, to perform some as-yet unspecified duties with the state system.

All three are top men, acknowledged nationally and even internationally as able, astute, scholarly administrators.

ONLY in the case of Dr. Richards has there been any hint at reasons other than the normal attrition of age, or normal academic ambition, in the actions.

Dr. Richards emphasized that his resignation could in no way be construed as a protest to trends in education in Oregon. But he also said that he has long looked with concern on a trend in many states (including Oregon) for the legislative and executive departments of the state to dictate how the academic community should do its job.

He declared that the new coordinating council in California represents a chance to reverse that trend, and to put scholars and academic administrators in charge of the work for which they are responsible.

THERE are two schools of thought here.

One is that the legislature is responsible for raising state tax money, and for the efficient spending of it, along with the governor, and therefore the legislative and executive branches are duty-bound to oversee the minutiae of education as well as to make the appropriations.

The other, opposing view, is that the state board of higher education, its administrators and its teachers, have spent most of their lives working in education, are professionally qualified for the job, and can do it better without amateurs in education looking over their shoulders.

THERE is merit in both arguments.

And as a result, state-supported higher education has long lived in the atmosphere of uneasy compromise between the two positions — that the money raisers should dictate policy, or that the professionals should do so.

It is of significance that Dr. Richards' move should be to an entirely new position in California, where the legislature has gone along with a series of reorganizations which add up to greater control of educational plans and policies by professional educators.

Dr. Richards chose to postpone announcement of his decision until after the legislature adjourned. This was gracious of him, and avoided an implied protest against the Oregon situation.

BUT there is little doubt that he feels the experiment in California offers a new challenge to work out a modus operandi whereby the academic community will do its job with a minimum of interference from the political arena.

It will be interesting to watch how the new coordinating council works, and what effect it will have on the largest state system of higher education in the nation, and on private institutions too.

It might be worth while for some basic thinking on the problems involved to be done in Oregon, in academic as well as political circles.

Who is to set educational policies? Politicians harried by a hundred distractions? Or academicians and administrators who have spent their lives equipping themselves to do so? It's a valid question. — E. A.

4 p. m. Friday

In recent months, the county court has taken to announcing many of its major decisions on a Friday afternoon. There are those who are inclined to believe that is a petty way of protesting the Mail Tribune's constant search for news.

Whether that's true or not, one observer remarked, after the appointment of Thad Hatten as assessor was announced last Friday, "I'll bet that if Judge Miller ever resigns, it will be announced at 4 p. m. on a Friday." — E. A.

Tribute to "Coop"

Gary Cooper may not have been the world's greatest actor. But judging by the evidence available, he was one of the world's nicest guys.

In contrast to many Hollywood personalities, he was a man of personal integrity and honor, and these showed through in the many roles he played in his long career.

The general mourning among his colleagues is a tribute to "Coop", not so much as an actor (although he always was honest and straightforward in his acting) as much as it was as a man — a decent, moral man who proved to the world that Hollywood is not, really, all publicity, adultery and flashy nothingness. — E. A.

Dennis the Menace



"HERE! PUT ON YOUR GLASSES! I WANNA SHOW YA SOMETHIN' OUT THE WINDOW!"

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Gentian

To the Editor: Blue gentians always have ranked high in the esteem of flower-lovers. They are characteristic of high mountain meadows, as when climbing Switzerland's Jungfrau or Matterhorn. One enjoys them hiking the Dolomitenstrasse on the Austrian-Italian border. One notices them all along our own Sierras. They are in the Rockies, whether your National Park is in Colorado or in Canada. They also contrast with the gold of "Iceland" poppies on tundras north of the Arctic Circle.

There is another gentian that is not quite so widespread over the Northern Hemisphere. Its color is pink. Its botanical name is Erythraea. It is one of our disappearing California wildflowers. We do not believe that an allocation should be made to any private agency to be disbursed at the discretion of the agency with no direct supervision or public control possible. This is not what the petitioners requested.

In writer's boyhood, he enjoyed miles of these pink gentians where now are stretches of bungalows. The last good masses of this lovely flower he observed was some years ago at the old Ghost Town of Timbuctu. Legend says it was named for a Negro. He wanted to mine. The white miners thought it a big joke to send him to barren ground. To their chagrin, he struck it rich. When writer last visited the old diggins, they were colorful with these pink gentians.

The Mexican-California knew Erythraea's medicinal value. In their adobe under their tiled roofs one saw bundles of this "canchaluga" subterfuge drying. It also was an excuse for "bitters" when one felt the need of an alcoholic stimulant under such a subterfuge.

C. M. Goethe
3731 Tea st.,
Sacramento 16, Calif.

Cat Care Aims

To the Editor: To correct rumors being circulated, the Cat Care Society wishes to make these facts clear:

1. The Cat Care Society has NOT asked the county court for funds for their society and will never do so. We feel that private agencies should not expect taxpayers to finance their programs.

2. The Cat Care Society has no quarrel with the Southern Oregon Humane Society. Evidence of this is the fact that in the fall of 1960, because the Humane Society had leased out "cat facilities" originally built for the care of homeless cats and dogs, to a commercial business for \$200 a month, and did not have any facilities at their present site, the Cat Care Society offered to furnish building material for a small cat shelter and also offered to pay gasoline costs if they would help with the cat pick-ups and problems in the valley. These offers were not accepted. Our society respected their right, as a private corporation, to conduct their business as they saw fit, but finding it impossible for a small group of volunteers to cope with the county wide problem, we circulated petitions requesting county participation.

3. These petitions were presented to the county court. The court appointed a fact-finding committee to investigate and show proof of the need for county participation and to make recommendations. The need was established and recommendations submitted that the control program be carried out under the direct supervision of the county, using their already existing facilities and workers, which could be done at a minimum cost.

4. At the hearing where these recommendations were submitted, the Southern Oregon Humane Society presented a minority report stating, and I quote from their report, "that if funds are allocated by Jackson county court for a control program then such funds be allocated to the Southern Oregon Humane Society."

5. The Cat Care Society does not agree with this recommendation and is taking the issue to the people: We believe that if any allocation is necessary it should be kept under the direct supervision of the people through their county court, where public control of funds used will keep the program economical. We do not believe that an allocation should be made to any private agency to be disbursed at the discretion of the agency with no direct supervision or public control possible. This is not what the petitioners requested.

Rita B. Shogren, President
Cat Care Society, Inc.
1705 South Columbus ave.
Medford.

Faith of Southeast Asia in U.S., SEATO, Said Shaken by Presumed Losses in Laos

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

It seems a more than safe assumption that leaders of Southeast Asia were unanimous in delivering to Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson a single warning message. That would be: There can be no further retreats such as has occurred in Laos if the United States wants to retain its friends in that area of the world, or what is worse, save them from being swallowed up quickly by the Communists.

The Laos debacle has shaken badly Southeast Asia's faith in the United States and in SEATO, the organization that was founded specifically

to save nations from the fate which now appears about to overtake Laos.

The experience was all the more a shaking one, coming as it did immediately after Secretary of State Dean Rusk's promise that the United States would not permit the sacrifice of Laos.

Southeast Asia nations feel that sacrifice already has been made, regardless of what may occur at Geneva.

Japanese government leaders have been quoted as believing that the whole of Southeast Asia will slip behind the Iron Curtain within 24 months if Laos is written off.

Both the Philippines and Thailand have made no secret of their disappointment at SEATO's failure to take strong action against the Communists in Laos, and Thailand even has hinted it

may have to re-examine its whole alignment with the SEATO forces.

American diplomats in Thailand say the Thai already have had down-to-earth talks with the Russians, with a view toward improving relations between the two countries.

There also is talk that Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat, bulwark against communism in Thailand, might be permitted to resign so that a neutralist government could take over in the manner of Burma and Cambodia.

It is no secret that Red China long has been preparing forces to infiltrate Thailand.

It can be reported with authority that influential persons in the Philippine Foreign Office feel if Laos falls, the Philippines should adopt a more "flexible" attitude toward the Reds.

It may be that the United States will get a second chance in Southeast Asia. But as of now it has a long way to go to recapture the former faith of its allies.

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