

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PUBLISHING CO., 35 North E St., Ph. 772-6141.

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An Independent Newspaper
Entered as second class matter at Medford, Oregon, under Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail—In Advance, Copy 10c
Daily and Sunday—1 year \$15.00
Daily and Sunday—6 mos. 8.00
Daily and Sunday—3 mos. 4.25
Sunday Only—One year \$12.00

By Carrier—In Advance—Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, Gold Hill, Phoenix, Shady Cove, Rogue River, Talent and on motor routes Daily and Sunday—1 year \$15.00
Daily and Sunday—6 mos. 8.00
Daily and Sunday—3 mos. 4.25
All Terms Cash in Advance

Official Paper of City of Medford
Official Paper of Jackson County
United Press International
Full Lease
U.P.I. Telephone Newsletters
MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

Advertising Representative:
NELSON ROBERTS & ASSOCIATES, Offices in New York, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver.

More Auditorium Ideas

The Mail Tribune's "auditorium editor" has received a modest response to his offer to accept the names of people interested in working for a new civic auditorium.

Several letters have arrived saying the writers will do what they can to assist such a project, which first would be simply be a discussion of the merits, possibilities and approaches to the erection of an auditorium.

The names are being forwarded to the volunteer who offered to do what she could in the initial stages to get the ball rolling.

THERE'S nothing new about an auditorium being proposed, of course. It has been discussed here time after time, and if memory serves, there even was a nucleus organization at one time—which died quietly when it was found response was lacking.

However, times change. One correspondent put a few thoughts together, as follows:

"Do you realize how many people in this town are looking for a headquarters? Just a few that come to mind right now:

"Art Association, Senior Activities Group, Southern Oregon Society of Artists, Blind group . . . How many people use the Red Cross building for meetings; the Library, the county auditorium and the new building at the Fairgrounds, plus the Girls Community club and the Lodge Halls. There are also Philharmonic, Civil Music, Broadway Theater League, etc., etc. . . .

"My point—I think there is a real place for a broadly designed, valley-sized civic auditorium complex. . . I don't think the auditorium should be multi-use, but the building can be designed to house these other demands.

"We have a staggering amount of money involved in this valley in unrelated buildings—Armories, schools, Shakespear, Southern Oregon college and so on, but we need a thoughtfully integrated 'Lincoln Center' here. I don't believe in trying to combine a dance-hall and music auditorium, but many of the expensive services required for each can be combined: heat, light, parking, restrooms. Every theater has to have a lobby, but there is no reason why a lobby can't be an art gallery. . . ."

HE ALSO went on to discuss other possibilities, about the possible integration of such a plan into a new high school; or the purchase of the Holly Theater building, and other possibilities in that area, so close to the projected new civic center around the west side park.

Another individual, whose special interest is in the theater, and its possibilities in connection with an auditorium, brought us a copy of Theatre Arts, in which innovations in theatrical architecture and design are described.

Some rather exciting things are being done, particularly in the way of flexible, multifunction stages and auditoriums, and some consideration of these new approaches would seem to be merited.

THE Astoria Junior Chamber of Commerce has recognized a similar need in that coastal community, had submitted a plan for public consideration. It involves a county auditorium and convention center, estimated to cost around \$700,000. The plans resulted from a two-year study by a Jaycee committee.

The committee recommended:

A basement area of 20,000 square feet; a service ramp for vehicles into the basement; dining hall facilities for 1,500 people; four small caucus rooms; 1,400 feet of general storage; a mechanical room; catering service kitchen; main floor area with 20,000 square feet; main arena area with flat floor; telescopic side bleachers to seat 672 people; general fixed seating for 2,600 people; provision for memorial exhibition lobby; checking facilities for coats; ticket office; main office; refreshment bar; two sets of rest rooms for each level.

THE committee reported that 14 similar civic auditoriums are in existence. The report said the survey of these showed a "bright" financial picture:

"The study revealed that a well-managed civic auditorium can pay its own operating expenses, but that it cannot pay the capital cost of construction."

However, income resulting to the area from such facilities usually provide for increased property values that offset the bonded indebtedness in a relatively short time, it added.

THE Daily Astorian printed an architect's sketch of the proposed building, and we have asked to borrow the picture for reproduction here, simply as a matter of interest.

This may or may not be a proper approach for Medford or for Jackson county, because there are a vast number of possibilities. Only through active discussion and planning by interested people can any conclusion be reached as to what this area really needs, and could support.

The time has long passed when this area could "not afford" such a facility. We hope the current displays of interest continue and multiply.—E.A.

Sales Tax

Washington state should be able to reduce its deficit this year from its take on sales taxes collected from visitors to the Seattle fair. When you buy a hamburger or a kewpie doll you pay four per cent additional for the state sales tax.

Oregonians who have no sales tax will feel the nick. The experience may deepen their opposition to a sales tax, or it may whet their desire for one—to get back at the other states that collect it.—Oregon Statesman, Salem.

Dennis the Menace



"HERE'S YOUR PAPER, DADDY! AN JUST REMEMBER I DID ONE GOOD THING TODAY!"

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.

Stop While We Can
To the Editor: While Kennedy beats the war drums and screams communist aggression, let's take a look at Uncle Sam and see what he has done in years gone by and is still doing in Thailand.

I will go along with our President on most of his New Frontier program but his foreign policy, and if he continues with this kind of policy we won't need any medicare for any one, let alone the Senior Citizens.

The following is what Smedley D. Butler had to say about the Marines:

"I spent 33 years and 4 months in active service, a member of our country's most agile military force, the Marine Corps. I served in all commissioned ranks from second lieutenant to major general, and during that period I spent most of my time being a high class muscle man for big business, for Wall Street and for the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer for capitalism."

"Thus I helped make Mexico and especially Tampico safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in. I helped purify Nicaragua for the international banking House of Brown Brothers in 1909-1912. I brought light to the Dominican Republic for American sugar interests in 1916. I helped make Honduras right for American Fruit companies in 1903."

"In China in 1927 I helped see it that Standard Oil went its way unmolested. During these years I had, as the boys in the back room would say, a swell racket, I was rewarded with honors, medals and promotion. Looking back on it, I feel I might have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate in three city districts. We Marines operated on three continents."

Everett Acklin, Ashland, Ore.

Do We Care?
To the Editor: Last Friday night I had a vision. I saw the result of what happens when a Community really cares that its Senior Highs have adequate facilities for baseball. I saw a baseball field of which a community could be proud. The symmetrically rounded outfield was enclosed by a billboard fence, apparently paid for by sponsoring business enterprises of the community. The grass in the outfield was trim and uniform. The dirt of the base paths and the mound had been tilled to manicured perfection. Two finely furnished dugouts, complete with bat racks, stands with adequate seating capacity (2,400). Dressing rooms with showers and adequate toilet facilities—all these were a part of the general layout.

I wish that this vision had been of a project sponsored by concerned Medford people; what I actually saw was the enterprise of a community half the size of Medford; the baseball field at Roseburg. And I asked myself the question, "Why can't the people of Medford have the same concern?"

I have been told that we could have duplicate facilities for about \$60,000. To my way of thinking, getting behind Senior Highs is much more important than assisting a Pro Ball team to come to Medford. If our Senior Highs play Legion Ball this summer, they'll probably commute 20 miles to White City and return.

Let's show these fellows that we do care!
Clifford J. Young, 1545 Lenora dr., Medford.

Poor Losers
To the Editor: You and a few others are sure poor losers on the Home Rule Charter. And then you ask "WHY?"

Did you read the pamphlet on the Charter? Read the pamphlet till you understand the full meaning; it will not pass even if you put it before the

Widely Separated Events Really Have Interlocking Influence on Foreign News

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

In the hurly burly of each day's news it is easy to overlook the interlocking influences of seemingly widely separated events. Thus, Great Britain's attitude toward Berlin can influence West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's feeling toward Britain's entry into the common market as desired both by Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's government and the United States.

At the moment, the United States and Britain exchange certain information on nuclear projects, a courtesy not afforded France by either nation and a constant source of irritation to Gen. Charles de Gaulle.

Last week De Gaulle toured the French boondocks, placing special emphasis on what he expects to be France's new role in the leadership of a third force standing between the Anglo-Saxons of the United States and Britain and the Russians.

The implication was that De Gaulle himself felt little enthusiasm toward Britain's entry into the continent through the common market and that his price might be high.

There was speculation that in the forthcoming meeting between De Gaulle and Macmillan, a part of the price might be British agreement to exchange nuclear information with France which presently is involved in the expensive business of developing its own nuclear force.

This in turn would involve revision of the United States' own defensive policies.

On the other hand, British failure to win entry into the common market also would upset Washington's plans for an Atlantic community joined instead of divided by the expanse of water in between.

Such an arrangement would see Britain joined with the six nations of the European Economic Community and the United States and Canada closely tied in through special trade and other agreements.

Taken altogether, the scope of this march of events was world-wide but only indirectly involved in the battle against communism.

De Gaulle, proclaiming a "Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals," spoke from a pinnacle viewpoint of history.

So did Nikita Khrushchev when, confidently foreseeing an Allied split, he predicted, "We will bury you."

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris
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ANTICS WITH SEMANTICS
I am impulsive; you are hasty; he is hot-tempered. I like to dress casually; you are somewhat sloppy in your attire; he is walking scarecrow.

My attorney knows all the ropes; your attorney is full of tricks; his attorney is a slippery shyster.

Only I have just the right degree of ambition; those less ambitious are lazy, and those more ambitious are apple-polishers.

The sole difference between a "dedicated crusader" and a "nosey reformer" consists in our agreement or disagreement with his objectives.

When I am in the mood to drive slowly, I am convinced that most auto fatalities are caused by "speed demons"; but when I am driving fast, I am equally persuaded that it is the "slow pokes" who account for the high accident rate.

When I am in favor of making changes in the status quo, I remind my listeners that "you can't stop progress"; but when I oppose making any changes, I remind them that "we mustn't lose sight of our traditions and old-time values."

I exercise self-control; you are a little on the starchy side; his is terribly repressed.

I am confident of my powers; you have a good opinion of yourself; he is insufferably conceited.

I believe that compromise is the core of marriage; you give in to your wife; he is hen-pecked.

When I commit a minor mistake, I dismiss it as a "trifle"; but when my underling commits a minor mistake, I remind him sentimentally that "trifles make perfection."

Speaking of that immensely useful word "perfection," I can imagine someone accused of the most heinous murders shrugging off the indictment with the familiar maxim, "Well, nobody's perfect."

When a man says of certain people that he likes them "as long as they know their place," it's not hard to figure out the kind of place he assigns them to.

people every election for the next 10 years or more, as you threatened to do. It appears you and a few others would rather be red than dead, and you speak of "we," as if you had your fingers in the writing of that charter, that "one man" in Medford will not get to be dictator, no matter how much you help him.

Take the word "sheriff" off of the Charter and it will probably pass.

The "sheriff" is the only real law we the people have. The state and city police are appointed and can be fired and withdrawn, but not the sheriff.

The sheriff is the protector of law and order to everyone in his county.

You leave the sheriff alone, or we the 35 per cent that vote will see that you do.
W. O. Burns, P. O. Box 444, Central Point, Ore.

In Appreciation
To the Editor: Recently I underwent major surgery in Medford's Rogue Valley Memorial hospital. While the hospital is undoubtedly one of the finest and most modern in the state, what impressed me most was the quality of the personnel.

From the time I was checked in at the admittance desk, and insurance department, until I was wheeled out 14 days later by two attractive and courteous nurses, I was treated like a resort hotel guest. Without exception the nurses appeared not to take their work as merely a job, but as really dedicated in making a patient's stay in the hospital as comfortable and pleasant as humanly possible.

Money cannot buy that quality of service.
Clark H. Lewis, 832 E. Crows rd., Grants Pass, Ore.

AMERICA AND EUROPEAN DEFENSE
One of the main reasons why our relations with General de Gaulle are seriously disturbed is that the Kennedy administration has decided not to alter the established policy, which is not to share with France, as we do with Great Britain, the know-how and the facilities of nuclear power. At first glance the cure for the trouble would seem to be to invite the French into the Anglo-American nuclear club.

But the problem becomes more complicated when we realize, as the British now do, that although they have a considerable nuclear power of their own, always assuming the over-all protection of the United States, it is a power which is on the way to becoming obsolete. Because it is impossibly expensive, the British have already retired from the race in missiles, and they know that when the bombers become obsolete, say within the next ten years, Britain will cease to be a nuclear power in its own right.

Thus our "special relations" in nuclear affairs is destined to disappear within a period of time. The time will not be much longer than it would take France, which is now far behind Britain, to make itself as strong in nuclear power as Britain is today.

THE fact that Britain has already retired from the missile race and that it realizes that it has an obsolescent nuclear power, proves that the whole British effort was a mistake in the first place. We allowed ourselves to be persuaded to support the mistake by an amendment to the McMahon Act. The question today is whether to make compensation to France for that mistake, which time is curing anyway, by repeating the same mistake with France.

After much debate and soul-searching the Administration decided, I think rightly, that the original principle of the McMahon Act is sound, that within the Western Alliance the ultimate responsibility in nuclear affairs must be in one capital, not in two or three. For the United States the predicament would be intolerable if the key to the use of our strategic nuclear forces were not in Washington.

We have this power because we had to build it. Our nuclear power is, as a matter of fact, the core of the defense of Europe and of the West.

We must see to it that this is understood in the places where the final decisions will be taken about the admission of Great Britain and about the partnership with the United States. I am confident that it will be understood.

Try and Stop Me
By BENNETT CERF

A LISTAIR COOK, on a lecture tour through the Ozarks, was strolling through a sleepy village one afternoon when he discovered his watch had stopped. Spying an indolent native rocking slowly on the porch of his dilapidated dwelling, Cook called out, "I wonder if you know the time, sir?"

The native studied the shadow on his porch, shifted the "terbacky" in his cheek, and answered, "Bout four and a half planks till supper time."

Bill Loealio suggests this can't-miss lineup for an all-star baseball squad: Ship pitching; Messias catching; Cotton batting; Henry feigning; Engine warming up; If at first, and Baby bunting. Two substitutes, in a crowded hotel, are doubled up.

Two gentlemen were introduced in the lobby of the Mountain View Hotel. "Excuse my not getting up," said one, "I'm suffering from 'Christis.'" "Perfectly all right," beamed the other, "Tim Goldfarb from Grand Rapids."

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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
May 23, 1952 (Friday)
Renato Antonacci, an 11-year-old Italian boy, has been "adopted" (on a financial basis) by the 17 employees of the California Oregon Power company's record department.

Seventy-six Jackson county students will be among the 191 candidates for diplomas at the Southern Oregon college commencement next Sunday.

20 YEARS AGO
May 23, 1942 (Saturday)
Information received here that Lt. Robert G. Emmens, Medford flyer who took part in Doolittle air raid on Tokyo, is safe; censors withhold details.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Experts predict the collapse of Italy in nine months unless a chance to stab a smaller nation in the back shows up."

30 YEARS AGO
May 23, 1932 (Monday)
Federal government announces plans to spend \$85,000 on post office and courthouse here, and \$85,000 on Ashland post office as part of nationwide relief program.

40 YEARS AGO
May 23, 1922 (Tuesday)
Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis, czar of professional baseball, rules Portland club must be sold by owners, and manager is ineligible to play, owners threaten civil suit.

Marching units in local Memorial day parade to include Grand Army of the Republic, Spanish American War Veterans, mayor and city officials, city council and school board.

50 YEARS AGO
May 23, 1912 (Wednesday)
The "Spring Maid" operetta engagement here, includes Ananiam as "the rabbit," Princess Bozema and Prince Aladar singing "Two Little Love Bees," and a cast of eight in the "Ballet of the Wood Nymphs."

Medford constable returns from Portland with thief who burglarized \$350 worth of jewels from Central Point jewelry store.

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

1. Did Laerose originate with the English, French Canadians or American Indians?

2. Is a gambit used in hockey, badminton, or chess?

3. What European nation has a famous military organization called the Foreign Legion?

4. Which is the fastest growing vegetable?

5. What Norse voyager discovered a land he called Vinland?

6. Who was the first Chinese emperor?

7. Did goldfish originate in Chile, China, or Spain?

8. Correct the following: "Neither the boys or John are going to go."
9. For what weather phenomenon is the Grand Banks noted?
10. The moon always remains at the same distance from the earth, true or false?

Answers: 1. Indians. 2. Chess. 3. France. 4. Asparagus. 5. Leaf Ericson. 6. Constantine. 7. China. 8. Neither the boys nor John is . . . 9. Fog. 10. False.