

Medford Mail Tribune
Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
23 North First St., Ph. 772-6141

Subscription Rates
By Mail - In Advance, Copy 10c
Daily and Sunday - 1 year \$15.00
Daily and Sunday - 6 mos. \$8.00

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
June 12, 1952 (Thursday)
Otto A. Ewaldson, 20 Ross
ct., the only candidate on the
ballot, was elected to a five-
year term on the Medford
school board.

20 YEARS AGO
June 12, 1942 (Friday)
A total of 27,300 pounds of
scrap rubber were collected
in the first two days of a
drive here; large amounts still
being turned in.

30 YEARS AGO
June 12, 1932 (Sunday)
New three-cent stamps ar-
rive in Medford post office;
old red two-cent stamps no
longer adequate for first class
mail.

40 YEARS AGO
Dr. Robert W. Stearns and
Dr. Ira D. Phipps candidates
for election to Medford school
board to replace C. M. Thom-
as.

50 YEARS AGO
Report on Medford city
schools shows 1,334 pupils
in all schools; 221 high school
pupils; eight full-time high
school teachers; 34 high
school graduates in 1912, and
11 courses offered to high
school students.

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

- 1. A sailboat is to its tiller as an automobile is to its windshield, engine, steering wheel, seat, or brakes?
2. Unscramble the following names of flowers: KNIP, AHAILD, YILL.
3. Correct the following: "As soon as I saw him, I knew it was him."
4. Which three words of the following are most closely related: punt, kick-off, full-back, end, touchdown, guard?
5. In which hand does the Statue of Liberty hold the torch?
6. What number increased by 1/2, 1/3, and 1/4 of itself equals 125?
7. Add the next three numbers in this sequence: 3, 12, 6, 24, 12, 48.
8. A box is 3 inches wide and 1 inch deep; how long must it be to hold 15 cubic inches of sand?
9. Which of the following words is a different part of speech than the rest: rabies, lovely, rapier, infants, atom?
10. How many pecks in a bushel?
Answers: 1. Steering wheel, 2. Pink, Dahlia, Lily, 3. ... was he." 4. Fullback, end, guard, 5. Right, 6. Sixty, 7. 24, 96, 48, 8. 5 inches, 9. Lovely, 10. Four.

Metric System

For linear measure, we use the inch (and its subdivisions in halves, eighths, sixteenths, (thirty-seconds, sixty-fourths), the foot (12 inches), the yard (three feet), the rod (16 1/2 feet), the chain (either 66 or 100 feet, depending on whether it is a surveyor's or engineer's), and the mile (5,280 feet or 63,360 inches)—not to mention such esoteric measurements as points, picas, fathoms and furlongs.

For square measure, we have all the above, squared, as well as acres.

For capacity measure, there are gills, pints, quarts, pecks, bushels, gallons (as well as such odd combinations as acre-feet and feet-per-second).

For weight measure, there are grains, drams, ounces, pounds, and tons of several sizes.

ALL of these are totally unrelated to each other. Each has its own history (an inch, one legend goes, was the length of the first thumb-joint of a king). They make attempts to calculate varying types of measurement as complicated as doing long division with Roman numerals.

What the ultimate cost may be of these irrational systems to industry and government is almost incalculable. No one has ever tried to find out, although there is a proposal before the congress now to make a rough finding of what the systems are costing, and what would be the cost of converting to the metric system.

The metric system has long been proposed for adoption in the United States, and the day may come when it will happen.

THE current proposal is to appropriate a half-million dollars to study "the possibilities and problems of substituting the metric system for the weights and measures now standard in this country."

One opponent, at least, thinks it would be a waste of money. "That \$500,000 could be used to help change over textbooks to the new system—if it has to be spent at all," he is quoted as saying. "Everybody knows what the metric system is. We don't have to study it. If they want to have a metric system, let them just set a date in the future for installing it."

This is an oversimplified view. We should at least have some concept of what the change would involve, and would cost, before we jump into it, willy nilly.

WE believe, however, such a study would reveal that the metric system would save great sums of money in the long run, simplify arithmetic and mathematics for generations of students and scholars, and would actually stimulate international commerce.

The metric system, despite the opponent's statement, is not very well known in this country, and there would be some opposition based simply on inertia and dislike of change.

But it is so simple and logical that it could be learned by everyone in a short period of time. The changeover shouldn't take more than a year or two.

THE metric system is based on the meter (linear), the gram (weight), the liter (capacity), the are (area) and the stere (volume).

To these root-measurements are attached appropriate prefixes to indicate smaller or larger quantity. "Micro" is one-millionth, "milli" one-thousandth, "centi" one hundredth, "deci" one-tenth, "deka" ten, "hecto" one hundred, "kilo" one thousand, "myria" ten thousand, and "mega" one million.

A meter is one ten-millionth of the distance from the earth's equator to the north pole, or slightly more than a yard. All other metric measurements are related to it. (For instance, a gram is the weight of one cubic centimeter of water).

The scientific community is using the metric system more and more, and such terms as cubic centimeter and a "megaton bomb" (although the latter is really a confusion of terms) are becoming generally familiar.

USE of the metric system in the United States has been legally permissible since 1866, and, oddly enough, our present units of measurement are now legally defined in terms of the metric system. Many departments of government employ it either exclusively or in large part. It is used in electrical measurement, in drug measurement, and in ocular measurement, as well as in electronics and broadcasting.

It is increasing in use and popularity. A study should be made to determine the impact of the change, and, with that knowledge, we could plan ahead for an orderly conversion.

After an initial period of some confusion, life would be made considerably simpler.—E. A.

Query

The following is a part of Ordinance 2440, Section 76, City of Medford, adopted November 19, 1940:

- "It shall be unlawful for any person to create, assist in creating, permit, continue, or permit the continuance of any loud, disturbing, or unnecessary noise in the City of Medford. The following acts are declared to be violations of this section, but enumerations shall not be deemed to be exclusive:
(a) The use of any automobile, motorcycle, street-car, or other vehicle, any engine, stationary or moving instrument, device, or thing so out of repair, so loaded, or operated in such manner as to create loud or unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noises.
(b) The operation of any gasoline engine without having the same equipped with and using thereupon a muffler."

Query: Does this apply to motor scooters?—E. A.

"Resolved, Then, That Nature Is Wonderful; And That Elephant Trunks Are Good, Donkey Ears Bad"



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.

Hats Off To Youth
To the Editor: Seems Messrs. Henry Johnson and Clifford J. Young take a pretty dim view of our present-day youth, judging from their comments in Communications, 6/10.

The thing that "bugs" Mr. Young, he says, is that "many youth today... expect free education, free vacation trips with pay, free training for efficient use of their skills."

What's so unusual about that? Surely, most of us now living in this good land are or have been beneficiaries of our free public schools, generally hailed as the very bulwark of our free society. Nor are vacations with pay so very new, either, having been fairly commonplace before the turn of the century.

Mr. Johnson starts out with testimony from eminent educators who, it seems to me, see the problems of youth in better historical perspective, as indicated by the following quotations. Says one: "Youth did not create their environment. They are but the victims of an adult-made world."

And another: "The world that a young man enters today is a glittering and insidious thing." A world, mind you, made not by youth but by its elders.

Yet Mr. Johnson's own conclusion is about as dismal as Mr. Young's: "It seems, however, that our youth generally conduct themselves as though life were one grand holiday." Such a sweeping indictment I believe is both unfounded and unfair.

Having worked with youth for upwards of 50 years and in a great variety of settings: in church and YMCA groups, scouting, camping, travel at home and abroad, and in close collaboration with school groups, I believe today's youth gives every bit as good account of itself as any of us oldsters did when we were young—and in many respects, much better.

Most of today's young people are busier than all-get-out in more worthwhile activities than any of us antediluvians know in our youth; in our schools, churches, scouting, 4-H and FFA, the YMCA, other like organizations and their equivalents on the college and university level, and in after-school employment.

Consider, too, the tremendous response of youth all over the country to the challenge of the Peace Corps—no soft or easy prospects for any enrollee; and what they already are accomplishing in many lands is positively thrilling.

My hat's off to youth! I am proud still to be called upon by them from time to time as counselor in their scholastic and other activities.

Don't sell our youth short! Arnold Eugene Jenny Rogue Valley Manor Medford

School Reunion
To the Editor: I am writing this in the hope you will give us some much needed help. The Centralia High School of Centralia, Wash., will hold a reunion of all classes during July 13, 14, 15, 1962—at Centralia. We have very close to 1,000 living alumni from the classes mentioned above and have reason to believe quite a number live in the area covered by your circulation. We are vited old pioneers who lived Centralia High whether they graduated or not. Also are invited old pioneers who lived in and around Centralia during these years—these latter especially for the big picnic to be held at Borst Park on

Sunday, July 15, as the grand finale of the three day event. All parties interested should write Reunion Committee, Lewis & Clark Hotel, Centralia. Anything you will do to help us contact Centralia Alumni for this event will be most appreciated.

Fred Fullon General Chairman 1014 Quinlan Santa Barbara, Calif.

Solution
To the Editor: Where is the hole in the telephone book? Well, we wondered that too; So after a little thought and discussion, Here's what we decided to do.

Good old Dad was summoned, And to the basement he went; Later he returned with a tool, That for drilling is meant.

Slowly but surely he bent to the floor, (The book had been "hanging" there, you know) A few quick turns and that was that.

We thanked him kindly, but we paid him no dough. We have a hole in our telephone book, And it didn't cost us a dime; So now I'll quit, and just give up, And not waste any more time.

Carol Mundlin 547 Laurel Central Point, Ore.

In the Day's News
By FRANK JENKINS
At a news conference in Washington, President Kennedy formally pledged to recommend an across-the-board cut in personal and corporation income taxes to take effect next Jan. 1. The objective, he said, would be to stimulate business.

How would it stimulate business? It would leave more money in the people's pockets for the people to spend.

IT sounds wonderful. But these questions occur: 1. If taxes are cut, will the President propose at the same time to CUT SPENDING? 2. If we cut taxes, but GO ON SPENDING, what will happen? What will happen, of course, if we cut taxes but go on spending at the rate we have been spending, is that we'll go deeper in debt. We are very deeply in debt already. We owe 300 billion dollars—and a proposal is pending to stretch the debt limit to 400 billion. So far every time we have increased the debt limit spending has been increased enough to take up the slack.

So— This question faces us: If the government goes on spending as vigorously as it has spent in the past—and goes on putting a large part of its spending on the cuff—where will we end up? The historians tell us that the immense national debt that Louis XIV piled up and the burden that it laid upon the people was in considerable part responsible for the French Revolution.

Fortified Villages in Midst of Enemy Territory Aiding Viet-Nameese Defense

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst
Saigon, South Viet Nam—(UPI)—The fortified village of Ben Tuong lies about 30 helicopter miles northwest of Saigon, separated from the South Vietnamese capital by the Saigon river delta and mile after mile of rubber plantations and water-filled paddies which glisten in the sun.

From the air it appears both beautiful and peaceful. But the atmosphere of peace is an illusion, for this is the notorious "Zone D" through which only armed convoys can pass by day and which at night belongs to the Communist Viet Cong guerrillas.

The French only partially controlled it when they had Indo-China, and the South Vietnamese government of President Ngo Dinh Diem never has controlled it.

Ben Tuong is a tiny oasis in the midst of the Viet Cong who in the month of May alone attacked it 14 times.

In Ben Tuong the government has gathered 955 men, women and children, some voluntary, some removed from their jungle huts by force. In the village there is a marked scarcity of young men of military age, for they

either have joined the Viet Cong or have disappeared into the jungle in fear of being taken into the army. Their absence is illustrative both of the Viet Cong's influence and of the government's past failure to win either the sympathy or loyalty of these outlying villagers, who regard government agents only as tax collectors or unwelcome representatives of the army.

Ben Tuong and 2,000 other, similar strategic hamlets are part of a U.S.-supported effort to change that concept. Except that the houses are of thatch and woven palm, Ben Tuong could be a village in early colonial America.

A deep ditch embedded with sharp bamboo spikes surrounds it, topped by a barbed-wire and a tangle of earthworks.

An armed guard stands at the gate which each morning swings back to allow the villagers to work in the paddies or an adjoining rubber plantation.

In each family plot, a slit trench provides shelter in case of attack. At the moment, two companies of Vietnamese troops guard the village, but in six months time it is hoped the villagers will provide their own defense.

The real test of Ben Tuong's success will come when the Viet Cong or have disappeared into the jungle in fear of being taken into the army.

Its absence is illustrative both of the Viet Cong's influence and of the government's past failure to win either the sympathy or loyalty of these outlying villagers, who regard government agents only as tax collectors or unwelcome representatives of the army.

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Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

KENNEDY AND THE BUSINESSMEN
Washington—Over the week end, the White House was in a continuous bustle of preparation for the speech the President will make when he receives an honorary degree at the Yale Commencement. The professor-bossorator, Ambassador J. Kenneth Galbraith, prepared a draft which was judged effective but too sharp in tone. The more usual contributors, headed by Theodore Sorensen, worked round the clock, as is their custom on these occasions. As is also customary, messengers dashed in and out almost hourly, bearing data and advice, suggestions and criticisms from the Treasury, the Council of Economic Advisers, and other relevant agencies.

The President himself, meanwhile, was in close, unremitting charge of the whole far-spreading effort—which is why his major speeches, although the results of teamwork, are also very much Kennedy's own speeches in a quiet literal sense. Nor was all this earnest bustle surprising: for the President had early decided to use the Yale rostrum for a particularly significant contribution to his uncomfortable dialogue with the American business community.

THE MOOD and the equipment the President brings to this dialogue have now become exceedingly important. As to the mood, in the aftermath of the steel crisis and the Stock Exchange panic, the President is plainly exasperated. He is not yet fighting mad, but he is both impatient and mocking.

How, he asks, can sane businessmen be so alarmed and angered because they have been deprived of the painful privilege of paying \$6 a ton more for the steel they all use? What makes his "government intervention" so much more wicked in principle than the equally government steel intervention by Vice President Richard M. Nixon?

That time, he points out, there was a long and crippling strike, a large wage rise, and no price rise by emphatic government request. This time, there was no strike, a very moderate wage rise, and no price rise, again by government request, though a request to be sure that was even more sternly proffered.

To this he adds a perfect litany of his own actions designed to be helpful and encouraging to business. The preparation of a new depreciation schedule by the Internal Revenue authorities; the investment credit proposal; the planned across-the-board tax cut—the list was heard at his last press conference. Why, he inquires in effect, should all these things of substance go for nothing, just because he was somewhat harsh with the hapless Roger Blough for the sake of the American economy as a whole and American business in particular?

THUS it must be said that if the business community is feeling ill-used, so is the President. But for the long run, this Presidential sense of being ill-used is clearly less meaningful than the equipment this formidable man is gathering together—which will be very useful in the fight with business if business chooses to pick a fight with him.

In the last 12 months, especially, President Kennedy has given an astonishing amount of time and energy to detailed exploration of every kind of economic problem, with special emphasis on testing the factual underpinnings of the common cliches of economic debate.

There is an odd contrast here, in truth. Perforce, foreign policy is the President's main preoccupation; but he has not given quite the same kind of study to foreign policy matters that he has given, and is even increasingly giving, to economic matters. He does not try, for instance, to read all important Soviet signs and portents himself. He leaves that task, so to say, to the official astrologers.

BUT he is absorbed by such an abstract but basic question as the reasons for the difference in the European and American rates of economic growth; the difference between the government-business relationship in this country and in France or West Germany; the comparison between American budgetary practices and those used abroad, and so on and so on. He not only demands a constant stream of factual memoranda on these and other related subjects. He also seeks out foreign visitors of the specialist type not usually sought out by the White House, such as the treasurer-general of The Netherlands, Emile van Lennep, to subject them to long interrogation.

In sum, we may end by having a Kennedy-business feud like the Roosevelt-business feud, as many businessmen are now predicting. But if this misfortune happens, Kennedy will not enter the feud as Roosevelt did, as an inspired impressionist, acting on hunch. Instead, he will be armed, cap-a-pie, with hard facts and harsh figures to suit every occasion.

It is a point worth considering, especially as the last thing the President desires is clearly a feud with business. Although he does not parrot the conventional notions of the market-place man by a conservative-minded man by any reasonable test, and what he wants is a cooperative relationship with business, rather than a feud.

What this strongly indicates is that auto-suggestion is the cause of "having a cold" in many cases. If you believe you are likely to get one from sitting in a draft or walking through a puddle, you will get all the symptoms—even though the cold virus is not present in your body.

Preston: Lecky once reported the case of a man and his wife who were both bitten by their pet dog. The man became convinced that he was going to develop hydrophobia, but the woman was sure she wasn't.

"In three days," Lecky said, "the man was sick in bed, his throat muscles were becoming taut, and he complained of difficulty in swallowing. His wife was up and well. At the end of five days, the man reported all the symptoms of hydrophobia, and a physician saw that he was actually on the verge of dying from a disease he didn't have."

"Finally, on the eighth day, the doctor persuaded him that nobody with hydrophobia had ever lived more than six days. He jumped out of bed and soon was as well as before the dog had bitten him."

A person cannot be hypnotized against his will; the subject must meet the hypnotist at least half-way, must want to be put in a trance. Much of the "suggestive power" of the hypnotist is based on auto-suggestion in the patient. Likewise, soldiers who are easily brain-washed are unconsciously receptive toward the procedure before it even begins.

The ultimate weapon against brain-washing by an enemy is not our own "indoctrination" courses, or patriotic education, but the building up of strong and healthy egos in our children.

At their terminal point, mental health and national health converge—for the weak, dependent and insecure personality is always ripe for totalitarian plucking.

THE present vice-President, Lyndon Johnson, was then the Senate leader of the Democratic party. He used to say, calmly, amid a great din of excited Democrats reproaching him for "not getting in there and slugging it out with Eisenhower," that he had never seen much point in opening any debate until matters had developed to the point where he had a chance to win it.

Precisely this is the present position of the Republican Congressional leaders so far as Mr. Kennedy personally is concerned. For now, they are content to strike at the man around a Democratic President, rather than at him.

As time goes on their firing will come closer and closer to the President himself. But that time is not yet. In politics, as in war, you do not usually fill a headlong and all-out assault, all artillery going, at the strongest center of the enemy's line until you have spent a good deal of time in softening up his peripheral forces by such a mortar fire.

THIS document goes after what is called "the current administration" or "the present administration." And "the current administration" is indicted for many things—included lack of sympathy with free enterprise and lack of either "wit or will to meet effectively the assault of international Communism on freedom."

Nowhere in it, however, does the name "Kennedy" appear; not even is there such a relatively nonbelligerent phrase as "the Kennedy Administration." The Republicans now choose, when they do get down to naming names, to berate not John Fitzgerald Kennedy, but rather such comparatively small-time figures as Chester Bowles, a foreign policy advisor to the President, and John K. Galbraith, the present Ambassador to India.

Not too long ago, when the shoe was on the other foot, one listened in vain for the name "Eisenhower" when Democrats were blasting away at another president—unless the Eisenhower meant was Dr. Milton Eisenhower, People Like Ezra Taft Benson, then Secretary of Agriculture, took most of the raps. Indeed, looking back, it seems that Benson took practically all of the raps, though this is a fault of memory. Come to think of it, a man named John Foster Dulles took a fair number, too.

ALL this is not in the least accidental. For the better part of eight years neglected, Democrats on this or that party committee or advisory panel screamed in pain and fury at the persistent refusal of the Democratic Congressional leadership to "get tough" with President Eisenhower personally.

Ceaslessly they "demanded" what they never got from the party's elected leaders in Congress: A kind of shouting match of name-calling against the man who held in his hands all the immense power and prestige of the White House.

The elected fellows—which is to say, the real pros—were not interested in any contest of this sort. For they had the sure knowledge that not any number of Congressional trumpets can blow down the walls of an Eisenhower so long as it is under the command of a popular president.

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Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

INDIRECT FIRE
Washington—President Kennedy's Republican Congressional opposition is now doing exactly what President Eisenhower's Democratic opposition used to do about one notably partisan problem.

The Republicans today are avoiding direct and personal attacks on Mr. Kennedy in favor of glad assaults on far lesser administration figures, precisely as the Democrats "laid off" Mr. Eisenhower as a person and happily belted his lower-placed associates.

How clearly the wheel has turned full circle is shown in the all-party "Declaration of Republican Principles and Policy" just issued by the combined Senate and House Republican membership.

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