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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
Sept. 20, 1952 (Monday)

Fall scheduled to arrive, but summer remains hot and dry; no major fires reported, but grass fire numerous.

Don R. Newbury 55, Medford lawyer, found shot to death; apparent suicide.

20 YEARS AGO
Sept. 20, 1942 (Tuesday)

Medford school authorities announce that class in preflight aeronautics will be offered at Medford High school for first time at request of federal government.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: Tomorrow its the official end of summer, of which many veteran valley weather prophets predicted there was going to be none."

30 YEARS AGO
Sept. 20, 1932 (Thursday)

Medford High school registration totals 612, or 12 less than permanent total for 1931.

Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic nominee for president, fails to leave train berth in near freezing early morning temperatures at Klamath Falls to address crowd of 200 persons, including Medford residents.

40 YEARS AGO
Sept. 20, 1922 (Friday)

Medford city council votes to create water board to bring end to numerous controversies involving city water supply.

Local youths create "sensation" by appearing on Main street in "peon pants," latest fashion craze.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 20, 1912 (Sunday)

"Epidemic" of three automobile accidents reported on Medford streets in one day.

Weed baseball "town team" defeats Medford 9 to 6 for Southern Oregon-Northern California championship.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. The death of one who executes a power of attorney makes the power null and void; true or false?
2. Complete the biblical quotation, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills . . . ."
3. Which cities in Minnesota are known as Twin Cities?
4. Was the Geiger counter the discovery of a young Frenchman, Belgian or German?
5. Will an airtight drum support more weight in water if pumped full of air under pressure or if exhausted of air?
6. Of which political society in a large American city is the tiger an emblem?
7. Where in the Crimea did the famous charge of the Light Brigade occur?
8. During World War II which large French steamship capsized in New York harbor at its pier?
9. Which of the Virgin Islands of the United States is the largest in area?
10. Presidlent James K. Polk was born in which State?

Answers: 1. True. 2. ". . . from whence cometh my help." 3. Minneapolis and St. Paul. 4. German. 5. Exhausted of air. 6. Tammany Society of NYC. 7. Balaclava. 8. The Normandie. 9. St. Croix. 10. North Carolina.

Emancipation

Giles French, who runs the weekly Sherman County Journal in Moro, writes a column of paragraphs for each issue which are brief, pungent, and to the point.

Recently, one of them was this:

"A better way to achieve integration would be improve the quality of Negroes, not coerce the whites."

At first glance one may say, "Why, of course," and let it go at that. But at second thought, the weakness of the statement becomes obvious.

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WHAT is the best way to "improve the quality of Negroes"?

The best way—the only way—is to grant them fuller and better education. The best way—the only way—to do that is to provide schools at least the equal of those used by the white students. And both common sense and the Supreme Court insist that equality of schooling cannot be achieved through separate schooling.

If we accept this premise, and most of us do so, then it follows that the only coercion of whites that is involved lies in insisting that white children attend the same schools as Negroes, and vice versa.

And why shouldn't they? Aren't they all Americans together? Should not one American have the same rights and privileges as other Americans, regardless of the color of his skin?

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THIS leads to the second form of "coercion" which some white people resent. This is the demands of the young, courageous new generation of Negroes, many of them college students or graduates, or ministers and lawyers, who are insisting on their rights to equal treatment, not only in schooling, but also in the availability of public accommodations and services.

They are tired of being second class citizens. And who can blame them? They are tired of being deprived of the amenities which white people take unthinkingly for granted.

And they are going about achieving them, not through any revolutionary use of violence (although their provocation is as great as that which has motivated many a rebellion), but through the use of non-violent techniques.

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THEY are, in fact, bent on what Giles French advocates, "improving the quality of Negroes," and if in doing so they are coercing whites, they are doing so only because they themselves have been coerced and subjugated for decades.

The Emancipation Proclamation (which was first issued by President Lincoln 100 years ago next Saturday, incidentally) freed many Negroes from slavery. Now there is a call for a "20th Century Emancipation Proclamation," to aid Negroes in attaining status as full-fledged citizens.

Progress has been made. More will be. But the process will not cease until all Americans are treated equally in schooling, in housing, in employment, in union membership, in access to public accommodations — E. A.

Catholic Integration

"The Commonweal," the magazine usually regarded as representing "liberal" Catholic lay thought, reports that the first-time integration of parochial schools in Louisiana this past week, despite some incidents of prejudice and hatred in some locations, has proceeded amazingly well.

A majority of Catholic parents, black and white alike, have accepted the integration plan with little or no outcry. Although one school in a rural parish was closed (at least temporarily) for lack of students, all others in the state are now accepting both white and Negro children. Some white students have stayed away, but a majority of them are still attending.

This, it seems to us, is more significant "news" than is the fact that there have been some disturbances. — E. A.

Sickness by Telephone

There are two types of individual — actually one type involved in two kinds of activity — that we find particularly repulsive. These are the anonymous letter writer, and the anonymous telephone caller.

Of the two, the latter is the worst, particularly the obscene message giver, for there is no defense against him. One can always hang up, but he can get his dirty message across before one can realize what is happening, and he can always call back with more obscenities.

One can spot an anonymous letter at a glance, and throw it away unread. That is what usually happens to those we receive.

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THERE is something unclean and nauseous about the kind of cowardly mind that would use the anonymity of the telephone to exercise his own perversions. One can feel sorry for such people, because they are sick.

But it is the kind of social sickness that adversely affects others, and its victim cannot be permitted to remain at large.

The difficulty, of course, lies in tracking such sick souls down and putting them where they no longer can spread their particular brand of filth.

There have been several reports of such calls in Medford of late. All should be reported to the police, for though an identification may not be made on the basis of one call, each report helps round out a pattern which officers may be able to use in apprehending the offender. — E. A.

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.

Wild Hogs

To the Editor: Early day herding of wild hogs has ever been an intriguing subject to me. They were not truly wild hogs, mostly domestic hogs turned loose to root hog, or die. Some did, in hard winters. Usually, they were rounded up in late fall after fattening on mast, acorns of the oak family. Some,escaping the fall roundup, became truly wild hogs—that is easy to do by the swine members. An occasional member of the human family falls for such lure.

All this was high-lighted recently when visitors came for a green-corn, bean and strawberry feed. One was from Pistol river country, many years ago. She told of their own experiences with domestic hogs gone wild. She had listened to her husband telling of the wild hog habits, especially going to bed. On her solemn promise to be still, difficult for most females, and to also stand still hardly batting an eye, he took her along to see the wild hogs go to bed.

It was a hard rugged climb to the high ridge that hogs seek, the air being warmer there and with the last rays of the setting sun helping. Standing stock still close by climbable trees in case things got touchy, they watched the hog herd slowly progressing by, one sow followed by five spotted pigs that were eating second-table, i.e., pieces of acorn from the mother's chewing, intentional or just happenstance, we don't know.

A whiff of human odor, or something, brought a sharp "whoof" from the sow. Instantly, the pigs took off. One scudding to the very feet of our informant, to dive in halfhid in some cat-face tree duff. The sow, alert, moved on a short distance. Our friend slipped a hand under the rollypole pig, eyes apparently shut, to look it over, handling it gently. "Breath in its face," her husband wickedly advised. She did. Knowing the warm breath was not its mother and possibly an enemy to eat it, it started squealing bloody - murder, struggling from her hand. Instantly there were ugly looking hogs heading toward them. "Stand still," her husband whispered. "They can't see you unless you move."

Quieted, the hogs moved on uphill, most of them carrying grass or a leafy limb, even small pigs doing same, to add to their beds up near the ridge. The sow's five, hurrying from hiding, seeming to known just where she was.

E. J. Clifford
Route 2, Box 200F
Central Point, Ore.

Who's Beating Who?

To the Editor: As to who gets to the Moon first: Now what difference does it really make?

But the Russians aren't beating us to Cuba, as some people seem to think.

In fact we have been there so long that the natives are evidently tired of our Yankee ways, and are finally kicking us out.

Paul F. Wilson
P. O. Box 222
Talent, Ore.

Bo Found

To the Editor: An open letter to the citizens of Selma, Kerby, and Cave Junction and to Mrs. Florance Seral and Mr. and Mrs. Littlejohn who fed and cared for Bo. We wish to express our appreciation for their kindness and help in locating our German Shepherd Bo. To the lookouts who were so concerned and the postal service which helped spread the news of our lost pet, we thank you.

Vincent and Dorothy Stangl
Dutcher creek
Wilderville, Ore.

Not an Apostle

To the Editor: Re the Sept. 14 issue of "What's Your I.Q.?": Luke was not one of the 12 apostles of Jesus. It is not believed, generally, that any of the 12 were physicans.

Jim McGoodwin
1507 East Main st.
Medford.

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Editor's note: Correct.

Who's To Blame

To the Editor: As a former resident of Medford I was somewhat disappointed when I visited there this summer to hear the animosity directed toward Governor Hatfield concerning the issue of daylight versus standard time.

I am not an advocate of either daylight or standard time as, to me personally, it makes little difference one way or the other. But I do agree that for interstate business purposes, daylight time was a necessity. Also I have enough compassion for my fellow man who spends every day at an inside job to believe an extra hour of sunshine can go a long way in providing a happier summer season.

I suggest that those who place the blame on Governor Hatfield for the daylight time issue avail themselves of the statement on Standard and Daylight time that he has prepared.

How can anyone hold the Governor responsible in view of the facts?

Mrs. E. E. Cannon
8715 SE 30th st.
Milwaukie, Ore.

The Cost of Reading

To the Editor: Subject: School expenses above school taxes.

First, I will list the absolutely necessary expense to the parents for one student to enter in Medford High school.

Initial fee (with yearbook) —$20.

Notebooks, pen, pencil, spiral notebooks (4), gym clothes (including tennis shoes), dividers, ream of lined paper — $13.40.

Plus additional expense all through the school term for paper, notebooks, etc., as initial stock is used up.

We are told that no student can be issued class books until the fee of $20 has been paid or charged; and no student is eligible for any school activities or games until he possesses his A.S.B. card.

Now, the second day of school, our sophomore daughter comes home and tells us—and I quote from the school paper issued to her — as follows:

"The 4 books chosen for the Sophomore Guided Reading program this year are:

"Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl (35c)

"Tom Sawyer (65c)

"The Red Badge of Courage (65c)

"Magnificent Obsession (35c)

"These books will be available at the book store on Sept. 17. It is recommended that each student buy the set of four books now to avoid possible book store shortages later. The total cost of the 4 books is $2."

Note: An additional $2 — and look at the title of the above books for high school reading!

Also, our junior daughter informed us she is being required (or forced?) to buy four books — cost 75c each, or, a total of $3 — on which she is required to make book reports.

May I ask — why does Medford High school have a modern, up-to-date library? Or is it because someone is being able to make a "middle-man profit" on these books that are required to be purchased and read by the students? We adults call this a "captive market" or "forcible buying"!

To quote further from the paper issued by the school to the students regarding these "special books for book reports" that they are required to purchase:

"Failure to make these book reports will result in a failing grade for that semester's work."

Need I say more — or may I hear from other parents regarding this situation as it exists in Medford High school?

James E. Gent
3649 Table Rock rd.
Medford.

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Editor's note: It should be pointed out that students have several alternatives regarding the required reading books. They may buy them all at once, or at intervals throughout the year. They may borrow them from the school library or the public library; they may use books already owned at home, or they may request the loan of a school-owned book.

The Congo, a Year After Hammarskjold's Death, Still Is Plagued by Dissention

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

The new bronze plaque in the General Assembly building of the United Nations in New York reads: "In memory of Dag Hammarskjold . . . and those who with him lost their lives . . . in quest of peace in the Congo."

Newsom

The unveiling came just one day short of a year after Hammarskjold died Sept. 18, 1961 in the crash of his chartered plane in a forested wilderness near Ndola, Southern Rhodesia. His mission had been to negotiate a cease-fire between United Nations and secessionist Katangese forces.

But even as the U. N. in New York paid deference to Hammarskjold and U. N., and Congolese forces in Leopoldville dipped their flags in his memory, it was almost as if a year had not passed.

For in Elisabethville, the dreary drama of the Congo continued almost without change, almost as if all that were happening now also had happened at least once before.

Hammarskjold was dead and U Thant of Burma had taken his place.

But Katanga President Moise Tshombe continued to play his mercurial role and events followed almost a carbon copy of the past. Agreement . . . a cease-fire . . . charges of broken faith.

Early this month, Thant presented to Tshombe a plan which went far toward granting self-rule to the provinces of the Congo but which at the same time also contained an ultimatum to go into effect should Tshombe persist in his refusal to rejoin a united Congo.

The plan provided that Katanga should share its rich mining revenues, which in the last year came to around $50 million, with the central government and that its 12,000 soldiers should be integrated with Congo forces.

Close to the deadline set by Thant, Tshombe cabled his "enthusiastic" endorsement.

Yet Tshombe's record of first agreeing and then twisting away called for a certain amount of skepticism proved justified.

Pointing to the bodies of two dead policemen, Tshombe accused the United Nations of breaking the cease-fire. He declared:

"I do not believe in U Thant's good faith any longer nor in the Western nations who guaranteed his plan."

Officially, U. S. policy continued to call for the reunification of the Congo, by force if necessary, in the belief that without the wealth of Katanga, the Congo never could stand by itself.

As Tshombe blew hot and cold and U. N. opinion remained divided within itself, there were few who would bet that another year would not find Tshombe just where he is today.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris

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PERSONAL PREJUDICES

Women may be, as tradition asserts, much more fickle than men in their loves; but they are much more constant than men in their hates; no man has the capacity to hate a woman as long and as steadily as a woman can hate a man.

One false elegance I cannot stand in ordinary speech is the use of "commence" for "begin."

Those who shrink from contact with ideas end up by having nothing but sensations, which gradually diminish in pleasure as we grow older; the old people who are bored are, in the main, those whose stock of general ideas is severely limited.

Most of the trouble in the world, from dictatorships to delinquency, is caused not by stupidity or badness, but by persons who desperately need to feel important to themselves and, lacking creative talent, can achieve their goal only through hate and destructiveness.

It always embarrasses me when actors "milk" their applause – that is, when they dash back onto the stage just as the applause is dwindling away; in this respect, acting tends to lessen a human being's dignity more than almost any other occupation.

That within us which we try the hardest to conceal from others is that which soon becomes most obvious to those around us; as Uncle Remus so admirably put it, "You kin hide de fire, but what you gwine do wid de smoke?"

Politicians at the policy-making level might make fewer mistakes in office if they spend more time riding in public transportation and less in the seclusion of a chauffered automobile.

Self-conciousness is the enemy of joy; the moment a person begins to ask himself if he is happy, he is no longer so.

We all think we love justice, but when we happen to encounter a truly just man, we shudder a little lest he apportion to us our just desserts.

When a child asks some "silly question" he has never asked before, it is usually a sign that he has reached a new plateau of intellectual development; growing children who fail to ask silly questions are the ones who should be regarded with concern by parents.

People who complain that public debates "never get anywhere" would do well to ponder the wisdom of Joubert's observation that "It is better to stir up a question without deciding it, then to decide it without stirring it up."

As we rise in the world, the superfluous becomes the accepted, and the accepted becomes the necessary, a highly successful man is one who cannot do without the things his grandparents never even dreamed of.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Notes from the Teddy-Eddie battle in Massachusetts:

Teddy (Kennedy), the winner, spent more money than Eddie (McCormack). He has reported contributions of $127,404 between early April and September 1. Eddie's reports show receipts of $48,947.

The Kennedy machine operates with power and precision, and apparently there is always plenty of money to oil the machinery. But speaker McCormack (Eddie's uncle) holds thousands of political IOU's around Massachusetts. He has been careful not to demand payment, but his friends are likely to remember these political debts.

Politics is quite a game – especially back East.

WHAT of the battle for the Republican nomination for senator from Massachusetts?

The issue there seemed to be youth vs. age. Lodge is 35. Curtis, his opponent in the GOP primary, is 69, nearing 70.

Dispatches from the battleground report that Lodge – the winner – was the favorite – partly because he has a movie star appeal to the feminine voters.

CROP prospect in Russia, as reported by Pravda, Soviet official newspaper:

Another disaster is looming in the virgin lands wheat crop of Russia (the virgin lands are expected to produce about half the annual U.S.S.R. wheat crop).

The harvest is delayed for lack of machines in sufficient repair to be used. The rains have come and the wheat is rotting in the fields. Even much grain already threshed is spoiling in the fields because of lack of trucks to haul it to the warehouses. This is the fourth time this same story of mechanical inefficiency has been told.

SO MUCH for this year. Pravda reports that a breakdown in plowing promises another poor crop next year. Although it was planned to have 13 million hectares (a hectare is 2½ acres) plowed by this time, Pravda's reporter says only five million hectares have been plowed.

HMMMMmmmmm.

What was it Old Kroosh said a while back about BURYING US under the MASS of production made possible by the SUPERIOR communist system?

A cog seems to have slipped somewhere.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S PREDICAMENT

Washington – The Western Alliance is ill-prepared for the climax of the Berlin crisis, which may now be coming in the fairly near future. That is the only conclusion a returning traveler can draw from a short survey of Western Europe.

Alsop

Taking the elements of the problem one by one, the so-called Berlin contingency plans are under continuous restudy. Presumably, therefore, they have been adapted to meet the new situation created by the increased military strength of Khrushchev's East German puppets. But in the event of a challenge at Berlin, the contingency plans cannot be put into effect without the prior consent of all the governments concerned.

Among these governments, the British have persistently refused to bring their forces stationed in Germany anywhere nearly up to strength. Despite this refusal, how the British may respond to a final Berlin challenge is still anyone's guess. But the best guess appears to be that they will meet the challenge by calling for renewed negotiations.

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THE FRENCH government, with forces on the spot far weaker than the British forces, have flatly refused to send reinforcements to Germany, although the end of the Algerian war has now made this easy to do. It is not too much to say that France has made no preperations whatever for a final challenge at Berlin. And this is understandable, since Gen. de Gaulle is operating on the theory that President Kennedy will dodge or duck the challenge, if and when it comes – in which case the blame will be America's.

Finally, the West German government, while apprehensive of a final challenge, is mainly preoccupied by a bitter internal argument about a reduction of defense spending – which could hardly be more ill-timed. Even the West German response, in truth, is very far from predictable; and this is true, although the new German divisions would probably be called upon to play a mere supporting role in any initial clash, since West Germany is not one of the official guarantors of Berlin's freedom.

The meaning of all this should be obvious. The postures of our chief allies offer no sort of guarantee that they will quickly and unanimously consent to immediate enforcement of the Berlin contingency plans, if and when the need arises. One ally may be stout and prompt. Two may be stout and prompt. But the odds against all three being stout and prompt are clearly rather high.

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THAT fact, in itself, is probably ragarded by Nikita S. Khrushchev as his major ace-in-the-hole. Lately, the Soviets have been trying to improve in the odds against prompt and unanimous stoutness, by returning to the rocket-brandishing tactics that Khrushchev used after his Vienna meeting with the President.

The Soviet Union is firmly and consistently championing the cause of peace," said a recent article in the army newspaper, Red Star, which then went on to threaten Britain, Germany, and other American allies with 100 megaton bombs. The desire to intimidate, and thereby to promote hesitations and discords, is too clear to need pointing out. Yet nothing will be more fatal, if there is a final challenge at Berlin, then the smallest hesitation or the shortest pause for argument among the Western allies. Soviet psychology is such that their grabs must be stopped instantly, in mid-grab, so to say. Then the risk is least. But let the grab be completed; let the grabbing become an accomplished fact amid calls for negotiations and the like. Then the risk of reversing the grab will be ten times more grave.

This being the case, it must be added that there are two encouraging features of the Berlin situation, to balance against those already noted. On the one hand, the Soviets seem to be preparing a limited test of the Western will to defend Berlin, which implies some residual caution in Moscow.

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ON THE other hand, even though the Western Alliance is ill-prepared for a climax at Berlin, the United States is very well prepared. The measures taken by President Kennedy and Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara have importantly strengthened the U. S. forces in Europe. Without other assistance, the U. S. divisions in Germany should now be able to handle the kind of challenge the Kremlin appears to have in mind, with the improved East German forces.

That suggests the only way out of his predicament that appears open to President Kennedy. A challenge at Berlin cannot safely be met on a committee system, for the reasons already noted. But the President can quite safely let the West German, British, and French governments know that he means to meet a Berlin challenge alone and unaided, if that is the only way.

Once that is done, we shall know exactly where we stand; and Khrushchev will soon know, too, which may be even more useful.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

SHORTLY after D-Day in World War II, an aviator was dispatched over the Rhineland to drop propaganda leaflets. He didn't check back in at headquarters for three weeks. "Where you been?" demanded his squadron leader crossly. "How could you take three weeks just to dump a load of leaflets over enemy territory?"

"Dump them?" repeated the pilot in a hollow voice. "I thought you wanted me to slip one under every door!"

• • •

Jayne Mansfield recalls that when she was a sweet young co-ed at the University of Texas she once walked into a dress shop and inquired of the manager, "May I try on that bathing suit in the window?" The manager eyed her appreciatively and urged, "Go ahead. It might help business."

• • •

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

"A good leader takes a little more than his share of the blame; a little less than his share of the credit"—Arnold Glasgow.

"A stubborn man doesn't hold opinions; they hold him"—A. Ribicoff.

"It is prudent to thank an author for his book before reading it, so as to avoid the necessity of lying about it afterwards"—George Santayana.

"Hollywood is a place where people from Iowa mistake each other for stars"—Fred Allen.

"Give me my golf clubs, the fresh air, and a beautiful girl for a partner, and you can keep my golf clubs and the fresh air."—Jack Benny.

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