

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.

10 YEARS AGO
Sept. 27, 1952 (Saturday)

Escaped convict Gerald Macomber continued to evade capture in the Upper Applegate valley today as about eight men, aided by a dog, continued the search for him.

Fourteen new faculty members have joined the staff at Southern Oregon college for the opening of fall term.

20 YEARS AGO
Sept. 27, 1932 (Sunday)

Second day registration at Medford senior high school totals 559; same number enrolled at junior high school.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Enforcement of the proclaimed 35-mile-an-hour speed limit on the highways and byways presents problems. First, the law must catch an autoist going 35 miles an hour."

30 YEARS AGO
Sept. 27, 1932 (Tuesday)

Pioneers from all sections of Oregon gather in Jacksonville for 57th annual reunion of Southern Oregon Pioneer association.

State supreme court upholds life sentence imposed on Albert W. Reed for his part in murder of Ashland Policeman Victor Knott.

40 YEARS AGO
Sept. 27, 1922 (Wednesday)

Ashland man contributes \$3,000 for use in Walter M. Pierce's campaign for governor.

Ten inches of snow falls at Crater lake; lodge closed week early.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 27, 1912 (Friday)

Medford High school and 10 other schools represented at meeting for formation of Rogue River Valley Athletic association.

A. A. Davis, Medford, sells 840 acres of orchard land to California group for \$350,000.

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

1. Was the "Titanic" sunk by a submarine?

2. Are there three or seven hills of Rome?

3. Is marjoram, native to South America and the Mediterranean, a spice or a small monkey?

4. Was Edmund Burke born in Ireland or England?

5. Who originated the idea of placing buttons on the cuffs of men's sleeves?

6. What nationality were the soldiers captured at the Battle of Trenton?

7. In which State was President William Henry Harrison born?

8. Was he President before or after Benjamin Harrison?

9. Were ambulances first introduced in warfare by English, French, or Americans?

10. "Walls have tongues and hedges have ears." Is this a reference to gossip or eavesdropping?

Answers: 1. No. Iceberg. 2. Seven. 3. Spice. 4. Ireland. 5. Frederick the Great. 6. English. 7. Virginia. 8. Before. 9. French. 10. Both.

Congressional Abuses

A wide range of political observers, spanning the spectrum from way-out liberals to way-out conservatives, has become more and more concerned with Congressional organization, procedures and various foibles in recent years.

"T. R. B.," the columnist for the New Republic, has long maintained that the seniority system for committee chairmanships has done more to hold the country back than any single thing.

James Reston, the New York Times Washington bureau chief, had much the same thing to say recently, only he broadened it out to include the abuse of personal power and the flagrant misuse of funds on the part of some members of Congress.

HE SAID:

"All efforts to get the Congressmen to disclose their outside earnings; to account for the foreign currencies they get out of the counterpart funds in United States embassies when they go overseas; to save time by adopting the rule of relevancy in Senate debate, or to adopt electric voting in the House, or to hold joint hearings on many bills; to protect witnesses before Congressional committees; to establish a fair system of ethics and fund-raising in campaigns; to give equal professional staff to the Republican minority; and to modify the seniority system of picking chairman — none of these things ever gets a decent hearing.

"Maybe these are not all prudent modifications, but the point is that men who are supposed to symbolize the democratic process do not even give them a democratic chance."

Reston cites chapter and verse in regard to some of the abuses he outlines. It does not make a pretty picture.

PERHAPS the time has come, perhaps it is long past time, for Congress to reassess its procedures, its organization, its responsibilities.

It's not a question of not knowing what is wrong, or of not knowing how to right the wrong. It is a question of doing it.

But, with the abuses "halloved" by tradition, and opposed by the powerful minority of members which benefits from them, Congress will not make the necessary changes — worse, will actually resist change — unless there is sufficient outcry for reform.

This outcry can be made use of by responsible leaders only if it is sufficiently loud and clear. It is up to those of us who are sick and tired of abuses, petty empires and obstructionism to make the outcry loud and clear. — E. A.

Silent Spring

"Silent Spring," a newly-published book, should be a runaway best seller this year, if advance indications are valid.

As Eric Sevareid pointed out on this page last Sunday, the book, written by a quiet and retiring woman scientist, is already the center of a massive controversy, based on advance reviews and on three articles from the book which appeared in The New Yorker magazine.

The author, Miss Rachel Carson, has taken the thesis that mankind, by the widespread and often unthinking use of insecticides and other pesticides, "threatens the existence of our birds, fish, farm animals, and, ultimately, ourselves," to quote the Saturday Review.

HERE in Jackson county, we have a special stake in the findings of Miss Carson, and of others who, under orders of President Kennedy, are going to do some much more intensive research into the by-effects of pesticides.

(At his Aug. 29 Press conference, the President was asked if he has considered asking the Department of Agriculture or the Public Health Service to take a closer look at the dangers involved.)

(The President replied: "Yes, and I know that they already are. I think particularly, of course, since Miss Carson's book, but they are examining the matter.")

With the widespread use of sprays in the orchards, both from spray rigs and aircraft, plus the normal and increasing home and farm uses of pesticides, Jackson county people should be particularly interested, not only in Miss Carson's recitation of the dangers, but in what measures are being taken to insure safety in their use.

THAT users and manufacturers of pesticides should object to her book is only natural.

But in reply it should be pointed out that, although she presents a strong case, she does not contend that chemical insecticides must never be used, but that:

"... we have put poisonous and biologically potent chemicals indiscriminately into the hands of persons largely or wholly ignorant of their potentials for harm. We have subjected enormous numbers of people to contact with these poisons, without their consent and often without their knowledge."

"I contend, furthermore, that we have allowed these chemicals to be used with little or no advance investigation of their effect on soil, water, wildlife, and man himself. Future generations are unlikely to condone our lack of prudent concern for the integrity of the natural world that supports all life."

Her fully documented book leaves little doubt that her contentions are correct.

A FAIRLY typical reaction was voiced recently by the New York Times, which said:

"Miss Carson will be accused of alarmism... of showing only the bad side of pesticides while ignoring their benefits. But this, we suspect, is her purpose as well as her method... If she helps arouse enough public concern to immunize government agencies against the blandishments of the hucksters and enforce adequate controls, the author will be as deserving of the Nobel Prize as was the inventor of DDT."

Her book, combined with the recent Thalidomide scare, may serve to make research and pre-testing of drugs and poisons far more meticulous and careful.

And that would be all to the good.—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.

Live and Let Live

To the Editor: I have been reading Communications for about three years. At times they are very interesting. But what I can't understand is why so many people are so worried about nudists and all those things.

My belief is live and let live, each person in his or her belief, religion, and other things in life. As long as you live and believe in your own ideas there isn't any harm.

I was raised in a Christian home and was very happy. I love nature and all the animals that God created, except snakes, but there are people who even like them, so more power to them.

Instead of writing about God condemning people, look around you and be glad you're free and have a chance to worship in your own faith.

I can be just as close to God and his beliefs up in the hills, desert or anywhere, as I can be in church. We used to go to church in housedresses and men in overalls and be happy. Now you wouldn't dare to do that or you would be classed as a freak.

They talk about young folks getting into trouble. I have worked and been with young people all my life. Scouts, ball teams, swimming parties and all the things they like. How many people take time out to go to the ball park and practice with a team? I have had my car loaded till it looked like a sardine can, pitched and batted balls to them until the coach got there, also any boy or girl was welcome to my home (and it was just a house, nothing fancy) any time of day or night.

I'm 62 years old now and I could still play ball and do the things they like. When I get so stiff and stov up that I can't do those things, I will still be young in mind.

I raised three boys and a girl, they are all happy, married and we still have fun. Live and let live and do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Please don't print my name, just sign:

E. F.
(Name on file)
Rogue River, Ore.

Socialized Medicine

To the Editor: Re editorial in Monday night's M.T. It appears that we will soon be prevailed upon to submit to an additive to our drinking water as fluoride again raises its ugly head in a plea for its health giving merits by dentists and doctors.

They back their statements with statistics purported to be conclusive proof of the merits of fluoridation and their arguments. Let us explore statistics and their application to this issue.

First, statistics are defined as (in a broad sense) "Facts pertaining to any given subject." This general conception of statistics lends great favor and authority until study reveals an attempt to bend or construct to fit personal needs or desires, therefore it is well to seek the relation of the statistic to those who issue it and often many flaws will appear.

This is sad commentary on mankind and his inclination to bend facts to more nearly achieve the ends desired.

Now consider fluoridation of our city water. Allow that the water is fluoridated to a safe level for drinking, we often use this same tap water to irrigate a garden, the vegetables take up a quantity of fluoride, and next we boil these vegetables in tap water, giving a triple application of fluoride which beyond a doubt exceeds a safe maximum.

Let us further explore. What has become of the horror in which the doctors and dentists held socialized medicine only a few weeks ago? Why the change in attitude since the Medicare bill has been safely disposed of?

Fluoridation of a city's water system is socialized medicine in its most compulsory form. Let those who wish fluoride add it to their water, but let us keep city water at its high state of purity by guarding against this as well as any other form of contamination.

C. R. Burrill
119 Crater Lake ave.
Medford.

Life After Death

To the Editor: Many fine sincere people spend much time and effort taking part in politics and being as it were, guardians to warn us of issues, which if put into force might endanger the well being of our populace. I commend them for their well directed efforts.

Yet it could be while we get so busy promoting anti-pro-fluoridation, anti-Communism, etc., that sinister forces like termites could be eating away at the bulwarks of our faith. There is an eternity ahead for everyone who reads these lines. Where we spend it is up to each of us now.

A "name on file" party from White City has written directing kind but disagreeing convictions regarding my communication called "Modern Occultism." Another has written me personally in detail regarding her convictions. Then a Shady Cove man wrote an interesting letter Sept. 14 called "Psychic Phenomena." He quoted some very revealing thought-provoking Bible texts.

Space is not available to treat this subject as I would love to see it handled. But I can detect an intense interest along this line.

Why not? Who of us have not lost loved ones? Everyone who reads this has followed some or many funeral processions to the cemetery.

There are many conflicting opinions regarding our beloved dead. Where are they? In heaven, purgatory, limbo, spirit world, grave, or are they all done for eternity?

I am convinced that God's word holds the only answer. Then why so many conflicting beliefs? Simply because too many take preconceived ideas or lack faith to take God at His word.

Could I suggest two or three little volumes as valuable aids in studying this subject? "The Other Side of Death," and "Modern Spiritualism," also "Planet in Rebellion." These books are available at low cost from the Oregon Book and Bible House, 605 S.E. 39th, Portland.

Henry Johnson Jr.
3315 Highway 66
Ashland, Ore.

Sig's Beliefs

To the Editor: A few days ago your newspaper published a letter by Mr. John R. Schumpf, in which he attacked Sig Unander's position on certain Administration welfare programs.

In his letter, Mr. Schumpf first blasts the Unander conviction that the so-called "Medicare" program, embodied in the King-Anderson Bill, is non-comprehensive and economically indefensible. Anyone who has studied the bill, as Mr. Unander has, realizes that it provides only about 25 per cent of the total medical needs of our aged, and that it does NOT provide for doctor's services, medicine, or professional nursing care except for those patients actually undergoing treatment

Pie-in-the-Sky Promises to Russians Not Being Fulfilled by Soviet Leaders

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

For years the people of the Soviet Union have been torn between the pie-in-the-sky promises of Soviet leaders and the hard realities of a life short on everything but Sputniks.

Another of those hard realities hit them this week with the announcement that promised income tax cuts had been postponed "until further notice."

These cuts, first announced in May, 1960, were to have been carried out over a five-year period until all personal income tax was to have been abolished.

In July, 1961, the Communist party newspaper Pravda published a new program. It promised:

"In the current decade (1961-70) the Soviet Union will surpass the strongest and richest capitalist country, the United States, in production per head of population; the people's standard of living and their cultural and technical standards will improve substantially; everyone will live in easy circumstances; all collective and state farms will become highly productive and profitable enterprises; the demand of Soviet people for well-appointed housing will, in the main, be satisfied; hard physical work will disappear; the USSR will become the country with the shortest work days."

Within the same 10 years,

the program promised increases of 150 per cent in both industry and agriculture.

To achieve the highest living standard in the world, the Soviet planners not only promised to abolish income taxes but to lower retail prices as well.

Not even a year later, in June, 1962, the government hiked meat and butter prices 25 to 30 per cent.

Both were in short supply

and one way to cut down on the grumbling lines was to price them out of reach.

Agriculture, far from staging a great leap forward, has suffered a series of reverses and the prospects for this year appear not much better than in 1961.

The truth of the matter seemed to be, as Khrushchev has indirectly admitted, the Soviet Union cannot afford both guns and butter.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

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KENNEDY'S OFF-YEAR CAMPAIGN

Washington — Before the President's return from Newport, the White House staff had the assignment of working out a detailed, semi-final schedule for his pre-election campaigning.

Presumably the schedule proposed by the White House staff is now being gone over by the President himself.

According to report, he is in a mood to increase rather than pare the program of stump-speaking his subordinates have laid out. In that case, the country will witness an off-year campaign by a President of the United States without any real precedent in our recent political history.

Appearances in 12 to 15 states are under active consideration; and this is talked about as a rock-bottom minimum effort. The President will not take the stump in the Eisenhower style, either, heli-coptering in, and nimbly heli-coptering out again.

IN PENNSYLVANIA, for instance, many hours of motorcading through the coal towns are now planned, at the special request of the Pennsylvania Democrats' gubernatorial nominee, Mayor Richard Dilworth of Philadelphia. And while President Kennedy is motorcading through the Pennsylvania coal towns and bushwhacking for votes in other ways, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson

will also be carrying an equally heavy campaigning schedule.

The experiment is interesting, simply because there has been no comparable Presidential attempt to influence the voting in Congressional and Senatorial elections. According to our political folklore, American voters pay very little attention to Presidents unless their names are on the ballot. The odds are that the folklore is dead right, but one must wait and see.

In these special circumstances, the kind of stump-speaking the President proposes to do is also a matter of considerable interest. What he will say will not, to be sure, represent his balanced judgment of the mood of the country. He is known to have a theory that in Congressional elections good old-fashioned pork-chop issues are ten times more important than in Presidential elections.

ALL THE SAME, it is significant that, as of now, Kennedy plans to stress pork-chop issues to the virtual exclusion of the great and deeply disturbing issues of foreign policy which most people regard as fundamental at the moment. The sort of thing that is planned can be seen in the recent Harrisburg speech, opening the Pennsylvania campaign.

In this speech, Kennedy devoted 15 paragraphs to domestic problems and legislation, covering just about everything from his depressed areas act to the medical care bill. Whereas an unkind reminder that the Castro regime was installed in Cuba during the Eisenhower administration is the most important foreign policy statement.

Cuba is, of course, the problem that makes it needful to qualify the President's intention to stress the pork-chop issues with an "as of now." The Republicans are plainly hovering on the brink of a major attack on the President, on the ground that he has not retaken Cuba from Fidel Castro. The most likely Republican standard-bearer in 1964, Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, reportedly favors an extremely aggressive Cuban policy.

President Kennedy is plainly a bit apprehensive about the power of the Cuban issue to poll votes for the Republicans. He is now taking one of his private soundings of public opinion, to get a better measure of the potential danger. He has already taken steps to force the Republicans to advocate an actual armed attack on Cuba, if they advocate anything at all.

IN ADDITION, there is a sleeper in the Cuban problem in the form of the book that will soon be published by President Eisenhower's former Ambassador to Havana, Earl E. T. Smith, whom President Kennedy sought to send as Ambassador to Switzerland. The Smith book will reportedly stress the fact that when Castro came to power during the Eisenhower administration, he got a great deal of aid from various U.S. sources which the government in Washington could well have cut off.

For the Republicans, in fact, Cuba could prove to be a two-edged sword, cutting both ways. In any case, it is difficult to believe that Gov. Rockefeller, even if he favors military measures to drive out Castro, will advocate those measures while campaigning for re-election in New York state with a good lead over his opponent.

No other Republican, with the possible exception of former Vice President Richard M. Nixon, is likely to be able to force the President to stop talking about pork-chops and start talking about Cuba. The private Kennedy polls may have this effect, to be sure. Otherwise, the outlook is for strong stress on the Democrats' love and care for the common man, and equal stress on the Republicans' heartless hostility.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris

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PERSONAL PREJUDICES

Bank employees who embezzle funds usually win my secret sympathy—if not my approval—when it turns out that they were outrageously underpaid and expected to handle large sums of money every day; a person put in a position of high trust should have a commensurate salary.

Doctors, as any candid nurse will confess, make the cruelest and most apprehensive of patients when they fall ill; perhaps because they know how much guess-work there still is in the practice of medicine.

Although I have conscientiously tried to enjoy it summer after summer, I am finally forced to agree with Samuel Johnson that "Angling consists of a stick and a string, with a worm at one end and a fool at the other."

Speaking of summer pastimes, I'd like to see a revival of that noble old English game of lawn croquet, which is one of the pleasantest (and most challenging) ways to spend a week end afternoon in nice weather. Nearly all the conscientious objectors I have met have been, in their personal convictions and conduct, as close to the Christian ideal as human beings can come; they are just lamentably ahead of their time.

Wives who tend to blame "the other woman" for lead-

ing their husbands astray overlook the truth of Joseph Wood Krutch's shrewd observation: "There is no such thing as a dangerous woman: there are only susceptible men."

It is a curious fact that men who wear their hats straight, without a tilt, are the worst motorists; when I follow such a driver, I know he will be pokey and indecisive and a potential source of trouble until I pass him.

Our scientific age is moving so fast that it's hard to believe that the very word "scientist" was not in the language much over a hundred years ago; in 1840, the Rev. William Whewell wrote: "We need very much a name to describe a cultivator of sciences in general; I should incline to call him a 'scientist'."

In the realm of sentiments, we seem to be a people of no moderation; looking through birthday cards the other day, I could find only two types—either the sickly sentimental, or the sickly humorous. None was simply tasteful, without an excess of either sweetness or sourness.

The master himself would have been proud of the Goldwynism I heard recently, when a man said scornfully to his friend: "There's nothing to all that talk about telepathy—it's all in the mind!"

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Question: What is the most often misspelled or misused word in the English language as written by Americans of all degrees of education and practice in the use of words?

MY VOTE?

I think the palm should go to "principal" and "principle."

Which is which?

Let's quote Mr. Webster:

PRINCIPAL:

It has seven shades of meaning, as follows:

1. A leader, chief or head.

2. A capital sum placed at interest, due as a debt, or used as a fund—distinguished from interest or profit.

3. A fundamental point—now confused with principle.

4. The construction which gives shape and strength to a roof.

5. A presiding or chief officer of a college or of a school or academy.

6. One who employs another to act for him. One primarily liable on an obligation. The chief actor in a crime, or an abettor present at it.

7. In English (music) organs, the chief open metallic stop, an octave above the open diapason.

PRINCIPLE:

It also has seven shades of meaning, as follows:

1. A source, or origin; primordial substance; ultimate basis or cause.

2. An original faculty or endowment.

3. A fundamental truth; a primary or basic law, doctrine or the like.

4. A settled rule of action; a governing law of conduct; also such principles, or loyalty to them; as, a man of no principle.

5. Essential or characteristic constituent; that which gives a subject its essential properties, as the active principle of a drug.

6. The actual or mechanical law applied, as in a mechanical contrivance, or at work, as in a natural phenomenon, as: all these devices are based on the same principle.

7. Divine Principle—a synonym for God.

SO—

Everything considered—

It is not surprising that principal and principle should be quite often confused. There is plenty of opportunity for their misuse.

WHY bother about it? Well, an educated person is one who uses the right word in the right place and in the right context to convey the meaning intended.

So you see, learning all the shades of meaning of words in common usage in our language is important. It enables us to say exactly what we mean—which is highly important.

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