MEDFORD 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
Oct. 9, 1952 (Thursday)

A 44-year-old Medford man apparently took his own life by hanging in city jail sometime last night. His body was found about 7:30 o'clock this morning.

Medford's fire department answered 60 alarms during September, according to Chief Gordon Barker's monthly report.

20 YEARS AGO
Oct. 9, 1942 (Friday)

New United Service Organizations center at Sixth st. and Riverside ave. visited by more than 700 servicemen during first week of operation.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The turkeys are in the stubble-fields and the hogs are in the acorns. So far there has been no frost on the pumpkins."

30 YEARS AGO
Oct. 9, 1932 (Sunday)

Fourth Jackson county suicide within 19 days reported from vicinity of Rogue River.

State police searching Keene creek near Table mountain for "wild man" who has threatened residents of the area.

40 YEARS AGO
Oct. 9, 1922 (Monday)

County grand jury scheduled to complete investigation of Ku Klux Klan "night riding" cases.

Shipments of Rogue valley fruit to the east amounts to 16 carloads of apples and 1,141 carloads of pears.

50 YEARS AGO
Oct. 9, 1912 (Wednesday)

Annual shoot for the Mail Tribune silver trophy scheduled at Medford Rod and Gun club grounds.

Great interest locally in New York Giants-Boston Red Sox world series contests; Medford residents gather in front of Mail Tribune offices to hear play by play results announced by Judge Withington "using a huge megaphone."

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Did the Franco-German War terminate with the "Reign of Tears," or the "Reign of Terror"?
2. Name the capital of Brazil.
3. "Thou shalt not be afraid of the bugges at night." Does "bugges" mean terror, dark, or insects?
4. Which state is nicknamed "Granite State"?
5. Does the value of an old coin depend upon its age?
6. Is hydrophobia a medical term for rabbit fever, rabies, or dropsy?
7. Are earwigs ornaments, insects, or a type of wig?
8. "Friends, I am with you all and love you all," said Anthony in "Julius Caesar." By whom was it written?
9. Does the "Creed of Pope Pius IV" (1564) contain 10, 12, or 14 obligations?
10. Which great U.S. ocean liner bore the name U.S.S. West Point as the Navy's largest transport in World War II?

Answers: 1. Reign of Tears. 2. Brazilia. 3. Terror. 4. New Hampshire. 5. No, it depends on rarity. 6. Rabies. 7. Insects. 8. William Shakespeare. 9. Twelve. 10. S.S. America.

Morse and Unander

Lying on the editorial desk as this is written are two quotations concerning Sen. Wayne L. Morse (D-Ore.).

The first is from Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.), one of the great and authentic liberals of the United States. He said:

"Wayne Morse is one of the most brilliant and most thoughtful men with whom I have ever associated. He has a great depth of feeling for the welfare of the individual man. His heart is right. He has great courage and determination. No one works any harder at his job than he. Men who are such a fine influence in our national life simply have to be kept on the job and this is doubly true of Wayne Morse."

The other quotation, accompanied by a "Human Events" report, an ultra-conservative publication, which blasted the Senator, was from a local friend. It said:

"After reading this folder, don't you think it's time to turn Senator Wayne out and try to get a Charley McNary or George Chamberlain for our Senator so Oregon can obtain some results as well as proper standing in the U. S. Senate?"

* * * * *

THE TROUBLE with the first quotation is that, despite the fact it is in large part true, it contains at least one major omission, that of the man's unpredictable personality.

The trouble with the second quotation is that it is not a choice, this year, between Senator Morse and Charles McNary or George Chamberlain — it is a choice between Senator Morse and Sig Unander.

The difficulty in making a choice between the two men for Senator from Oregon is that Wayne Morse is not all black, as the hatchet-job "The Record of Wayne Morse" by Harrison Spangler would have you believe; nor is he all white, as his ardent adherents and admirers — of whom there are many — would have you believe.

Wayne Morse is a complex mixture of hues ranging from white to black, with many of them a cloudy gray.

* * * * *

WE SHALL have nothing to say during this campaign in derogation of Sig Unander, for whom we have considerable respect as a long-time acquaintance, honest and industrious public servant, and conscientious citizen. Despite his many good qualities, however, we do not believe that he measures up to the standards desirable in a United States Senator.

Our comments shall center on Senator Morse —volatile, brilliant, able, energetic, mercurial, personally honest, but, and we hate to say it, wholly undependable in any long-range political sense.

His record of making enemies of those who were once friends is astounding, and saddening. His fierce and vicious attacks on those who have dared to disagree with him are shocking.

* * * * *

IT IS THESE last three characteristics — and chapter and verse can be cited to prove them — that cause us long and serious pause in this election year, a year when Wayne Morse, with nearly 18 years of service in the U.S. Senate, is seeking another six year term.

The charge against him that he never has done anything for the state of Oregon is wholly without foundation. If the Rogue Basin project is authorized this year (and it may be by the time this sees print) it will have been Wayne Morse as much as any other single individual who can claim the credit. The same is true of the Agate dam and reservoir project. The same can be said for dozens of other federal projects of immense benefit to Oregon.

The charge that he is ineffective is only partly true. In thousands of individual instances he has rendered aid and help to Oregon citizens, often without notoriety or thanks. It was he, almost single handed, who marshalled the Kennedy aid to education bill through the Senate last year, only to see it die in the House.

* * * * *

AND YET, in such instances as his communications satellite tactics, in his bitter attacks against Presidents Kennedy, Eisenhower and Truman, in his personally abusive references to such honorable and distinguished citizens as J. W. Forrester Jr., editor and publisher of the Pendleton East Oregonian and member of the state board of higher education — in such instances one is appalled by his turn about tactics and his personal vindictiveness.

What's the matter with Wayne Morse?

Perhaps it is his ego — the "tiger that lurks within" in the words of A. Robert Smith, who wrote the splendid recent biography of the Oregon maverick entitled "The Tiger in the Senate."

The book concludes with this paragraph:

"Should Wayne Morse venture to subdue the tiger that lurks within, he challenges the toughest adversary of them all. But in this eternal struggle he would gain the good will of all who advance along the frontier of the spirit."

* * *

SUMMING up, we have concluded that Wayne Morse, complex enigma that he is, would better serve the state of Oregon in the Senate for the next six years than would honest, pedestrian, conservative Sig Unander.

We come to this conclusion with many misgivings and with some honest sadness. It is not, for us, a happy choice to have to make.

Wayne Morse, an honest assessment indicates, is right more often than he is wrong, but when he is wrong, he is so terribly wrong.

However, in the absence of a Charles McNary or a George Chamberlain, we plan to cast our ballot for Wayne Morse. — E.A.

"How'd You Like Your Daughter Marrin' One Of Them?"

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.

Mrs. McNary for Sig

To the Editor: The voters of Oregon will uphold the sound American principles of Sen. Charles L. McNary—principles that brought honor and prosperity to our state—if they cast their ballots next month for Sig Unander.

As Senator McNary was an American and an Oregonian first, and a Republican second, so is Sig Unander. Democrats as well as Republicans will rally to his cause if they believe in the cherished principles of our Constitution, our free enterprise system, and the preservation of our individual liberties.

Sig Unander is a fine and dedicated public servant. He will be an excellent Senator and a representative who will truly work for Oregon. If we want action for our State instead of words and more words, we should look to Sig Unander. As concerned citizens and custodians of the future of Oregon, I believe we can do no better.

Mrs. Charles L. McNary,
901 S.W. King ave.,
Portland, Ore.

Questions?

To the Editor: Does might make right? Is it really the will of the people of America to impose their will on the state of Mississippi through the interpretations of the Supreme Court and the might of the President's executive power?

If this is the will of the people, why don't we do away with all state government and let the federal government run the whole shebang? Force will not settle this issue. Right cannot be overcome with force.

Couldn't the whole issue of state's rights be put to a national vote and find out what the will of the people is in this matter? Doesn't the constitution guarantee a republican form of government to the states?

The federal government represents all the people of the United States, you and I and all the citizens of Oregon as well as the people of other states. Should we, as a group, force our will on the people of other states? Would we like it here in Oregon if the people of all the country should tell us how to run our schools?

If what is being done now in Mississippi is legal, we better take a good look at our constitution and at the supreme court and see if some changes are not in order.

Carroll Powell,
Box 621,
Central Point, Ore.

Get Off!

To the Editor: Approximately 85 per cent of all property taxes go to the support of schools here in Jackson county. Then we (the taxpayers) pay for parks, lakes, recreation areas, swimming pools, equipment and supervisors, free text books and school lunches, and very probably things I haven't heard about.

Besides this we maintain a Juvenile Detention Home. Then there is a Health Clinic, a Child Guidance Clinic and a Mental Health Clinic with a new buiding now under construction for them.

When my children were in school the parents were the real "do-it-yourself" guys. There were no handouts – but neither was there large scale delinquency or other problems needing all the clinics. Everyone paid their own dental bills, too.

Now our chidren are raised, but our incomes have dwindled and we are hard pressed to pay all the taxes. When the purity of our God-given mountain spring water is at stake – can't you at least care for your children's teeth – use fluorine, if you like poison – but PLEASE GET OFF OUR BACKS.

Mrs. Theresa Fergeson
608 Lynn ave.
Medford.

Would Solve Problems

To the Editor: The Veterans Administration is satisfied with the size of the waiting lists at their hospitals at Portland and Vancouver. These lists averaged 105 for the past fiscal year and 92 for the previous year. The reason those figures were not much higher is that patients were discharged at unjustified speeds because of pressure for their beds.

There should not be a waiting list at any Veterans' hospital. Instead, more beds should be available. How sick must a man be in order to get admitted promptly?

A hospital at White City would solve many problems.

David Frisch
P.O. Box 292
White City, Ore.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is written in Portland on a fantastic news day. All at the same time, American astronaut Walter Schirra was circling the earth in his Sigma 7 spacecraft and San Francisco's Giants and the Los Angeles Dodgers were battling it out in L.A. to see who would carry the banner of the National League in the World Series.

It was nip and tuck in Chavez Ravine. First one team was on top and then the other. Up to the last minute of play, nobody knew who was going to be IT when the end came.

Out in space, it was a different story. It was clear sailing for Schirra all the way. He was ahead of the game from beginning to end. There was apparently never a moment when he didn't have the situation well in hand.

IT WAS rough on the TV people. They had to carry two world-shaking news events along at one and the same time. They managed it by dubbing in bulleting on the screen while the play was going on.

Anyway, a good time seems to have been had by all. The wonder of it is that anybody around these parts got any work done at all.

IN THE big baseball game, there was some accurate timing. Big time baseball can't be played successfully without it.

But, for accurate timing, carefully planned and meticulously carried out, I'd say that Astronaut Walter Schirra holds the all-time world's record.

He orbited six times around the earth and then came down within about two or three miles of the spot he was aiming at — which was the ship that was waiting to pick him up when he came down.

That's ACCURACY.

IN WAYS other than big time baseball for the losers, this has been a sad day in the news.

It has recorded another death in Oregon in a head-on highway collision. A car, trying to pass two trucks, collided with another truck going in the opposite direction. The driver of the car died three hours later in a nearby hospital.

Again, as so many, many times before, this line in the center of the highway proved to be the line separating life from death.

WHAT shall we do about it? If drivers continue to ignore the danger involved in passing on a two-lane highway without first making sure that there is AMPLE room to pass, the time will come when on all two-lane main highways —and on all multi-lane highways when the opposing lines of traffic are not separated by physical barriers or by adequate distance, there will be a FENCE where there is now only a narrow line and passing will be impossible.

Already this problem is receiving careful study by highway authorities.

"Look! Just tell the governor it's a former general of the army to lend support . . . and there are ten thousand more like me. . .!"

Up-and-Down Relations Between Kremlin And Tito Still Indicate Some Coolness

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

As a Communist, Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito always has made it clear that in case of a war between East and West, he would be on the side of the Soviet Union. But as a Yugoslav he also has insisted that Yugoslavia would attain the the Communist Utopia by its own path, independent of Moscow.

Newsom

It was this bit of independence which induced the United States to extend to Tito over the years aid totalling around a billion dollars. It also led Congress in the most recently passed foreign aid bill to continue President Kennedy's discretionary powers to give him more aid in the form of food, medicine and clothing.

As for the Kremlin, it expelled Tito from the Cominform in 1948 and he remained in the deep freeze until the Bulganin-Khrushchev visit to Belgrade in 1955. In that visit the Kremlin leaders apologized for past treatment and in a joint declaration with Tito said that every nation had the right to develop its own social system and its own from of socialism.

Things seemed better for a while, but then came 1956 and Soviet intervention in the Hungarian revolt. Tito denounced the action as a "fatal error" and joined the United States in backing a resolution in the United Nations demanding immediate evacuation of Soviet troops from Hungary.

Back he went into the Kremlin freezer.

There the situation remained until about a year ago when Khrushchev's quarrel with Peiping apparently led him to decide on a new effort to consolidate European Communist nations in an economic and political bloc.

The result was last week's visit to Belgrade of Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev.

Advance reports said one of Brezhnev's assignments would be to line up Yugolsav support for the Kremlin's announced plan to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany.

The final communique indicated failure, not only on this assignment but on others as well.

It called for a German peace treaty but made no mention of a separate treaty with East Germany.

The communique also called for an improvement in United Nations' "activity" but made no mention of Khrushchev's three-headed troika plan to recognize the office of secretary general.

If Brezhnev's trip was designed as another apology to Tito, it does not seem to have been accepted too wholeheartedly.

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

LABOR'S SUICIDE

Washington — The view from this end of the transcontinental bridge which is the Atlantic ocean is that the Labor party in England is slowly committing suicide for the oddest possible reasons.

Wolfe

After months of painful fence-straddling, Hugh Gaitskell, the party's leader, has at last come down on the side of opposition to Britain's entry into the European Common Market. True, his position is not flat and unqualified. But it amounts to the same thing. He is, perhaps, willing to see Britain go in — but under many ifs, ands and buts which are clearly unattainable in any world of reality.

* * *

THE IMMEDIATE response here among friends of the Common Market — which is to say among the friends of expanded free world trade — has been that Gaitskell has made much more difficult Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's hard task of taking Britain in.

It has been assumed that the Labor party may be maneuvering to force the conservative Macmillan to go to the people in a referendum on the issue. They may even suppose they can thus defeat his government. But just how hard they may have made things for him at home is at least debatable. And what is not debatable at all is that they have surely made matters much easier for him among the six nations of the European Common Market itself.

For his Labor opposition has now dramatically proved for Macmillan precisely what he himself had not been entirely able to prove to the Common Market people. This is that his problems of leading the British into this enterprise are real, not fanciful.

* * *

ALMOST certainly, therefore, the Common Market nations, notably France and West Germany, will now be more generously disposed than before to those exceptions and concessions for which Macmillan has long been pleading as the necessary pre-conditions to British entry.

The Labor party thus may find itself in the position of having won a small tactical battle, by embarrassing Macmillan, on the way to losing a great war. For British voters will not long reward a demonstrably irresponsible political party; and this the Labor party has become. This it has become because there is simply no rational alternative for England. She associates with the Common Market, and so prospectively prospers. Or she goes it alone, and sinks into a fundamental trade and political isolation that would submerge her national identity far more surely than any association with the Common Market.

It is strange to see the British Labor party, a part of the international Socialist movement, now becoming far more nationalist than the despised "Tories" — the Conservatives.

* * *

WHY, THEN, has Hugh Gaitskell, ordinarily so able and so responsible, taken this extraordinary step? Maybe it is because this man has had to fight almost alone so many valiant battles against the endless crackpotism of ban-the-bomb leftists in his party whose whole lives symbolize irresponsible extremism. Perhaps he simply cannot fight again. If so, he will not be the first sensible politician to go down at last under the repeated hammer blows of his own lunatic fringe.

It is sourly and sadly fitting that in the Labor party convention just concluded in England, the final note of all was a savage attack from the leftists on the United States for daring to resume nuclear testing after the Russians had already done so.

Coupled with this, of course, was an equally savage attack upon a man named Hugh Gaitskell — who tries to be a friend of the United States.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

IF THE PRISONERS ARE RANSOMED

Washington—Before much time has passed, the widespread demand to "do something about Cuba" may well be satisfied in an unexpected fashion. Fidel Castro's haul of prisoners from the Bay of Pigs may well be ransomed.

Alsop

The men whom Castro caught have been rotting and starving in his jails for a great many months. For most of them, it is beginning to be a case of now or never. Nonetheless, if President Kennedy moves to ransom them at this juncture, it will prove that he has a much stronger conscience than most Republicans appear to think.

No doubt the President will seek to safeguard himself on the political front before any ransom agreement is announced. No doubt it will not be called a ransom agreement. But no amount of contriving will make the act of paying ransom to Castro either palatable or popular.

* * *

ON THE other hand, the President's choice is clear. Either he can pay the ransom, and bring the prisoners home. Or he can leave them to rot until they die in Castro's jails; and thus he can have their deaths forever on his conscience and his country's conscience—for it was Kennedy, acting as President of the United States, who authorized the unhappy landing in the Bay of Pigs. Or he can use military force to make Castro yield these men up—which he is not ready to do, at any rate at this time.

If the world situation forbids the third alternative, and if the prickings of conscience outlaw the second alternative, then the first alternative is the only one open. For these reasons, the first alternative, of liberating the prisoners by paying ransom to Castro, has apparently been chosen. Even the temptation to wait until after the November election — which must have been a very great temptation—will apparently be resisted.

There is a Scotch saying that a man must "dree his own weird," which means, very roughly, that a man must have the guts to pay for his own follies and stand up to his own fate without undue complaint. Kennedy seems to be obeying this grim injunction in the present instance, and in a way that is not common among politicians, especially in an election year.

* * *

THE simple fact that this essentially moral choice must now be discussed in election-year terms both illustrates and emphasizes a new phenomenon of great significance. Partly because of the mood of the country, and partly because a good many Republicans would have it so, foreign policy is becoming a primary factor in domestic party politics.

Unpublished national polls show an immense majority of the country favoring a naval blockade of Cuba, for instance. It is pretty clear, therefore, that President Kennedy could stir the country to its depths, and lift it partly from the doldrums, by the simple act of ordering a blockade.

Since the end of the last war, nothing quite like this situation has ever been produced by all the chops and changes of the long contest between the U. S. and the Soviet Union. There was no public pressure on President Truman to intervene in Korea, or on President Eisenhower to stand off the Chinese Communists at Quemoy, or on President Kennedy to adopt a bold, firm course in South Viet Nam.

But now there is public pressure, not only with respect to Cuba, but, also, less damatically but no less insistently, with respect to Berlin. Futhermore, although few people realize it, Berlin ties the President's hands in the Cuban situation, at least for the present.

* * *

THE point is that the Berlin crisis at last appears to be nearing a climax. If fighting is avoided during this climax, it will be very surprising. Fighting need not, and probably will not, lead to an H-bomb war. Yet the oncoming climax in the Berlin crisis is plainly going to be a horribly risky and breathless business.

As the President himself told the Congressional leaders at a briefing a few days ago, the delicate and dangerous task of meeting the expected challenge at Berlin must be complicated by the Cuban problem. That the Berlin corner must be rounded, in short, before the final choice is made, to tackle or not to tackle the Cuban problem.

In the present mood of the country, if the President fails to meet the challenge of Berlin, he may as well send his resignation to the Senate. If he meets the challenge, and if there is an H-bomb war, Cuba will not matter very greatly. But if Kennedy meets a Berlin challenge with success, and without an H-bomb war, the whole world situation will be incalculabey but favorably altered, and the mood of the country will also be transformed.

These are the basic, realistic calculations that now govern the Administration's actions. But since the country is so particularly Cuba-conscious, it will be a bold act, to take time off from preparing for the Berlin climax, in order to rescue the men at the Bay of Pigs from Castro's cruel grip.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris
(c) Field Enterprises Inc.

DIFFERING SKILLS

After my talk, when some sweet little old lady comes up to me (as so often happens) holding a sheaf of paper in her hand, I usually know just what to expect.

Harris

She has a niece away at college, or a nephew stationed abroad, and they write the most charming and delightful letters. Would I be good enough to take a look and see if I don't agree that the niece (or the nephew) should be encouraged to become a professional writer?

It is curious how deeply this legend persists in the lay mind — that a person who writes interesting letters has the makings of a professional writer. Nothing could be further from the truth; the talent for letter-writing has no relationship to writing of any other kind.

* * *

Most great writers have been wretched correspondents; when we find an exception, like Byron, it is because his letters were really written with the public (and posterity) in mind from the first. They may be written in letter form but they are carefully calculated works of art.

Writing good letters is a knack, like being able to play the piano with your toes, or adding up a long column of figures in your mind. The personal correspondence of most consequential writers is drab, curt and factual; they save their talent for their working-hours.

I have never written a letter in my life that would do credit to a high school English major; yet I have friends of absolutely no literary talent who can pen the most amusing letters, spun out of the smallest possible store of small talk. If they expect me to reply in kind, I am embarrassed at my pathetic lack of skill, and don't answer at all.

* * *

In many areas of this kind, the public tends to confuse a special knack with real talent. The arithmetical freaks, for instance, who can do amazing computations in their heads, usually are capable of making no contribution to mathematics; while an Einstein, with a mind of profound originality, could scarcely add up a grocery bill correctly.

Likewise, the chess masters who could play a dozen games simultaneously blindfold were not necessarily first-rank players; Capablanca, perhaps the finest natural player of our time, was extremely deficient in blindfold play. Yet none of the blindfold masters could beat him in tournaments.

Real professionals, strangely enough, do not exercise their professional skills in their personal lives; I know engineers who can't change a light bulb in their own house, psychiatrists who treat their children as if Freud had never existed, accountants whose domestic budgets are always out of balance. In a letter-writing contest, Shakespeare would probably be beaten to a frazzle by the [illegible] niece or nephew.