

Medford and Jackson County... National Editorial Association... Newspaper Publishers Association...

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County... Oct. 12, 1952 (Monday)...

30 YEARS AGO

Oct. 12, 1922 (Wednesday) 'Straw vote' conducted by the Mail Tribune shows Herbert Hoover leading Franklin D. Roosevelt...

40 YEARS AGO

Oct. 12, 1912 (Saturday) The Mail Tribune advised all local residents to obtain voter registration blanks at Postal Telegraph office...

What's Your I.Q.?

1. Which is presented in processing green or black? 2. Hele Selma... 3. Bathing is another name for what?...

Rural Delinquency Study

"Juvenile delinquency" is an awkward phrase used to designate a recurring phenomenon: kids doing things they shouldn't and getting into trouble over it.

It's been going on for several millenia, but it's getting worse. Why? No one knows for sure, but there are several contributing factors...

What to do about it? Well, for one thing, learn more about the "why" of juvenile delinquency, and then maybe some methods will show up as to how to deal with it more effectively.

THAT, at any rate, is the thinking behind a study to be conducted in Lane county — the only one of its kind in the country — into rural, as opposed to urban, delinquent behavior.

Financed by a grant of \$129,000 provided by the President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency, the study will be conducted by a council of leading representative citizens, with the leg work done by University of Oregon staff members and graduate students.

Will it come up with any answers? Only time will tell, but the effort is well worth while. Delinquency and crime are among our most expensive foibles — both in money and in social loss — and some better answers than those we now have are badly needed.

THE NATIONAL Observer devotes most of a column on Page 1 and several more inside to this experiment. It says:

"The committee hopes that Lane county, whose problems are considered typical, can come up with a plan for setting a year from now that can be applied to rural areas across the nation. Delinquency in rural areas is rising proportionately faster than it is in the big cities. What is the pattern of juvenile delinquency in typical Lane county? Is it Oregon's rural answer to New York's East Harlem, where teenage gang wars rage?"

"On the surface, it would be difficult to conjure a more ideal area. Trout splash in the roaring McKenzie river. Deer paw the Cascade mountain. Logging trails beckon into magnificent stands of Douglas fir. Glass-clear lakes dot the Willamette valley, which resembles the Scottish moors when gray-blue rain clouds roll in over the foothills. For 30 miles along the Pacific ocean, white sands whip up before the winds, and sea lions bark in rocky caves."

Why, then, should youngsters in such ideal physical surroundings steal cars, maul each other, rob gasoline stations, get drunk, and all the other sordid and unrewarding activities lumped together as juvenile delinquency?

THE SAD fact is, however, that they do. And the Observer's article gives some hints.

A 14-year-old girl, daughter of a logger, seldom sees her father, and has been in a dozen schools in 18 months. Another boy's mother has left his father, and the boy cheerfully hated his father. Another girl hates her father's plentiful money, and resorts to shoplifting. Another boy, one of seven children, is the son of an itinerant bean-picker whose mother also works; his father is not "my idea of a man."

Another boy, not at all good in school, is crazy about cars, and his principal mourns because the rural high school has no automotive shop which could attract him and channel him into useful and meaningful and enjoyable pursuits.

THE CAUSES are as varied as the cases themselves, but if some common denominator can be found, then an "action program" might be designated.

We cannot conceive of what such an action program might consist, given the varied behavior, symptoms and causes of delinquent behavior, but any clues at all, any constructive suggestions at all, will be worth their weight in gold.

Circuit Judge William S. Fort of the Lane county juvenile court put the matter plainly when he ascribed the rapid rise in delinquency — particularly rural delinquency — to "the vast changes that have taken place in the last 50 years, changes which aren't necessarily bad, but changes which we're going to have to stop and grapple with." — E. A.

Triple Solution

In a burst of sheer genius, an editorial writer of our acquaintance comes up with a solution for three current pressing problems all in one package.

The problems: A general low level of physical fitness among the American people; terrible traffic congestion, and the lack of parking.

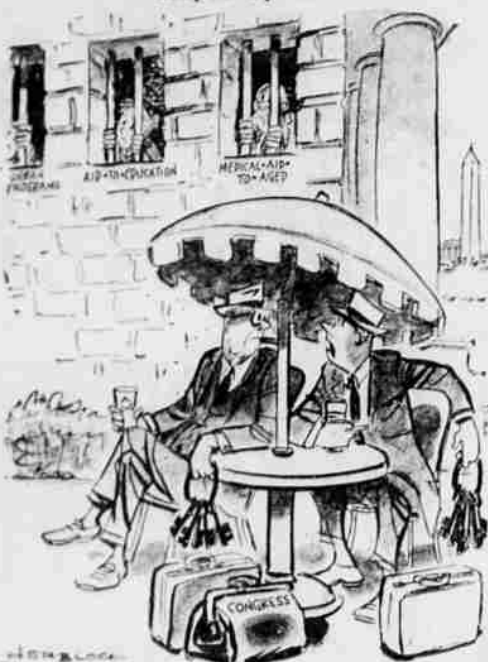
The solution: Bicycles. "Why not?" he asks. "They work. They don't take much room. In traffic they're faster than cars. They are cheaper to buy and cheaper to operate. They build physical fitness. For most trips, they carry enough cargo."

HE GOES on to point out one major drawback, namely, that they are not socially acceptable, except among college and university students. Even high school students prefer cars or, more recently, scooters.

We think we know another more serious drawback. People are lazy. Most would prefer to lie than sit, sit than stand, stand than walk, and walk than run. And certainly a majority would rather ride a car than pump a bicycle.

But, as our friend points out, even if increased use of bicycles reduced traffic and parking problems by only 5 or 10 per cent, it would be worth a great deal. — E. A.

"It's Awful The Way We've Been Cooped Up Here"



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.

To The Hills

To the Editor: The Weather Bureau says "occasional showers in the mountains." I'm a headin' for the hills where it just rains occasional.

Everett Acklin, Ashland, Ore.

Or Are We?

To the Editor: Carroll Powell's letter, Medford Mail Tribune, 10-9-52.

He asks if it will of the people to impose on the state of Mississippi through the Supreme Court.

The Constitution I believe was written for America because the people at the time were sick and tired of the terrorism and intimidation imposed on them. It meant I believe that all America and all Americans should be free. It did not mention color, creed, rich or poor. It did not designate that the white alone should be free and the Negro not. The Negroes in the past have laid down their lives to keep America free. If we can accept them to die with us we can also accept them in our schools, in churches and on our streets.

We must accept them as equals or the freedom we brag about to the rest of the world is just a farce.

I believe Kennedy did what had to be done. Any true American would have done the same. The Supreme Court is the only way he can enforce the Constitution and what it stands for.

I am not defending Meredith because I believe he is guilty of starting a riot and should be punished for it.

But I do believe that if we are ever going to have peace it must start at home.

And if anyone should be put out of our colleges, Gus Hall would be a good one to start with.

The Communists would like to see America divided into two parts, and right now unity is more important than the feeling that some Americans have about being better than others.

The Bible says all men are created equal. Are we Christians or aren't we? Is the question that should be asked.

A. E. Savage, Klamath River, Calif.

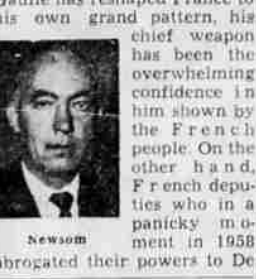
No. 9

To the Editor: One of our eastern Oregon newspapers says, "Robert Y. Thornton, Democratic candidate for Governor, is one of the few candidates not expressing approval of the measure." This refers, of course, to Initiative measure No. 9 on the November general election ballot. I am skeptical that he is one of only a few. There is no reason why any candidate for state office should declare himself for or against measure No. 9 unless in the hope of thereby wangling himself a few votes, in which case he might speak out of one side of his mouth in west Oregon and out of the other in east Oregon and that I am sure Mr. Thornton would not do.

Any Democratic candidate for state office who endorsed ballot measure No. 9 would be a traitor to his own party and to the principles for which his party stands. Resignation is a hot political issue in more than half the states in the Union this year, but in all except Oregon the fight is to do away with antiquated undemocratic systems and replace these systems with more democratic ones that will give to every man's vote an equal value. Oregon is the only state in the nation that has such a system of representation and because of it the Republican machine has not

De Gaulle Again Staking Power on Vote Of the People; He May Lose on This One

By PHIL NEWSOM, UPI Foreign News Analyst



Newsom

As President Charles de Gaulle has reshaped France to his own grand pattern, his chief weapon has been the overwhelming confidence in him shown by the French people. On the other hand, French deputies who in a panicky moment in 1958 abrogated their powers to De

Gaulle to save France from civil war, have grown increasingly restless under De Gaulle's open contempt both for Parliament and what he considers the petty games of party politics.

The result has been a series of referendums which permitted De Gaulle to bypass Parliament and take his policies directly to the people.

In this way came the new Constitution establishing the French Fifth Republic and others by which the French people approved independence for Algeria.

On Oct. 28, French voters again will be called upon to ballot in a referendum. But this time with a difference. Even De Gaulle's staunchest supporters concede the outcome is by no means certain.

The issue will be De Gaulle's determination to take the election of a French president from the hands of

some 50,000 privileged politicians and place it in the direct hands of the voters.

De Gaulle has made a personal issue of it, threatening to quit if the vote goes against him.

And for the first time, his combined opposition sees a chance to bring him down. They started it with a vote of censure which brought down the government of the De Gaulle-appointed Premier Georges Pompidou.

The motion accused De Gaulle of violating the Constitution and "opening a breach through which an adventurer might pass some day to overthrow the republic and suppress its liberties."

Speaker after speaker reminded the French people that Louis Napoleon, nephew of Bonaparte, made himself emperor of France only two years after dissolving Parli-

ment and obtaining approval for direct presidential elections.

For his part, De Gaulle made it clear he believed that only through a strong president backed by a direct mandate from the people could France continue to enjoy the stability it has had since 1958.

There was a great deal to what he said, for under De Gaulle and his new Constitution only two premiers have served—Pompidou and Michel Debre. The old Fourth Republic had 26 between 1944 and 1958.

Worrying De Gaulle supporters, however, is the knowledge that great national leaders not always are honored at the polls once an emergency has passed. Past months have indicated a growing restlessness among French voters and opposition leaders now ganging up on De Gaulle are hoping to profit by it.

Strictly Personal

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

PERSONAL PREJUDICES

Most of the world's best creative work was done out of misery, not out of happiness; we suspect that Shakespeare was unhappy when he wrote "Hamlet," and we know that Mozart was miserable when he composed his most profound and beautiful music; all art is the child of suffering, even the gayest and most ecstatic works.

Science can tell us how to do things, but not which things are worth doing and which are not; until we can develop a science of ends, our science of means will only betray us into following unworthy goals.

Most of our so-called beliefs are negative, not positive; we can say with vigor and precision exactly what we are against; but when asked to profess our positive beliefs, we are vague, general, confused and self-contradictory.

Not one person in a thousand knows how to live properly in the present, with a decent respect for the past and an intelligent anticipation of the future; most of us are either captives of the past or ransomed to the future — so that our joy in the present is clouded by memory or brushed aside by expectation.

Jokes are the most immortal parts of history; people who never heard of Herodotus, much less read him, are still quoting his joke about the barber and the customer, 2,500 years later and no wiser.

If there were only one maxim I could write on every blackboard in the nation's schools, for teenagers to ponder, it would be the brief and devastating sentence by E. W. Howe, whose truth we never recognize until we are too old: "The way out of trouble is never as simple as the way in."

Every company must give its responsible executives the right to be wrong — not wrong most of the time, or disastrously wrong, but a certain leeway of wrongness; for when an executive is afraid to be wrong, he sinks into passivity and conformity, and then it is worth nothing to his company or to himself. "Don't rock the boat" is a slogan that will eventually capsize any corporate craft.

People whose philosophy of life is always to "look on the bright side" must view the crucifixion, and Jesus' real anguish, as a piece of capricious morbidity on God's part.

Unpunctuality may be, as they say, a feminine trait, but it is worth noting that it is rarely the homely woman who is late for an engagement.

Timothy Tugbutton Spouts Off About \$10 Million Fish House

By LYLE C. WILSON, United Press International

Washington (UPI)—The Hon. Timothy Tugbutton stormed into the office today in a fearful rage.



Wilson

Clearing the news desk of spikes and paste pots with one sweep of his heavy cane, Tim gave voice:

"I ain't gonna stand for it. The taxpayers ain't gonna stand for it. Of all the damned foolishness I ever heard of, those addle-headed Congressmen have voted to build a fish house right here in the District of Columbia — and a \$10 million fish house at that."

"You talking about the aquarium, Tim?" Grant Dillman inquired from the slot position. "The aquarium that President Kennedy okayed a couple of days ago when he signed the bill?"

"The Fish House Issue." "Course I mean that aquarium," Tugbutton shouted. "And, a course that young feller in the White House signed the authorization bill. What's \$10 million to that young feller especially when it's \$10 million of other people's money?"

"You'd think a young feller whose old man could save enough to make all his kids

are soft is in the head, on money. And what they are soft on right at this moment is fish, that's what Soft on fish. You could make a big campaign issue on that. The Republicans in Missouri could holler.

"Yah, yah, yah, Harry Truman's soft on fish, soft on fish, soft on fish. And they oughta do some yah yahs at Jack Kennedy, too. That young feller has been a great disappointment to me. He oughta have better sense, raised good the way he was. He sure oughta have better sense, especially about money."

"What's got into them Democrats, anyway?" he continued. "The Republicans will make a big issue of this, let me tell you, or, anyway, they oughta make a big issue of it although they probably won't. Republicans being very little smarter than Democrats, if any — and ain't that a terrible thing to say about both of 'em?"

By this time, Tugbutton was beating time to his own words, banging his cane indiscriminately on the desk and the frame of Bill Zimmerman's typewriter.

"The Republicans have been hollering that the Democrats are soft on communism and it ain't got them anywhere except to make Harry Truman mad," Tugbutton shouted.

"That ain't no issue — leastwise it don't win no elections, and what's the matter is the Republicans have got the Democrats soft on the wrong thing and in the wrong place. The place where they Democrats

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In Minneapolis, three St. Paul teen-agers fake a thick German accent, pass themselves off as foreign exchange students, win their way into the hotel where President Kennedy was preparing to make a speech at a money-raising cocktail party, and get a cordial handshake from the President of the United States, who welcomes them to this country.

THEIR exploit leaves some red faces, including that of Senator Humphrey, who got into the act, and those of the Secret Service men, who were there to see to it that no unauthorized persons got close enough to our nation's Chief Executive to be dangerous in case they had been up to no good.

Both the Senator and the Secret Service men insist that they "were never fooled for a minute," and a spokesman for the Secret Service points out to the nosy reporters who scented a good story in the incident that the President shook hands not only with the teen-agers but with the hotel employees and other persons before going on to the reception.

What shall we say about it? Let's put it this way: If our teen-agers never did anything more reprehensible than putting up a clever job to get a handshake from the President of the United States at a time when he is out on a hand-shaking tour just ahead of an election at which he is seeking all the Democratic votes he can influence, we'd have nothing much to complain about.

AMONG other things, they got themselves a real bargain. Their Presidential handshake came for free, whereas if they had been formal guests at the fund-raising party it would have cost them \$500 apiece.

GOING from teen-ager antics to more serious subjects, the Supreme Court has agreed to review the constitutionality of Bible reading in the public schools.

Let's all applaud the decision. If the Constitution, as presently interpreted, forbids the reading of the Bible in our public schools, it's getting about time to AMEND the constitution.

The Bible, among so many other things, is GREAT LITERATURE.

WHAT brings up the subject of these new versions (translations) of the Bible. I can't help hope they don't spread to exclude the historic King James version. Its sonorous beauty would be sorely missed.

Example: The Book of Ruth (1-16) in which Ruth says to her mother-in-law, Naomi: "Intreat me not to leave thee or to return from following thee; for whither thou goest I will go; and where thou lodgest I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God my God."

Washington Report

By William S. White (c) United Feature Syndicate

CAMPAIGN RISKS

Washington—Rarely has a president risked so much for so little conceivable gain as John F. Kennedy is risking in his current campaign to retain or enlarge Democratic control of the new congress.

Amid another developing crisis over Berlin and a worsening and chronic crisis over Castro, Cuba, Kennedy is straining the delicate fabric of bipartisan national unity on foreign affairs on which this country, whatever its disputes at home, has been able to confront the outer world.

He is compromising that unity as he never thought of compromising it before. And for what? For the very dubious possibility that the new congress may number more members who may turn hostile faces to domestic reforms like "Medical Care for the Aged" and "Urban Renewal."

FOR MONTHS the President debated within himself as to how far he should enter this congressional campaign — and how far he should go once he was in it. It now seems clear that he has come down on the side of running a cautious partisan show in times that are unhappily far from routine and in a world of lurking dangers.

By the unwritten rules, harsh politicking in domestic affairs is strictly a part of the game so long as the man doing it is willing to chance the repercussions. All presidents have done it to one degree or another. What is striking and troubling in the President's present position is that he is apparently content to take the far more serious consequences of dealing in this manner with foreign affairs also.

HE IS deeply vulnerable, for illustration, on Cuba, where the failure of the 1961 invasion has been followed by



"I don't know—probably some politician up for re-election..."