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
Oct. 16, 1952 (Thursday)

The 100th anniversary of the first post office in southern Oregon—third in the entire state—will be observed Sunday at the old Dardanelle restaurant on the Old Stage rd.

The traditional rivalry between the football teams of Medford and Klamath Falls will be renewed here Friday night; the Pelicans are favored to win and are ranked third in the state.

20 YEARS AGO
Oct. 16, 1942 (Friday)

"Hundreds of civilians" jam Medford's Main street during "Main Street Stamp" war bond sale.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The morns have been quite chilly of late, causing the shinbones of the fair sex still allergic to stockings to show a faint trace of delicate blue."

30 YEARS AGO
Oct. 16, 1932 (Sunday)

"Straw vote" conducted by the Mail Tribune shows Herbert Hoover leading Franklin Roosevelt in presidential balloting by 440 to 172 margin.

State police roundup "gang" of Jackson county grocery and vegetable thieves.

40 YEARS AGO
Oct. 16, 1922 (Monday)

Local auto dealers announce $50 decrease in price of new 1932 cars; vehicles to be "more attractive, comfortable and convenient than ever, with a slanting windshield, one man top, gypsy curtains and improvements wiring insulation."

Jackson county receives $8,404 from secretary of state's office for 1922 forest rentals.

50 YEARS AGO
Oct. 16, 1912 (Wednesday)

Madame Dagski, "magnificent dramatic soprano," will sing at Medford Natatorium building Oct. 28.

Group of San Francisco financiers reported seeking 50-year street car franchise in Medford.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. In which European city is Picadilly Circus?
2. "This at last is the bone of my bones and the flesh of my flesh; she shall be called – – – – –. (What?)
3. Under which cabinet post is the U. S. Forest Service?
4. Does the United States or Australia produce the most sheep?
5. What sort of device has been named a Mae West?
6. The World War II Normandy invasion was the greatest military invasion in world history; true or false?
7. What is another name for mercury?
8. In what country is Marathon?
9. Do horses sleep while standing?
10. Who was nicknamed "The Little Flower"?

Answers: 1. London, England. 2. "Woman." 3. Department of Agriculture. 4. Australia. 5. Life-saving vest. 6. True. 7. Quicksilver. 8. Greece. 9. Yes. 10. Fiorella LaGuardia, former Mayor of NYC.

Lessons of the Storm

The great Columbus day storm of 1962 is over, but the memory will remain a vivid one for thousands of people.

For some it will recall tragedy—friends and neighbors killed or injured, many homeless, buildings destroyed or damaged, livestock killed.

For some it will recall excitement—the excitement of danger and drama and, in many instances, heroism.

For some it will recall adventure—learning, on a moment's notice, how to do without electric power, on which so many of our 20th century creature comforts are based.

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THE Rogue valley was exceedingly lucky. There was some damage, of course, and considerable excitement, and quite a number of people without electricity for hours on end. The fruit orchards suffered the most heavily.

But these events pale to insignifigance in comparison to what happened in the Willamette valley, the Portland area, and along the coast.

Aside from the loss of life and human injuries, the thing that hurts most is the loss of the huge old trees which graced the campuses at Eugene and Corvallis, the Capitol park in Salem, and the park blocks in Portland. Buildings can be repaired, but the loss of century-old trees is virtually irreparable.

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THE upstate papers over the week end were filled with pictures and details of the havoc wrought by the storm. But the editorials dealt more with the human factor—neighbor opening up home to neighbor, volunteer crews equipping themselves with chainsaws and roaming the city streets to keep them open to traffic, countless acts of kindness and generosity and helpfulness, acts of courage in rescuing trapped people, acts of mercy to those injured.

When the chips are down, people show up to pretty good advantage, most of the time.

There were also the minor incidents, such as at a motel north of Eugene where all the stranded travelers pooled their food and candles, and spent the night in the coffee shop, drinking coffee made over a Coleman stove one tourist had in his car, and using water obtained from melting ice chipped from inside an inoperative food freezer.

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ONE editorial commented that one forgets how good a steak tastes when cooked over an open fire. Another noted that those who got by the best were those who were equipped for camping, with stoves, lights and other gear independent of power sources.

Others noted how the news media pooled their resources to bring the news and emergency instructions as rapidly as possible to as many people as possible.

And at least four upstate newspapers mentioned that the civil defense organizations, ostensibly designed to function at just such a time, were of little or no help at all, and that the regular agencies—city police, sheriff, state police, firemen—were the ones to depend upon. —E.A.

Ballot Measures

There will be nine, instead of ten, state measures on the election ballot this fall. The state supreme court has ruled the initiative steelhead measure was faulty, and it will not be voted upon as a result.

Four of the measures can be classed as "housekeeping" items, to tidy up the Constitution. They involve the organization of the "state militia" (National Guard), and the rewriting of the formula for limitations on bonded indebtedness.

Another one would permit taxing units to retain their tax bases, even if no taxes are levied over a period of years, and it appears to be noncontroversial.

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THE other three, however, are both controversial and hotly contested.

The one which may well generate the most heat (although in our view it is the least significant of the three) is the Daylight Saving time measure.

A reapportionment proposal and an initiative to repeal the school reorganization law are the other two. Both of these have strong and vocal support and opposition. Neither of them are too clear to the average layman, but both are of considerable importance. In our view the school measure is the most important.

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CONSCIENTIOUS voters will have some homework to do between now and Nov. 6, if they are to cast intelligent ballots.

The Oregon Voters' Pamphlet, which will be arriving soon, will be of considerable help. So are the voters information sheets prepared and distributed by the League of Women Voters.

In addition, the Mail Tribune will endeavor to give brief explanations of each of the measures within the next few weeks, as well as editorial opinions concerning the merits of each.

The election is only three weeks from today. —E.A.

Correction

In this space yesterday it was stated that $100,000 in planning and pre-construction funds had been appropriated for the Rogue Basin project. This is not the case. The information was based on reports coming in the midst of the last-minute adjournment flurry, and is now believed to be erroneous.—E.A.

"I Said, You Do Have Your Hearing Aid Turned On, Sir, Don't You?"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

WARMTH BUT NO FLAME

Pittsburgh – The effectiveness of the President's dogged effort to help his party in the off-year election is as difficult to judge as any political phenomenon this reporter can recall in the last 25 years. When Kennedy came through here this week end, for instance, his visit had all the outward signs and symbols of success. The airport crowd was not enormous; but after that the crowds were very impressive indeed.

Alsop

At Aliquippa, a grim, shabby little town of less than 30,000 people, at least 15,000 came out to hear the President speak for five minutes. There was an almost continuous hedge of people along the roadside through all the miles of his motorcade. The Pittsburgh streets overflowed for his grand entrance; and the night rally had an excited overflow audience, too.

Furthermore, these people were enthusiastic and affectionate. Fathers struggled to hold up improbable numbers of children, so that "you can see the President." Old ladies dabbed their eyes at the mere sight of the President's car passing by. At the University of Pittsburgh field house in the evening, he got a stormy ovation at the end of a short speech which must have been wholly incomprehensible to almost everyone present because of the bizarre acoustics.

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ONE could not doubt, in short, that all these hundreds of people liked and admired and trusted the man they had turned out to see. As has often been reported, the President, for his part, was visibly cheered and refreshed by this show of popular affection and trust, but that does not answer the question, whether this Presidential stumping is producing the result the President hopes for.

Eliciting a show of affection is one thing. Injecting fervor, excitement, and energy into the Democratic electoral campaign is quite another thing. And it seems more than doubtful whether this much-needed injection is being accomplished by the President.

One reason for this doubt, quite certainly, is the standard speech the President has evolved for this autumn's stumping. It can be telescoped or extended, as occasion requires. But it always contains the same elements.

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THERE is an it's-nice-to-be-here" opening. There are the necessary references to all the local Democratic candidates, every one of whom is always a wonderful fellow, whose "help" the President badly needs. And there are the proofs the President offers that his need for "help" is urgent, because of the blind obstructionism of the Republicans who have voted 81 per cent against this progressive and constructive measure, 79 per cent against that, and so on.

Whether it lasts for five minutes or is a full-length effort, the ingredients of the speech are always the same. The President always delivers it with heat and apparent conviction, seeming to condemn the purblind Republicans to political perdition with his familiar, oft-repeated jabbing gestures. Yet something seems to be lacking, both in the speaker and in the audience.

At a guess, what is lacking is the conviction that the purely domestic, social welfare issues which the President has chosen to discuss exclusively are no longer quite so overwhelmingly predominant as they were in the days of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whom the President often calls to witness.

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AMONG those who turn out to see the President, there are many really poor people, for whom these issues ought to be predominant. The President himself, by the same token, is certainly convinced that his welfare measures are useful and important; and he most certainly has a fervid conviction that an increase of Republican strength in Congress, where the balance is already narrow, will just about cripple the U. S. government during the next two dangerous years.

Yet the fact remains that if the President wished to rivet his audience and have them hanging on his every word, he would instead discuss the Cuban situation and the Berlin crisis and the other great problems of the increasingly risky cold war. From the way the President himself treats the domestic issues, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that he too would be more interested by his own speeches if they concerned this other range of topics.

There is something artificial, in fact, in the Presidential strategy this autumn. Kennedy is talking about subjects which he thinks possess voter-appeal, but not about the matters which preoccupy him from day to day. Perhaps this is why the Presidential intervention, although it may warm up the campaigning, seems unlikely to cause the 1962 election to burst into flames of excitement.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris

(c) Field Enterprises Inc.

ALAS THE CANE

Watching an old Sascha Guitry film the other night, I felt a twitch of envy as the debonair French actor strolled along the Seine elegantly swinging a cane — that last remaining emblem of dash and gallantry in a mundane world.

Harris

In the United States, almost nobody except old people and comedians carry canes these days. Until his death two years ago, Bobby Clark was still twirling his customary stick with maniacal glee, and the late W. C. Fields did some extremely funny business with a cane.

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Canes achieved their popularity with stage people for protective as well as for decorative reasons. In the early road shows, actors used canes to ward off enraged audiences, sheriffs with summonses, cuckolded husbands and vicious dogs.

For these eminently practical reasons, around the turn of the century, the sword cane was in great favor, and some of the black sticks with crook handles concealed airguns, shotguns, revolvers or daggers in their shafts.

When I was a little boy, living in England, my father used to carry a cane to business every day — a Prince Albert model with a curved handle. For more formal occasions, he used a straight ebony with a silver knob, or a coca-bola, which is not a soft drink but a handsome heavy red wood. In summer, he brandished a wanghee, which is similar to a bamboo stick and is devastatingly effective for flicking the bottoms of fractious children, I know.

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The modern Englishman still uses a tightly rolled umbrella as a kind of ersatz cane, and, in France the walking-stick is almost as popular as it ever was, but elsewhere it has come to be looked upon as a sign of decadence or affectation.

A great many men, I suspect, secretly yearn to saunter down the boulevard with a cane jauntily danging on their arms, but Fred Astaire is the only American I have ever seen do it with complete aplomb.

We forget that a cane is a vestigial sword. So swiftly do customs change that what was once a symbol of manhood is now a sign of effeminacy.

Rules of Spying, an Ancient Profession, Being Changed; Machines Enter Picture

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Since the beginnings, nations have spied upon one another so that now as a business the spy's profession must be at least second among the world's oldest.

Newsom

It operates within certain rules. The first is not to get caught. The second is that the nation employing him must never admit his existence, and if faced with the evidence, immediately must disavow him.

But either the rules are changing or the business is becoming cluttered with amateurs.

A couple of weeks ago, U. S. federal agents converged on a suburban New York diner and picked up two Russian diplomats attached to the Soviet mission to the United Nations. The Russians, who obviously had violated the first rule of succesful spying, were found with the goods and promptly ejected from the United States.

Russia retaliated with the ejection of two members of the U. S. Embassy in Moscow on similar charges.

Last week in a court in Karlsruhe, Germany, a confessed Soviet agent recounted his exploits as proudly as a movie actress dictating her her biography.

He described a "poison gun" with which he first killed a friendly puppy and then two Ukranian exile leaders by firing cyanide pellets into their faces.

This was cloak-and-dagger stuff with a vengeance but its very telling scarcely seemed in keeping with the traditional picture of the spy who would take his own poison pellet rather than risk capture.

A man who played the role to the end was Dr. Robert Soblen. Soblen, sentenced to life imprisonment for wartime espionage against the United States, proclaimed his innocence throughout and at last foiled his captors by swallowing a poison obtained by methods still not known.

In 1960, in a speech before the United Nations, Henry Cabot Lodge disclosed a bit of Soviet espionage displaying both boldness and imagination. It was a carved wooden replica of the great United States seal given as a gift to the U. S. Embassy in Moscow. A hidden microphone in its back went undetected for seven years.

Former president Eisenhower not only broke a rule of international espionage at the abortive summit session in Paris in 1960 but also disclosed one of the great forward steps in espionage methods.

Man is being replaced by the machine.

When the President admitted that a U2 reconnaissance plane shot down over Russia was on a spying mission and also defended it as a "distasteful but vital necessity" to protect the Free World against another Pearl Harbor, he shook international practices with results which still are being debated.

But the U2, which for four years had been photographing Soviet military installations, marked a turning in espionage.

A short time ago, the Soviet Union and Cuba disclosed that the Russians would build a "fishing village" for Castro. Both blandly denied that the thought of employing radar and other electronic equipment aboard trawlers to spy on the U.S. ever had occurred to them.

For months the U. S. Navy has been firing secret satellites into orbit.

Noting speculation that these are spy satellites, the New York Daily News editoralized: "We hope so."

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words

Christmas Too Soon

To the Editor: For many years Advent (which begins this year on Dec. 2) was the beginning of the preparations for Christmas. Now it seems that it takes months to select, and even more months to pay for, very extreme gift giving.

For the last two weeks there have been ads on the radio and now on television suggesting gifts for Christmas. We haven't even celebrated Halloween yet, or Thanksgiving! Each year I'm becoming increasingly irritated with the early advertising—by the time Christmas comes, we're all sick of the whole idea. It seems absolutely ridiculous to walk into a store in early October and see the wreaths and Santa Claus decorating the scene.

Why can't we celebrate Christ's birthday with gift giving to our children, relatives and friends without feeling the 'force' behind the gift-giving? I know that the competition among the merchants requires a certain amount of advertising, but is it really necessary to spoil the meaning of Christmas by pushing the idea for so many, many weeks ahead of the event?

(Name on File)
Medford.

Power of the Name

To the Editor:

The Yanks the pennant once again have won;
The credit goes to Richardson and Ford.
Too bad my favorite team is Washington,
And by another Series I'll be bored.
Statistics show the Yanks a barren team . . .
"The rookies brought the Yankees through," Houk said;
But names like Mantle, Maris, Berra seem
To make a better team roll over dead.
Cepeda, Mays and Sanford pose no threat;
Take pity on poor Candlestick's sad fans . . .
The Yanks will quickly win without a sweat,
'Cause fielders can't catch homers in the stands.
Without "ole Case" the outcome's still the same:
The power of the Yanks is in the name.

Peter W. Sage,
Hedrick Junior High School, 8th Grade,
Medford.

Thanks

To the Editor: Thank you for your interest and cooperation in presenting the adult education courses this fall term. Response for the classes has been very good and we were certainly pleased with the publicity. Our eye-catching ad was very well arranged and attractively placed in your Sunday edition.

The frequent articles regarding adult classes have been very helpful, too!

We sincerely appreciate your friendly assistance and this expression of interest in the adult education program.

Lindsay M. Vinsel,
Director Adult and Vocational Education,
Medford Public Schools

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Meeting at Oceanside the other day, the California State Board of Education proposed a SIX-DAY WEEK for California's elementary and high schools. It instructed education department administrators to look into the proposal and report back at a future meeting.

The matter was brought up in connection with a legislative recommendation, by Roy E. Simpson, California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, that would permit special Saturday classes for GIFTED children.

This recommendation was put over until the report is received on the feasibility of Saturday classes for ALL children.

A SIX-DAY week in the schools?

It would upset a lot of habits and traditions.

BUT—

The time is near—if indeed it is not already here—when in this country we are going to have to consider finances. Throughout most of the years of this century, the big questions in regard to education have been what do we want and what should we have. The time is nearing when another big question will be WHAT CAN WE AFFORD?

The action initiated by the California State Board of Education at its Oceanside meeting is an indication that the time is coming when we can no longer afford to use our school plant only a PART of the available time.

WHY?

Well, this nation is heavily in debt.

I think it isn't generally realized how heavily in debt we are.

A WHILE back, a new senator from South Dakota —Sen. Joe Bottum, filling out the term of the late Sen. Francis Case—did something that nobody in Washington seems to have thought of before. He added up the total national debt obligations of the federal government. Not just the $300-odd billions in direct obligations covered by the debt "limit" that from time to time the congress has to LIFT in order to make room for more spending.

He included contingent obligations, such as federal insurance now in force and loans already guaranteed. He included also the Social Security trust fund and Civil Service retirement obligations. All of these, he pointed out, must eventually be paid.

The payments for all of them must come out of the pockets of U. S. taxpayers, because there is nowhere else for them to come from.

HE CONCLUDED:

Total national debt obligations of the federal government in Fiscal Year 1963 (the current fiscal year) will approximate $1,242,000,000,000!

That is a big figure. It includes a confusing number of ciphers. So let's spell it out. Spelled out, it reads: One TRILLON, two hundred forty-two billion dollars.

THAT'S a lot of money to owe.

It will take a lot of taxes to pay off an obligation of that size—while at the same time paying current costs of government.

Perhaps that thought was back of the proposal by the California State Board of Education the other day to use the school plant a larger part of the available time.

Washington Report

By William S. White

(c) United Feature Syndicate

DAYS OF CRISIS

Washington – The October days of crisis for the Republican party are now at hand—but far less for the congressional elections of next month than for the presidential election two years hence.

White

Not in memory has a political year brought such a confrontation of shadow with substance. The shadow is the struggle for control of the new congress. But the gut contest lies in the efforts of G.O.P. candidates for governor to capture the state houses, and thus the giant political mechanisms, of four of our biggest states.

These – New York, California, Pennsylvania and Michigan – are the real payoff. For what happens in these gubernatorial tests will determine, far more than any possible outcome of the congressional races, the strength or weakness of the Republican challenge to President Kennedy's bid for re-election in 1964.

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INDEED, on the assumption that a serious presidential candidacy by Sen. Barry Goldwater is highly unlikely, the whole effective field of G.O.P. challengers to Kennedy is involved in these four states:

New York, where Nelson Rockefeller is seeking a re-election so decisive as to make him automatically a top contender for the Republican presidential nomination in 1964.

California, where Richard Nixon engages the incumbent Democratic governor, Edmund (Pat) Brown.

Pennsylvania, where William Scranton opposes the Democrat, Richardson Dilworth.

Michigan, where George Romney, the former auto maker, seeks to oust the incumbent Democratic governor, John Swainson.

A Republican grand slam would run up disaster signals for Kennedy in 1964. He would not necessarily be beaten thereby; but he would be put on notice of the gravest coming trouble. A Democratic grand slam would be a warning to the Republicans that 1964 was simply not going to be their year, barring some almost incredible ill-fortune in the meantime to the Kennedy administration.

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EITHER kind of grand slam is, of course, highly improbable – and for the Democrats, substantially impossible. For no politician really believes Rockefeller will not handily take his Democratic opponent, Robert Morganthau. The only question is by how much.

On the prudent assumption that the outcome will be in between the extremes of a Republican or Democratic sweep, what are the present prospects?

In New York, it is Rockefeller, going away.

In California, present odds favor Brown slightly, but Nixon's people seem genuinely convinced he is coming up fast. Brown has the advantage of being already in office. Nixon, however, will benefit from the fact that he is an immeasurably larger political figure, the man barely beaten for the presidency itself only two years ago. Many, including conservative Democrats, may be impelled to vote for him simply because they do not like to see such a figure destroyed. Much the same situation benefited the late Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio in 1950, against a relative nonentity, Joseph Ferguson.

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IN MICHIGAN, Romney seems ahead now, as does Scranton in Pennsylvania, though nobody can know what these last few campaign days may bring.

Returning to California, Nixon is bracketed with the 1964 G.O.P. presidential field because if he wins the governorship, he will become the candidate-maker, if not himself a candidate. Though he has read himself out of the race, he has also said that if he is then governor of California, he will "invite" all aspirants into a sudden-death 1964 presidential primary there. This means Nixon would surely be king-maker, if not king.

It also means, parenthetically, that his old antagonist, Rockefeller, is being warned early that if he wants the big prize in 1964, he will have to earn it by that primary route which he so shunned in 1960.

"Don't let it get you down. When people are ill, they don't give a damn about Berlin, Cuba, Russia—or whether you're running for Congress from the 4th district . . ."