

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. 22, 1952 (Wednesday). A particularly good season for pheasant hunters is forecast this year by Dave Luman, state game commission agent.

20 YEARS AGO: Oct. 22, 1942 (Thursday). Two Medford men receive long jail sentences for taxi holdup which netted \$30 in cash and two tires.

30 YEARS AGO: Oct. 22, 1932 (Saturday). Medford High school football team defeats Grants Pass, 7 to 6, as Knips, Scheel, Galinski and Fichtner star for local squad.

40 YEARS AGO: Oct. 22, 1922 (Sunday). E. M. Hussong, Medford High school biology teacher, starts study of white pine blister disease in conjunction with national bureau of plant pathology.

50 YEARS AGO: Oct. 22, 1912 (Tuesday). "People from miles around" hear speeches by Bull Moose party "flying squadron" at Talent.

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

Mr. Sprague on No. 10

In these columns previously have appeared brief discussions and editorial recommendations concerning eight of the nine measures to be voted on at the Nov. 6 general election.

The final one is No. 10, an initiative measure designed to repeal the school reorganization law. (No. 8, another initiative to make steelhead a game fish, was dropped off the ballot at the last moment by order of the State Supreme Court, because of faulty wording in some of the petitions. It still appears on most sample ballots and a few absentee ballots, but will not be on ballots distributed at the polls on voting day.)

In some ways No. 10 is the most significant and important of the nine measures. The clearest and most lucid explanation of it we have seen, and the most soundly-based recommendation, appeared under the by-line of Charles A. Sprague, editor of the Oregon Statesman.

MR. SPRAGUE is particularly well-qualified to comment on this measure, for he is a former school superintendent, a former Governor of Oregon, and a life-long observer and supporter of good education.

His opinion, incidentally, coincides with all educators with whom we have discussed No. 10, with most editorial writers of the state, and with those good citizens who have labored long and hard to put the school reorganization law into effect, with considerable success.

Mr. Sprague's editorial follows.—E.A.

"No!" on No. 10

Initiative No. 10 on the November ballot would, if adopted, turn back the clock on public education in Oregon.

It would repeal the 1957 Act for school district reorganization. And it would set up mechanisms for dissolving the administrative districts created under that act. This would be something like unscrambling an omelet. A reorganized district may have built new school buildings and provided new facilities—and you can't very well slice up schoolhouses, gymnasiums, playing fields and parcel them out among revived small districts.

Actually the 1957 Act expired on June 30th last, though the law does lay out procedures for future reorganization if the residents desire it.

WHAT did the 1957 Act do? It called for organization of the school districts of the state into administrative districts each of which would provide education through grades one to 12. Originally school districts undertook to provide schooling only through the eight elementary grades. The compulsory school law and public demand now extend education into and through the high school (or to age 18). Because of this change in the spread of education, consolidations of districts have been going on for years.

The purpose of the 1957 Act was to speed up the consolidations in the interest both of economy and educational improvement. The results have been highly satisfactory, though there were pockets of resistance due to attachment to the nearby school.

The application of the 1957 Act was most carefully performed. County committees were set up. Innumerable hearings were held. Local opinion was freely expressed. A division of the State Department of Education reviewed all plans, held additional hearings. Then votes were taken and the final decisions were made by the people affected. To move toward reversing these decisions would, in my view, be a great mistake. Also it would be futile, for it is doubtful if a single administrative district would vote to unscramble itself.

WHAT have been the results of the 1957 Act? Under it through elections 82 administrative districts were formed in 26 counties. A survey conducted by the State Department of Education showed that 25 of 27 districts reported increased effectiveness in the educational program as a result of the unification.

It provides a single administration through both elementary and high schools. It makes possible specialized instruction in all schools in courses such as music and art. It makes students in all the schools of the district part of a single system.

The Salem district 24CJ is a good example of consolidation. All of its growth came through voluntary action of local districts. This has spread the burden of cost which was becoming almost unbearable in some districts like Keizer and Salem Heights, and has furnished the outlying schools with the same type of supervision and instruction as the city schools.

SINCE a high school education is now regarded as essential for all youth with normal mental equipment, the district organization should conform to that pattern and put elementary schools and related high schools under a single administrative organization.

The writer is somewhat of a pioneer in promoting district reorganization, having recommended it to the Legislature in 1939. While retaining local district option slowed down the process, over the years districts have been consolidated in great numbers. The proof of the pudding is in the eating; and I know of no consolidated or administrative district which has "unmerged."

I urge the voters not to turn the clock back as would be done by voting in favor of Measure No. 10. Instead, vote against it, and encourage continuance through the democratic process of consolidation into administrative units.—C.A.S., Oregon Statesman.

"This Pair Feels Pretty Good"



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.

Morse Thanked

To the Editor: The following letter has been sent to Senator Morse:

Dear Senator Morse: On behalf of the Medford Pear Industry, we wish to express our appreciation for your most effective and generous help in solving our many problems, arising from work with Federal Agencies, including the Department of Labor and the Department of Agriculture, as well as your continuing interest in our foreign trade problems.

Your detailed grasp and understanding of the questions at issue, your realistic approach to their solution and your insistence on prompt action by those in authority, has made the difference between the success, or failure, of our efforts.

We are particularly pleased with the attention, and prompt action we have received from the Department of Labor, at both the Federal and Regional levels, on securing the services of Mexican National Labor during an especially difficult, and somewhat disastrous, harvest season.

Again, Senator, please accept a hearty thank-you for a job well done.

Medford Pear Shippers Association.

By Walter B. Hinkle, President.

Rogue Valley Marketing Association.

By J. Naumoff, President.

Fruit Growers League of Jackson County.

By Edwin W. Gebhard, President.

Submitted by Mrs. Louise Norton, Box 85, Phoenix, Ore.

GOP Commandment

To the Editor: Did President Eisenhower try to work out a deal whereby American interests would have been paid in full for all property confiscated by Castro? If not why not? Castro's Cuba should have been shown the same consideration that Mexico was shown when Mexico nationalized almost all American holdings. A deal was made and without war.

With Senators Capehart and Goldwater crying for war if necessary to put the sugar and oil barons back in business at the same old stand and under the same old conditions, are the voters going to be naive enough to send Carl Fisher and Sig Unger to Washington where they will be in position to help the big GOP brass put the pressure on President Kennedy to chance a war with Russia?

The first commandment in the GOP Bible is go ye forth and bring back huge profits, even if it be in the sweat and blood of the blind, the sick and the halt. Your god, the party, commands this. Show no compassion for the people who toil for you as they worship a god who is invisible. Give them naught when they cry (or bleed) as they will cry for butter and meat later on. Fear you not to put the screws on hard as your government is behind them and anything you do. This your party commands you.

John R. Schumpf, Route 1, Box 312, Central Point, Ore.

Ponder That

To the Editor: Your East Oregonian editorial reprint of 10/2/62 states that, "the basic idea behind school district reorganization is to gain efficiency, improve the educational program, and reduce costs of education."

I challenge this pleasant sounding "bait" with which we are being lured unsuspectingly into voting against re-

peal of the school district reorganization law. Morrow county was the first and only county to be completely under this law. The holocaust resulting from reorganizing this county certainly didn't bring efficiency and better education, and the cost of the school budget was not reduced but sky-rocketed.

In an effort to escape the unholy mess of high priced confusion their schools were in under reorganization the people of Morrow county went to court, then appealed to the state supreme court, then carried the fight into the state legislature, then, thoroughly aroused over the pressures bucking them, spear-headed the drive of alarmed Oregon citizens to repeal the reorganization law by petition and ballot.

If this law is retained by the voters and goes into full effect, we, the tax payers, who built the schools and who pay the teachers, lose local control of our schools. We trade the right to vote on school issues for the right to petition to vote, which virtually means there will be no more voting.

A whole county can be made an administrative district and joined to another whole county without giving us a chance to vote on it, unless we petition — and petition — and petition. This can be repeated until the whole state has been combined into one district under one central office with the old familiar, socialistic centralization of power, which is the primary object of this law.

Raymond Moley, nationally known columnist, states that there "is a complete blueprint for federal control of all education." He should have added that, as the next step, there is also a blueprint for international control of all education in America, under the pending UNESCO treaty. First step state control, second step federal control, and third step, international control with foreigners dictating what shall be taught to our children. And the identity of these foreigners would chill your spine. Of 16 top jobs in UNESCO 14 are held by foreign communists 11 of whom are ruthless Russian reds under direction of the Kremlin. Ponder that.

The first step toward federal and international control of our schools is to take control away from the local people. This tragedy must not happen. Folks, for the love of your country and your children alert everyone you know to vote "yes" for the repeal of the school district reorganization law.

L. C. Powell, 318 S.E. Eighth St., Grants Pass, Ore.

Think

To the Editor: Do you really know each man you are planning to vote for this November? If he is an incumbent, do you know his voting record? Do you know the things he stands for?

For example, let's take two extremely important issues and use them as a yardstick with which to measure the two Oregon men now running for the U.S. Senate.

1. Nearly all the experts on world affairs agree that to recognize the criminal murderers in control of Red China and seat them in the United Nations would be a smashing victory for world communism and a national catastrophe for the United States. Yet, loyal to the United States though Senator Morse undoubtedly is, he has used the extremely bad judgment of coming out in favor of seating Red China in the UN (documented in

Foreign News: Algerian Danger Signals; De Gaulle's Majority; Summit Speculation

By PHIL NEWSOM, UPI Foreign News Analyst. Notes from the foreign news cables:

Danger Signals

Algerian Premier Ahmed Ben Bella's pronouncements against nuclear tests and the

American Naval base at Guantanamo have set off speculation in Paris that he soon will start campaigning for evacuation of French military bases in Algeria, including the Sahara and the French air and naval base at Mers-el-Kebir. Such a campaign would be to reopen the Evian agreements which led to Algerian peace and would endanger the whole program of French economic assistance to independent Algeria.

De Gaulle

The French government believes President Charles de Gaulle will win about 67 per cent of the votes cast in the Oct. 28 constitutional referendum which is to determine whether future French presidents will be elected by direct popular vote. Such a figure would not represent the massive vote De Gaulle asked for but probably would be enough to keep him from quitting.

Summit?

Speculation that Premier Nikita Khrushchev might visit the United States already is leading to talk of summit sessions. British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan is thinking of a possible Washington trip if Khrushchev makes it. There also is talk of summit-level talks among Washington, London and Paris. De Gaulle is unlikely to attend but would be consulted either directly or through embassy channels. West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer is to visit Kennedy on Nov. 7 and his opinion also would be asked. Motivating against a four-power summit session: No results.

Sino-Indian Border Dispute

Winter arrives shortly along the Sino-Indian frontier. In the past, the snow has choked off the fighting. But Red China's announcement

that it will shoot down Indian aircraft "intruding into Chinese territory" may lead to aerial entanglements over the snow-bound mountain passes. The Communists claim the whole Himalayan range down to the plain of the Brahmaputra river. And with winter coming on, Indian supply planes likely will step up air drops to frontier posts.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris

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100 KINDS OF SNOW

Certain Eskimo tribes, we are told by ethnologists, have nearly a hundred different words for "snow." We have only one in English; to us all snow is simply snow, because it plays a relatively small part in our lives. But to the people who live in snow conditions most of the year, there are tremendous differences in the kinds of snows that fall; experience and necessity have taught them to discriminate keenly among them.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Our moon shot slips a cog. Its solar batteries go wrong, and it won't be able to send back close-ups. We'll have to wait a while.

Maybe it's just as well. The news is moving pretty fast these days. We need time to digest it.

MEANWHILE, if you are fond of the kind of news that gives you the shivers, there is plenty of it to be had.

Representative Walter Norblad, back in Oregon after the long-winded 87th Congress, tells the reporters the U. S. has on the drawing board a space ship designed to carry 22 men in orbit around the earth. He gave no details. He just mentioned it as one of a number of spectacular developments now in the planning stage.

He added: "The biggest threat to the U. S. at the present moment is the possibility of Russia sending into orbit a huge nuclear weapon—one that could be dropped at any time. Such a weapon, spinning through space at 18,000 miles per hour, could be triggered by radio, striking a target a minute later. The U. S. government is working on a death ray to destroy missiles but it isn't perfected yet."

Congressman Norblad is the third-ranking Republican on the House military affairs committee, which lends a certain authenticity to what he has to say.

IN SALEM, Dr. D. A. Chisholm of the Bell Telephone Laboratories at Murray Hill, New Jersey, admits to newsmen that in effect the Telstar satellite that makes it possible to see live TV programs from all around the world is already OBSOLETE.

The subject came up when he was being interviewed by the reporters at a luncheon. The question concerned claims by Oregon's Senator Morse that present communications systems are either already outmoded or are close to being obsolete because of new developments expected in the near future.

Dr. Chisholm added: "In these days, ANYTHING THAT WORKS IS OBSOLETE."

SHUCKS!

Let's quit soaring around. The news today includes a Florida congressman who has just been arrested, charged with accepting money to persuade the Justice Department to drop a pending mail fraud case against a Florida man.

This congressman's slogan through many years of running for office has been: "Everything is made for love."

Including, one presumes, love of money in large bills.

HOPEFUL THOUGHT:

Maybe the time will come when science will have progressed so far that we will no longer have to contend with shady characters like this Florida congressman.

Let's hope so.

Washington Report

By William S. White

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CHILL OVER BERLIN

Washington — The annual autumnal chill over Berlin is drawing in again over Washington amid indications that

De Gaulle

Nikita Khrushchev of the Soviet Union may be coming to this country for another consultation with President Kennedy. Again, the air is troubled by two sets of opinion. The people who ought to know and who bear the responsibility, for this country and all the Western world, believe the situation is grave. They think a long-postponed crisis may now be at hand.

Another set

made up primarily of American and British amateur experts, is happily pooh-poohing this deep concern. The fact that Khrushchev is "willing to talk" has caught their glad attention, as though this in and of itself offered a guarantee that Khrushchev will in no circumstances be willing also to act.

"The Record of Wayne Morse"

2. The repeal of the Connally Amendment would mean the end of our Constitution, of our Bill of Rights, of our Declaration of Independence — the end of a free United States and a free American people. Yet, Senator Morse vigorously opposed the Connally Amendment and voted against it in 1946. And, as late as 1960, he was still showing his inexcusable bad judgment, in a Sept. 2 press release, by urging both presidential candidates to press for the repeal of this precious Amendment which guards our freedom.

Sig Unger is against seating Red China in the UN. And against repealing the Connally Amendment. Compared to Senator Morse's "liberal" voting record, in which he voted against our Constitution approximately 90 per cent of the time, Sig Unger's press releases show him to be a conservative right across the board.

Whether or not we put conservative men in Congress this election will decide the destiny of America. Will we return to fiscal responsibility and Constitutional sanity? Will we retain our freedom, our Constitutional rights, and our sovereignty as a nation? That is up to you voters. Please, please, think before you vote.

Bernice R. Pruitt, 2013 Cloverlawn dr., Grants Pass, Ore.

Gold-Water

To the Editor, and the Pro-Status Quo: We re-carpeted wet-behind-the-ears Premier Ben Bella of Algeria. Same for Cuba's parlor — chicken-peeler, our editors' garlanded Dr. Castro, for a little while. Now together, the two bloody-handed dictators give us an all-round denunciation, usual reward for our foreign policy and confiscating tax — dollars aid, to which our editors seem discreetly silent.

So, be informed that an increasing number of us who pay the eventual bill are taking a long hard look at old-time right-wing conservatism that seems to include a bit of gold-water. Hi gold — miners, might be relief could be commencing.

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

Harris



Harris

who live in snow conditions most of the year, there are tremendous differences in the kinds of snows that fall; experience and necessity have taught them to discriminate keenly among them.

I recalled this bit of Eskimo lore during my vacation this summer in northern Wisconsin. The trees around our house there are called "evergreens" by week-end visitors; they cannot see the difference between a spruce and a balsam. All evergreens look alike to them.

If one lives there for some time, however, not only are spruces and balsams sharply differentiated — but one can also distinguish among four different kinds of spruce alone. What seem, to the untrained eye, to be similar or identical trees are seen by the educated eye as quite distinct.

A perceptive Frenchman said many years ago that "Intelligence consists in the ability to tell the difference between things that seem similar, and the similarity between things that seem different." This is not a good definition of intelligence — but it is a good definition of what true education ought to be.

We commonly think of education as the amassing of facts, the charring of trends, the memorization of formulae, the sequence of epochs and battles and regimes. But that is all gross information; the true educative process begins when the student learns how to see the real differences between similar and the basic similarities between different things.

One reason that specialists in any field find it so hard to communicate to the layman is that the layman wants a simple, clear, unqualified, black-and-white answer to his question. But the more truly educated we are, the more we are forced to qualify and discriminate — and this makes the layman impatient and contemptuous toward the "double-talk" of the specialists.

No lawyer can give an easy yes-or-no answer to a legal case; no doctor can give an easy yes-or-no answer to a medical case; no economist can give an easy yes-or-no answer to problems of unemployment and production and taxes. Indeed, when they attempt to do so, they are more often frauds than honest followers of their difficult disciplines.

Whenever a layman, for instance, confronts such a complex problem as, say, juvenile delinquency, and offers some simple solution such as a trip to the woodshed or jail sentences for parents, he is just revealing his abysmal lack of education on the subject. He sees only one kind of

It is they who helped create a shivering dogma that "world opinion" must in each and every circumstance be the final arbiter of mankind's destiny. It is they, for all their posturings as great international thinkers, who are unconsciously promoting the new isolationism of our time, just as men in terror of any risk whatever promoted the isolationism that helped Hitler's rise.

Through such a fog President Kennedy must now find his way. Unexampled burdens have fallen upon him. For he is the head of an alliance which is content to let him take the responsibility alone but, having put him in the seat of responsibility, is not content to take his direction as to how the job should be done.

In this matter, and whatever his mistakes may have been elsewhere, he needs and deserves the support of all Americans. Republicans no less than Democrats. He is, in all conscience, getting little enough support for elsewhere.



"I've never seen him campaign so hard for GOP candidates—he must have given up golf when he retired . . ."