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
Dec. 17, 1952 (Tuesday)

Minor revisions in the price structure of dairy products is becoming effective in Medford this week as a result of recent actions by the state milk board.

The annual Christmas Musicale of the Medford city schools will be held at the high school tonight.

20 YEARS AGO
Dec. 17, 1942 (Wednesday)

George Harrington named athletic coach at Medford Junior High school, replacing Norm Worthley who has been inducted into U. S. navy.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The price of bowling has been 'frozen' as of last March. Coupled with the debacle of his North Afrikan Korps, this should give A. Hitler pause."

30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 17, 1932 (Friday)

Plans for proposed $2,000,000 Pacific highway rerouting in Siskiyou dropped because of state's financial condition; widening of Talent-Ashland section of highway proposed as a substitute plan.

40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 17, 1922 (Saturday)

Stage drivers report frozen snow assures smooth surface on road between Klamath Falls and Ashland.

From the Local and Personal column: Roland Beach, the well known post office clerk, who has been ill recently, is improving and will be able to return to work soon.

50 YEARS AGO
Dec. 17, 1912 (Monday)

Medford leads cities of state outside of Portland in sale of Red Cross Christmas seals.

Isis theater in Medford schedules "monster two-reel animal picture" entitled "The Lion Tamer's Revenge," and vaudeville acts including The Royal Midgets and Tom Thumb, Hermit Crab, at "no advance in prices."

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. "I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people . . ." is the first phase of what?
2. A person who makes a business of influencing or urging Congressmen to pass legislation is called what?
3. The redistricting of a state or territory in order to obtain better election results is called ————?
4. What is the supreme law of the U. S.?
5. With what part of the Constitution do you relate the terms assembly, searches, double jeopardy and self-incrimination?
6. Connecticut, Georgia and Massachusetts ratified the Bill of Rights in 1785, 1850, or 1937?
7. The U. S. determination to discourage European countries from extending their systems to the Western Hemisphere is embodied in what?
8. When is Pan American day?
9. For what does the 16th Amendment provide?
10. May the U. S. Supreme Court overrule a previous decision.

Answers: 1. American's Creed. 2. Lobbyist. 3. Gerrymandering. 4. U. S. Constitution. 5. Bil of Rights. 6. 1937. 7. Monroe Doctrine. 8. April 14. 9. Income Tax. 10. Yes.

Where It Began

What came to be called McCarthyism began in California before McCarthy. An ambitious young man named Richard M. Nixon discovered that the anxieties of the cold war could be converted into political capital by the skillful manipulation of suspicion and fear. The career thus began carried him all the way to the Vice Presidency and within hailing distance of the White House.

Last month Mr. Nixon came to the end of the road in the same election which unseated the John Birch society's two members of Congress. Did McCarthyism die that day, or at least cease to be politically profitable, in California?

The American people should hope so. For this 16-year nightmare which saw fanatical anti-Communism elevated to the status of a dogma, a gainful occupation and a political ritual struck at the roots of American constitutional liberty. Not that the American people have any sympathy for Communism, which also strikes at the basis of constitutional liberty. But they should have no more affections for the radical right than they do for the radical left.

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BOTH radicalisms are entitled to freedom of expression and of political action so long as ours remains a free society. But both are fundamentally hostile to the basis of freedom. They use free speech for their own ends, and would abolish it for others if they could. They seek to advance their views, not through the interplay of free debate, but by various forms of "direct action."

The right-wing counterpart of the left-wing strike is the activity of self-appointed vigilantes who boycott merchants for selling Yugoslav goods, or try to take into their own hands the responsibilities of law enforcement agencies concerned with national security. They use the tactics of pressure and smear, not to promote but to stifle the discussion of public issues.

Fanatical anti - Communism of this sort is really more anti-thought than it is anti-Red. By fixing their attention on the alleged sponsorship of ideas rather than on the ideas themselves, extremists persuade themselves that good Americans must be tainted with Communism if they favor any measure which some Communist somewhere has favored. This not only leads to such absurdities as declaring Dwight D. Eisenhower suspect, but it discourages clear thinking on vital issues of the times.

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IN THE fanatics' lexicon, liberalism equals socialism and socialism equals Communism; hence all liberals must be tools or dupes or accomplices of Communism. But if democracy is to work, all ideals, popular or not, liberal or conservative, radical or otherwise, are entitled to a hearing. Tagging certain thoughts as Communist, and therefore forbidden, is an effort to straitjacket the free mind. And who, after all, gave the self-appointed guardians of "Americanism" the right to decide what is American?

A calm person who looks rationally about him will understand that the United States was never further from revolution than it is today. He will also understand that in a world of nuclear weapons, differing societies and political systems must learn to live together in peace. Yet by inflating a few legitimate security cases into a network of internal peril, by steadily playing on the fears of the cold war, the radicals of the right for years have tried to substitute emotion for reason. As against freedom and peace, they are the merchants of social anarchy at home and ideological war abroad.

We hope California voters last month took a step toward cleaning American politics of this poison.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Rainwalking

December in Oregon doesn't offer much, goodness knows. Except for the lift of Christmas, December seems to be a sentence to be served. Some years it is the month when one waits for skiing season. The gloom, which seemed almost tolerable a month ago, is getting tiresome. And we know we'll be even more sick of it before leaves start reappearing on the trees.

But one thing December does offer. It's a dandy month for rainwalking. In some ways it isn't as good as November, because in December there are fewer leaves to kick. But leaves can also be an infernal nuisance to the pure rainwalker, who is not quite the same breed of cat as the pure leafkicker.

The rainwalker likes two things: rain and walking.

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LIKE the skier, he has his costume — sturdy shoes, pants that are not pressed, a raincoat and, if he wears spectacles and no hair, a hat with a brim. The pure rainwalker eschews such trappings as galoshes. And he wouldn't be caught dead with an umbrella. "Umbrellas," he says, "are for people who don't like rain."

The harder it rains, the better he likes it as he roams the city, inspecting catch basins, watching street lights appear out of the water, splashing a little, wondering why some dogs like rain and some don't, and hating people who speak of "not having sense enough to come in out of the rain."

Sayings like that one, easy sayings, irritate him, for he is a philosopher. He reacts, too, when somebody says, "Wet feet cause colds." Nonsense," he replies, "germs cause colds."

But he has a saying of his own: "Rain," he says, "rain is for walking in."—Eugene Register-Guard.

"Since You've Been Going With That Doll, You're Getting Chicken"

Foreign News: U.S.-British Patch Job Foreseen; Spy Fever in Moscow Slated

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Notes from the foreign news cables:

Patch Job

President Kennedy and Prime Minister Harold Macmillan are expected to patch up, at least superficially, the rift which has developed between their two countries over reports that the United States plans to scrap its Skybolt missile. The British had counted on the Skybolt for their own bomber force, and their first reaction was sharply anti-American. The British still don't know how to replace the Skybolt to maintain their independent nuclear deterrent, but the government also is fearful of the results of Anglo-American dissension on public opinion. The result is that the word quietly is being spread that some solution to the problem almost certainly will be found in the Bahamas talks between Macmillan and Kennedy this week.

Newsom

Spy Fever

Moscow observers now expect an outbreak of spy fever to take over from politics in the Soviet Union this week. The Soviets are allowing to trickle out more details of their charges that an Anglo-American espionage ring has been stealing Soviet military and scientific secrets. Key prisoner so far is British businessman Greville Wynne whose wife has been allowed to come to Moscow to visit him in a performance reminiscent of the Barbara and Francis Gary Powers epic of 1960. On the international political scene the Soviet press is expected to bring further into the open Soviet policy differences with the Red Chinese. Khrushchev, however, still does not appear ready publicly to admit an open break within the Communist bloc.

Berlin Bait

A speech by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko indicates the Soviets will push slowly to get East-West talks over Berlin going again. They are expected to dangle two pieces of bait – an indication British, French and American troops might be tolerated in West Berlin under a United Nations flag, and an indication the Kremlin would like to get an East-West agreement on general outlines of a peace treaty the Soviets could sign with East Germany without bringing on a major crisis.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From Paris:

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk urges the North Atlantic Alliance to TAKE THE INITIATIVE in the cold war and demonstrate that freedom is the wave of the future.

In a cautiously optimistic report to the annual NATO winter ministerial meeting, he said the outcome of the Cuban crisis and weaknesses developing in the Communist bloc offer the West new opportunities.

He added that the Soviet Union is bumping into serious problems – including troubles INSIDE RUSSIA itself.

WHAT are these troubles?

They were suggested several weeks ago in a report from Moscow by American correspondents. Here are some of the report's highlights:

1. Soviet workers show no interest in hard work, machinery is short on farms, and the nation wants better shoes on its feet.

2. Good food, good clothes and good household supplies simply are not to be had and without them the worker has only a limited incentive to work.

3. Things are better than two or three years ago – except, perhaps for food – but most Russians have learned one way or another that they live poorer lives than Westerners and even the rest of the Socialist camp, except perhaps China.

THOSE are serious problems indeed.

It just could be that, looking at them and worried by what he sees, Old Kroosh may have come to the conclusion that this is no time to pick a fight with the vastly more efficient West.

That could explain his hasty retreat in Cuba when we called his bluff.

SO MUCH for the big world news. Let's take a look now at some smaller news closer home.

DOWN in Santa Monica, Mrs. Peter Lawford, wife of the actor and sister of President Kennedy, has complied with a court order to visit a child study center and an auto wrecking yard. The visits were conditions imposed after a conviction for driving with an expired license.

THE circumstances?

Well, her driving license expired last May, and on September 13 she had a minor traffic accident while she was backing out of her driveway, for which she was cited by a traffic policeman, who asked to see her license and discovered that it had expired.

Her case came up before Municipal Judge W. Blair Gibbens, of Santa Monica, who sentenced her to VISIT A JUNKYARD, in order to see with her own eyes what can happen to cars when improperly driven, and to visit also a hospital to study the cases of children who are injured by drivers who have been careless in cases where they shouldn't have been careless.

He ordered her to write a report on what she saw there.

EARLY this week, Mrs. Lawford reported that she had complied with the judge's orders, and Judge Gibbens released her from all further proceedings.

This judge Gibbens is quite a character. He has achieved considerable national prominence by sentencing traffic violators to unusual tasks. Some of them are ordered to sweep city streets; others to visit morgues and hospital emergency wards.

Still others are required to sit through traffic crash films that are anything but mild – but show what happens when traffic mistakes are made. It just might be that if we had more judges like this Judge Gibbens we would have fewer traffic accidents.

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

THE DOUGHS AND OTHERS

Washington–Eighteen years ago this month a pre-Christmas season very different from our present one lay upon the occasionally bloody snows along the Belgian - German frontier. In an army jeep two men were going back from the front toward a warm, a lighted headquarters in Spa, Belgium, a little city not far from a town which was shortly to become famous in history under the name Bastogne, in an action that would be called the Battle of the Bulge.

White

I was one of the two men in the jeep; the other was a battalion commander from a great division, the 1st Infantry, who had had a little too much combat even for a veteran of the peerless, the incomparable "Big Red 1." He was being sent rearward, unofficially, to what was called a "rest billet." As a war correspondent I was, on this occasion, his companion.

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AS WE churned along in the blasts of the bone-chilling wind that came down from the darkening hills we passed men sinking down for the oncoming night into foxholes which had been drilled into the frozen terrain. The tic that was never long absent from the major's wasted eyes blinked at sudden speed. He turned from the view along the road and said to me: "God pity the Doughs (the infantrymen) on a night like this!"

I do not know what happened to the Doughs on that night, though I can guess how long a night it was before it ended in the blizzard of dawn. But later on a good many of them – not excluding my friend, the major – died somewhere in that crazy storm of fire and shell which was climaxed at last in the siege of Bastogne.

All this is of the past; but it has a purpose in the present and future. And most specifically it has a purpose in this column.

• • •

ONE of the 40-odd bills that the Defense Department will propose to the new Congress which opens in a few weeks would grant to the members of our armed services their first pay raises since 1958. The civilian employees of the government have, of course, done a great deal better. Their raises seem to come almost automatically, as they have come since 1958 – and before.

The plain truth is that our military men are wretchedly underpaid, and certainly relative to what is handed out so readily to the civil service civilians. Some of these favored civilians who work under military officers, in the Pentagon and elsewhere, receive far more than the captains, the majors, the colonels and so on who must direct the efforts of these supposed subordinates.

Moreover, these, the civilians, are protected by dozens of civil service regulations and built-in privileges. They may or may not obey orders always. If they don't it is said of them that perhaps they have psychological problems, domestic difficulties, or something. And it is left at that; for these are the untouchables.

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THE military Joes, however, are touchable, indeed. They simply obey their orders. And for them no 35-hour week, or whatever it is, is guaranteed in the stone tablets of bureaucracy.

In the simplest and most elementary justice, therefore, they ought to have this pay raise. And so should all the others all over the world – soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines – who quietly carry their packs and their loads of responsibility and for the most part do their duty, or their dying, under an old slogan which our sophisticates would do well not to scorn too much – the slogan: For God and County.

Is this column a bit of propaganda? You can bet it is. But it is a propaganda of truth, and I only hope that somewhere and somehow it may do some small good to the armed forces of the United States. Let Congress pity the Doughs, the Doughs and all the others, in a time like this. They don't have many to speak for them.

Association Plans Buyer's Dinner

The Cal-Ore Hereford association will hold its annual buyer's dinner at North's Chuck Wagon resturant at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, according to President Richard Ireland, Ashland.

Thirty - four ranchers who purchased range ready bulls at the annual Cal-Ore Hereford Association Range Ready bull sale have been invited.

A discussion will be held on suggested improvements for the annual bull sale.

SUPREME COURT MEETS

Washington – (UPI) – The Supreme Court meets today to hand down opinions and orders before adjourning for the Christmas holidays.

"I don't mind the crowds, the lines or going in hock every year . . . what bothers me is, come Christmas morning, you get all the credit!"

Communications

Meredith Criticized

To the Editor: With school scholastic standings of various nations featured in the last issue (Dec. 17) of U. S. News and World Report, it seems a letter to our U. S. Attorney General might be of reader interest as follows:

U. S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy

Dear Sir: Speaking for many others, also myself, we have good cause to wonder why James Meredith is presently enrolled in the University of Mississippi at Oxford.

Oct. 11, 1962, there arrived here in a form letter headlined: The Committee of 100, in support of the NAACP Legal and Defense Fund, Inc., asking for contributions to help James Meredith in the University of Mississippi. That James Meredith should be kept there, due to his "thirst for knowledge."

To my immediate reply, asking if Mr. Meredith was thirsting for knowledge, why he should be taken from the State College at Jackson where he had six credits standing between him and his graduation? To date there has been no reply.

An answers of sorts did come from the Medford Mail Tribune, Nov. 15, 1962, headlined: "Meredith Hints at Having Trouble With School Work." Mr. Meredith admitted that he was taking a long week end off to skip algebra and English, really high school subjects, starting in the grades of Russia and Europe.

Still more revealing in a Dec. 2 TV news release as relayed to me, of a news interview at the University of Mississippi where university students are required to make a certain number of visits to the library per month. The librarian there is said to have testified that Mr. Meredith spends much of his time there napping. Also, a young woman student reportedly said that Mr. Meredith appears to pay little attention to lectures, that she has never seen him with pad and pencil that all there must have and use.

There is more, much more, how Mr. Meredith played hookey when subjects came up he did not like, including algebra and English in high school, and which he is now reportedly doing in the University of Mississippi. In view of all this, we feel justified for you, Mr. Attorney General, to explain why James Meredith is being kept, by aid of federal armed might, in the University of Mississippi?

Yours for the rights of white as well as black people.

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

More Nature Study

To the Editor: Travel on land by wheelbarrow, on water by one-oar sampan, sometimes was the only transport available in China when writer first was there. This was before the Manchu revolution, with its queue-cutting mobs. Then commenced a change that might have meant much if U.S.A. had treasured China's traditional friendship.

In those days, we were at first surprised to find that buying an orange did not include the peel. That had a market value for flavoring those two meals, morning rice, evening rice.

In U.S.A. American Know How produces such surpluses that government subsidizes some farmers to let land lie idle. When one recalls that in contrast one and one-half billion people (that's billions, not millions) go nightly to bed hungry, one grasps how education in science has benefited our nation.

Do we today, however, in the excitement of the Space Age overemphasize Physics and Chemistry to the neglect of Biology? Should we not have more nature study?

C. M. Goethe
3731 Tea st.
Sacramento 16, Calif.

Pragmatism

To the Editor:

Here's a 'rule-of-thumb' to hang by.
If you really want to live:
Don't think 'bout what you have to get,
But what you have to give.

George Distell
156 Vashti Way
Medford

Drummond Reports

(Walter Lippmann is in Europe. Roscoe Drummond reports from Washington in his absence.) (c) 1962 New York Herald Tribune Inc.

QUESTION NOT FOR THE HISTORIANS

Washington — Politicians, for the most part, like to leave the embarrassing questions to the history books. It gets them out of the public mind — or at least under the rug—to suggest that they really can't be answered until long in the future.

This was President Kennedy's graceful way at his latest press conference of turning aside questions concerning the accuracy and source of the leak of National Security Council secrets which were reported — some say misleadingly — in the Charles Bartlett-Stewart Alsop article in the Saturday Evening Post.

This is a perfectly fair tactic to which every modern President, who has had to meet the press in public, has resorted at one time or another. It is what White House reporters call dealing with questions without answering them.

If Mr. Kennedy deems it best to close the book on what some call the "NSC leak" and others the "Stevenson affair," he will, for some time at least, succeed in doing so. There is little, if anything, which the Congress, the public, or the press can do about it.

The only reason I venture this postscript to the President's press-conference comments on the controversial article is that it seems to me that Mr. Kennedy neither answered nor assigned to the historians the central question.

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THE President was, of course, eminently right in not allowing himself to be drawn into any discussion concerning the position which Ambassador Stevenson or any other of his advisers took during the Cuba deliberations. These confidences have already been breached too much. He said that any description and appraisal of the Cuba deliberations should be left to the historians and called it a "minefield" through which sometimes they would tread.

But the central question has nothing whatsoever to do with the divergent views of the President's advisers on the Cuban crisis. The central question is: who breached the confidence of the NSC and is anything going to be done about it?

At another point Mr. Kennedy said that he did not think there was much advantage "to the various press speculations" concerning Mr. Stevenson's role or any other adviser's role in the NSC since the decision had to be and was his own.

True, absolutely true, but the question that is causing public anxiety, Congressional anxiety, and head-shaking in many quarters in the government is not "press speculation" over who said what during the secret deliberations in the White House, but who violated the security of the NSC and what should be done.

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ON THIS point Ambassador Stevenson, who was a principal target of the NSC leak, and President Kennedy disagree.

Mr. Stevenson has said: "I think it is troublesome to think that the privacy of the President's deliberations could be breached, and if I had anybody in my employ, and could catch him, who did that, he wouldn't last long."

Mr. Kennedy made it clear at his press conference that he did not intend to press his investigation of who was responsible.

Democratic Sen. Clair Engle of California, a loyal Kennedy supporter, says that action by the President to discover and remove from government the person or persons who leaked NSC discussions "would be a great relief to many members of Congress and to the American public."

At his press conference, when asked whether he planned an inquiry into the violation of NSC confidence, Mr. Kennedyq limited his reply to what seemed to me an irrelevancy. He said he was satisfied that "the statement or interpretation" of Governor Stevenson's position "did not come from a member of the National Security Council."

That's not the issue. That's incidental. The crucial question is not who called Adlai a bad name—unfair as that was—but who deliberately and irresponsibly leaked the confidences of the NSC.

I don't see how this matter can be safely left to the historians.

Strictly Personal

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

DEAR SANTA

Dear Santa Claus: I have been a reasonably good boy all year, and I have made up a little list of some of the things I'd like for Christmas, such as–

Harris

A form letter that would refuse the impossible requests of strangers without bruising their feelings.

A soft answer that would turn away the wrath of belligerent readers who accost a columnist as a social gathering and want to argue about a piece he has long since forgotten.

A padded blackjack for the people who ask quizzically, "Do you really believe the things you write?"

And an unpadded blackjack for the ones who ask, "Is that all you do — write that little column every day?"

An unlimited number of classified telephone books to be sent to the innumerable telephone callers who want to know "where I can buy" a certain book mentioned in the column — as if books were sold only in opium dens to persons carrying special credentials from Fu Manchu.

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A tactful but effective reminder to the chairmen (and, more often, chairwomen) of program committees, informing them that since they don't expect the butcher to give them 40 pounds of free meat for their meetings, they shouldn't expect a lecturer to give them 40 minutes of free talk.

A conducted tour through the city room for those Credulous souls who persist in believing the ancient legend that newspapermen invariable wear their hats indoors, receive hourly nourishment from gin flasks, and address all females under the age of 60 as "Toots."

• • •

A free course in the Palmer handwriting method for those thousands of correspondents who send me 12 pages of closely packed and utterly undecipherable letters, and then complain bitterly a month later that their proposal for settling world disputes (or something) hasn't been answered.

A magical dictionary of fresh phrases and pensees that will enable me to write every day with the verbal freshness of a Conrad, the psychological profundity of a Dostoyevsky, the stylistic elegance of a Henry James, and the incesive clarity of a Dean Swift.

And, most of all, an infallible recpipe for turning out a column every day that will satisfy the oldsters and the youngsters, the cynics and the romanticists, those who want it lighter and those who want it heavier, the waitress in Wichita and the professor in Pomona — and my mother.