

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune... Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.

Subscription Rates: By Mail - In Advance: Daily and Sunday - 1 year \$18.00

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. 18, 1952 (Wednesday) Donnie Cook, 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cook, is flown to Portland by Air Force rescue plane for emergency treatment of a kidney ailment.

20 YEARS AGO: Dec. 18, 1942 (Saturday) Medford High school's "revolutionary militarized physical education program" featured in article entitled "Mayhem in Medford" appearing in Time magazine.

30 YEARS AGO: Dec. 18, 1932 (Monday) Officials of Medford school district announce proposed budget of \$179,705 for coming year.

40 YEARS AGO: Dec. 18, 1922 (Tuesday) Efforts to gain post-season football game for Medford High school with Scott High school of Toledo, Ohio, end when Scott signs for game with Corvallis.

50 YEARS AGO: Dec. 18, 1912 (Thursday) Medford city streets sanded to save horses from falls on icy pavement.

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

Portlander Appointed To Iran University: Portland - Dr. Kenneth E. Livingston of Portland has been appointed medical educator at Shiraz university in Iran for the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Muddy Mess

The Grants Pass Courier recently asked editorially, "Why drain the lake at Savage Rapids?" We thought it was a good question and set out to find the answer.

NUMBER five is, of course, no reason at all. Numbers 1 and 2 are valid, but would hardly seem to necessitate low water all winter long.

THUS, despite the reasons cited by the district, we are inclined to agree with the Courier. It said:

It is ridiculous that (the lake) must be drained every fall to remain a mass of messy muddy banks, jagged scars and altogether an unsightly place when it is such a beautiful expanse in the irrigation season.

We think the district needs more substantial reasons than those given for permitting the muddy mess to remain all winter.—E.A.

Tough Job

Speaking of irrigation districts, they are among the most important governmental subdivisions in this "semi-arid" part of the state, and also perhaps among the least understood units of government.

The job their officials do is an exceedingly difficult and touchy one, and requires not only engineering ability and know-how, but also considerable amounts of diplomacy and political savvy.

MUCH of the credit for the approval and construction of the Talent project goes to the managers of the valley's irrigation districts.

These men must see that available water is distributed equitably and fairly, must see to the maintenance and improvement of the water distribution systems, must contend with a rising tide of recreation-seekers.

All this adds up to a difficult, demanding job, which, in the main, has been well performed locally.—E.A.

Diverse Traditions

Christmas is such a firmly-fixed event in the lives and habits of Americans it is a bit difficult to realize that the holiday today, with its mixture of the religious and pagan, and its vast commercialization, is a relatively new development.

THERE is first, of course, the religious observance—the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child. Although there is considerable doubt that Dec. 25 actually is the proper day, there is no doubt of the sincerity of most Christmas worshippers.

But there are also the traditions of Turkish St. Nicholas, who, by the way of Holland and Germany, eventually became the strictly American Santa Claus; of the Yule log and mistletoe and holly wreaths and decorated trees and was-sail bowls—all of them blending into a curiously homogenous type of celebration despite the diversity of their origins.

THERE is a question as to whether the vast sums spent on Christmas advertising, and on the development and merchandising of an astounding variety of goods, is the result or the cause of the flood of Christmas sentiment and spending.

Perhaps a little of both. Whatever and however it has become, it is America's most beloved holiday, and it is a Scrooge indeed who does not feel a little kinder toward his fellows during its season.—E.A.

"I Was Afraid This Would Happen Some Day"



... 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.

Teener's Christmas Wish: To the Editor: Dear Santa: This Christmas I don't want candy or a toy.

Also, the two scribes agree they do not smoke. Of course, that makes them both Christians. Seriously however, refraining from these or some other of the so-called small vices does not make a Christian.

Who's Confused?: To the Editor: Well, Mr. Jenny, here I am, one of the repeaters, reflecting the same appearance with insane fear.

Humane Education: To the Editor: Through education and daily contact with our environment, certain civic and moral standards are set to live by.

For and Against: To the Editor: Recently we have had two interesting communications concerning agniners and others.

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British, Despite Loss of Empire and Power, Still Retain Responsibilities

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

When former Secretary of State Dean Acheson asserted that Britain's role as a great world power was "about played out," he drew a rooster of protests from London.

While Albion may have lost most of his empire, he occasionally shows that he has a bite as well as a roar. One such time came in swift British military reaction when the Yemen revolt threatened to spread into the Aden

protestor on the south coast of the Arabian peninsula. Another and more recent example, came when Britain rushed tough Gurkha troops and commandos into revolt-threatened Brunei and Sarawak on the northwest coast of Borneo, half a world away from London.

Strictly Personal

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

Watching the great Pablo Casals conduct a chamber orchestra in a Bach suite (in the closed television circuit program for the National Cultural Center last month), I was forcibly reminded again that the world of performers and artists is in many ways a model of what the outer world ought to be.

Despite the back-biting and envy and childishness of so many performers, there is an immense respect for talent and ability, skill and discipline, imagination and interpretation.

The world of the artist is supremely the world of the individual; compared to it, business and trade (which use the word "individualism" too often as a synonym for making more money without restraint) are impersonal and anti-individualistic.

In the arts, a man or woman is judged solely and wholly by what he can do and how well he can do it. There is a true democracy of merit, which means that there is also a true aristocracy — made up of those who have proved themselves as individuals, regardless of their background, their national origin, their private failings.

The generation given to Casals by his fellow musicians is a moving example of what the entire human family was meant to be. This dumpy, bald, hobbling, ailing old man, without money, without power, without even a country of his own, commands the utmost respect of artists throughout the world — because of his vast ability and his fierce dedication to the highest goals of his craft.

What an artist (if he is really an artist) wants to be is the best — not the biggest or the richest or the most famous. His end is a value not a commodity; and true civilization can survive only when we place values above commodities. The least practical, and most destructive, thing a society can do is to enshrine the practical above the "idealistic."

What is immensely appealing in a deep human sense, about the arts is that they remain one of the few areas in which true individualism can flourish; in which the creator and the performer is a person directly communicating with other persons; in which his ancestors, language, connections, and superficial traits are totally subordinated to his professional skill.

A state which cannot produce and sustain such art is doomed, however all its buildings or powerful its armaments; and both "democracy" and "individualism" can be measured by the ways in which those who are given to give fuller expression to the higher parts of their nature, and not merely to the appetitive part we share with all animals.

life as we know it. But, these scientists add, the temperature readings by instruments here on earth may come from an electronically charged ionosphere far above what APPEARS at this distance to be the surface of Venus.

TODAY's big question: When will we know what Mariner II was reporting Friday night when we heard its voice coming to us over the air waves?

The answer seems to be that we will know whenever the scientists of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are ready to reveal what Mariner told them.

Sarawak and Brunei shall be joined with Singapore and Malaysia which would be an independent member of the commonwealth of nations.

It was to prevent establishment of this federation that early this month a revolt broke out in Brunei and spread quickly to Sarawak. Self-proclaimed leader of the revolt was a man named A. M. Azahari, leader of the dominant People's party which is aligned with pro-Communists in Singapore and reportedly receives heavy financial aid from Red China.

Oil makes Brunei the wealthiest of the Borneo territories. It has no personal income tax and interest from investments pays most of the government's expenses. There are free schools, free medical benefits and old age pensions for all.

Rebel leader Azahari, beaten this time, professes to want an autonomous Borneo state linked loosely with a Malaysian union. For the British it is a problem of accomplishing peaceful evolution in advance of violent revolution.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

THE COMING RUPTURE: Paris — The Soviet Union and the Chinese Communists are now quite clearly on a very brink of a final, open rupture which will split the world Communist movement into two warring camps.

The West-ern experts on Communist affairs, once so unanimous that nothing of the sort would ever happen, are now nearly as unanimous that the final rupture can hardly be avoided. The stages in the macabre, wordy but crucially significant journey towards the brink of rupture are well worth summarizing.

First, the Chinese were viciously denounced — but not by name — at the Bulgarian and Hungarian party congresses. They responded with equally vicious denunciations of the Soviets — not by name — to which they added that Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, then about to be received in Moscow with open arms, was a "traitor."

Second, the denunciations of the Chinese continued at the Italian and Czechoslovakian party congresses; but now they were openly named, both by the Czech party boss Antonin Novotny and some of the Italians. These speeches naming the Chinese were then printed in Moscow, thus putting the Soviet man in the street on notice of the depth of the trouble.

Third, the attack on the Chinese was continued with mounting vigor by Khrushchev himself, in the presence of the "traitor" Tito, at the recent session of the Supreme Soviet. In part, Khrushchev said his talk about the Chinese by talking about the Albanians.

KHRUSHCHEV added to this passage of his speech, however, that the Albanians were like nasty little boys who took money from even nastier grown men who thought it a good joke for the boys to shout dirty words at respectable people. He also (twisted the Chinese by name for permitting "fragments of imperialism" to "remain intact" at Hong Kong and Macao.

The Supreme Soviet heard shots directed at the Chinese from subsequent speakers, and it was further edified by an



"That's right, dear. Take Max off the Christmas-card list and put Tito back on... who? ... oh, you'd better put Castro on the gift list..."