

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The 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. 25, 1952 (Wednesday)
Jacksonville schoolteacher is
killed when car stalls on
railroad tracks and is hit by
Southern Pacific freight train.
Some \$300,000 worth of
paving projects eliminate dust
and mud from 4 1/2 miles of
Medford streets during 1952.

20 YEARS AGO

Dec. 25, 1942 (Monday)
Jackson county court names
Fred C. Holmes, Ashland, to
replace Frank Van Dyke as
county representative pro tem
in the state legislature; Van
Dyke prepares to leave Jan. 11
for service in the armed
forces.

30 YEARS AGO

Dec. 25, 1932 (Wednesday)
Medford city police report
total of 37 automobiles were
stolen during 1932.
Interstate Commerce
commission announces lowering
of freight rates for pears
shipped from Rogue valley.

40 YEARS AGO

Dec. 25, 1922 (Thursday)
Speaker at Medford Chamber
of Commerce forum asks
protection for Oregon caves.
Postmaster William Warner
announces Medford residents
can cash in on 1918 war
savings stamps starting Jan. 1.

50 YEARS AGO

Dec. 25, 1912 (Saturday)
Medford post office robbed
for the second time in its
history; thieves make off with
five registered packages and
about \$20 in stamps and cash,
according to Postmaster Ralph
Woodford.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Unscramble these names of
tools: plaster, chern, il-
seck.
2. What is a female sheep
called?
3. Re-arrange TRECHIA-
CAR to spell a word meaning
moral demeanor.
4. How many heads does a
kettle drum have?
5. About how many feet
can a porcupine throw his
quills when frightened?
6. What is the largest
island in the world?
7. Name the sea bird that
never flies.
8. What is the literal mean-
ing of Renaissance?
9. What are the five lowest
prime numbers?
10. Which state generally
has the most below-zero
weather?

Answers: 1. Speler,
wrench, sickle. 2. Ewe. 3.
Character. 4. One. 5. None.
he can't. 6. Australia. 7. Pen-
guin. 8. Re-birth. 9. 1, 2, 3,
5, and 7. 10. North Dakota.

Merry Christmas

For reasons hard to comprehend
At Christmas-tide there is a trend
To put one's greetings into verse;
A few are bad, and some are worse.
Succumbing to this tempting call,
We wish good times to one and all.

To those who labor for the poor,
Or combat liquor's fatal lure;
To those who build and those who serve,
To those who beauty do preserve,
To all who cherish friendship ties,
And those who never utter lies.

The season makes our hearts feel warm
And bolsters Santa's rotund charm.
A smiling face, a greeting gay,
Make miseries just fade away.
So in this fine euphoric state
There is no need to compensate
For all the woes of all the world,
We'll keep the list of sadness furled,
And offer greetings of the season
To ev'ryone in sight—in reason.

Republicans and Democrats
Will get no boos nor alley cats.
The city's fathers, county court,
Will get no sly or sharp retort.
Our legislators, underpaid,
Are herewith bidden, unafraid,
To make a graceful, courtly bow—
And don't delay, but do it now.

We extend felicitations,
To all who write Communications.
To all who help put out the paper,
We wish a special Yuletide caper.
To one and all on TV screens,
We wish a wreath of Christmas greens.
Announcers all on radio
We wish a cheery, loud hello.

To postmen, bending 'neath their sacks,
We wish surcease from dogs' attacks.
May blessings of the season fall
Upon the teachers, one and all.
To salesmen in the stores, and clerks,
We wish them pleasure in their works.

To college students, home from school,
We wish a meal to make them drool.
We herewith speed a pleasant thought
To everyone who feels distraught.
To men who build the freeways wide,
A friendly wave at Christmas-tide.

And those who live upon the hill
In that big Manor, may they thrill
To all the joys of this fine place,
And wear their honors with good grace.
For men in blue, who guard our streets,
We wish a heap of Yuletide sweets,
And pray they never have to fight
To keep our city clean and bright.

At Christmas time our thoughts go back
All through the year of woe and rack,
But on this day we should recall
The better things that did befall:

To help that's given without stint,
The kind of news we like to print;
Of friendly people, charity,
Of kindness and fraternity;
Of those who think the rights of each
Must be protected from a breach;
Of those who serve both God and Man,
According to our Maker's plan.

The verse is done, the well runs dry,
But one last couplet we shall try:
To everyone who plants a tree,
A joyous nineteen sixty-three.

—E.A.

Merry Christmas, John

Merry Christmas, John W. Snider.
We single you out for this public greeting for
a number of reasons, all of them excellent.
Because you are about to complete three
terms as one of the best, most reasonable, most
courageous and effective mayors Medford has
ever had—and it's had some good ones.

Because you are completing a period of lead-
ership in municipal affairs which took you to
the presidency of the League of Oregon Cities,
service on its board, and service on a committee
of the American Municipal Association.

BECAUSE, without you, Medford probably
would not have had the exciting and warm
experience of its sister city relationship with
Alba, Italy, and the famous Telstar conversation.
Because 12 years as councilman and mayor
is a long time for anyone to devote to largely
thankless and unpaid public service.

Because you also serve the state as chairman
of the Board of Aeronautics, as you once served
the Centennial Commission.

Because you are a kind and generous man,
with a wonderful family and many loyal friends.
Because without your pxy sense of humor,
Medford would be far more drab than it is.

Merry Christmas, John.—E.A.



Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

FROM RAMBOUILLET TO NASSAU



Alsop

Paris-Beyond much doubt
the strongest influence on
Prime Minister Macmillan's
Nassau meeting with Pres-
ident Kennedy, was the
Prime Minister's unhappy
recollection of his earlier
meeting at Rambouillet
with Gen. de Gaulle.

It is too early to say, as yet,
whether Rambouillet was
quite the decisive and de-
pressing turning point that it
seems likely to prove. There
is always the chance that
Macmillan will take Britain
into Europe on almost any
terms, despite the great risks
which this will involve be-
cause of the Prime Minister's
deeply rooted political posi-
tion at home.

Yet the French government
both hoped, and is inclined
to believe, that Rambouillet
was the beginning of the end
of the British attempt to join
the European Common Mar-
ket.

AFTER a series of bad set-
backs in Parliamentary
elections, and with more than
50 Conservative seats partly
dependent on farm voters,
the Prime Minister mainly
came to ask the French Pres-
ident for better terms for
British farmers. De Gaulle's
reply to Macmillan, it can
be stated on undeniable au-
thority, was a glacially polite
negative.

De Gaulle did not speak
to Macmillan as a particularly
enthusiastic European. In-
deed, he indicated that his
interest in Europe had sharply
declined, since Chancellor
Adenauer's promise to retire
from office next year had put
a future term to the de
Gaulle-Adenauer brother act.
He merely said that better
terms for British farmers ran
counter to French national
interest.

The plain truth is that Pres-
ident de Gaulle and most of
those around him are no
more eager to have the British
join the European Com-
mon Market than they were
last year. British entry is
now characterized as a "dilution"
of the European Com-
munity, whereas the usual
Gaullist formula last year
was that British entry would
cause "Europe to lose its
personality." That is the only
difference.

AS LAST year, the French
recognize that they can-
not keep Britain out of the
British choice to pay the full
subscription fee of the Euro-
pean club. But with good
reason, the French believe
they can prevent the sub-
scription fee from being pre-
ferentially reduced. They still
intend to do, and this
intention was strongly reaf-
firmed at Rambouillet.

The outcome at Rambouillet
might well have been
quite different if Prime Min-
ister Macmillan had been
willing to sacrifice the Anglo-
American partnership by of-
fering nuclear partnership
between Britain and France.

Such an offer, of course,
would have run directly
counter to British nuclear
commitments to the U. S. It
would have been welcomed by
Gen. de Gaulle, precisely be-
cause it would have involved
a brusque British change of
political partners.

BUT THE British Prime
Minister chose not to con-
ciliate the French President
by tearing up his strong com-
mitments under the Anglo-
American nuclear exchange
agreement. The French half
expected Macmillan to do
just this, after the "provoca-
tion" of the Skybolt affair.
Instead, Macmillan put the
American partnership first.

Such is the background
against which the Nassau
meeting must be seen. At
Nassau, the President and the

Prime Minister swiftly cast
the controversial Skybolt on-
to the junkheap. The British
were then offered Polaris
missiles as a substitute.

This offer was conditional,
however, on British agree-
ment to make their proposed
Polaris-equipped nuclear de-
terrent a component of a fu-
ture multi-lateral NATO
deterrent, when and if this
kind of NATO deterrent can
be brought into being. This
condition was accepted. The
Prime Minister is therefore
being bitterly attacked in
London for abandoning the
content of a fully independ-
ent British deterrent.

AT NASSAU, Gen. de
Gaulle was also offered
Polaris missiles on the same
condition as the offer to
Britain. This did not give
de Gaulle what he wants,
which is to be placed on the
same nuclear footing as Britain
by the United States. It also
called on him to follow the
British in making the French
deterrent a component of the
contemplated NATO deter-
rent, which is totally abhor-
rent to de Gaulle. One must
assume, therefore, that the
offer to de Gaulle was made
with tongue in cheek.

Add up all these facts. The
British effort to join Europe
has received another sharp
setback, although this might
have been avoided if the
Prime Minister had been will-
ing to sacrifice the Anglo-
American relationship. In
addition, that relationship
has been reaffirmed at Nas-
sau in a way that has actually
deepened the Prime Minis-
ter's troubles at home. And
under the guise of equal
treatment, what almost
amounts to a joke has been
played on Gen. de Gaulle—
who does not like being a
butt.

In this pattern, it is hard
not to see the British Prime
Minister clinging more than
ever to his American con-
nection because he has begun
to lose hope of joining the
European club. If this is the
right interpretation, the trou-
bles between de Gaulle and
the "Anglo-Saxons" (as he
calls Britain and the U. S.)
are only just beginning.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris

(c) Field Enterprises Inc.

WOULD WE CRUCIFY HIM?

If there should be, on
Christmas night, a second
coming—would there not be
soon a second
crucifixion?



Harris

And this time,
not by the
Romans or
the Jews, but
by those who
proudly call
themselves
Christians?

I wonder how
we today would regard and
treat this man with his strange
and frightening and "imprac-
tical" doctrines of human be-
havior and relationships.
Would we believe and follow,
any more than the masses of
people in his day believed and
followed?

Would not the militarists
amount us assail him as a
cowardly pacifist because
he urges us not to resist
evil?

Would not the nationalists
among us assail him as a
dangerous internationalist
because he tells us we are
all of one flesh?

Would not the wealthy
among us castigate him as
a troublemaking radical be-
cause he bars the rich from
entering the kingdom of
heaven?

Would not the liberals
among us dismiss him as a
dreamy vagabond because

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.

True Christmas

To the Editor: Once more
we come to the Yuletide sea-
son. It is a joyous time of
year. But how many of us
forget what we really are cele-
brating? How many of us say
Xmas, which takes Christ out
of Christmas completely? How
many of us buy things that
are way out of our reach, just
to keep up with the Joneses?
How many of us think only in
terms of material things, in-
stead of spiritual? After all,
none of us really know when
Christ was born. We presume
it was in the spring, as they
speak of tax time, but the
Bible says we are to celebrate
each day as Christ's birthday.
God has given us so many
gifts each day of the year just
for the asking. These include
freedom of worship, eyes to
see His graciousness, love,
companionship, friendship,
faith, hope, charity, health and
many more. But how many of
us turn our backs on these
gifts, as it would take work
on our part to pass them on
to others?

As my family gathers
around the dinner table on
Christmas for the bountiful
feast God has provided for us,
there will be no exquisite or
expensive gifts to pass to each
other, maybe no gifts at all,
just the brightly lighted tree
to show it is Christmas. But
we have been given the great-
est gift of all. We have been
given Love, abundant enough
enough to share with all we
know each day of our lives. The
Bible says Christ is Love.
Without Love, there is no
Christ. When we bow our
heads in prayer, we have so
many things to be thankful
for, things money can't buy.

There are so many things
we can do each day of the
year to help out someone less
fortunate than us, that it's a
shame that it is all left un-
done until one day of the year.
Let us all put Christ back in
our lives each day of the year
and not just at Christmas. For-
get the expensive gifts, and
put our hearts into helping
others every day. God will
richly bless you for your ef-
forts you put forth if it is done
because you want to, and not
for the reward you feel God
will give you.

Clara Faye Pursell
1304 Beekman
Medford

Christmas Story

To the Editor: Many people
wonder at this time of year,
why do we decorate Christmas
trees and give presents and
goodies to the children? I
guess the past is closer in my
family than most because al-
though I am in my forties, my
maternal grandfather would
be 143 this year.

My Ma, who lives in Jack-
sonville, is past 81 and her Pa
was 62 when she was born.
This story is one she heard
from him many years ago.

Many years ago in the
mountains of Germany the
people were pagans and wor-
shipped many gods, one of the
most important of whom was
a god of the forest.

He was a vengeful and de-
manding devil—god whose
spirit dwelt in a high fir tree
high in the mountains, deep
in the gloomy recesses of an
ancient forest.

Every year in the beginning
of winter the chiefs of the
tribe advised us to take no
thought for the morrow, to
lay up no treasures upon
earth.

Would not the ecclesi-
astics among us denounce him
as a ranting heretic because
he cuts through the cords
of ritual and commands us
only to love God and our
neighbors?

Would not the sentimen-
talists among us deride him
as a cynic because he warns
us that the way to salvation
is narrow and difficult?

Would not the Puritans
among us despise and reject
him because he eats and
drinks with publicans and sin-
ners, preferring the company
of winebibbers and harlots to
that of "respectable" church
members?

Would not the sensual
among us scorn him because
he fasts for 40 days in the
desert, neglecting the needs of
the body?

Would not the proud and
important among us laugh at
him when he instructs the
twelve disciples that he who
would be "first" should be the
one to take the role of the
least and serve all?

Would not the worldly-wise
and educated among us be
aghast to hear that we cannot
be saved except we become as
children; and that a little child
shall lead us?

Would not each of us in his
own way find some part of
this man's saying and doing
to be so threatening to our
ways of life, so much at odds
with our rooted beliefs, that
we could not tolerate him for
long?

I wonder.

small mountain villages chose
a little innocent child from
each village who was taken to
the god's tree and sacrificed
as an offering to the god. This
sacrifice was believed by all
to allay the god's lust and
thereby insure the safety of
forest travelers and wood cut-
ters for another year.

Then one year a very saintly
Christian missionary came
to this part of Germany, teach-
ing of Christ, brotherly love,
the golden rule and compas-
sion. He converted many of
the pagans to Jesus and soft-
ened their hearts.

When that winter began the
villagers had meetings and
decided to send the bravest
and best woodchoppers to the
forest there to chop down the
giant fir, home of the forest
giant, burn it to ashes and
thereby destroy all his power
and evil forever.

They attacked the tree with
their axes, fired by their new
found belief in the God of
love and compassion, hacking
and hewing until at last the
tree came crashing down to
earth.

Walking around the fallen
god in wonder and awe of
what they had done, they dis-
covered in the broken and
decayed top of the old tree a
small, green, beautifully
formed young fir tree.

The old god's home was
burned to ashes. The wood
cutters took the small tree
back to the village and erect-
ed it in a place of honor in
the square. They put many
lighted candles in the
branches representing the
new light that Christ had
brought into their hearts and
gave presents to the children
to show that good had re-
placed evil.

Tim J. Horn
Box 146
White City, Ore.

Back Home

To the Editor: and hello
everybody.

Had a bad time convinc-
ing 'em I was well enough to go
home; now I am trying to
prove it to me. I've made
stews, boiled eggs and made
toast so far, by resting be-
tween times.

My Chihuahuas greeted me
with tails wagging.
Over 400 cards and letters,
many asking that I write to
this column every day. No,
I'm flattered, but I can write
all I know in 20 minutes. I'd
be an awful bore.

Yep, I was feeling a bit
sorry for myself but one of
the books sent me had a poem
entitled "Christmas is in Your
Heart." Sure enough, it's here
—a warm bundle of beautiful
memories of other seasons.
Thank you, friends, and I
thank God for sending you
this way for the food,
clothing, linen, money, and
the men who came and work-
ed on the dairy barn to make
it livable for us. And anyone
else who has helped us in
any way.

I give you, in the book of
Mathew, chapter 25, verses 35
to 40 of the Holy Bible. Verse
40 says, "and the King shall
answer and say unto them,
verily I say unto you, inas-
much as ye have done it unto
one of the least of these my
brethren, ye have done it
unto me."

Merry Christmas and may
God bless you each and every
one.

The H. L. McCormicks
and Family

Thank You, Santa

To the Editor: It was the
Saturday before Christmas
and I couldn't find a good
parking place anywhere in
Medford. I finally parked the
car with Santa's reindeer,
Donner and Blitzen. It's a
good thing I left the car un-
locked. While I was gone
Santa left a big box of home-
made cookies in the front seat.
Now what do you think of
that? Thank you Santa Claus.
Everett Acklin,
Ashland, Ore.

Swedish Yule

To the Editor: Yule is the
old Nordic name for Christ-
mas and in Sweden it was
celebrated for centuries in
prehistoric times to hail the
return of the sun. The sun
was their god. The word yule
means wheel. The meaning
was, that the sun had wheeled
a turn around.

In the Seventh Century
word reached the Swedes
about "Hvite Kris" (the
White Christ) and a daring
Swede trekked to Rome to
find out. After some years
he returned to Sweden as a
monk, authorized by the Pope
of Rome to preach the new
religion.

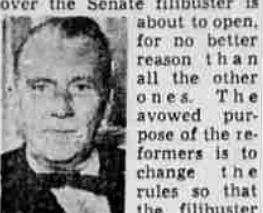
He took the name Ansgar-
as. But the Christian religion
made slow progress for the
first two or three hundred
years in Sweden as the old
Norse religion with the three
gods, Odin, Thor and Frey,
was deeply rooted. Swedish
written history has little to
tell until around the 11th or
12th Century where writings

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

FILIBUSTER

Washington—Another in a
long series of sham battles
over the Senate filibuster is
about to open.



White

of prolonged resistance in-
tended to prevent any con-
clusive vote on some passio-
nately resisted bill—can more
easily be broken by a gag
device called cloture.

It now appears that with

began to be practiced by the
priests and monks. Before
that the rune writing was
used, carved in wood or
hewn in stone. Of such writ-
ing only the words written
in stone survive and naturally
only a few inscriptions of
such.

However in those pagan
days, Yuletide was cele-
brated, not for one day only
but for two or three weeks,
by eating drinking, dancing
and carousals. I grew up in
that country and can well
remember 75 years back.

They had an old saying—
"Tjugonde dag Krut Dansar
Yulen ut."

Which means, Christmas is
over on the twentieth day.
So Sweden remained Catho-
lic for 700 years, until around
1520 when the then Pope
issued a rule that all priests
must be celibates, and that
priests who were married
must give up their wives. The
Swedish clergy rebelled and
the king ruled in their favor.
So the Pope lost his authority
in northern Europe and wars
were fought about it. But the
spirit of Christmas remains.

John E. Ring,
1049 West 11th st.,
Medford

Thanks

To the Editor: We would
like first to thank the editor
and staff of this newspaper
for allowing us this oppor-
tunity to express our thanks
to the people of the Rogue
valley.

On the 29th of November
our house and everything in
it was destroyed by fire. We
are thankful that no one was
home and no one was hurt.
We'd like to thank those
that came to fight the fire,
and those that offered us
shelter. A special thanks to
the Amon Cathrins in whose
home we have lived since
the fire.

I'd like to thank each of
you personally, but many of
you I've never met, so since
that's impossible, we'll thank
you this way for the food,
clothing, linen, money, and
the men who came and work-
ed on the dairy barn to make
it livable for us. And anyone
else who has helped us in
any way.

I give you, in the book of
Mathew, chapter 25, verses 35
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