

Medford Mail Tribune
Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 33 North Fir St. Ph. 772-6141

Oregon and California

By DON ROBINSON
(Editor's note: The writer of the following essay was reared in Medford, attended Medford High school, and the University of Oregon. He formerly was employed as a reporter on the Mail Tribune, and now is a reporter for the Eugene Register-Guard, from which his piece is reprinted.)

The suitcase returned from vacation in California is lighter by a few Christmas presents, heavier by a few arguments on living there.

While I was there the Census bureau clicked California ahead of all other states in numbers of residents. How should an individual react to that? What does a blade of grass do when its lawn becomes largest on the block?

Californians, according to the papers, were supposed to herald the population triumph by blowing their car horns at noon. While I heard no one do it, that was an ironic choice of trumpet. Far more than by its people California is dominated by masses of automobiles. So many are going to every destination so frequently that it has been necessary to build a freeway there.

ALONG these roads rows of abutting houses crouch together like pioneer wagons formed in defense against the piston-driven Indians.

These are negative parts to living in California unless you think, as few who travel there do, that Happiness is six lanes of solid traffic. To dismiss the land because of its roads, cars, and huddled houses, however, is to omit more than is positive.

For instance, people in equivalent jobs make more money in California. True, they have to spend more to maintain an equivalent standard of living. It's hard to say which way it balances out. There is no doubt, though, that many of the immigrants come for better pay.

ONCE you fence your way to them through the traffic, there are also superb suburban shopping centers—grand assortments of shops with a sea of blacktop parking. They can give a horse laugh to almost any traditional downtown business district.

In the Bay area, center of our vacation, there is the city of San Francisco. There are those who argue against that place and in favor of one like Eugene by citing our accessibility to peaceful lakes and glades.

Well and good. But a few would argue further that whatever The City has we have too, in at least a junior-sized way.

THE latter is plaintive nonsense. San Francisco is elegant, vibrant, delightful. Take in the Nutcracker ballet or drop by the Purple Onion. Strut past Union Square in a shopping night or through Blums' window watch the sandeas disappear down the matrons. Drive the low-gear streets and worry about stopping but not about running out of things to do. There is no comparison between San Francisco and some of the headless, charmless youngsters surrounding it (we stayed in name only).

Two other facts need mentioning, one bad and one good, about California.

The bad first—its newspapers. Probably no one cares too much. Those who are in the business overemphasize it. But in the Bay area, name your town—San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, San Jose—the papers are to be wept over, not read. They have gone to serving a parfait diet of news and on it one may get bloated but never well-informed.

THE good point is the weather. California's winter sunshine is real, it is warm, and unless the damp has affected his brain the December visitor from Emerald Empire will gratefully acknowledge its superiority.

This does not mean the Empire's six-month drizzle should be scorned out of hand. If it were not for our weather probably more of the millions who rushed to California would have rushed here.

The proper conclusion seems to be that there should be a California, but there should also be an Oregon. If weather in part protects one from becoming a duplicate of the other, the difference is worth the rain.

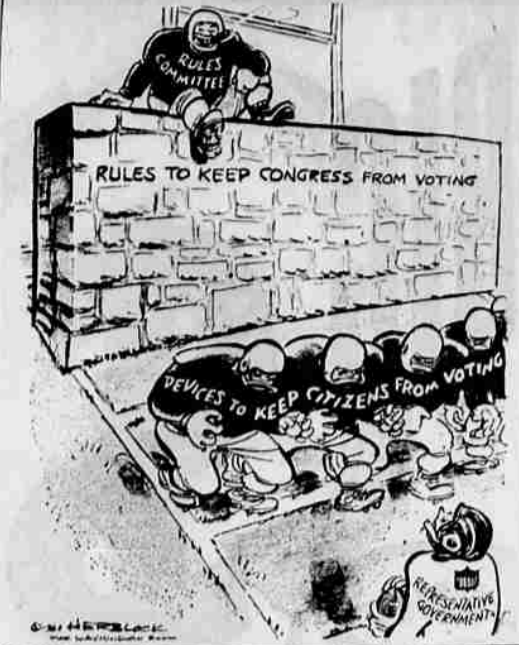
Boycotts

The National Retail Merchants Association at its annual meeting in New York city beginning Wednesday, Jan. 9, is almost certain to take up the question of boycotts. From a nation-wide standpoint perhaps the most trying of these is conducted by a Miami outfit, the Committee to Warn of the Arrival of Communist Merchandise on the Local Business Scene, with the backing of the far-right John Birch Society.

This group encourages its associates surreptitiously to slip into packages containing purchases of goods produced behind the Iron Curtain cards bearing legends like: "Help Bankrupt America—Buy Your Communist Products at . . ." (inserting the name of the store). Polish hams are prime targets. Ironically, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce, the United States exported goods worth \$133.4 million to Soviet Bloc countries last year, as against \$84.6 million in imports from these same countries.

James C. Hagerty, vice president in charge of news for American Broadcasting Co., had a word about still another kind of boycott recently. It came in connection with ABC's refusal to cancel a million-dollar advertising contract after Alger Hiss appeared on a television program that examined the political career of Richard M. Nixon. "To yield to prior censorship and the pressures of personal attack and economic boycott," Hagerty said, "is to surrender the basic right of freedom of the press."—E.R.R.

"This Is What You Might Call Defense In Depth"



... 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.

UN-Katanga

To the Editor: Orchids to Frank Koch for his letter of 1/4/63 exposing the Swedish-American international financiers who are allegedly using the UN Armed Forces to take over the wealth of Katanga. May I offer some further confirmation and supporting evidence along this line.

As told by Ralph Moffat on the radio program, "Let Freedom Ring", Connor O'Brien, Commander of the UN forces in Katanga a year ago, has written a book that blows the lid off the UN-Katanga mess. O'Brien states flatly that the UN account of how the Katanga war started was a deliberate falsehood, that it was NOT a defensive action, that it was a planned offensive and that it was called "Operation Morfor". "Morfor" is a Hindu word meaning "Smash!" O'Brien ought to know. He was the commander.

Here is something else that will make your blood boil. Right while the bitter controversy was raging over whether or not we should buy \$100 million worth of worthless UN bonds to keep this "great instrument of peace" from going bankrupt because of its heavy Katanga aggression expenses, our Foreign Aid Administration had secretly given the UN, outright, \$215 million. Some of this foreign aid money was used to pay up the bank dues and assessments of the very nations who are our worst enemies, reestablishing their right to vote against us. The rest of it was used to keep the UN solvent, thereby enabling the UN Armed Forces' aggression on Katanga to continue.

Who was at the head of the Foreign Aid Program at this time, and responsible for giving these "Aid" millions to the UN? As Mr. Koch pointed out, Fowler Hamilton, one of the key men in the American-Swedish Combine who, it is alleged, are determined to take over the unbelievably rich Katanga mines by exterminating Tshombe and Katanga, was Director of Foreign Aid at this time. How do you like that, fellow taxpayer?

1/4/63 headlines in the Grants Pass Courier read, "UN Troops in Katanga Kill Civilians". The civilians were two helpless women riddled by UN bullets. Gentle readers, it could get along a darned sight better without it.

One can get credit to buy all manner of things which won't do him one tiniest bit of good but something you need—well—that is all but impossible. If you need a piece of equipment which is unavailable in Oregon—second (third or fourth) hand—you must talk the owner into allowing you to bring it within the boundaries of Oregon before you can finance it.

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

Taxes

To the Editor: While the President is working for a cut in income tax to help the economy of the country Jackson county is raising taxes. A statement came telling that the value of a home built in 1941 has increased 25 per cent in value in the last six years (of course, they explained that they have just discovered a error of 10 per cent that has been made during the past 22 years).

There is supposed to be a 8 per cent limitation on tax increase in any year, but that means nothing—for they can raise your valuation whatever they want. Although you can prove to them that you have sold property in the same neighborhood for the same price it was purchased for 12 years ago, although it was in much better condition than

when purchased, you are still told values have increased. A person used to be able to accumulate some rental property to help provide for his retirement years, but such is not the case in Jackson county. The economy of the working man has not permitted raising of rent while the taxes and up-keep keeps raising. Non-property owners are allowed to vote on bond issues to raise taxes they do not have to pay.

As long as property taxes can be raised without limitation you will not find any economy by the politicians. They have a pocket without a bottom to dip into, although the taxpayers are forced to keep trying to fill the pocket. The paper says the city of Medford has AGAIN hired a man for several hundred dollars to come in and tell them how much wages they should pay the city employees. Do the men who authorized this waste of tax money hire someone to tell them how much they should pay their employees?

Medford belongs to the League of Oregon Cities. They can find out through that organization how much other cities are paying. A few years ago (having studied Medford city budgets for 30 years) I stopped in Salem and Eugene and for 20c I got a copy of the budgets of both cities. I found Medford was paying the same, or a little more, as those larger cities.

A study of Medford budgets over the past 30 years shows a continual spread of pay between the department heads who pick up their orders at City Hall and the men to whom the work orders are relayed. This difference is out of reason.

The politicians do not care about the property owners living on Social Security, who must pay the tax.

You get just what you vote for.

Cleo Canoose
55 Ross Court
Medford

What's a Bank?

To the Editor: Someone has said "a bank is a place to get money if you can prove you don't need it."

I'd like to amend that statement, as follows: "A bank is a place to get money, if you are prepared to go into court and prove you could get along a darned sight better without it."

One can get credit to buy all manner of things which won't do him one tiniest bit of good but something you need—well—that is all but impossible. If you need a piece of equipment which is unavailable in Oregon—second (third or fourth) hand—you must talk the owner into allowing you to bring it within the boundaries of Oregon before you can finance it.

Floyd R. McCabe
Mt. Pitt Star Rt.
Butte Falls, Ore.

For Equal Justice

To the Editor: I see by your paper that several readers have suggested that we who oppose the death penalty should write to the Governor and ask him not to permit the Freeman girl to be gassed to death. In her case we do not need to be against the death penalty to do that. All of those who believe in equal justice and a square deal for the poor as well as the rich, should also do that. There is more back of this case than has come to light.

Foreign Policy: Sino-Soviet Talks May Patch Differences; Arms Pact Discussion

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

Sino-Soviet Talks?
Some Western diplomats in London are speculating that secret talks have begun between Russia and China on ways to patch up their differences, or are about to begin. The temporary lull in the East-West crisis and easing of tension on the Indo-Chinese frontier seemed to make this an ideal time for the two big Communist powers to get together and try to bury the hatchet, the diplomats said. Lending credence to this speculation was Premier Nikita Khrushchev's New Year remarks that



although there were differences with China, this was an internal matter to be settled within the Communist bloc.

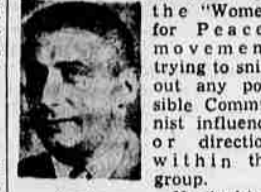
No Change
The 17-nation Disarmament Conference resumes in Geneva Jan. 15, with the chances for success even less than before, Russian sources are in-

timating that Semyon K. Tsarapkin rather than First Deputy Foreign Minister Vasili Kuznetsov will head the Soviet delegation. That's been an indication in the past that the Russians are not interested in progress. Tsarapkin is an expert at saying "no", and that in turn seems to mean no progress on on-site inspection of suspected nuclear test sites.

Strictly Personal

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

ON PRETENDED PATRIOTISM
As I write these lines, the House Un-American Affairs committee is questioning members of the "Women for Peace" movement trying to sniff out any possible Communist influence or direction within the group.



No doubt, a few Communies will turn up in the ranks—and so would a few vegetarians, Esperantists, nudists, Zen Buddhists devotees, and a handful of Gold Star Mothers.

But it has been my personal observation of the group in Chicago that 95 per cent of the "Women for Peace" are composed of ordinary American citizens, passionately concerned about preserving a peace, and better informed about what is happening in the world today than many Congressmen.

Right or wrong—and I happen to think they are more right than wrong—these women are taking their responsibilities of citizenship seriously; unlike the bulk of us who awaken out of our torpor once every few years to vote, and then subside into self-centeredness.

What we desperately need are many more groups who are as earnestly concerned with the world's plight, and who are making an effort to read, study, discuss and ventilate the basic problems facing human survival. Apathy, not "un-Americanism," is our greatest national enemy.

The House Un-American Activities Committee may have grasped a tiger by the tail this time. These women will not be intimidated; they have more moral courage than most men, and they are not afraid for their jobs, as so many men are.

Peace is everybody's business. No one is sure exactly how we can achieve it, and by the same token, every viewpoint must be explored and encouraged. It cannot be left to that abstraction called "the government," because a representative government such as ours is supposed to be responsive to the will of the people.

But what is the "will of the people"? Most Americans are puzzled and confused and frightened. When government officials disagree, when military strategists disagree—then it is time for the people themselves to throw open the doors of discussion and inquiry to all who fear for the safety and survival of their children.

In a part of his Farewell Address that is not usually quoted, George Washington warned us to "Guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism." Some self-styled patriots today would like us to accept the "official line" on war and peace without dissent. To do so would be to abdicate our responsibilities as American citizens. And to suggest that such questioners and dissenters are "un-American" is to make a vicious mockery of the democratic process itself.

rights to the clean, pure air, unadorned with exhalations. If they feel they are not willing to do it where the smoke does not reach the general public, especially in public buildings, hotels, restaurants, hospitals, buses, etc. Is this too much to expect and demand on the part of non-smokers?

Smokers are slowly committing suicide with the poisons tobacco contains, along with the arsenic spray the growers use to kill the horn worm. White metallic arsenic is used in a 7 per cent solution in cigarette papers. It prevents paper from going up in flames. A cigar salesman admitted that arsenic and glycerine were used in cigars, but added "What people don't know won't hurt them." I disagree. It does injure their health whether they know it or not.

Mrs. Ernest Santo
204 Lozier Lane
Medford.

Common Market. Adenauer is a firm supporter of the concept of nuclear arms over conventional and has been siding firmly with French President Charles de Gaulle on tough terms for British entry into the new Europe.

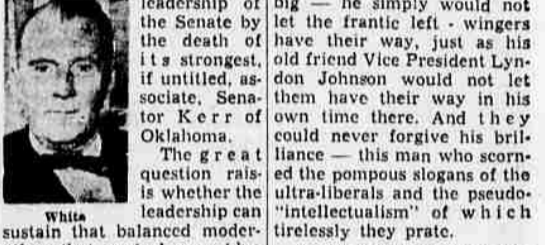
Red Labor Tactics
Observers in Frankfurt, West Germany, expect the Communists to try to stir up labor trouble in West Germany's still-booming industries with the hope of damaging the national economy. Communist underground cells recently instigated small-scale wildcat strikes in the big Henschel locomotive and truck factories at Kassel. The Communist party was outlawed in West Germany in 1956. But small Communist cells have never ceased operating under ground.

Conflict at Bonn
Bonn sources say a conflict may be building up between aging Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and his youthful foreign minister, Gerhard Schroeder. These sources say Schroeder has two New Year goals—one, to bring West Germany's defense policy into line with Washington's drive for a build-up of conventional arms for NATO, and the other to aid Britain's entry into the

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

SENATOR KERR
Washington—A heavy political burden has been cast upon the official Democratic leadership of the Senate by the death of its strongest, as yet, unutilized, associate, Senator Kerr of Oklahoma.



White sustains that balanced moderation, that control over the shrill excesses of the left wing, which was the memorable service to party and country of Robert Samuel Kerr.

His departure has struck the most punishing blow to responsible legislative conduct, in Congress as a whole, since a little more than a year ago Speaker Sam Rayburn of the House of Representatives preceded him in death. And, so far as the Senate individually is concerned, Kerr's loss is to the Democrats at least as grave as that suffered by the Republicans when Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio fell of cancer in 1953.

PRESIDENT Kennedy himself is both bereft and endangered, even though Kerr was his own man rather than a Kennedy man. For while he sometimes opposed the President on welfare issues, notably medicare, he also helped arrange for him all his greatest victories of the last Congress, including the world trade expansion program.

He was, in fact, more influential than the official hierarchy of the Democratic party in the Senate—Floor Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, and Assistant Floor Leader Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota. It was sometimes said that he was "the Senate's uncrowned king," and that "what Kerr wants, Kennedy gets."

These, however, were less exact judgments than reflections of the small envy of smaller men. Their real objections to Kerr were not that he was sometimes harsh and demanding, or even that he was unashamedly rich and always openly battling for the vital interests of his home state—the those dreadful things, "oil and gas."

THEY resented him most of all because, for all his rawhide frontier tongue, he was demonstrably so much abler, so much more influential, than the Senate generally, than they could ever be.



"Watch her—She might be one of those who think they can fight communism by putting stickers on the Polish hams!"