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1963

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
Jan. 29, 1953 (Tuesday)
A new portable iron lung
has been presented to the
Medford fire department by
members of Local 701, Inter-
national Union of Operating
Engineers, AFL.

20 YEARS AGO
Jan. 29, 1943 (Sunday)
State engineers meet with
Medford city council to dis-
cuss flood conditions in Med-
ford area.

30 YEARS AGO
Jan. 29, 1933 (Tuesday)
Joseph G. Holzgang and
Margaret B. Turner, both of
Medford, among spring ses-
soner enrollees at University
of Southern California.

40 YEARS AGO
Jan. 29, 1923 (Wednesday)
Alex Sparrow, resident an
superintendent of Crater Nat-
ional park after 10 years in
park service.

50 YEARS AGO
Jan. 29, 1913 (Friday)
W. H. Gore, W. H. Canon
and George Putnam return
from trip to Salem where they
discussed possibility of legis-
lature passing road laws re-
quested by Jackson county.

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

- 1. What kind of animal is a pachyderm?
2. What fate befell John the Baptist?
3. Would you estimate that about 10, 25, or 30 per cent of the persons in the world are illiterate?
4. Is the Isle of Wight off the north or south coast of England?
5. Do the United States and Siam exchange Ministers or Ambassadors?
6. Which language is spoken by the most persons?
7. Is it true that there are white orchids?
8. How many of the eight parts of speech in the English language can you name?
9. Which radio news commentator began his program with the words, "Ah yes, there's good news tonight"?
10. Who was the "Sultan of Swat"?
Answers: 1. An elephant. 2. He was beheaded by Herod. 3. Fifty per cent. 4. South. 5. Ambassadors. 6. Chinese. 7. Yes (Among the most valuable and rare). 8. Nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, interjections. 9. Gabriel Heatter. 10. George Herman (Babe) Ruth.

Milk and Venom

Ah, pity the poor reviewer for a small town newspaper. Mothers, train up your sons to be bank robbers, encourage them to be wastrels and spend-thrifts, succor their most foolhardy ambitions, but never—we say never—permit them to write drama or music reviews. For if a person were ever foredoomed to object and humiliating failure in a conscientious enterprise, it is the wretch who finds himself cast in the role of critic where no criticism is really wanted. And that, of course, is nearly always the case in a Medford-sized community, where the prospect of attending a play or concert and experiencing really first-rate talent is about as likely as having the girl next door turn out to be Brigitte Bardot. It just isn't in the cards, friends.

WHAT he will see or hear is a group of determined, well-meaning amateurs (bless 'em), who at considerable sacrifice to their businesses and families, have been working and slaving for weeks on some project or other. In the agonizing process of putting the thing together, they will have all gotten very fond of each other and of whatever it is they are attempting to do. They will have convinced themselves that they are pioneers, if not, indeed, martyrs, in struggling to bring Culture (capital "C," please, typesetter) to the wilderness.

But the sad fact is that they will be of limited ability to start with (else they would be out raking in the fantastic salaries that are paid to performers these days), and to make matters worse their rehearsal time will perforce place further barriers to the possibility of achieving quality. The only way to make this situation more difficult is to substitute students in place of adults. At this point whatever is offered to the public is absolutely sacrosanct.

INVITED to play with this rigged deck is the poor reviewer. Contemplate briefly the extent of his dilemma.

He may be totally unqualified by nature and nurture to appraise anything more cultural than a ladies tag team wrestling match.

But he will have been given the assignment at the whim of a superior (sometimes, like an idiot, he volunteers) and a story on the event will be expected the following morning.

Assume, however, that his background is sufficient to enable him to distinguish between sour notes and sweet notes, between someone who can act and someone who merely has an ability to memorize lines.

Is the reviewer then free to write the truth about what he has seen and heard? Not by the hair on your chinny chin chin.

WHEN writing of amateurs, the reviewer must always substitute the milk of human kindness for the natural venom that may have been aroused by the production he saw.

Let him attempt a comment that is even slightly caustic about a local performer and the wrath of husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, aunts and uncles, neighbors and friends—with an intensity paling that of Zeus—will descend on his poor head like thunder from Mt. Olympus. "Just who does he think he is," the outraged chorus will scream, "Walter Kerr or Brooks Atkinson or somebody?"

If on the other hand, the reviewer leaves his integrity at home when he writes up a local production, he'll end up being abused just as thoroughly by quite another group. Every community has its hard-core of sophisticates who regard themselves as the final arbiters of taste and quality.

Let the reviewer charitably say something was good, when indeed it was quite poor, and the slings and arrows of scorn will start flying.

"Why doesn't the paper get someone to review these things who really knows what he is talking about?" they will demand.

WITH cannons to the right of him, and cannons to the left of him, primed to volley and thunder, the prudent reviewer may try to steer the cautious middle course.

He'll search desperately for something to praise (to keep the family happy) and will criticize only a few of the production's more obvious faults in order to assert his credentials and keep the sophisticates contented that the bastions of quality are being protected.

The result of such pussy-footing is usually unhappy too. The reviewer will keenly feel the compromise of his integrity, and he'll be doubly reluctant when it comes time to write another one. The families won't be appeased because a modicum of praise is hardly enough. And the final arbiters, who rigidly refuse truck with mediocrity, will set him down as a lily-livered equivocator.

THE ONLY loophole left, one may by now think, is simply to discontinue reviews in the paper of anything but professional productions that visit the community. That too is wishful thinking.

The only thing worse for the amateur performer than having something unfavorable about him appear in a review, is to not be mentioned in the review at all. And not to send someone on the staff to cover a local production is as unthinkable as leaving out the daily horoscope.

His only out is for the reviewer to write what he wants to—and then leave his phone off the hook for a week, and wear a fake nose and mustache whenever he ventures out in public.

—But Too Cold To Sustain Life As We Know It



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.

Committee on Unamerican (sic) Activities

To the Editor: This is in answer to E.A. in the M.T. Jan. 27. After reading his editorial I wondered if he did not write his diatribes for the fun of getting a rise out of some of us. If such was his purpose he succeeded where I am concerned.

Isn't it a rather childish trick to deliberately call the committee the House Un-American (sic) Activities Committee? Its real designation is House Committee on Un-American (sic) Activities. In E.A.'s case he admits it is not ignorance. By doing so he in no wise hurts the committee. But what about the character trait that permits him to so misname the committee?

There is a considerable feeling of amnesia in his editorial as though he is opposed to the committee is a mark of distinction. Does he not know that when the 81st Congress convened only six members of the House were opposed to continuing the committee? Are we to believe those congressmen favoring the committee are men lacking the judgment necessary to be good congressmen?

Whenever so violent an opposition arises towards an act of Congress it is wise to learn whence the opposition arises. In this case it is not hard to learn. The Communist publication World Marxist Review for October, 1962, published orders from Moscow to American Communists to achieve the destruction of the H.C.U.A. It follows therefore, that the question arises is anyone not a Communist who goes along with them, a fellow traveler or dupe? Would a true American want to be on the side of those who have promised to bury us?

Another question that naturally arises is why such determined animosity? Would the Kremlin be interested in an innocuous organization? Is not this extreme opposition the greatest compliment for the committee? Would the Communists concern themselves with the committee if it were not dangerous to their plans?

To attempt to accomplish the orders from Moscow the Communists in the U.S. have organized the National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee. The executive director of the committee is Mr. Frank Wilkinson, a known Communist. I am sure most of those reading this would not wish to travel in his company. If my assumption is correct, wouldn't each one of you write in to our congressmen telling them how you feel? They are Robert Duncan, Attilian, Edith Green and Walter Norblad, House Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. Anna M. Sireud, 26 North Peach St. Medford.

Letters and Gifts. To the Editor: This column was of great interest to my husband and me. Now that I am alone, each letter seems to be personal. I am so thankful for our editor for his kindness in allowing us this space to air our views in.

I imagine that most of you get lonely at times and like to share your thoughts with friends, you haven't met. Naturally, you all believe alike, and being that I sometimes find a chip on my shoulder I write it down for you, but I mean it instead of sending it on. That way, it helps you and the best part of our year letter hitting the way of you like hitting, woman's size 12 cloth-

ing, blankets—just anything you would donate to a family near Jacksonville who lost everything in a fire recently? If so, kindly call me mornings, as soon as possible, at 399-1637. Pearl Spackman, Box 33, Jacksonville, Ore.

Kind Words, and Others. To the Editor: The letters appearing in the Communications column regarding Mr. Daniel Fry have not passed me by unnoticed. The large percentage have been base and degrading in quality, and could only have been perpetrated by those steeped in ignorance and blinded by their own self-righteousness.

To the gentleman who was sincere in his intimation that Mr. Fry is dealing with Satanic forces, may I remind him that there are also forces of light which are much stronger at work in the universe. If that writer has not as yet noticed these in operation in his own life, it might be wise for him to kindly refrain from judging others by himself. He might do well, in fact, to recall that Jesus admonished us not to judge at all. He would also do well to remember that Jesus said that by their works we would know them. If that gentleman knew Mr. Fry personally, he would find many good works to his credit. He could be sure, too, that these were not achieved through Mr. Fry's cooperating with any Satanic forces, but through his attainment to and cooperation with the forces of light.

To those who so brazenly made fun of him, I have nothing to say. I do not condemn. They have my pity, and if they don't acquire a greater degree of intelligence in the near future, I hope that at least they may develop some better manners. If these persons, instead of wasting their energies dreaming up such horrid things to write about a fellow human being should take the trouble to meet the object of their slanderous assaults, they would find a quiet, modest, unassuming person of outstanding sincerity and integrity. Indeed, should they open-mindedly search a little further, they would be impressed with the fact that they were in the presence of one of great depth of soul and superior intelligence.

However, on second thought, no. At the present stage of their spiritual unfoldment they are not ready to recognize qualities of this sort in anyone, so blinded are they by their inflated little egos.

NO ONE on the administration's side can fairly cry "foul" at this action of the G.O.P. For if ever there was a case of built-in and inevitable tit for tat, it was this unhappy instance of presidential intervention against a first-rate member of congress simply because he happened to be in the other party.

Judd in fact risked his political life last fall by staying in Washington to assist Kennedy's then current foreign aid bill while the president was out in Minnesota demanding Judd's head in behalf of the Democratic party.

It was a singularly clear illustration of the odd unwisdom of President Kennedy's uncharacteristic decision to go all out in a domestic campaign just might be more amenable to him in such relatively picaresque issues as Medicare.

The President has always regarded the cold war as neither a Democratic nor a Republican but simply an all-American undertaking. And that for his momentary switch from his usual course, he has tried to keep partisan home politics out of his foreign policy.

WHATEVER moved him, it was a melancholy "victory" for him. For Judd's absence from the House will cause the president infinitely more trouble on the things that really matter than any possible gain it can bring him on the things that matter a great deal less.

Nor is this the end. While the House Republicans have been moving to retaliate, the ultra liberal Senate Democrats have been marshaling in a characteristically myopic way to spread the damage, by way of both petty ideological and purely party partisanship.

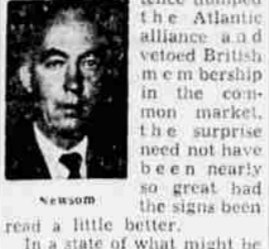
They have been attempting to bar the Senate Republican leader, Sen. Everett Dirksen of Illinois, from a seat on the tax-writing Senate finance committee. They proceed here on the curious theory that Dirksen is likely to be critical of the president's tax bill, ergo, Dirksen has no right to be on the committee.

But this touches foreign policy, too, because Dirksen until now had been a tower of bipartisan strength to the President on all the top foreign crisis in which he has thus far had to be engaged.

AND the same Democratic ultra-liberals are running a merrily campaign against the ascent to the Senate foreign relations committee of one of the few public men in the country who have been 7121 since Castro Cuba from the start, Sen. George S. McGovern of Florida. Sen. McGovern

De Gaulle's Intransigence Predictable If Signs Had Been Read Aright in Past

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst



When President Charles de Gaulle almost in a single sentence dumped the Atlantic alliance and vetoed British membership in the common market, the surprise need not have been nearly so great had the signs been read a little better.

In a state of what might be called complacency, his Western associates simply went on expecting him to do things he never intended to do.

As early as 1955, De Gaulle was showing disenchantment with NATO. After that came his determination that France should have its own nuclear force. His imposition of al-

most impossible conditions on British entry into Europe and his open courtship of the West German Republic have been other signposts along the way. They are not of recent origin.

In De Gaulle's concept of a French-led Western Europe, there was no place for Britain or for the United States.

The gods are never questioned and so it seems unlikely that De Gaulle will bother to explain himself more than he already has. But it seems probable that these considerations lent weight to the final decisions.

The European Common Market already is an economic success, and for selfish reasons alone its members are not likely to abandon it even in the face of a major upheaval.

Whatever its irritations may be, the United States cannot abandon Europe militarily. Therefore, even if it takes 10 years to build up an independent French nuclear force, there is no danger of a military vacuum.

If there is a big loser, it will be Britain and if Britain finally does enter the Common Market, it will be on any terms she can get.

France is at its moment of greatest economic strength. It is growing faster than West Germany and twice as fast as either the United States or Britain.

Time is important. Along with De Gaulle, the greatest advocate of close Franco-German ties has been West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer who is scheduled to leave office in less than a year.

De Gaulle himself, with approximately three years left in office, also must firm up his own concept of a future France before it can be undone by his successor.

France's partners in the common market have said plainly that De Gaulle's idea of a Europe of the future is not their idea.

But De Gaulle apparently feels himself on firm ground. The West German reaction may be his greatest weakness. The German Bundestag must ratify the accord recently negotiated by Adenauer and De Gaulle. The Germans want Britain in the Common Market.

And they have indicated strongly that if they must choose between Paris and Washington for national defense, it will be Washington.

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

BI-PARTISANSHIP ENDANGERED

Washington—Both past and present instances of small-bore Democratic partisanship have already brought danger to the only proper conduct of our foreign policy—which is to say it is bi-partisan conduct. They may bring yet more. The Republican leadership in the House of Representatives has just re-



paid President Kennedy's participation in the defeat last fall of the veteran internationalist, Rep. Walter Judd of Minnesota. They have calmly stacked the Republican side of the House foreign affairs committee with five new anti-foreign aid members.

This comes at a time when the continuation of the foreign aid program, one of the very keys to the administration's whole world approach, is admittedly in hard straits in Congress.

NO ONE on the administration's side can fairly cry "foul" at this action of the G.O.P. For if ever there was a case of built-in and inevitable tit for tat, it was this unhappy instance of presidential intervention against a first-rate member of congress simply because he happened to be in the other party.

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Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

AND NOW FORMOSA

Washington—Evidently, this is the year of great decisions for President Kennedy. Gen. de Gaulle has put a pistol to his head in Europe. The nuclear test ban talks, having been stalled by the Soviets before they really got started, are already calling for another grave choice. And in Formosa, of all places, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is beginning to finger a pistol of another sort.



The potential Formosa decision, being over the horizon, is not as yet engaging the attention of the somewhat distracted Kennedy policymakers. But the signs are plain that a decision may too easily be called for in the months just ahead.

The first symptoms to consider are the commando-type landings which small groups of Chiang's troops have been making, at intervals, on the Chinese Communist mainland in recent months. There have been ten of these landings all told, according to report.

THE commandos have gone in across the beaches, in groups of about 20 men each. No aircraft has been used, and the troops employed have not been drawn from Chiang's crack highly-equipped and trained special forces outfits. All those who have landed have been rolled up by the Chinese Communists.

Yet several of these rather primitive commando groups have made successful contact with the peasant population, and have maintained themselves on the mainland for significant periods of time. Because all have been rolled up in the end, the American policy-makers are wholly unimpressed by the results of these operations, but the Generalissimo is known to regard them as not unpromising preliminary tests.

The fact that the Generalissimo is far from discouraged by the results of these first test gains much added significance from another set of facts. To begin with, the much more highly qualified troops in Chiang Kai-shek's special forces number perhaps as many as 10,000 men in all.

TO GO on with Chiang has substantially more capability to lift troops onto the mainland than is generally imagined. Counting all possible sources, he has enough airift for a night drop of over 4,000 troops—and the men in his special forces are intensively trained for air-drops.

Most significant of all, Chiang Kai-shek has also begun to build landing craft in Formosa in the past 12 months, and for all anyone really knows, he may also have additional landing craft on order in Japan or elsewhere. The Formosa government's defense budget was heavily increased last year, to permit stockpiling of certain other categories of supplies that would be needed in the event of a successful landing on the mainland.

In sum, the preparations for an attempt to return to the Communist mainland are well advanced. Chiang Kai-shek will have the means for such an attempt, quite probably in the favorable spring season towards the end of May, and quite certainly in the almost equally favorable autumn season.

It must be understood, of course, that the kind of attempt Chiang has in mind will depend for its success on the response of the mainland population. Ferrying large armies across the Formosa Strait is not contemplated. The idea is simply to effect a strong lodgement in a good position.

IT IS hoped, perhaps not foolishly, that a solid lodgement of Nationalist troops will rally local support, and thus have the effect of a spark in the Communist backyard. All will turn upon the state of mind of the mainland peasants, the militia, and the army. Hence the American policy-makers say the scheme is hare-brained, but in Peking there is more apprehension, for Mao Tse-tung last year reinforced the Formosa Strait area with about 200,000 additional troops.

In addition, the internal balance in Formosa has been shifting, of late, in favor of the activist group headed by the Generalissimo's extremely tough and able son, Gen. Chiang Ching-kuo. The new governor of Formosa, Gen. Huang Chieh, Huang Chieh's successor in the key garrison command, Gen. Chen Tu-ching, and the chief of staff, Gen. Liu Han-chi, are all close to Gen. Chiang Ching-kuo.

Last year, there was at least one chance in three that the Generalissimo would attempt a landing on the mainland, in defiance of U.S. advice. The Peking leadership was sufficiently impressed by the possibility to order the large reinforcement above-mentioned.

This year, for all the reasons cited, the odds are at least even on the Generalissimo's going ahead at all costs. The practical preparations that have been made for a quite significant effort, the preliminary tests now being made, and the altered political climate in Formosa, all point the same way. The elderly gentlemen the President has to deal with are indeed high-handed and difficult.

Strictly Personal

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

THINK, THANK, THUNK. A foreigner who has been in this country several years approached me not long ago and said he had been amused and gratified to read a recent column about the "nouns of multitude" in the English language.

"It's hard for a foreigner to learn that sheep come in flocks and ships come in fleets," he said, "but even harder to master are the different tenses and moods of English verbs."

"It doesn't seem so to us," I answered. "What seems to perplex you about our verb forms? They're much easier to learn than the irregular verbs in French."

"Perhaps so," he said, "but I can find no rule or consistency about your verbs. For instance, the past tense of 'teach' is 'taught,' but the past tense of 'preach' isn't 'praught,' and the past tense of 'scratch' isn't 'scraught.'"

"Does a stranger to our tongue find many like that?" I asked. "Hundreds," he sighed. "I learned that the past of 'sink' is 'sank,' but 'wink' isn't 'wunk,' and 'think' isn't 'thunk.' 'Speak' becomes 'spoke,' but 'seek' doesn't become 'soke,' and 'leak' doesn't become 'loke.'"

"Odd how we take such changes of tense for granted," I said. "Nobody who speaks English ever thinks about it. At least, I've never thought about it before."

He smiled wanly. "The past of 'steal' is 'stole,'" he continued, "but the past of 'kneel' isn't 'knole,' and the past of 'feel' isn't 'fole.' Again, the past of 'cling' is 'clung,' but the verb 'wing' doesn't become 'wung,' and 'bring' doesn't turn into 'brung,' except for small children."

"I've got a couple," I said, getting into the spirit of the thing. "For example, 'catch' becomes 'taught,' but 'snatch' isn't 'snought,' and 'scratch' becomes 'sraught.' Likewise, 'freeze' becomes 'froze,' but 'tease' doesn't turn into 'tise,' and 'sneeze' doesn't become 'snoze.'"

"Excellent," he answered. "And the past of 'ride' is 'rode,' but the past of 'slide' isn't 'slove,' and the past of 'hide' isn't 'hude.' Also, 'grow' becomes 'grew,' but 'now' doesn't become 'naw,' and 'flow' most certainly doesn't change into 'flew.' May I say that English has a great future, but a terrible past?"

"You may," I said. "And now I'll drive away because I drove early, and wouldn't like to make another engagement."



Why get so excited about the Chinese developing a bomb? The radiation will probably only stay with you for a couple of hours!