

MEFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 23 North First St., Ph. 72-6141

Subscription Rates: Daily and Sunday—1 year \$18.00

Advertising Representative: NELSON ROBERTS ASSOCIATES

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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

Feb. 5, 1953 (Tuesday)

The number of Jackson county men without jobs increased during January, the local State Employment Service office has reported.

Twelve Jackson county men enlisted in the Army or Air Force during January, the local recruiting office has reported.

20 YEARS AGO

Feb. 5, 1933 (Sunday)

Sen. Earl Newby and Reps. Frank Van Dyke and William McAllister, Jackson county's representatives in state legislature, introduce bill raising salaries of Jackson county officials by 15 per cent.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The acoustics in the courthouse are terrible. A whisper on the third floor sounds like a hired man calling hogs on the Applegate."

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 5, 1903 (Tuesday)

Some 100 local businessmen and Grange members take part in "good will" meeting at Eagle Point Grange hall.

State Highway Commissioners Leslie M. Scott and R. C. Washburn and Highway Engineer R. H. Baldock visit Medford to conduct hearings on highway construction plans.

40 YEARS AGO

Feb. 5, 1923 (Wednesday)

Ashland school authorities issue orders that school girls may wear only one ring and no ear rings.

Large audience of women and girls attend stage play starring May Robson at Page theater.

50 YEARS AGO

Feb. 5, 1913 (Friday)

Single tax advocated here as solution to Jackson county's monetary problems.

Dr. J. M. Keene purchases 200 acres of land southwest of Medford; states that all land needs irrigation and good roads.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Adult moths do not eat clothes; true or false?

2. What was Abraham's only son's name?

3. A drum major's head-dress is called a beaver, shako or fez?

4. Is the Tropic of Cancer north, or south, of the Equator?

5. In which country is the famous Blarney Stone?

6. Carrots are yellow due to the presence of chlorophyll or carotene?

7. Which U. S. President is reputed to have said, "All I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother"?

8. What were Caesar's dying words, referring to the part played by Brutus in a plot to betray him?

9. Sponges are classified as minerals, plants or animals?

10. Define claustrophobia.

Answers: 1. True, 2. Isaac, 3. Shako, 4. North, 5. Ireland, 6. Carotene, 7. Abraham Lincoln, 8. Et tu Brute - You too Brutus, 9. Animals, 10. Fear of enclosed places, enclosed places.

A Policeman Retires

It is a rare breed of man who can take on a job that is underpaid, often dangerous, more often boring, sometimes rewarding but often thankless—and then stick with it for 32 years.

Such a man is Paul Morgan, known to his friends as "Skinny," who retired last week as captain of Oregon State Police.

He was one of those who joined the force when it was first organized back in 1931, transferring from the old highway traffic patrol. Only four are still with the state police, including H. G. "Fod" Maison, the superintendent, now that Captain Morgan has retired.

WE HAVE long had nothing but the highest regard for the state police. It has had only two superintendents, the late Charles Pray and Maison. But in these two men, both austere, both insisting on the highest degree of performance and discipline, yet at the same time vitally concerned with the welfare of their men, the state has had public service of superior stature.

The same is true with the career men, like Paul Morgan and his immediate predecessor, Paul Parsons.

There have been mighty few sour apples in the state police barrel over the years. Either a rookie shaped up, or he didn't stay on the force. The result has brought only respect to the men in blue who have assumed the awesome responsibility for protecting the lives and property of their employers, the people of Oregon.

WE DON'T know what a career police officer thinks when he retires. Perhaps he looks forward to more leisure to do the things he's never had time to do before. Perhaps he is content to sit and take it easy, or to pursue his hobbies.

But we suspect that there will be times when he wishes he were back in harness again, working long and underpaid hours and giving his best in courage and brains and skill.

It is true that, in many ways, "a policeman's lot is not a happy one." But of all satisfactions, the greatest to a man with a splendid career behind him must be the inner knowledge of a job well and faithfully done—E. A.

Never on Sunday

No sooner had we written an editorial describing proposed changes in Washington's "blue laws," or Sunday closing regulations, and hoping that the Oregon legislature would be more sensible, than a "Save a Day for the Family Committee" announces a plan to broaden Oregon's Sunday closing laws.

Dr. G. Herbert Smith, president of Willamette University, says the aim of the measure would be "simply an effort to maintain what has traditionally been a family day in America . . ."

If tradition has to be protected by the police power of the state, it's pretty poor tradition. Tradition comes voluntarily, and if the American people want Sunday as a day of rest and relaxation, not shopping, it's up to them to come to their own consensus, not have it forced on them by a policeman.

WHILE we assume that Dr. Smith's motives are of the highest, it appears to us the clue to the real source of this movement is contained in his statement that the state's retailers have been polled and that he has "the full support of an overwhelming majority."

This is not, we suspect, a "tradition-preserving" proposal nearly as much as it is an anti-competition proposal. But if stores want to eliminate competition, the way to do so cooperatively, the way banks and financial institutions did when they agreed to close on Saturdays, after a Saturday-closing law was defeated a few years ago.

If this measure were to become law, the legislature would be guilty of the rankest form of discrimination and idiocy in attempting to draw the line between what goods and services can be offered on Sunday and which could not be.

IT WOULD result, for instance, in a person being able to buy film for his camera, but not a new camera, even though both were available at the same counter.

One could buy sun glasses, but not binoculars. You couldn't buy hardware—unless there was an "emergency" and you had to repair your plumbing, heating, cooling or electrical systems.

(Would you have to get a police certificate that you have an "emergency"? Or would a salesman take your word for it—risking a fine of \$100 to \$500?)

The state would graciously permit you to buy "novelties or souvenirs"—but not toys.

You could buy a house—but not a car. You could go to drug store and buy drugs—but don't you dare buy a tube of lipstick or a bottle of cologne.

YOU COULD buy a set of golf clubs, complete with leather bag. But the majesty of the state would forbid you to buy a suitcase.

You would be permitted to buy a case of beer. But if you were out of stationery to write a letter to Aunt Minnie (or a letter of protest to your legislator), you'd be out of luck.

Such proposals as this—illogical, discriminatory, freedom-smothering—are bad legislation, and lead to contempt of the laws as a means of preserving order and the general welfare.

If a free American wants to buy—or to sell—something on Sunday, or any other day of the week, that should be his right, and the legislature should give short shrift to this silly bill.—E. A.

"You Still Using That Greasy Kid Stuff?"



... 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.

Editor's Note: As of this morning, more than two dozen "Communications" are on the editor's desk.

To The South Seas: To the Editor: In your editorial of Jan. 31, you say: "Talk Sense About Taxes."

Doe Eaters: To the Editor: A few years ago we had a doe on the Huckleberry Gap road that raised three beautiful fawns each year, for two years that I know of.

Dinner Licenses: To the Editor: Attention churches, social clubs and fraternal organizations. According to an Oct. 2, 1962 memorandum received from the Oregon State Board of Health, a license is required for organizations putting on virtually any kind of a dinner to which the public is invited.

Wild Cats: The legislation on wild cats is a perfect example. Mr. Delenback is worried about old alley cats, while thousands of men are unemployed, while retarded, average and gifted children are not getting a decent education, while the big men in Salem are mis-managing state government so bad they put us way into the red last year and have the gall to ask us for more money so they can do it again next year.

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Historic Events Follow Each Other in Rapid Sequence; Outcome Still Unclear

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

Two within a span of only about three months the world has reached historic turning points whose final results still can only be guessed.

In the third week of October, the Red Chinese launched their massive attack against India's border, and in the following week President Kennedy forced a showdown with the Soviet Union over Soviet missiles in Cuba.

On Jan. 22, President Charles de Gaulle and West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation which Adenauer declared would end "400 years of quarrels, dispute and warfare" between their two countries.

On Jan. 29, De Gaulle torpedoed British hopes for entering the European Common Market.

The events are not isolated, are in fact interlocked. The Chinese attack on India served to emphasize the growing rift between Red China and the Soviet Union, adding weight to De Gaulle's theory that the Soviet Union must eventually turn away from the Chinese and back to the European family of nations.

Out of the U. S. - Soviet showdown came Nikita Khrushchev's new "reasonable" attitude and a lessening in cold war tensions. These developments in turn made it possible for De Gaulle, perhaps sooner than he expected to move now to implement his own grand design for Europe.

This Europe would exclude both Britain and the United States and lead ultimately to the junking of NATO, upon which Europe's defenses have depended.

De Gaulle's move against Britain clearly was political, and in that stroke he put off for years, if he did not

actually destroy, the concept of a politically united Europe which had been a foundation stone of Western policy since the end of World War II.

He estimated correctly, it seems, that economic reasons would force his European Common Market partners to remain inside the bloc as a trading area. Politically, he coldly reasoned that agreement between France and Germany would force the lesser powers to cooperate whether they liked it or not.

So far, events have given De Gaulle no reason to question his own judgment. It remains to be seen whether he

may have erred on the question of timing. Most West Germans would agree with Adenauer that the French-German accord is the "crowning point of my career."

But among influential German newspapers, De Gaulle's clear anti-U. S. bias has aroused deep reservations. Within Adenauer's own cabinet there is a deep split.

The Germans do not want to lose contact, either economically or defensively, with Washington. Final results will depend upon which has the stronger pull - Paris or Washington.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

WHAT HAS GONE WRONG Washington - According to authoritative report, few blooper have angered President Kennedy quite so much as the State Department's impulsive intervention in the Canadian Parliament's debate on national defense.

It is not clear who was responsible for yielding to the human, all-too-human temptation to show up Prime Minister Diefenbaker, who clearly deserved it. What it clear—what should have been clear from the first—is that yielding to this temptation only made a bad business worse.

As the President is angry, it is to be presumed that someone will pay for the blooper. But if the President is wise, he will ask himself whether the fault does not lie deeper than the individual bad judgement of this or that official or policy-maker.

The Canadian affair, after all, comes hard on the heels of the Skybolt affair, which was very much more damaging. And the Skybolt affair could have been easily avoided by a little foresight as the Canadian affair could have been avoided by staying silent.

NO SUPERNAL powers of prophecy were needed to foresee that the U.S. government would eventually have to make the offer to share remaining Skybolt development costs with Britain—the offer with which the President in fact opened his Nassau meeting with Prime Minister Macmillan. If that offer had been made at the end of October, there would have been no Skybolt row, for the British would then have had no possible grounds for complaint against the U.S.

Instead the Skybolt row raged through November and December, doing this country untold damage with all its allies. And when the cost-sharing offer was at last made at Nassau, it was refused by Prime Minister Macmillan; for the British had decided in the interval that they too did not want Skybolt.

The result, in itself somewhat questionable, was the substitute offer of Polaris missiles for the British Navy. This was wrapped up in the scheme for a multilateral deterrent, which Gen. De Gaulle was blandly invited to join.

ONCE again, it was predicted that de Gaulle would feel he was being treated lightly. He was duly enraged. And it is at least an even bet that this Nassau-born fury was what drove de Gaulle to cross the important line between obstructing the British entry into the Common Market, which he was already doing and positively vetoing the British entry, which he thereupon did.

Other cases might be cited. But it is not needful to go further, in order to prove that down deep in the system

something is very wrong somewhere. What is wrong is not difficult to spot, either. President Kennedy has not got a State Department.

In Secretary of State Dean Rusk the President has a wise policy-maker, but a man with no knack and no taste for executive leadership. Yet executive leadership was desperately needed; for the organization and creative agency of government under Harry S. Truman, was already in sorry condition when Rusk took office.

IN THE era of John Foster Dulles, the effective State Department was contained by the four walls of Dulles's private office; and in this period, for various reasons, the rest of the Department was simultaneously debased and inflated to the point of dropsy. In his short, widely underestimated term in office, Christian A. Herter fought a successful holding action, but that was the best he could manage.

Thus Rusk's task would never have been easy, even for a man with the executive talents of a Dean G. Acheson, a Robert A. Lovett, or a Robert McNamara. Before choosing Rusk, the President made the task harder still, in ways that are too obvious to need naming. A Secretary unable or unwilling to assert executive leadership was then installed in a Department debased, dropical, and divided. This combination has produced what we now see—a non-Department of State.

There are good bits, like Gov. Averell Harriman's Far Eastern sector, and there are very bad bits. But the point is that it is all in bits. It is not a unified department, guided by a common viewpoint imposed by its leader, and working toward a common aim, clearly defined from above. It is a congeries of competing viewpoints, contrasting personalities, and conflicting ambitions.

AMONG the New Frontiersmen, there are two popular excuses for this irrational gap in the middle of an Administration otherwise notable for its competence and coherence. It is said that nothing can be done because "the President is his own Secretary of State." Or it is said that "the real Secretary of State" is the President's brilliant and knowledgeable personal chief of staff for foreign affairs, McGeorge Bundy.

But that is nonsense. As the foreign policy record shows, the President, and Bundy too, for that matter, need a department to work with. As the case of the Defense Department shows, that relationship is far from impossible.

And as long as the State Department is really a non-department, other damaging affairs will follow the Canadian affair, the Skybolt affair, and all the earlier ones, quite possibly with end-results calamitous to the President himself.

Strictly Personal

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

LOLITA, AND OTHERS While looking through a clinical paper called, "The Effects of Fatherlessness on the Preadolescent Female," I ran across the unexpected sentence: "It is not possible to say that the five 'Lolitas' in this study would have developed in this manner but . . ."

The startling appearance of the word "Lolita" in this serious paper confirmed my earlier feeling that author Vladimir Nabokov has indeed joined the small band of literary immortals who have provided the language with a new word taken from a character in a book.

The list is not a large one. Shakespeare has given us "Romeo." Byron provided us with "Don Juan." Sinclair Lewis added "Babbitt" to the language. Conan Doyle gave us "Sherlock Holmes" as a synonym for the shrewd private investigator.

"Lolita" evidently fills a real need in the language to describe a certain type of adolescent girl: "nymphet" is the generic term, but a proper name seems more vivid and fitting.

Not many fictional characters become fixed this way in the speech and culture of a people. Dickens, most prolific of all, with punger names for his characters, has made it only with "Fagin."

Dean Swift provided us with "Yahoo" in "Gulliver's Travels," but the word is used mostly by intellectuals, and has never made its way into the mainstream of speech. Likewise, Gilbert's "Pooh-Bah" from "The Mikado" had a great vogue 50 years ago, but has not maintained its popularity.

Karl Capek did much better in his play, "R. U. R.," when his name, "Robot," for a mechanical man, soon gained international usage. And, of course, Mrs. Shelley's "Frankenstein" is securely lodged in the English tongue but in a curiously inverted fashion. "Frankenstein" has come to mean the monster itself, when it was really the name of its student creator. Mrs. Shelley gave the monster no name at all.

Stevenson rang the bell twice with one stroke in his "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," which we still use to describe a wildly split personality; and even so minor an author as P. G. Wodehouse filled a real verbal need with "Jeeves," whose name embodies the quintessence of the upper British servant, a species fast vanishing from the contemporary scene.

Sheridan's "Mrs. Malaprop" still lives, and so does Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe," for any man stranded alone Rabelais's giant, "Gargantua" has become a standard adjective, and "Lethario" is all we remember of that author's mediocre output. "Lolita," if she lasts, will be joining a small and select company of fictional characters.

United States itself, but invaded and sanitized all the same.

If the verdict is that Cuba is only a defensive lodgment of Communism, the present slow course of trying to isolate and cut down Cuba by measures short of war will only continue.

Washington Report

By William S. White (c) United Feature Syndicate

CUBA INVESTIGATION Washington - An inquiry of enormous implications into the exact present military position in Castro Cuba is about to be opened by the Senate through one of its elite bodies. This is the preparedness subcommittee headed by Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi.

There are Senate investigations and there are Senate investigations. Some are disruptive headline safaris, inflaming public feeling and smearing honest people on the basis of "verdict first - evidence later." Some are of the finest quality - careful, fair, searching, pitiless but not petty, vigorous but not virulent.

Also certainly, on its record, the inquiry into Cuba to be made shortly by Stennis's preparedness