

Medford Mail Tribune
Published Daily except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
23 North Fir St. Ph. 772-6141
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Stroessner's Paraguay

Paraguay since 1900 has had 42 presidents, including four in one year. However, since Gen. Alfredo Stroessner seized power in 1954, the land-locked, subtropical country about the size of California has had only one president. The formula was simple; Stroessner was unopposed in 1954 and 1958 elections.

In this Sunday's election Stroessner is allowing the opposition to put up a candidate—a 63-year-old attorney, Dr. Ernesto Gavilan. Even he says: "I don't think we have the slightest chance of winning."

PARAGUAY in many respects is a sort of musical comedy Latin American state. It has refused to follow to its sister nations into the 20th Century. South of the Rio Grande today full-fledged dictators hold sway only in Haiti, Cuba, and Paraguay.

The custom of arbitrary rule is more firmly established in Paraguay than in any other Latin American country. It has been under military or civilian dictatorship almost continuously since it became independent in 1811.

It is hard to get facts from the outside about Stroessner's Paraguay. For that matter it is not easy inside, apparently. One correspondent for a North American newspaper writes of seeing innocent students horse-whipped in the streets and political prisoners, also under the lash, splitting rocks by hand for the streets of Asuncion.

HIS guide tells of the "Pena Hermosa, the Chaco island concentration camp where death is as common as leprosy." But a few months later an equally responsible observer from the United States reports: "A reliable foreign diplomat told me that he sought in vain for evidence of a concentration camp in Paraguay."

Certainly Paraguay is no hothouse of democracy. Its press is controlled—although some papers are allowed to criticize the regime. Between 40 and 50 per cent of the national budget goes to the military and the police. The army is reported to control contraband operations from Puerto Stroessner to Uruguay's free port Nueva Palmira.

Stroessner in 1954 decreed a state of siege which has been renewed every 90 days since. The government has been called "the most extreme case of predatory praetorianism in all of Latin America."

DESPITE his tight rule, Stroessner has received dribbles of aid from the United States that may have helped to keep him in power. Of \$1 million in military aid allocated for Paraguay in the past 12 years—through June 30, 1962—some \$600,000 has been delivered. Another \$800,000 is allocated for fiscal year 1963. Other post-war aid through last June came to about \$44 million.

Why support this mild-mannered little dictator? The most obvious reason is that although his party is named Colorado, or reddish, he is staunchly anti-Communist. The Communist party was outlawed in October, 1955. And while other Latin American nations were backing and filling embarrassingly in the Cuban crisis, Stroessner's government announced its immediate and unqualified support of President Kennedy's stand.

A less pragmatic reason may be a better one. Stroessner is bringing democratic institutions to Paraguay, albeit at a glacial pace. The alternative to Stroessner probably would be Paraguay's accustomed chaos. In any event, for the past few years the general-dictator-president has been echoing this theme: "We are progressing and will soon be ready for the luxury of democracy."—E.R.R.

Shot Guns and Seals

Preserving the fauna of the seas against the avarice of man can be a discouraging task. Excessive whaling, for example, has so depleted this great resource as to threaten the survival of some species—conventions, treaties and pacts notwithstanding.

Now comes a report that Japan is preparing to press for open-seas (pelagic) sealing when the United States, Canada, the Soviet Union, and Japan sit down in Tokyo Monday to consider changes in the four-power seal treaty.

Seal catching on the open seas has been prohibited since 1911, when such thoughtless slaughter had reached the point where fewer than 25,000 Pribilof seals remained. Today, seals bred on those American islands in the eastern Bering Sea are estimated to number 1.5 million. About 100,000 are harvested on the rookeries there every summer by humane and selective methods. The Soviets harvest 11,000 seals from a small 200,000-member herd on their islands of Commander and Robben in the North Pacific.

"I'm Brodminded—I'm Just As Willing To Work For A Democracy"



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.

These inadequacies were already corrected through the use of regularly budgeted funds, such as four additional classrooms built at the high school and junior high school last summer, the acquiring of an option for the purchase of additional land area at the Talented Junior High school, and the grading and resurfacing of playground areas at all schools. A building program to correct the crowded physical education and lunchroom facilities will be placed before the people as soon as the settlement of school boundary issues clears the legality of a bond issue. The report indicated no overcrowded conditions in academic classroom areas that were not immediately remedied.

We also wish to point out that the bonds for the Phoenix High school will be retired in 1964. The money raised for the annual bond and interest payments to retire this bond issue can then be used to finance the proposed building needs, so there would be little, if any, rise in the district tax levy for the completion of the necessary building program for the Phoenix School district. It is but fair and just to point out that we were to consolidate with District 549C, whose levy is already 4 1/2 mills above that of Phoenix, the additional tax requirements for the Medford building program would increase the levy for the consolidated district several mills more. This would mean, for Phoenix and Talent residents, a material increase in taxes above what they are now paying.

The Phoenix-Talent school board has publicized that portion of the report attesting to the quality and progress of its educational program. Building recommendations of the report have been studied by the school board, and their plans for building improvement will be brought before the people of the district at the proper time.

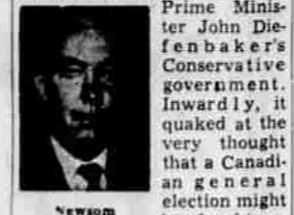
Value of New Law
To the Editor: Sunday was a happy day for us, even though we had to fight our way out of the frost and rain softened driveway to the paved road, that is such a long, long way from the "stakey" roads of pioneer times, thanks awfully to your efficient Jackson county road department second to none in all Oregon that might include contiguous states.

As for your trip to the South Seas, Ray, let me be the first to wish you a Bon Voyage!
W. L. Stevens Jr.
52 West Vilas rd.
Central Point

Editorial Reply
To the Editor: In reply to an editorial in the Medford Mail Tribune of Sunday, February 3, 1963, the Phoenix-Talent school board wishes it to be known that the full contents of the report of the Bureau of Educational Research of a year ago regarding the school building needs of the district were not fully publicized because (1) the patrons of the district already realize the need for physical education, lunchroom, and vocational agricultural facilities, and were aware that plans were ready to correct these conditions as soon as the boundary harassments which block a school bond issue were discontinued, (2) some of

State Department Quakes at Thought of Canadian Election Fought on U.S. Issue

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst
Officially, the U.S. State Department had "no comment" on the fall of Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker's Conservative government.



Inwardly, it quaked at the very thought that a Canadian general election might be fought on the issue of U.S. intervention in Canadian affairs.

Diefenbaker, a master at emotional oratory, promised to play down anti-Americanism but said the question of foreign domination certainly would be an issue in the election which would be the second for Canada within less than a year. For an emotional subject among Canadians he scarcely could pick a better one.

Past Performance
As for Washington, it had only to look at history. Three low points in U.S.-Canadian relations—in 1891, in 1911 and in 1937—were sparked by charges or fears of U.S. domination.

In 1937, Diefenbaker upset predictions and rode to power in a campaign liberally larded with suggestions that U.S. dollars were taking over the Canadian economy.

In the year before, Canada's trade deficit with the United States had amounted to \$1.29 billion. But at the same time, U.S. investments in Canada were spiraling sharply upward.

From a comparatively modest \$2 billion invested in 1929, by the end of 1957 the sum totalled \$8.6 billion. In 1960, it was \$10.2 billion.

Income tax payments to the Canadian government from these investments in 1957 came to \$800 million and the companies involved employed more than half a million Canadian workers.

But what concerned the nationalists most was the fact that U.S. money had taken over a heavy proportion of Canada's natural resources—75 per cent of her oil and gas and half of her mining.

Ties With Britain
Early in his career as prime minister, Diefenbaker called upon Canadians to shift 15 per cent of their U.S. purchase orders to British suppliers in order that Britain, in turn, could have an increased ability to buy Canadian wheat.

Under Diefenbaker there have been measures to restrict the flow of foreign investments, which necessarily hit the U.S. hardest.

As a prairie lawyer, Diefenbaker gained a reputation for his ability to use the emotional appeal. As a prime minister he also has gained a reputation as a man indecisive on matters requiring a quick decision.

It was Diefenbaker's indecision on the question of nuclear weapons for Canada that brought the U.S. challenge and Diefenbaker's charge of "unwarranted intrusion in Canadian affairs."

Washington Report

By William S. White
(c) United Feature Syndicate

Washington—Much more is going on inside than would appear from the outside as Britain re-groups after the torpedoing of De Gaulle's France of British efforts to enter the European common market.

England, as so often in her long history, is seemingly down—but very far from down. And, as so often before, she is not without cool diplomatic resources in this seemingly disastrous setback.

True, her present exclusion from the continent of Europe is little less than an economic and political Dunkirk, brought about by the same France whose massive but reluctant forces broke and left British troops naked to Nazi fire on the beaches of that first, and literal, Dunkirk.

But the new British strategy, if not yet wholly fixed, turns first of all on the policy of saying little but doing much. The British counter-attack to General De Gaulle will not be frontal; rather, he is to be flanked.

IT may be said on highly competent authority that Britain now means to do the following: To draw ever closer, politically and in defense matters, to Italy and to the other associates of De Gaulle in the common market—West Germany, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg—all of which are unhappy at France's harsh veto of British membership.

There is, however, serious concern that his dreams of "grandeur" might cause him so to overestimate the real power of this "third force" as to put all the West in danger from a Russian antagonist who would have no difficulty whatever in evaluating the true limits of that power.

There is a concern, in short, that a part of the West might one day be thinking of sending a boy to do a man's job with a very tough fellow, Nikita Khrushchev.

Now, to avoid all these possibilities, and also for their own vital interests, the British figure they desperately require the continued friendship of the five within the six. This is why they speak comparatively softly about De Gaulle. They want no all-out rupture because they fear that if the five were abruptly forced into a simple, either-or position between France and Britain, the five might have to choose De Gaulle because of their immediate economic interests in staying with him.

It is astonishing how many women utterly fail to comprehend that what shows in their mouths and eyes can totally cancel out the effect of their clothes and their cosmetics. In fact, the better groomed and the more carefully made-up, the greater the contrast between their external appearance and their inner appeal.

Such women spend billions every year on devices and decorations to improve their figures and their looks—yet if the mouth is resentful and discontented, if the eyes are greedy and calculating, all of their vast expenditures of money and energy and time might as well have been tossed down the drain.

This is especially true of older women, who unmistakably reveal in their eyes and mouths the way they have coped with life, the adjustments of maladjustments they have made, the philosophy they live by, the attitudes they have adopted toward men and other women and status and possessions and the whole fabric of their emotional experience.

If such adjustments and attitudes have been healthy and honest and generous and humorous and compassionate, then the figure and the clothes become wholly subordinate to the personality; after awhile, we see nothing but the spirit shining out from such a person.

Contrariwise, if the emotional structure has been ravaged by envy or petulance or self-pity or excessive vanity, then the expensive and well-tailored clothes, the impeccable make-up and hair-styling seem like a clown's costume, showing up in pitiless contrast the bitter mouth and the tortured eyes that disclose a basic dissatisfaction with one's self and with the world.

GOING ON INSIDE

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Word Reaching Washington on Gov. Rhodes Reported Good

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International
Washington—The word reaching Washington on Republican Gov. James Rhodes of Ohio is good. The good word on Rhodes comes via two channels, the political grapevine and reprints of editorials appearing in Ohio newspapers.

Editorial approval of Rhodes' performance in office so far probably is the more important. But the grapevine reports are much more interesting. The grapevine word is that Ohio's new Republican governor is a real pro. He talks the politicians' language. He is an organization man and tough.

The grape vine is describing Rhodes as a Republican Harry S. Truman. That is high praise for any politician. Harry Truman may have been the best Democratic politician ever to occupy the White House until John F. Kennedy came along. Rhodes is earthy, like HST.

The political Nice Nellies may not embrace Rhodes. But there is the beginning now of a love affair between the political pros and the governor

of Ohio. This recalls Leo Durocher's crack: "Nice guys finish last. The reference to Rhodes with the most socko impact is that he is a Republican Harry Truman. The Republican party would be better off today if HST had not been born a Democrat.

The editorial report on Rhodes is that he is doing a man's job on Ohio finances. The great state of Ohio has been living it up under Democratic auspices. Private accountants audited the books and told Rhodes Ohio was about \$83 million in the red. The Columbus Dispatch remarked editorially on what happened next; a 9.1 per cent spending cut in all departments. This was to overcome a spending rate prevailing at about \$53 million more than income. The Dispatch said: "Steps, considered drastic by some and practical by others, especially taxpayers who have watched the state go deeper into debt despite high taxes, already have been taken by the new administration to effect solvency."

"The Rhodes administration deserves to be commended for the bold, forthright action it took to bring order to Ohio's financial house."

The Columbus Citizen-Journal was equally enthusiastic,

Strictly Personal

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

NOTICE IN WOMEN
A magazine I was reading in the barber shop not long ago asked a dozen prominent men in various fields, "What do you first notice in a woman?" Some of the answers, of course, were suggestively facetious, and others were solemn; but the only reply that showed any real insight was made by Oleg Cassini, the dress designer.

He did not mention the figure or the posture or the clothes or any other superficial aspect that might be expected from one connected with costuming. He said, rather: "What I notice first about a woman is her mouth, then her eyes. Her mouth tells me how she feels about herself. Her eyes say how she feels about other people—including me."

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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

Feb. 8, 1953 (Friday)
A 500-foot earth slide near Toketee falls last night swept five men down a hillside above the Clearwater river in Douglas county; a Medford man was killed and two other men, one of them from Medford, are still missing.

A jury's verdict of innocent was returned shortly before noon today for two valley men who had been charged with assault with a dangerous weapon.

20 YEARS AGO

Feb. 8, 1943 (Wednesday)
Medford building and construction work down 40 per cent from 1941 because of war emergency.

Dr. R. Franklin Thompson, president of College of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Wash., slated to be main speaker at annual Lincoln club banquet.

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 8, 1933 (Friday)
Members of Jackson county "Good Government Congress" adopt resolution calling on President Herbert Hoover to "re-establish law and order in the county."

William Ulrich, 75, pioneer resident of southern Oregon, dies after lengthy illness.

40 YEARS AGO

Feb. 8, 1923 (Saturday)
Ashland sanatorium gutted by fire; damage is estimated at \$10,000.

Dr. J. W. Morrow, Portland, national Democratic committeeman from Oregon, predicts Sen. Charles McNary will be defeated in 1924 election, during brief stop in Medford.

50 YEARS AGO

Feb. 8, 1913 (Monday)
Rogue valley orchardists request that County Judge Frank TouVelle proclaim one day as "squirrel poisoning day."

Sheriff Singler announces that Jackson county residents can pay their taxes at their local bank "as usual."

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.
1. Persons born between Feb. 19 and Mar. 20 are born under which sign of the Zodiac?
2. Correct the following: "Only one of all those players were properly dressed."
3. Are the male or female birds of most species the more brightly colored?
4. When is Maundy Thursday observed?
5. Is cedar, oak, or pine wood generally used for making lead pencils?
6. General Montcalm fell in the defense of what city in North America?
7. What doctrine forbids European powers from intervening in American affairs?
8. What is the Capital of Liberia?
9. Is Carl Sandburg famous for his poetry, play-writing or photography?
10. Which would you eat, and what would you do with the other: Jerky and J. rkin?
Answers: 1. Pisces, 2. ... was properly dressed," 3. Male, 4. Thursday before Easter, 5. Cedar, 6. Quebec, 7. Monroe, 8. Monrovia, 9. Poetry, 10. Eat the jerky; wear the J. rkin.