

MEDFORD 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 April 7, 1953 (Tuesday)

Adverse weather conditions along the coast this morning prevented resumption of a search from the Medford airport for a missing plane.

20 YEARS AGO April 7, 1943 (Wednesday)

President Franklin Roosevelt sends name of Millard W. Grubb to senate as nominee for Ashland postmaster job.

30 YEARS AGO April 7, 1933 (Thursday)

First "legal" beer arrives in Medford; council authorizes 39 places to sell beer in city limits; great rush of customers reported.

40 YEARS AGO April 7, 1923 (Friday)

County to double capacity of fairgrounds grandstand and build horse race track.

50 YEARS AGO April 7, 1913 (Sunday)

"Concert of Europe in dire danger" as Montenegro defies mandate of major powers and starts attack on Serbia.

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

- 1. Is the length of daylight between sunrise and sunset now increasing, or decreasing? 2. What is the longest river in all of Europe? 3. What does Medinat Israel mean? 4. In which of Shakespeare's plays are Olivia and Viola characters? 5. An encephalogram is an X-ray of what part of the human body? 6. What great American statesman died Dec. 14, 1799? 7. How many feet are there in a fathom? 8. What is the title of the member of the U. S. Senate chosen to preside over its sessions when the Vice-President is absent or serving as President? 9. Do beavers use their tails as trowels in building dams? 10. In the Bible, through what sea did the Israelites walk dry-shod? Answers: 1. Increasing, 2. The Volga, 3. Republic of Israel, 4. Twelfth Night, 5. Brain, 6. George Washington, 7. Six, 8. President pro tempore, 9. No, 10. Red Sea.

A Sales Tax Vote?

Oregon voters have, time after time, turned down a sales tax. Would they do so again today?

The editor of the Pendleton East Oregonian isn't so sure that they would, provided the right sort of proposal is made — one in which substantial property tax relief were offered. And he suggests that it is time we found out whether Oregon taxpayers would, again, reject a sales tax.

There is only one way to do that, and it is for the Oregon legislature to pass a sales tax measure and refer it to the people.

THERE are signs and portents that, just possibly, Oregonians might go for a sales tax.

It has been mentioned, quietly and briefly, in the legislative halls this year, but so far no serious consideration has been given it. Most legislative leaders believe that Oregon's immediate fiscal problems can be handled within the framework of the income tax structure, with, perhaps, an assist from a cigarette tax (which, of course, is merely a one-product sales tax—as is the gasoline tax).

But the property tax, now devoted exclusively to local units of government, principally school districts, has reached a point where it is oppressive, discriminatory, and in many cases, unjust. The income tax, too, is about as high as it can reasonably go.

BUT the financial needs of the state have not stopped increasing. They will increase even faster in the coming decade, what with increasing school populations and the flood of students knocking at the doors of our colleges and universities.

But with the two chief sources of state revenue at or near the saturation mark, we have our doubts whether the taxpayers will sit still for further increases.

A sales tax, designed to bring in more money for the state's needs while at the same time offering a measure of relief to property, and perhaps income, taxpayers, just might have a chance of approval at the polls — particularly if the citizens of the state are fully aware of the need for more state revenues.

WE DO not necessarily advocate a sales tax. But if it can be sold to the people, it would provide a third source of revenue. The Pendleton editor says:

"We have been certain for a long time that a sales tax was inevitable in Oregon. It's only a matter of time until Oregon will have to get the third horse out of the barn and put it into harness with the other two, income and property taxes.

"We see much to recommend Gov. Hatfield's approach to the state's income problem. We like it better than the proposal that the federal income tax be removed as a deduction in the computation of the state income tax. But, above all else, we'd like to see Oregonians given the opportunity to accept or reject a sales tax, part of which would be used as a property tax offset. We don't understand legislators who oppose giving the voters that opportunity."

Perhaps the time has come for another decision by the voters on the type of tax structure they prefer.—E. A.

Dilemma of Death

Speaking of statewide votes, it's beginning to look as though the voters once again will be asked to pass on capital punishment in Oregon. The Senate has passed a bill calling for such an election, and the House may well follow suit.

If this happens, it will pose a tough problem for Governor Mark O. Hatfield.

There are at this writing at least four persons in the Oregon penitentiary under death sentence. Barring delays, each would be scheduled for execution before the matter could be voted on in November, 1964.

THE Governor opposes capital punishment, personally. But he also has declared his intention of letting the law take its course in those cases where no new evidence, or circumstances not known at the trial, comes to light.

He will, in short, "follow the law" in letting a condemned prisoner die. But, in the case that the legislature calls for a vote on capital punishment, what is "the law"?

Obviously, the Governor would be within his rights in letting each of the condemned persons (one is a woman) go to the gas chamber. But with the possibility that the voters may reject capital punishment, could he conscientiously do so?

HE WOULD have three things to decide between. The first is the mandatory death penalty for those convicted of first degree murder where the jury does not recommend leniency. The second is that clause in the Oregon Constitution declaring the laws for the punishment of crime shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and "not of vindictive justice."

The third factor would be an indecision as to the wishes of the electorate. When last voted on, in 1958, capital punishment was retained by a scant 12,000 votes, and sentiment could well have changed sufficiently since then to cause it to be voted out in 1964.

What a spot to be in—with the lives of four people depending on your judgment, your conscience, and your sense of duty.—E.A.

His Master's Voice



ITEM: HEARING ON PROGRAM RATINGS DISCLOSES THAT ONE SAMPLED RADIO WAS ALWAYS KEPT ON TO AMUSE THE DOG WHEN NOBODY WAS HOME.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

IN GOLD STORAGE

Brussels-The Foreign Ministers of the nations of the European Common Market have just met here "to start again," as the Belgian minister, Paul-Henri Spaak hopefully put it.



Alsop

markedly cordial, in view of the hard feelings left behind by Gen. de Gaulle's brutal intervention in January. A round of tariff slashing was easily agreed upon. And all listened, with seeming approval, to a plea by the German minister, Gerhard Schroeder, for a resumption of European progress.

Schroeder pleaded, above all, against anyone's adopting the system of "we won't do that unless you do this first." No one objected, but in the course of his subsequent speech, the French minister, Maurice Couve de Murville, gently observed that it would be difficult to begin the "Kennedy round" of talks about external trade unless Europe's common agricultural policy had been completed first.

No one inquired what Couve de Murville meant by this quiet observation, no doubt because everyone feared to hear, in blunt terms, that Schroeder's previous plea had fallen on deaf ears. For the truth of the matter is that the European Common Market is highly unlikely to "begin again" for a long time to come.

TALKS here with the leading Eurocrats, as they now call the chief supra-national officials of the Common Market, have revealed a central point of great interest which is not well understood in the United States. This point in turn explains why the Common Market is now "in cold storage," as one of the Eurocrats actually put it.

The point is that the great check to the Common Market was not the failure of the British application to join. Among the Eurocrats themselves, opinions differ rather widely about the nature of British intentions at the moment when Gen. de Gaulle interposed his veto.

The Dutch member of the commission, the able Dr. Sicco Mansholt, is still convinced that the British were on the eve of making the further major concessions needed to admit them under the terms of the Rome treaty. Dr. Mansholt's colleagues are by no means so sure that this was so.

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IN ANY case, if the British had not made the needed concessions, and the British application had failed as a result, there would have been no real check to the Common Market. The check occurred for a quite different reason—because Gen. de Gaulle abruptly asserted his unyielding and haughty nationalism in the bosom of this community dedicated to and dependent upon the elimination of narrow European nationalism.

De Gaulle's assertion and the Common Market's aim are quite simply contradictory and inconsistent. You cannot hope for growth of an international community which depends squarely on every member nation's taking a community viewpoint rather than a narrow, nationalistic viewpoint, when one of the community's strongest members is obstinately and even passionately nationalistic.

Or rather, such an international community cannot go forward in these conditions unless the community's other members are always willing to bow to the will of the nationalistic member. In a polite way, German Foreign Minister Schroeder's speech warned the French against hoping for this result. The plain truth is that the other five European powers are flatly unwilling to accept French hegemony.

THE resulting climate is suggested by an authentic story that is going the rounds here, about an interview between the No. 1 Eurocrat, Dr. Walter Hallstein, and the French permanent representative to the Common Market commission, Jean-Marc Boegner.

Boegner, who is a convinced Gaullist, reportedly remarked with some bitterness that the French would put forward no further proposals of their own at this time, because anything the French said would be given a "simpler interpretation" by everyone else. To which Hallstein replied drily, "You are quite right."

This is the real heart of the matter. In the past, the Common Market surmounted great obstacles because its members worked together in a spirit of mutual trust, mutual understanding, and mutual concession. Great obstacles were in fact surmounted precisely because this spirit persisted for so long. Gen. de Gaulle has made a mockery of this former European spirit. It no longer exists, and this is far more important than de Gaulle's anti-British veto.



It's just an old-fashioned, military, dictatorial, extreme right-wing Latin-American coup. How soon can expect recognition?

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann (c) 1963, The Washington Post

A GERMAN SPEAKS UP

A very interesting turn in European affairs took place a week ago. Little attention has been paid to it in this country, but there is a big to-do about it in the German newspapers.



Lippmann

Speaking to the European parliament, which meets in Strasbourg, he warned Germany and France in the name of the commission of which he is the president that Bonn and Paris should not ratify the Gaullist-Adenauer pact of friendship without disclaiming the intent to set up an inner alliance within the European community of the six.

It was evident as soon as the pact was published some three months ago that one of its purposes was to arrange it so that the Common Market would be run by a Franco-German combination dominated by General de Gaulle. For the pact obliges Paris and Bonn to consult and reach "as far as possible a similar position" in European affairs.

Paris and Bonn would control the Common Market. For Italy and the Benelux countries would have little power and influence as compared with a Franco-German combination.

THIS, said Dr. Hallstein in his Strasbourg speech, is contrary to the spirit, if not to the letter, of the Treaty of Rome, which is the charter of the Common Market. It is apparent from the German newspapers, of which I have seen excerpts, that the Hallstein speech has evoked a wide response among Germans.

Anyone who has been recently to Germany, or has talked with Germans visiting Washington, knows that for the most part West Germans are very uneasy about the Gaullist conception of Europe. They want reconciliation with France. But they do not wish to be forced into a break with Great Britain, with the Scandinavian countries and, least of all, with the United States.

It would be undesirable, I think, to have the Paris-Bonn pact fall entirely. Good feeling between the French and the German nations is most important for the stability and peace of Europe. But it is difficult to see how the Germans are to stay with the French and at the same time remain close to the English-speaking countries. There will be many headaches in Germany over this dilemma.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From San Francisco: The alleged international credit card spending of a burly former San Carlos policeman came to an unglorious end in San Mateo county jail.

NOTE TO JFK: That's what comes of spending and spending and SPENDING—and putting it on the cuff.

FROM Chicago: An industrialist involved in advanced electronics and space problems said yesterday that money may become an out-of-date item in tomorrow's complex society.

Simon Ramo, board vice-chairman of Thompson Ramo Woolridge, Inc., said that INTELECTRONICS—the extension of human intellect by electronics—may well have a vital influence on society in coming years, drastically changing current methods.

Whether we buy a necktie, a home or a car, our THUMBPRINT in front of an electronic scanner will identify us to the central electronics system, which will subtract the amount from our account and add it to the seller's, the government meanwhile taking out its cut.

It's getting to be a fancy, fancy world—and as an antediluvian believer in the ancient theory that those who spend less than they earn are the happiest in the long run I'm beginning to feel horribly lonesome.

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Sevareid

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MOVING PICTURE HOUSES There have been a number of elegantly named theaters in Medford over the years, including the "Savoy," "Isis," "Studio," "State," "It," and "Page." Before pictures learned to talk, parents would impatiently whisper sub-titles to children too young to read as they watched such nail-chewing, cliff hangers as "The Perils of Pauline," "Exploits of Elaine," and "The Million Dollar Mystery."

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On another occasion, the Craterian was packed with patrons as they watched a Martin and Osa Johnson jungle film. An eager youngster, intent on "sneaking in," stuck his leg through the high ceiling of the theater causing considerable excitement. The shower of plaster and the yelping of the frightened youngster did much to divert the attention of the audience from the rather dull scene of a boa constrictor squeezing the very dickens out of a zebra.

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TV Scoffers Epitomize England's Mood

By ERIC SEVAREID

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and the best of Greenwich Village all compressed into one package and exploding like an anti-personnel grenade, maiming every public personality, institution or item of conventional wisdom within range. It is without precedent or equivalent and, to one who grew up with the former, or maiden-aunt, BBC, downright awe-inspiring in its audacity. It strips, stabs, and slanders the most portentous personalities in the world; its ribaldry is not just suggestive, but specific.

Its bite is deep and rabid. During my visit to TWTWTW, it slashed Mother's Day and mumism into lace ribbons, accused the Home Secretary, who has refused asylum to Robert Soblen and others, of murder; it showed two black Africans eating sandwiches containing "Dr. Livingston, I presume!" it portrayed (by Peter O'Toole) a white bearded De Gaulle, 40 years from now, crowning himself king of "French Catholic Europe."

It can go on because the BBC is a remarkable institution, because semi-anonymous youngsters, not established personalities, do most of it, because anything on view long enough somehow is accepted by the populace, and because whoever it was who first said the British have no sense of humor never understood that underneath the

dilemma. She must attach herself to something greater and growing. If Europe will not have her, if her Commonwealth is drifting away in parcels because she can no longer either protect or succor it, then she can turn only to the United States in some new form of relationship. Pretty certainly, Macmillan's Conservatives will not be in power a year from now to make the effort, and the prime minister presumptive, Harold Wilson of the Labor Party, happened to acquire his party leadership by support from its left wing, including the America-detesting fellow travelers.

Wilson is cagey, adept as a sail-trimmer. He is not as tough and decisive a personality as President Kennedy. Kennedy should be able to dominate their future relationship Wilson's left-wing permitting, that is, if Wilson cannot cozen the left-wing into permission, the prospect will be for further stalemate and indecision, and out of this can yet come, in Britain, a governing mood of neutralism. That is the pale flag flown by "That Was the Week That Was," if it can be said to fly any flag at all, save the banner inscribed with its heraldic motto, "Nuts."

Britain today suffers the more specific problem of finding the way out of her own

That Was the Week That Was" offers nothing "constructive" of course; it represents intellectual nihilism, something akin to the normal, historical phenomenon in defeated, diminished nations. The old boys it derides remain stuck with the ghastly problem of finding the way out of the world's dilemma.

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Upstairs at the Downstairs



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