

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 18, 1953 (Saturday) Construction of Medford television station KBES-TV will start Monday at the top of Blackwell Hill, three miles east of Gold Hill.

A reconvention meeting of the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers board of managers will be held in Medford next Monday.

20 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1943 (Sunday) Maj. Stephen Nye arrives in Medford on leave from New Orleans, La.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "All the signs of Spring have arrived but one. The weeds on not a single vacant lot have been suppressed by paving it for a service station."

30 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1933 (Monday) County court issued order prohibiting county judge from using county gasoline for personal travel.

Jackson county to get contingent of 1,000 Civilian corps men for work in forests.

40 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1923 (Tuesday) Tennis club organized in Medford by Harvey Fields.

Central Point has first milk delivery route in history of town.

50 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1913 (Thursday) Man leaps to death from top of local hotel building, during people en route home during noon hour witness jump.

No opposition reported to confirmation of C. L. Reames as United States district attorney for Oregon.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. In what profession is Thomas E. Dewey now engaged?
2. Who would win a fight between Sir Lancelot and Sir Galahad if the legend of the Round Table were true?
3. Would a taxonomist classify fish, staff animals or compute income tax for a living?
4. What "maketh a glad father" according to the Bible?
5. In what state is Bryce Canyon National Park?
6. What character in a novel lived at Tara?
7. Was Brazil a belligerent in both World War I and World War II?
8. In our slang what animal's name is used as an expression meaning to equivocate?
9. Which is larger in area—the Atlantic or the Pacific Ocean?
10. What is the name given to a geometric figure having an indefinite number of angles and sides?
Answers: 1. Lawyer; 2. Sir Lancelot who was invincible; 3. Classify fish; 4. "A wise son"; 5. Utah; 6. Scarlett O'Hara in "Gone With the Wind"; 7. Yes; 8. Weasel; 9. Pacific; 10. Polygon.

A Catholic View on Birth Control

A number of public opinion polls have indicated that a vast majority of the people of this country are in favor of birth control information being freely available, not only to citizens of the United States, but also to other nations which request it.

One of the "sensitive" areas in this debate has been the attitude of the Roman Catholic church.

But just what is the attitude of the church? It may not be as stringent and unwavering as many non-Catholics—or many Catholics themselves—are inclined to believe.

A DOCTOR—who is both a Catholic and an expert on fertility and birth control, and who helped develop the first oral contraceptive pill—writes in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post that the position of the church is far less granitic than is popularly assumed.

Many Catholic scholars, particularly the "modern" ones, point out that the church has long encouraged birth limitation in a variety of cases, including those where a family cannot reasonably support, or educate, or properly rear, additional children.

The difficulty is not, Dr. John Rock says, in objectives, but in methods. The Catholic teaching is against "artificial" methods of birth control, as opposed to "natural" ones.

THUS far, the church has looked with disapproval on the new oral contraceptives. But Dr. Rock sees some reason to hope that this attitude is not irreversible.

He said: "I am convinced that the church has not concluded its examination of the morality of the (oral contraceptives) when used for fertility control. The complex questions involved are still being studied, and the results are not clearly predictable."

In addition, Dr. Rock called for more intensive research to develop a variety of means for birth control, "suitable for use among peoples of many different social levels, cultural patterns and religious beliefs."

He called for the development of a "public policy of toleration," which accepts the fact that differences exist between religious groups on birth-control methods.

THIS is a highly encouraging article, coming as it does from a respected physician who also speaks for some elements of his church.

The thing which has violently irritated too many non-Catholics is the fact that Catholic teachings have been often declared to apply to non-Catholics as well as church members, as stemming from the "natural law," as interpreted by Catholic theologians.

Even here, however, Dr. Rock points out that modern Catholic theological studies are having an influence on the interpretation of the "natural law," and could in time lead to far different interpretation of some of the present doctrines.

IN ANY event, his call for a "policy of toleration" is a welcome one. No one, at this stage, wants to force birth control methods on any one. By the same token, no one who believes in their importance and value is going to accept current Catholic teachings as to the immorality of such methods.

Dr. Rock concluded his article with this paragraph:

"Our nation still has time to throw its rich resources and skills into a constructive and comprehensive program to help mankind bring its overabundant fertility under the limits of rational control. The more rapidly we exercise our option, the better for all of us."

We hope the Congress and the Administration take due notice of this thoughtful and constructive article.—E.A.

Sales Tax Vote Looms

No one expected the sales tax bill to pass the Oregon House of Representatives the other day. But no one expected it to be defeated by such a narrow (31-29) margin, either. If they had, the tax committeemen, who confidently expected the measure to die a quick and easy death, probably would have had second thoughts about sending it to the floor.

This, coupled with the avowed intention of some school people to initiate a sales tax program, embodying school support and property tax relief, makes it almost inevitable that the voters will be asked to pass on a sales tax within the next few years.

WE ARE reminded by the Eugene Register-Guard that no vote on a sales tax has been held in Oregon for 18 1/2 years — or 20 years come next general election time.

The R-G added:

"A 1944 vote is hardly meaningful. In 1944, everybody was working. Incomes were high. The income tax rate was low. We had almost nothing to spend money for. The higher education establishment was largely deserted. Welfare was a very minor item. There was no basic school support program then. Building was out of the question. Oregon was at war, and Oregon got along fine that biennium on an appropriation of only \$24 million. This Legislature is talking in terms of a \$400 million budget, sixteen times the size of that for 1943-44."

"By 1964 one of two things will have happened. The income tax will be really hurting, if the Legislature digs up as much money as we need. Or state services will not be up to the standard Oregon residents want. Possibly, the two factors will combine to make Oregon voters realize we can't go on this way much longer."

We stick our neck out and predict that we'll be voting on a sales tax before too long. And probably high time.—E.A.

"Some Day We'll Have To Get This Thing Finished"



Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

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THE HARDEST PROBLEM Vienna — Gen. de Gaulle is quoted by those closest to him as arguing that the heavy cost of the French nuclear striking force is a positive benefit to France.

The argument is certainly unexpected. It is well to bear in mind because of the recurrence of nonsensical reports of a French loss of stomach for an independent nuclear effort. And if you think about it, this unexpected argument is also intensely Gaullist.

The point is that the nation is the sacred, dominating conception in de Gaulle's political thought. The nation, so he believes, tends to lose its national identity when it shirks the essential effort of national self-defense. And a defense effort, great enough to cause a certain strain can beneficially intensify the sense of nationhood.

AS ALWAYS with this strange great man, there is a kernel of truth in his argument. Of course, it remains to be seen whether the French people will agree with de Gaulle that the pain is downright bracing and beneficial, when the effort required to create a French "force de frappe" becomes really painful — as it must soon become. At any rate, as long as de Gaulle is in power, no expense will be spared.

Meanwhile, it is necessary to face the hard fact that de Gaulle is almost certainly a portrait of the European future. The renewal of pride and independence which de Gaulle symbolizes in France today must also be expected to occur in the other European nations as time goes on. In truth, de Gaulle both demands and signifies the end of the era of governess-America.

The real question is not whether de Gaulle is a portent, but how much of a portent he is. It is entirely possible, for instance, that de Gaulle's assertion of self-centered, rather domineering French nationalism will eventually be echoed in France's neighbor nations.

NATIONALISM, it must be remembered, is in the nature of an infectious disease. No one in the Gaullist circle in France seems to be thinking about this aspect of the matter. But the renewal of French nationalism can very easily reawaken German nationalism and Italian nationalism and so on and so on.

If this is to be the European future, it will be a dark future, and not just for the Europeans. Yet one can already see the first tiny symptoms in such things as the German attitude to the French "force de frappe."

All the scores of German leaders and officials this reporter saw in Bonn were eager for the opening of a Kennedy-de Gaulle dialogue. But when it was pointed out that the essential preliminary was Franco-American nuclear cooperation, every German leader and official was downright horrified.

The Germans cherish their reconciliation with the French, but they do not want the French preferred to them, in the nuclear field or any other field.

At present, however, a general revival of European nationalism is only a future danger, which can still be guarded against. The need is for the United States to go halfway to meet the renewal of European pride and independence. In order to do this, unfortunately, it is almost certainly necessary to tackle the nuclear problem head on.

AS Walter Lippmann has correctly pointed out, this hardest problem of the Western Alliance cannot be solved by gimmicks designed to give the European the sense of nuclear participation without the reality. But it is not safe, either, to go on talking academically about "non-proliferation" of deterrents and the need for only one hand on the trigger when de Gaulle is a portent, and proliferation is actually occurring in France.

If we do not choose to imitate the Athenians, who simply sent their fleet against recalcitrant allies, there is in fact only one solution of the West's hardest problem. The solution, publicly advocated the other day by Jean Monnet, is to create a truly European deterrent with American support.

As originally proposed by the Kennedy policy-makers, the so-called multilateral deterrent was a mere gimmick. The command arrangements gave the United States a negative control by veto, as well as providing so many other national vetoes that the multilateral deterrent's multilateral immobilization was forever insured.

But if the President accepts the German suggestion of control by a majority of the participating nations, this multilateral force will become the embryo of a truly European deterrent. It may not be the best way to do the job, but it is the best way that has been proposed so far. And as the President was the first to launch the scheme of a multilateral force, he will also suffer gravely if his idea does not succeed.



"Umpires do more for humanity than you realize — people need a way of getting rid of their natural aggressions during peace time!"

French-U.S. Relations Out of Freeze, But Differences in Policy Still Remain

By JOSEPH W. GRIGG United Press International Paris — President Charles de Gaulle is on speaking terms again with his allies. But there still seems to be no chance he will meet with President Kennedy this summer.

Last week's Paris talks between U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk and French leaders, including de Gaulle, did serve at least to take relations between the two countries out of the deep freeze in which they had been since de Gaulle vetoed Britain's entry into the European Common Market.

Rusk's meetings with de Gaulle, Premier Georges Pompidou and Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville were said to have been polite, friendly and in some respects almost cordial.

But both American and French officials agreed there was no change in the basic differences which have divided the United States and France.

In those circumstances, American and French officials saw no chance of de Gaulle meeting with Kennedy when the U.S. leader makes his European trip this summer.

As one responsible French official put it: "All they could do would be to repeat attitudes with which each is thoroughly familiar. It would be a waste of time for both."

Although American officials insisted after last week's meetings that U. S.-French relations are not really so bad after all, they conceded that the two countries are poles apart on two issues.

De Gaulle has made it clear that he will not let Britain join the Common Market at the moment. He also has convinced Washington

that, come what may, he will push ahead with his French nuclear force plan. There was very little discussion of either question in Paris last week, because the United States recognizes that de Gaulle will not back down or even make the slightest concession. But de Gaulle did make quite an effort to show he still is a convinced member of the Atlantic alliance.

This was a de Gaulle message directed as much at the Soviets as at the United States and Great Britain.

... 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.

The World Is Flat

To the Editor: A couple more letters in the Communications column on April 18, this time in answer to Hank DeVoss's article on the recent Game Commission meeting, attest to the fact that the "battle of the does" rages on.

Perhaps Mr. DeVoss's comment about listening to the people's opinions on game management was a rather harsh. He was pointing out, however, that the majority view is not always the correct one. At one time most people thought the world was flat and that the sun revolved around the earth. Apparently most laymen in this area think that shooting does is poor game management.

Whether or not it is rests not on what the majority believes, but on facts.

Speaking of facts, it is patently untrue that foresters and lumbermen would like to see all the elk and deer killed, as one writer states. Indeed, it would do a lot of people some good to talk to some foresters, most of whom, incidentally, are hunters themselves. They would then get some facts.

Further, they might try reading some literature on game management to find out what the biological basis of game management is, what research has revealed in this field, and what experiences other states have had with their game management policies.

I agree with you that the legislature makes a "lousy" State Highway Commission, and a "revolving horror" of a State Board of Higher Education. Likewise, the great mass of people, still in the "flat world" stage of game management knowledge, make a lousy Game Commission.

Edgar A. Kupillas, 1317 Winchester ave., Medford.

Figures Questioned

To the Editor: Hurrah for John Benson of Eagle Point! Now if all the other school districts had men (and women) who, like Mr. Benson, would seriously question these astronomic school budgets.

The school "administrators" have come a long way in the past 20 years. Now it has become a racket which the late Al Capone would have envied.

Social prestige should not be an issue (I don't know any other term so descriptive) in the hiring of a school superintendent or other administrator. His position as a teacher should be something for his neighbors to look up to. Now—before somebody gets his Irish up—I do not mean to deprive a teacher of an adequate income, definitely not. But his social position (everyone has one) should be based on his profession rather than his salary range.

Now Mr. Benson brought up the question that voters in all school districts should fully consider. He says that "at the budget hearing . . . we were told Central Point paid their superintendent \$15,000," but the published budget for Central Point stated "the Central Point superintendent salary is being RAISED to \$12,500." It sounds like a deliberate attempt to mislead the voters. I'll allow, it could be an innocent mistake but if so a monumental mistake of \$2,500. Maybe there are some other inflated budget estimates also in various district school budgets.

Floyd R. McCabe Butte Falls, Ore.

School Thefts

To the Editor: Are you people aware of the crime wave in Jackson county? I'm not referring to the everyday crimes which appear regularly in our local newspaper.

I feel, and believe that you will agree, that the thefts we are having in our own public schools are becoming a serious problem.

My own daughter, who is in the fifth grade, has had several pens, pencils, erasers, etc., taken from her desk since the beginning of the year. At first this didn't seem too important, but just a couple of months ago, she told her father and me that she had given her wrist watch to the P. E. teacher to keep during class, however, she forgot to get the watch before leaving. Next day when she returned for it, she found that it had been taken by someone

else. My husband paid a visit to the school and discussed it with the principal, and as yet the watch has not been returned or replaced.

The children in our schools are told to give their valuables to the teachers for safekeeping, and it seems right that the teacher so entrusted should lock these items up in an effort to prevent such a thing from happening.

Three of the first things I can remember my parents teaching me were not to lie, cheat or steal. These things I have tried to pass on to my children. I cannot help but think that perhaps some parents have neglected to do this. What will the future generation be like if the children continue to take things, no matter how small they may be? It will only lead to larger and more expensive articles.

So many times I've heard people ask what makes a child become a delinquent? A child that learns to steal in grade school certainly has a good start in becoming one.

Patricia Pellett 659 Herman ave. Medford.

Rx for a Chronic Condition

To the Editor: In the seven years I have lived in Medford, frequently I have noted letters in Communications, as well as articles by the Chamber of Commerce, evaluating the Rogue Valley as a superior place to live.

Admittedly, it is a geographical area upon which the gods have smiled. But, lest you think this is to be a panacea of praise, let me proceed to the phase of life in Medford which I still find baffling as an outsider (in which category I must still place myself). It is a little shocking to come here as a fairly attractive Caucasian in the middle-class economic bracket, and be rejected time without number by you dear natives.

To arrive with a friendly attitude and be met invariably by suspicion and hostility leads one to conclude that it is no wonder this Valley is becoming a fertile field for psychiatry, with more business (patients) than the few accredited people can handle. If you're interested, my diagnosis is that many of you suffer from "provincialitis," a disease manifested by a fear of strangers, an inferiority complex, a grim competitiveness and a complete lack of

Peace and Good Will To the Editor: Your excellent editorial, "Peace in Terrestrial," and my letter, "Incredible event," were mentioned in my church Sunday, and I thank you for printing it.

You are in touch with world events because of your profession much more than the common run of people whose main goal seems to be to have the dollars coming in on the collection plates and otherwise. You will notice as time goes on the world is slowly drifting towards the time when the knowledge of the Lord will cover the Earth as the waters cover the sea. (ISA 11:9. JOEL 2:28-29). Then will the children of men live in peace and good will. And hence the Pope's message to the world.

John F. Peterson 811 South Holly st. Medford

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The big news? The Chronicle, with its unerring instinct for what will sell papers, puts it this way, in black 120 point type spread across the top of the front page: 3RD CHILD FOR JACKIE.

THIS screamer is topped by a flyer in 48 point upper and lower case blackface announcing "Baby Due in August."

The bulk of the right-hand side of the front page is occupied by a feature captioned JACKIE EXPECTING, a d relating that although she has a history of miscarriage and both of her children were delivered by Caesarian section she is reported in good health and undergoing a normal pregnancy. The text is accompanied by a picture showing Mrs. Kennedy leading her son John Jr. to Easter services.

Carried over to Page 10, the story relates that because of the pregnancy it is not expected that Mrs. Kennedy will occupy the new house nearing completion in nearby Virginia — the first house the Kennedys have built since their marriage in 1953 — and adding that her pregnancy with John Jr. in 1960 prevented her from taking any active role in her husband's Presidential campaign.

Complete coverage of the story, you see — and CANDID. STRICTLY modern, you ask? It didn't used to be that way — in the Olden, Golden Days?

I'D LIKE to be able to answer in the affirmative. But history and tradition tell us otherwise. Let's go back to Tennyson and his idylls of the King, in which this passage occurs: "Wearing the white flower of a blameless life "Before a thousand peering littlenesses,

PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS wanted ALL the details. You can safely bet your bottom dollar that when a child was born in the White House to Frances Folsom Cleveland and her husband, President Grover Cleveland, the people of that day were just as eager for all the low-down as they are now in the case of the Kennedys and their latest expected.

THAT was some 14 centuries ago, as time is vaguely reckoned in the Arthurian Legends. But — The light that beat upon the throne of Camelot 14 centuries ago was just as fierce as the light that now beats upon the White House — the only difference being that back in Camelot there were no newspapers, no reporters, no radio, no TV.

One regrets to have to report that in the olden, golden days the lives of the Bigs were NEWS to us Littles, just as they are now. Human nature has apparently always been human nature.