

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

Registered voters of 23 Jackson county second and third class school districts will vote tonight on a total tax levy of \$775,003.32 in excess of the 6 per cent increase limit.

20 YEARS AGO

Patriotic parade and speeches by Camp White officers to mark Medford observance of African Victory day May 19.

30 YEARS AGO

Mining boom sends many gold diggers into Applegate area. Many local residents protest price of 10 cents a glass for beer.

40 YEARS AGO

Capitol Hill district is swept by hail storm. Minneapolis Symphony orchestra to appear at Page theater in Medford.

50 YEARS AGO

Sen. George E. Chamberlain pledges that national road will serve southern Oregon area.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. Its monetary unit is the Gourde, its population is 3 1/2 million, its people speak French and it occupies the western third of the island known as Hispaniola; what is the country's name?

- 2. Of what country is Port-au-Prince the capital? 3. Which of the world's continents is the largest? 4. From what country does the United States import the most coffee? 5. Do race horses on U.S. tracks run clockwise or counter-clockwise? 6. Is the capital of Georgia Savannah, Atlanta, or Augusta? 7. Is hematology the study of hemostating, debating, or blood? 8. Did Italy surrender to the Allies in September of 1942, 1943, or 1944? 9. Is Jal Alai something to eat, a greeting, or a game? 10. Which is lighter, balsu or cork? Answers: 1. Haiti, 2. Haiti, 3. Asia, 4. Brazil, 5. Counter-clockwise, 6. Atlanta, 7. Blood, 8. 1943, 9. Game, 10. Balsu.

Subject vs. Method

Given a person of intelligence and good motives, what makes a good teacher? Is it a grasp of teaching methods? Or is it a complete command of his subject matter? Or is it a subtle mixture of both? We incline toward the latter view. But one can get into an argument any day of the week about whether grasp of methodology or grasp of subject is the more important.

A RECENT book entitled "The Miseducation of Teachers," by James Koerner, puts heavy emphasis on the need for teachers who are broadly educated, and very light emphasis on the methodology of education.

Likewise in California — where the elementary and secondary schools are now in the midst of a massive debate involving, among other things, the academic vs. method argument, complicated by politics and rivalry among the leaders of the school system — the emphasis is swinging toward the academic side.

Time magazine reports that, ultimately, "California will turn down all (teaching) applicants whose sole and chief training is in the methodology of teaching. Instead, it will demand degrees in academic subjects, stressing substance over technique."

THE magazine adds: "The change profoundly affects California's 46 teacher-training institutions, which have to get more academic or practically go out of business. Also affected: many education schools in other states, which supply nearly one-third of California's new teachers. California itself may be in for initial trouble; a shortage of teachers able to meet the new standards."

If applied to the state's current teachers, the new standards would disqualify 20 per cent of high school teachers, 75 per cent of junior college instructors, and a fat 90 per cent of elementary teachers.

The change is in accord with the recommendations set forth in Koerner's book, which calls for a drastic upgrading of the level of teacher education, and of the members of the profession themselves.

THIS change, which is also being noted in other sections of the country, represents a swing back to "fundamentals," to the idea that the chief prerequisite for a teacher is a thorough knowledge of what he is teaching, and that methods are a matter of common sense, intelligence, and personality.

Right here in the Rogue valley, we know of several instances where individuals with advanced degrees attempted to obtain teaching certificates, only to be told they had to return to college for courses in how to teach.

While there is a certain logic in this, if carried to extremes it can result in ludicrous situations. Even Oregon's best university and college professors could not teach in elementary or secondary schools without added "education" courses.

THE swing will not go all the way back, however. Certain standards for teachers are imperative, and something more than a nodding acquaintance with teaching methods — which has grown into something of a science in itself — will continue to be required. Similarly, although they may take up less of the time of a teacher in training, there will remain the need for such things as curriculum preparation, educational sociology, psychology, the use of audio-visual aids, and so on.

But it seems to us that California is on the right track in insisting that a teacher know enough about what he is teaching to make it meaningful and important to his students.

Still, the whole debate is almost academic as it applies to some individuals. For it is true now, and always will be, that a good teacher is good, and a poor teacher is poor, no matter what kind of background and training and education they may be offered.—E.A.

Clash in California

The changes in education in California are doubly interesting in that they come at a time of clash between the two chief figures in California elementary and secondary education, Max Rafferty, the newly elected superintendent of public instruction, and Thomas W. Braden, the recently reappointed president of the state board of education.

Rafferty was elected last fall in a campaign in which the John Birch Society was among his backers, and he himself had declared he is an unabashed conservative. His campaign was based on a "back to the fundamentals" theme.

Braden was reappointed by the Governor over the protests of several right wing groups, and is looked upon as a liberal, both politically and educationally.

RAFFERTY, while elected, still has to report to the board of education, which is appointed, and which Braden heads. There have been a number of well-publicized clashes.

But, according to the account in Time, it was Braden, not Rafferty, who is responsible for the rather drastic changes in teacher requirements. The net effect, says Time, is that Braden has stolen a good deal of Rafferty's thunder in California education.—E.A.

"You Don't Understand, Boy—You're Supposed To Just Shuffle Along"



Kennedy Calls for Action To Reduce Pesticide Hazards

Washington — President Kennedy has ordered immediate government steps to cut down the health hazards resulting from the widespread use of pesticides.

Kennedy revealed a 46-page report from his science advisory committee warning that the environment is suffering "increasing contamination" from chemical poisons.

The scientists said pesticides have been a great boon to mankind and their "judicious use" must be continued. But it urged prompt steps to "minimize risks" to humans resulting from "continued exposures to small amounts of these chemicals."

The committee made a study of pesticides following the controversy that arose around Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring."

In a statement accompanying the report, Kennedy said he had ordered federal agencies to carry out the committee's recommendations within their authority, and to prepare legislation for Congress where warranted.

A senate subcommittee began hearings Thursday on pesticide hazards. Dr. Jerome Weisner, chairman of the President's science advisory committee, will present the committee's report formally to Congress at the opening session.

The committee agreed with Miss Carson there was "evidence of increasing environmental contamination."

Youth Incorporated Schedules Meeting

"Youth Incorporated," recently organized at a meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Gier, 2902 North Pacific highway, will meet Tuesday, May 21, at 1:30 p.m. at Kim's cafe, Marie Headlee, temporary chairman, has announced.

Purpose of the organization is to give help to young people, particularly high school students, in finding employment for the summer months.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

WHEN PRESIDENT EISENHOWER occupied the White House, his most valued speech writer was Emmet John Hughes. Now Hughes has written a revealing book about those days ("The Ordeal of Power").

"I'll tell you about leadership," was one of the memorable comments the President made to Hughes. "Leadership is NOT hitting people over the head. That's ASSAULT. LEADERSHIP is persuasion—and education—and patience. It's long, slow, tough work. That's the only kind of leadership I believe in."

MIT Man Appointed Associate Professor

Eugene — Dr. Edward Herbert, presently at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been appointed associate professor of chemistry at the University of Oregon effective July 1.

Dr. Herbert is a biochemist with a strong subsidiary background in cell psychology.

His main research interest is in messenger RNA, the chemical substance which carries the genetic blueprint from the DNA in the nucleus of the cell to the chemical factory in the outer part of the cell. He has been studying the role of RNA in the activation of amino acids in the process of protein manufacture.

Dispatches Indicate Khrushchev Finding Himself More Hemmed by Restrictions

BY PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst Moscow dispatches are suggesting that Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, never an absolute dictator in the manner of Josef Stalin, is finding himself more and more hemmed in by restrictions. They also are suggesting the full extent of the agonizing reappraisal to which the Soviets have been subjected themselves ever since their retreat in last October's Cuban crisis.

Strictly Personal

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

LEFT-HANDED THOUGHT If you are normally a right-handed person, try a little experiment for a half-hour or so: do with your left hand everything that you usually do with your right.

The most simple and obvious acts will become complicated and cumbersome. You will hardly be able to write or cut or eat your food; and you will quickly become baffled, frustrated and exasperated.

Now imagine this lopsided process intensified a thousandfold, and you may have some idea of how painful and difficult it is to think "with the left hand" — that is, to reverse our customary process of thought.

Why has science made such enormous strides in knowledge and development, while human affairs still remain largely as they were in the days of the Assyrian Empire? Largely because every advance in science is gained by reversing the spool of thought — by thinking in a way that is opposite of the traditional and customary ways.

Of all the habits of mankind, the habits of thought are the most persistent, the most tenacious, the most enslaving. We put on an idea in the morning as we put on a shoe, left or right first, unconsciously and without ever varying the procedure by a fraction.

And our resistance against changing our habits of thought is immense and unrelenting. If we try, briefly, we find it as vexing and unrewarding as writing a letter with the left hand. What we are used to is comfortable; what is comfortable is good; and what is good is right — this is the unspoken belief of almost all people everywhere.

When a scientist, however, tackles a problem that has hitherto seemed insoluble, he abandons all his preconceptions, and all the preconceptions of the past. Only when he begins to question the basic assumptions he has always held can he make an utterly fresh start, unencumbered by the intellectual baggage of the past.

I am not suggesting that a knowledge of the past is not useful, or that history and tradition have little to offer us — but they must be used as tools, not as points of departure. Our thinking about them must involve a painful reevaluation.

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

All Oregonians

To the Editor: The Portland Reporter, Saturday, May 11, 1963, republished your editorial entitled "Bisecting Jacksonville." At first thought, I was reluctant to make comment on the situation confronting our southern Oregonians. After spending several days thinking about the ruination of one of my favorite towns, I not only felt it proper but obligatory to make comment.

All Oregonians have a stake in the preservation of historic Jacksonville. The gold rush times, the Indian problems, and the Union-Confederate controversy, can be experienced by anyone who bothers to spend a leisurely afternoon wandering the streets of this historic town.

I feel sure that it would be easier to explain to my two children, and the children that they will have, that the State of Oregon chose a less than optimal route for a highway, than I would to explain the destruction of their heritage as Oregonians. I sincerely hope that the people of Jackson county will remain steadfast in their opposition to the ruination of Jacksonville.

Donald E. Clark, Sheriff Multnomah County Portland, Ore.

Expresses Thanks

To the Editor: On behalf of the officers and members of the Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral club, I wish to express our thanks for the excellent cooperation of your paper which helped in a large measure to show our Gem and Mineral a success. Thanking you again, E. L. Dobbins, Publicity Chairman, Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral club Medford.

tion of other problems until it is solved one way or the other. In Peking this week it was announced a Chinese delegation would go to Moscow to discuss these differences at meetings beginning July 5. In the Chinese party will be Teng Hsiao-ping, top party secretary, and Peking Mayor Peng Chen. It will not, however, include Mao Tse-tung, the one man who can make the final decision. In Moscow there is no belief that the conference will settle the deep ideological differences between the two but it is felt the meeting must be held if only to prove Moscow's good intent. Meanwhile, there will be no flirtation with the West to further muddy the issue.

Dick, Happy, Rocky, Mary, Pat, Checkers By Arthur Hoppe

I'm all in favor of the way our social betters strive to face such things in a very civilized fashion. But, like everything else, I can't help worrying how it'll turn out at 810 Fifth avenue. What with Mr. and Mrs. and Mrs. Rockefeller and Mr. Nixon all in the same boat. If that's the word for it. Such high-class goings-on confuse me. But if I've got it straight, Mr. and (old) Mrs. Rockefeller used to have the top triplex. But she won custody of the 13th and 14th floors. So Mr. and Mrs. (new) Rockefeller have to make do by expanding the 12th for her four kids. And now Mr. Nixon's moving into a "modest" \$200,000 flat below them. Which all makes sense. To anybody who reads the Society pages. But what about the elevator? *

There's Mrs. (old) Rockefeller and her four (old) children in the down car. And it stops at 12. Enter Mr. and Mrs. (new) Rockefeller and the four (new) children. "Oh," says Mrs. (old) Rockefeller. "Oh," says Mrs. (new) Rockefeller. "Oh-oh," says Mr. (suddenly looking very old) Rockefeller. "Now let us all behave in a very civilized fashion." Which is what men always say in such circumstances.

But before he can introduce everybody — in case he was thinking of it — the elevator stops again. And in step Mr. and Mrs. Nixon, their two Nixonsettes and Checkers. "Oh," says Mr. Rockefeller. "Oh," says Mr. Nixon. "I would like to welcome you into this elevator as a distinguished American," says Mr. Rockefeller nervously. "And I hope you will enter local politics. At the ward level." "I am just here to practice law," says Mr. Nixon with dignity.

"May I introduce you," says Mr. Rockefeller, wiping his brow, "to my wives and children. I mean these are our children and those are her children who are now my children and this is Mrs. Rockefeller." "How do you do," says Mr. Nixon politely. "Not that one," snaps Mr. Rockefeller. "This one." "I'm just here to practice law," says Mr. Nixon. "Is that a crack?" says Mr. Rockefeller angrily.

And right then the elevator breaks down. Well, if you've ever been trapped in an elevator, you know how the confinement tries one's soul. Even with strangers. Twenty minutes would be awful. What a scene! Of course, the kids, being kids, are probably playing Twenty Questions to lide the time. And the ladies, being ladies, are getting on fine. "Make him some good hot chicken soup," Mrs. (old) Rockefeller is saying. And Mrs. (new) Rockefeller is thanking her for how nice and clean she left everything.

But there's Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Nixon, eyeball to eyeball. "Look here, fella," Mr. Rockefeller is shouting. "The way you shafted me in '64? I had elbow room I'd point an accusatory finger. And furthermore — Well, I'd be surprised if both reached ground alive. Which all goes to prove we common people are right. Being civilized is fine. But no apartment house is big enough to house the memories of old passions. And Mr. Nixon ought to be gentleman enough to move out to Bronville instead.

While Major Cooper made his fabulous circuits of the earth, and the rest of us in Southern Oregon were watching him by TV, little Sandra Rucomech at her home in Klamath Falls was watching him also — in spite of the fact that she has been BLIND since birth. She was watching with her sensitive fingers while she listened.

The watching with her fingers is made possible by means of a special globe made for her by Arthur Epperson. The lines on the globe follow accurately Major Cooper's orbit. They are made by threads glued to the surface of the globe, so that she can follow them with the tips of her sensitive fingers. The equator is marked by a heavier quarter cord, and the globe is guarded by heavier cords.

She got the story just as clearly as the rest of us who have no handicaps. That is a story as wonderful as Jules Verne could have imagined.

IN CONCLUSION: While Major Cooper made his fabulous circuits of the earth, and the rest of us in Southern Oregon were watching him by TV, little Sandra Rucomech at her home in Klamath Falls was watching him also — in spite of the fact that she has been BLIND since birth. She was watching with her sensitive fingers while she listened.

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"Take Hitler, for instance — he was a dictator's dictator!"