

Medford Mail Tribune

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1963 Newspaper Publishers Association

National Editorial 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 August 13, 1953 (Thursday)

Medford - A 4-lane and four-lane highway said "stopgap" by-pass planned for future.

20 YEARS AGO August 13, 1943 (Friday)

The Rev. Ward A. Rice becomes pastor of First Christian church.

30 YEARS AGO August 13, 1933 (Sunday)

Gov. Meier pays hurried visit to city on way to Gold Beach.

40 YEARS AGO August 13, 1923 (Monday)

Bride and groom to spend honeymoon walking from Medford to top of Mt. Hood.

50 YEARS AGO August 13, 1913 (Wednesday)

Medford apples sold to New Zealand firm, first fruit from this section ever to go to the antipodes.

What's Your I.Q.?

- 1. Is batik a rare mineral, wood carving, or a method of executing colored designs on fabric?
2. Which tropical fruit is nicknamed "Midshipman's Butter"?
3. What are the national flowers of Scotland and Ireland?
4. Is Marco Polo the name of an old city in India, an active volcano in Italy or an early traveler in the Orient?
5. Was Eamon de Valera, President of Eire, born in Dublin, Ireland, London, England, or Brooklyn, New York?
6. What by-product resulting from soap manufacture is of great importance in making explosives?
7. Does the male mosquito bite?
8. Did Charles A. Lindbergh serve as an officer in the Air Corps during W.W.II?
9. Of what island is T.W.H. the capital?
10. Do stones grow?
Answers: 1. Designs. 2. Avocado. 3. Thistle-shamrock. 4. Early traveler. 5. Brooklyn. 6. Glycerine. 7. No. 8. No. 9. Formosa. 10. No.

What One Novel?

Don Sterling, an editorial writer for the Oregon Journal, recently wrote an article in which he asked what would be the one example of American literature which one would choose to represent this country abroad.

It is an interesting question. Sterling's own two favorite American novels are "Moby Dick" and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." But he rejects these for the purpose at hand, saying that the writing in Moby Dick is difficult, a bit old-fashioned, has involved symbolism that might be beyond a young foreigner's command of English, and, in addition, that it is hardly representative of American life today; and in Huckleberry Finn, the dialect is difficult and subject to misinterpretation.

WHAT then? he asks. Faulkner? Steinbeck? Sinclair Lewis?

Again, Sterling believes that a young foreigner might not realize that most of their writing was either attacks on social injustice which have been largely corrected, or satires on very small segments of American life.

Sterling finally settled—surprisingly, to us—on Hemingway's "The Old Man and the Sea." He admits it is not about the United States at all, but about a Cuban fisherman.

But, he said, it represents the work of one of America's best novelists. It is short, and written in beautiful, clear prose. Its story of the old man's battle with the big fish should be understandable in any country, Sterling writes, and, above all, its message of individual courage and self-reliance is one which he thinks deserves exporting anywhere.

VIEWED in that light, Sterling's selection makes sense. But he is still troubled, and asks of the world at large:

"What one American novel would you choose" for this purpose?

For us, the answer might lie in "The Tree of Liberty," by Elizabeth Page.

It is a little-known novel, set in the colonies and the states, before, during and immediately after the American Revolution. It probably does not deserve to be ranked with the major novels of major writers. But to us it captured and reflected, better than anything else we have read, the complex forces at work in this exciting period, the motivations of the patriots who founded this country, in fact, the whole historic inheritance to which each of us owes so much.

IT SHOWS why "our" revolution was different from any other in history; how it was the product of both passion and intellect; how carefully and painstakingly the founding fathers thought through their actions and the inevitable results; how the devastating effects of overzealous radicalism were avoided, and how the nation's foundations were laid, not only with blood, but with brains, self-restraint and self-discipline.

An understanding of the American Revolution seems, to us, to be a prerequisite of understanding America today, for we are still striving to achieve the ideals which were given voice during those exciting times, and are still living by the guidelines which grew out of them.

OTHERS will have other answers to the same question, and we would be glad to receive additional nominations.

So many of the widely-known novels, not only the contemporary ones but also older ones, are marked by a special point of view, strive to achieve a limited objective, or bring a message the scope of which is special or perhaps outdated.

So we repeat Don Sterling's question: "What one American novel would you choose to represent your country abroad?"—E.A.

Tapes for Television

What would happen if you could put a tape into your own TV set at home and see and hear a program, the way in which you can put a record on the phonograph and hear any music you desire?

It might have a considerable impact on the TV networks and stations, just as the revival of phonographs and good and inexpensive records hurt the radio industry some years ago.

The speculation is not idle, for a British company has developed just such a tape mechanism which it says can be retailed for about \$160. It still has some technical flaws, and is limited to 30-minute shows. But improvements will be made.

THE Oregon Statesman sees great "social and commercial ramifications." It lists some possibilities:

- The death, aborning, of pay-as-you-see TV.
-Development of a TV-tape rental system offering use of tapes for a day or week at low cost.
-Decline of commercial television, as viewers pick their own programs.
-A new wrinkle in the home-movie hobby, as TV tape recorders supply films which can be shown on your own set.

THE Statesman also believes that theater owners, play producers, record companies, hi fi equipment makers, and the television industry generally must be wondering how they may lose, or stand to gain, by such a development.

Who's going to sit through a dreary show, bespeckled with blatant commercials, when the best of drama, entertainment, or even the kids splashing in the swimming pool, can be readily shown?—E.A.



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.

It's A Plot

To the Editor: "Good words are a mask for the concealment of bad deeds. Sincere diplomacy is no more possible than dry water or iron wood."

—Stalin, 1913.

"It is ridiculous not to know that a treaty is the means of gaining strength."—Lenin, 1918.

"The disarmament policy of the Soviet government must be utilized for purposes of agitation . . . for recruiting sympathizers for the Soviet Union—the champion of peace and socialism."—Sixth World Congress of the Communist International, 1928.

The Russians have broken over 90 per cent of the treaties and covenants they have made with nations of the world and 50 out of 53 agreements negotiated with the United States since our recognition of their government. The staff of the Internal Security Subcommittee, after making a study of the Soviet treaty record concluded that treaty-making is, probably, an instrument of Soviet national policy.—Senate Document No. 125.

To communists, world wide disarmament does not mean elimination from the world of all weapons of war. It means taking all weapons away from non-communists so that they can offer no resistance to communism and this is the pattern Russia has followed in the countries they have taken over.

In 1961 the State Department issued their "Publication 7277," in which they outlined plans for the complete disarmament of the United States—the transfer of all of our Armed Forces to the "United Nations." Shortly after that publication was issued Congress was seduced into transforming it into "Public Law 87-297," which gives the President (Kennedy) complete authority, "at his discretion," to issue the "go" order for the entire disarmament plot. If the test ban treaty is ratified it will be a long step toward accomplishing that end. Write or wire your Senators today and demand that they reject the test ban treaty.

The "One World" blueprint is completed and according to plan there will be a world director (dictator) and zone directors and 51 regional directors. None of the zone or regional directors will serve in their own countries. An alien would command the foreign troops stationed in the U.S.

For the rest of the story, with map, write to Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., P.O. Box 46205, Cole Branch, Hollywood 46, Calif. Ask for Special July, 1963 Bulletin (two sections). Price 15 cents. Alice I. Black 812 Newtown Medford.

Astronomy

To the Editor: Astrology has no scientific basis whatsoever. It is based on blind belief, on a theory, that the stars have an influence on human affairs.

In the middle ages it was classed with alchemy, witchcraft and occult sciences. Its basis is just pure superstition. And despite all of our institutions of learning there is a little of superstition in most of us. So this letter is not one of condemnation.

Astronomy, however, is based on mathematics and is a pure science. It describes the stars in their courses. It gives a minute, accurate account of the planetary orbits in our solar system. It can foretell to the minute the time an eclipse begins or ends. This the astrologist cannot do. Even if his belief was

Sharing Enjoyment

To the Editor: "Going My Way" has long been a favorite piece of writing with me and I would appreciate its publication in order that others might also enjoy these thoughts.

Mrs. Emma Perkins 120 Laurel st. Medford.

GOING MY WAY

I am a traveler on a one-way journey through life and never expect to retrace my steps or come this way again. My yesterdays are poignant recollections of tasks neglected or undone, mixed with pleasant memories of the few things done well. My tomorrows hold promise of opportunity to do bigger and better things. My present is a struggle and pain, and sharing the load of others.

Since I pass this way but once, my hope is that men, women and children may be glad that I came and regret that I am leaving. As I journey with my fellow man, may I be privileged to bring joy where sorrow once ruled; smiles to replace the tears; to plant a flower of kindness in those hearts where once the weeds of despair grew. As I follow the noble pattern of the Apostle Paul, may I nevertheless press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling; but should I stumble and fall, may the grace of God lift me up and start me forward, going my way.—Anonymous.

He Saved Lives

To the Editor: The story of Claude Eatherly's suffering after he participated in the Hiroshima bombing, sent in by Name on File from Jacksonville, is extremely pathetic, but if he would only realize that his action that day saved the lives of thousands of our young men—the cream of our manhood—he would be better able to sleep nights.

One wonders if the Japs had had the bomb would they have used it on our mainland? You know the answer. Ray Lovett, Rogue Valley Manor, Medford.

Unsolvable

To the Editor: Replying to Henry Johnson Jr.'s letter of Sunday (Aug. 11), will state my view, to wit: that the Old Testament Writ is not acceptable to all Christians as a "verbatim" or believable account of truth. That is, it is a Book, attributable to Jewish (or Judistic) influence and could easily be a corruption of divine thought and truth, in and through all periods of human history.

Even the New Testament is our inheritance from a Medieval period and could also be at great variance from eternal truth. In any event, there are many so-called "God's" words and words in and among human believers. Some are called "pagan" by most Christians. Most of them are rejected by Christians as being a clear elucidation of truth for human belief. I am inclined to think that in any argument for the Old Testament Scripture as "The Word of God," the negatives really have the better of the debate. For it is not certain that its entire content is truthful or believable to reasonable men, and men of goodwill, as well. I would prefer to call the subject matter wholly a moot, unsettled and, indeed, unsolvable problem for everybody in the same identical terms.

Fee Clifford Esteb 17 South Bartlett st. Medford.

Transatlantic Chicken Battle May Be Only Opening Skirmish in Trade War

By WERNER ZWICK United Press International

Frankfurt, Germany (UPI)—The transatlantic chicken war may be just the opening skirmish in a trade battle between the free world's economic giants.

The issue in the current struggle is whose chickens West Germany will fry in future.

Not an earth-shattering problem? Perhaps, but feathers started flying when the European Common Market Commission in Brussels virtually banned the cheaper American frozen chickens by clamping a prohibitive tariff on them.

Last year, West Germans

bought \$51.3 million worth of poultry from the United States. Since the tariff boost, American chicken imports have fallen to a trickle.

"Fifty million dollars is just a drop in the bucket compared to 1.2 billion dollars worth of agricultural products West Germany buys from the United States," Edmund H. Driggs, European director of the Institute of American Poultry Industries, said. "But what happened to the chickens could happen to other commodities."

The chickens have become a test case in what seems to shape up as a trade war between the economic giants of the Western world, the United States and the Common Market.

The French, eager to dump their chicken surplus on the West German market at the expense of the Americans, apparently thought they already had won the war.

But then the United States threatened to strike back at the spot where it hurts most—the pocketbook. By pitting the Volkswagen and other vulnerable Common Market exports against the chickens, it hoped to reach a compromise.

If the American threats are implemented, West Germany will be hit worse than other

Common Market countries, the Federal Economics Ministry complained.

And a spokesman for the country's export-aided poultry industry lamented bitterly: "Those stupid birds did all the damage."

The West German consumers seem to like the "stupid birds" from America.

American poultry first hit West German frying pans four years ago and aroused a ravenous appetite for more. Per capita consumption jumped from 7 to 14 pounds.

West Germans once regarded fried chicken as upper-crust fare ranked not far below caviar. Then they discovered they could afford to buy American broilers.

Corner grocers installed electric fryers for the take-home trade, and chicken restau-

trants shot up throughout the country. German cook books came out with "southern fried" recipes.

Even the entertainment industry got on the bandwagon with the hit tune "Brathendl Polka" (Fried Chicken Polka), a ditty popularized by a Bavarian hillbilly.

But the boom ended abruptly when the Common Market commission raised the tariff on American broilers. Chicken consumption in West Germany declined 20 per cent. Consumers switched to other meat rather than pay a premium for European poultry.

And with the Common Market heading for a common agricultural market, consumers are afraid they will be deprived one day of other attractively priced American foodstuffs.

Strictly Personal

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

SUMMER READING

When summer houses were built, 75 or 50 years ago, or whenever, I feel sure that

the builders furnished them with complete sets of books. Every summer house I have ever visited has had almost the identical library—as though the books were chosen by some central agency.

These books are roughly divided into two categories: the unread and the unreadable. The unread are the grim sets in stiff gray bindings: complete works of Whittier, Masterpieces of Living Literature, and 20 volumes of Nelson's Encyclopedia, edition of 1907, in print size that cries out for a large magnifying glass.

The unreadable category is even larger. This includes, invariably, "Girl of the Limberlost," "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," "Sorrel and Son" by Warwick Deering, "Scaramouche" by Raphael Sabatini, "Beau Geste," "Ben Hur," "Polly and Her Friends," "The Green Hat," "Leatherstocking Tales," and "An Antarctic Mystery" by Jules Verne, easily his worst book.

Some diabolic anti-literary mind was carefully at work making this master selection. Not only are all the third-rate authors fully represented, but it is their lowest efforts that decorate the bookcases. And if a superior writer like Dickens is there, it is Dickens at his most maudlin; if Mark Twain is on the shelf, it is always the foolish "Tom Sawyer" or the provincial

"Innocents Abroad," never one of his mordant and brilliant works.

It is as though someone who hated writing in all its more creative imaginative aspects were put in charge of summer house libraries throughout the country a generation or two ago.

I bought a little place on the lake last year, completely furnished—and when they said "completely furnished," they meant it: including 300 books that took me two days to haul to the local dump in a station wagon, as my gesture toward Better Literature.

Somehow, people won't throw away no-good books the way they will throw away, after a few years, non-literary junk that accumulates. Some of the books in my place were published in 1870; they were no good to begin with, and they became worse with age. Yet each successive tenant evinced a paralyzing reluctance to brush them off the shelves. Perhaps they remained there as a yellowing symbol of Summer Culture.

Whatever the reason, it has always fascinated me to visit a summer house for a week end and browse on the shelves for a good book to take up to bed. With my eyes closed, I could recite the selection—from "Ten to Seventeen: A Boarding School Diary" by Josephine Baskam Bacon, to "Heart's Delight" by Louis Tracy, also the proud author of "Rainbow Island," "Pillar of Light," and "The Albatross Affair."

They used to call these dreadful things "hammock reading." The pity of it is that hammocks have nearly disappeared, but the reading hasn't.

Editorial Comment

Stanford and the Bard

Stanford University's announcement that it will sponsor a Shakespeare festival next summer, the 400th anniversary of the Bard's birth, is an important calendar entry for visiting scholars and tourists, as well as for resident Shakespearean aficionados.

Bringing the Ashland Festival players down from Oregon and the Globe Theater company up from San Diego to produce seven or eight Shakespeare plays in the lovely Frost Amphitheater is a happy inspiration. The Ashland and San Diego companies are first rate and, when played off against each other, should yield to Bay Area audiences a richer understanding than comes through on TV or from road companies of what Shakespeare in Sixteenth Century London was like.

Professo Virgil K. Whitaker, the Stanford Shakespearean scholar who is organizing the festival, has also drawn the Actors' Workshop of San Francisco into his fresco series to offer three works by Shakespeare's contemporaries. The combination of all these public performances with an academic program weighted with visiting Elizabethan scholars should easily make good Professor Whitaker's hopes for creating a major intellectual attraction in the Bay Area.—San Francisco Chronicle



"What do you mean, you didn't know that camp was integrated? That was an American flag you passed at the entrance!"