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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
Sept. 3, 1953 (Thursday)
East side fire hall plans may bring law suits, owners state.
The special police investigation being conducted by Howard I. Bobbitt will be completed within the next several days.

20 YEARS AGO
Sept. 3, 1943 (Friday)
Bert Slater named manager of farm labor supply center at Camp Prescott.
From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Premature Halloween havoc was wrought Tuesday night in the biz area, some being covered by insurance."

30 YEARS AGO
Sept. 3, 1933 (Sunday)
Rigid tests for school bus drivers ordered.
Bonded whiskey shortage looms.

40 YEARS AGO
Sept. 3, 1923 (Monday)
Tokyo destroyed by fire following earthquakes.
Sam Jennings of Medford Furniture and Hardware store takes job with a tire company.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 3, 1913 (Wednesday)
Siskiyou land in Illinois river area to be opened for settlement.
Edison talking pictures prove sensation at Page theater.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. The game of polo is played with a ball made from ivory, cork or wood?
2. Is the obverse side of a coin the front or back?
3. How many times does the word "America" appear in the stanzas of "My Country 'Tis of Thee"?
4. In what historical novel is an exciting chariot race described?
5. Name the capital of North Carolina.
6. What species of bird can fly backwards, and stand still in midair?
7. Would you most likely expect to meet a Pasha in Yugoslavia, Egypt, Indonesia or Peru?
8. How many masts has a brig?
9. If some one gave you a stirrup cup, would you get a hunting horn, drink, or a prize award?

Answers: 1. Wood. 2. Front. 3. Not at all. 4. "Ben Hur." 5. Raleigh. 6. Hummingbird. 7. Egypt. 8. Two. 9. Drink.

Morse Sees Passage Of Bracero Measure

Salem — (UPI) — The bill extending the Mexican labor act for another year will pass Congress despite the opposition of American labor, Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) predicted at the Oregon State Fair Monday.

Organized labor in California and other areas has opposed the importing of Mexicans on the grounds that it takes jobs away from American workers.

"American labor is not hurt one iota," Morse said. "There isn't an American who would do this type of stoop work."

New Accident Thinking

There is a whole folklore in the field of traffic safety. Some items:

—The fast driver is the most dangerous driver.

—That strict enforcement of speed laws, and routine speed-checking, assists in keeping traffic accidents down.

—That holiday week ends are relatively more dangerous times on the highways than other periods.

—That continued warnings to the motoring public are a factor in improving highway safety.

—That conservative speed limits contribute to highway safety.

—That the highway death toll is going to get worse before it gets better.

* * * * *

UP UNTIL recently, most people have assumed these things to be true. But more and more they are being challenged.

"Case for Fast Drivers," an article in the new Harper's magazine by Robert L. Schwartz, challenges many of these assumptions. He says the fast driver is actually safer, both actually and relatively, than the slow driver. He also says that higher speed limits—based on how fast about 85 to 90 per cent of drivers actually drive—tend not only to improve safety, but to decrease the average speeds used on that section of highway.

He based his article on close study of a Bureau of Public Roads report, issued in 1958, but little noted then or since.

* * * * *

HE ALSO gave statistics to show that emotional warnings about safe driving tend to increase, rather than decrease, traffic accidents. And he showed that, relatively as well as actually, the toll of traffic fatalities is declining, despite the increased number of vehicles on the highways.

He also demonstrated that, in most fatal traffic accidents, two or more factors combine to cause the crash, and that too often a single "cause" is listed by investigating officers.

His most telling point, however, is that we simply do not know very much about the causes of traffic accidents. He reports that federal officials spend some $100,000 per passenger investigating fatal aircraft accidents, but that the average for traffic accidents runs only to about $5.

We know that traffic engineering can save lives and property (our 70-mile-per-hour freeways are far safer than older, slower roads). But there are lots of other things we must know before we can make any real progress in finding, and curing, the causes of traffic accidents.

—E.A.

Mosquito Control

We printed a sincere and impassioned letter from a White City woman the other day, appealing for help from a menace of mosquitoes.

But that is about the only complaint we have heard all summer, so far. Perhaps it has been the cooler-than-normal weather, or perhaps the county's mosquito control measures have been more effective than previously—in other areas, that is.

Perhaps it is a combination of factors, including a wider understanding on the part of most people that they, too, have a responsibility in mosquito control by finding and eliminating possible breeding places.

* * * * *

ONE place in the county where one might logically expect mosquitoes is at Howard Prairie Lake. But, happily, there are few of the pesky little rascals, and even these do not constitute a problem.

This was pointed out to us by Bob Johnston, the concession operator there, last week end. Why? Because, he declares, there are numerous small frogs (or toads) in the immediate lake vicinity, and they do not permit any mosquito larvae to survive to adulthood. They eat them.

This theory interested us, inasmuch as it makes sense.

* * * * *

THERE has been a vastly increased interest and caution in the use of pesticides, and what effect they have not only on people but on the whole ecological balance of nature. This new caution also applies in the field of mosquito control.

One man we know attributes the sharp decline in the fishery at Diamond Lake of a few years ago wholly to the sprays used to get rid of mosquitoes.

New methods of mosquito control are being researched. The Oregonian has noted that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is embarking on a massive control program in the swamps of Florida, where, to attract people to work in space-age projects, the pests had to be eliminated.

* * * * *

THE Oregonian reported:

". . . To kill off existing mosquitoes and larvae, NASA is using spray planes, ground-fogging equipment, and even minnows dropped into potholes from helicopters. In the meantime, bulldozers and draglines are reducing the size of the breeding grounds by cutting drainage canals and building more than 100 miles of dikes to impound rainfall runoff and thus keep the marshland permanently flooded so adults cannot lay their eggs. A large staff of entomologists is hard at work experimenting on more effective sprays and larvacides.

"Many a federal [illegible] the fact he is digging down to [illegible] program in Florida while his [illegible] bite unmolested. But [illegible] eveloping may make it [illegible] whole nation to afford the luxury of [illegible] on a summer night, as Portlanders do. Let's hope so."

We hope so too, particularly on behalf of the White City woman and her beleagured children.

—E.A.

Hands Across The Sea

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.

Heaven

To the Editor: The main reason that I am so greatly interested in Heaven is that I expect to go there. Upon arrival I anticipate being given a simple but highly efficient means of locomotion. If I had to flap a pair of wings in order to get about, I would not feel that I really was in Heaven. It is the absence of exertion that appeals to me. I would imagine Heaven to be quite a large place.

Another theory I have is that Heaven does not now exist, but will be created at some distant date. There is no particular hurry. A dead personality has no sense of time, anyway. So, spirits of the dead will be kept in storage until the proper time for their release arrives.

Be good and I will meet you in Heaven some day.

David Frisch
P. O. Box 292
White City, Ore.

Series Liked

To the Editor: May I express my appreciation for your publication and display last week of the five-story series of articles by Harry Ferguson, of United Press International, explaining the functions and services of the United States Post Office Department.

Al Bradford,
Acting Postmaster
Medford

True Christianity

To the Editor: The following lines are taken from a little 22 page booklet that just came in the mail. They were written by my personal friend J. L. Tucker, speaker on the Quiet Hour. This program is aired locally each Sunday at 9 a.m. on KRVC. Copies of the bookiet in its entirety are free.

"The Christian life pays in happiness, peace, contentment and hope. Happiness of life is an experience that we cannot beg, we cannot borrow, we cannot steal. It must come from within. When Jesus has been invited into the heart, when He is an abiding presence, then there is happiness. He does not simply impart joy, He brings it. Every Christian has the right to be supremely happy and no one but a Christian can be truly happy.

"Long - faced religion in not from God, for He talks of 'joy unspeakable and full of glory.' (I Peter 1:8.) If there is no radiance, sunshine, joy and happiness in your religion, I would recommend that you get a new brand, that you come to know your Christ a little better. Judging from the countenances, too many have mistaken an attack of indigestion for religion.

"There are far too many who, because of lack of understanding and vision, complain like the brilliant young statesman who, when a lady friend was trying to win him for Christ, said 'You want me to give up everything.' 'No,' she replied earnestly 'indeed not, I am asking you to accept everything in Jesus Christ.' The only things that a Christian gives up are the things that if held onto would ruin and blight his life; that would mar his peace and contentment. The 'thou shalt nots' of the Bible are to protect us from the snare of the enemy, not to take away our happiness and joy.

"True Christianity not only pays in happiness, peace, contentment, and hope, but it pays physically. In the Christian life there is no dissipation, no drunkenness, no carousals, no sprees of intemperence.

"The real Christian will be temperate in all things and his definition of temperance is 'a total abstinance from all that is harmful and a moderate use of that which is good.' "

And I might add that in addition to the peace of mind, true Christianity gives us a hope of a life beyond this vale of tears.

Henry Johnson Jr.
2315 Highway 66
Ashland, Ore.

Slugfest

To the Editor: Recently, we heard a news item over the radio. We quote: "Governor Mark Hatfield says Republican party can win in 1964 if they resorted to a 'slugfest.' "

Well, that quotation reminded me of one of my old mountain pals who quipped: "If you ever chance to meet a tough hombre that his spit bounces, always be on guard for trouble ahead, because they carry a big chip on their shoulders."

(Name on file)
Medford.

Liberal Cleverness

To the Editor: Cleverness is certainly an outstanding, perhaps the dominating, characteristic of the Liberal. Your editorial MT 8-16-63, demonstrates your ability to reproduce extreme cleverness. One would almost conclude the effort in your editorial was an attempt to make up in cleverness what was lacking in truth and wisdom.

Norman Cousins and you know opposition to those who feel the Nuclear Test Ban is bad for the United States and the world cannot be stimulated by merely pointing out these letter writers are nuts or worse. One must be clever. Say also that they are against peace! Now no reasonable man is against peace; therefore the letter writers opposed to the test ban treaty must be discredited and the educated (?) man must take up his pen and participate in the great debate. The Liberal argument is quite simple (though of course, it has no relation as to the merits of the treaty): Those who oppose the test ban treaty are only extremists, assorted nuts, facists, hate - mongers, war - mongers, demigagues, subverters, suspicion spreaders — and horrors of horrors — they are organized! (psst. the great debate is ended).

Besides, the letter writers only parrot what comes from on high (false), from Robert Welch. And what does Eric Allen Jr. do when he repeats the clever nonsense of Norman Cousins?

But what of this test ban treaty? Individual decision on this important agreement is very difficult to arrive at. President Kennedy: "The hopes of the world have been focused on this treaty." The hopes of the world have been focused on the League of Nations, the United Nations, the conferences at Yalta, Tehran, Potsdam, the Spirit of Camp David, the Spirit of Geneva, etc.; but peace is not forthcoming and the world's tensions have steadily increased until we have arrived at the present nuclear edge.

Let the debate move along Mr. Allen, people should study and decide, and then write to their senators. The senate is where the final decision must be made for us. May that decision be truly representative of all of us, not just your "educated (?) elite," and may that senate decision also be wise.

Robert J. Howard
702 Beekman st.
Medford.

Poisons

To the Editor: The old saying, "one man's meat may be another man's poison" holds true in some cases. Some people can take large doses of poisonous food or drink, others very small amounts.

Alcohol is a poison that is in common daily use by millions of people and causes much destruction, because it has a drug-like effect on the user who is unable to control his desire. And there is the rub. In very small doses it may be good medicine.

When alcohol is taken by a person, the stomach immediately gets busy and the metabolic force absorbs and retains the needed quantity for the body. The surplus is ejected. The human body immediately reacts to correct any injury that may happen, whether it be a cut in the flesh, a broken bone or a dose of poison or poison virus.

Lydia Burnham, in her letter of Aug. 30, stated that anyone can best get rid of a common cold by doing nothing, letting nature do it. I beg to differ with her there. I would say that, unless you know yourself, for sure, what to do, you had better call a doctor.

If when you get that cold, you are a worker or a doer of any kind and you want to keep from getting real sick, you better take care. A cold can quickly turn into pneumonia and then, it could be "goodbye sweet world."

There is one way by which I have averted colds and that has been that whenever I have suspected a cold in the offing I have missed a meal or two or three, 'til I have felt hungry. But that way requires that you are careful so as not to overdo it.

As to consumption of poison, most packaged foods nowadays contain additives to keep them from going stale. And that gives more works for the alimentary tract to do. Then some of those additives may be hard to throw off by the weak and the ailing, and be cumulative, that is, pile up and cause what might be called a sort of constipation. The F. and D. Administration has no authority to prevent use of additives as long as they are considered harmless. So it is up to the individual to judge for himself what is good or what is not.

In others words, take up the motto of Socrates, the old Greek —"Know thyself."

Personally I have learned the hard way, in fact, been poisoned three times, arsenic twice, strychnine once. Was saved by doctors. Quite an experience, you would say. So I will just say like Ripley—"believe it or not."

John Ring
1049 West 11th st.
Medford

Rival Political Leaders Dispute U.S. Aid in Polivia Plagued With Troubles

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Back in 1952 when Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro took office the first time it was with the support of Bolivia's turbulent tin miners whose Trotskyite leadership had aligned itself with Paz's national revolutionary movement.

Newsom

A first step of the Paz government was to nationalize the country's tin miners, upon which most of its wealth depended, and give the miners unprecedented veto powers over the mine management.

Back of this was the burly figure of a man named Juan Lechin, son of an Arab father and a Bolivian mother, said to have first been hired by the Patino mining interests for his ability as a football player.

With this as a start, Lechin had advanced swiftly from executive secretary of the mine union in 1945, to senator in 1947 and to successful revolutionary leader in 1952. His was a powerful vocie in calling Paz Estenssoro from Argentine exile to assume the presidency.

In Bolivia's present crisis, Paz and Lechin once more are central figures.

Paz is serving his second term as president and Lechin has risen to vice president, but the two are in bitter conflict and the outcome could determine whether the moderate left-of-center government of Paz is to continue or whether Bolivia is to become the first Communist-controlled nation of the South American continent.

Paz, long-since disenchanted with his former Communist supporters, now relies upon the Bolivian peasants who have benefitted from his land reform program.

For Paz, as for Hernan Siles Zuazo, the in-between presidential office holder, the job has been to stabilize the Bolivian economy and by development of its other rich mineral and agricultural resources to rescue it from its one-sided reliance upon tin.

It has been uphill going.

In the 11 years since the revolution, what little stability Bolivia has enjoyed has been possible only through U.S. aid and amounting to around $20 million per year.

A constant opponent of U.S.-supported stabilization programs has been Lechin, who today joins the Marxists and Trotskyites in accusing the government of bowing to the dictates of the U.S. State Department.

At the core of the dispute are the efforts of the Paz government to rehabilitate the mining industry through $38 million in aid from the United States, West Germany and the Inter-American Development Bank.

The industry is heavily feather bedded and production has fallen steadily since nationalization.

The history of the state mining corporation is one of woeful mismanagement and corruption so that not even expert auditors have been able to trace income and outgo.

The miners, with guns left over from the revolution, are resisting government efforts to reduce the work force by 6,000 and introduce modern efficiency to the mines.

Upon the outcome of the struggle depends the future of the $65 million in promised U.S. aid.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

THE CITADEL

Mycenae, Greece — On a high saddle amid crags, the citadel stands. Nowadays, young sunburned tourists, three-quarters naked in the current Mediterranean tourist fashion, photograph one another in the lion gate where Clytemnestra falsely welcomed Agamemnon when he came home from the great victory over Troy.

Alsop

Yet the tourists, laughing and posturing, count no more than flies might count before those great walls, giant-built as the old Greeks thought because of the hugeness of the rough-dressed stones. Before those walls, the present fades into insubstantiality, and the remote past of the age of bronze becomes suddently substantial and real.

Even before those walls were built, the saddle among the crags must have been a strong place. On one side, it breaks downwards into a deep, sunless ravine, so narrow you feel you could all but throw a stone to the mountainside opposite. The cliff that forms the wall of the ravine rears up in a high crest of rock; and here, on this rocky crest, was the place of the citadel from Mycenae's earliest beginning.

* * *

YET Agamemnon, or his father Atreus, did not think these natural defenses and the old walls of their forefathers gave strength enough. So the people were called in their tens of thosands to hew stone and drag it to the citadel and haul the vast blocks weighing tons apiece up earthen ramps to the ever-rising crest of the new walls.

Within the walls' wide circuit, on the highest part of the rocky crest, the new palace also rose, bright-painted and strong-columned. The brilliant Greek, Prof. George Mylonas, who is carrying on the excavations that Heinrich Schliemann began, showed us how this summer's work has revealed more traces of this proud house of Atreus and Agamemnon.

Yet the traces of the palaces, and the great tombs that were later built all sink into insignificance beside Mycenae's walls. Besides the lion gate itself, between its grim, protecting bastions, only posterns and secret sally ports pierce these gigantic ramparts.

* * *

THE walls that Atreus or Agamemnon may have built were strengthened further in the last age of the citadel. The frowning circuit was extended, to cover the steep descent to a cistern built far down in the living rock; and water was led into this deep new cistern by a secret channel from a hillside spring. Thus Mycenae's water supply was insured against the longest siege — or so it must have seemed.

Nontheless, the insurance provided by the cistern was not sufficient in the end. Even the great walls were not sufficient in the end. How such walls fell to men who had no siege engines is a question that still troubles the imagination. Yet somehow the walls were stormed, and the citadel fell, and the palace was put to the torch.

It happened just a bit more than three millenia ago, by Professor Mylonas's careful calculation. And after it happened, this famous stronghold of the Greeks' war leader against Troy all but vanished from the pages of history.

* * *

WHEN the Great King of Persia led his army which drank the rivers dry against the Greeks, there was still a town here, a brave town though small. Through that same lion gate, where Clytemnestra once welcomed Agamemnon from the war, the warriors of Mycenae marched forth to do battle at Plataea, where the host of the Great King was vanquished and destroyed.

In those days, the warriors of Mycenae numbered only 74 men. Yet they too bore their part; so Mycenae's name was dutifully inscribed along with such great names of power as Athens and Sparta, in the list of saviors of Greece on the gilt-bronze serpent-tripod that the victors of Plataea dedicated at Delphi.

That rankled sorely with the men of Argos, the rich city down on the plain, whose people had not dared to resist the Great King. And this bad taste in the mouth of Argos played its part, or so it is said, in the decision of the Argives to attack little Mycenae and bring it into subjection.

* * *

ONCE more the walls were stormed, the Mycenae ceased to be an independent city. Then, as the centuries rolled by, the site was gradually abandoned. And so when Schliemann came, in search of relics of Agamemnon, there was nothing to mark the place that once was strongest in all Greece, except the never-fallen lion gate.

Since that day, with unending, tireless industry, the excavators have uncovered all of this strong place among the crags. So the walls of Mycenae now tower over its approaches, almost as they did when newly built.

And still they ask their terrible, unanswerable question: "Is the effort of greatness worth the making, when all greatness has its appointed term?"

Strictly Personal

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

MANNERS

Visiting some new acquaintances recently, I was impressed with their teen-age son, who seemed to me one of the best-mannered young persons I had met. Thinking over this impression, it occurred to me that really good manners require a combination of two qualities — diffidence and candor.

Harris

The young man was diffident about himself, but not reticent about his tastes and opinions. He was disarmingly frank, but not offensively opinionated, because he never spoke out of self-esteem, but only out of self-expression.

* * *

Most persons suffer from the fallacy that good manners are mostly a matter of diffidence, of hiding one's true convictions under a blanket of polite hypocrisy. But this is really a subtle kind of rudeness, a denying of one's personality for the sake of others' approval.

And this is why young people, on the whole, have such a huge contempt for polite grown-up society, which seems to them merely an organized conspiracy to keep the truth under cover.

Now, good manners are fundamentally an appreciation of other people's personalities. A man who argues violently with people (as Chesterton once observed) is paying homage to their intelligence; but a man who mouths polite platitudes in society is actually insulting; he is not interested in the other person, but only in winning the other person's good opinion of him.

* * *

A really well-mannered person, by this strict definition, is extremely rare. I myself (in common with most writers) err too much on the side of candor, and possess not enough natural diffidence, which is a grave temperamental defect.

But it is wrong to make the mistake of assuming that people who are polite are well mannered merely because they mask their true beliefs. Lack of candor, generally speaking, implies deep hostilities and resentments beneath the surface; and some of the best-liked men I know are quietly contemptuous of those who like them most.

Samuel Johnson, often accused of rudeness, was actually the most generous - spirited of men; a heated controversialist, he was passionately interested in pursuing ideas, no matter who got knocked down in the process. Including himself.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From Washington:

The White House - Kremlin "hot line" intended to provide instant emergency communication between the chiefs of state, is ready for use, the Pentagon announced last week.

A terse one - sentence announcement said only that the "direct communication link between Washington and Moscow is ready for operation." In reply to a question, a spokesman said this meant that both the land wire and radio circuits between the capitals now are ready

THE theory is that the "hot line" will be used only by President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev. That prompts an interesting question:

What will the Premier of the Soviet Union and the President of the United States say to each other on the momentous occasion when they first try out this rather fantastic (not to mention expensive) piece of equipment that has been provided for their use?

A FRIVOLOUS suggestion: How about what the governor of North Carolina is reported to have said to the governor of South Carolina when they greeted each other on a similarly momentous occasion quite some time ago?

That seems to be about as approproiate as anything else they might say to each other.

BUT let's be serious.

You may ask:

How will this "hot line" work?

WELL, one end of it will be in the Kremlin. The other end will be in the Pentagon. From the Pentagon, connections relay the circuits directely through to the White House.

The preamble to the U.S.-Soviet agreement to install the line specifies that it is "for use in time of emergency." The discussion which led to the unprecedented agreement between the two nations which have been engaged in a cold war for a decade and a half made plain the primary purpose of the set-up.

The hot line will be used in the hope of heading off — through direct and quick communications between the chiefs of government—incidents which could "escalate" in a matter of minutes or hours in MASSIVE WAR.

THAT is to say:

If there should be a series of events that began to look critically dangerous, the President of the United States — at this moment in history, President Kennedy — would call the Premier of the Soviet Union on the hot line and say to him in effect: "WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?"

Whereupon—

In theory—

The Premier of the Soviet Union would say WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THEREUPON—

In theory—

The two heads of state would iron it all out between them and instead of war there would be peace.

IT SOUNDS wonderful.

But there's a catch to it.

The Premier of the Soviet Union is a communist. The ninth of Lenin's Ten Commandments reads: "Promises are like piecrusts: made to be broken." So the Premier of the Soviet Union might say to the President of the United States over the hot line: "There's nothing to it. Go to bed and forget about it."

Whereupon he might TURN THE MISSILES LOOSE.

"[illegible] you ain't doing anything? Hardly anybody's betting — they're just watching the horses run!"