

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.

16 YEARS AGO Sept. 17, 1953 (Thursday) Jackson county's 11th polo patient of the year, 28-year-old Talent girl, was flown to a Eugene hospital last night by Mercy Flights air ambulance plane. Cpl. Harvey L. Rogers, last Medford prisoner of war to be released by the Communists, was home today.

29 YEARS AGO Sept. 17, 1934 (Friday) W. M. McAllister, local attorney, leaves for duty as army captain. From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudgetts" column: "A Massachusetts colon has been indicted for mail fraud. People with long memories recall in the last national mandate, his election was vital to both state and nation to prevent the loss of 'social gains'."

39 YEARS AGO Sept. 17, 1924 (Sunday) Siskiyou highway jobs will open soon. Fruit harvest to cut attendance as schools open tomorrow.

49 YEARS AGO Sept. 17, 1914 (Monday) Lee (Dub) Watson returns from extended stay in Los Angeles. Valley delegation to bid shipload of Oregon cedar for Japan Goodspeed.

59 YEARS AGO Sept. 17, 1904 (Wednesday) Lee Jacobs named by council to fill vacancy as mayor. Medford golf club subject of article in Seattle Times.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

- 1. Which country of Central America is largest in area? 2. Was Roger Bacon a monk, chemist, or an authority on optics? 3. What legislative body exercises exclusive jurisdiction over the District of Columbia? 4. What Federal agency enforces requirements as a property labeling word products? 5. Does a wombat most likely to provoke laughter, ill-will, or good-will? 7. "Colonel Pynchon" is a character in which Nathaniel Hawthorne novel? 8. In which European country did Wilhelm, former Emperor of Germany, die? 9. Norway is a republic: true or false? 10. The inhabitants of Madagascar are known as M—-ans? Answers: 1. Nicaragua. 2. All three. 3. Congress. 4. Federal Trade Commission. 5. Bear. 6. Ill-will. 7. "The House of Seven Gables." 8. The Netherlands. 9. False. 10. Malagasians.

810,000 Oregonians Said Eligible To Vote SALEM (UPI)—More than 810,000 Oregonians will be eligible to vote in the Oct. 15 tax referendum, Elections Supervisor Jack Thompson predicted today. Deadline for registering was Sept. 14. Thompson said he would have the official registration totals in about two weeks.

The Constitution's 176 Years

It starts this way: We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America. It ends this way: Done in convention by the unanimous consent of the states present the seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

IN BETWEEN the preamble and the conclusion are the seven brief articles which, together with the later amendments, form the most impressive document of government ever written. It is not a perfect charter of government, for it was designed and formulated by fallible human beings, who could not know what the future held. Still, it has formed the basis for our liberties, and the framework upon which our laws and our traditions are based.

Today—exactly 176 years from the date of its ratification in convention—we stand in awe to know that those brilliant and sober men were able to devise a document sufficiently flexible that, even though the world and society and government have changed almost unrecognizably, it still serves.

THE biggest and most important change in the Constitution was proposed little more than two years later—on Sept. 25, 1789—and was approved a little more than two years after that—on Dec. 15, 1791. This was when the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution, became an integral part of it.

It is not easy to change the Constitution, which is as it should be. After adoption of the Bill of Rights, it has been amended only 13 times—and two of these cancelled each other out, the 18th and 21st. The second-largest period of change was immediately following the Civil War, when the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments were adopted, abolishing slavery, protecting citizenship and guaranteeing equal protection of the laws, and protecting the right to vote. (These guarantees, sadly enough, have not all been uniformly enforced, and still are not, even today, in some parts of the nation.)

THE most controversial of the more recent amendments are the 16th, which permitted the income tax, and the 18th—prohibition—which was repealed by the 21st.

The others provided for the direct election of Senators; for woman suffrage; revising the terms of president and vice president, providing for annual sessions of congress, and the line of succession; limiting the president to two terms; and allowing citizens of Washington, D.C., to vote in presidential elections.

Each of these have gone through the tedious process of getting a two-thirds vote in each house of Congress, and ratification by three-fourths of the states. (The other method of amending the Constitution—by a constitutional convention—has never been employed.)

CONSERVATIVES are fond of calling for "a return to Constitutional principles." But at the same time, many of them are promoting proposed amendments which would, in effect, completely negate the delicate balance of power worked out over the years between the state and federal governments, and send the nation back into a state of Confederacy, by granting the ultimate and supreme power to the states—a power they surrendered 176 years ago.

Thus far these crippling amendments have not gotten very far, and the chances are they won't get much further.

But a nation which could pass a prohibition amendment is theoretically capable, in a moment of aberration, of doing equally foolish things. The "states' rights" amendments, and the even more crippling so-called "liberty amendment," would throw the nation's polity and economy into chaos.

THE main body of the Constitution, those seven articles, sets forth in brief and orderly fashion the powers, duties, limitations and responsibilities of the various arms of government.

It is obscurely worded in some portions, but is magnificently clear in others. Some portions are outmoded (no "letters of marque and reprisals" have been granted for many years). But others are sharply pertinent today. For instance:

This constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

THE Constitution, and particularly the Bill of Rights, is the most tangible guarantee of the rights and liberties and privileges of all American citizens.

Yet no document can, of and by itself, do the job alone. It is administered by human beings, and if it does not command the loyalty and respect and support of a majority of the citizens, it is little more than a scrap of paper.

But as long as it does command that support, and as long as it remains a barrier to the pver-ambitious forces of tyranny and injustice, we can all be thankful that we live within its protective shadow, today as 176 years ago today. —E.A.

We've Decided Against The Test-Ban Treaty— We Want The Right To Develop Our Own Bomb



... 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.

Distressed To the Editor: I am greatly distressed by the inconsistency, the criminal greed, and the lack of common humanitarian principle animating and actuating those businessmen who operate markets that sell in their "saloon departments" beer and wine of many kinds, (not to mention the real saloons (taverns) and other outlets, that do so much to destroy the morals, manners, principles, and general equilibrium of men and women and youth! Not only so, but "open seven days a week for your convenience."

Our lawbreaking and moral bankruptcy, "The inhumanity of man to man makes countless millions mourn," and still for filthy lucre simply, and mercenary gain entirely, the Juggernaut car, the liquor traffic continues unrestrained to crush its multitudes under its iron wheels! Yes, and the British traffic is too rapidly diminishing our common sense and resistance; populating our mental hospitals; and our cigarette smoking, beer and wine guzzling mothers are bringing forth anemic weakling children, born lacking normal strength and capacity, as is so often told in our news channels. And consider this, the mourning millions are trying by spending millions of dollars for "tranquilizers" to alleviate their mental and moral torture, only to sink deeper into the morass, or the whirling maelstrom!

What care the brewers who sing the praises of their alcoholic potion? What care the distillers and the wineries who peddle so widely their mockers? What care the mercenary advertising mediums who help them so well? What care the saloon keepers on Front Street, or anywhere else? What care our "super" market owners with their "saloon departments"? What care they about car wrecks killing thousands; the moral and mental wrecks of overcrowded mental hospitals? What care any of them about anemic weakling children being born in or out of wedlock to grace — excuse me I mean disgrace — our already too anemic and weakling race?

Yes, Mr. Editor, I am distressed, greatly distressed! I think I have a just right to be, for that person was so right who said, "The inhumanity of man to man makes countless millions mourn!"

H. R. Bulman Route 4, Box 316A Medford, Oregon

Favors Sales Tax To the Editor: Your editorial in last Friday's paper regarding a sales tax was a very good one. If we have to have more money I'm in favor of getting it this way.

It is no longer possible to meet the rapidly increasing cost of our bureaucratic state government without such a tax. Further increases in our already too high income and property taxes are simply out of the question.

A sales tax is the only modern way to collect such a large amount of money. It is more or less painless, a little is paid out each day and everybody gets into the act. It is self equalizing; people with large incomes pay more than those in the lower brackets because they are able to buy more products such as cars, clothes, furniture, etc. The state would also collect between 4 and 5 million dollars per year from the many thousands of tourists and vacationers who come to Oregon every summer and spend two or three days to two weeks here. These people would not mind paying a sales tax, in fact a lot of them expect to as most of them have such a tax

in their home state and are used to it. You could be more right than sarcastic when you mention the "little red schoolhouse." It could well be that the "you owe it to us" attitude of some of our children could be changed by a return to less elaborate school buildings. But I'm afraid many of us oldsters just don't want to remember what we were taught in the days of the old pop book; that we have to pay for everything we get. Honestly now—do you really think those neat little green classrooms are any better?

Berna Flyovers 355 Verdala ave. Medford. Editor's note: Yes.

Shocked To the Editor: A few weeks ago I made a hurried trip through Medford and had occasion to drive past my old Alma Mater. I was as shocked as you and other Medford citizens to see the "temporary classrooms" on the front lawn. There was insufficient time to make proper inquiries as to the problems faced by the Medford School Board, but for what it is worth, my many years in public classrooms have proven that such education have proven that such classrooms are seldom financially justified and practically never temporary.

I am all too aware of the problems facing many school administrators and boards which force them to unsatisfactory "solutions" to immediate problems. I have never known the problems to be lessened by insulting the aesthetic sensibilities of their patrons. Surely some more suitable location could have been found for the classrooms—if they had to be constructed—the beauty would have preserved the beauty of the high school campus.

Before leaving Medford I was told by one citizen that the Board had purchased another site many years ago but had failed to build another high school when needed because of pressure from prominent citizens who feared that a division of the current student body into two schools would jeopardize the position of Medford's traditionally victorious athletic teams. Can this possibly be the situation?

Fred C. Sander 5700 The Toledo Long Beach 3, Calif.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In Aberdeen, South Dakota, Mrs. Andrew Fischer, aged 30, gives birth to quintuplets—thus bringing to the U.S. into the limelight hitherto monopolized by Canada, Argentina and Venezuela.

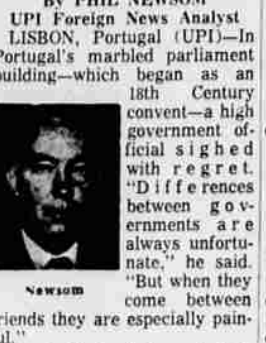
THE dispatches add: The father, who works for a wholesale grocery firm in Aberdeen and in his off time operates a small farm just outside the town, sweated out the ordeal of waiting and then hurried home to milk the cows. There are two of them, and they have to be milked each morning and evening.

HE had another reason for hurrying home. He had to get back to their FIVE OTHER CHILDREN. Red-eyed from sleeplessness, he told the hospital attendants who queried him as to how it felt to be the father of quintuplets.

"I've never been so shocked in all my life," he added. "I've never seen my wife so surprised as when she found out about it. She's really lappy about it, though."

THE father's other children? Other ages are given, six

Traditionally Friendly Relations With Portugal Dimmed by U.S. African Views



By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst LISBON, Portugal (UPI)—In Portugal's marbled parliament building—which began as an 18th Century convent—a high government official sighed with regret. "Differences between governments are always unfortunate," he said. "But when they come between friends they are especially painful."

For in Portugal there is both a regret and a deep resentment over what the Portuguese regard as United States abandonment of a friend and ally in NATO and a misunderstanding of Portugal's determination to retain its overseas territories in Africa.

Portugal, traditionally aloof from European commitments, joined NATO in 1949 and announced it did so only because

of U.S. participation. In 1951, Portugal signed a common defense pact with the United States and gave the U.S. free use of an airfield on Santa Maria Island in the Azores. Also in 1951, because of her own economic recovery, Portugal refused further U.S. Marshall Plan aid and has gone on her own ever since.

It came as a shock then in 1962 when the United States joined the Afro-Asian countries in demanding that Portugal give up her grip on Angola, her largest and most prosperous province in Africa, and permit self-determination.

Portuguese officials freely admit that Portugal's current refusal to sign a new agreement on the Azores base springs from U.S. and Portuguese differences over Africa.

And Portuguese-U.S. relations plunged to a new low in August when Premier Antonio de Oliveira Salazar accused both the United States and Russia of pressing African liberations for their own individual advantage in control of African markets.

In the United Nations, Salazar charged, self-determination had become synonymous with independence regardless of a people's ability to rule themselves. And in Lisbon there is a conviction that if independence were to come now to Angola, it

would fly into tribal pieces with the whole rich area up for grabs. The winds of change blow slowly over Portugal and change also has been slow to come to its overseas provinces in Africa. It is a source of pride to Portugal that on the bloody "night of the long knives" on March 15, 1961, black African troops turned back the first wave of terrorism that saw the butchering of Europeans in settlements of northern Angola near the border with the Congo. It was the start of the Angolan revolt which focused world attention on Portuguese over-

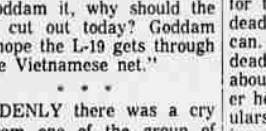
seas territories. For the sake of the Portuguese position it is unfortunate that important reforms giving the Africans equality with European workers and a greater voice in their own affairs have come only after the "night of the long knives."

But the Portuguese not only are determined, they are confident. There are hints that forthcoming months may see a referendum to prove that Africans in the overseas territories prefer to remain Portuguese. Meanwhile, both for the Afro-Asians and the United States, it is hands off Portuguese Africa.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

THE COMMAND POST BINH DAI, Kien Hoa, Viet Nam — The command post of the battle was a little shack next to the mud fort of the militia men of Binh Thanh, a strategic hamlet. Here the district chief, Capt. Hoa, a tough little man with a Buddhist med-



itation, was gabbling earnestly to the L-19 liaison plane circling endlessly overhead. On the high bank of the mud fort was Maj. John S. Ames, commander of the provincial advisory group. Alternately, he gazed out across the exquisite green sweep of rice fields, to the clump of jungle a couple of hundred yards away, whence came the pop-pop of firing; and turned to glare at his radio-equipped jeep with furious animosity.

"Goddam it, why should the radio cut out today? Goddam it, I hope the L-19 gets through on the Vietnamese net."

SUDDENLY there was a cry from one of the group of women waiting by the mud fort to help the wounded men, who occasionally limped or were carried back across the rice fields from the sharp fight in the patch of jungle.

The sharp-eyed woman pointed excitedly. And there, sure enough, were five AD-6 fighter bombers. The L-19's call for air support had indeed got through.

Like a small but intelligent dog leading a flock, the L-19 invited the AD-6s to follow along; and over the thickest patch of jungle it dropped marker-bombs. The smoke plumes rose, acid-carmines against the perfect blue of the late afternoon sky. The first AD-6 swooped to the attack. There was a crash of rocket. At this new noise, the airgettes and white herons soared up in alarm from the rice fields all about.

For 20 minutes, the strafing and rocketing continued. Then it was over, and as the planes flew homeward, little Capt. Hoa urged his men forward, into the newly strafed area which the enemy had hastily fortified hours before. Now the noise of the battle rose and became more continuous. Suddenly, it was ominously dominated by the rattle of Browning automatic rifles.

THAT meant that the air attack had failed to take out any of the three BARs the Communists were known to have. And that meant, in turn, that the battle could end only in a draw. For in that jungle, no man can see more than three yards ahead and, in these conditions, the little district chief's force of village militia and civil guards could not hope to have a dug-in position protected by heavy automatic fire.

As the dusk began to fall, the faces in the command-post grew grimmer almost by the minute. You could almost see them thinking about the Communist force's melting away under cover of darkness. The women who had been helping

the wounded, understanding the outcome, went into the nearby hamlet and returned with food for the troops. At last the order was given to break off the fight, and files of men trudged back across the rice fields, carrying a couple more wounded.

That is how a rather ordinary, indecisive, fairly representative minor battle of this war in Viet Nam now looks. The battle had begun even before we left Saigon, when a patrol sent out at dawn by the Binh Thanh strategic hamlet ran smack into a reinforced company of Viet Cong troops. The hamlet used its new radio to call for help from Capt. Hoa. The district chief threw in all the men he could gather and borrowed more support (but very little was available) from the provincial commander.

BOTH sides suffered. A bamboo helmet, blood-stained and bullet-pierced, was the sole proof of the Viet Cong's losses, for they still carry away their dead and wounded when they can. Capt. Hoa's men had five dead and 12 wounded among about 250 men, which is a rather heavy casualty list for irregulars to accept without flinching.

Indecisive as it was, moreover, the battle at Binh Thanh strategic hamlet must have given less than no satisfaction to the Viet Cong commander of Kien Hoa province. To begin with, his reinforced company almost certainly had the mission of overwhelming the hamlet's mud fort and if possible the hamlet itself by a surprise attack at night. Instead, the company was surprised by the dawn patrol of the men of the hamlet.

To go on, this is one of the "front line hamlets" of Capt. Hoa's district of Binh Dai. Like the other two districts of this province, Binh Dai is an island, with all but impenetrable mangrove swamps at its seaward end. The swamps are the Viet Cong stronghold. Capt. Hoa has therefore laid out his strategic defense in the pattern of a defense in depth command, with the front line nearest the swamps.

BEING in the front line, Binh Thanh hamlet has suffered everything from petty harassing attacks to major assaults since the hamlet was formed. Yet here was Binh Thanh still on the alert, still resisting, with its women spontaneously gathering to aid the troops.

"In the five months I've been here," Maj. Ames told me as we left Binh Thanh, "no night has passed without an attack on at least one of the strategic hamlets. We have more than 250 of them by now. In all that time, not one of them has failed to resist. In the great majority of cases the VC has been beaten off, quite often with heavy losses. And although some hamlet forts have been lost, no actual hamlet has ever been overrun."

There is something oddly inconsistent, here, with the widely propagated picture of Vietnamese masses with no will to resist and a positive tendency to regard the Communists as the preferable alternative.

Strictly Personal

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

UNITY VS. FUNCTION A couple dropped in for tea last Sunday afternoon, and during the conversation the wife mentioned that she had been shopping for an apartment, but with no success. Knowing that she owned a hand some building in a most desirable location, I asked her why she didn't take an apartment in her own property.

"It would drive me crazy," she shrugged. "As the tenant, I'd expect the owner to pay for all the repairs and decorating — but, as the owner, I'd insist that the tenant take better care of the apartment. My nervous system couldn't stand such a strain!"

We all laughed, of course, but her jest was rooted in serious fact. She was really saying that she prefers to keep her functions as Landlord and as Tenant quite separate — because combining them might force her to give up a viewpoint she now finds comfortable and profitable.

The tremendous size and complexity of our society has given each of us a specialized task and role to play; and it has become dangerously easy for each of us to consider his separate function as the whole person.

We are the Landlord, the Tenant, the Banker, the Workman, the Stockholder, and so on. These roles are usually so demanding, and so restricting, that we forget ourselves as a human entity, and become only part of a person: the part that is directly engaged in making a living and protecting our possessions.

Perhaps we can see the problem more clearly with an everyday illustration. When the average man is driving his car, he is a Motorist, and pedestrians are menaces or fools who seem to be his sworn enemies, when he is walking, however, he becomes a Pedestrian, and then the motorist is seen as the lunatic foe.

Yet, above both the Motorist and the Pedestrian is the higher concept of the Good Citizen, who wants justice and fair treatment for walkers and drivers alike, and whose attitude does not depend on whether he happens at any given moment to be walking or driving.

The lady who refused to move into her own building was denying her unity as a person, and preferred to think of herself as separate function. Her attitude, while understandable, is the greatest single stumbling block in the way of a decent and flexible social order — for, until we are willing to put ourselves in another person's place, to incorporate his views in ours, we selfishly obstruct any vision of a better world.

in the not too numerous hours of relaxation. For the parents, each was another helper to lighten the load of making a living. There was never any wondering about what to do next. There was always PLENTY to do.

A.H. me. Life was simpler then. That was back in the days when our economy was a basically RURAL economy. THE URBAN SPRAWL had not then been even imagined.



"Basically, it's the usual campaign stuff — photos in an Indian headdress, kissing babies, ethnic-group lunches. But what's this one, 'eating watermelon in the South'?"