

Medford Mail Tribune
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Tax Polls -- and 1965

The Mail Tribune's recent tax questionnaire brought considerable response and interest, not only locally but statewide.
The Klamath Falls Herald & News reprinted it, almost word for word, and the results coincided to a remarkable extent with those returned to the Mail Tribune.

Table with 2 columns: Question/Response and Percentage. Includes items like 'The tax bill was defeated because', 'The budget was too large', 'The bill was poorly written and unfair'.

"I Don't Know If We've Ever Met Before"



Nenni Leads Italian Socialists Toward Coalition Government; Instability Seen

Pietro Nenni is a bald, hook-nosed man in spectacles who affects a worker's beret instead of the bourgeois hat.
More than 50 of his 72 years have been spent in the turbulent arena of Italian politics, most of them in opposition.

... 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.

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Flight of Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

Nov. 1, 1953 (Sunday)
A Halloween that was "pretty quiet" in Medford and surrounding towns was something more than that in the rural areas, according to state police.

20 YEARS AGO

Nov. 1, 1943 (Monday)
Wade Crawford, Medford, receives letter indicating Sen. Charles McNary and Rep. Harris Ellsworth are seeking to have congressional subcommittee come to Southern Oregon to study mining problems.

30 YEARS AGO

Nov. 1, 1933 (Wednesday)
Dr. John F. Reddy, former mayor of Medford and long prominent in Southern Oregon, dies in Medford hospital.

40 YEARS AGO

Nov. 1, 1923 (Thursday)
First "modern" pipe organ in city of Medford installed at new First Baptist church; dedication of church will last six days.

50 YEARS AGO

Nov. 1, 1913 (Saturday)
Li Lee, Chinese cook at Medford restaurant, jailed after allegedly pulling six-shooter on Charlie Mong, Ashland.

What's Your I.Q.?

- 1. Do tadpoles make a better bait for bass, trout, or salmon?
2. A patty shell is a type of seashell; true or false?
3. Name the invader in general who carried Italy in the Second World War.

AS NOTED here previously, newspaper polls are not scientific. But they do offer one means of sampling public opinion, particularly on a matter which is controversial, and on which many people hold strong opinions.

Both the Herald & News and the Mail Tribune poll results indicated a strong sentiment in favor of sales and/or cigarette taxes, should additional income for state purposes be necessary. They also indicated a strong sentiment, perhaps amounting to a demand, for added economies.

THE Legislature can, through a combination of budget cuts and stop-gap measures, enable the state to get through the current biennium on a much curtailed — almost crippled — basis.

But come the 1965-67 biennium, and they're going to face a new crisis, an entirely new set of facts. The "war baby" wave will be of college age; the population will have increased (and mostly in the old and young categories—the non-taxpaying areas); damage from the curtailments of the current biennium will need repairing; there will be no fiscal "cushion," and "borrowing" from next biennium for this will make the situation even more drastic.

Despite the call for a quick session, if preparatory measures are not taken, 1965 will be a year of true crisis for Oregon. — E.A.

Slapping the Politicians

This is the winter of discontent for the politician—for the Oregon politician in particular. The beating they took last month was vicious — not only through the massive vote, but also through comments in newspapers and letters.

THE Daily Astorian commented: "Some of the criticism expressed on the street and in letters to newspapers was indeed savage. The people were hurting in the pocketbook and many of them took it out in brutal comment on their elected and appointed representatives."

It must be conceded that certain actions by both elected and appointed public officials have been injudicious and lacking in perception. But, with certain exceptions, we are convinced that they were acting in what they considered to be the best interests of the state they serve.

WE'RE not exactly sure what Gov. Hatfield meant when he said government generally is better than the citizens deserve (a comment, incidentally, which has brought him additional criticism from some self-righteous citizens). But he may have had in mind the appalling apathy which many citizens show toward their government (except when they are aroused by such matters as a tax increase); by the almost unbelievable ignorance of government and how it works on the part of far too many voters; by the simple disinterest and lack of knowledge that too many display about where and how their tax dollars are spent.

THE politicians we know are, in an overwhelming majority, honest and decent, serving the state to the best of their ability. Many of them are making a considerable personal sacrifice. Few — not more than half a dozen at most — are less than honest and sincere. Collectively the 1963 session of the legislature wrote a pretty sorry record. But individually, the members acted on principle and in accordance with their best judgment.

Worse Dead Than Rhode Island Red

By Arthur Hoppe

WILTON PARK, England—Our nation, ladies and gentlemen, is at war. I am speaking, of course, of the Chicken War now raging between our beloved United States, home of the free chicken, and the Europe Common Market, captors of the common chicken.

Oh, the furor in Congress! Our chicken-minded Congressmen, most of whom have many chickens — raising constituents, bellowed for war. We retaliated with our second — strike capability, announcing we would raise our own Tariff Curtain against \$46 million worth of Common Market goods. How the feathers are flying!

General de Gaulle is reportedly developing an independent egg-laying force so that France will have something to crow about. Britain is maintaining a strict neutrality, but is refusing to put its chickens under American control. Plans for a multilingual NATO chicken have been decided as unsound. Scientists on both sides hold out little hope for development of an ultimate chicken or even an anti-chicken chicken. There seems nowhere to turn.

I say: "Ban the Egg!" Oh, I know it is an idealistic course. But do you want to be buried in chicken fallout? For, I say, the inevitable proliferation of chickens spells the world's doom.

No, I say, the only way to survive the horrors of the Chicken War is to be on the chicken's side. Let's think chicken. Let's eat chicken. Let's be chicken. For I say the world will be saved only if enough of us recognize the dangers and have the courage to admit we're chicken.

Strictly Personal

By Sidney J. Harris

During a recent teachers' convention at which I spoke, one of the panel members asked my opinion of "mechanized" teaching by means of television, tape-recordings and such impersonal devices.

I could only answer that mechanization is better than a bad human teacher, but infinitely inferior to a good one. Moreover, while certain subjects might lend themselves to impersonal teaching, the truly important ones depend upon direct human communication.

All true communication is "personal," in the highest sense of the word. The most profound truths are manifested in persons, and not in propositions. What a man believes, in the abstract, cannot be divorced from how and why he believes it, and what he does with it. "A great teacher," as Prof. M. V. C. Jeffries has said, "does not merely preach his gospel; he is his gospel."

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From Washington: Representative Morris K. Udall, of Arizona, has introduced in the congress a bill that would raise the pay of the vice president of the U.S. from the present \$35,000 to \$50,000; cabinet officers from \$25,000 to \$40,000; Supreme Court justices from \$35,000 to \$50,000 and members of congress from \$22,500 to \$35,000.

He says in explanation of his bill that present salaries paid top government officials are ridiculously low and that substantial increases are needed to attract and hold the kind of people it takes to run the government properly.

IN DEFENSE of his bill, he goes on to say: "It doesn't make sense when Chicago says its chief of police \$30,000 a year to protect its citizens and the United States pays its secretary of defense only \$25,000 a year to administer a \$55 billion budget for the protection of the entire nation."

AND, he adds: "It's absurd when the city of New York pays its comptroller \$40,000 a year but the U.S. secretary of the treasury gets only \$25,000 a year."

Every word in the Bible is true or none of it is true. For me every word is true. But because of ignorance to the true meaning, some are quick to dispute the writings. All scripture is given by the inspiration of God. Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say unto him that formed it.

Suppose the congress should enact and the President should sign Representative Udall's bill. Suppose it could then be referred by petition to a vote of the people of the U.S.—as an act of the legislature can be submitted to a vote of the people in Oregon.

What would happen? One suspects that it would be beaten as decisively as was the recent tax increase in Oregon.

Well, one suspects that all over the country people are getting just as hot under the collar over soaring taxes as are the people of Oregon. Taxes are beginning to BITE.

School at Home

To the Editor: Several teachers are my personal friends. Regardless of this fact, I must confess, also, to disfavor with the system's practice of sending quantities of "homework" home with my children.

In effect the teacher, who has their attention and obedient presence all day, comes home with my child, stands, uninvited, in the sanctuary of our home, and dictates what my child shall do there, as well. If the assignment is difficult, and unexplained (as algebra), this intruder-teacher further dictates what I shall do with my evenings, for I must also work at such homework that my child may complete it correctly.

This is quite obviously a violation of personal rights. A little homework; 20 minutes' homework daily, is acceptable, but when such assignments consume hours of intense concentration and study and work by both parents and children, it is then that the invisible intruder becomes a despised ghoul, and the system itself is distrusted and feared.

Such assignments require that a child has his own large, well-lighted and warm room, with a fine desk and absolute quiet, while the balance of the family stands in the ready to rush in and try to explain some formula or concept to the completion of the horrendous ordeal. Such is not always the case: in my home, the dining table serves many purposes, and how often the tired parent and hungry small child have had to wait and wait, until at last this table may be used for its original purpose.

How many nights my high school student has tossed sleeplessly about with fear for unfinished work because such work, house centered, kept all awake until I made him stop in order that the others could get some rest? How many days the little ones are absent from school because the older ones had to sit up beyond midnight to do homework, and I had to help?

If I am to be teacher, and my home is to be auxiliary schoolroom, then put me on salary and include my home expenses on the school budget, and permit my children to stay here, all the time. I will teach their lessons, yet I will also arrange so they have time to live a little.

Please leave this unsigned, but disclose my name to any school faculty member who might inquire. (Name on file) Medford.

Biblical History

To the Editor: In answer to the Rev. Donald Krug, 10/25: If I understand his statement, the account of the tower of Babel is a legend and not a true account of the event.

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At that time we did not know

Old Horseless Carriage To the Editor: Some 48 years ago we were hiking from Ashland over the old Green Springs dirt road with a companion from Rogue River, Ore. There was a handicapped shoe cobbler who also lived in Rogue River, who possessed a 1910 vintage model chain drive single seater Maxwell. Just as we were nearing the steep side of the summit we heard the chugging and coughing of the old horseless car. The driver asked us if we would give them a push up the grade. Once over the grade, they went merrily on their way.

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Why has thou made me thus?

(Rom. 9:20.) He also says (in Matt. 7:15) Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

I sure (as God is my guide) near the voice of a wolf in your article. For the voice of the true spirit would never belittle God's word as you did in your reply to the lady's article of Oct. 21 on the Good Neighbor. She stated the Bible. And God did segregate the people at that time for his own purpose.

Also I looked up every reference to Ham and his posterity, and he is the father of the peoples of the southern countries, Arabia, Egypt, Median and Ethiopia.

Num. 12: verse 1 to end of chapter, tells us Moses' wife was an Ethiopian. (The dictionary in the back of my Bible says Ethiopian means burnt faces.) Aaron's wife Miriam made fun of Moses' wife on account of her black face. And it so angered God he struck Miriam with leprosy. Moses entreated God not to so harshly punish Miriam, so God healed her after he had given her seven days of punishment. Only because Moses had so entreated for her.

You may not like what I have said. But I have God's word to sustain my remarks. A true prophet of God glorifies God's word. Ham's punishment was that he and all his posterity were to be servants of all of Noah's two other sons' posterity, for his sin of looking at Noah's nudeness as he lay drunk on his bed.

I advise you to get the book Josephus, the profane history of the Jews. It is a very enlightening book. You can get it from public library. Or I did in Bakesfield, Calif., when I lived there in 1929. He describes Jesus' appearance. Also told how many distinct prophecies were fulfilled while Christ hung on the cross. He told how the Temple was rent from top to bottom. How the graves opened and his dead friends came out and went about. He did not believe Christ to be divine. Said he was just a very good man. It proves much of the Bible. I have read many world histories and everything I could get on the pyramids, and they all sustain the scriptures by relatively different historical events also related in the scriptures.

Dr. Kreisman at Southern Oregon College is a great scholar on ancient history. Maybe he could enlighten you on Ham.

Della Randleman Route 1, Box 330 Rogue River, Ore.

Sign Your Name

To the Editor: I received in the mail the other day an unsealed envelope mailed in Medford 10/21/63, containing three separate tracts, one headed "How Did Reds Get Secret U.S. Defense Details?" This was marked "tract 9". The address given to obtain more—Cinema Educational Guild Inc., P.O. Box 46205, Cole Branch, Hollywood 46, Calif.

Another entitled "While Men Slept." For additional copies, Freedom Center, Box 3905, Portland 8, Ore.

The third, typed on both sides, whose only heading was "Will You Help Stop This?" Since neither enclosure did not bear name or clue to the Medford sender, my answer is an emphatic YES, I will do my utmost to stop all such, and failing, I will defer as much as possible.

If anyone believes in a program enough to send a copy to me, he or she must be sincere enough to sign their name. Any one so furtive as to employ such tactics creates only distrust and distrust in me.

You see, dear Editor and Readers, I spent several years in the open spaces of our state and it was always my policy to shoot or trap the coyote or other furtive predator that do their damage by sneaking around under cover to be unseen. But invariably they leave some sign, usually an obnoxious odor.

We used to have a bounty in this state on coyotes and cougar. I would favor bounty and a year round open season on furtive propaganda peddlers. This third sheet entitled "Will You Help Stop This?" used about two-thirds of its entire space to castigate Nelson Rockefeller. This whole thing has the aura of Goldwater for it smells like backwater. If you can't sign it don't send it.

Atheist Americans

To the Editor: Referring to the letter written by Mrs. Ernest Santo which was published on Oct. 25, I explained in two previous letters why the decision of the Supreme Court banning prayers and Bible reading in the public schools was a sensible ruling, and why this country is not a Christian nation. I will repeat that, because the founding fathers were deists, not orthodox Christian believers.

As for the "In God We Trust" motto on our coins, our stockpile of nuclear bombs proves that we don't. This makes us a nation of hypocrites. At least as far as our national safety is concerned we don't trust in any God and we know it. Then why not remove the hypocritical motto and regain our self-respect?

The suggestion in the last paragraph of Mrs. Santo's letter that all who do not believe in God and the Bible should take a one-way ticket to some Communist paradise smacks of religious intolerance, than which there is no greater evil. This is what makes it mandatory that the edict concerning the separation of church and state be upheld.

There are today some five million American citizens in good standing who do not believe in God. In every crowded classroom there is likely to be an atheist child. On every faculty of 100 teachers there are likely to be two or three or more atheists. Among the 40,000 who watch a ball game at Yankee Stadium there are probably over a thousand atheists. There are thousands in the armed forces. They are part of America and they are entitled to the Constitutional rights of any American.

There are more atheists today than ever before in the world's history, and their number increases with the spread of secular education.

Lydia Burnham 814 Warne St. Prescott, Ariz.

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C. R. Burrill 834 1/2 Cherry St. Central Point, Ore.

