

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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1963 PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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 Dec. 4, 1953 (Friday) Donald Hansen, Medford lawyer, has been named chairman of the January March of Dimes campaign.

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 4, 1943 (Saturday) Karl Janouch, supervisor of Rogue River National Forest, leaves for Portland to attend regional conference.

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 4, 1933 (Monday) Estimated 20 places in Jackson County selling liquor as prohibition ends; situation expected to be ended shortly as Oregon's Knox law slated to go into effect.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 4, 1923 (Tuesday) School census shows total of 3,453 school age children in Medford School District.

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 4, 1913 (Thursday) The Revelers Club gives Medford's first formal party of the season at the Natatorium building.

What's Your I.Q.?

- 1. Molly Pitcher was famous in which of these activities: woman suffrage, war, stage, medicine?
2. Is the larger portion of an ocean liner above or below the waterline?
3. What is the capital of the Dominion of Canada?
4. How many stars are there in the Big Dipper?
5. What great document was signed in the reign of King John of England, in the year 1215?
6. Bourke B. Hickenlooper represents which state in the U. S. Senate?
7. For what purpose was the great Spanish Armada assembled?
8. Is ermine a species of beaver, muskrat, weasel, or squirrel?
9. What is a yellow hamper?
10. Which is the longest bone in the human body?
Answers: 1. War. 2. Below. 3. Ottawa. 4. Seven. 5. Magna Charta. 6. Iowa. 7. Invasion of England. 8. Weasel. 9. A bird. 10. Femur.

NAMED TO GROUP SALEM (UPI)—House Speaker Clarence Barton Tuesday named Rep. Ray Dooley, D-Portland, to the Interim Committee on State Buildings and Institutions.

Champions

One of the attributes of a champion is the ability to accept and, with poised confidence, face challenges. Of such quality are the Phoenix High School football Pirates. Great were the expectations of them early in the fall.

The gridiron season was just two games old when the Buccaneers were advanced to No. 1 position in the Class A-2 rating polls. Said Phoenix Head Coach Jack Woodward at that time: "All we can do is keep it as a challenge and try to stay up there every week."

WEEK BY week the Pirates resolutely, resourcefully and successfully met that challenge. Last Saturday, by defeating the Royals of Portland's North Catholic High, 13-0, the Pirates completed a 12-game season unbeaten and untied. Now they rule as Oregon champions in their class.

Well-coached and well-drilled in the requisites of winning football and spurred by a core of veterans, the Buccaneers overran their opposition with sharp and precise execution. One writer termed their manner businesslike and brusque. Their defense was tremendous, permitting only one touchdown during the entire fall. It was yielded, perhaps condescendingly, to probably the weakest adversary Phoenix met.

Hats off to an A No. 1 ball club and to its coaches of same caliber. Southern Oregon is proud of you. Congratulations, champs.—R.D.J.

Firearms Regulation

Right to Bear Arms. A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. — Amendment II, Constitution of the United States of America.

Over a considerable period of time, we have engaged in a friendly argument with a friend over the "right to bear arms," arguing that restrictive measures would violate the Constitution, while he argued that present measures make weapons too readily available to fools and idiots — or madmen.

The argument has intensified, of course, since the assassination of President Kennedy through the use of a mail-order rifle, purchased under a false name. Indeed, the argument is heated, and nation-wide.

We still maintain, however, that no law-abiding citizen should be forbidden to own weapons. But the right to do so, we now admit, should be subject to control.

A RIGHT implies a responsibility. Surely no responsible citizen wishing to own a firearm for hunting or target-shooting would be averse to laws requiring the registration of firearms.

Such laws, under which every firearm of any design would be known to appropriate authorities, and, if used in the commission of a crime, be readily identifiable as to ownership, would do much to deter crime. A concomitant, of course, would be stiff penalties for non-registration.

Thus law-abiding citizens would have free access to firearms for legitimate use; criminals would, while not barred, find it hard to come by them, particularly if dealers were required to record and report each sale. And illegal use would be more hazardous than it now is.

SOME PROPOSALS have been made to prohibit the ownership of firearms. These we oppose, not only because they are unduly restrictive, but because they would ban legitimate use of weapons while permitting criminals and the unscrupulous to obtain and use them (they'll always find a way, even to making their own).

Remember the prohibition of alcohol. It didn't work. Neither would a prohibition against the private ownership of guns.

We do not favor an outright ban — which, of course, would require a Constitutional change.

SHOULD such regulatory laws be federal? We're of two minds. A federal statute would undoubtedly be more effective.

But we can't get out of the back of our head a sneaking thought that the time may come when individual citizens might — just might — have to take up arms against a government which has become dictatorial and no longer subject to control by the ballot. Let that day never come!

But if it does, a federal firearms control statute would be a potent weapon against an aroused citizenry determined to defend its rights and freedoms.

A WRITER in the New York Times makes another point:

"(Police) are not infallible or omnipresent, however determined they are to protect citizens from criminal violence. A firearm can be used for self-defense as well as recreation, and depriving citizens of this protection cannot be justified even by the brutal murder of their Chief Executive by a gun.

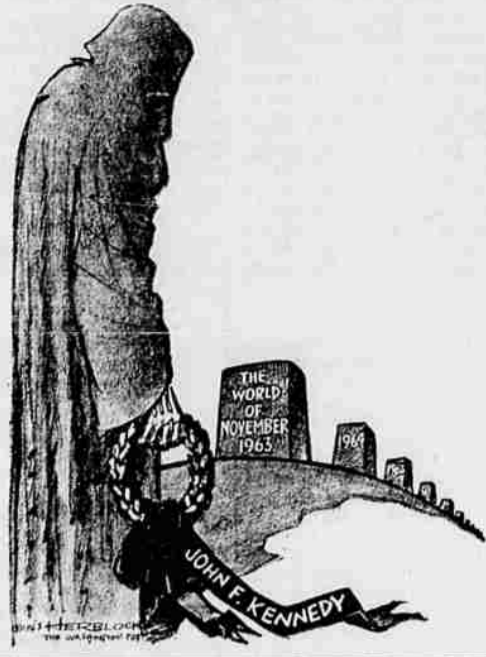
"A twisted, demented mind bent on a course of insane violence will usually find a way to carry it out. This depressing reality is no reason to penalize a huge segment of law-abiding, normal, firearm-owning Americans."

The most lethal weapon in America today is the automobile, but we do not ban its ownership. We regulate it — and probably not well enough.

The danger is not from a gun or an automobile; it is from the man behind the trigger or the wheel. — E. A.

P. S. — For the record (and for AEJ's gratification), this is a reversal of our previous position, in an editorial of April 29, 1962.—E. A.

Long Shadow



THE WORLD OF NOVEMBER 1963

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.

Great Relief To the Editor: Congratulations. It has been a great relief, for the past week, not to find a single one of the usual violent, hate letters in Communications.

Worth Saving. To the Editor: As my thoughts reflect on the tragic events of our nation in recent days, I am compelled to express my views on young American High School students. I am truly thankful for the privilege to work with them during their most formative age.

Gifts for "Children" To the Editor: This year an appeal is being made to interested persons and service organizations who wish to say "Merry Christmas" to mentally retarded children at Oregon Fairview Home in Salem. Persons wishing to donate presents before the Dec. 15 deadline are asked to contact Mrs. Harry Daudt, chairman, Fairview Committee, Phone 482-0853 in Ashland. In Medford, Mrs. R. Minear, 773-1277. Gifts received will be taken to Fairview by the committee.

Common Decency To the Editor: On the day of President Kennedy's death, I happened to be in Sacramento, Calif., and heard the news over the radio in my vehicle. Later on in the afternoon, while on my way back to Oregon, it came to my attention that a few stations I was picking up on the radio, were playing regular musical programs. One station in Stockton, Calif., was playing music, especially disrespectful to the events of the morning just past. This prompted me to do a little dial spinning, and find out just how many radio stations were guilty of disrespectful programming at a time when, if not carrying news or commentary concerning our President's death, the very least to be expected would be music appropriate for the moment, and by music I don't mean rock and roll or western tear jerkers.

Film Praised To the Editor: If you are a skier, an outdoors sportsman, or, if you enjoy good, travelogue-type motion pictures, you are in for a rare treat this Saturday night, Dec. 7, when world-famed skier — photographer Warren Miller presents his 90-minute film "Many Moods of Skiing" at the Medford Senior High School auditorium.

Animal Welfare To the Editor: All during the year, our friends of the press have helped us: To promote animal welfare public safety — child protective services.

Parent Spirit To the Editor: After reading Lydia Burnham's doubt about Spirit Life, I was prompted to write, although it is barely possible to comprehend God's greatness.

Heaven To the Editor: It is second nature with me to be constantly thinking of Heaven, where I expect to meet all the good people of Jackson County after Judgment Day. Our years on earth are extremely limited, though I shall try to reach the age of 100 years, even plus. Thereafter, we are to dwell in Heaven for all Eternity — a mighty long time.

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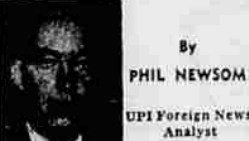
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Irony: Betancourt Lives, Kennedy Dies As Venezuela Turns Democratic Corner



By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

Impossible to perceive at the time, there was tragic irony in President Kennedy's greeting upon the occasion last Feb. 19 of Venezuelan President Romulo Betancourt's state visit to Washington.

"You represent all that we admire in a political leader," Kennedy said.

He was addressing a man who had survived three assassination attempts and still was to survive a fourth in a nation which was the No. 1 target of Castro communism's attempt to destroy democracy in Latin America.

Yet 10 months later, it was President Kennedy, leader of

the world's free nations, who was himself to fall victim to an assassin's bullet.

This week Venezuela turned an important corner. Despite terrorist threats, more than three million Venezuelans turned out in free elections to name Betancourt's successor. It was an important triumph for Betancourt who has been determined that first, free elections be held, and second, that next March he should turn his office peacefully over to the man who won.

Important Victory It was an important victory, too, for the Venezuelan people and for the Venezuelan military who successfully had resisted the temptation to seize the reins of government and thus provide the terrorists with proof that democracy in Latin America would not work.

Now a new test involving the whole of Latin America is at hand.

Only a few weeks prior to Betancourt's Washington visit, Communist Cuba itself had made clear the importance it attached to Venezuela.

In a Havana rally marking the fifth anniversary of the overthrow of Venezuelan dictator Perez Jimenez, Cuban Communist leader Blas Roca declared that the Venezuelan rebels are not alone and that we will continue giving them our backing every day. And he added: "When they achieve their full independence and make themselves owners of the great riches in oil, aluminum and everything their earth imparts, then all of America shall burn. The whole of America shall liberate itself once and for all from the ominous Yankee imperialist yoke."

Clear Intent In Roca's words were clear intent.

Yet within the Organization of American States, from whose councils Cuba already had been banned, there remained doubt. Words, they said, were not weapons.

Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay and Mexico continued to maintain relations with the Castro regime, refusing to join other American states in a diplomatic and economic blockade of Cuba.

The Castro regime itself denied vehemently that it has given other than moral support to the Venezuelan terrorists.

This week, from a cache of arms discovered on a Venezuelan beach, Venezuela presents evidence to the contrary.

Venezuela, backed by the United States, will demand that the OAS unite against Cuba under the Treaty of Rio which also is known as the Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance.

The answer should be overwhelming hemispheric solidarity. Unfortunately, past performance permits no such encouraging outcome.

After death, I believe, we feed and communicate by the radiational warmth of emotion only, including senses of heart and mind, of thought transmission.

Our Spirit's ability to maneuver, then, lies in the field of vibrational gravitation. Since emotional life is of a spirit nature, it has to be specific or personal. To deny God is to deny emotional life exists. Faith, courage and love, three bulwarks of our spirit emotion. To me, the greatest attribute of His Spirit is non-favoritism, which proves the Purity of His Love. His Spirit is a realm of perfection. If it were not true it would show up in His creation, that is why it never changes. Our Spirit appears to be imperfect; not so, in the sense that it was created to be recreated.

Man has always sometimes wanted to go searching for the Parent Spirit, not knowing it is found in our own stable. As the earth's ground is broken for crops, so must one's own ways be broken. This is not a violation as it is in compliance with the law of Life. Out of seemingly dirt comes food and beauty from the main stalk.

Helen Prevo 222 W. Jackson St. Medford.

To the Editor: I had been talking to an English friend. "I wonder," he had said uneasily, "if you Americans are really fit to lead the world?"

I thought about it as I walked up past the White House in the soft evening. The sidewalk in front, which had been roped off and guarded all week, was now open again to the public—a sign we were returning to normalcy after the days of hatred and fear and killing.

There were 12 of them in two groups. Six were tall, solid young men in the neat brown uniforms, boots and swastika armbands of the American Nazi Party. The blood red lettering on the placards they carried read: "WIPE OUT THE RED ASSASSINS."

Farther up the sidewalk, six other young men nondescriptly dressed, also marched militantly back and forth under similar placards. A girl in a raincoat handed out leaflets saying in huge black letters: "INVADE CUBA NOW. CLEAN OUT THE RED CUBAN KILLERS."

The leader of the Nazis, Captain Seth Ryan, was eager to talk. "There's so many commies we're going to need gas chambers," he said, relish creeping into his tone of superiority.

The head of the other group was a pale, blond, 28-year-old bookkeeper named Alan Welch. His voice was more tentative, not quite so sure. "No," he said, "I'm not a Bircher. A couple of the others are. But we're mostly just Americans who say

it's time we wiped out these Red rats."

We stood for a few moments there, in front of the White House, talking in the fading light. Didn't he think, I asked him, that there had been enough hatred and violence? His lips tightened. "What's to keep them from assassinating our new President?" he said.

I walked on, feeling sad and thinking of my English friend's uneasy question. And yet, I thought, that we could tolerate these people marching up and down in front of the White House at a time like this, preaching hatred and violence, was perhaps evidence of our faith in democracy, of faith in ourselves.

A policeman stopped me. He was round and red-faced, glowing with reassuring normalcy. "Who are those nuts?" he asked.

I told him and he shook his head with that new disgust the radicals from either side. It worried me. I wanted to say that while we must condemn hatred and violence, we shouldn't condemn political radicalism. For it stimulates us to think.

But that was too complicated a thought, too personal, to tell a stranger. And I just said maybe these marchers were a penalty we had to pay for democracy.

"They're too much of a penalty," he said, his eyes hard and angry. "We ought to wipe them out."

And I walked on, wondering more than ever if we Americans are really fit to lead the world.

Strictly Personal

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

CALL IT FASCISM It's an interesting peculiarity of our social order that while the term "Communist" is flung around frequently and often carelessly, its opposite number, "Fascist" is hardly used at all.

In Europe, this is not the case. People have no hesitancy in speaking of the right-wing radicals as "Fascists," for this is what they are. To speak of them as "extreme conservatives" is a foolish contradiction in terms.

And it seems quite plain to me that there are many more Fascists and Fascist sympathizers in the United States than there are Communists and their sympathizers—unless, of course, you care to adopt the Fascist line and suggest that everyone who favors staying in the UN and retaining Social Security is a Red fellow-traveler.

We seem to be so exercised about Communist influence in this country, which is negligible, both in numbers and in appeal to the American temper. Yet, year by year, one sees a Fascist spirit rising among the people, although it is called by many other and softer names, and has even achieved a certain dubious respectability in some circles.

There is no reason why there shouldn't be a Fascist movement in this country; nearly every nation has one. But it should be called by its right name, and it should be willing to accept the consequences of its position, as the Fascist parties do elsewhere.

It has no business masquerading as "Americanism" or "conservatism" or "patriotism," when its whole philosophy of man is based on a hate-filled exclusiveness that would shock and affront the conservative American patriots who founded this country.

What is distressing about this movement is the tacit or open support given to it by men who genuinely think of themselves as "conservatives," and who do not understand the implications of right-wing radicalism any more than the German industrialists understood what would happen to them when Hitler swept into power with their support.

Just as Communism always begins with an appeal to "humanity" and "equality" and ends with inhuman despotism, so does Fascism always begin with an appeal to "nationalism" and "individualism," and ends with a military collectivism far worse than the disease it purports to cure.

These twin evils are the mirror-image of one another. It would be the supreme irony if, in rejecting the blandishments of Communism, we fell hysterically into the arms of Fascism disguised (as always) as Defender of the Faith.

Everything Is Back To Normal

By Arthur Hoppe

WASHINGTON — I had been talking to an English friend. "I wonder," he had said uneasily, "if you Americans are really fit to lead the world?"

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OPERATION WOMANPOWER

Understand it's a lot of women's organizations working together for a better community — could be pretty formidable!



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