

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.

10 YEARS AGO Dec. 13, 1953 (Sunday) Four articles in the November issue of Oregon Educational Journal...

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 13, 1943 (Monday) Featured speakers at Medford Toastmasters meeting include Frank B. Gray and Roy Harrison...

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 13, 1933 (Wednesday) Survey for highway over the Siskiyou ordered for section between summit and state line...

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 13, 1923 (Thursday) Professor I. E. Vining, Ashland, escapes death in auto accident while en route home after speaking before Medford Chamber of Commerce...

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 13, 1913 (Saturday) J. W. Slinger sells Little Butte ranch to Tom Farlow of Lake Creek for \$18,000.

What's Your I.Q.? Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. What is the largest port in South America? 2. What city of the world has the largest population? 3. Who wrote "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"?

Unanswered Question

In Woodland, Ga., a principal of an elementary school faced the task of informing his students of the assassination of the President of the United States.

When he did so, some of them cheered and laughed. The principal, shocked at such disrespect both for the office and for the solemn occasion, admonished the students.

For this he was criticized by PTA groups—the parents of the children whose homes were the soil in which such utter callousness grew up. The principal quit his job.

IN DALLAS, Tex., a school teacher, grieving for the President and ashamed of the attitudes of her own city, wrote a letter to Time magazine, telling of her shame in the "political climate" and the mood of repression in Dallas.

The letter was printed. She was suspended from her job. (She later was reinstated—but the fact that she was suspended at all is blistering evidence that she was right when she wrote the letter.)

Also in Dallas, a Methodist minister similarly condemned the city for its miasma of hate and fear, and students for cheering the assassination news. He had so many threats that police had to set a guard at his house.

THESE are only symptoms. Probably they are atypical, even in the South.

But they are symptoms of a creeping illness which is endemic in many parts of the nation. It has cropped up in our own pleasant and friendly southern Oregon communities from time to time.

Usually it is a period of stress which brings these strains of sick hatred to the surface. The Ku Klux Klan rode high in Oregon in the 20s. The Good Government Congress came close to destroying orderly government in the 30s. The John Birchers and similar types have spewed forth their venom in more recent years.

EARL WARREN, Chief Justice of the United States, a frequent target of the hate-everybody fanatics, is a great, good, and kindly man who certainly will rank among our great jurists, despite the ignoramus attacks. He has more respect than most to be aware of the vitriol which has entered the body politic.

In eulogizing the late President, Chief Justice Warren said:

"... If we really love this country, if we truly love justice and mercy, if we fervently want to make this nation better for those who are to follow us, we can at least abjure the hatred that consumes people, the false accusations that divide us, and the bitterness that begets violence.

"Is it too much to hope that the martyrdom of our beloved President might even soften the hearts of those who would themselves recoil from assassination, but who do not shrink from spreading the venom which kindles thoughts of it in others?"

We can only await the answer hopefully. —E. A.

The Presidential Succession

John W. McCormack, speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, will be 72 years of age a week from Saturday. He has been a member of the house, representing a Massachusetts district, since 1928.

Should President Johnson die within the next year, McCormack would become President. Next in line after him is Carl Hayden, 86, President pro tem of the Senate. Then, in order, would come members of the Cabinet, starting with the Secretary of State, but excluding the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

This line of succession was established in 1947. Prior to that, the Cabinet members were directly after the Vice President in the line of succession. The Speaker and President pro tem were inserted on the theory that elected officials should have priority over appointed officials.

THERE is, justifiably, considerable concern being voiced now, partly due to the age of both McCormack and Hayden, and partly due to the fact that neither is considered to be of Presidential caliber.

(As a practical matter, the line of succession would stop with the Speaker of the House, inasmuch as a new Speaker would be elected soon after the accession of the former one.)

Suggestions have been made that the line of succession be returned to that in effect before 1947. But there is some doubt that the Congress would do this, considering that it might be taken as a personal affront by McCormack.

THERE is a fallacy in the "elected rather than appointed" theory as to the succession. The Speaker is elected to Congress by a tiny segment of the population of the nation, and his election to the Speakership is by a vote of the majority party membership. So his election could hardly be construed as representing nationwide sentiment.

An appointed official, however, such as the Secretary of State, is far more apt to be of the deceased President's political coloration, and more experienced in the problems of the executive branch of government.

Too, in naming Cabinet officers, Presidents get the very best men they can find. It is more likely that a Cabinet member would be a more effective, and really a more representative, President than one who, through the accidents of seniority and Congressional politicking, had become Speaker.

Meanwhile, let us all wish health and long life for President Johnson.—E. A.

"Hey Pop, You Think Cigaretts Are Really Dangerous?"



Strictly Personal

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

INDIANS AND TULIPS Not long ago, I was seated across the dinner table from a Dutch businessman who had recently arrived from the Netherlands on his first visit to this country.

We were chatting about vacation spots, and when I told him that I spent my vacations in northern Wisconsin, he asked me if it was worth his driving up there to see some Indian tribes.

"Well," I said, "the only Indian I know up there runs the popcorn machine at the local drive-in movie, and fixes TV sets in his spare time. There's also an Indian trading post up there, where you can buy ceramic ashtrays made in Japan in the shape of a tomahawk."

He seemed disappointed at this bleak information, and so I asked him gently, "Tell me, when Americans arrive in Holland for the first time, what do they ask for and what do they expect to see?"

"Ah," he said, "it is depressing how little they know of us. They look for windmills, wooden shoes, and tulips. Sometimes they even expect to see the little boy with his finger still in the dike!"

"And this is not what Holland is like?" I prompted. He regarded me with ill-disguised contempt.

"Certainly not," he sputtered. "It is a fable of long ago, and a bad joke to the Dutch people, who are among the most modern and progressive in the world. But, of course, all the Americans know are the pretty pictures of Dutch costumes in their children's coloring books. They have some antique image in their minds, and are often disappointed when the reality is nothing like the image."

"Now you know how we feel," I said, "when visitors come to America looking for Indians and buffalo hunts—or when they come to Chicago and ask to be taken to see the gangsters. I have lived in the heart of the city for 40 years, for 25 years of them as a newspaperman—and not once have I seen a gangster performing his feats."

"But the reputation your city has," he insisted, "is the same as your wooden shoes." I replied, "We have no more crime than any other big American city, but we're the victims of our reputation. If a visitor is robbed in St. Paul, he regards it as an accident, or an act of fate; if he is robbed in Chicago, it becomes a scandal, and he goes back home convinced that everything said about the city is true."

"So everywhere it is the same," he shrugged. "About other lands, we all live in the past." I nodded, and passed him a piece of Danish pastry. "Have a slice," I said. "They've never heard of it in Denmark."

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The news at this moment in history? It has some interesting angles.

MR. KROOSH is in trouble. Huge as his country is, it isn't producing as much food as his people need to keep them happy. In particular, it isn't producing enough wheat to provide them with as much bread as they want and need.

As everyone is aware, he has been buying wheat wherever he could lay hands on it. He has been having some trouble financing his wheat purchases.

WHAT'S wrong? Mr. Kroosh lays the blame on a bad growing season. But the real trouble seems to lie deeper than that. The soil is thin. It needs vast quantities of chemical fertilizer. To get the necessary amount of fertilizer, he's going to have to spend somewhere in the neighborhood of 42 billion rubles (about \$46 billion) to build the chemical plants needed to produce the fertilizer he must have to make his land produce enough food to keep his people contented with communism.

THAT suggests this thought: Can he finance all this—as well as nuclear weapons and space travel—along with all the things his people are going to want to keep them happy? And—If he doesn't give his people what they want, can he hold their confidence? And if he can't hold their confidence, what WILL he do? He can't put a soldier to watch each peasant.

THAT would take too many soldiers. And the soldiers also are going to want a lot of things that the people of the West have. History tells him that if he can't provide the



"Heavens, there are only a few days left til 'politics-as-usual' under the moratorium on politics!"

Soviet Army To Leave Hungary; Story Recalls Bitter Days of Seven Years Ago



UPI Foreign News Analyst Phil Newsom says the Soviet army, which crushed the Hungarian revolution seven years ago, plans to leave Hungary in the next few months, diplomatic sources said today.

—UPI news dispatch from Moscow.

It was 8 o'clock in the morning on Nov. 4, 1956, and over

Budapest Radio came the desperate cry: "Help Hungary! ... Help us ... Help us!"

Just before that had been the playing of the Hungarian national anthem, and before that an announcement by Premier Imre Nagy.

Soviet troops attacked the Hungarian capital with the open purpose to overthrow the legal government," he said. "The Hungarian troops are in combat ... This is announced to our people and to the world."

The following days were a story of human courage raised to incredible heights, of treachery compounded, and, in the West, a time of agonizing indecision.

The reappraisals and the harsh recriminations for what

might have been would come later. On that morning in the blasted streets of Budapest men, women and children hurled their home-made Molotov cocktails beneath the treads of Russian tanks or threw themselves bodily against tank portholes.

It was an unarmed population against 200,000 Soviet troops and four to five thousand Soviet tanks, and before it was over more than 20,000 Hungarians were to die.

These were some of the memories evoked by the dispatch sent from Moscow seven years later.

This had been the sequence of rapid-fire events: Oct. 27-28—Nagy announces Soviets had agreed to immediate withdrawal of Russian troops from Budapest and negotiations for withdrawal of troops from the whole of Hungary.

Oct. 29-30—Nagy ends single party rule, forms an all-party government and promises free elections. The new government includes Janos Kadar.

Nov. 1—Nagy repudiates the Warsaw treaty and proclaims Hungary's neutrality.

Nov. 3—On this night, on a Soviet guaranty of security, to instruct and entertain all of us.

With love and best wishes The Ralph Smith family (Ralph, Mary, Pat, Mike and Debbie) 8825 Rogue River Highway Grants Pass, Ore.

A Better Life To the Editor: E.A.'s editorial, "The Oswalds Among Us," was thought provoking.

Parents have the first responsibility toward a child and many are incapable of that responsibility, so part of the blame starts in the home.

Society has its cliques, which often don't include the shy, hard-to-get-acquainted-with person. Everything has to come as easy as possible, including friends.

I have been taught many wonderful lessons by being patient, and making friends with what some people would probably call an odd ball.

Oswald's mother, so anxious, now that her responsibility has ended, to make restitution by writing a book pointing out the criminal character of her son's life, and in this crime bringing herself into the light, we can see where the pattern began.

May we all live, and help others to live, a better life. Mrs. Delbert Casey Route 1, Box 358 Central Point, Ore.

Misjudged To the Editor: On Nov. 27, a woman wrote an article for Communications in the Medford Mail Tribune that I, as a member of the club she so misjudged, feel a great urge to answer in a sour strain.

In the first place, the Security Benefit Club of Medford has nothing to do with Central Point's dances excepting that a few members go there for exercise.

I am a member of that club, though I did not attend the dance mentioned; I am familiar with their fine music and am glad that writer stopped to listen to it, but sorry that little village got so ashamed of their own party. I am sure our ex-President would have wanted them to carry on as scheduled.

I think most of us shed tears at John Kennedy's passing, and I am sure he would be one of the first to say that this would be a better world if scandal mongers were to look into circumstances before judging others.

Also, I am a meany and I hope our little lady gets ashamed of us over again. Pearl F. Spackman, R.F.D. 1, Box 11, Rogue River, Ore.

Wednesday's Child To the Editor: I would like to urge that persons interested in the problems of public welfare watch the documentary TV film, "Wednesday's Child," which will be presented on Channel 5 Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3:30 p.m., right after the professional football game.

This is a provocative, unbiased presentation of the problems, criticisms and benefits of the Aid to Dependent Children program in Oregon. There are statements by both critics and defenders of public welfare included. However, the main theme is illustrated by showing actual scenes in the personal life of a young Oregon mother who is receiving Aid to Dependent Children.

Jackson County Public Welfare Commission, David J. Kuhns, Administrator, Medford

Congressman Duncan To the Editor: Would you be kind enough to allow me a little space in your paper to say something to the voters of the Fourth District about Congressman Robert B. Duncan.

I would like this means to express my appreciation to Mr. Duncan, and to tell the voters that I feel very deep appreciation for the time and help he

well being which does not exist. On the contrary, my letter fully recognized the gravity of the present situation. I seek to help to create a state of well being which will be desperately needed for survival through the next billion years or so, and which presently does not exist.

Now that these gentlemen have had their fun, and given me the familiar Communist smear, I wonder if they would not agree to join me in studying out the serious and worthwhile proposal of my letter, which is this:

Low, if at all, in the present sorry state of the world, can we, without appeasement and without abject surrender, find a way of giving practical effect to the admonition, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, and do all manner of good to them who revile and persecute you."

In that direction, I think, lies the brotherhood of man. Clarence M. Crews 4706 N. Pacific Highway Central Point, Ore.

Hate Hatred or You'll Hate Yourself By Arthur Hoppe

The Right Wing is furious at Mr. Earl Warren and so what else is new? But what they're especially furious about this time is Mr. Warren's blaming the President's assassination on "some misguided wretch" who was stirred up by "hate groups."

Oh, the wrath of the Right Wing! How dare Mr. Warren make "a snap judgment" like that? Mr. Dean Manion, who is sort of their kindly old philosopher, was particularly enraged.

For, as he triumphantly pointed out on his weekly radio broadcast from South Bend, the assassin wasn't a "misguided wretch" at all. He was "a Communist—a Marxist and proud of it."

Nor, cried Mr. Manion, was the assassination a plot by some "hate group." No, it was far more likely a plot by the Communist Party.

Of course, the Communist Party hates a lot of things: capitalism, the bourgeoisie, abstract art and Mr. Manion, to name a few. But all political organizations hate something of other.

It's the main reason for them. And to call the Communist Party a "hate group" simply because it hates a lot of things is, I agree, tarring with a pretty broad brush.

So bully for Mr. Manion. It takes guts to stand up in public and defend the Communist Party these days. I just hope he isn't accused of being soft on Communism. Too often.

Oh, I know what you're going to say. You're going to say I've got the whole thing backward. And Mr. Manion was really defending himself. By claiming the assassin wasn't a member of one of Mr. Manion's Right Wing "hate groups." Which Mr. Manion apparently feels are composed solely of "misguided wretches."

Well, maybe you're right. Yet, even so, you can't help but admire Mr. Manion for courageously admitting he and his colleagues are all misguided wretches who belong to hate groups. It's certainly the height of healthy self-criticism. Oh, I can hear him now addressing the next Hang Earl Warren Annual Dinner: "Fellow misguided wretches of our wide-awake hate group..."

So that makes Mr. Manion the only man in history to admit honestly he belongs to a hate group. Except me. I've formed "The Verb-the-Noun Society." You know, be intolerant of intolerance, bigoted against bigotry and love love. But above all, its going to be a hate group.

When you need help, you can write to him not only as your Congressman, but as a friend, as if he were your next door neighbor just moved away.

Virginia H. Nielsen, Route 2, Box 1714, Coos Bay, Ore.

Cocistence To the Editor: The criticisms of Messrs. Weaver and Shafer of my letter of Dec 1 are noted. I had answered in the affirmative Mr. Weaver's question: "Can you imagine Washington advocating peaceful coexistence with Communism?" pointing out that the alternative would be NUCLEAR war. I understood Mr. Weaver to be demanding war with Russia. My dictionary defines "peace" as "absence or cessation of war," and it defines "war" as "a contest between nations. CARRIED ON BY FORCE AND WITH ARMS."

When two or more persons live simultaneously they, of necessity, coexist.

My critics say I have misinterpreted the question—that Mr. Weaver merely meant to suggest that Washington would not have surrendered his principles to appease Communism, or put implicit faith in the present Communist leaders—in other words, there are things we should be willing to die for, and we should not let down our guard. If that is all that Mr. Weaver really meant to convey, we are not in disagreement. He did express himself quaintly, I think.

I approve the policies of all our recent Presidents, Roosevelt, Truman (including Korea), Eisenhower and Kennedy (including the Cuban quarantine) in trying to hold Communism in check until the threat of its tyranny has passed. These gentlemen have been conscientious and dedicated patriots, without exception.

Mr. Shafer asserts that I seek to create an IMPRESSION of