

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. 27, 1953 (Sunday) Walter G. Garner, 2009 E. Main St., of Cal-Ore Machinery Co., elected president of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 27, 1943 (Monday) Eighty-year-old Frank Simpson oldest entrant in Riverside USO "tiddlers" contest; other contestants were Charlie Skeeters, H. W. Conger and Bert Johnson.

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 27, 1933 (Wednesday) Judges for Medford's Christmas lighting contest announced by Chamber of Commerce; they include Mrs. Lewis Ulrich, Mrs. Ralph Woodford and Col. W. H. Paine.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 27, 1923 (Thursday) Attorney Harry Skyrman of Eugene visits parents in Central Point.

50 YEARS AGO O. N. Nelson told plans for Swedish Yule feast to be held New Year's Eve for all Scandinavian families in the Medford area.

What's Your I.Q.?

- 1. What is the principal religion of the people of Indonesia? 2. Was Lorado Taft a well-known actor, sculptor, or playwright? 3. The Grammos mountains are in which European country? 4. Genuflection principally employs what joint? 5. What was the relationship between Johann Strauss and Richard Strauss? 6. In which harbor is Beiloe's Island? 7. The Zeiss camera lenses are well-known; are they produced in Switzerland, France, Germany, or Italy? 8. Who wrote the verses about the characters Wynken, Blynken and Nod? 9. Name the highest mountain peak on the North American continent. 10. Who wrote the novel, "Old Curiosity Shop"?

The O&C Resource

The administration of the O&C lands of western Oregon, it would appear, is about to enter a new phase. An abbreviated history of these lands can help in understanding their unique status and unique problems.

Originally part of the public domain, they were granted to the Oregon and California railroad as an incentive to connect Portland and San Francisco by rail. They consisted of alternate sections in a checkboard pattern located roughly 20 miles on each side of the railroad right of way.

THE TERMS of the grant were violated by the railroad, and the lands were "revested" to the federal government. But, since originally they were to have been privately owned, taxpaying lands, the federal government recognized the rights of the counties to income from the lands.

They are now administered by the federal government, under a sort of "trust" arrangement, with 25 per cent of the income from the lands going to the government, ostensibly to pay the costs of administration.

The other 75 per cent of the income was allocated to the counties. These include 17 west of the Cascades, plus Klamath county. Incorporated into the O&C lands are those granted for the construction of the old Coos Bay Wagon Road, which similarly were revested.

FOR MANY years, the lands lay largely idle. But, particularly since World War II, they have become increasingly valuable, and the revenues have mounted into the millions of dollars. The income from them has become vital to the counties involved, permitting a lower level of local property taxation.

But the counties have not been content just to sit and accept the funds due them. They have taken the enlightened attitude that investment in development of the lands will pay dividends in the long run. Thus they voluntarily relinquished one-third of their share of the income from the lands (or one-quarter of the total income), first for access road construction, and more recently for reforestation and recreational development.

As a result of this plowing back of funds, the O&C lands are among the most intensively managed of any forest lands anywhere in the nation.

THERE WAS a time when the O&C administration (handled by the Bureau of Land Management) was concerned almost wholly with road construction and timber sales.

But today the administration is engaged in the whole gamut of management and silvicultural practices, designed to produce the best possible forests for the future, and for uses ranging from lumber production to watershed protection and recreational use.

Because of this, the O&C administration is now engaged in some hard introspective thinking to this effect: "Where do we go now? And how do we get there?"

FOR ONE thing, it has been proposed for study that the O&C move in the direction of ranger districts (similar to those now used by the U. S. Forest Service), to put one man in charge of a specific area, thus increasing his familiarity with it, and placing responsibility for it directly on him.

At present, O&C foresters work out of a district office. While this has certain advantages, it also has disadvantages which, in the minds of many, outweigh the advantages.

The possibility of consolidating some of the checkerboard ownership, through exchanges, is being explored.

In addition, the responsible federal officials are seeking long-range goals, and a more clearly-stated set of principles and policies to govern day-by-day and year-by-year operations.

THE O&C lands came into being as an entity through a curious - almost accidental - chain of circumstances. But they have proven to be among Oregon's greatest assets; certainly the greatest single asset for the 18 counties involved.

Persistent efforts to change the status of the O&C lands have been made, and probably will continue to be made. Other counties would be happy to receive a portion of the bounty which they provide, despite the historic and de facto circumstances which entitle the O&C counties to what they receive.

In Jackson county, only a token tax is employed to raise money for county purposes. Should the O&C revenues be lost, local property taxes would have to go up somewhere around \$3 million per year. This is a measure of their importance to us all.

BUT EVEN more important than the immediate dollars and cents benefits are the long-range values of the O&C lands, as sources of continuing revenue, surely, but also as a factor making for economic stability and continued employment, and providing all the other less tangible but still vital uses to which the lands can be put.

In thinking ahead, we are confident that the administrators will keep all these considerations - tangible and intangible alike - in mind when determining plans and policies.

Too, while consistent procedures must be outlined and followed, the administration must retain sufficient flexibility to meet new problems and new requirements as they arise.

It is not easy, serving "many masters," as all public employes must do. But it must be a great satisfaction to meet and overcome the challenges posed thereby. - E. A.

"As A Matter Of Fact, I Have Several Ideas On The Subject"



The violent demonstration of African students against racial discrimination in the Soviet Union was an embarrassment to the Russians because it tarnished their image as champions of black Africa.

Strictly Personal

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

A friend was driving me to the airport recently and I commented on his exquisite road courtesy. He was almost courtly in his attitude toward other motorists, and I asked him the reason.

"It's my own private form of therapy," he explained. "It's the best and cheapest way I know to bolster up my ego and make me feel like a good scout."

"How does that work?" I asked, thinking of my own not-altogether saintly driving habits and attitudes.

"Well," he said, "most motorists are so mean and miserable to one another that when they come across someone who treats them with benevolence and courtesy, they practically break their necks nodding, and smiling and waving."

"I'll start home from work in the rush hour," he continued, "and inside of ten minutes I've renewed my human juices. Motorists are absolutely flabbergasted when I let them turn ahead of me, or wave them on, or show in any way that I'm not competing as the fastest gun in the West."

"You just have a nice nature," I commented with some envy.

"Not at all," he answered. "I can be just as selfish and pig-headed as anyone else. Only the traffic thing got so bad I decided the only way to beat it - short of selling my car - was to turn the other fender, as it were, and put the Golden Rule into practice in a small way."

"And whatever the moral values are," he went on, "the psychological reward is tremendous. I drive home like a prince - everyone is smiling at me and waving thanks and some motorists look as if they'd like to get out of their cars and kiss my feet just for being decent to them."

"Don't you ever get taken advantage of that way?" I inquired.

"That's the surprising thing about it," he said. "My courtesy makes other drivers more courteous - at least for the time being. They suddenly seem to realize with a shock that they're behaving behind the wheel as they never would in any face-to-face situation, and it seems to humanize them again quite spontaneously."

"What if every motorist acted as you did?" I observed cynically.

"Then most of your pleasure would evaporate, because you'd no longer be the Prince of Peace, but just another ordinary driver."

"When that great day comes," he smiled, "we'll all be so good that we won't need to get pleasure from doing good. But don't idle your motor until then, my friend."

Everybody's amazed at how smoothly Mr. Johnson's taken over the White House. And particularly at how firmly he's convinced the world he'll continue in Mr. Kennedy's footsteps. Me too. For the life of me, I can't see where he's putting everybody.

Because one of the first things he did to prove he was going to be just like Mr. Kennedy was to persuade Mr. Kennedy's entire White House staff to stay at their desks and serve under him. Which gave us all a feeling of continuity. And the second thing he did was to bring in a whole lot of friends from all over. From all over Texas.

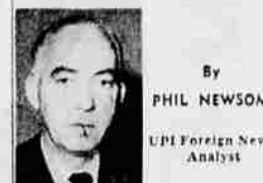
Which is fine. But have you seen those tiny offices in the White House? Mr. Kennedy's people alone occupied every cubic inch. And they were mostly just medium-sized Bostonians. Oh, I have an uneasy feeling trouble is brewing.

Scene: One of the larger six-by-six offices containing five secretarial desks occupied by nine secretaries and one executive desk. Seated behind this are Mr. Larry F. (Irish) Mafia and Mr. Billie Jack Sweetwater.

MR. MAFIA: I do not wish to complain, Billie Jack, for I know we must work together in harmony for the good of our country. But you have inadvertently slipped over to my side of the chair again. Talk about big Texas spreads.

MR. SWEETWATER: Well, now, Irish, I'm right sorry. I must've done it when I reached out to poke back those three papers of yours which you kind of accidentally been edging across the chalk line onto my half the desk.

African Students' Demonstration Against Discrimination Embarrassment To Russia



The violent demonstration of African students against racial discrimination in the Soviet Union was an embarrassment to the Russians because it tarnished their image as champions of black Africa.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

THE CHRISTMAS PRESENT WASHINGTON - The city is thickly blanketed with soft, cottony snow, which magically transforms the dreariest back streets into subjects for a Japanese screen painter. "Well," people told you, as though taking credit for a personal success, "it's a white Christmas after all."

For a great many people, however, it was a dark Christmas, still overshadowed by the memory of the President's death, and the dreadful hour when the news came through from Dallas, and the slow beat of the muffled drums, and all the old great men walking behind the caisson that bore this young man to Arlington's autumnal hillside.

Perhaps it is foolish to look backwards any longer, and to reflect upon this loss that made the whole world weep. Yet Christmas is not just a season of gew-gaw tinsel, and unwanted presents, and ritual overeating, and tree-exhausted adults.

CHRISTMAS is also a good time to think about the past and future - better than the New Year, in truth, for this day celebrates a unique beginning that has brought light and truth to this world of ours for close to two thousand years. And if we now think about our own American past, and consider the American future, with all its dreadful hazards and incomparable opportunities, we find something both curious and comforting.

We find, in fact, that from the simple, classic era of the founders of our republic, down to our own complex and dangerous times, America has always had a special need for a model or exemplar.

Both history and recent experience indicate that France tends to require a ruler. The British need is met by their monarchy, sometimes in ways Americans find hard to understand. But here in the United States, the need is for a man about whom fathers will say to sons, and school principals will urge graduating classes: "Be like him!"

THESE instructions, so hopefully uttered, are never more than half successful in the best of cases. For the simple truth is that the model or exemplar is already at least obsolescent by the time the instructions begin to be given.

Even in the young America of 1820, no one starting out in life could realistically hope to imitate George Washington, who was then our model or exemplar. Even then, before the close of the Virginia dynasty, the odd alchemy of time had already transformed Washington into the Father of Our Country - all written in capitals.

The earthiness that gave salt to Washington's wisdom, the practicality that underpinned his nobility of spirit, had all but vanished from sight. The fathers who told their sons, "Be like him," already had in mind something like Greenough's marble Washington, now moldering in the Smithsonian basement.

IN THE SAME fashion, even as early as 1870, in the raw, bursting - at the time - America of the post-Civil War decades, Abraham Lincoln was already half-transformed into our national fate, always to be remembered, but no more capable of imitation than St. Francis of Assisi.

In our own America of the strange, often cruel, sometimes splendid years after the Second World War - in this new America half proud and half-bewildered because of the heavy, glorious, unwanted burden suddenly imposed by History - the need for a new model of exemplar has been growing with each passing year.

This need has been growing because the change in our national situation has also changed everything else. It is no longer enough for an American to be a good citizen of this republic; he must also be a good citizen of the world. It is

no longer enough to remember the great traditions of the American past; it is necessary, nowadays, to bring courage, and energy, and good sense, and above all, an open mind, and the unending effort to meet the wholly novel challenges of the world present.

President we have lost, who was also the first American President born in this century. His memory requires no further eulogy. Now that he is gone, even his enemies recognize that he was brave, and generous, and humane, and wise beyond his too few years.

What matters now is that with all these other qualities, he was also, in a supreme degree, a man of his own time - of our time - which had long lacked a model or exemplar near enough and real enough and good enough to set a style and point a direction.

This man, he has left to us, as an extra present under every Christmas tree, as it were. It is something to give thanks for, in these last days of "the year the President died," (as most people will remember 1963), just as thanks should also be given that, even in the turmoil and triumph of Los Angeles three years ago, this man thought of his country when he saw to his own succession.

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.

Larger Circle To the Editor: In my letter of Dec. 14 I asked Mr. Shafer to give SERIOUS consideration to the problem of how the brotherhood of man may practically be realized, my primary object being to preserve the human race from extermination by the hydrogen bomb. His answer of Dec. 22 is disappointing.

He mistakenly asserts that my "liberal aims and Communist goals coincide." How much it would simplify the problem, and how fortunate for the world it would be, if there were a shadow of truth in this statement. He mistakenly asserts that the brotherhood of man which I desire (and which Christ sought to illustrate in the parable of the good Samaritan) can only be achieved by force! Brotherhood can be achieved only by love.

He mistakenly limits the brotherhood of man to "Christians," a grossly inadequate conception.

Many nominal Christians are narrow, bigoted and arrogant. They actually think they should have greater civil rights than non-Christians. Many of them have so little understood the humane doctrine of their leader that they have endeavored to "Christianize" the world by force of arms, destroying eight to ten million victims in Europe and fourteen million in the New World. (Homer W. Smith, "Man and His Gods," page 251).

The following I regard as charter members of the real brotherhood:

- 1. True Christians. True Christians try sincerely to follow the sermon on the mount - to be meek, kind, generous, intellectually honest, and considerate of all mankind.

2. Followers of all humane religions. In Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism and other major religions older than Christianity, many expressions of brotherly love are found, including:

"Blessed is that man who is beloved of all the Gods, who is afraid of no man, and of whom no man is afraid."

"O God, show pity toward the wicked; for on the good Thou hast already bestowed Thy mercy by having created them virtuous."

3. The millions of upright and generous persons of no creed. Finally, all those "Christians" and non-Christians who presently exhibit no brotherly love, but whom we all must learn some-

In the battle to win men's minds, both the Communist and the Western nations have relied heavily upon education as part of their strategy.

The magazine East Europe, published by the Free Europe Committee, estimated in its March issue that there are about 30,000 foreign students in the Communist bloc, including Red China.

At the same time, it said, there are 168,000 foreign students in the four principal Western countries - the United States, Britain, West Germany and France.

On both sides of the Iron Curtain, the problems of the foreign student may have elements common to all. These would arise from differences of custom, and especially the sensitivity of the underdeveloped nations.

In the Soviet Union and the satellites it is clear that many Africans are not getting the treatment they were led to expect.

In Moscow the students were protesting the death of a Guantánamo student allegedly slain because he planned to marry a Russian girl.

The Russians said he had been drinking, fell down and froze to death.

It was not the first African protest against Soviet discrimination.

In 1960, when the Russians quashed an attempt to organize

an all-African students' union, three of its leaders later published an "open letter" which declared:

"For Soviet leaders to pose before the world as champions of oppressed Africa while they oppress millions in their own country and their satellites is hypocrisy at its worst."

The students further declared their "wish to stress the great danger communism is to true Africanism."

Among their complaints was one that the Soviet authorities refused to permit imports of books and jazz records.

But of deeper significance were other protests against Communist political indoctrination which denied diplomas to those not adept in the slogans of Marxist-Leninist doctrine.

In Hungary and Poland, African students have protested their isolation. In Bulgaria 25 Ghanian students left school protesting not only their isolation but also the discrimination and indoctrination to which they had been subjected.

In Czechoslovakia, the official Communist newspaper found it necessary to warn against attacks on African students and to deny that they were living in luxury at the expense of the Czech people.

News of the Moscow incident received wide distribution in West Africa. Nigerian dailies accused the Soviets of preaching tolerance but practicing racial discrimination.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In Germany the other day, 22 men walked into a court room to stand trial for the killing of countless thousands of Jewish people in the concentration camps at Auschwitz some three decades ago.

The charges against these men include the killing of roomful of screaming children, the burning alive of mothers with babies and the strangulation of prisoners by such grisly methods as putting a stick across their necks and standing on it until the victims suffocated.

The prosecution hopes to prove that these were the men who turned the gas into the chambers where the victims were to be incinerated, and who selected from the river of incoming Jews those who were to work as slaves and those who were to die immediately.

IT'S a grim story. The only excuse for re-telling it after all these years is to point out what can happen when too much power is placed in the hands of the wrong kind of men.

In this case, too much power was placed in the hands of a former house painter named Hitler.

THIS further thought: Hitler played upon PREJUDICE. Men who do that are dangerous.

BUSINESS note in the news: Sweeping transcontinental airline fare reductions were approved the other day by the Civil Aeronautics Board in Washington, D. C. Acting on a petition of American Airlines, the Board voted to authorize a cut in first class fares on trips of 700 miles or more and to extend the "family plan" 25 per cent discount to coach and other types of fares.

Under the new fares, effective on American Airlines on Jan. 15, the price of a first class ticket from San Francisco to New York will be cut from \$186.90 to \$160.00.

WHY the cut? The answer is simple. The objective is to GET MORE BUSINESS by reducing the price. If the planes can be kept full by means of the price reduction, more profit can be realized at the lower price than at the old higher price.

THAT brings us around to automation. Most economists agree that the ability of human beings to consume is limited only by their ability to buy what they want.

So - If automation can be used to bring down prices, so that what people earn will BUY MORE, we'll be able to CONSUME more and the factories will be kept humming to supply the demand - thus, perhaps, PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT FOR EVERYBODY.

At least, that's the theory. It doesn't sound too unreasonable.



"Best gift we ever got!"