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NEWSPAPER

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History

from the files of the Mail

Tribune 10, 20 and 34 years ago

10 YEARS AGO TODAY

January 29, 1940

(It Was Monday)

More than 1,100 persons in

289 cars visit Crater Lake park

for largest Sunday attendance of

winter.

Valley temperature reaches 65

for one of warmest January days

on record.

Louie Thurman elected president

of Order of "M" at high

school.

James C. Collins announces

candidate for central committee

man on democratic ticket.

Dark Hollow school installs

Walter Medley as president of

student body.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY

January 29, 1930

(It Was Thursday)

Fruitmen ask government to

furnish lawyer to represent them

in fruit spray suit in California.

Petitions are circulated in city

and county for repeal of dry law.

Dairymen serving city plan

fight against new city milk law.

New snowplow arrives here

for clearing snow on Crater Lake

highway this winter.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY

January 29, 1916

(It Was Saturday)

Modoc orchard in Table Rock

district undergoes improvements

under direction of Elmer Hull.

Southern Pacific railroad com-

pletes construction of division be-

tween Eugene and Coos Bay.

New business building to be

erected at Main and Riverside for

Dr. F. C. Page by Frank C.

Clark, architect.

Juniors' Parents Meet

Next Wednesday

The parents of Bliss Heine's

Juniors will hold their monthly

meeting Wednesday, February 1,

at 8 p.m. in the Eagles auxiliary

hall, 217 West Main street. Semi-

Reapportionment Hot Issue

One of the "hottest" issues in the forthcoming 1951 legislature will be a proposed reapportionment of legislative representatives and senators.

GILES FRENCH, Moro editor, publisher and state representative, and Klamath Falls Senator Philip S. Hitchcock, are sponsors of a proposal submitted by up-state legislators which would divide Oregon's representation on a plan similar to that now in use in congress—with each county having equal representation in the senate, and representation according to population in the house of representatives.

Another plan, advanced by Sen. Dick Neuberger, Portland writer, would provide for county representation in both houses on a basis of strict arithmetical division according to federal census figures.

THE acute interest being shown in this issue stems from two basic reasons—the first, that no Oregon legislature has been willing to follow the constitutional mandate with regard to reapportionment for more than 50 years, and the second, that up-state counties have an understandable fear that representation based on a strict population basis would permit Multnomah county, with about one-third of the state's population, to become the tail that wags the dog.

Still another reapportionment proposal has been put forth by a heterogeneous group including the State Federation of Labor, AFL, the State Industrial Union council, CIO, the Young Republican Federation of Oregon, the Young Democratic Clubs of Oregon, and others. This proposal says, "Representation shall be determined on the basis of population excepting that no county shall have more than one-third the members of either house. The method of equal proportions shall be used for such determination."

"In case any county shall not have the requisite population to entitle such county to a member, then such county shall be attached to or grouped with some adjoining county or counties for senatorial or representative purposes," the suggested amendment continues.

MOST recent plan to be proposed comes via mail from Rep. Earl E. Fisher, Beaverton, who submits a copy of the "Fisher plan" for legislative reapportionment.

His suggestion is simply for two senators and one representative at large for each county, plus an additional representative for each 20,000 persons in the county.

Fisher points out that there are at present 10 counties which have no representation in the house, and 25 which have no direct and exclusive representation in the senate.

Fisher says:

"... Oregon must readjust her legislative machinery to serve the best interests of her fast growing population of one and a half million people. Experience tells us that six senate committee assignments or four house committees per legislator are too many—oftentimes hard to have quorum present or run short-handed. This slows down legislative procedure—as committee work is a big factor in expediting legislation. Oregon needs more legislators to handle the work and adjourn on schedule."

JUST how many more legislators his plan would provide Mr. Fisher does not say—but rule of thumb arithmetic indicates that there would be about 80 in the house (60 at present) in addition to 72 senators (two from each of the 26 counties) compared to the 30 at present. Multnomah county alone would have some 25 representatives.—E.A.

How Bright Are The Stars?

By J. Hugh Pruett
Astronomer, Extension Division,
Oregon Higher Education System

When St. Paul 1900 years ago wrote, "For one star differs from another star in glory," he was stating the principle classifying the stars according to their brightness. But to the Greek astronomer, Hipparchus (around 150 B. C.) and Ptolemy (A. D. 150) belongs the credit for introducing the present method of designating the apparent luminosity of stars. Ptolemy cataloged and graded almost all the naked-eye stars into six magnitudes. He listed the brightest 20 visible from Alexandria, Egypt, as first magnitude. At the other end of the scale, he rated as sixth magnitude the dimmest star he could see on a clear, moonless night. (Let us call these 1m and 6m). The stars of intermediate brightness he put in 2m, 3m, 4m and 5m. The dimmer, the larger the magnitude. The Big Dipper stars are mostly 2m.

Fainter Stars Seen

After telescopes came into use 340 years ago, much fainter stars broke into view. Since a standard 1m star is about 100 times brighter than a 6m, it was decided to consider each magnitude about 2.5 times brighter than the one next dimmer. For 2.512 multiplied together five times gives 100. Thus a 1m is 2.5 times brighter than a 2m; a 2m, 2.5 times brighter than a 3m, etc. Since a few stars are much brighter than 1m, we now have to go down to 0m and even minus values. Venus at its best is better than "minus 4m." The new 200-inch telescope shows stars (photographically) as dim as plus 23m, or around 6,000,000 times fainter than the faintest the unaided eye reveals.

But this system of apparent magnitudes does not give us any idea of the real luminosity of a star. One might appear dim if it is intrinsically faint and relatively near, or if quite bright but remote. Our sun, the nearest known star, ranks "minus 27m" because it is so close to us.

System Devised
Astronomers have devised a system by which they rate stars according to their actual lumin-

osity. This they call absolute magnitude. In imagination they place all stars of which they know the distance and apparent brightness at a location 32.6 light-years (a light-year is almost six trillion miles) from us and view them from there. All at this same distance, their relative brightness would be a correct measure of their actual luminosity.

At this distance our sun would fade to a very dim 5m star. Many of our seemingly dim stars would be far brighter; others, much fainter. Old Sol is about midway in the scale. The dimmest star known is one discovered in 1943 in Aquila with an absolute magnitude of 19m; the brightest is S Doradus in the Greater Magellanic Cloud, "minus 9m." These two are actually about 400,000 times dimmer and 400,000 times brighter than our sun.

SP Orders 3,100 New Railroad Freight Cars

Robert H. Holmes, district freight and passenger agent for the Southern Pacific railroad, said today that the president of the SP has announced that orders for 3,100 new freight cars have been placed by the company.

Two thousand 50-ton box cars will be built by the Pullman company, according to A. T. Mercier, president of SP, and 1,000 50-ton automobile cars will be built at SP's Sacramento shops. In addition, 100 70-ton "drop-end gondolas" will be built by the Ralston Steel Car company.

Mercier said that deliveries are scheduled to begin in the spring, and be completed by the end of the year. They will raise to 23,630 the total number of postwar freight cars acquired by the railroad, beside half-owner-ship in 8,000 new refrigerator cars. The SP's total postwar investment in rolling stock will then be \$257 million.

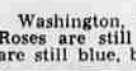
Crosstown

by Roland Coe



"Gee, Mom! That red light bulb makes this the best snowman I ever made! Don't you want people to admire it?"

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Harman Nichols

Washington, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—

Roses are still red, and violets

are still blue, but—

If the modern

writers of valentine

verse pulled

out the stops

like the old-

timers did, the

courts couldn't

handle the

breach of a

promise suits.

Take this one

I found in the

congressional

library. It was

penned in

1840:

"Tis Valentine's day, to the

church let's away;

"No longer I'll wait, let us

marry."

"You promised, dear maid, that

you would be mine,

"If I till this day would

tarry."

Compare that the crack a

young man made to a clerk

while buying a valentine in a

store here last February.

"I don't want to marry the

girl," he said, "I just want to

say 'hello.'"

And take it from Jeanette

Lee, supervisor of creative art

for the Hallmark Greeting Card

company, the boys of today are

pretty cautious and perhaps have

influenced the "poets" who

write the verses.

Paper Bag Greeting

One of the popular rhymes for

this year is printed on a plain

paper bag. It doesn't get the

boy in any mess. It says, sim-

ply:

"I gotcha a real sweet valentine

But I kept it too darn handy,

"So I sure do hope you like the

sack—"

"I sure did like the candy!"

But while the verses have

changed, this year's valentines

hark to the old-fashioned styles

of the 1800.

They're lacy, strewn with

hearts, some are scented, and

Cupid and love birds are all

over the place. They run from

a nickel to around five dollars.

A hundred years ago you could

spend as much as 50 bucks on a

valentine.

First One In 1850

According to the best informa-

tion in the files, the first valen-

tine came out in 1850. It was a

sketch of Cupid shooting a dart

into the heart of a medieval knight whilst his swooning lady looked on.

But the historians believe that the romantic customs attached to Valentine's day dated back even before the Christian era to the days of old Rome. However, popular customs connected with all-lovers day doubtless had their origin in France and England during the middle ages.

Nature lovers noticed that the birds began to hide behind the leaves and bill and coo during the second month of the year. February 14 seemed to be a logical day for young human lovers to up and choose a mate also.

Geoffrey Chaucer gave some recognition of Valentine's day in his "Parliament of Fowles." He wrote:

"For this was on Seynt Valen-tine's day

"When every foul cometh ther to choose his mate."

It would appear that all of the fine brains and judgment of the United States has been concentrated on making foolproof mechanical apparatus and, I think we will all admit, the result has been a howling success. Unfortunately in politics, we started with the old Ship of State, which, again I think you will agree, was a pretty fair vehicle, and still is, except for the fact that instead of adding a few simple parts, like maybe a reverse gear, every human being aspiring to and obtaining public office has felt it his absolute moral duty to dump a lot of excess cargo aboard in the form of new resolutions, bills, and laws, in-cased in terms he himself can't interpret by the next election.

How would it be for a candidate to come out with what he wasn't in favor of as a platform—in other words, a reverse approach, you might say?

It's mighty bad and embarrassing to get a ship hung up on a mud bank. The captain of the battleship Missouri would probably agree, but at least he is worried and trying to get his ship out. The captain of the ship I have been discussing shows neither embarrassment nor worry. In fact, he says, "every-thing is just ducky."

Well—I'm a democrat—but I believe that most of the other democratic presidents who have served this country would have strangled on their breakfast coffee, had their eyes fallen out, some of the headlines that confront us these days.

I've been hoping the republicans might wake up to a point where they would furnish this needed reverse action and slide away from some of this CVA and socialized farming, business, medicine, finance, education, housing, employment, etc. and leave it behind, even if they have to elect a military man to do it.

Whoever has the intestinal fortitude to lead off is going to get a lot of support—I believe enough. Let's get men who can sort out the good and keep it and chuck the rest overboard.

Johnnie Walker
O. Box 72
Shady Cove, Oregon

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The Flying Arrow (well-pub-licized American blockade runner) gets back to Kobe, Japan. Among others, she carries a Carl Hawthorne, who was chief of the new-closed American consulate at Tsingtao. He tells reporters at Kobe:

"Food has become a pressing problem for the big Chinese population . . . Millions are going to die of starvation before the next harvest in August . . . I believe the people are dissatisfied with communist rule, but can do nothing about it because of TIGHT CONTROLS."

TIGHT controls? What are they?

Well, the most effective of them are policemen, both uniformed and secret. There are scads of them. They have guns. The poor devils they are bossing have none.

So, you see, it doesn't do the people who are being bossed much good to get dissatisfied. About all they can do is to take it as it comes. If they starve, they just starve.

IN Formosa, where the Nationalist government is making its last stand, there is a story to the effect that two China war-lords who deserted to the communists in December have come back to the Chiang fold.

They are quoted as saying they found conditions under the communists intolerable — FAR DIFFERENT FROM WHAT RED PROPAGANDA HAD PROM-ISED.

THE troubles of these off-ag'in on-ag'in war lords leave me cold. Anybody who believes ANY kind of propaganda deserves whatever he gets.

The purpose of all propaganda is to FOOL PEOPLE.

GETTING back to this starvation business, millions of Russian peasants starved when the communist system of state "co-operative" farms was forced onto them. They wanted to keep their lands. The politburo said "NO, we don't plan it that way."

Under communism, the state is everything. The individual is nothing. You do as the state says or you die of hunger—if you don't die of bullets against a wall.

THE trouble with communism is that it puts too much power in too few hands. Wherever and whenever that happens, the rights of the common man go ph-h-h-h!

LET'S not fool ourselves.

Communism is growing.

In 1945, the communist Russia government controlled 190 million people.

By 1948, Russian communist rule had been extended to include 450 million people.

With the fall of China, the Soviet communist government now

Cooking, Freezing

School Set Monday

Miss Jean Wiegand, home economist for the Crater Lake company, will conduct a cooking and home freezing demonstration at the Medford YMCA at 2 p.m. Monday, the four sponsoring stores reminded housewives Saturday.

Acme and Crane-Mohr hardware stores, Rogue Service and Supply company, and the Radio Repair company of Phoenix, are sponsoring the event. There will be no admission charge.

rules 850 million people.

HOW did it happen?

Well, in an amazing number of instances these people got to fusing among themselves and couldn't seem to quit and the communists eventually moved in and took 'em over.

SUIT SETTLEMENT MADE

Miami, Fla., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—An out of court settlement had been reached today in the \$125,000 suit brought by Sportsman Gar Wood against Mrs. Violet Sanderson Bellous, his former secretary.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Barge and log raft traffic on the Columbia river again has been interrupted by ice floes.

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