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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
February 10, 1940
(It Was Saturday)

Twelve to 14 quintets expected to compete in the county grade school basketball tournament at Central Point.

Miss Alpha Whillock chosen to represent local high school in DAR national citizenship project.

More than $21,000 expended in January for public welfare, county reports.

Keene Creek Cattle and Horse association re-elects George E. Dunn president and Fred Homes secretary-treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Christensen to observe golden wedding anniversary February 18.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY
February 10, 1930
(It Was Monday)

Robert Strang elected president of retail merchants' committee of county Chamber of Commerce.

Pacific highway to Central Point to be straightened and "death curve' 'near Prospect to be eliminated.

Salem survey shows interest in churches lagging and fewer pews filled in evening than Sunday morning.

Local school officials warn further demonstrations at Medford-Ashland games may cause suspension of both schools from state association.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY
February 10, 1916

Willamette river at Portland reaches 18.5 feet above low water mark for highest point in seven years.

Allen B. Drury residence, south end of Kings highway, burns at loss of $15,000.

J. H. Driscoll and Ed Walker fail to find steelheads for fishing in Antelope creek.

Polio Victim Mother Of Triplet Daughters

Long Branch, N. J., Feb. 13—(U.P.)—Triplet girls were born to Mrs. Fred W. Warnke, a polio victim, Sea Girt, N. J., at Monmouth Memorial hospital today.

The first baby was delivered naturally, while the other two were delivered by caesarian section. They weighed approximately three pounds each and were born five minutes apart. A hospital spokesman said mother and babies were in good condition.

Mrs. Warnke, the wife of a dentist, was admitted to the hospital as a polio patient on Dec. 22, 1949. She was discharged late in January, but had to return to the hospital for daily treatments.

WEATHER
By United Press

Northern California—Rain today, showers tonight and clearing Saturday. Little change in temperature. Southerly winds today 35-50 mph Monterey north and 20-30 mph elsewhere, becoming west to northwest tonight and Saturday and decreasing.

Subscribers

To report improper or non-delivery of the Mail Tribune phone 2-4141 before 6:45 p. m. daily and 10:30 a. m. Sunday.

If regular delivery arrives shortly after you call, please notify office, thus eliminating special messenger service.

Carnegie Medal Candidate

Word comes from Rogue River that townspeople there are discussing the possibility of securing a Carnegie medal for Douglas Combs, 25-year-old tavern operator of that place, who saved the life of Della Randleman, aged 10, last Sunday when she and her brother Dick, eight years old, and a playmate, Carol Pinkle, 10, fell through the ice on a millpond.

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ACCORDING to accounts of the rescue, Dick was near enough to shore to be able to reach safety unassisted. His shouts and the screams of the girls were heard across the river by Sydney Desselle who happened to be out in his yard. Desselle drove madly across the Rogue river bridge, halted long enough to shout the alarm through the tavern door and then rushed on to the pond.

A number of men reached the scene soon afterward and the Pinkle girl, who was only about eight feet from shore was pulled to safety by Orin Hilger and Al Black.

• • • • •

WOULD-BE-RESCUERS trying to reach Della with a boat from the other side of the pond were thwarted by the ice which upset the craft and dumped Grant Cummings into the water. He was pulled out and Gene Helvey immediately took his place, attempting to push the boat toward the little girl who was clinging bravely to a broken edge of ice. But Helvey's efforts also proved unavailing.

• • • • •

YOUNG COMBS, who had raced to his home for a rope, then tied the rope about his waist and began swimming toward the child, breaking the heavy ice with his fists as he went.

The water was so cold and the ice so thick that he was forced to return to shore to get his breath after he had gone about half the distance. Quickly he plunged in again.

• • • • •

JUST as the swimmer got close to her the girl said "who are you?" and then her arms slid off the ice and she went down. She sank twice but Combs saw her head just under the surface and grabbed her.

It looked like the rescue was practically complete but at that moment Combs collapsed from exhaustion and chill. Little Della had enough strength left to cling to his clothing while those on shore hauled them both through the water with the rope.

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THERE were brave men in that group, they all deserve the highest praise, but it was Douglas Combs whose courage and strength enabled him to make the supreme and successful try.

Douglas Combs richly deserves the Carnegie award for heroism. We hope the people of Rogue River nominate him for the honor, and we second the motion.—E.C.F.

Sunday Invitation

The doors of the old Jacksonville courthouse will swing open to the public next Sunday at 2 p.m., when people will have opportunity to inspect the building which is undergoing repair and interior alteration to fit it for use as a museum.

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THE work, which has been under way for two months under supervision of the Jackson county court and the Southern Oregon Historical Society, Inc., has been handicapped considerably by bad weather and the necessity for more elaborate repair in some particulars than had been anticipated.

It was found necessary, for instance, to re-wire the building, not only to provide the additional number of outlets which will be needed for museum display illumination, but also because the earlier-day wiring job was in bad condition and presented a distinct fire hazard. Workmen discovered three places where fires had actually been started by the overloaded and insufficiently insulated wires. The wood had been charred but lack of ventilation had apparently smothered the flames in their own smoke.

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IN ADDITION to inviting Jackson county citizens in general to inspect the building, the Historical society has sent invitations to the Klamath County Historical society, the Josephine County Historical society and the Siskiyou County (California) Historical society.—E.C.F.

Pirates To Skip Pageant

The Coos Bay Pirates, those picturesquely garbed and energetic boosters of the neighboring coastal region, have decided not to stage their annual celebration and pageant this year.

• • • • •

THE Pirates have found that the celebration, while eminently successful as a crowd pleaser, is a terrific headache for the all-too-few who are willing or able to donate their time and efforts. Most significant of all, the annual festivity runs substantially in the red.

The Pirates' decision was reached after considerable discussion and review of former celebrations. Maybe a careful study of Jackson county fair record would dampen the enthusiasm of some who advocate a revival of that community effort.—E.C.F.

Service Stations Wage Gasoline Price War

Milwaukee, Feb. 10 — (U.P.) — Service station operators fought a gasoline price war here today.

Major brands of gasoline sold for 20.9 cents a gallon for regular and 21.9 for premium. Some independent dealers attracted motorists with signs offering regular at 18.8 cents and premium at 20.9.

Yesterday, the independent Pate Oil company and five major firms—Standard Oil, Shell, Texas, Socony-Vacuum and Cities Service reduced tank wagon prices one cent a gallon. It was the first cut in tank wagon prices since the price war began last week.

MARRIAGE-MINDED

Cumberland, Md. (U.P.) — Getting a marriage license is a family affair for Jay Lee Jobes, 45, and his daughter, Wilda Lee, 16. Jobes got a license at the court house to marry Reba May Gwynn, 22-year-old widow. Then he signed an application for his daughter, who is planning to wed Joseph Ray Barclay, 21, of Carmichaels, Md.

Crosstown

by Roland Coe

". . . and of course you know how everybody in town is talking about the shameful way he treats his poor wife."

A Nichols' Worth of—

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington, Feb. 10 — (U.P.) — The Security & Exchange commission can't understand why anybody connected with the movies would sell stock in a projected picture for as low as $10 a share and discourage more than two shares to a customer.

Harman Nichols

The SEC looked into the matter and, although bewildered, okayed it.

Hollywood was just as mystified. Here was a motion picture in which no producer, author, director, or stars would get credit. That isn't the way Hollywood would do it, but Hollywood isn't doing this one.

It is to be produced abroad and is about the life of Christ.

In simple, reverent form, the drama will be portrayed against the backdrop of our atomic era. Three cameras will be used simultaneously. There will be screens three times larger than regulation and acoustics having as many as 75 loud speakers. Shooting will take place in France, Italy, and Israel. Churchmen everywhere already have indorsed the idea of filming the passion of Christ.

Cast Choice Not Easy

Selection of a cast has not been easy. The producers auditioned more than 200 men before they finally selected a 32-year-old professor of philosophy at the University of Paris to play the role of Christ. A prominent Hollywood actress offered to play gratis the part of the Mother Mary. She was turned down.

The man responsible for the idea is a dynamic young Frenchman named Count Georges de la Grandiere, who three times was a prisoner of the nazis.

The count went to Hollywood and tried to sell his idea to the film moguls. The count went broke. He returned to France and bicycled up and down the land selling shares of stock at $10 a share. It looks as if he's going to make it.

Bought Six Shares

Here in America, where stock in the film is registered, a few have been allowed to buy more than a single share. One was a truck driver, who said he earned $60 a week. He admitted he didn't know much about fine art, but asked for six shares.

A New Jersey bookie who said he had had a "good week" tagged a film agent in a hotel lobby. He said he wasn't much on religion but wondered if he could have $2300 worth of stock.

He was allowed to buy five shares.

A New York cop heard about the movie and canvassed the boys at the precincts and the folks along his beat. He came up with $1800 and got 900 shares to distribute to his friends.

A seamstress from Saks Fifth avenue wanted to put up her life savings—$3,000. The agent talked her down to $40.

Maid Got Mad

A maid at the Ritz had $250 in cash in a paper sack and got mad when the film man tried to talk her into taking only two shares.

"We don't want anybody to get rich," the man told her.

Like the rest, the agent refused to sell her any stock at all until she had personally investigated the SEC's okay.

Naturally, all of the $1,000,000 film can't be financed by the little man, but he'll have the biggest share in it. Pride, too. As one man put it:

"What a surprise my friends will get when they hear I'm a stockholder. It's a pleasant thought to know I'm helping to put a good, clean show on the screen. I'm just a janitor."

GIVES STUDENTS BREAK

East Lansing, Mich. (U.P.)—Harold Seyffert says goodbye to profit during examinations at Michigan State College. His drug store sells coffee for three cents during that period because he knows the students need it.

Boston (U.P.)—Andrew J. Palermo, who recovers 5,000 automobiles a year for finance companies, asked police to help him find his car when it vanished from a parking space.

BLOODHOUNDS FRIENDLY

Hammond, In. (U.P.)—John Hill bought two bloodhounds to serve as watchdogs in his motor sales company. He thought they were doing a good job until one night burglars broke in and stole them.

WALNUTS GROW BIG

Syracuse, Neb. (U.P.)—Walnuts grow big here, according to the county agent, A. H. DeLong. Dean submitted a few samples eight inches in circumference, DeLong said.

SOMETHING GAINED

St. Paul, Minn. (U.P.)—Burglars who raided the T. W. Basta bakery here were determined to get at least something. They removed a storm window, opened the inside window and then found that a large refrigerator still blocked their entrance. They made off with the storm window.

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MEDFORD COUPLE LOSE SALARY RAISE

In my presence recently, a young Medford husband said to his wife, "Do you remember, dear, how we were going to save the raise we got 15 months ago?" His wife nodded, then replied, "Of course I do. And we have just as good as lost it all. What we needed was a plan like this."

Bill Salade

Naturally, I was surprised at such frankness. But not at their conclusion. Listening to so many people tell of their attempts to control unruly dollars has taught me that most family financial problems spring from lack of an adequate savings plan.

In this respect, my newly-made friends were no different than other couples. In all sincerity, they intended to "salt away" their most recent raise. But they had failed to do so.

The husband is quite capable in business. His wife is "tops" as a homemaker. Yet now they both realize the weaknesses of their own scheme and the imperative need for a simple, logical plan that builds up to a fine retirement fund which they can look forward to when they want to take things easier later on.

Bill Salade
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