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Reads The Mail Tribune

Daily Except Saturday

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NEWSPAPER

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ASSOCIATION

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 26, 1940

(It Was Monday)

Critt Tolman, Gold Hill, named

foreman of February grand jury.

John Day wins Lupton trophy

for pistol shooting.

Al Wimer, local high school

athlete, recovering from operation

on neck.

Riverside Extension unit organized

with 18 members and Mrs. Bernice

Dixon chairman.

Applegate school girls' 4-H club

elects Jeanne Brown president

and Mrs. Harry Brown as leader.

O. H. Bengtson and Joe Elgel eye

district attorney race.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY

February 26, 1930

(It Was Wednesday)

Earthquakes roll over Imperial

valley in California.

Local residents receive ballots to

cast in Literary Digest straw poll

on prohibition.

City leases eight acres near

airport for local gun club.

Dr. Edwin Durno, Medford, listed

by L. H. Gregory of Oregon

Gonian as greatest basketball

shot in Pacific coast records.

Death news for former President

William Howard Taft.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY

February 26, 1916

(It Was Saturday)

High school employment bureau,

to find work for boys and girls

desiring jobs after school,

organized.

Stores quote price of eggs at

15 to 20 cents a dozen.

County registration totals

1,391 with 788 republicans, 442

democrats and rest other parties.

Gold Hill Corporal

Named Airman of Month

At Japan Air Base

Headquarters, Yokota AB,

Japan—Corporal Charlie J. Angal,

20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs.

Editorial Correspondence

New York City, N. Y., Feb. 22—This is Washington's birthday and the Weather Man, cockeyed as usual, stages another snowstorm—the third since Michaelmas. The snow follows the coldest February 20 and 21 since the 1st World War. The latter would not have been so bad, had there not been a stiff north-easter blowing. The wind has died down now and the snow with rising temperature is therefore welcome.

It was Washington who could not tell a lie. This is proof that if he were alive today Washington would be an effective leader of the anti-Communists. For once more your correspondent is impressed by the fact that Communists not only CAN tell lies, but they much prefer falsehoods to the truth, prefer devious dealing to straight shooting at all times and under all conditions.

Take the latest development in the Gubitchev-Coplon case, for example.

Not wishing to be cited for contempt of court, we can't be too explicit. But the real low-down in this sudden firing of the irrepressible Archie Palmer and the taking on by Judy of three new—and fellow traveling—attorneys appears to have been a typical Moscow maneuver. Whether Archie was in the plot or not we don't know, but we would doubt it. There is no reasonable doubt, however, Judy was, and the entire hocus-pocus obviously an effort to secure a mistrial by the specious plea of a delay of two months being necessary for the Red legal trio to properly prepare their case. Such a long delay, coupled with the claim that Miss Coplon had never been competently represented by counsel would in all probability, have led to a mistrial, or been ground for reversal of whatever verdict might have resulted. Fortunately Judge Ryan is not only an exceptionally good judge, but a shrewd trial lawyer—an unusual combination. He was very guarded in his comments, and as usual restrained and considerate, but not only the defense but the entire court room suffered a real shock when he stated there was reason to question the "good faith" of the defense.

There was, and is. After our experience in the Communist trial of four months ago, we would expect alick, underhanded shenanigans from the legal defense in any trial where the issue was Communism or something closely related to Communism.

We were somewhat surprised to note in the always reliable Medford Mail Tribune, that the speaker at Medford's Lincoln Day banquet, Senator George Malone of Nevada, addressed the necessity of a return to the principles of the GOP protective tariff, and predicted that by September, there would "be no other comparable issue in the congress of the United States." Shades of William McKinley! Can it be true that the Nevada Senator really represents the sentiments of the Republican minority? If so then, "bye, bye blackbird"—another landslide for the democrats.

Mayor O'Dwyer has decided to call in a professional rain-maker to solve the municipal water problem. One of his aides traveled up the Hudson and found that the General Electric experts seriously believe that sprinkling the clouds with airplane with certain chemicals can bring rain. Well, with mid-winter only 90 days away and with the water reservoirs less than half full, something must be done if New York is to escape a major catastrophe.

What is one man's meat, however, is still another man's poison. How about the up-state farmers for example, if the New York-made rain comes when their hay is down, or they want to plant "laters"? Rural up-state doesn't like Manhattan any too well as it is, with New York running the climate to suit the city-dwellers and ruin the farmers. Father Knickerbocker will be about as popular in rural New York as the New York City Mayor.

Automatic tripper devices which can be set up at the cost of a few dollars in 24 hours, will now be installed where last year's trains crashed because they were not equipped with them and as a result 29 people were killed and over 100 injured. Experience, no doubt, is a good teacher, but WHAT a costly one!

Strolled over to the Hudson river yesterday and enjoyed an unforgettable and unprecedented sight, namely, a boat of Atlantic liners coming into port, coated with ice from bow to stern as well as upper rigging, a dazzling, fairland scene in the bright sunshine—reminded us of those old-time Christmas cards, which had been sprinkled with crystal dust—or something similar. One of the ships was the army transport General McRae from Bremerhaven, Germany, loaded with over 1000 DP's, who in spite of the icy background and record low of five above zero, were waving and cheering and cheering several of them holding up babies wrapped in parka hood outfits like Eskimo holding up—all in all both a beautiful and inspiring sight.

The DP's incidentally, we observed, did not look ill-clothed or poorly fed, but we don't know about the housing. For several months the writer has been trying to find "decent housing" for a nephew and his mother here in New York and thus far "no success." They have been a number of nibbles but no fish on the hook as yet.

There is a Sportsman's show down at Grand Central Palace and it's quite a workout. In only one section can one sit down and that is at the Schaffer Beer exhibit, where they don't serve beer and all one can see is a "famous Cuban cartoonist" drawing portraits of the most famous men of the world. What a bunch of boys and girls the older boys and girls apparently can't take it. Or at least they don't. The portraits we checked on were reasonably accurate but like U. S. passport pictures, not flattering. That, no doubt, is the reason, R.W.R.

Martian Activities

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

The report that an amateur astronomer, Tsuneko Saeki of Osaka, Japan, observing January 16 with an 8-inch reflecting telescope, had seen a terrific explosion on Mars, was widely reported by the press. What seemed to be a volcanic eruption had sent a grayish cloud of 900 miles diameter about 60 miles into the Martian atmosphere.

At this writing, February 1, no confirmation seems available from other astronomers. The facts that a relatively small telescope was used, the observer "has no place of scientific honor in Japan," and that was not at a favorable distance for "good seeing," make one feel that perhaps some over-enthusiastic statement by Saeki had seemed to possess startling possibilities that it was considerably overdone in the news.

Holds Great Charm
Consideration of conditions on Mars—and the other worlds of our great solar family—holds a great charm for most of us. May be we shall sometime go there and inspect at close range, but at present we can only gaze from afar and conjecture. But doesn't it seem slightly selfish on the part of mere earth dwellers to assume that just because we are on the earth, our insignificant little planet is the favored one among all the billions of celestial bodies in the immensity of the universe?

Earlier this century we read a great deal about signal lights on Mars and their possible significance. Some will recall the piano selection in sheet music form entitled Signals from Mars. Just what are some of the transient phenomena definitely ob-

served on this planet? The controversial canals will not be considered here.

Frost Seen
In the sunrise regions it seems certain that frost has been seen. Whiteness areas change color shortly after sunlight falls on them. The polar regions are covered with white, generally considered to be real snow, at the winter seasons. Small cloudy regions have been noted, but some have thought they might at times be dust storms. On the visible rim of Mars, high clouds have sometimes been seen entirely detached from the solid surface.

As to flashes on Mars, it is reliably reported that Mitchell in 1848 and Green in 1877 definitely noted such phenomena. In 1894, the noted Martian student Lowell, while observing the polar cap, suddenly noted two brilliant points of light flash out in far greater brilliance than the surrounding snow. After a short time both slowly disappeared. Checkings with the earlier reports showed that all the observed "signals from Mars" were at the same latitude of the planet, 76 degrees south. It was generally surmised that there likely was an icy slope which, when turned just right in relation to the sun and the earth's observer, gave a strong reflection, just as is often received from a distant automobile windshield.

That these were signals to us from intelligent Martians seems rather unlikely. When we can best see their world, our earth is seemingly lost in the sun to them.

Salem, Ore., Feb. 25.—(U.P.)—A slide closed the Wilson river highway 16 miles east of Tillamook, the state highway department reported Friday.

Crosstown

by Roland Coe



"You're always bringing somebody home unexpectedly for meals. Today you're unexpectedly taking three of us to lunch!"

A Nichols' Worth of—

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS

United Press Feature Writer

Washington, Feb. 25.—(U.P.)—Father John gets a lot of GI fan mail. Much of it comes addressed to: "Father John, St. Peter, God and the Angels, Philadelphia."

Doesn't the senator from Nevada realize that a return to Smoot-Hawley tariff principles would destroy anti-Communist Europe economically and play directly into the hands of Uncle Joe? How can any country in Europe pay its debts or keep solvent, except by paying off in GOODS to the U.S.A. via a continuation of the reciprocal trade principle?

Mayor O'Dwyer has decided to call in a professional rain-maker to solve the municipal water problem. One of his aides traveled up the Hudson and found that the General Electric experts seriously believe that sprinkling the clouds with airplane with certain chemicals can bring rain. Well, with mid-winter only 90 days away and with the water reservoirs less than half full, something must be done if New York is to escape a major catastrophe.

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On the Side—By E. V. Durling

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Warm summer sun
Shine softly here
Blow gently here
Green and above
Life light, life light
Good night, good night!
—Robert Richardson

(Above is frequently credited wrongly to Mark Twain, whose connection with the lines is that he had them engraved on the tomb of his daughter, who died in 1896.)

California says that Seattle, Wash., isn't the only place where a bride is presented with a cookbook when applying for a marriage license. She says she was given a cookbook in San Francisco in 1926 when applying for a marriage license. "A good cookbook, too," she adds. "I still have it. Very interesting. But why isn't the prospective bridegroom presented with some kind of book, too? Just what kind of book I can't say offhand. One titled 'Forty Ways to Amuse a Wife' might be appropriate."

It was Ed Howe who so truly said: "Probably the simple facts about health are that all of us have had dietary habits when we have young stomachs and continue in them when our stomachs show the natural wear of long use. Stomachs weaken as do eyes, but we can't buy spectacles for our stomachs."

Asides
In Richmond Hill, borough of Queens, there is an eatery named Hughes Irish House, which announces it features "Chinese-American cooking." ... Writes a Seattle, Wash., subscriber: "My wife and I have been married 21 years and are expecting our first baby in March. Can Brooklyn top that?" Nobody I know in Brooklyn can. Closest I can come to it anywhere is the record of Alice Roosevelt Longworth, who was married 19 years before she had her first child.

Asking
Queries from clients. Q. Isn't Johnston a name more common

in the United States than Smith? A. No, sir. The Smiths tops the list. However, there are more people in the country named Johnson than there are Brown and Jones. Q. I have heard many versions as to how Man o' War happened to lose the one race of his career to Upset. What's yours? A. Man o' War was off badly. Then later in the race he was shut off at the point where he should have made his bid. Loftus on Man o' War wanted Knapp on Upset to give him racing room, but Knapp refused. Loftus then had to pull Big Red up a bit and take him to the outside. If I haven't got this right I am going to hear from Clem McCarthy at 2 a.m. tomorrow.

Asides
How do you pronounce Chicago? One Chicagoan claims it should be pronounced "She-kago." It is said that Elijah Beardsworth, champion British barber, once shaved 70 men in half an hour. ... Abraham Lincoln had four sons, but only one lived to be over 18 years of age. That was Robert Todd Lincoln, who died in 1926 at the age of 83. I talked to him when he was president of the Pullman company.

Briefly
Salt Lake City subscriber says there is a man in his town named Eyer. Pet. Very interesting. Brings to mind there is a man in Pawhuska, Okla., named Welcome Dear Pearson. Also in London there is a charming young woman named Eva May Kick. ... Some of the current film stars have really been up there near the top for a long time. For example, the four leading film box office attractions of 1936 were: 1. Shirley Temple; 2. Clark Gable; 3. Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers; 4. Robert Taylor. These cinema luminaries are still doing all right.

Passing By
Sid Caesar. Whimsical stage and night spot comedian. Sid is the first native New Yorker to be featured at the Wedgwood room of the Waldorf-Astoria. Don't know why a native of New York City has not previously

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

JUST FOR the fun of it, let's do a little reasoning today—taking as our subject this business of buying up agricultural products with tax money to keep prices high. Let's start with the system we're using now.

WE SET a price for various crops below which we won't let the price fall. We keep the price up to "parity" by going into the market and buying and storing. In that way, we accomplish two things:

1. We keep the price up, we stimulate more production.

2. We keep the price up, we stimulate more production.

IT'S GETTING to be a mess. Consumers are kicking on high prices. Foreigners are coming in and under-selling us. The warehouses are getting so full that the time is approaching when we'll have to start destroying food—beginning, of course, with the perishables.

THE END result will be sharp limitation not merely of what can be planted but of what CAN BE SOLD. That will mean an artificially created economy of scarcity.

FACING THAT (and not liking it) we're beginning to talk of a new scheme. We call it the Brannan plan. We say:

Guarantee the farmer's annual income. Then let prices fall to whatever may be the supply and demand level. Write the farmer a government check for the difference, whatever it may be.

That will give consumers the advantage of lower prices.

LET'S CONCEDE this much: It makes more sense than the present system. At least it would let the consumer buy at a lower price. That would be something.

BUT—Suppose you were a potato grower, or a pear grower, or a producer of any other quality crop. Suppose we get the Brannan plan, or something similar. You'd know your income was guaranteed. It would make no

difference to you dollar-wise whether you grew good stuff or bad stuff.

What would you do? Well, for a while your NATURAL PRIDE would keep you growing good stuff. But in the course of time you'd realize that it made no difference whether you grew good stuff or bad. I'm afraid that when this realization came to you forcibly, you'd shrug your shoulders and say "what the heck!"

When that time came, you'd be a PEASANT—not an up-and-coming American farmer.

I REALIZE that as long as we take care of everybody else by laws and subsidies we must take care of the farmers by laws and subsidies. But I grew up on a farm. I hate to think of the time when the American farmer might fall to the status of a mere pensioner of the government, going through the motion of raising crops but knowing all the time that there was no difference whether he grew much or little, whether he handled his land well or poorly, whether he grew good stuff or bad stuff—that his government check would take care of him anyway.

THE AWARD recognized outstanding service to the public "in the spirit" of Brown, late columnist and founder of the guild.

Block and Poston received \$500 each. It was the first time the award was presented to the men for separate entries.

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