

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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

March 30, 1940

(It Was Saturday)

Al Wimer, senior at Medford high, wins first place in finals of state American Legion oratorical contest at Portland.

Everett Brayton successful bidder on concession at Fairgrounds ball park.

Road to Fish Lake reported closed by snow and will not reopen until fishing season starts in April.

Ninety-three knitted articles among items sent by local Red Cross overseas.

Eagle Point Townsend Youth association elects George Peachey as president.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY

March 30, 1930

(It Was Sunday)

Fire destroys Coy and Robinson restaurant, Gold Hill.

President Hoover signs \$100 million public housing bill to aid employment.

First smudging of season last night light; no damage reported to trees.

England and France stalemate over mutual security pact.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY

March 30, 1916

(It Was Thursday)

Arizona's champion mountain lion exterminator, Giles Goswick, has just chucked up lion No. 557.

Washington Report

By Bob Dickey

Washington, Mar. 30—The backers of Dave Hoover who engineered the strong-armed attempt to force John McBride to withdraw from the republican primary contest for the United States senate seat now held by Wayne Morse may find their highbanded methods coming home to roost.

Originally there was a host of conservative candidates all pitted against the liberal Morse. But the Hoover backers reasoned their man wouldn't have a ghost of a chance with the conservative republican vote split among so many candidates, so they went to work limiting the field.

The strategy of the Hoover supporter worked fine until they got around to McBride. He didn't succumb to their reasoning. To the suggestion that he withdraw to avoid splitting the conservative strength, McBride replied that if they were so concerned over the split, then let Hoover withdraw.

McBride's attitude didn't particularly appeal to the Hoover forces, so they changed their tactics. First they accused McBride of being a Morse stooge. When this failed they threatened to force him out of the race by a court order.

Apparently McBride let his republican registration lapse and the Hoover men were going to get him off the ballot by an injunction. After a series of middle-of-the-night long distance telephone calls, the adamant McBride became the irate McBride. The net result is that he is still on the ballot.

McBride the Man

But just who is this John McBride? Some know him as an Idaho miner. Others know him as an Oregon farmer. To still others he is that fanatic on sound currency who wrote the highly critical book on money and economics entitled "Money Makes the Man Go."

At present McBride is secre-

Ashland's Big Day

Late in the afternoon of December 17, 1887, there was a gala gathering in Ashland with notables from Oregon and California, Southern Pacific officials and lesser lights from the more immediate area present for the driving of the golden spike signaling completion of the north and south railroad line.

Robert O'Brien, writing recently in the San Francisco Chronicle, describes the ceremony and speculates as to what became of the spike.

THE evening before the Ashland celebration, according to O'Brien, a ten-car excursion train left Oakland for the festive journey north. A large crowd had gathered at the station and the special pulled out to the music of a brass band and ringing cheers from the onlookers.

The train, with Engineer Phil Garrison at the throttle, included five first class Pullman Palace sleeping cars; special cars carried Governor Waterman, a number of mayors, and J. A. Fillmore, general superintendent and Charles Crocker, vice president, of the road.

PASSAGE of the train through Sacramento, Roseville, Marysville, Chico, Redding and other towns was witnessed by large and jubilant crowds. Flags waved, firecrackers popped and hats were tossed in the air as the excursion puffed grandly on its way.

THE sun was just setting the next afternoon as the train reached Ashland where its passengers were greeted by a similar group of Oregon officials and citizens.

The commemorative program got under way at once with one orator hailing the thrilling occasion as an event in western history second in importance only to the northward march of Gaspar de Portola in 1769 and the discovery of gold by James Marshall in 1848.

CLIMAXING the ceremony, Vice President Crocker stood over the last rail and, as the crowd applauded, swung a silver hammer three times, striking the golden spike squarely on the head.

The three blows were echoed by three taps on a special telegraphic hookup which included instruments on the Southern Pacific lines from Portland to New Orleans, and by the fire alarm bells of Sacramento, San Francisco and New Orleans. The signals touched off "wild and exuberant" demonstrations in dozens of communities. In Albany church bells pealed and in Chico where the celebration was more boisterous, the sudden detonation of commemorative bombs frightened the horse of Supervisor E. T. Reynolds which ran away spilling Mrs. Reynolds and her two children into a ditch.

VICE President Crocker having finished the spike driving, climbed upon a table on the speakers' platform beside the tracks and delivered a short speech.

According to O'Brien's account of the proceedings, Crocker declared he was taking the golden spike home with him to be given to his son and to be driven by the latter "when the United States is connected by railroad with Alaska."

A DAY or so later, Crocker displayed the spike before a crowd of 6000 at a reception in Portland, and then, turning away, slipped it into his coat pocket.

The Chronicle account claims the spike was lost track of, and "what became of the Ashland spike after that, and where it is now, are things that nobody knows." To this we might add that since the S.P. built another line on the east side of the mountains between Dunsmuir and Eugene, the people along the old original line sometimes wonder what became of their entire railroad.—E.C.F.

Crosstown

by Roland Coe



"These 'Child Psychology' books for parents—are there any kind of a book that counteracts them?"

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Over in Klamath country, where the potato is strictly Big Medicine, they're trying out an interesting market experiment. They're seeking by better methods to get back markets that were lost by poor methods.

THERE was a time when the Klamath potato commanded a premium of ten cents per hundred pounds in the San Francisco bay area over any other potato offered for sale there. This price premium wasn't peanuts. In a 10,000-car year, it amounted to \$360,000 additional cash to the growers. It was based on superior quality.

The quality hasn't deteriorated. As the Klamath potato comes from the soil, it is a superior food product. But in recent years it has suffered in marketing. Damage in handling and transit has been running upwards of 40 per cent. Much of this damage happens AFTER grading. The result has been inferior quality at the consumer level. In addition, the Klamath potato has been marketed chiefly in 100-pound jute bags, which is too big a package for the apartment house trade. Or, for that matter, for the modern small home.

This spring, four experimental carloads are being marketed in the bay area under a new packaging system.

THE new system is simple. The potatoes are contained in ten-pound paper bags. The bags have handles, so that they can be carried easily. These individual packages are shipped in cartons, each carton containing eight packages. The purpose of the carton is to prevent damage in transit.

The whole idea is to make potatoes easy and inexpensive for the grocer to handle and convenient for the customer to buy and carry home.

BACK of that idea is another one: GUARANTEED QUALITY of the potatoes in the package.

When you buy breakfast cereals, you don't even think of asking the grocer to open the package so you can inspect the contents. You KNOW the quality will be OK. If, by any chance, anything should go wrong, you know that all you'd have to do would be to return the package and get your money back.

Knowing all this, you BUY WITH CONFIDENCE.

THAT'S what Klamath hopes to accomplish with these new guaranteed-quality packages. They're making it possible for their customers to buy with complete confidence. If that can be brought about, they think they can restore the Klamath potato to its old premium position in the all-important Bay area market.

THAT brings up something else:

If the Klamath potato is to be re-established as a premium price food product, they must see to it that only TOP-QUALITY potatoes get into the Bay area market.

That poses this question:

What is to be done with No. 2s and culls?

COLD storage men say that frozen French-fried potatoes are one of the hottest items in the frozen food markets at the present moment. The potatoes are French-fried and then frozen and packaged. All the housewife has to do is to open the package, heat the contents and serve.

It's quick and simple, and people who have tried them say they're GOOD. Just as good, a lot of people say, as potatoes that have been lugged home from the market, washed, peeled, sliced and expensively cooked in deep fat.

Another point: There's no used fat to be either wasted or kept around the kitchen until French fries are served again.

On page 3 of the committee report on the O'Mahoney amendment which includes the basin account, it is stated that, "during the course of these hearings, as well as during the hearings of the senate committee on public works which preceded them, extensive testimony was received from the four Columbia basin state governors... all favoring basically the proposals under consideration."

COMMUNICATIONS

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.

Like Harry James

To the Editor: This in reply to the absurd letters from Shady Cove. The belief that the recent amateur show should have been

reason why per capita consumption of potatoes has fallen NEARLY HALF in the past decade.

Here's the other point:

Canned, boiled potatoes and frozen French-fries can be made out of No. 2s and culls. Canning and freezing potatoes create more man-hours of employment in the community. And what goes for potatoes goes for all other foods.

won by their local cowboy singer is as absurd as their highly prejudiced letters.

Although "The Kentucky Waltz" is a cowboy-stomp favorite, it is not generally considered great in the field of music, and since the contest was judged on the best musical talent we believe that the majority of the people were satisfied with the choice.

The so-called flat-notes played on the "coronet" were really a fine imitation of the Harry James style. This information is submitted to enlighten the indignant residents of Shady Cove to the facts of real musical talent.

Bill Grant
Jim Grimm

ONE JAIL ENOUGH

Simpsonville, S. C.—(U.P.)—This town is advertising one of its two jails for sale, with the explanation that one lockup is enough. Simpsonville put its 53-year-old city jail, a 20x20 one-room building with one window,

on the for sale list after completing a new jail several blocks away.

8 TUBEROUS \$1 BEGONIAS

Regular \$3 Value

Imported Double Camellia type in 8 exotic colors: Red, Scarlet, Pink, Rose, White, Yellow, Salmon and Copper. Plant indoors in pots or boxes right now. Enjoy watching the rapid growth. Set outside in May for a riot of glorious color all Summer.

8 Bulbs measuring 3 to 4 inches around, only \$1.24 bulbs, regular \$9 value, \$2.50. Complete planting instructions with each shipment.

A Free Peony with every \$2.50 order.

Mount Baker Bulb Co.

Dept. 549

1109 Post St. Seattle, Wash.

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