

FLEGEL APPARENT DEMO WINNER

MEDFORD MALL TRIBUNE

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Possible Sabotage Probed Back East In Munitions Blast

\$20,000,000 Damage To Nearby Property

South Amboy, N. J., May 20—(U.P.)—Seeking the cause of an atom-like explosion of tons of munitions bound for the sub-continent of India, authorities today investigated the possibility of sabotage.

Fire Commissioner William O'Leary placed the death toll at 24 to 29. The injured, he said, totaled 352. Property damage, O'Leary added, may exceed \$20 million.

Fell 22 Miles Away
Four barges just loaded with anti-tank and anti-personnel mines went sky-high in a vast mushrooming roar that was felt in New York City, 22 miles away. An estimated two-thirds of the buildings in this town of 10,000 persons suffered some kind of damage.

The munitions were bound for Pakistan which with India shares the sub-continent that recently constituted the British Indian empire. It had been purchased under license from an American munitions manufacturer in Newark, O.

Explore Possibilities
O'Leary and state police were checking all possibilities in seeking the cause of a disaster which sent shivers of fright through the industrial New Jersey countryside, but had no evidence that sabotage, conclusively to any one possibility.

The shipment through South Amboy had been authorized by the coast guard, like thousands of others through the Port of New York. All precautions as regards packing and handling had been taken.

Despite the virtual certainty that the death toll was 24 or more, only four bodies had been recovered. The bodies of other victims, O'Leary said, probably would never be recovered.

Jackson County Prior Morse; Gault and Peers Winners In County G.O.P. Contests

By E. C. Ferguson
Managing Editor, Mail Tribune

Medford and Jackson county followed the state trend in Friday's primary by giving Senator Wayne Morse rousing majority over his two opponents, Dave Hoover, homespun candidate from Lane county, and John McBride, government employee, in their three-cornered race for the republican nomination for United States senator.

Medford's voters gave Morse 1,661, Hoover 1,083, and McBride 187. Totals for the county increased the figures in about the same ratio: Morse 4,329, Hoover 3,059, and McBride 466.

The primary campaign, a rather ho hum affair in all departments until the last few weeks, undoubtedly gained its greatest county interest from the Morse-Hoover GOP contest, and that between State Senator Austin Flegel, State Treasurer Walter Pearson and ex-State Sen. Lew Wallace for the democratic gubernatorial nomination.

Apprehension for Morse Groundless
Local Morse supporters, it developed, had been needlessly apprehensive in the final days of the campaign. One of the more pessimistic had admitted Thursday that he "wouldn't give a nickel" for his candidate's chances.

Jackson county deviated from the state vote in the demo gubernatorial contest, giving Wallace 1,283, Pearson 1,184 and Flegel 1,100. Incomplete state returns put Flegel well in the lead with Wallace second and Pearson a poor third.

The democratic aspirants had pulled no punches in their campaign efforts and those in the up-state political know had given Pearson a slight edge up to the final ball.

Court Race Interesting
Another state race of considerable interest in this end of the commonwealth was the three-way non-partisan affair with the prize position three on the supreme court. It had been figured here that Robert Maguire would win, but the county vote gave Walter Tooze the best of it with 5,438, Maguire 4,488 and Austin Dunn 2,435. Incomplete reports from statewide show Tooze maintaining a lead which may give him the position without the necessity of a runoff election in the fall between the two leading candidates.

Joe Cave, veteran Medford posed officer, now retired, notified Andrew L. Unger for the right to compete with W. P. Tucker, unopposed republican incumbent for the Medford district justice of the peace job.

Looking at the county totals for a strictly popularity test, unopposed republican incumbent state senator received 6,703 votes while L. Peers Wilmet, unopposed on the democratic side, totaled up 3,971, in another set-to which will be decided come autumn.

Complete County Election Returns
Here are the complete, unofficial returns from Jackson county's 84 precincts in the primary election Friday:

Republican Party:
U. S. senator—Hoover 3,059; McBride 466; Morse 4,329.
Congressman, 4th district—Eilsworth 7,051.
Governor—McKay 7,140.
Labor commissioner—Kimsley 6,139.
State senator—Day 6,703.
State representatives—Mann 5,030; Root 4,854.
County commissioner—Graves 3,091; Lytle 4,290.
Sheriff—Gault 5,870; Marks 2,016.
Surveyor—Rynning 6,467.
Justice of the peace, Medford district—Tucker 2,137.

Democratic party:
U. S. senator—Latourette 2,087; Wood 2,553.
Congressman, 4th district—Shaw 7,402; Swanson 2,331.
Governor—Flegel 1,533; Pearson 1,726; Wallace 1,759.
Labor commissioner—Morgan 3,677.
State senator—Wilmet 3,971.
State representatives—Rucker 3,028; Tolleson 2,796.
County commissioner—Straus 4,040.
Sheriff—Aldershof 1,727; Taylor 2,762.
Justice of the peace, Medford district—Cave 1,569; Unger 1,529.

Judiciary:
For state supreme court, position No. 3 (non-partisan)—Dunn 2,435; Maguire 4,488; Tooze 5,438.
Results of the voting on the three city financial measures on the city ballot, from Medford's 23 precincts, complete and unofficial:
Water department \$2,800,000 bond issue for new pipeline and other improvements—yes 3,934; no 552.
Fire department \$125,000 bond issue for new ladder truck, fire stations, alarm system and hose—yes 3,740; no 628.
Fire department four-mill continuing tax levy for maintenance and personnel—yes 3,198; no 1,005.

County Duels
Of the strictly county contests the duels for nomination for sheriff between incumbent Howard Gault and Ray Marks on the republican side and Delroy Aldershof and W. L. Taylor on the democratic ticket held equal interest with the republican competition for county commissioner.

Sheriff Gault, who conducted a rather quiet campaign, with an impressive 5,870 compared with Marks 2,016.
Another incumbent county official, Commissioner R. R. Lytle, also swamped his opponent, L. G. Graves, in their race for the republican commissioner nomination. The totals: Lytle 4,290, Graves 3,091.

Columbia River Flood Prevails in Lowlands
Portland, Ore., May 20—(U.P.)—A flood situation described by flood forecasters as "not serious" prevailed today along the low-lying pasture lands bordering the Columbia river at Vancouver, Wash.

The mighty river reached a two-foot stage of 15 feet today, and Tuesday.
A snow runoff from the Cascades and excess water released from the Grand Coulee dam combined to boost the stage 2 of a foot above its 15-foot stage Friday.

A total of 40,000 acre feet of water from the Grand Coulee spillway was expected to boost the stage at Wenatchee, Wash., some three feet. Grand Coulee officials said a total of 375,000 acre-feet of water has been released from the spillways to make room for a heavy runoff of snow water expected at any time in this melting season.

Nationalist Warships Blast Commie Forces
Hong Kong, May 20—(U.P.)—The British navy escorted commercial vessels past the Wanshan islands some 30 miles southwest of Hong Kong today as nationalist warships bombarded communist landing forces.

Nationalist navy headquarters announced that marines and naval units "completely wiped out" more than 200 communist troops who landed on Ching-chow island in the group.
A communique said naval units "upon learning of the invasion immediately made a counter landing. The communists were encircled in hilly regions on the island and all were killed except 22 taken prisoner during a four-hour encounter."

55 Dead, 41 Hurt In Explosion Deep In Ruhr Coal Mine

Second Worst Since End World War II

Rothhausen-Dahlbusch, Germany, May 20—(U.P.)—Fifty-five mine workers were killed and 41 were injured today in a coal-mine explosion followed by a raging fire in a 3,508 foot deep Ruhr coal mine near here.

It was western Germany's second worst mine disaster since the war.

Rescue workers brought the 14th body from the shaft tonight. Another man died of injuries after he was removed.

Most Bodies Charred
The weary workers said many of the bodies were charred beyond recognition. They believed many were killed outright by the blast before they were enveloped by the flames.

The fire, which raged for hours after the explosion, was extinguished late tonight. Rescue workers continued to search for victims as hundreds of men, women and children waited in the pouring rain outside the colliery gates for news of the fate of relatives.

The bodies were taken away in plain coffins.
15-Year-Old Dies
Rescue squads were at work within a half-hour of the explosion.

The known dead included a 15-year-old boy, son of a miner, who was working as an apprentice. Four of the dead came from single family.

The explosion was believed caused by an accumulation of fire-damp. Top German mining officials, including Heinrich Kest, head of the west German coal administration, helped direct rescue work.

Overwhelming OK Given Three City Finance Measures

All three city improvement measures in Friday's special election—for the water and fire departments—passed by overwhelming majorities, complete returns from Medford's 25 precincts showed Saturday.

The water department \$2,800,000 bond issue, to provide a new pipeline from Big Butte springs to Medford, and for additional expansion and improvement, passed 3,934 to 552.

The two fire department companion measures passed by smaller but still heavy majorities. First was a \$125,000 bond issue to provide a new aerial ladder truck, two new fire substations, a fire alarm system and new hose. This passed by a vote of 3,740 yes, 628 no.

Levy Passes
Second was a four-mill continuing tax levy on city property to provide funds for maintenance of the department, and for additional personnel for the three stations. The vote was 3,198 yes, 1,005 no.

City officials expressed gratification at the results of the election on the measures Saturday. While no outspoken opposition had developed during the campaign for their passage, it was feared that the three might be defeated by apathy or default.

Reservoir Near Bend Draining This Summer

Bend, Ore., May 20—(U.P.)—The Crane prairie reservoir will be drained this summer for a study of zones of leakage in its bottom, bureau of reclamation officials said today.

Engineers stated that levees will be constructed at points where stored water is escaping into the earth from the upper Deschutes reservoir.

The bureau said losses in excess of 30,000 acre-feet have been recorded, especially in times of high stage.

Engineers are also studying water losses in the Deschutes channel in the Benham falls area. They said considerable water flows into lava fissures in this area and is lost for irrigation purposes.

Morse Easily Tops Hoover in Senator Nomination Race

Shaw Has Slight Lead In Demo Congress Race

Portland, Ore., May 20—(U.P.)—State Senator Austin Flegel tonight apparently was nominated as democratic candidate for governor of Oregon after a nip-and-tuck fluctuating battle of ballots against Lew Wallace.

The race was close but Flegel maintained his lead despite a continuing upsurge of Wallace votes in late Multnomah county returns.

Senator Wayne Morse captured the republican nomination for U. S. senator with two to one primary election victory over his conservative opponent, Farmer Dave Hoover.

"I bow to the will of the people and accept the result without malice and without any regret for having made the fight," Hoover said. Morse said, "I never count an election until all the ballots are in."

Returns from 1,959 out of 2,017 precincts gave U. S. senator—Hoover 61,635; McBride 18,302; Morse 118,544. Democrat—Latourette 78,734; Wood 69,084.

Governor—(1,972 out of 2,017 precincts)—Republican: McKay (unopposed) 132,670; democratic—Flegel 57,538; Pearson 45,688; Wallace 56,008.

Supreme court (1,807 out of 2,017 precincts)—Dunn 46,084; Maguire 110,608; Tooze 159,595. Morse said he will "continue to vote independently on issues as I see them." He had frequently sided with senate democrats. He believed the Oregon returns showed the same trend as in Pennsylvania where Gov. Jim Duff won Thursday.

In congressional vote by district, incomplete, showed:
First district, 498 of 587 precincts—Norblad 10,151; Hewitt, 21,472; Ward 11,430.

Second district, 345 of 424 precincts—Stockman, 14,459; Bowman, 8,008; Bull, 8,270; Garske, 4,005.

Third district, 541 of 553 precincts—Anbell, 43,617; Jensen, 18,015; Walker, 15,683; Donough, 24,881; Dreyer, 21,102; Stallard, 7,932.

Fourth district, 462 of 473 precincts—Eilsworth, 22,617; Shaw, 14,028; Swanson, 12,631.

Six Believed Dead In Sinking of Boat

Melville, La., May 20—(U.P.)—A new \$550,000 tug sank within two minutes in the swift Atchafalaya river late last night, and one of the six presumed victims was found alive today by a fisherman.

The tug, the Jane Smith out of Pittsburgh, Pa., was on her maiden voyage to the Gulf of Mexico with two empty oil barges when she was swept into a bridge piling, and went down. Eleven men were on board.

Five were rescued. Five others were asleep below deck when she sank. Marine Supt. L. C. Jones of the Oil Transport company of New Orleans, which owned the tug, has assumed that these five and Capt. Lennis Verre of New Orleans, a pilot, were drowned.

Wisconsin Governor Blasts College Boys

Madison, Wis., May 20—(U.P.)—Gov. Oscar Rennebohm tonight blasted a handful of Wisconsin students who picketed a federal inspection of ROTC students.

His attack came in a speech to the Reserve Officers' association convention following an armed forces parade.

"You reserve officers here tonight are ready to sacrifice your all in the defense of our country. And 20 people have the guts to go out with signs," he said.

Rennebohm referred to a demonstration of students who paraded with anti-ROTC, anti-war signs before armed federal officials at the annual ROTC inspection two weeks ago.

Jet Plane Sets Mark San Francisco to L. A.
Los Angeles, May 20—(U.P.)—Capt. Richard D. Bright, 25, hurled his jet plane from San Francisco to Los Angeles today in 32 minutes 56 seconds to establish a new speed record between the two cities.

Averaging 640 miles per hour, he shaved almost two minutes off the former unofficial record set Jan. 22, 1950, by Lt. Cmdr. John L. Butts, who flew the 341 miles in a navy P-51 Mustang in 34 minutes 54 seconds.



SOUTH AMBOY BLAST CENTER—American Agricultural Chemical company plant in the dock area of South Amboy, N. J., where four barges loaded with anti-tank shells exploded, leveling docks and waterfront industrial plants killing 24 to 29 and injuring hundreds. (Acme Telephoto)

Marine Reaches Home But Quiet on Spying

Chicago, May 20—(U.P.)—Marine M/Sgt. Elmer C. Bender flew home to a reunion with his wife and family today and told newsmen there "is something to reports that he signed a statement about spying on the Chinese communists who held him prisoner for 18 months."

He said at a news conference shortly after his arrival from the west coast that he would "straighten it out later." At Long Beach, Cal., Friday he denied the statement he signed prior to his release by the Chinese was a "confession."

Bender landed aboard a C-47 at Glenview naval air station and was given a returning hero's welcome. He alighted from the plane, rushed to his pretty wife, Shirley, and gathered her into his arms.

He hugged her so tightly he knocked the yellow rose she wore from her lapel.

Later, the handsome, 27-year-old leathernose told newsmen he would stay in the marines, despite the fact his hitch was up in January, 1949.

Asked what she thought about it, Mrs. Bender said: "I don't know, I'll have to talk about it. We'll have to talk it over."

At the news conference that followed, he said he was treated "very well" during his imprisonment "considering the low standard of living there."

Asked about a broadcast by Peiping radio that he had "confessed" spying on the Chinese communists, he said there was "something to" the report.

But public relations officers nudged him and he said no more. He said he and Chief Petty Officer William C. Smith of the navy were captured by the communists "because I'm ashamed to say I didn't know my position."

He said the engine of his plane "conked out" over the beach at Shantung peninsula and that communist and nationalist lines were not definitely established at the time.

Former Hood River Man's Plane Crashes

Hood River, Ore., May 20—(U.P.)—Ferris McCoy, 40, former Hood River resident, was in a critical condition at Hood River hospital following a light plane crash about seven miles south of here late today.

Sheriff R. L. Gilmore said McCoy was buzzing the area when the craft struck a utility pole and crashed into an orchard owned by Don Numamaker. Gilmore said he believed the plane was rented at Beaverton.

SPORTS BULLETINS

Reno's underdog Silver Sox bounced up to 3 in a Far West League baseball game here last night.

The Silver Sox tagged four Medford hurlers for 14 safeties, including four by Dierkes in five times up, and were helped along by five Medford miscues. Don Williams and Russ Stuart hit twice each in four times up. Williams socked a triple.

Lincoln:
Reno 102 510 040—13 14 1
Med'f 000 200 001—3 7 5
Tressler and Borich; Bowman, Vargas (3); Herrmann (3); Taylor (8) and Gleason.

Billings, Mont., May 20—(U.P.)—Larry Shepard, former Medford, Ore., player-manager, hurled the Billings Mustangs to a 6 to 0 victory over Salt Lake City in a Pioneer league baseball game here Saturday night. Chuck Cheshire was the catcher.

Redding, Cal., May 20—(U.P.)—The Redding Browns defeated the Marysville Braves 8-7 Saturday night to win both games of their current Far West League series here.

Modesto, Cal., May 20—(U.P.)—Stanford University athletes overcame an old jinx Saturday night as they came from behind to upset the highly-touted and previously unbeaten USC Trojan track and field squad in the ninth annual California relays.

Sacramento, May 20—(U.P.)—Sacramento used five pitchers in a vain effort to stop Seattle here Saturday night but lost to the Rainiers 9 to 2.

Escaped Ohio Cons Found in Michigan

Marquette, Mich., May 20—(U.P.)—Two escaped Ohio convicts, hunted for 10 days in the wild woods of Michigan's upper peninsula, were captured today after one of them was wounded in a running gun battle with state police.

One officer was shot in the arm and leg by the desperadoes. One trooper was winged in the arm and leg by the desperadoes.

Haggard and bearded, brothers Paul and Lloyd Russell threw away their rifles and surrendered meekly when two state troopers spotted them in a cluster of trees five miles south of Shingleton.

Paul, 24, weakened by a bullet wound in the hip, and his brother, Lloyd, 29, were taken 60 miles to the state police post here. Lt. Willard Wixom said they will be charged with attempted murder for shooting a detective during a roadblock fight early this morning.

Efforts Pushed to End Threatened New Strikes On American Railroads

Washington, May 20—(U.P.)—The national mediation board was counting today on last-minute peace talks to avert a second railroad strike within a month.

The board arranged for the conferences Tuesday between spokesmen for the Switchmen's Union of North America (AFU) and 10 western and midwestern railroads.

Portland Rejects Tax Measures and Okays Annexation

Portland, Ore., May 20—(U.P.)—Late Multnomah county returns indicated today primary election voters had more Democrat-inclined Terry Schruk to face Republican John J. Keegan in the November general election for the sheriff's office.

In city returns, Portlanders gave overwhelming support to six annexation measures that would incorporate fringe areas to the city. All six propositions were favored by at least a 2-1 margin.

However, city and county residents were not so kind to tax measures. A \$2,443,000 county welfare and government service measure was beaten by nearly 3 to 2 according to incomplete returns.

Income Tax Beaten
Two important city tax measures—the so-called "income tax" proposal and the special five-year five-mill property levy—were taking a 2 to 1 and a 3 to 1 beating, respectively, despite the city council's threat of boosting license fees on local businesses if the measures failed to pass.

In other city propositions, voters were evenly divided on a 10-year levy for Portland's park program and a plan to bring civic auditorium employees under civil service. A bond measure for auditorium rejuvenation held a slight lead.

A 3 to 2 vote in favor of Portland school district's \$2,600,000 levy was the only major city-county tax measure on the way to approval.

Armed Forces Day Parade Sees Many Marching Units

More than 20 marching units, representing military and veterans' organizations, youth groups and civic and patriotic organizations participated in the colorful parade up Main street yesterday in observance of Armed Forces day.

Members of the unified armed services, parading their strength together instead of on three separate days as in past years, formed the main body of Saturday's parade. There were several mobilized units, including heavy artillery pieces and representatives of army, navy and marine corps regulars and reserves. The national guard and civil air patrol cadets also participated.

Music Heard
Martial music was furnished by the Kilby band of Ashland, the high school band, Eve Prentice's accordion band, Bliss Heine's juniors, the Eagle Point high school band, and the Boy Scout drum and bugle corps.

There were floats representing the Elks—with the theme of "Wake Up America"—and the Central Labor council which had a float carrying the legend, "United for Peace."

There were also large units in the parade from the Medford Eagles and the Jackson County Sheriff's posse and Ladies Mounted troop.

Armed Forces day was climaxed with a military ball at the Medford armory last night.

Air force participation included several "fly-overs" by 11 F-51 air national guard fighter planes from the Fortland airbase shortly after noon.