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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
May 28, 1940
(It Was Tuesday)

Belgium surrenders to nazis; 300,000 drop arms in surprise decree by king.

Steve Crippen heads Craters baseball team in batting with an average of .462.

Miss Mary Shreve to play Queen Elizabeth in Shakespearean play festival.

P. D. Coy named to Oregon state game commission position.

Max G. Carter awarded scholarship at medical school at Harvard university.

20 YEARS AGO TODAY
May 28, 1930
(It Was Wednesday)

Medford Ice and Storage company expects to have 25,000 tons of ice ready for huge crop of valley pears.

John Barneburg, democratic nominee for county commissioner, official count of ballots shows.

Local Safeway store announces lease of property at 309 East Main street.

Rogue River Valley Ministerial association final meeting for summer scheduled June 16 at Shady Cove.

34 YEARS AGO TODAY
May 28, 1916
(It Was Sunday)

Vance Wolgamott home, Talent, burns to ground with most of furnishings saved.

E. C. and E. L. Welch plan to move sawmill and box factory to Medford.

Ben Garnett, H. D. Howard and W. N. Campbell considered leading candidates for local postmastership.

Tax Amendment to Constitution OK'd

A proposed amendment to the Oregon constitution, whereby the state would be prohibited from levying taxes on real and personal property except for the retirement of general obligation bonds, was discussed and approved at a meeting of the agricultural committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce last week.

The committee recommended approval of the proposal to the chamber's board of directors. Under the suggested amendment, real and personal property taxes would be left to local subdivisions of government—such as counties, cities and school districts.

The recommendations arose out of a general discussion on tax problems facing the state, which were brought out at a recent meeting here of the state legislature's interim committee on tax studies.

Participating in the meeting were Chairman John Niedermeyer, Oliver O. Morton, R. G. Fowler, Stanley Morgan, Ben Day, Shelby Tuttle, Ray Schumacher, Eugene Peterson, Earl Day and Don Lane, chamber secretary-manager.

Subscribers

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Editorial Correspondence

New York City, N.Y., May 24—The theory is, that such items of New Deal "socialism" as unemployment insurance, are bound to destroy the spirit of independence, enterprise and industry which built up this country and made it great.

* * * * *

The appalling picture is drawn of American youth sitting around shooting craps, while awaiting their unemployment checks—relief allowances or what have you,—indolent, no-good lazy dependents thanks to the democratic "gimme" doctrine.

* * * * *

We wish those who accept this theory could have been over on West 59th street yesterday.

They would have seen a mob of nearly 3,000 men, mostly young ones, behind police barricades, waiting for the office of the New York Civil Service commission to open so they could file their applications for jobs.

The jobs involve hard work, and only 147 available.

But the desire to get work,—self-respecting, non-charitable work at a decent wage, the scale varies from $150 to $200 per month—was so great that not only were there over 20 applicants for each place, but some of these boys had stood in line for 60 hours—brought blankets, and lunch-boxes along and stuck it out day and night in spite of the rain.

When the signal was given around noon yesterday, and the barricades marked "police-line-do-not-cross" were shoved aside, there was a rushing stampede similar to those of the "good old days" when free government land in the west was opened up. Those who got there first were served first.

* * * * *

There is another side to the picture, of course. There are thousands of unemployed here in New York,—perhaps 200,000 in all. But thanks to the welfare and unemployment set-ups, municipal and state, no one is starving, none naked or without shelter. And an overwhelming majority of those who can't find work, want it as as this demonstration showed and they are willing to go to almost any lengths to get it. Another point should not be forgotten. While unemployment is large and still growing statistics show more are employed today than ever before in the city's history. How come? There are more people here. Few DP's who land in New York, for example, ever leave.

* * * * *

Two events of world-shattering importance,—so important in their results, direct and indirect, it is difficult for your correspondent to believe they are really true.

One is the recent understanding between France and Germany regarding coal and iron.

The other the agreement between General Motors and the United Automobile Workers union (CIO), regarding wage scales and kindred matters.

In both instances a major miracle has been performed. The ages-old suspicions, fears and hostilities between France and Germany which have brought two major wars to Europe in 35 years, and rendered any realization of lasting European peace impossible, have been buried. Each side has made allowances and taken "calculated risks,"—so what appears to be a Franco-German reapproachment has actually been achieved.

By another policy of give and take, each side making concessions and sacrifices for the sake of labor-capital peace, one of the largest and strongest labor unions in the country and one of the largest and strongest major industries have come to a long term agreement WITHOUT a strike!

* * * * *

There may be flies in the ointment which the writer can not discern. In another month or two perhaps France and Germany will be back where they were a decade ago,—labor and capital in the U.S.A. ditto.

But sufficient unto the day are the blessings thereof.

If these two agreements prove to be lasting and their tremendous implications sustained by future developments, then 1950 will go down in history as the most significant and vital year in human betterment and American advancement since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Such a consumation is certainly worth hoping for—and praying for as well!

* * * * *

In this morning's Herald-Tribune is a short item asking all and sundry to turn to page two and pay heed to the public notice column regarding General Eisenhower. Those who follow instructions observed the following, to-wit:

Eisenhower, right man for Pres. to beat strongly entrenched opposition machine. He must be convinced by popular demand. Cannot refuse if we the people insist. He has had no part whatever in this ad plan. Solely idea of private citizen businessman, not a politician. You can take part in this strictly non-profit peoples campaign. Need more and larger ads in newspapers paid for by fellow citizens. Similar campaign I did for Willkie finally reached 91 million people. Make check payable to "John Orr Young—Draft Eisenhower." CPA audit to each contributor. Steinway Hall, 113 W. 57th street, N. Y. 19.

Well, we hope John Orr (any relation to Bert?) Young has better luck with "Ike" than he had with Willkie. We never understood—and still don't understand why Wendell Willkie got so few votes, when he showed such amazing punch and leadership at the Philadelphia convention and at the outset of the campaign bowled them over on the stump. We have a feeling the real INSIDE of that campaign has yet to be written.

* * * * *

Incidentally, reports about General Eisenhower are very conflicting. We have recently talked with two professors at Columbia university,—both of them entirely reliable and friends of the general.

One maintains General Ike is intensely interested in his educational job and will under no circumstances leave it until after 1952. The other maintains, with equal finality, that the general does not like his job, the university authorities don't like him,—and hope he will run for president so they can get a better qualified man to take his place. Our hunch is No. 2 has the clearer view of the situation, but only time can tell.

* * * * *

More rain and fog,—in fact the weather here for six months has been about as unpleasant as weather can get. According to the United States Weather Bureau during 1950 to date there have been 126 days when there was rain, either measurable or a trace. That means rain approximately half the time! This does not mean there was no sun during that period, however, in fact there have been 110 days when the sun shone for a few hours at least. And the rain a large part of the time has been a spray rather than any precipitation. In other words for nearly five months New York has had the inconvenience and unpleasantness of rainy weather with practically none of the benefits. (If we were Walter Winchell we would mark the above "flash-exclusive"—for the facts were secured for the Medford Mail-Tribune from official sources).

* * * * *

Another feather in the cap of the FBI. They have finally forreted down the so-and so, who was the "go-between" for Dr. Fuchs in his transmission of atom secrets to Russia. How long will it take Senator McCarthy to hook him up with the state department?

—R.W.R.

Wall Street

New York, May 27 — (U.P.) — Leading stocks rested in a dull short session on the stock exchange today, while specials attracted moderate attention.

It was a typical pre-holiday market. Many traders were celebrating a four-day holiday through Memorial day, Tuesday, when the exchange will be closed. It will operate as usual on Monday and resume on Wednesday.

Dow Jones closing stock averages: 30 industrials, 221.71; off 0.22; 20 rails 56.29, off 0.06; 15 utilities, 42.67, off 0.04; and 65 stocks, 78.16, off 0.08.

Sales declined to 470,000 shares today from 900,000 last Saturday.

Gas Rationing Ended, Britons Rush for Fuel

London, May 27—(U.P.)—Gasoline pumps began to run dry today under the demands of British motorists who lined up through the night to fill their tanks freely for the first time in almost 11 years.

Rationing was ended by a surprise announcement and by midnight, when coupons no longer were needed, cars were lined up for blocks at filling stations all over the country. One gas station reported serving 2,000 customers during the night.

Oil Strike Details Reported by Firm

Details of an oil strike made recently by a company largely financed by Medford men were told here Saturday by Verne Shangle, a director of the Mutual Drilling corporation.

The well, located in Illinois, had a production of 144 barrels the first day of production, Shangle said. He explained that the wellshaft goes through four levels of oil-bearing limestone with a total thickness of 56 feet. The first day's production was from the lowest level only, 12 feet thick, and represents the first results of the use of lime-corroding acid at that level.

The well, 1,890 feet in depth, will have a total production estimated at upwards of 500 barrels per day when full production is achieved, Shangle said drillers estimate. Acid treatments will be continued on all levels, with eventual flow from all four levels being maintained simultaneously.

Portland, Ore., May 27—(U.P.)—Hans F. Hansen, 77, of Bend, was killed by a Great Northern freight train here.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe

"Look—we got an audience. Maybe we'd better take up a collection."

A Nichols' Worth of—

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington, May 27—(U.P.)—Pop, if you're right bright, you'll stick by the fire and mind the young 'uns.

Harman Nichols

There are eight bills before congress which would give you pain if you left the old lady and the babies and crossed a state line to duck the bill collectors.

On capital hill they call them the "runaway pappy" bills. Rep. Chauncey W. Reed's house judiciary subcommittee is looking over the proposed legislation.

Penalties for child abandonment if the old guy crosses a state line would run from three to five years in jail or fines from $1,000 to $2,500—or both.

But actually, papas don't have to worry too much for awhile. The FBI and the justice department are chilly toward the proposed legislation. The law enforcers see a lot of complications if the bills pass. There might be a bit of trouble capturing and convicting a guy if the matter was handed over to the federal government.

Rep. Andrew Jacobs (D., Ind), author of one of the measures to keep daddies on the straight path, was a little outspoken.

"If the FBI can spend its time chasing the thief of a Model T Ford across a state line, it can better occupy itself in tracing a man so low as to run out on his kids," Jacobs said.

The gentleman from Indiana referred to the Dyer act, which makes it a federal penalty to take a stolen car across a state line.

Congressman Reed admitted that if any of the several bills become law, the justice department would have a bad time. The courts would be bogged with truant pops.

But, he said, the evidence before the subcommittee indicates that a federal act against leaving your kids behind might be a powerful deterrent to what now is a felony in many states.

Reed said extradition is a tough problem when it comes to tracking a disappearing father and more often than not, money is not available for bloodhounds, the cops, and deputy sheriffs. And some states do not have a law against leaving a baby alone in his crib without dough.

One of the congressmen to sponsor bills on the abandonment business is Rep. Louis Raboul, (D., Mich.) He argues that savings of 50 to 100 million dollars in dependent children's relief funds could be expected if we make abandonment a federal offense.

Rep. Sam Hobbs, (D., Ala.), said that the states are taking a bad licking in taxes evaded by fathers who desert the home hearth.

Last year alone, said Harry Hayden, legislative representative of the American Legion, some 1,327,000 children were abandoned. The Legion, he said, is on record as in favor of laws to ban pop runaways.

Rep. Tom Steed, (D., Okla.), kindled the fire, too. He said that aid for dependent children has risen from $140 million in 1941 to $400 million last year.

No one dad could foot that bill.

Arrowhead Collection Is Loaned to Museum

A collection of Indian arrowheads, described by acting Curator E. E. Patterson of the Jacksonville Museum as the finest he has ever seen, has been loaned to the museum by Wayne Neat, a member of the Camp White Domiciliary center.

The collection, including several thousand arrowheads all neatly arranged in glass-faced cases, was accumulated by Mr. Neat over a ten year period and came mostly from the vicinity of Neat's former home in Kiowa county, Colorado.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In a day barren of any very exciting news, this casual paragraph in a dispatch from the island of Guam meets the eye:

"The biggest concentration of naval power in the western Pacific since the war's end—33 U.S. warships—is arriving at Guam under Vice-Admiral Arthur D. Struble, commander of the seventh fleet."

WHEN Struble arrived in Guam one of his first jobs was to hold a news conference. This, too, was a casual affair. Answering questions, the admiral casually told the correspondents:

There will be an aircraft carrier with this new naval force arriving in Guam . . . it will carry two squadrons of Grumman F9F fighters . . . these will be the first jet fighters ever seen in this part of the world.

There will also be four "snorkel" submarines . . . ("Snorkel" is a German word . . . its meaning is approximately that of our word "snoot"—like Jimmy Durante's . . . You breathe through your snoot . . . so does a Snorkel submarine . . . a snorkel on a submarine is a long snoot that sticks up to the surface . . . the submarine breathes through it and so can stay under water a heck of a long time . . . staying under water that way, it's hard to see . . . what is hard to see is hard to SHOOT AT.)

Snorkel submarines are hot stuff, just as jet planes are hot stuff.

WHY all this weight of fighting ships and fighting planes away over there in the Western Pacific?

Admiral Struble goes into that for the benefit of the correspondents. Among the fleet's missions, he says, will be courtesy calls in Southeast Asia parts. Such "courtesy" calls, he adds, will probably feature CARRIER BASED JETS IN AIR PARADES.

(Watching these carrier based jets in action in air parades, the folks down there, we hope, will say to themselves: "Uncle Sam is BIG MEDICINE. Maybe we'd better not monkey with him.)"

THE admiral then adds:

"THE FLEET'S MISSION INCLUDES READINESS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION IN A NATIONAL EMERGENCY."

That suggests this question: WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED A NATIONAL EMERGENCY?

WELL, the Chinese communists (which, we were told for many, many moons, were just simple Chinese farmers who had no connection at all with Moscow) have been getting awfully sassy lately. They've taken over AA of China but the island of Formosa and will probably gobble that at any moment they feel like it.

They might take a notion to gobble up French Indo-China, which is just over the border from China. They might go on through Malaya and then over into the new United States of Indonesia and take all of that part of the world over in the name of communism.

THAT we would probably regard as a national emergency, though it would all be a long, long way from continental United States, where our homes and our businesses are located.

DO you remember reading in your school history of the days when a ruckus ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD meant possible (maybe probable) war for Britain? Those were the days when Britain ruled the world.

Well, we're sitting now in the seat where BRITAIN USED TO SIT.

12 KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Bogota, Colombia, May 27—(U.P.)—Twelve persons were killed and 20 were injured today when a powder magazine exploded at nearby Neiva. Two magazines were destroyed and about a dozen nearby commercial buildings were wrecked.

The face-lifting of the Batory of the Gydnia America line, including a complete change of the decor inside, is being carried on by alternate staffs of artists and workmen at New York and Gydnia during nine uninterrupted trans-Atlantic trips.

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Pickin' Pears

News, Gossip, Comment From Camp White

By L. J. "Tick" Malarkey

A large straw hat covered his head and when he looked up a good natured grin lit his face. We asked if he needed any help in pulling weeds from the bed of flowers which was his work project while on hands and knees.

"No, I guess I can make out all right," he said, and kept on with the job. The new friend is Walde Hull, and back in April, 1917, the young man was living at Cottage Grove and was a member of the 65th coast artillery that trained at Ft. Stevens before they pushed off for France.

Private Hull made out all right before and after the Kaiser quit. When it was all over he came back to Oregon, followed logging, farming and sawmilling. About five years ago the Hulls moved to Eagle Point and Greybeard Waldo is no improving some acreage he has there with his spare time and money.

Everyone likes the lad out here, and we have it from the top hand of the personnel department, that one-time stacker of cannon balls puts in every minute of his time on the job and for the job.

"Tex" Hatcher, chauffeur. That is the way personnel carries the "Kid from Two" on the payroll. We sometimes ride with Chauffeur Hatcher when he meets the morning train from Portland. "Tex" drives left-handed—had to learn after he made the beach head on Iwo Jima in 1944. A hand grenade had been tossed at him and he tried to toss it back. Didn't have good luck.

Friend Hatcher is a fishing fan. That's what he wants to talk about—that and his job. And of course his wife, Shirley, who works for the Ross Lumber company, and who at one time (when "Tex" was a-courtin') used to be with Miss Rodgers in the Camp White Red Cross office. So as we ride to town, particularly on Mondays, the fishing news comes first hand. And the ex-GI gets the limit.

It is wonderful to watch that sturdy left arm and hand pilot his detail with the skill of any man with two.

When the Gold Star Mothers chapter of Medford was installed several weeks ago we attended the ceremonies which were held in Camp White Recreation hall. During the evening tribute after tribute was paid the efforts of Freda Lawrence for doing so much to bring about the chapter's organization and ultimate formation.

Wednesday afternoon it was a privilege and pleasure to meet and visit with her over a cup of coffee in Bill Clegg's canteen annex.

Fred Lawrence, commercial artist, brought Freda to Jackson county 20 years ago. Four children blessed their marriage, two boys and two girls. The sons, Harry and Charles, are kids that got through fracas two in good shape and today head their own families.

Eddie Durno. Dr. Durno it is now. When this Medford surgeon was up at Eugene, and wearing the lemon-yellow of the Oregon teams, he was as good as they come and as tough as they made 'em on the athletic teams of his day. We caught a glimpse of the doctor just as he was going in to Camp White surgery to perform an operation on one of our members.

He was as tanned as a chestnut, brown, and looks fit as a fiddle.

Today is "Daddy" Penland's day at Camp White.

The news reels are to be here, all service organizations will be on hand, representatives from political and civil life, bands from the high schools, veterans of four wars and many citizens are to be on hand to honor the last living commander of the GAR.

Theodore "Daddy" Penland. A young man who was born more than 100 years ago. Date, Jan. 23, 1849.

Commissions Here For Friday Hearing

A joint meeting of California and Oregon interstate commerce commission boards was held here Friday in the federal building, to hear a request made to the commission by George Yockel Jr., Ashland. Yockel asked authority to transport lumber as a common carrier in southern Oregon and northern California counties.

Here for the hearing from Salem, was P. O. Delap, supervisor of permits in the state public utilities office.

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