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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History
from the files of the Mail
Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years
ago.

10 YEARS AGO

March 2, 1942

(It was Monday)

United States and allied fight-
ing ships rout Japanese in open-
ing phases of battle for Java
sea.From Arthur Perry's Ye
Smudge Pot column: People are
warned to look out for phony
\$20 bills. They look the same
as they did the last time you had
one, whenever that was.

20 YEARS AGO

March 2, 1922

(It was Wednesday)

Infant son of Col. and Mrs.
Charles A. Lindbergh kidnapped
from Hopewell, N.J. home; kid-
napers demand \$50,000 ransom.Albert W. Reed convicted of
second degree murder of Ash-
land Policeman Victor Knott;
Gus Newbury, attorney for de-
fendant, states he will file mo-
tion for new trial.

30 YEARS AGO

March 2, 1922

(It was Thursday)

Two Medford men purchase
Liberty (Leverette) building for
\$60,000; plan extensive improve-
ments.House appropriations com-
mittee cuts fuel appropriations
for United States fleet from \$12
million to \$6 million; entire fleet
ordered to remain at anchor
until situation clarified.

40 YEARS AGO

March 2, 1912

(It was Saturday)

Madame Schumann-Heink, one
of world's leading singers, gives
concert in Medford; expresses
great admiration for beauty of
Rogue valley.Portland newspapers report
Medford men have offered Epis-
copal church \$80,000 to move
St. Helen's Hall school for girls
here.Americanism Article
Written by VFW ManO. F. Palmerton, route 1, box
304, Rogue River, is the author
of an article entitled "One for
All—All for One," appearing in
the February issue of the Ore-
gon VFW, official publication of
the Veterans of Foreign Wars of
Oregon. Palmerton is state di-
rector of Americanism for the
organization.The article, which is directed
to VFW district commanders and
patriotic instructors, outlines
procedures to be used in conduct-
ing patriotic visitation and pro-
grams at schools. It tells of the
importance of interesting school
children in patriotism and out-
lines methods of holding their
interest.

4-H Club News

Let's Learn To Sew Girls

Members of the "Let's Learn
To Sew Girls" are Alison Pink-
ham, Sheryl Swanson, Phyllis
Perry, Linda McDowell, Mary
Jo Batzer and Bonnie Taylor.They learned how to cut certain
threads and make needle hold-
ers at a recent meeting. The
group met at the home of their
leader, Gail Skyrman. Next
meeting will be in the home of
Bonnie Taylor, March 4.

Reporter.

"Why Are We Here?"

From Washington:
"Announced U. S. battle casualties in Korea reached
105,841 on Wednesday, an increase of 333 since last week.
The new totals are: killed in action, 16,427; wounded, 76,794;
missing, 12,620."Every time I read the Korean casualty figures, it sets
my teeth on edge. It's bad enough to have men killed in
action when we know what they're dying for. But when we
have no idea what we're fighting for, it seems to be about
ten times as bad.And when, on top of all that, we realize that it's a war
we can't win, we wind up with a feeling of frustration and
futility.The above leads off The Mail Tribune regular
column of comment entitled "In the Day's News", of
Monday, February 25th.ON FRIDAY, February 22nd, Washington's Birth-
day, General Matthew B. Ridgway, supreme U.N.
commander in Korea, made a speech of which the
following is a part, quote:"It seems deplorable that with all we cherish, ultimately
at stake, there should still be questioning at home as to why
we are in Korea.""Why ARE we here?
"Because all that America holds dear is threatened, and
has been ever since a deliberately planned and unprovoked
aggression against South Korea started.""To have done otherwise would have been a repudiation
of every principle this country has previously professed.
"With the pattern of Communist intentions now spread
across the world, where even the blind can see, neither the
seeming insulation of distance, nor the naivete of a sheltered
life, can plead the slightest excuse, nor abate one iota of
our individual responsibility."

That is plain enough!

General Ridgway was speaking in Tokyo to his
reserve officers, and he pulled no punches. Then he
quoted General George Washington as having written
in 1775, that one of the hardest jobs he (Washington)
had, was to induce the people to believe there was
danger, until, quote:

"The bayonet is pushed at their breasts."

WITH his voice rising and the intensity of his feel-
ing made plain, the General concluded, quote:
"Do you suppose there were not those at Valley
Forge who asked, 'why are we here?'""At Chancellorsville, before Gettysburg, at every
mile of the bitter withdrawals in Korea and at every
crisis on every American field of battle there have al-
ways been the timid few whose fears overrode their
courage, whose doubts beclouded their vision, who
kept questioning—and questioning—why were they
there?"

"WELL, I DON'T question!"

"We are here to fight for human freedom against
enslavement of the body and the mind; we are here
to maintain collective decency against group brutality,
we are here to protect and uphold all that America
stands for.""The question raised by some Americans 'why are
we here?' discredited him who asks it!"
Isn't that plain?—R.W.R.

How About Hiss?

The second two installments of Whittaker Cham-
bers' "Hiss" articles in the Saturday Evening Post
are a considerable improvement over the first two.
In the second offering Chambers is not so fascinat-
ed by his own purple ego, and more concerned with
the facts of his experience as a Russian spy and chief
witness against the defendant, in the famous Commu-
nist perjury case.AS THE facts pour out along Chambers' rhetorical
assembly line one instinctively speculates as to
whether or not Alger Hiss, now occupying a cell in
a federal penitentiary, is reading them—and if so,
what his reaction may be?It seems hardly credible that he—or his lawyers
—will pursue their recent request for a new trial, in
view of these voluminous and convincing disclosures,
even though the typewriter expert may have demon-
strated some of the documents put in evidence,
COULD have been typed upon a machine NOT owned
by the defendant.After all there is a limit to "reasonable doubt" and
these articles added to the overwhelming evidence at
the trial, would seem to have exceeded it.SOME people meanwhile seem to have forgotten
that Alger Hiss was not convicted of being a Commu-
nist, or even being guilty of espionage on Russia's
behalf. He was convicted of lying under oath, of deny-
ing he had transferred secret documents to Whittaker
Chambers, and had seen Chambers after a certain
date, when the evidence showed he had done both.
It was perjury, not treason.That was why his sentence was so mild—there is
a limit to what punishment could be meted out for
perjury, and the court, of course, could not exceed it.
Had charges of espionage not been outlawed by the
statute of limitations, Hiss would not now have served
out 40% of his term, nor probably a decade or more
hence.THEREFORE, one would suppose the former bril-
liant and intellectual "star" of the U. S. foreign
service, would drop any idea of a new trial, or asking
any modification of punishment. Better sense, one
would suppose, for him to stick to his prison assign-
ment, whatever it may be, and devote his unquestioned
resourcefulness and intelligence to ways and means of
salvaging something out of the wreck, when he gets
out—if that can be done.But Alger Hiss is not a normal—or orthodox—
person, his ego, we would guess, even surpasses that
of Chambers, while he has a far stronger "fighting-
heart."So as these characteristics blundered him into the
original tragic mess, they may now conspire to keep
him there.—R.W.R.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe

"I'm just wintering it for you. Pop. You left it wound on the reel
all winter and that's bad for any fishing line!"

Why Did They Do It?

Whatever history may record as to the final judg-
ment on the Chambers-Hiss case, there is no doubt
both young men (they were young when they first
went wrong), will be interesting psychological studies
for many years to come.As was pointed out in this department some days
ago, Chambers' elaborate explanation of why he rose
suddenly from a park bench in New York and hot-
footed off to join the Communist party, just did not
add up as, in any sense, convincing.CHAMBERS' rationalization claimed it was the
hopelessness and "Godlessness" of his OWN coun-
try that persuaded him to serve for over a decade as
a Russian spy, and thus satisfy his hunger for security
and spiritual satisfactions.And now in his third and fourth installments, he
maintains that he executed another flip-flop, turned
against his "spiritual fatherland" and turned state's
evidence for his NATIVE land—because of the brutal-
ities and cruelties of the Soviet government, espe-
cially the homicidal and suicidal purges, which so
revolted him, etc. etc.BOTH of these explanations have a certain plausi-
bility until one examines them, when they blow-
up with a resounding "bang!"A great many young Americans in the post-war
period were intrigued by the Russian revolution (just
as their forefathers had been by the French and Amer-
ican revolutions), but that a person of Chambers'
cynicism and sophistication could have joined up
with the Red terrorists, and at once entered the Com-
munist underground because of the deep cravings
of his finer and higher spiritual nature, is just too
preposterous to seriously entertain.SO WITH the reason he gives for switching back
again, after 13 years of disloyalty and intrigue.There may have been many reasons—probably
were—but it is difficult to believe that after working
in that Communist underground from 1925 to 1938,
the 1937 "cruelty and brutality" of the Kremlin con-
spirators was ONE of them.Let any one who doubts this, check the Russian
Soviet record through this long period, and ask them-
selves if any human being working for such bosses,
could have kept on year after year obeying orders,
if he had been averse to cruelty and brutality, or at all
repelled by a literal application of the fundamental
revolutionary doctrine, that to make an omelet, one
must break eggs.

No, that is just too absurd.

WE GRANT it is easier, however, to say what
DIDN'T motivate the Chambers' and the Hiss's,
than to say what did.

But we have an idea, in a general way.

That idea is this:

The Chambers' and the Hiss's somehow became
CONVINCED, Communism would not only be good
for the people of Russia but for the people of the
United States, and of special importance, WOULD
EVENTUALLY BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO
THEMSELVES.They "joined-up", therefore, primarily to better
their own condition (very much as their forefathers
of 1776 joined the American Revolution), and they
only withdrew, WHEN they became convinced that
such an affiliation, instead of bringing them better-
ment would bring them ruin.There is more to it than that, but the "more" will
have to wait for another time.—R.W.R.

Ashland Post Office

Local Given Charter

Central Point—Ashland Local
No. 4967 of the National Federa-
tion of Post Office Clerks re-
ceived a charter at a recent
southern Oregon district meet-
ing of the organization here. Of-
ficers of the recently organized
local who were installed at the
meeting were Lyle E. Massey,
president; A. Bert Brown, vice-
president; and Kenneth Schultz,
secretary-treasurer.Lee Hubler, president of Med-
ford Local No. 342, opened the
meeting and gave the welcoming
address. David R. Allred, Cen-
tral Point, state vice-president,
presided at the meeting, which
was attended by various state

Wall Street

New York — (U.P.) — Prices
moved irregularly on the Stock
Exchange Saturday in one of
the duller Saturday sessions in
months.Price movements throughout
the main list were extremely
small either way. A large num-
ber of leading stocks failed to
appear on the tape.Dow Jones closing averages
Thirty industrials, 260.27 up
0.19; 20 railroads, 84.94 up 0.07;
15 utilities, 49.56 up 0.13; 65
stocks, 97.20 up 0.11.Sales Saturday approximated
460,000 shares compared with
530,000 shares traded last Satur-
day.and district officials and by nine
members of the Medford local.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear
the name and address of the writer,
although under certain circum-
stances the use of a pen name or
initials for publication is permissi-
ble. The Mail Tribune reserves
the right to edit all letters with a
view to clarification and consen-
sation. Letters submitted for pub-
lication must not exceed 400 words.

Physician Coroner Urged

To the Editor: Our police are
very efficient at catching crim-
inals. However, they can't be
expected to solve crimes which
they don't know have been
committed. I refer to murders
which have been made to look
like deaths from natural causes.In cases in which a person is
found dead or dies without medi-
cal attendance it is the coroner's
duty to determine cause of
death. There are two general
methods of doing this, first a
post-mortem examination of the
body, and second, an inquest, in
which relatives and neighbors of
the deceased are questioned.The former method requires
services of a physician. Even
though the autopsy does not
show the deceased was murder-
ed the physician can determine
whether death was caused by
accident or disease. This point
is very important in determin-
ing how much insurance the de-
ceased's beneficiaries are en-
titled to. For example, if a
man's body is found in a mill
pond, his widow might be en-
titled to workman's compensa-
tion in case he fell off a log and
drowned. But, in case he died
of a heart attack and fell into
the mill pond, the widow would
be entitled to his life insurance
money, but no compensation for
accidental death.There are many kinds of cases
in which an accurate knowledge
of cause of death is important.
Only a physician is qualified to
determine the cause of death by
post-mortem examination of the
body.Our present coroner is a very
fine man, but he is not a physi-
cian. With all due respect to
him I believe the time has come
to replace him since a doctor of
medicine has expressed his de-
sire to serve as coroner. It isn't
sensible to retain a man as cor-
oner who has to call in a physi-
cian to do his autopsies when a
physician is available who wants
to be coroner.In other places in which physi-
cians have assumed the duties
of coroner there have been more
autopsies performed and the
number of homicides discovered
have been in proportion to the
number of autopsies performed.
It is very likely that some of the
deaths listed in vital statistics in
Jackson County as due to natu-
ral causes are really homicides,
suicides, accidents and murders.Charles L. Coyle, M.D.
Medical Center Bldg.
Medford, Oregon.

The Lost Committee

To the Editor: Will you please
print the following open letter
to the mayor and council?I wish to call your attention
to the loss of two of your com-
mittees.One, the mayor promised to
appoint November 3 and the other
the council promised to ap-
point in December to investigate
how to prevent a former em-
ployee from losing his retire-
ment after 22 years with the
city. The solution of paying his
share of his retirement for an
extra five months was over-
looked. I am overlooking the
other committee you were to
appoint to decide whether a
man was entitled to return to
his job after being given a 30-
day sick leave.After March 15 I will have the
time to go to the voters and tax-
payers, myself, and the copy of
the city budget, and explain
why your ex-fire chief had a
nervous breakdown and why
you, the council, decided to
hire a fire chief who lives outside
the city, and firemen from Klam-
ath Falls, and firemen, in spite
of the fact we, the voters, vot-
ed a civil service law for our
fire department.Just to remind you, you have
lost these committees as you
will probably need them for an-
other buck passing job.Cleo Canose,
55 Ross Court,
Medford, Ore.

Doesn't Agree

To the Editor: I don't agree
with the lady who is trying to
get Mrs. Wilson paroled from
the Oregon penitentiary. Let her
serve her sentence; it was light
enough for the terrible crime
she committed. Maybe her hus-
band did have a temper. She
either had a temper, considered
herself a supreme judge or had
a bad hangover.As lenient as Jackson county
has been in the past with wom-
en criminals, it is a wonder that
any woman deciding to smother
her baby, shoot her husband or
knife him doesn't come and re-
side here if they find out how
easy the others got by.Mrs. Crystal Adams,
R. 2, Box 36C,
Jacksonville, Ore.

Wants Bonus Now

To the Editor: I would like to
ask what the Oregon Veterans'
Bonus commission is doing to get
the bond issue financed as soon
as possible? (This month accord-
ing to Mrs. Morrow's commu-
nication some time ago.)I see that the Voluntary Credit
commission approved of a second
15 million dollar bond issue

Matter of Fact

By Joseph and
Stewart Alsop

THE LESSON OF LISBON

Washington—A gigantic disaster
to American foreign policy
has been most narrowly averted
in the last two or three weeks.
And instead of disaster, a no-
table success has instead been
scored by Dean G. Acheson,
Dwight D. Eisenhower and W.
Averell Harriman at the just-
concluded Lisbon meeting. Not
one American in a hundred is
aware of this sequence of events,
which suggests the way in which
great issues of national security
are becoming clouded and ob-
scured by this election year.When Acheson flew to the
Lisbon conference before the
Lisbon meeting, to talk with
British Foreign Secretary Antho-
ny Eden, French Foreign Sec-
retary Robert Schuman and
German Chancellor Konrad Ade-
nauer, disaster loomed very
close indeed. What seemed in
prospect was a complete collapse
of Allied policy on the issue
of German rearmament. This in
turn would have made nonsense
of all Gen. Eisenhower's plans
for an integrated defense of
Western Europe and thus knock-
ed under the underpinnings of
the American foreign policy.THERE were all sorts of con-
tributing factors to this in-
finitely dangerous, almost un-
noticed crisis, like the silly and
provocative French gesture of
sending an "ambassador" to the
Saar, which the Germans regard
as an integral part of Germany.
But essentially what happened
was that a great surge of tradi-
tional French and German na-
tionalism threatened not only
the shaky regimes in Paris and Bonn,
but the whole structure of the
North Atlantic Treaty organiza-
tion.Thus the German Bundestag
attached conditions to German
rearmament, including an abso-
lutely unconditional grant of
German sovereignty, which the
French (let alone the British)
simply could not accept. And the
French assembly promptly re-
sponded by attaching conditions
to French participation in the
European army which the Ger-
mans could never accept. In
such circumstances, it seemed
impossible that anything at all
could be accomplished at Lis-
bon.YET Acheson and Harriman
have now returned from
Lisbon in triumph. The Euro-
pean army concept has been
unanimously approved, at least
in principle. Gen. Eisenhower's
plan for a 50-division NATO
army by the end of this year,
based on the brilliantly real-
istic appraisal of the "Three
Wise Men" headed by Averell
Harriman, has also been unani-
mously accepted. And such les-
ser but very difficult issues as
the size of Germany's defensefor Oregon highways quickly
enough!I have also read of a good
many price boosts—particularly
in automobiles. But I suppose
that isn't inflationary! Oh, no!
But something that would do
the Oregon people, and Oregon
business a lot of good is. I don't
get it! Why is Oregon being dis-
criminated against?We tire of hearing the federal
government wailing about the
dangers and horrors of inflation
—and yet instead of trying to
live within the budget as it was
set up last year, it goes right
along with its huge spending pro-
grams and demands of even more
money to be collected in taxes.
That isn't inflation either! Oh,
no! That's government business
which makes it alright! Since
when? When will all this end?
When the dollar will no longer
buy a 5c cigar?I believe the veterans should
have their bonus money while it
will still buy something worth
having and for a decent price (ac-
cording to prices now.) For as
prices rise our bonus will mean
less and less to the veterans.S. J. DODGE,
12 Rose Avenue,
Medford, Ore.contribution and each country's
proportionate share of con-
structing and maintaining NATO
bases, have finally been dealt
with.Some of the credit for thus
snatching success from the jaws
of disaster belongs to Acheson
and Harriman. Acheson is at
his best in this sort of difficult,
largely private negotiation; one
French diplomat, asked why the
Lisbon meeting succeeded, an-
swered simply "Acheson's ob-
stinacy." There was also a cer-
tain fellow-feeling among the
four principals, Acheson, Eden,
Schuman and Adenauer, since
all four have been bitterly at-
tacked at home. But the real
reasons went deeper than Ache-
son's doggedness or this com-
panionship in misery.THE disaster was averted es-
sentially because the French
and the Germans, having moved
up to the precipice, had a good
look over the edge and did not
like what they saw. Both had
their own special angle of vision,
as they peered into the abyss.
The Germans saw the indefinite
continuation of the occupation.
The French, by contrast, saw a
rearmed, independent German
army, which would dominate
Western Europe. Yet the great
central danger which both
French and Germans saw at
the bottom of the precipice was
the same—that the United States
would simply withdraw in dis-
gusted frustration, leaving Eu-
rope to its fate.The fright which this glance
into the abyss induced actually
made possible more real pro-
gress at Lisbon than ever before.
Yet the precipice is still there.
The blueprint for a solidly de-
fended, solidly united western
community now exists; but it
is only a blueprint. Any single
one of a number of events could
cause the blueprint to be torn
to shreds—a Communist triumph
in the forthcoming Italian elec-
tions, the victory of the de-Gaulle
or Schumaner Nationalists in
France or Germany, the fall of
the Churchill government.EACH of these events could
mean the collapse of the
Western alliance, which has
been so narrowly averted in the
last few weeks. And one or more
of these events is absolutely
sure to occur if American lead-
ership of the Western alliance
is undermined by the desire in
Congress to make an "economy
record" in this election year.
This is a year of decision, just
as much abroad as at home. For
if the United States provides
wise, firm leadership, there is
now a rational prospect for
building on the Lisbon blue-
print a western community
strong enough to withstand
whatever shocks may be in store
for it. This is the lesson of Lis-
bon.(Copyright, 1952, New York
Herald Tribune, Inc.)New Signs Ordered
For Street NamesNew street name signs have
been ordered for Medford streets
and are expected to be here in
about a week, it was reported
Saturday by city officials. The
new signs were selected on a ba-
sis of durability and maximum
visibility from the street, they
stated.Round plastic discs are being
used temporarily by the city to
mark cross walks. Public Works
Superintendent Vernon Thorpe
said. The crosswalks will be
painted when weather conditions
improve, Thorpe stated.Results of a survey on com-
parative values of a cathode ray
warning light at the intersection
of Fifth street and Central ave-
nue and a beacon warning light
at Eighth street and Riverside
avenue are now being tabulated,
according to Thorpe. The survey
was conducted by state officials,
he said.

See Mail Tribune Want Ads

It's Time to Plant!



COMPLETE LANDSCAPE SERVICE

Let us help you with your home grounds beauti-
fication. We have the finest shrubs at prices you
simply cannot afford to overlook. Skilled work-
men, finest modern equipment, thousands of
plants, trees and shrubs to choose from. The
RIGHT thing in the RIGHT place!Get IMMEDIATE EFFECT
with BIG TREES—12 to
20-ft. high shade trees.