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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County Hi-

story from the files of the Mail

Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years

ago.

10 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1942

(It was Thursday)

Continued growth of Jackson

county trailer camp on Crater

Lake highway reported; 25 tra-

ilers arrive during week; play-

ground being constructed for 85

children living in camp.

From Arthur Perry's Ye

Smudge Pot column: Buttons on

new clothes will be made of

wood. They won't sound as much

like a quarter when dropped in

the collection plate.

20 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1922

(It was Saturday)

Medford high school band

places seventh in Oregon state

high school competition at Cor-

vallis.

Jackson county voter registra-

tions for May primary reach

16,305, highest on record here.

30 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1922

(It was Sunday)

Ashland group announces

chalky deposits in cliffs north-

east of city will be used in de-

velopment of pottery industry.

Heavy snow storm occurs dur-

ing Easter sunrise services on

Pierce hill near Medford.

40 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1912

(It was Tuesday)

Total Jackson county voter

registration for primary election

reaches 5,286; includes 3,375 Re-

publicans and 1,335 Democrats.

"Gigantic reception" at Med-

ford natorium building plan-

ned for arrival here of Sen. Ro-

bert M. LaFollette, on tour of

state during campaign for Re-

publican nomination as presi-

dent.

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

initial for publication is permis-

sible. The Mail Tribune reserves

the right to edit all letters with-

out view to clarification and con-

densation. Letters submitted for pub-

lication must not exceed 400 words.

Truman Action Approved

To the Editor: The Oregonian's

recent editorial condemning

President Truman's forthright

action in preventing a steel pro-

duction shut-down contains the

"Chip Off The Old Block"

A political survey of the past half-century places William Howard Taft as the most unpopular President during that time.

We remember vividly when President Taft visited Medford—that was before the "Friendly S.P." deprived Oregon of railroad service to and from California.

The genial and portly chief-executive gave a short speech from the rear platform of his special train, which not only failed to arouse any local enthusiasm, but brought profane personal insults from one member of the crowd.

THIS lack of decent behavior was deplored by most of those present; but the President's popular rating was so low there was no resentment expressed in the community toward the offender as there should have been.

The entire swing-around-the-circle was a depressing experience, in fact to Mr. Taft and the faithful few Republicans who refused to go over to the liberal wing of the party under former President—and Bull Moose—Theodore Roosevelt.

THIS department has a strong conviction that President William Howard Taft's son, Senator Robert Alonzo, will never realize his long cherished and lavishly-financed ambition to become the 33rd President of the United States.

But if the unexpected SHOULD happen, and his ambition should be realized, we predict, he will be a close second in unpopularity to his distinguished, but insulated and inept parent, before his 4 years are over.

And for essentially the same reason.

IT WAS Congress—Murdoch of Kansas, who in 1910 described President Taft as a big body entirely surrounded by bigger businessmen, who knew just what they wanted—and got it.

Well, where the Big Interests are concerned "Mr. Republican" is a chip-off-the-old-block, and if placed in a position of power will soon demonstrate the fact. Any number of examples could be cited to support this judgment, but Senator Taft's vote only a few days ago on the so-called "Tidelands" oil bill, is a typical example.

HERE was a clear-cut issue between the selfish interests of Big Business and the just and proper interests of the people.

The Supreme Court has held a number of times that oil under certain portions of the ocean's surface, does not belong to the individual states, contiguous thereto, but to the entire country and all the people in it. The nation, at least, enjoys paramount rights.

These decisions displeased Big Business, particularly the large oil companies, who don't want federal control, but prefer state control, for the simple but logical reason, that states can be "handled," but Uncle Sam can't be—not so readily at least.

So this "Tidelands" bill was introduced to nullify the Supreme Court decisions, and hand these "ocean-going" oil fields over to the states fortunate enough to be contiguous to them—the lucky states being Texas, Louisiana and California.

The late Harold Ickes called this measure the "Big Oil steal," and that is essentially correct. It isn't another "Teapot Dome," but it is along the line of handing over what are national resources to the exploiting and the privileged few.

BUSY as Senator Taft has been campaigning for the presidency—and still is—he called everything off so he could hurry back to Washington to join 49 of his fellow senators to vote for this bill, and override 35 members who, like Senator Wayne Morse, opposed the "billion-dollar grab," and upheld the rights of the people.

Moreover, Senator Taft has no apologies to make, anymore than he has any apologies to make for embracing the unspeakable Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin and chiding his rival Republican candidates for not following his own high-minded example. Robert Alonzo Taft sincerely BELIEVES in these principles—or lack of them—that he is sincere doesn't lessen his guilt or his unfitness to represent the people.

GRANTING that the reaction against liberalism is now at full tide, and that the political injury as a result will not be as serious as it would have been a few years ago, such an essentially "special interest" policy over any extended period will be as calamitous in this day and age, we believe, as it was 40 years ago when Senator Taft's father was in the White House.

And if the country should be so unfortunate as to have another Taft in the White House, the truth of this observation will, we predict, be apparent soon after his taking office.—R.W.R.

Large Machine Built Here Shipped South

A large electrically controlled sawmill carriage, one of first ever manufactured in Medford, was shipped from here Monday by Pacific Machinery company, 1910 Table Rock road, to East Fork Lumber company, Happy Camp, Calif.

(2) are confiscating an unfair share of the product of the labor of the steelworkers.

In any event, national welfare in the face of emergency was the paramount issue involved. This has been decided in the public interest by the president's decisive action.

W. W. CAMPBELL,
6424 S. E. 77th avenue,
Portland, Oregon.

Crosstown

By Roland Coe



"We'll have to change the meter. It's giving you too low a water bill."

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Over the weekend, there was a lot of political chatter to the effect that when General Eisenhower gets back to this country (whenever that may be) he is to be subjected to a barrage of questioning by the Taft forces.

The drift of the questions, the chatter indicated, will be:

Just what would you do about THIS?

Just what would you do about THAT?

Exactly what do you BELIEVE about this?

Exactly what do you BELIEVE about that?

AND so on. The purpose of the heckling (for that is what it would amount to) would be to involve the general in the nasty political mess that has dragged our country down to its present low level of political morality.

The cynical idea back of the plan (if there is such a plan) would be to get General Eisenhower into hot water, every time he opened his mouth, with SOME SELFISH PRESSURE GROUP OR OTHER.

AS THE situation now stands, we have drifted about as far away from the ideal of the Founding Fathers as it is possible to get. Instead of ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL, we have degenerated into an aggregation of snarling, snapping, ferocious factions. Each faction is intent upon feathering its own nest.

About the only vestige of unity that is left to us lies in the fact that ALL of these factions fly the same banner bearing in one form or another this cynical motto:

"WE WANT OURS, AND TO HECK WITH EVERYBODY ELSE."

If you could call that unity, we have it.

I DON'T know just what it is that animates those of us who are FOR General Eisenhower in this perhaps strangest of all movements since the search for the Holy Grail.

I know only that we are fired by an ideal. I THINK this is the hope that binds us together.

In these years when our nation has been decaying politically, General Eisenhower has been removed from the roily, sewage-laden political currents that have been carrying us away from what we once were toward what we are now. In an admirable sense, he has been a DEDICATED man—dedicated to the defense and the WELFARE of his country. Because of this remoteness from the leg-biting, ear-chewing struggle for money and power that has rent us, we HOPE that he can represent us in the regeneration with an uncontaminated mind.

That hope, I think, is the cement that holds the Eisenhower movement together. That is the only way I can explain it satisfactorily to myself.

AFTER that somewhat idealistic detour, let's get back to what started this piece off—the recent chatter about the supposed plan on the part of Senator Taft's supporters to heckle Eisenhower when he gets home.

I hope it doesn't materialize. I have always felt that Senator Taft is a man TOO BIG for nasty little ward-heeling tactics such as that. If such a project were carried out, it would have to be with his consent.

If he gave his consent to such a scheme, it would disillusion me about him. Besides, it would rend and tear the Republican party.

IF SUCH a thing should develop, I would hope that General Eisenhower would ignore it. I wouldn't want to see him get involved in a bar-room brawl of that sort. But if the provocation became too great for human flesh to bear, I think he might well say something like this:

"Dear Senator Taft: You have been asking questions of me. Perhaps I might say this to you: While I have been away on our country's military and diplo-

matic business, you have been at home looking after our country's political and economic business of price and wage stabilization that has brought us to the impasse of government seizure of the steel industry.

"WHAT HAVE YOU DONE AS A SENATOR to head off this impasse? You have led no movements in the congress in these recent critical weeks to settle it wisely and permanently. Instead you have been away campaigning.

"How are the people to know from your acts and utterances in this crisis how you would ACT AS PRESIDENT in a similar crisis?"

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Pinay Meets Success Along Lines Where Professionals Failed

By PHIL NEWSOM

United Press Foreign Analyst

An obscure leather manufacturer is succeeding in France where the professional politicians have failed.

Premier Antoine Pinay has rammed an unpopular \$10,000,000,000 budget through both French Houses. And he forced the frequently un-governable and bumptious French General Assembly to accept his program unchanged—a feat accomplished by no other since the end of the war.

Furthermore, he is forcing a realignment of French political parties, and he has a chance to give France its first stable government in many years.

The belief is gaining strength that Pinay either is a miracle man or a very lucky one.

Pinay Once Unknown

Pinay had been in public life for 20 years when he suddenly was summoned to take over the French government. Yet so silent had the timid-appearing little man with the small mustache been that many of his colleagues didn't even know who he was.

Pinay knew little of international problems when he took office. Yet he believed that France had made firm commitments on defense and that these must be kept. He also knew that the French government was bankrupt and that money must be found.

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