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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.

20 YEARS AGO

Dec. 14, 1934

(It was Thursday)

J. Gene Losee, salesman for Cullen Motor and Implement company, wins second prize in national tractor sales letter contest.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: The Yule prospects are dark. There looms a lack of whiskey to drink and a lack of cigarettes to take the taste out of the swigger's mouth.

20 YEARS AGO

Dec. 14, 1934

(It was Friday)

F. G. Denson, manager of Medford hotel, returns from hotel association convention in Seattle and reports hotel business is improving.

Fred Waun, J. E. Gribble, and E. J. Halley, all of Medford, among prize winners in photography contest sponsored by Shasta-Cascade Wonderland association.

30 YEARS AGO

Dec. 14, 1924

(It was Sunday)

Internal revenue collector reports that 754 residents of Medford paid income taxes during 1924.

Jackson county sheriff investigates reports that some local residents are drinking rubbing alcohol.

40 YEARS AGO

Dec. 14, 1914

(It was Monday)

Ralph Cowgill to introduce measure in Oregon legislature to protect bears in Jackson county.

Court Hall returns from Portland where he spent three days "studying traffic problems and the 1915 autos."

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

Copr. 1954, Editorial Research Report

1. The French-German agreement on the Saar industrial area calls for it to be returned to Germany, annexed to France or internationalized?

2. More U.S. transit passengers travel by bus than by street-car, subway and elevated lines combined; right or wrong?

3. Instalment buying these days is relatively high or low, or about average?

4. First day of a month containing a Friday the 13th is always a Friday, a Sunday, a Saturday or a Thursday?

5. President Coolidge was a Harvard graduate; right or wrong?

6. A "Mig" is a Russian submarine, aviator, type of atomic bomb, plane, or secret agent within U. S. labor unions?

7. Lady Godiva was a famous court beauty, dressmaker, old English dance, Shakespearean character, or horseback rider?

Answers: 1. Internationalized. 2. Right. 3. Relatively high. 4. A Sunday. 5. Wrong. He was graduated from Amherst. 6. Plane. 7. She made a famous ride on a horse.

The longest straight stretch of railroad track in the United States is 78.86 miles between Wilmington and Hamlet, N.C.

Is the Honeymoon Over?

The new Premier of Japan says he favors a continuation of the pro-America policy of his predecessor.

He could hardly say the reverse.

But in all probability the post-war honeymoon between the USA and Japan is over, and while Japan's traditional enemy is Russia, there promises to be a gradual rapprochement between Tokio and Moscow, as well as Tokio and Peking.

The reason?

Japan can't live economically without increased foreign trade, and particularly with Red China. But the American policy is to further restrict trade with Red China, not only from Japan, but from all countries east and west, north and south.

JAPAN under the new regime will want increased trade also with the United States, formerly her best customer.

But this will be fought bitterly by American manufacturers of pottery and china, textiles and fabrics, canned sea-food, fish and vegetables, makers of electric-light bulbs and lamps, floor-coverings, embroideries and various cheap toys, gadgets, etc., etc.

HEARINGS opened in Washington yesterday on a new reciprocal trade treaty with Japan. The hearings promise to last a long time and to be superheated at times.

It is to be hoped, however, no matter how tempers and self-interests may flare, two important facts will not be overlooked namely:

1. Japan MUST have greatly increased foreign trade to survive as a free and independent nation.

2. If this is not possible because of American opposition or anything else, Japan will be lost as an ally against the spread of communism in the Far East.

This is just one of many difficult and potentially dangerous problems, facing the present administration during the next two years, for which a satisfactory solution must be found.—R.W.R.

The Truth About Wayne Morse

"The US News and World Report" has issued a "special reprint" of its article "Wayne Morse tells his own story."

We wish every voter would read it.

But of course every voter won't. In fact there are some Republicans who are so venomously prejudiced where Oregon's junior Senator is concerned, that they don't read about him, don't want the facts concerning him, just want to enjoy undisturbed the luxury of hating him.

However these "haters" are fortunately in a decided minority. And as the months pass, their numbers will decrease,—as they always do after a heated campaign.

MEANWHILE those who seek the truth, and don't allow their emotions to overcome their judgments, should get a copy of this reprint and read it over carefully.

It is particularly valuable because the interview is conducted by an editorial conference hostile to Senator Morse and entirely in sympathy with those who oppose him. There can therefore be no charge of a pro-Morse slant—quite the contrary in fact.

Oregon's "Independent" Senator is, in other words, put on the spot. He is asked about every phase of his senatorial career, why he did this, why he did that, why he didn't do something else. No holds are barred, no punches pulled.

Voters who are seeking the facts of our political life, regardless of whether those facts please or displease, will be interested in this story of one of the most controversial figures ever to enter American public life.

We shall leave it up to those who DO read it, as to the verdict.—R.W.R.

He Won't Like It

Senator Knowland says he wants to read the terms of the new alliance between this country and Chiang Kai-shek before he passes judgment on it. And he doesn't intend to skip any of the "fine print."

This is quite in character.

California's senior Senator is a law unto himself, much as certain other anti-Eisenhower senators are—although few of them so often admit it. If he can make some more political capital for 1956 for himself he will have no scruples about it.

Our prediction is he won't like this new arrangement any better than he did the old one under Truman.

For not only does Knowland want to get tough with Red China. He is a strong supporter of Chiang, Mrs. Chiang and the Nationalists.

Contrary to popular belief this new treaty does not "unleash" Chiang. It merely pledges U.S. support to Chiang if he is attacked on Formosa or any nearby islands which are "strategic."

IN FACT Chiang is told, not directly but clearly by implication that if he should start any invasion of the mainland of China on his own, he would get no US support,—not so much as a gun, a plane or a boat.

Whether the California Senator will consider the present moment propitious from a political angle to openly oppose this alliance remains to be seen, but he can hardly be expected to wax enthusiastic over it.—R.W.R.

SUGGESTED BIBLE READING

The American Bible Society, the Medford Ministerial Association and the Medford Council of Church Women are cooperating in sponsoring daily Bible reading in the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The suggested scripture reading for today is: John 14.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The world's biggest warship, the atomic bomber carrier Forrestal, is floated and christened at Newport News, Va.

The Forrestal is the biggest warship EVER built. Her flight deck (from which bombers carrying atom bombs will take off) is 1036 feet long—approximately a fifth of a mile. It is 262 feet wide at its widest point.

That is to say: The Forrestal, when completed and ready for service, will be a floating airfield that can be moved to any point in the world where we might need to launch bombers carrying atom bombs.

A FEW more statistics on the big ship's size: From keel to masttop, she will be as tall as a 25-story skyscraper. So that she will be able to pass under bridges, her masts will fold.

The power required to move and handle her will be somewhat over 200,000 horsepower.

Here's a comparison: That will be in the general neighborhood of a third of the power output of Bonnaville dam.

ANOTHER comparison: The Forrestal is big, but she isn't as big as the British Queens, the Elizabeth and the Mary. Her displacement, fully loaded with ammunition, stores and planes, will be about 75,000 tons.

The Queen Elizabeth displaces 33,673 tons and the Queen Mary 81,235 tons.

MAYBE you're fuzzy about "displacement." Displacement is the weight of water displaced by a floating body. The weight of the water (or other fluid) displaced by a floating body, in this case a ship, is equal to that of the displacing body.

That is how ships are "weighed." They can't be put on the scales. They're too big.

THE Forrestal has been a controversial issue since she was first planned by the navy. The air force argued that was too much money to put into a floating airfield that might be sunk by a single well-placed bomb. British Field Marshal Montgomery recently asserted that the day of the aircraft carrier is approaching its end.

At the big ship's launching, Navy Secretary Charles Thomas said, presumably in answer to these criticisms:

"The Forrestal will be our most versatile and DISPENSABLE weapon. . . Such a carrier will be able to carry our air power to parts of the world where no comparable friendly force can be found or maintained. . . With its speed of up to 40 miles per hour, the Forrestal will be a phantom target for any enemy."

THE big carrier, you see, is a gamble.

Here is an interesting thought: Back in the Civil War the Monitor (our first ironclad warship) was a gamble. All kinds of fun was poked at her. Among other things, she was called a "cheesebox on a raft."

But the Monitor arrived in Hampton Roads just in the nick of time to vanquish the Merrimack, an ironclad that had been built by the Confederates and which—when the Monitor arrived—was sinking the wooden ships of the Union navy just about as fast as they could be got in the sights of the Merrimack's guns.

Nobody ever knows in advance whether or not a gamble will pay off.

HOW big a gamble is the Forrestal?

Her cost will be about \$197,000,000. Assuming that our present population is about 160,000,000, the Forrestal will cost each American individual about \$1.25.

If the Forrestal should happen at some time in the future to arrive on a critical scene at a moment, as did the Monitor, and should perform as effectively as did the Monitor, the gamble involved in her building would pay off in a big way.

In a Southern Association baseball game with Knoxville on Aug. 27, 1940, the first 13 Memphis batters reached first base safely.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

UNDERGROUND GOVERNMENT IN VIET NAM

Saigon, Viet Nam—For once in a way, there is some truth in Communist propaganda.

The Viet Minh radio constantly denounces the South Vietnamese government here in Saigon as a mere shadow; and that, for the time being at least, is exactly what it is.

If South Viet Nam can be said to have a government at all, at present, it is the underground government of the Viet Minh.

In this rich, fantastically corrupt city, where the same gangsters who ran the gambling, the prostitution and the opium dens also wear the uniforms of the police, you do not get many echoes of the real state of affairs in the Vietnamese countryside.

Life goes on in Saigon as though the fate of Hanoi were something that had happened on another planet.

Yet the really important political process in Southern Indochina is not the dreary round of intrigue among the non-Communist Vietnamese political leaders in Saigon. It is, rather, the progressive take over of the rest of South Viet Nam by the Communists.

Under the terms of the Geneva agreement, of course, the Viet Minh forces were to evacuate South Viet Nam, just as the French forces were to evacuate the North. The Communists regulars, which formerly held four large areas here in the South, are indeed being moved out as promised. But Communist cadres are being left behind.

More important still, the Geneva agreement and the subsequent transfer of authority to the Vietnamese left an almost total power vacuum in huge areas which the Communists did not formerly hold. Because of this vacuum, the government of President Ngo Dinh-diem has hardly attempted to govern.

HENCE it has been only too easy for the Viet Minh to send their cadres out into the provinces, and to establish themselves in village after village. "Committees to defend the peace" are organized and become a real village governments.

After these come "committees to defend the interests of the peasants and workers," which are the Viet Minh disguised courts, and innumerable women's organizations and the like which are instruments of propaganda.

The villagers see no other real authority that reaches down to them. Both villagers and townspeople have been deeply impressed by the Viet Minh victory at Dienbienphu and all its volcanic sequels. They would tend in any case to regard the Viet Minh as the wave of the future. And since there is no counter effort to balance the work of the Viet Minh cadres, village after village passes into Viet Minh control.

The estimates vary as to how far this process has gone already. But the examples cited plainly suggest that it has gone very far indeed. For instance, at Ben Tri Col. Leroy, a French officer who is himself half Vietnamese, formerly ruled a province that was celebrated for its immunity to Communist penetration.

By imaginative reform and by organizing at the village level, Col. Leroy achieved positive, solid anti-Communist unity among his people. Then Col. Leroy was transferred. Geneva left a vacuum at Ben Tri as elsewhere. And today, among Ben Tri's hundreds of villages there are reported to be less than a score which still have the "Council of Notables" which is the Saigon government's instrument of village administration. In most of the rest, "Peace Committees" rule.

A few days ago, this reporter visited the rubber planting region near the Cambodian border. Here the big plantations had fortified themselves, created small armies, and carried on rubber production right through the civil war. Immediately after Geneva, however, Viet Minh organizers entered the villages of the rubber workers.

TODAY, one of the biggest plantations is already under effective Viet Minh control, with the French manager running the plantation through the Viet Minh leader—with excellent production results, incidentally. The other planters were not prepared to submit in this manner, but they frankly said it was only "a matter of weeks" before the Viet Minh would be deeply entrenched as the real government of their region.

There is no violence. On the surface, life goes on as usual, or rather better than usual, for the rubber planters and their families no longer wear revolvers and carry submachine guns to their swimming pool on Sundays. But every day there is a new sign, such as the recent arrest of the father-in-law of the present Foreign Minister of South Viet Nam for joining in founding a peace committee here in Saigon.

The signs all point the same way, towards the creation of an effective though underground government of South Viet Nam by the Communists. The end is not yet. A strong and efficient non-Communist government, working closely with the Vietnamese army, re-establishing authority in the countryside, carrying out the needed reforms could still halt and roll back the process of Communist penetration. But there is very little time and as these words are written no such non-Communist government is in sight.

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Interior Employee Given Medal for Rescue of Three

Washington—(U.P.)—Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay today presented the department's distinguished service award to an employee who risked his life to rescue a child, and her mother, and another woman from drowning in the Colorado river at Needles, Calif.

Raleigh J. Sanderson, Needles, was given the award at an awards convocation. It consisted of a citation, certificate, gold medal, and lapel pin.

Sanderson, an employee of the Bureau of Reclamation, performed the triple rescue on July 16, 1953. A child had waded beyond her depth and was swept into midstream. Her mother and a woman companion, neither of whom could swim, attempted to rescue her and were swept into the swift current.

Sanderson, working on a boat nearby, plunged into the water and reached the child. As he was carrying her to shore, he passed close to the two women. They grabbed him about the body, pulling him under. After a struggle, he succeeded in bringing them to the shore.

Alabama Attorney To Fight Extradition

Galveston, Tex.—(U.P.)—A lawyer said today that Alabama Atty. Gen. Silas Garrett, who is charged with murdering the man elected to succeed him, will fight any effort to make him leave a Galveston mental hospital until doctors say he is able.

Garrett was served yesterday in his hospital room with the indictment charging he "unlawfully and with malice aforethought killed Albert L. Patterson by shooting him with a gun."

Patterson was the crusader murdered last June in Phenix City, Ala., the city he had promised to clean up because it had become so infamous for its commercialized vice.

HEIRESS TO FLY

Mexico City—(U.P.)—Dimestore heiress Barbara Hutton, using the name of a husband she discarded several years ago, was scheduled to fly to Los Angeles today. She has been visiting friends at the nearby resort of Cuernavaca, where she has an estate, for more than a month.

Railroad Will Link China and Mongolia With Soviet Russia

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Foreign Analyst

A brief broadcast from Peiping reported Monday that the first train on a new railroad

which is to link Communist China, Outer Mongolia and Soviet Russia had reached the Mongolian border.

It was not a very exciting announcement. But in its potentialities for the future it was real news.

The dispatch is a reminder that Communist China and Russia are building, with the sweat of countless thousands of slave laborers, a vast rail network that will open up all of that part of East Asia.

It has been long known that that network was under construction. In fact, parts of it were started, on the Chinese side by the Nationalists long before the Communists overran the mainland five years ago.

But construction has been speeded since then, and any report of progress is not good news for the West.

Expected Completion in '58

Nationalist Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek estimated last October, on the basis of his intelligence reports, that the network will be completed in 1958.

"Then Russia will be in control of the great Eurasian land mass and clearly will be in a strong position to match the power of the United States and Great Britain, unafraid of any air power which may be thrown against it," Chiang said.

He predicted that by 1956 Red China would be prepared, with

completion of the network, for a war in the Pacific. He predicted also that Russia would start a general war.

A lot of things could happen before 1956, and Chiang's predictions may have been a little on the pessimistic side.

But the railroads will link solidly two vast Communist-ruled countries and give them communications which for the first time will permit a swift, big-scale movement of men and supplies.

Also Link With Indochina

The railroads also will link with Chinese Red lines that run southward to the Indochina frontier.

The network which the Peiping broadcast mentioned is to extend from Tsinan, about 200 miles west-northwest of Peiping, to Ulan Bator, capital of the Soviet-satellite state of Outer Mongolia.

Peiping said that the line had reached, on the Chinese side, a frontier whistle-stop named Ehrlien. Ehrlien is on the border of Inner Mongolia. Thence the road will extend through Inner Mongolia to Outer Mongolia, on the northwest.

"Railroads Minister Teng T'ai-yuan, who was on the first train, told the 700 people gathered at the tiny halt of Ehrlien that completion of the present section of the line will add to Inner Mongolia's economic and cultural advance," Peiping said.

But the Reds are building the network for economic and military purposes. It will connect Red China with Russia's Trans-Siberian railroad at points along a line extending from Eastern Siberia to Alma Ata, in the Soviet Kazakh Republic in Central Asia.

Whatever the motive of the Reds in speeding construction, it is hardly likely they have in mind their campaign of "peaceful co-existence."

Stepfather Held For Questioning In Girl's Death

San Bruno—(U.P.)—Police today held for questioning the stepfather of a young Negro woman, who died shortly after she was found in a roadside ditch with her throat slashed and her clothes afire.

The victim was Dorothy M. Cheeks, 18, a June graduate of a San Francisco high school. She was raped and beaten before her body was drenched with gasoline and set afire, police said.

Her stepfather is S. J. Curry, 41, a longshoreman on a remote road.

Dorothy, nude from the waist down, was found writing last night beside a remote Peninsula road leading to the San Francisco County Jail just off Skyline Boulevard. She died at Peninsula Hospital in nearby Burlingame at 9:16 p.m.

Police said they found Curry evasive, expressing no curiosity after they told him Dorothy was dead about how she had been killed.

Blood-Stained Socks Found

Rummaging through two ash cans outside Curry's apartment police found a pair of gray socks and a suede sports jacket, blood-stained and ripped into shreds. In Curry's apartment was found a pair of blood-tained shoes.

Through all questioning, the stepfather remained silent, saying only he had not seen Dorothy since she left the apartment yesterday to go shopping.

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