

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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

Dec. 22, 1944 (It was Friday) Jerry Ross scores field goal in closing seconds to give Medford high school basketball team a 86-35 victory over North Bend.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: It will soon be another year, with all its inevitable trials and tribulations, and a session of the legislature, also inevitable.

20 YEARS AGO

Dec. 22, 1924 George Codding, Medford, elected vice-president of Oregon District Attorneys' association.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Christmas shopping was the order of the week, citizens rushing around all week spending money, the depression to the contrary notwithstanding.

30 YEARS AGO

Dec. 22, 1924 Dick McElhose elected commander of Medford American Legion post.

City of Medford buys Davis lot so Sixth st. can be extended to Main st.

40 YEARS AGO

Dec. 22, 1914 J. C. Barnes nominated for mayor of Medford by local Socialists.

May Robson to appear at Medford's Page theater in "Martha by the Day."

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1954, Editorial Research Report

- 1. The U.S. public schools have less or more than a million teachers? 2. Adlai E. Stevenson was Vice President under President Grant, Cleveland, McKinley, Taft or Wilson? 3. Has any amendment to the U.S. Constitution ever been repealed? 4. The territory called "Seward's Folly" when the U.S. annexed it was Alaska, Hawaii, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands? 5. Capricornus, sign of the Zodiac, is represented by a crab, goat, bull, ram, pair of twins, or scales? 6. That "God helps those who help themselves" was first said by an Old Testament prophet, St. Paul, Shakespeare, Benjamin Franklin or Abraham Lincoln? 7. An Annie Oakley is an old gray mare, an outdoor privy, a sawed-off shotgun, a pass for admission, or a prostitute? The answers: 1. More than a million. 2. Cleveland. 3. One, the 18th (Prohibition). 4. Alaska. 5. Goat. 6. Franklin. 7. A pass.

Civil Service Exams

For Three Posts Slated Civil service examinations for three positions with the federal government were announced today by C. W. Silliman, local representative of the United States Civil Service commission.

The positions, and annual salaries, are electronic engineer (wire communications), \$4,205 to \$7,040; telephone specialist, \$4,205 and field representative (telephone operations and loans), \$4,205 to \$5,940. Further information and application forms may be obtained at Silliman's office in the Medford post office building.

Mining Not Entirely Dead

Gold mining in this general region, as in the rest of the nation, has suffered some almost death dealing blows but the industry isn't completely dead and indeed there are signs here and there that it may be trying to stage a comeback.

In the immediate Medford region there have been rumors lately that dry-land dredge operators have been looking over the land lying along the Old Stage road north. Although much of the ground is in small farms it is believed to hold fairly rich gold values in places and without too much overburden.

Mining this land would mess up the landscape for the time being but the soil removed to get at the gold bearing gravel could later be pushed back and the general appearance and agricultural usefulness restored.

In the meantime the mining and stockpiling of chrome ore is continuing in the region, constituting about the only actual activity in the mining line close at hand.

The first severe setback for gold mining came in 1934 when, under terms of the Gold Act, the gold weight of the dollar was reduced by around forty per cent. In 1935, the price of gold was fixed by President Roosevelt at \$35 an ounce, an increase from the previous \$20 plus.

Most devastating of all, however, was the war time order suspending all dredging and placer mining as non-essential.

Recovery from this last wound has been slow principally because inflation has boosted operating costs to a point where only the very richest properties can be worked profitably.

Among the very few fairly large properties in the southern Oregon-northern California region of sufficient richness to warrant operation is the Siskon mine in the Happy Camp neighborhood. Happy Camp is situated on the Klamath river in Siskiyou county, California, and lies south and west of Medford.

The Siskon mine, owned by the Siskon Corporation of Reno, Nev., shipped approximately \$313,000 worth of gold and silver bullion to the U.S. Mint in San Francisco as a result of six and one-quarter months of operation this year.

Development work was also carried on during the past summer and in a report to the stockholders the Siskon corporation officials stated that exploration will be started next year in the "Billy's Mine" area, a mineralized zone not yet properly investigated but which is believed to contain a large body of copper ore.

Also in the copper ore zone is the Gray Eagle mine, which the corporation has leased with option to buy. During World War II the Gray Eagle produced and milled approximately 465,000 tons of copper ore for another company but acquisition of the mine was spurred because of gold deposits which were found there. The gold can be mined with a power shovel, the Siskon officials believe.

NO REAL revival of gold mining is expected for the immediate Medford vicinity unless something should come of the long-continued efforts to secure a raise in the government price, or permission for dealing in the metal on the free market.

On numerous world markets the open price for gold has often ranged considerably higher than the price fixed in this country. United States producers could not legally make sales in those markets, however.—E.C.F.

The Robe

It now develops that some of Oregon's circuit judges are not exactly enthusiastic about donning a long black robe while presiding over their courts. At the annual meeting of the Circuit Judges Association of Oregon held recently in Portland it was decided that among other things needed to add dignity to court procedure in this state is the wearing of the sombre vestments long associated with the higher judicial branches.

SINCE the association meeting one of Marion county's judges has said it would be cumbersome for him to wear a robe, another declared he would not wear one while hearing juvenile cases and a third indicated he had not made up his mind whether to follow the association's recommendation or not.

The black robe—which found its way to this country from England, where courts are nothing if not dignified—undoubtedly lends something to the formal atmosphere. But we cannot help feeling that if he goes along with the majority, Jackson county's Judge Hanna, besides whatever dignity he may add, will be in for some pretty stuffy sessions, come summer time.

It gets right down warmish in the court room here during July and August and even though the robe be made of thin material its long swaddling folds would do nothing to promote the judge's comfort.

He hasn't expressed himself publicly as to adoption of the judicial habiliment but we bet he, and some of the other judges, particularly those in the eastern part of the state, will hand down an opinion not altogether complimentary when the mercury registers around 95.—E.C.F.

Log Pierces Truck Cab; Kills Crescent City Man Crescent City, Calif.—Aaron Walker, Crescent City, was killed yesterday when the top log on his loaded truck pierced the cab as the truck hit a tree on a logging road in the south fork Smith river area. Walker, according to examining physicians, died of a broken neck and crushed chest. Howard Moody, also Crescent City, a passenger in the truck, leaped from the cab before it struck the tree and was unhurt.

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: Philippians 4

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS I came down to the office this morning (a bit late, this being the Christmas season), walked briskly up to the robot that we call a teletype, tore from it an armful of the paper tape it was industriously spitting out and sat down at the typewriter. "Oh, Boy!" I said after a glance at the stuff the machine had been grinding out. "This is going to be duck soup."

THERE were murders — three of them, on the juicy side. There were fatal traffic accidents galore.

There was a tale that Russia has told Britain to lay off this NATO business or we'll cancel the mutual assistance pact we now have with you. Old Hatoyama, Japan's new premier, had just decided to do something he'd told the voters before his election he wouldn't do.

PLENTY of raw material." I told myself, rolling up my sleeves.

AT that moment, it occurred to me that the Klamath Falls Herald and News (in whose office this is written) had announced that in this week before Christmas it would print on its front page only the good news, the constructive news, the news having to do with the BETTER qualities of human beings rather than the WORSE qualities.

And this stuff goes on the Herald and News front page!

SO I started scratching. I turned up a tale about windstorms that have caused more than a million dollars damage to winter wheat crops in Eastern Colorado by blowing the wheat plants out of the dusty soil.

"Well," I said, "maybe that will help to cut down the vast mountain of subsidized wheat we have piled up and thus will help to get us back to the time when supply and demand for wheat will again be in balance. That COULD be constructive news."

But no, the poor devils in Eastern Colorado will be too hard hit in comparison with the rest of us. So that won't do.

THERE was a tale about a Greek who came to this country 47 years ago, made his pile, went back to the Greek village where he was born, used quite a wad of his money to finance school improvements, built some new roads, rebuilt the bell tower of a ruined church and as a result GOT ELECTED MAYOR by his native town's grateful citizens.

Surely, I thought, this is the kind of stuff I'm looking for.

BUT— I read on. It developed that the former Greek, pleased and honored, asked the U.S. consulate in Athens for just a few months, as mayor of a foreign town while he finished up some more improvements.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NOTICE HIM THAT IF HE DOES ANYTHING OF THAT SORT HE'LL LOSE HIS U.S. CITIZENSHIP.

AND so it went, all down through the long roll of teletype tape. In every promising bit of ointment there was a fly. In every fly was some aspect of the story that had to do with the WORSE qualities of human beings rather than the BETTER qualities.

THEN

Just as I was losing hope— And also faith in the news— I came upon this one:

In the town of Greenfield, in Massachusetts, the Red Cross is holding a Christmas party on Dec. 29. There'll be favors. There will be door prizes and refreshments. The ticket of admission will be— ONE PINT OF BLOOD.

THAT fixed everything up. Giving one's blood, so that one's neighbor being who might otherwise die may have a chance to live, most certainly has to do with the better aspects of human beings rather than the worse aspects. There ARE people who follow the GOLDEN RULE.

SAFE DRIVING URGED Salem — (U.P.) — Secretary of State Earl T. Newby appealed to motorists today for concerted individual effort to prevent holiday accidents, noting that Oregon's 1954 traffic death toll is already pushing dangerously toward 400.

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Will Democrats or Right-Wing Republicans Give Ike Roughest Time in New Congress?

By LYLE C. WILSON United Press Correspondent Washington — (U.P.) — It is an open question right now whether President Eisenhower will have more trouble in the 84th Congress with Democrats or with the right wing of his own Republican party.

It could be that he will have serious trouble with both. If so, Mr. Eisenhower will be a bruised and angry man before the end of the congressional session which begins next Jan. 5. Teamed, the right wingers of his own party and the vote-minded Democratic opposition could give the President such a drubbing as none has taken since 1931-32 when Congress undertook to make Herbert Hoover the goat for all the ills since creation.

Mr. Eisenhower has a hole card, however, which former President Hoover did not have when the 72nd Congress convened midway in his White House term. His card is the ace of prosperity.

The first thing Mr. Eisenhower did after his party was licked in last November's election

was to take back some of the hard things he had said about the Democrats. He followed up with friendlier gestures, including conferences and a pledge that Republican cabinet officers would confer with the Democratic leadership before fixing certain policy targets next year. Moreover, the President hammers away at his favorite political theme — that the Republican party must be a party of moderate-minded men and women, considerably to the left of the old-line Republican leadership symbolized by such men as the late Robert A. Taft, Speaker Joseph W. Martin Jr., and perhaps Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland.

There is small comfort for the conservative elements of the Republican party in Mr. Eisenhower's determined effort to shape up a 1955 legislative program with which a considerable number of Democrats might go along. Republican conservatism will be the first to bolt the administration program when it comes to Congress.

The President can get along

without them provided a substantial number of Democrats stay hitched. But the Democrats are up against the political fact of life. These include the fact that the Democrats will need in 1956 a program of their own about which to brag in urging voters to return a Democrat to the White House. If Mr. Eisenhower should run again, it would be embarrassing for Democrats to oppose him if during the 84th Congress they had been whooping it up and enacting a Republican President's legislative program. Shelves Hoover's Program In 1931-32 when Democrats were intent on destroying Mr.

Hoover, they simply pigeon-holed his recommendations and produced a program of their own. That strategy obtained the election of a Democratic president after two years and kept the party in power for 20, barring a momentary Republican recovery in the 80th Congress. Four other presidents within the past 45 years have faced an opposition Congress in one or both houses. They were Taft, Wilson, Hoover and Truman. The only man able to beat the rap was Harry S. Truman, the little man from Independence, Mo. Mr. Truman began the practice of politics where all the others left off.

Visits To Red China By Nehru, U Nu Seen Beneficial To West

By CHARLES M. MCCANN United Press Correspondent The visits which Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India and U Nu of Burma paid to Communist China recently promise, surprisingly, to prove beneficial and not harmful from the Western viewpoint.

In fact, dispatches indicate that the United States might have been justified in paying the travelling expenses of the two East Asian leaders.

Both Nehru and U Nu seem to have seen some of the flaws in the Red Chinese system. Nehru's tone toward the United States has been much more friendly since he returned home, and more sharply critical of Indian Communists.

U Nu praised the United States, it is reported, even while he was in Peiping, and is thinking of visiting this country. Nehru and U Nu are "neutrals" and "Asia for the Asians" men.

They regard the Chinese Communists as fellow Asians, and the big Western countries as "colonial" powers, which want to keep Asian—and African—peoples in bondage. Both Anti-Communist But both are decidedly anti-Communists as regards the Reds in their own countries.

Nehru, as soon as he returned from China, commented on the way the Chinese Reds have isolated their people from the world. He said that while he was in Peiping he had to depend on news bulletins from the Indian Embassy to keep in touch with world developments because Chinese newspapers were so rigidly censored.

Dispatches from New Delhi report that Nehru and the numerous Indian newspaper men who accompanied him to China have been more critical of Communism and more friendly toward the United States since their return. The dispatches say that better American-Indian re-

lations are likely. Discussing his visit to Peiping in Parliament, Nehru said that there had been international crises in March and September "when war on a big scale appeared to be near."

Nehru referred presumably to the Indo-China crisis and the fighting between the Nationalists and Communists along the China Coast.

Praises Eisenhower He praised President Eisenhower warmly for the part he played "in the avoidance of war." Twice since he returned home Nehru has angrily denounced the Indian Communist party. He accused it of trying to foment an insurrection and called a Red attack on the speaker of Parliament "a vicious thing" which showed the "extraordinary incompetence" and "lack of any sense of responsibility" of the Communist party.

U Nu was quoted as saying, in a banquet in his honor in Peiping, that Americans are "very generous and brave" people. He criticized Red Chinese leaders for their poor relations with the United States.

U Nu was reported also to have told the Chinese hosts that he hopes to visit the United States soon. Latest reports indicate that U Nu is quietly interceding with the Peiping regime to free the 11 American Air Force men imprisoned on fake spy charges.

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