

Recommended

A roundup of top Jackson county news during 1954 appears on Page 12 of today's issue of The Mail Tribune, and a roundup of the year's top sports news appears on Page 18.

MEDFO

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1955

Weather

FORECAST — Scattered afternoon showers in valley today with snow in mountains. Occasional rain Monday. High today 42, low tonight 22.

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Price 5c No. 245

Diamond L. Flynn Reviews Six Years In Office of Mayor

(Editor's note: Diamond L. Flynn, who has been mayor of Medford for more than six years, relinquished that office to Earl Miller yesterday. In a final report, addressed to the city council and to the people of Medford, Flynn reviewed the accomplishments of his administration and pointed out problems which are still facing the city. He delivered the report at the year-end council meeting Friday, and will also give highlights of it at a Chamber of Commerce Roundtable session at noon at the Jackson hotel tomorrow. Slightly edited, the report follows.)

By DIAMOND L. FLYNN Retiring Mayor of Medford

I feel that I should refresh our minds of some of the projects and incidents that have taken place during the last six years.

1. Completed Hawthorne swimming pool and park. (Bond issue of \$125,000 to do this.)

2. Installed modern radio equipment for Police and Fire departments.

3. Capt. Leo Weidner of the Portland Fire Department hired in expansion of the Fire Department. New equipment purchased and put in use, including substation in West Medford and temporary station on the East side on Keenway.

4. Twelve additional traffic signal lights and modern lighting on Sixth, Main, Central and Bartlett sts., through the cooperation of the State Highway commission and lighting by the California Oregon Power company were installed. A modern Police-Fire telephone alarm system has also been installed throughout the city.

5. Acquired sewage treatment plant from the government (War Assets administration) and the installation of approximately eight miles of 36 inch concrete trunk main from the city to the plant. Shortly after this, treatment of sewage was made available to Central Point, also acquired approximately 1,000 acres at Camp White for war-barge disposal and industrial use.

6. Construction of the Jackson street bridge, which cost approximately \$40,000. The estimates of cost were near \$140,000 on this project. Construction also took place on a new annex to the Public Library at a cost of approximately \$102,000.

7. Reorganized city superintendent's office and modernized the bookkeeping system in recorder's office. The office of public works director was created which greatly improved our Department of Safety and our street and sewer construction. Under this arrangement all departments are under the superintendent's office with the exception of the city attorney, treasurer, recorder, and city police judge.

8. To get the residents of the city out of the mud and dust, approximately 11 1/2 miles of paved streets were constructed. An extensive program of storm and sanitary sewers was inaugurated with approximately 5.9 miles of storm sewers and 18.7 miles of sanitary sewers installed during this period. Most of the storm sewers were installed in West Medford due to a more serious drainage problem.

9. The police department was reorganized. More manpower was added. Modern equipment was installed throughout this department. It was through the help of the Berkeley police department and Sgt. Beall that this was accomplished.

10. We have annexed a number of additions to the city limits of Medford, among them being Verde Hills, West Side Heights additions, Eastwood subdivisions and the Fairgrounds property south of town. A total of 178 acres has been added to the city through these annexations.

11. The city hall has been remodeled to some degree and is a much better office building for the needs of Medford. Much more should be done to keep it in good repair. The heating system needs some improvement. Most of the outside windows and doors should be replaced. These repairs would save a lot in heating (Continued on Page 2)



OFF TO CHINA—Secy. Gen. of the UN Dag Hammarskjold (left) is on his way to Peiping to seek the release of 11 imprisoned American airmen in a showdown with Red Chinese Premier Chou En-lai. In his party is William J. Ranallo, 32 (right), of Pittsburgh Pa., his personal aide who has served as chauffeur and bodyguard. Ranallo is the only American in the group.

U.N. Secretary Talks With French Premier

Paris—(U.P.)—United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold stopped off on his way to seek the release of Americans jailed in Red China for a one hour secret conference Saturday with Premier Pierre Mendes-France.

Government quarters speculated they might have discussed French recognition of the Peiping Regime some time in the future. Others suggest Mendes-France was taking the opportunity to seek relief from East-West tension.

Refuses Comment The Premier, fresh from the struggle over German rearmament and under pressure on the home front to try to do business with the Communists, refused to say what he and Hammarskjold talked about.

"M. Hammarskjold is engaged on a mission of peace on this first day of the new year," he said in his only comment. "In the name of the people of France, I wish him success in his mission."

After a brief stop, Hammarskjold flew on toward China. He was due to talk today in New Delhi with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India.

Deplores U. S. Methods In Calcutta Saturday night, Nehru deplored the method of the United Nations handling of the case of 11 American airmen held in China. Hammarskjold will seek their release, as well as other U. N. nationals in China.

Nehru voiced regret that the U. N. itself had "decided the case" of the U. S. Air Force captives "without going into the question." He said the manner of dealing with the case was "unfortunate."

At his press conference on his way home from the Indonesian conference, Nehru said Red China attached great importance to some thousands of Chinese war prisoners sent to Formosa from Korea.

New Year's Eve Shot Clips Power Line Some overzealous New Year's eve celebrators severed a power line in the Eagle Point area early yesterday by a gunshot and service wasn't fully restored until four hours later.

The California-Oregon Power company reported yesterday that a 12,000-volt primary line into the city and adjacent area was severed at 12:03 a. m., apparently while some celebrators were firing a gun into the air. The line dropped to the ground and no injuries or damage was reported.

Officials said service was restored to city residents about 2:45 a. m. and to the whole affected area by 4 a. m.

The line was severed near the Eagle Point grade school, they added.

Reds Raise Threat Of New Blockade Berlin—(U.P.)—The Communists raised a long range threat of a Berlin blockade in reprisal for West German rearmament Saturday by refusing to renegotiate an expiring agreement on Western Barge Traffic to this city.

The agreement with the Russians on the use of waterways through the Soviet zone which carry 20 per cent of West Berlin's supplies expired at midnight.

Soviet authorities notified the British Commission Saturday that the matter had been referred to East German authorities. The barge traffic, mostly in coal from the Ruhr to West Berlin, was normal, at east for the time being.

But Western authorities agreed that if the Communists wanted to seize upon the issue at a time when they were fighting the Western plans to rearm West Germany, they could cause trouble.

Russell Slates Inquiry Into Armed Forces Cut

Request for Funds For Talent Project In Federal Budget

Local Backers Deny Reports of Cut Press reports from Washington speculating that funds for the Talent reclamation project may not be included in the federal budget this year are inaccurate, it was reported here Saturday.

Report Quoted A United Press dispatch yesterday said: "No funds are included in the administration's budget to begin construction of the newly-authorized Talent division reclamation project in southern Oregon, reports here indicate."

"Initial construction funds for the \$22,000,000 Talent project were requested by the bureau of reclamation and the Interior Department."

"But when the requests for funds reached the budget bureau, evidence indicates the money was eliminated on the supposed grounds that White House policy was against any new starts in the field of reclamation in the next fiscal year."

"Oregon lawmakers intervened, obtaining a White House statement that there was no presidential policy against new reclamation projects, but apparently the Talent funds were left out anyway."

Source of the United Press story was not given. Includes \$330,000 Request A check in Medford yesterday with supporters of the Talent project who have kept in close touch with the progress of the project indicated that the budget specifically includes a request for \$350,000 to start work of rehabilitating the canal systems of the Medford and Rogue Valley Irrigation districts, an integral part of the overall plan.

In addition, it was reported, a supplemental request for \$2,645,000 will be included with the funds to be used for initial construction of the irrigation and power project itself.

The Talent division project was authorized by the Congress near the end of the session last year, and the bill was signed by President Eisenhower. It received the support of all of Oregon's Congressmen, and Senator-elect Richard Neuberger also has said he favors the project.

84th Congress Opens Wednesday Washington—(U.P.)—The 84th Congress convenes Wednesday for a session which will test President Eisenhower's ability to press his "moderately progressive" legislative program through a House and Senate under Democratic control.

As of now, there is no assurance of too much bipartisan harmony. Both Democrats and Republicans will be aiming for a legislative record aimed at capturing the White House in 1956.

On foreign and defense policies, where there is much overlapping of administration and Democratic party views, Mr. Eisenhower's chances of success are deemed fairly good. But he faces greater conflict on a number of domestic issues.

Duff Named First Manager for City

Robert Duff, 53, Medford's city superintendent since 1951, has been named the city's first city manager. The appointment became effective yesterday.

The city council vote was unanimous. Former Mayor D. L. Flynn stated that the appointment probably will have to be confirmed by the new council at a regular meeting Tuesday.

Flynn stated after the meeting that several other men had been considered for the job and were considered by the council.

Duff, as the city manager, will be responsible for the executive branch of government. The position was created by the voters at the November election.

To Name Department Heads He will appoint all department heads, including city recorder and treasurer, formerly elective offices. Duff announced Friday that there would be no change in incumbents of either of the positions for the present.

However, he stated he will ask the council for authorization to secure a financial consultant to analyze the city's financial arrangements, and make recommendation for efficient fiscal operations in the government. Combination of the two positions under one financial director is a possibility, he added.

Two new manager re-appointed the following city officials, effective yesterday: Administrative Aide Clatous McCredie, City Attorney Frank Farrell, Recorder Neva Samuels, Treasurer Darrell Huson, Police Chief Charles Champlin, Fire Chief Gordon Barker, Vernon Thorpe, director of public works and traffic engineer; City Engineer Edward McKinstry, Building Inspector Herbert Mackie, Airport Manager Ralph Pierce, Sewage Plant Supt. Raymond Fish, Park Supt. Leo Thomas, Lester Anderson, general foreman streets and roads; Electrician J. A. Wolff and Health Officer Dr. A. Erik Merkel. Huson was also named director of parks and recreation.

With City 30 Years Duff has been employed by the city of Medford for almost 30 years. He began as a draftsman in the water commission in 1925, during construction of the old water pipeline. In 1931, he was named water superintendent, a position he has held since. He will continue as water superintendent under the new system, with Robert Lee as assistant superintendent. Duff assumed the broader duties of city superintendent in July, 1951.

Duff attended the University of Santa Clara in California and graduated in 1925 with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. He became a registered professional engineer in Oregon in July, 1932.

The new manager was born in Yavapai county, Arizona, on April 23, 1901. He moved to Medford with his parents in 1906 and has resided here ever since, except while attending the university. He is married and resides at 2316 East Main st.

Mayor Earl Miller, who received the gavel from Mayor Flynn at the meeting, told the council that Duff had "served the city well and is qualified beyond any reasonable doubt to serve as its first city manager."

Duff thanked the council for their confidence and stated that "with the help of all the city's employees, I will try to give the council a progressive and efficient administration."

West Discounts Malenkov 'Feeler' London—(U.P.)—Soviet Premier Georgi Malenkov's New Year feeler on talks with the West about Far Eastern affairs was taken in the capitals of Western Europe Saturday to be another move in the Kremlin campaign to block West German rearmament.

Official quarters in London, Paris and Bonn found little nourishment in the message answering questions by an American television newsreel concern.

"It is unlikely that a conference to discuss Far Eastern affairs in general would make progress at this stage," a British foreign office spokesman said.

"Her majesty's government's policy has throughout been to reduce tension in the Far East, and as soon as all concerned are agreed that a specific question is ripe for further discussions, a conference might prove useful once again."

(See Story on Page 2)

General Ridgway To Be Asked for Testimony on Plan

Hearings Scheduled Behind Closed Doors Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) Saturday promised a prompt and "thorough" Senate investigation into administration plans for slashing the armed forces by 403,000 men during the next 18 months.

Among those who will be asked to testify, he said, will be Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, who is reported to have protested to President Eisenhower against orders for a sharp reduction in the size of the army.

No Date Fixed Russell said the manpower review will be conducted by the Senate Armed Services Committee which he will head when the new Democratic Congress convenes next week. The hearings, for which no date has been fixed, will start behind closed doors, but may be thrown open to the public later, he said.

"We expect to have a full briefing by the Joint Chiefs of Staff on proposals that affect the strength of the military services," Russell said in an interview.

"We're certainly going into this very thoroughly and get the views and the reasoning of those who are proposing the reduction."

Release Planned The Army, which would bear the brunt of the manpower reduction, has announced it would release about 44,000 draftees ahead of schedule next spring to meet lower manpower ceilings set by Mr. Eisenhower and the Defense Department.

The Army-Navy-Air Force Journal reported that Ridgway, as one of the President's "military advisers," had protested personally to the President against the sharp cuts. The Army declined to comment on that.

Russell made it clear that he was not yet passing judgment on the proposed plans. He added there is nothing Congress can do if President Eisenhower should be determined to carry out the plans.

The Defense Department plans call for trimming the armed forces by 403,000 men to 2,815,000 by the middle of 1956.

Suez Traffic Jam Said Getting Worse

Port Said, Egypt—(U.P.)—A seagoing traffic jam at the blocked Suez Canal grew worse by the hour Saturday night.

About 100 ships were piled up in and at both ends of the shipping bottleneck between the east and west. That many more were approaching.

Canal authorities appealed to shipping companies to order their vessels to slow down their approach to the Suez, one of the busiest waterways in the world. It has been blocked since Friday.

Canal officials announced that engineers would take three more days to unplug the canal. They cabled the Suez Canal company in London that it was expected to be open for traffic Tuesday morning.

The 10,892-ton Liberian tanker World Peace, laden with 17,000 tons of crude oil from Kuwait, knocked down the El Firdan railway bridge over the canal Friday.

Ralph Bunche Starts As Hammarskjold Aide

United Nations, N.Y.—(U.P.)—Dr. Ralph J. Bunche of the United States and Ilya Tchernychev of Russia took over Saturday as the principal assistants to Dag Hammarskjold.

Both began 3 1/2 year contracts as undersecretaries of the world organization, without specific assignment.

Tchernychev is acting secretary general while Hammarskjold is on his mission to Peiping and Bunche is in charge of arrangements for the scientific conference to be held next year as part of President Eisenhower's "Atoms-for-Peace" plan which gained Assembly approval last month.



D. L. FLYNN Issues Report



ROBERT DUFF Named by Council

Traffic Mishaps Near New High; 150 Killed

Chicago—(U.P.)—Traffic accidents killed five persons an hour Saturday night and safety experts said the nation's motorists would record a new high in deaths for a two-day New Year's holiday.

At 10 p. m., with the holiday 28 hours old 150 persons had been killed on streets and highways. Fires claimed 12 lives, four persons were killed in plane crashes and 11 in miscellaneous accidents for a total of 177 accidental deaths, since a United Press tabulation started at 6 p. m. Friday.

ord for a two-day New Year holiday was set in 1948 when 216 persons died in traffic accidents.

"It appears now that our preliminary estimate of a 240-person death toll for this year is too conservative," said Ned H. Dearborn, president of the National Safety Council.

He said traffic deaths were mounting at a "disturbing rate" and unless there was a sudden slow-down would easily reach the 300 mark.

Near Christmas Mark "The traffic toll so far is running half again as high as last New Year, and is virtually equaling the shocking Christmas toll of a week ago," Dearborn said.

"This is an incredible and disgraceful price to pay for a holiday that hopefully welcomes a new year in which the whole emphasis is on peace and security."

Last week end's Christmas holiday saw 380 killed in traffic mishaps.

SATURDAY SCORES

- SHRINE GAME East 13, West 12 ROSE BOWL Ohio State 20, USC 7 SUGAR BOWL Navy 21, Mississippi 0 COTTON BOWL Georgia Tech 14, Arkansas 6 ORANGE BOWL Duke 34, Nebraska 7 SUN BOWL Texas Western 47, Florida State 20

Reds Raise Threat Of New Blockade

Berlin—(U.P.)—The Communists raised a long range threat of a Berlin blockade in reprisal for West German rearmament Saturday by refusing to renegotiate an expiring agreement on Western Barge Traffic to this city.

The agreement with the Russians on the use of waterways through the Soviet zone which carry 20 per cent of West Berlin's supplies expired at midnight.

Soviet authorities notified the British Commission Saturday that the matter had been referred to East German authorities. The barge traffic, mostly in coal from the Ruhr to West Berlin, was normal, at east for the time being.

But Western authorities agreed that if the Communists wanted to seize upon the issue at a time when they were fighting the Western plans to rearm West Germany, they could cause trouble.

Ike Orders Return of Veteran Benefits To Peacetime Basis Effective Jan. 31

Augusta, Ga.—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower Saturday ordered the nation's veterans benefits put back on a peacetime basis, effective Jan. 31. The move will eventually save billions of dollars.

Mr. Eisenhower, winding up a year-end holiday, issued an executive order and proclamation ending these benefits for future servicemen:

- Benefits Listed 1. Free college scholarship worth up to \$5,760. 2. Mustering-out pay up to \$300. 3. Special veterans unemployment insurance. 4. Loan guarantees on homes, farms and businesses. 5. Special hospital privileges and pensions for those whose

Persons serving in the armed forces will continue to receive entitlement to substantial peacetime veterans' benefits provided by the Veterans Administration, the Department of Defense, and other agencies, it said.

Emergency Not Ended These apply mostly to compensation and hospital and medical care for service-connected disabilities, retirement, insurance and death gratuity.

The order does not end the state of national emergency proclaimed for the Korean fighting in 1950 by then President Truman. Such an order would affect too many other laws enacted in connection with the Korean fighting.