

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

Jan. 4, 1945 (It was Thursday)

Dr. A. E. Merkel, Jackson county health officer, lists seven cases of malaria in county, all in Camp White.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: The new spring hats for the fair sex will make the wearer look younger, it is claimed. The boyish bob was supposed to do the same thing in the mid-1920s. Instead they made Grandmaws look like old-men.

20 YEARS AGO

Jan. 4, 1925 (It was Friday)

County Judge Earl B. Day and County Commissioner Ralph Billings pay tribute to retiring Commissioner R. E. Nealon.

J. E. Schuler escapes injury when his car collides with a freight truck on the Tolo overpass.

30 YEARS AGO

Jan. 4, 1925 (It was Sunday)

Record crowd of women and girls see first performance of "A Sacred Devil," starring Rudolph Valentino, at Craterian theater.

O. O. Alenderfer "mounts the saddle of city affairs" and is sworn in as mayor of Medford.

40 YEARS AGO

Jan. 4, 1915 (It was Monday)

Rogue river residents collect \$50 in contributions for "the starving Belgians."

From the Local and Personal column: The council at its meeting Tuesday night took steps toward curbing buttinskis at fires, who shout orders to the city firemen, and to stop the crowds from collecting in the middle of Main and Front avenue when the trucks are making a run to a fire. City Attorney B. R. McCabe was instructed to draw up a city ordinance covering these points.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

Copr. 1954 Editorial Research Report

1. In terms of 1929 dollars, Stock Market prices now are considerably higher or lower than at the 1929 tops, or about the same?
 2. More fulltime students are enrolled at California, Columbia, Michigan, Minnesota or New York Universities?
 3. The Buy American act requires the Government to accept U.S. bids for materials no matter how much higher than foreign bids: right or wrong?
 4. The U.S. consumes more or less meat per capita than a quarter of a century ago, or about the same amount?
 5. Which of these are Russian satellites: Austria, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia?
 6. Many telephone companies in the U.S. are outside of the Bell System: right or wrong?
 7. New Democratic national chairman is Paul M. Butler, James A. Finnegan, Stephen A. Mitchell, Carmine G. DeSapio, Michael V. DiSalle, or Harry S. Truman?
- The Answers: 1. Considerably lower in 1929 dollars. 2. California (Berkeley and Los Angeles). 3. Wrong; only if the U.S. bids are not unreasonably higher. 4. More. 5. Hungary and Poland. 6. Right, but they are small ones. 7. Butler.

Silence Is Golden

With the opening of the new congress there is more and more speculation about President Eisenhower running for a second term and more and more pressure to have him declare himself.

If the President is smart he will resist these pressures and continue his present policy of silence.

For to declare he will not run for reelection would destroy his political influence almost entirely, and to declare he will would bind him to the G.O.P. political machine securely when it may well be to his interest personally and politically two years hence, to move from the White House to his new farm-home near Gettysburg.

In other words the President has everything to gain by not committing himself, and everything to lose by doing so.

Those members of his own party who are persistently urging him to end the suspense and declare himself, are doing the party no good and doing the President a disservice.

It is a case of silence being golden for the chief executive and there is every indication he knows it and will act accordingly.—R.W.R.

Not a Democratic Congress

All this talk about a Democratic congress in control is rather silly when one comes down to cases.

The Democrats have such control in the realm of committee chairmanships, but otherwise they have no actual control, for while the Democratic party is not as badly split as the Republican, the members are far from a unit on most important legislation.

TAKE the important matter of public power, for example. The Democrats are almost as divided as the Republicans.

As a result whatever public power legislation is produced in this Congress will be the result not wholly of Democratic or Republican action, but a combination,—a coalition of the two.

THIS promises to be apparent also when President Eisenhower's reciprocal tariff-bill comes up.

The Republican "Old Guard" led by fanatics like Malone of Nevada will fight this progressive legislation to the last ditch, while Democratic progressives like Kefauver will be strongly for it.

In fact if the measure is passed it will be only because of Democratic support.

SO THIS will not be a Democratic congress except in purely a nominal and arithmetical sense. It will be a coalition congress.

The results in a legislative sense will depend not so much upon how the parties stand, as just how they split.—R.W.R.

Too Much Pessimism

According to some of the news commentators the vote in the French Assembly sanctioning Germany's rearmament was too close for comfort. In fact one of them goes so far as to suggest it might have been better for the allied cause, if France had yielded to its fears and voted "No."

WE FAIL to follow this sort of reasoning. The vote was close and probably if French emotional habits had prevailed, Premier Mendes-France would have been beaten for the second time and forced to resign. But we fail to see how such a result would have been better for the free countries of Europe than the situation that now exists.

THERE may still be a slip between the cup and lip. But barring such a misfortune, there is now a united front presented against any Russian advance in western Europe, and had France not joined up, there would have been no such resistance possible, even if Germany had been rearmaged, for any adequate resistance to Russia will have to be provided with French bases and lines of communication.

This sort of news talk we believe to be a product of the prevailing pessimism that has certain news commentators in its grip rather than any careful appraisal of the facts.—R.W.R.

One Born Every Minute

What has Senator McCarthy got that other demagogues lack?

We have about decided it is his colossal nerve combined with a P. T. Barnum type of showmanship. P. T. Barnum decided the American people like to be humbugged and he made a fortune by capitalizing on this assumption.

The Wisconsin Senator follows the same technique.

As the new congress opens, he emerges, for example, from his seclusion to announce that he meant nothing PERSONAL in his broadcast against President Eisenhower. He thinks the President is, in all, doing a pretty good job especially in Europe.

He assumes the American people have forgotten what he said about the President only a few weeks ago, and how he apologized to the American people for ever asking them to support him.

If that isn't "PERSONAL" as far as the President is concerned what would one call it?

But Joe wouldn't execute such an absurd "flip flop" if he didn't believe he could get away with it. And as far as the victims of his special brand of fakery are concerned, he may be right.—R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

THE BASTION BUILDERS

Phnompenh, Cambodia—Something of the seriousness of the dangers that now lie ahead in Asia was suggested by a little incident in which this reporter was quite accidentally involved.



Joseph Alsop

It began with an early morning appointment with the Prime Minister of this charming little country of Cambodia, which is the remnant of the great Khmer empire that built Angkor Wat. The Khmer empire was destroyed some 600 years ago by the invading Siamese, who were fleeing in their turn from the

expanding Chinese. South Asian history has an interesting continuity.

His Excellency Pen Nouth, is a tall, intelligent, quiet mannered man, who is Prime Minister of Cambodia because he is considerably tougher than most of his easy going countrymen. He made a lucid analysis of Cambodia's situation and policy.

The country's loyalty to King Norodon Sihanouk and to Buddhism; the hatred of the mass of Cambodians for the Vietnamese who lead the Communist Viet Minh; the relative contentment of the people because of the plenty that reigns in this rich, underpopulated land; the dependence of Cambodia on American aid for its own military defense—these were the chief points stressed. Cambodia, said the Prime Minister, intended to resist the Communist Viet Minh with all its powers; and since Cambodia's geographical position makes it a shield for Thailand, this was an important statement.

At the close of the interview, however, the Prime Minister turned the tables on the reporter, asking what principle developments he foresaw in Asia in the next 12 months.

THERE was only one possible answer. The situation in southern Indochina plainly forecast the loss of that vital area to the Communists, and quite possibly before the Vietnamese elections. In addition, the Chinese Communists were plainly preparing an attack on the offshore islands of Formosa, which the United States had refused to guarantee. Therefore a Communist military victory over Chiang Kai-shek, which would be an even greater propaganda victory, must also be anticipated.

The effect of these rather obvious statements on the Prime Minister appeared to be electric. He detained the reporter. He said he had believed that when Gen. Lawton Collins was sent to Saigon, it meant that the United States was determined to hold southern Indochina against Communist pressure. He asked how Cambodia, "this little country," could be expected to retain its independence if southern Indochina, which encloses Cambodia on two sides, should fall into Communist hands.

He also remarked that a Chinese Communist victory on Formosa's offshore islands, even although militarily unimportant would lead many people to question the value of American support; and it was only absolute confidence in the firmness of American support that could give Cambodia the courage to resist the heavy Communist pressures to which Cambodia is already exposed.

In the later afternoon, at the close of an intervening meeting of the cabinet, the reporter saw the acting Foreign Minister. He declared that the cabinet agenda had been set aside for a discussion of the terrible news about southern Indochina and the offshore islands. And he went considerably further in his pessimism about the future than Prime Minister Pen Nouth.

If this is the kind of reaction that is produced by a simple, unvarnished statement of future probabilities that are accepted by every serious observer in Asia, what then will be the reaction to the actual, unceasing, shattering events themselves?

THAT is the principle problem that now confronts our bastion builders. Bastion building is a favorite new American activity in Asia. It is going on in Thailand. It is going on in Japan, which President Eisenhower has formally declared a bastion despite the recent signs to the contrary. And the able American ambassador to Cambodia, Robert McClintock, would like, quite rightly, to make Cambodia another bastion to protect the even bigger bastion in Thailand.

Theoretically, the thing can be done. All that Pen Nouth said about his country and his people is true. Prior to the signature of the Geneva accord, when the Viet Minh were trying to get a firm base in Cambodia, the Royal Cambodian Army even gave a sound thrashing to three invading Viet Minh battalions.

Superficially, then, this should be an excellent chance of making the great river of Mekong, which is Cambodia's main border with Indochina, into the stopping line of the Communist advance in Asia. Even historically, it seems logical, for the Mekong is the ancient dividing line between Chinese cultural influence, which predominated in Indochina, and Indian cultural influence which gave the original stimulus to the civilizations of Cambodia, Thailand and Burma.

Inspired by contemplation of the magnificence of Angkor Wat, that eighth wonder of the world, India's Prime Minister Nehru even told Ho Chi Minh that India would look very much askance on an attempt on Cambodia. But all the bastions will still turn out to be mere mud pies, recklessly patted to-



VICTORY SMILE — French Premier Pierre Mendès-France

France has right to the smile shown here as he won an important vote of confidence in Paris when the French General Assembly approved the West European Union which will put 500,000 West German troops under arms. The unofficial vote was 287 to 260.

Bureau of Census Sets Manufacturing Count This Month

Early this month, report forms of the 1954 Census of Manufactures are being mailed to all Oregon manufacturers by the bureau of the Census. Information requested in this canvass will bring up to date the detailed manufactures statistics, now of the vintage of 1947, for states and smaller areas.

An estimated 275,000 manufacturing establishments throughout the United States will receive the forms. In 1947, a total of 240,881 factories reported value added by manufacture of \$74,400,000,000, an average of 14,294,304 employees, and salaries and wages of these employees totaling \$39,700,000,000.

Oregon Figures

The 1947 census showed 3,075 manufacturing establishments in Oregon with value added by manufacture of \$675,000,000, an average of 105,591 employees for the year, and salaries and wages of \$317,800,000.

The top ranking manufacturing industries in Oregon according to value added by manufacture in 1947 were: sawmills and planing mills, general, \$300,513,000; plywood plants, \$31,091,000; canning and preserving, except fish, \$20,592,000; pulp mills, \$16,585,000 and newspapers, \$15,685,000.

Legal Card Tables Idle at Vancouver

Vancouver, Wash. — (U.P.)—Legal card tables were out of operation in Vancouver, Wash., today.

City Clerk George Carson said no city licenses had been issued for January, and no applications were made for re-licensing the 13 tables licensed in December.

Four card room operators last month forfeited bail after they were charged with conducting card gambling games.

gether in the path of a flood, if American policy in Asia does not soon become infinitely firmer and less fraudulent than it is today.

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Remon Assassination In Panama May Start New Period of Strife

By CHARLES M. McCANN

United Press Foreign Analyst

The guns that cut down President Jose Antonio Remon of Panama may herald a new period of turmoil in the six little "banana republics" of Central America.



Remon's assassination threw Panama into a crisis which bids to last for a long time, and may erupt in more violence. There are the makings of crises in Honduras, Costa Rica and Guatemala.

An attempt was made last April to assassinate President Anastasio Somoza, the "strong man" of Nicaragua, and a further attempt would not be surprising.

Violent History

But tension is already building up there in anticipation of a presidential election next year.

On the basis of its population, a total of 9,000,000, Central America easily holds the all-time world record for political violence.

Panama, for instance, has had 29 presidents since it became a republic in 1903.

In Honduras, Julio Lozano is sitting in the presidential chair, a virtual dictator. There was a presidential election last October. The liberal candidate got the most votes—48 per cent. But an absolute majority was needed for election. In the absence of President Juan Manuel Galvez, who had gone to Panama for medical treatment, Vice-President Lozano was declared President. Galvez's term expired Dec. 31. But Lozano is still president, watching for signs of a challenge to his rule.

Explosive Situation

President Somoza of Nicaragua is feuding with President Jose Figueres of neighboring Costa Rica. Figueres is a liberal, who has made his country a haven for liberal political refugees from other Latin American countries. Somoza is decidedly of the right wing.

Figueres has charged that Costa Rican troops and planes have violated the Nicaraguan frontier.

This situation is highly explosive, and is being closely watched by the State Department. Guatemala, where a Communist dominated government was thrown out last year, is now threatened with trouble from both right and left wing elements in politics.

Democrats, GOP Pick Leaders for 84th Session of Congress

Washington — (U.P.)—Democrats and Republicans named their leaders today for the Democratic controlled 84th Congress which convenes tomorrow.

House Democrats went through the formality of nominating Rep. Sam Rayburn of Texas as speaker and naming Rep. John W. McCormack of Massachusetts as their floor leader. Rayburn, who has served as speaker longer than anyone else, will be elected again to that post tomorrow when the Democrats formally take control. He will succeed Rep. Joseph W. Martin Jr. (R-Mass.), who becomes Massachusetts Republican leader.

Senate Democrats were set to name Sen. Lyndon Johnson of Texas as majority leader. Senate Republicans unanimously elected Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire as chairman of their policy committee, succeeding Homer Ferguson of Michigan who was defeated for reelection.

They reelected other leaders as follows:

Sen. William F. Knowland of California, GOP floor leader.

Sen. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts, assistant GOP floor leader (whip).

Sen. Eugene D. Milikin of Colorado, chairman of the Senate Republican Conference.

Sen. Milton R. Young of North Dakota, secretary of the Senate GOP Conference.

Although the Republicans have had some bruising internal battles in the past year, there was no contest over any of their leadership posts. Their meeting was described as full of "good will and harmony."

With Democrats taking control, Bridges will relinquish his post as Senate president pro tempore to Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.).

Bend — (U.P.)—Members of the Oregon Dairymen's Association will consider proposed changes in the state's dairy laws at the annual meeting here Jan. 12-14.

Salem — (U.P.)—Norman O. Nilsen was sworn in by Chief Justice Harold J. Warner of the Oregon Supreme Court, as state labor commissioner.

Investors Mutual, Inc.

Notice of 57th Consecutive Dividend.

The Board of Directors of Investors Mutual has declared a quarterly dividend of fifteen cents per share payable on January 21, 1955, to shareholders of record as of December 31, 1954.

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