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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. 26, 1945 Old Dr. J. W. Robinson home on Old Stage rd. near Jacksonville heavily damaged by fire.

20 YEARS AGO

Jan. 26, 1925 St. Mary's High school basketball team plays two games in one night due to schedule mixup.

30 YEARS AGO

Jan. 26, 1925 State mental hospital officials deny report that five inmates are persons who have been driven insane by crossword puzzles.

40 YEARS AGO

Jan. 26, 1915 Bill introduced in state legislature calling for proposed Pacific highway to run through Gold Hill.

What's the Answer?

- (Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report 1. The Church of the New Jerusalem is based on the precepts of Calvin, Mary Baker Eddy, Loyola, Luther, Swedenborg or Wesley? 2. Antibiotics are derived from living or dead organisms, or from neither? 3. Average life-time earnings of college graduates are much higher or somewhat lower than those of high-school graduates, or about the same? 4. Is it longer by car from Boston to New Orleans or from New Orleans to Los Angeles? 5. "Apartheid" is a hot issue in Cyprus, Egypt, French North Africa, India, Israel or South Africa? 6. You would find a disc jockey in a horse race, field events of a track meet, a laboratory, a broadcasting studio, or an observatory? 7. Luchow's is a famous restaurant in Chicago, Berlin, Milwaukee, Vienna, New York or Mexico City? The answers: 1. Swedenborg. 2. From living organisms (such as fungus). 3. Much higher. 4. From New Orleans to Los Angeles. 5. South Africa. 6. In a broadcasting studio. 7. New York.

Jim Edmiston Writes Book

Another name has been added to the considerable list of Medford high school graduates who have gained recognition through writing. The latest addition is James E. Edmiston Jr., whose book "Home Again," just published by Doubleday is expected to become a best seller.

Edmiston, who won several tennis championships for his school, was a classmate and close friend of both Dick Applegate and John Reddy and like them developed the writing urge early in life. Applegate found his niche in newspaper work, finally becoming a foreign correspondent for the United Press, and Reddy wrote many magazine stories before devoting his time entirely to radio and television production.

Edmiston Sr., was prominent in the fruit industry here for a number of years, the family moving to California in the 30's. For some years the younger Edmiston has been engaged in script writing for the movies his work including a picture concerning Glacier National Park, originally titled "Park Ranger," in which Victor Mature and Vinson Price appeared. In addition he has done considerable writing for television.

IN HIS new book the former Medford man tells the story of a Japanese-American family — how the father came to California in 1903, worked hard to build up a flower-growing enterprise in the San Francisco vicinity; the birth and development of the children, and the trials and injustices experienced as a result of prejudice, discrimination and incarceration in a detention camp during the war.

The latter part of the narrative concerns their return, after the war, the hostilities and prejudices eventually overcome, and the new settling-in as good Americans.

AS THE author points out, every occurrence in his book is based on an actual one. It all happened, even if every bit of it did not happen to one specific family. Because of this unusual literary technique the volume probably should not be termed a novel. It is more in the nature of a documentary. Though the main story is preserved throughout, there are bits of information, comment and underlined moral. In the end the book leaves, plain and clear, the moral it was written to convey.

THE author, in a letter to the Mail Tribune revealed that the first draft of his book was written here in 1946 but that long before that, an item published in the M-T, around 25 years ago, in fact, had some part in its fashioning for it had remained in his mind ever since. The item, as Edmiston recalls, bore the headline "The Jackson County Madame Butterfly," and read as follows:

"A man who was born and raised in Jackson county went to Japan, met and married a Japanese girl, only to find that the U.S. would not let him bring his bride home. After a great deal of trying, he finally gave up, and decided to remain in Japan with his wife the rest of his years. "All went well until one day he received word that his mother was dying, and would be rushed home at once. Here a further complication arose: If he left Japan now he could not return (some complicated immigration rules here). "For a day or two the conflict tore at him, and then suddenly it was settled by his wife, the Japanese girl. She took poison . . . so her husband could get to the mother's bedside."

THOUGH he admits the newspaper account had a somewhat operatic ring, it was, he avers, a true account and he adds:

"When at last all the discriminatory immigration laws were changed to give Japanese equal rights, as well as repeal of over 500 discriminatory laws in the U. S. against Japanese Americans, the story I started in 1946 suddenly had an up-beat ending written not by me, but by democracy. And I got the book finished. Thus, in a way, the book is a sort of 'answer' to the sympathetic story which appeared so long ago in the Mail Tribune."

BY WAY of postscript, Author Edmiston recalls that the Mail Tribune carried a report, back in 1939 or 1940, that he was killed in action while flying with the RAF. This report, he says, he never bothered to deny, but now he hopes his book will sell well enough so that his old friends will learn that he was spared. "Incidentally," he concludes, "I'm moving back to Medford in a few months."—E. C. F.

Bad Bill Picture Brighter

There are a number of things which cause people to accumulate more debts than they can properly take care of, but contrary to general belief unemployment isn't the principal one. According to the American Collectors association overbuying is the number one offender.

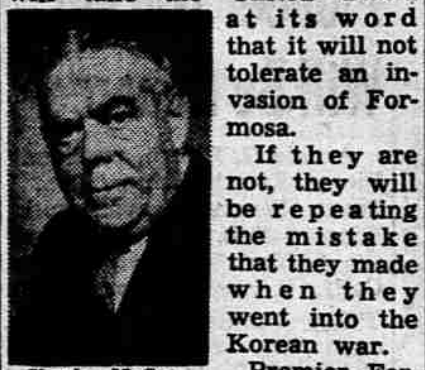
The association's recently released collection index notes, however, that there is a major improvement in the collectibility of past due accounts, the first such indication since 1952.

ALTHOUGH credit is being used more widely at the present time than at any period in history, the association points out that people are becoming more concerned about holding on to jobs by maintaining good credit than was previously the case.

The collectors observe that a noticeable pick-up in employment, especially in some areas, and a generally improved attitude toward budget balancing by family groups have been important factors in brightening the over-all picture.—E.C.F.

Chinese Reds Claimed Is That So? In Position To Make Disastrous Mistakes

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Foreign Analyst



The Chinese Reds are in a position to make a disastrous mistake. If they are sensible, they will take the United States at its word that it will not tolerate an invasion of Formosa.

But Chou must have sense enough to know, since the Korean war, that Red China can not take Formosa against the United States 7th Fleet and whatever else the United States might need to throw in.

President Eisenhower has left Chou and his fellow Red leader a clean-cut choice, peace or war.

Faced with the President's action, the Reds can still change their minds.

The difficulty is that dictators are prone to make big mistakes, and Chou, Mao Tse-tung and the other Peiping Reds are dictators.

Chou started talking tough in 1950 when the United Nations forces crossed the 38th parallel into North Korea.

Chou and his fellow leaders made several mistakes then. First, the Korean war was a United Nations war and not just a United States war.

Undoubtedly Chou thought the United States would be pushed off the Korean peninsula. It cost the Red Chinese well over 1,000,000 casualties to realize it could not be.

Chou now has the choice of making another mistake like that, or of accepting the facts of life.

By Eugene Burns Ranger-Naturalist

Speaking of eating . . . The glowworm digests its food before swallowing it.

The glowworm gives the unsuspecting snail an anaesthetic which puts it to sleep. Then it gives the snail a covering of peptonized saliva.

The common sponge whose skeletal remains we use to wash our automobile goes a step further — it has no stomach at all.



As you perhaps know, the hermit crab has no hard shell of its own to protect its tender body so it appropriates an empty snail's shell for its home.

You'd think the exasperated host would eat the free-loader but not at all. It remains quiet while the worm helps itself.

FREE: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best question on nature and wildlife a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding.

NY Times Writer Tells of Censorship

Taipei, Formosa—(U.P.)—Greg MacGregor of the New York Times complained today officers of the U.S. 7th Fleet delayed or suppressed every dispatch he sent during two weeks at sea.

MacGregor told Vice-Adm. Alfred M. Pride he was not even allowed to send a message telling the Times where he was or why they were receiving no reports from him.

Among the innumerable world records held by Brooklynites is one for speedy weight reduction. The holder is a woman who, when she began to reduce, weighed 313 pounds.

On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Wee image of my Bonnie Betty, God grant you may inherit Your mother's person, grace and merit.

In many states a female is not permitted to purchase strong drink at a bar unless she is 21. Those selling alcoholic liquors to minors can be fined, imprisoned and lose their licenses.

When a woman has a preference for an extra long cigarette holder it indicates she is suffering from a sense of inferiority. Or, so say the psychologists.

What's the greatest bargain you benefited by in a price cutting war? I recall a price cutting battle between two rival eating places. They kept cutting breakfast prices.

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible.

To the Editor: Read a very amusing article in the Sunday Tribune's "Pot Luck" column about Mr. E. Hewitt who found a wizened, practically petrified potato in a sack of big plump ones.

If that wizened potato could only talk it might tell a story similar to my potato story. Several years ago while living where those big plump potatoes come from my husband and I had our hearts set on something we wanted, but lacked the money.

There I stood all night long watching potatoes roll by, trying to decide which ones to call out and expecting to get fired any moment.

Could it be that one wizened and practically petrified potato that I might have missed waited all this time to show up in Mr. Hewitt's sack of big plump ones?

Mrs. Delbert Casey, Route 1, Box 358, Central Point, Ore.

NOT FOR THEM Passiac, N. J. — (U.P.)—Ben Rabin, manager of the State Employment Service here, reports "a nice quiet job paying \$50 for a beginner for office work" is being turned down by ladies. The job is in a coffin maker's office.

By FRANK JENKINS "We run a FAR GREATER RISK the other way."

A series of events is falling into what looks like a significant pattern. This is about the outline of the pattern, as it has so far developed:

THE Chinese Reds have taken military force one island in the East China Sea between Formosa and the communist-held mainland.

American naval vessels—including aircraft carriers—have left ports in the Far East, APPARENTLY HEADED FOR THE WATERS AROUND FORMOSA.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER sent a special message to congress OUTLINING A POLICY ON THE SECURITY OF FORMOSA AND ASKING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR IT.

REPUBLICAN leaders in the House and the senate have assured the President of their support for such authority as he seeks in the Formosa situation.

DEMOCRATIC Chairman James Richards of the key house foreign affairs committee announced that he supports a LINE OF NO RETREAT IN THE FORMOSA AREA.

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Advertisement for a classified telephone directory featuring a cartoon of a woman looking at a directory and saying "THIS LOOKING GLASS IS USELESS IT'S REALLY A DISGRACE" and "PERHAPS THE YELLOW PAGES CAN HELP ME SAVE MY FACE".