

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
Feb. 9, 1945

(It was Friday)
J. M. Spencer, Ashland,
named secretary-manager of
Medford Irrigation district, and
W. D. Steadman, Phoenix, named
to same position with Rogue
River Irrigation district. Both
succeeded E. N. Judd, who served
with two districts for 15 years.

From Arthur Perry's Ye
Smudge Pot column: Schools
started last week on the last half
of their terms. Many kids were
vaccinated, at the end of the
semester.

20 YEARS AGO
Feb. 9, 1925

(It was Saturday)
Gold Hill cement plant
officials announce their firm will
operate Grants Pass railroad.

Townsend pension meeting at
Medford High school draws
crowd of 1,100, with collection
amounting to \$103. Telegram re-
ceived from Dr. Townsend,
founder of organization.

30 YEARS AGO
Feb. 9, 1925

(It was Monday)
Story in the Mail Tribune re-
ports that cigarette smoking
among women in Medford is
gaining by leaps and bounds,
both at home and in public.

40 YEARS AGO
Feb. 9, 1915

(It was Tuesday)
Fire destroys Tavern hotel,
owned by James Vogel, at Eagle
Point with damage estimated at
between \$6,000 and \$7,000.
Eagle Point fire department and
bucket brigade saves surround-
ing property.

From the Local and Personal
column: As yet no trace has been
found of Chester Nelson, the
youthful trapper who disap-
peared from his cabin in the
Evans Creek district a week ago
Sunday. The recent heavy rains
have swollen Evans creek con-
siderably and fears are enter-
tained that the young man was
drowned while attempting to
cross. Alarmed by his absence
searching parties have been
formed and the entire section is
being hunted over.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Ten years ago U.S. forces captured a capital that had been held by the enemy: Berlin, Paris, Rome, Manila, Brussels or Warsaw?
 2. The Last Supper, famous painting by Leonardo de Vinci, is in Rome, New York, Paris, Milan, London or Venice?
 3. Which of these national parks is the largest: Everglades, Glacier, Mt. McKinley, Yellowstone, Yosemite?
 4. The Seventh Commandment deals with adultery, killing, bearing false witness, or honoring parents?
 5. The Kremlin says that of the 200,000,000 people in Russia, about 6, 16, 36 or 60,000,000 are Communist party members?
 6. The name "Palestine" does or doesn't come from the Philistines who once lived there?
 7. A man nicknamed "Soapy" (last name: Williams) is governor of Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee or Texas?
- The Answers: 1. Manila. 2. Milan. 3. Yellowstone. 4. Adultery. 5. About six out of the 200,000,000. 6. Does. 7. Michigan.

Leave The Park Setup Alone

The only fault one can find with Oregon's state parks, in this region at least, is that there are not enough of them. Those we have are well located, excellently maintained, the larger ones are delightful places for family picnics and group gatherings and they and the highway wayside parks are visited by throngs throughout the summer season.

At one such place alone, TouVelle park on the Rogue river near Medford, the traffic counting tape registered 26,014 cars last year. Figuring an average of 3 1/4 persons to the car, the tape indicates the park accommodated 84,545 visitors, probably a low estimate as many go to the spot in buses and there are also some who enter on horseback or afoot and these latter would not trip the counter.

Total visitation at the state's 156 separate parks during the past year has been reported at approximately 5,800,000.

WHILE it would be nice to have more such spots for enjoyment by the public, it must be considered that any extensive expansion of the program would entail heavy spending, and the park expense is already fairly large, \$1,195,000 having been budgeted for development, maintenance and operation this year.

IN view of the fact that the State Highway Commission has done a good job in selecting such park sites as we now have, and in developing and maintaining them, and that the state's financial condition does not warrant large outlays for expansion of the system at this time, we cannot see what benefit might be expected from the bill now before the legislature seeking to take the parks from the jurisdiction of the highway commission and place them under a new and separate commission to be set up.

Creation of any new commission would be certain to mean additional overhead expenses. This is particularly true with reference to this situation as the State Highway Department now does many things for the State Parks Department at actual cost. Among these are services of various kinds, including specialties in soil analysis, pavement construction, geological determinations, right of way acquisition, legal counsel and advice, design of buildings, roads, and other facilities, specification writing, laboratory technicians and the availability of a comprehensive engineering laboratory.

While it might be said that the State Highway Department could do the same things for a special park commission, the history of such relations points to the fact that every commission wants to control its operations in full, and sooner or later they will duplicate many of these facilities and services.

Many of the present state parks are, in reality, highway waysides and should be so classed, because they are intimately a part of the highway system—simply a widened right of way. Should a separate park commission take them over, conflict of jurisdiction is bound to arise.

The highway commission maintains a far-flung crew of workers with the skills and machinery required to maintain the roadways. These men are able to give a certain amount of time and attention to park maintenance with much less expense than would be the case should a new commission set up an entirely different crew.

IT is proposed to finance the parks entirely with road user funds. The proponents of a separate commission favor the spending of around three times the amount now being laid out. Since the road user funds are insufficient to care for current depreciation of highway facilities with current revenues, thereby causing an increase each year in critical highway deficiencies, the diversion of more funds to park purposes would have an extremely adverse effect upon the state's economy.

The highway commission has tentatively approved a five-year development and budgetary program for the state parks. The plan calls for, among other things, acquisition of some 720 additional acres to take care of increasing use.

The present operation and the planning for the future of Oregon's park system appear to be well in hand under the State Highway commission. We cannot see how more efficiency or economy would be obtained through a change of administration at this time.—E.C.F.

Mexican Labor Recommendations

As a result of recommendations developed at the Mexican farm labor meeting held recently in Dallas, Texas, the American Farm Bureau Federation's board of directors has voted to support changes and additions to the Mexican farm labor program which are expected to benefit both employer and employee.

The AFBF directors have announced that they favor the principle that individual employers should not be responsible for determining the citizenship or legal entry of workers. And the board also feels that present penalties for transporting aliens not properly admitted to the United States are adequate.

In the matter of wages the board favors the requirement that Mexican workers receive the same pay as domestic workers at the same time, for the same work, under the same conditions and in the same area.

ONE recommendation of special interest in this area would help farmers when hail or other disaster ends the need for the number of workers contracted. In such cases the board believes, the law should require only that the unneeded workers be returned to Mexico or to other eligible employers.—E.C.F.

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

The Electronic Oracle

To the Editor: Editor Ruhl's query (Feb. 6) "What Is Cooking, Anyway?" aptly illustrates the bewilderment of most of us when we contemplate Washington, D. C. We can all agree it has been too long a mess, where human brains are at a premium or totally absent, while common sense gave place to hysteria and government-by-confusion away back when.

Robert Jungk, in his "Tomorrow Is Already Here," has a delightful tale about what he calls "The Electronic Oracle." The Washington official calculator or electronic "brain" which was used to make the final decision to fire General McArthur. Amusing? Very. And instructive, but not surprising. The electronic oracle is no doubt an improvement, as a substitute for human brains, over other and more familiar devices; so perhaps it should not be condemned off-hand?

Formerly it was the custom (so we are informed) among our Washington bigshots to consult seers, fortune-tellers, swamis, ouija boards, crystal balls, and suchlike, for their answers. In fact, Baghdad-on-the-Potomac was always a goldmine for priests and priestesses of the occult. Which may explain many of the confusing policies so long extant.

The electronic calculator was designed as a time-saver in large business and public offices, and to compute problems in higher mathematics: a legitimate use. You throw in certain equations and formulas here, the electrodes go round-and-round and come out here with the answer. And there you are. At least you hope so. Because the machine cannot actually think—as many naive people believe—and the answers must depend entirely on the stuff fed into its maw. If the formulas you feed the machine be erroneous, the answers must be just as wrong.

When it comes to computing human factors, the machine is of course worthless. No matter what array of statistics or dope-by-guess-or-by-occultism you may feed the monster, the answers can be no better than your premises, and interpretations of the answers away off base. One may well ask: what's cookin'?

Government by oracle is not new in the world—it dates from ancient times. So long as we understand this, we need not fret too much about public paradoxes? It ain't good for the ulcers.

J. E. F., Ashland, (name on file).

Room Needed

To the Editor: The Medford Prop Nuts, a model airplane club, is in desperate need of a room to hold their bi-monthly business meetings. Ages of our present 10 members range from 9 to 39. We were wondering if some business or service organization had a room that we could use.

Model airplane building and flying is a useful hobby in that it not only keeps the boys off the streets and out of trouble, but is educational. Many aeronautical engineers and pilots start their careers by building models. I met an 18-year-old model flyer in Dallas, Texas, in 1951 whose salary from Chance Vaught Aircraft was \$400 per month. His work was building small scale models for wind tunnel tests.

The taxpayers of Jackson county have shown their willingness to take care of delinquent children by voting money to build a Juvenile Detention Home. Now if someone in Medford is interested in helping to prevent juvenile delinquency, we are sure they will open a room for the Medford Prop Nuts, a responsible group. Please phone Bob Ottoman, 2-7962.

Bob Ottoman, Route 2, Box 358, Medford, Ore.

Footlights Play Praised

To the Editor: While the Footlights are taking Mr. Allen's criticism of the play he didn't see, except for the first act, very nicely, I would like to add my comments about the play which I did see.

The play seems to have been written for England in 1933 but the situation might very easily come up here in these United States today and points up what very unhappy situations can occur and presents a situation which demands thought. Of course we much prefer plays that do not demand thought but amuse. So perhaps the question should be asked: whether we ought ever be asked to do any thinking when we go to the theater.

As to the acting of the play it was beautifully done. Each one of the actors stepped out of themselves and became the part he was playing. This is something that I never saw very well known actors do, such as George Arliss or Maude Adams. They should be very heartily congratulated.

Florence Dean, 265 Janney Lane, Medford, Ore.

Bulganin Respected By NATO Leaders for Military Know-How

Editor's note: The following special dispatch is a substitute for Charles M. McCann's foreign news commentary.

By WILBUR G. LANDREY
United Press Correspondent

Paris—(U.P.)—Western military leaders—the men who head the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—have considerable respect for the military know-how of Russia's new head man, Premier Nikolai Bulganin.

They know him as the man who was architect of the Soviet Union's highly trained armed force of more than 6,000,000 men—streamlined and strengthened since the end of World War II.

Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, supreme Allied commander in Europe, had no comment on Bulganin's appointment. But other officers acknowledged that he was following developments in Moscow "with the greatest possible interest."

He's No Soldier

While Bulganin is not himself a professional soldier, he was charged by the late Josef Stalin in 1947 with the post-war build-up of Soviet forces. Bulganin became minister of armed forces.

Today Western intelligence sources in Paris credited Bulganin with doing a good job in that post.

In his recent book, "NATO—The First Five Years, 1949-1954," Secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-

tion Lord Ismay placed Soviet strength, including East Germany and the East European satellites, at "over 6,000,000 men."

Ismay said: "The USSR has a ready-made spearhead for a rapid advance into Western Germany. This is composed of 22 Soviet divisions in East Germany. The bulk of these are armoured divisions with nearly a complete complement of tanks and self-propelled guns. Behind this spearhead there are an additional 60 Soviet divisions located in the Eastern European satellites and along the USSR border."

These are the forces built up by Bulganin.

Allies Outnumbered

In Western Europe Gruenther, according to a NATO spokesman, has "90 to 100 divisions in varying degrees of readiness."

The spokesman explained that that number includes reserve divisions and divisions earmarked for early mobilization.

Western military observers here expect a renewed emphasis on the military to be accompanied by a return to emphasis on heavy industry and armaments production, under Bulganin's premiership.

Now, it is believed here, the Soviet and satellite forces will be seen better supplied and the Russian stockpiles of arms will grow bigger.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In the critical area of the East China Sea, whose southern bastion is the island of Formosa, a powerful American fleet is evacuating 30,000 Chinese Nationalist soldiers and civilians from the Tachen islands.

On the nearby Asian mainland, a powerful Communist Chinese army is looking on. This army is reputed to have a fairly considerable air force. These islands are only a few minutes by plane from the Communist airfields.

Suppose some trigger-happy Communist general should order an attack on our fleet.

The result COULD be World War III.

IT'S improbable that such an attack will be ordered.

After all, we're EVACUATING the Nationalist Chinese from these Tachen islands. When they are evacuated, the Chinese Communists will take them over.

But it must irk them to see us getting away with the evacuation and thus saving 30,000 Nationalist Chinese from extinction.

And experience tells us there are trigger-happy Communists.

CHIANG KAI-SHEK isn't being any too helpful.

In a written statement issued at his Formosa headquarters, he says the decision to evacuate was a painful one but the latest military developments have made the Tachens lose their military value. He expresses gratitude for the aid given to the evacuation plan by the United States.

But—He says in his statement that the evacuation of the Tachens is the positive preparation for the counterattack against the Red mainland and he adds that the most important task of the Chinese Nationalist government and its military forces is to counter-attack the Communists and recover the Chinese mainland.

HE'S saving his face, of course.

He must know that as of now the comparative handful of Formosa Chinese can no more safely fly forth and reconquer the Chinese mainland than they can fly to the moon on the tail of a kite. The reconquest of the Chinese mainland could be accomplished now only with the full mili-

Is That So?

By Eugene Burns
Ranger-Naturalist

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, let's talk about the heart.

It weighs a little over 11 ounces and beats on the average of about 72 times a minute, pumping each day from 9 to 10 tons of blood through about 12,000 miles of vein and artery bloodways.

The circulation time required for the six quarts of blood to leave the heart and circulate through the body and return is about 60 seconds.

In one year, the heart pumps from 777,000 to more than 1,000,000 gallons.

600,000 gallons—enough to fill 97 to 200 tank cars of 8,000 gallons each.

From unborn babe to late adult, the heart beat changes drastically; the fetal heart trips along around 145 a minute; at seven years about 90; at adulthood from 70 to 80, give or take some 20 beats per minute.

In wild animals, the heart beat varies tremendously. Within a species, a small individual has a faster heartbeat than a large one, also, as with humans, it beats faster in the young.

A mouse, at rest, has a heartbeat of around 700 a minute—10 times as fast as man's; a jack-rabbit is around 205 (but a do-

tude than can be fostered in the public mind when income tax evasion is treated as an indiscretion not calling for substantial punishment. The honest citizen is tempted to follow in the footsteps of the income tax dodger.

Although the Balentine case involves a federal offense, the Oregon Supreme court has disciplinary powers over attorneys who practice in this state. It will be interesting to see what the Oregon Supreme court does to uphold the good name of the legal profession.

—The Dalles Chronicle

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