

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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HERB GREY, Advertising Manager; E. C. FERGUSON, Managing Editor; ERIC ALLEN, Jr., City Editor; HARRY CHIPMAN, Telegraph Editor; RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor; OLIVE STARCHER, Telegraph Editor; JACK JACKSON, Sunday Editor; GERALD LATHAM, Circulation Manager

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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. 15, 1945. Medford Rotary club's new barbershop quartet, composed of Kenneth Denman, Bob Wright, George Turney and Harvey Robertson, makes first appearance at meeting of club.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: There are signs the legislature will not be able to abate within its allotted time of 80 days.

20 YEARS AGO: Feb. 15, 1935. James Kubli of Washington school finds the first buttercup of spring and takes it to his teacher.

Attorney Joe F. Fiegel, new member of Medford city council, speaks before Medford Kiwanis club.

30 YEARS AGO: Feb. 15, 1925. Lower house of legislature passes bill giving Medford right to use Big Butte creek water.

John C. Mann, Medford, named to resolutions committee of State Retail Merchants association.

40 YEARS AGO: Feb. 15, 1915. Mail Tribune column entitled Lessons in Dancing by Miss Joan Sawyer declares "The lame duck" is one of the most graceful steps in the aeroplane waltz.

From the Local and Personal column: Tramps, with the advent of pleasant weather, have taken to the banks of Bear creek, and Sunday their camp fires burned along the stream.

What's the Answer? (Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Russian influence in the U. N. is decreasing, increasing, or staying about the same, according to U.S. delegate Lodge? 2. Of the five "basic" farm products, one, two, three, four, or all five have been selling recently at below parity?

TRADITION-BOUND: Meriden, Conn. (U.P.)—City officials were offered a variety of colors, including lavender, green and yellow, when they ordered their new fire engine. They stuck to red.

More Wishful Thinking

A General Wu, interviewed in US News & World Report has a new idea for clearing the Reds out of China and restoring Chiang Kai-shek.

No. 1: He would have Chiang reform and broadcast the details of his reformation to the Chinese people to-wit:

No more corruption, no more landlordism, restoration of a true and honest democracy in the Celestial kingdom.

No. 2: Chiang with his 600,000 troops conscript enough Formosans to bring the total to a million or more, and then with the aid of the U.S. fleet and air force invade the Chinese mainland.

WHAT would be the result?

According to General Wu, an uprising of the Chinese masses in support of their democratic liberator, extermination of the hated Red oppressors, no resumption of the landlordism and corruption by Chiang and a happy return of China to the society of free and independent nations, released from Russian dominance, and in league with the West.

THAT certainly "listens well" as the saying goes.

And one serious obstacle to the return of Chiang Kai-shek would be avoided. That would be need of U.S. troops, U.S. action being confined solely to the sea and air where this country is strongest.

For as far as anything in this uncertain world can be certain, no one in this country, as of today at least, would ok an all-out land war with China.

In other words the job of liberation would be done by Chinese, Chiang's million-men army, his air force, and the millions of Chinese civilians who would rise to his aid the moment he landed.

BUT would they?

General Wu thinks so. And while he parted with Chiang Kai-shek on the issue of corruption he is all for him if he will clean house and return to his original democratic principles. But this reformation Mr. Wu insists must come FIRST. For it was corruption, landlordism and general disregard of the people's interests, that led to the communist victory and the forced exile of Chiang to Formosa, in the first place.

WELL there is the Wu program very briefly.

And judging by the prominence given it by U.S. News and World Report that popular magazine at least must believe there may be SOMETHING to it.

Well we hope there is. If with only the aid of the 7th fleet and part of the US airforce, Chiang Kai-shek could return to the Chinese mainland and drive out the Chinese Reds, supported only by his own people, that would, we believe, suit the administration and a majority of the American people just fine.

THE only fly in the ointment we can discern is we doubt if anyone in any position of power or influence in this country with the possible exception of Senator Knowland of California, believes it.

It is we fear just more wishful thinking—only on the part of the Chinese instead of the "Yanks" this time.—R.W.R.

Joe versus Ike

The campaign to secure the renomination of President Eisenhower is starting early.

Hardly a day passes now that some prominent Republican doesn't announce that the President will agree to run again, and no one can beat him.

There is a reason for this. For the anti-Eisenhower campaign started even earlier. In fact it was started the day Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin attacked the President and apologized to the American people for ever asking them to support him.

That this was no sudden impulse, generated in passing pique and anger, was clear then to those who were on the inside of the plot to "get Ike." Joe doesn't act on impulse, he is a calculating and shrewd politician.

The recent anti-Eisenhower gathering in Chicago on Lincoln's birthday, high-lighted by another left-handed attack on the President and his policies, by the Wisconsin Senator, removed all doubt, however.

ALREADY conservative and peace loving members of the GOP are urging party unity in the face of increasing Democratic activity and next year's convention and election.

It is doubtful, however, if pleas for harmony are effective. For when it comes to vindictive nursing of a personal grudge, the Wisconsin Senator has few rivals. It is, and always has been, "rule or ruin" with Joe, and unless all signs fail, will be this time.

In fact before very long the Republicans are, without doubt, going to have to make a choice—for some a difficult one—whether they are going to be for Ike or Joe, they will no longer be able to be for both.

It will be interesting and instructive to see how the various members and factions line up, when the final roll-call is sounded!—R.W.R.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

Memphis, Tenn. (U.P.)—Mrs. Alma Hamilton tunneled a 75x40 foot basement under her house, doing most of the work herself over a 20-year period. She had to start the excavation with a butcher knife because there wasn't room under the house to use a large tool.

FREE TREES

San Jose, Calif. (U.P.)—When it comes to civic beauty, the city fathers here are giving it away. Any residents who want free trees for the sidewalk parking strips in front of their properties can choose from 14 varieties and the city will deliver the trees free of charge.

Patterson, Langlie Draft Plans Seen as Move by Administration To Regain Control of Congress

By A. ROBERT SMITH, Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — A planned "draft" of the Republican governor of Oregon and Washington to run for the Senate next year is being seen here as essentially the first move on the part of the Eisenhower administration to regain control for the GOP of the Congress it lost in last fall's elections.

These Pacific Northwest states are two of the six in which crucial senatorial contests that could

go either Republican or Democratic will be up for decision. The others are Missouri (Sen. Jennings, Democrat, is the incumbent), Ohio (Bender, Republican), New York (Lehman, Democrat), and Connecticut (Bush) Republican.

Hard-Fought Campaigns Seen

Around these incumbents and Sens. Wayne Morse and Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) the tightest and most hard fought election campaigns of 1956 are expected to be waged. For while there are other Senate seats in

contests, such as that of Walker, Idaho Republican, these six are the states in which both parties recognize the strongest possibility of winning seats they do not now have or losing seats they do have. The one-vote margin by which the Democrats now control the Senate is at stake.

If the reported recruitment effort by President Eisenhower to get Gov. Paul Patterson to run against Morse and Washington's Gov. Arthur B. Langlie to run against Magnuson is true, it is generally regarded on Capitol Hill as the shrewdest of moves, even if a bit early to be leaked publicly.

Patterson's Name Mentioned

Virtually every Republican to whom this reporter has talked here since the recent election mentions Gov. Patterson's name first when the question is raised, "Who is going to run against Wayne Morse?" Yet without exception, there follows an explanation that no one has any inkling that the governor, midway through a four-year term at the Salem state house, wants to run for the Senate so soon after being elected to the governorship.

In Democratic circles the hope has been expressed that the GOP standard bearer will be Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay, popular as a governor but, they feel, now politically vulnerable as head of a department in which they claim the "give-away" of government natural resources has been centered.

Although the results of the last election, in which two Democrats were elected to Congress from Oregon with Morse's campaign backing, tended to boost Morse's political strength as evaluated by political observers, it is also pointed out that the senator never really has had a tough election fight on his hands since first elected to office.

One Question Mark

There is one question mark in the minds of some oldtimers here about the political wisdom of the President taking any hand whatsoever in the selection of party candidates for Congress. Some recall that President Roosevelt got burnt in such an endeavor, that President Truman couldn't sway an election even in his home state of Missouri.

What these experiences of past Presidents may mean in the context of the tremendous popularity President Eisenhower continues to hold as he heads toward the end of his first four-year term in office is a riddle for the cracker barrel artists to answer.

But few here seriously question that Eisenhower, however reluctantly, will again head the GOP ticket in '56—a consideration of no small importance to Patterson or any other Republican who may emerge as Morse's next challenger.

Dead line Sunday Classified in at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 3:30 previous day

Matter of Fact

HALFWAY TO HEAVEN

North Tachen Island—One of the casualties of the latest, free Asia is a place called Halfway to Heaven.



Joseph Alsop

Halfway to Heaven perch, or rather used to be perched, on the cratered summit of the highest peak of North Tachen Island, some 1,500 feet above the surrounding, nourishing sea.

It began a little more than a century ago, when the first harsh impact of the modern world on ancient China produced the Taiping rebellion, which in turn produced a fearful famine in Chekiang province. Fleeing the famine, a handful of inhabitants of the Chekiang town of Wan Ling found a safe refuge on this island crag and stayed to build a village, or rather two villages, for the lesser of the two adjoining craters contains Little Halfway to Heaven, and the larger, Big Halfway to Heaven.

For five generations, sons succeeded fathers, gradually clawing new terraces from the crater walls and naked mountainside for their plots of vegetables and sweet potatoes, gradually adding vessel to vessel in Halfway to Heaven's fleet of fishing sampans until there were 130 sampans owned among the hundred families of peak dwellers.

The bitter poverty of the original refugees thus slowly gave way to a kind of crude prosperity. Long low houses of chinked stone, with finely carved, boldly curved ridgepoles were built to cling to the crater sides. A little temple to the Taoist earth god, lings gave the villagers some one to pray to when times were hard. The young men fished all year. The elders, the children and the women tilled the terraces.

With salt and cloth from the big settlement on South Tachen Island, with their fish and sweet potatoes and vegetables, with a rare treat of meat from the pigs, chickens, rabbits and goats they also kept, the people of Halfway to Heaven were not ill-content. But for a hundred years no outsider ever saw Halfway to Heaven, except the people from Door of the Wind Hill, the village on the other side of the crag, and the huge, superbly winged fish eagle that had his nest on the cliff below the village graves.

THEN President Eisenhower "unleashed Chiang Kai-shek" and the American government pressured the Chinese Nationalist government into occupying the Tachens by force. So the soldiers came, barracks were built, and Halfway to Heaven briefly tasted an unfamiliar uneasy prosperity. And then again President Eisenhower released Chiang Kai-shek, and the American government pressured the Chinese Nationalists into abandoning the Tachens; and that was the end to Halfway to Heaven.

In the Chinese way, the end came without undue lamentation. The villagers talked it over and decided that what they had heard of communism from their fellow fisherfolk from the mainland was ugly enough to justify a move. The government said it would help. And so, on the afternoon before the move was to be made, no one was weeping except the wife of the elder of the Leng family. She was deaf and could not read, and she wept because she had grasped that a move impending but no one could tell her why or where.

The elder of Leng, a little, old gnarled, toothless man like a withered root, with what must really be the last queue on any Chinese head, was ignoring his weeping wife. He and the elder of Chu and the young men and boys of Little Halfway to Heaven were sitting in the pale, watery sun in the village center, while the women finished their packing. Yes, they said, they were leaving. Yes, it was hard to go, but they did not want to stay. They had swept the graves one last time, and now they were ready.

It was the same in Big Halfway to Heaven, where's the richest of the place's richest

By Joseph Alsop

man, Cheng who owned three whole sampans in the fleet that used to sail from the foot of Knife Back Mountain. He had opened capital stored up to open a restaurant when the soldiers came, and his Chinese crullers and hot soya bean milk brought him in the magnificent cash profit of two dollars a day. But Cheng too was leaving without reluctance.

As dusk fell, the village headman, Lo The Clever, came back from organizing the evacuation of all North Tachen Island—Kwan Yins Village, Bare Rock, the East Village, and the rest—which were all to be led by Lo. He had his aged mother to calm and his household to organize, for Lo The Clever is a widower. So he let his deputy, Hung give the movement orders to the chiefs of the "Sections" of fifty or sixty people into which the village, by immemorial Chinese custom, is administratively divided.

THE meeting took place in the upper room of the house of Liang, a big house, for the Liang clan was the largest in Halfway to Heaven. A score of men, young and old, stood around the table, their faces work hardened, their black peasant's clothes worn, making a picture fit to be painted by a Chinese Breughel in the yellow light of a guttering tallow candle. Hung read the movement order in a brisk singsong.

Departure would be at nine the next morning. Each section leader would be responsible for his section. Each person would be allowed to carry 100 pounds of personal belongings if he could manage that much.

There were quick questions; How about bad weather at sea, from a weatherwise fisherman; how about pregnant women, would they get medical care on the ships, from a young father-son to-be; and so on. Hung dealt with the questions intelligently. And then everyone went home for a great feast of all the food that could not be sold to the soldiers, was not worth carrying, and was no longer worth scrimping against a poor season.

Before dawn the next morning, the young men of the village set off down the mountain-side, each balancing two enormous packs on his back. At first Lo had a little trouble forming the line to his taste.

Then the last shout was given. Little Liang marched proudly forward. Children shouldered the babies. Men and women, young or old, hoisted up their heavy packs. Even the old bounteous grannies carried something. But none complained. And so the slowly moving line wound its way up over the chater lip and down the long miles of fearfully curving fearfully mud slimed road to Yellow One Beach where the transports awaited them.

An old nanny goat and her two kids, which had somehow escaped the pot, was being chased by two soldiers when the last of those who had made Halfway to Heaven a living breathing place of habitation cast his last backward glance into the familiar hollow on the mountain summit. The great fish eagle still magnificently volplaned in the cloudy sky above. But the doorways of the houses were dark and deserted. The muddy lanes were strewn with the rubbish of departure. Halfway to Heaven was dead—killed by forces it did not understand, utterly destroyed because it had been briefly swept, by what strange processes and chances, into the fearful vortex of great events.

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Latter Day Saints Leader Heads for Home

San Francisco (U.P.)—David O. McKay, president of the Church of Latter-day Saints of Jesus Christ, left here today aboard a United Airlines plane for Salt Lake City, the last stage of a 45,000-mile tour of the church's South Pacific missions. McKay's plane took off at 7 a.m. from the International Airport, and was to have arrived at Salt Lake City at 10:10 a.m. (PST).

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Jitter news: The Chinese Communists are massing a fleet of motorized junks off the Nationalist island of Matsu. This concentration of more than 70 junks near the mainland port of Fochow may herald a new crisis in Formosa Strait.

WHY? The Red Chinese are putting a problem up to us. They are saying, in effect (whether they mean it or not): "We're going to TAKE this Nationalist-held island of Matsu. What are you going to do about it?"

WHAT ARE we going to do about it? I wouldn't know. But I do know that it calls for a decision on our part. It must be the RIGHT decision. We can't afford any more wrong decisions in Asia.

YOU'D better get out your map. This island of Matsu is one of a fringe of islands just off the China mainland. It is held by the Nationalist Chinese. Fully defended with artillery and planes it could CORK UP the Red Chinese port of Fochow.

The other danger-spot island of Quemoy (also Nationalist-held) could similarly cork up the important Red Chinese port of Amoy.

LET'S now put the shoe on the other foot. Suppose the Communists should attempt to seize the Farallones, just outside our great port of San Francisco. (They're too small, of course, to be effectively fortified, but they will serve as an example.) Suppose the Communists

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.

Boosts Peace Book

To the Editor: We think the nearest approach to the eternal question of solving world peace is in a copyright 1945-1946 little book, by Emery Reves, printed by Harper & Brothers of New York and London, titled, "The Anatomy Of Peace," with an open letter to the American people about this book, signed by twenty leading people, including former supreme court justice, three U.S. Senators, clergymen, professors of law, publishers, scientists and authors.

Only a scholar like Mr. Reves is able to assemble such a mass of crystal clear logic giving answers that would lead to a basic solution for world peace.

On the 293 pages in three parts of understandable simple language the reader will be amply rewarded both in time spent and knowledge that there is given the true fundamentals and much sought after information that is thought promulgating and lucid enough to make one want to read other publications by the same author.

Bert Kissingner, 520 Boardman st., Medford, Ore.

should attempt to seize Santa Catalina island—which, properly fortified, could cork up the port of Los Angeles.

WHAT would we do in that event? WE'D GO TO WAR!

FORMOSA is another story. It is now the refuge and the sanctuary of the Chinese who were driven off the Chinese mainland by the Communists. Its historical record of ownership is highly complicated. We announced long ago that it is one of our strategic outposts in the Far East.

We have a good case for sitting tight on Formosa. But if we encourage the Nationalist Chinese to sit tight on Matsu and Quemoy, we won't have so good a case.

We know WE'D GO TO WAR if the Communists undertook to seize the Farallones and Catalina.

It seems to me that if we throw all our strength back of the Nationalist Chinese in Matsu and Quemoy we'll be PROVOKING WAR with the Red Chinese on the mainland.

IN THE long and critical conflict with Communism that lies ahead of us, it seems to me there are two things we MUST keep in mind.

1. We must neither run FROM trouble nor run INTO trouble. 2. We must neither SEEK a fight nor AVOID a fight. Backing the Nationalist Chinese in Matsu and Quemoy islands looks to me like SEEKING A FIGHT.

DAV District 5 Representatives Meet in Medford

Members of District 5, Disabled American Veterans, met at the Medford Moose hall last week end, with District Commander Robert T. Finton, Klamath Falls, presiding.

Among others attending were State Commander Ben Robinson, Grants Pass, and Mrs. Louise Heiden, Roseburg, state auxiliary commander.

The group, which included representatives from Klamath Falls, Medford, Grants Pass, Oakland and Roseburg, went on record favoring a change in figuring the fee for life members, to permit older veterans of World War II to get such a membership at a reduced rate, and protesting discontinuance of treatment for non-service connected psychoneurotic patients in Veterans Administration hospitals.

Groups from Miss Pat's School of the Dance, Colleen Hope's dance studio, and Eve Prentice's accordion studio furnished entertainment, and were presented with certificates of merit and appreciation by the department commander for their work with disabled veterans.

Medford's Mayor Earl Miller attended a portion of the meeting.

Indianapolis (U.P.)—Firemen who rushed to extinguish an automobile fire got a surprise when they lifted the hood. No motor.

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