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Feature stories on a local woman building her own house and a reporter's quest for a photo of white swans appear on Page 12 of today's Mail Tribune.

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Weather

FORECAST — Continued fair today. Increasing cloudiness tonight and Monday. High today 55, low tonight 25.

Temp.
Highest yesterday
Lowest yesterday

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MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1955

49th Year No. 287

Airliner With 16 Aboard Lost In Blizzard Over New Mexico

Midwest Lashed by Savage Storm; 19 Reported Killed

Snowslide Hits Bus; Passengers Escape

Chicago — (U.P.) — A savage winter storm abated Saturday after dumping a blanket of snow on the Rockies and Great Plains, marooning scores of motorists.

At least 19 persons were dead in the widespread storm area, which spread eastward Saturday to the Mississippi and southward into Texas.

In addition, 16 persons were missing on a trans world airliner, more than 10 hours overdue in snowy weather. The plane was en route from Albuquerque to Santa Fe. With darkness having closed in, there appeared little chance that the plane's fate would be known before Sunday at the earliest. The plane was flying over mountainous country.

Mailman Safe

A rural mailman, Charlie Owens, who had been missing in a mountainous section of Colorado near Craig since Friday, reported in safe late yesterday. He had been marooned at a lonely highway maintenance station, unable to send out word of his whereabouts.

Fog blanketed the New Orleans area and a plane carrying three men from Indiana was down in Lake Pontchartrain.

Snowdrifts at Aspen, Colo., were so deep that skiers had to rescue a St. Bernard dog.

The storm struck its most vigorous blows in Colorado and Wyoming Friday and buffeted Nebraska and South Dakota Saturday.

Bus Driver Orville Ramsey and his seven passengers narrowly escaped death on a mountain highway between Durango and Montrose, Colo., when a snowslide hit the bus broadside and shoved it 75 feet off the road.

The vehicle came to rest on a pile of rubble from an abandoned mine. On either side of the mine dump, 25 feet wide, there was a sheer drop of 1,500 feet to the floor of the Animas river canyon.

Three other buses were stalled in Colorado and Wyoming but passengers managed to stay comfortable until relief vehicles shuttled them to railroad stations.

Aboard one of the buses, 19 persons were stranded for more than 24 hours at the continental divide bus station on U.S. 30 before snow plows rescued them and led them into Rawlins, Wyo.

Three Arrested in Jewel Theft Case

San Francisco — (U.P.) — Fast-moving police Saturday arrested three ex-convicts on charges of committing Friday's \$300,000 jewel robbery. One of the suspects implicated a prominent credit dentist and a steel broker as the "fence" in the crime.

Only a comparatively small amount of the stolen gems were recovered from the ex-convicts. Police believed the bulk of the small uncut diamonds were placed in a bank safe deposit box which, because of a time lock, cannot be opened until 8 a. m. Monday.

The dentist, Dr. James Brumback, 55, fainting when confronted by police in his Market street office.

Capt. of Inspectors James English said Brumback later admitted putting a "quantity of diamonds" from the robbery in a safe deposit box at the Bank of America.

Weather Forces Delay In Nevada Atomic Test

Las Vegas, Nev. — (U.P.) — The Atomic Energy commission remained the prisoner of the weather Saturday and was forced to postpone until next week all further nuclear tests in the week-old 1955 testing series.

Continued winter winds from the north set up such a potential hazard for radiation fall - out over populated areas that the AEC called off Saturday's scheduled "Big Shot" until next Tuesday, Washington's birthday.

Sports Bulletins

Medford's Black Tornado lashed Ashland high 82 to 57 here last night for its 10th consecutive Southern Oregon Conference basketball victory. The Tornado had period advantages of 21 to 12, 38 to 30 and 61 to 40. Larry Copple of Medford was top scorer of the evening with 20. Gene Parent canned 16 for Ashland.

Pullman, Wash. — (U.P.) — The Washington State college Cougars squeaked by Oregon State college here last night, 68 to 66, to hand the Beavers their first loss of the 1955 Northern Division basketball season.

Seattle — (U.P.) — University of Oregon's Ducks clinched at least a tie for second place in the Northern Division basketball race last night by defeating the Washington Huskies, 60 to 59.

Berkeley, Calif. — (U.P.) — UCLA's Bruins defeated California, 84 to 76, here last night to clinch the Southern Division basketball title. The Bruins will meet Oregon State for the Pacific Coast Conference crown.

Crazer 54, Phoenix 42.

Eagle Point, 58, Illinois Valley, 48.

Portland State 51, SOC 39.

County Receives \$815,047 Check in O&C Disbursement

Jackson county treasurer's office Saturday morning received a check for \$815,047.88.

The payment from the Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management O and C account represented the county's share of a \$5,171,623.59 disbursement from the Oregon and California controlled land fund. Checks were issued to 18 Oregon counties by the Treasury Department, ending a land dispute which had existed 39 years. The fund had been in dispute since 1916.

Funds Not Earmarked

County Commissioner L. G. Mortland stated Saturday that the payment to this county has not been earmarked for any specific use. He said that it will be up to the budget committee to determine how the money will be allocated. The committee, composed of three members of the county court and three lay members, is scheduled to convene on or about March 15.

It is expected that some of the funds will go to road construction and equipment for that purpose.

The check was deposited in a local bank Saturday to draw interest at 1 1/4 per cent for six months.

Payment to the counties was made under Public Law 426 passed last year by the 83rd Congress. The legislation was pushed by Oregon Senator Guy Cordon and Congressman Harris Ellsworth and was known as the Cordon-Ellsworth controlled lands bill.

From Timber Sales

The funds are from sales of timber and have been held in the treasury awaiting settlement of the dispute. Argument began when Congress declared that the Oregon and California railroad had violated terms of its land grant and title was revested in the United States under the Department of Interior management. The Forest Service under the Department of Agriculture maintained that certain of the revested lands came under its jurisdiction while Interior said they were part of the original O and C grant.

The disbursement requirement brought into the distribution computation not only the 474,000 acres of O and C lands in the indemnity strip within the national forests but some 232,000 acres of other O and C lands which were not assessed as of 1915. These lands had not been surveyed before that time.

Oregon Congratulated For Oppenheimer Stand

Eugene — (U.P.) — Irving Dillard, editor of the editorial page of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, congratulated the Oregon State Board of Higher Education Friday for sticking to its plans to invite Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer to speak at three Oregon colleges this spring.

Searchers Called In; Have Little Hope of Survivors

Plane in Distress Reported by Indians

Santa Fe, N. M. — (U.P.) — An airliner carrying 16 persons on a 20 minute flight from Albuquerque to Santa Fe disappeared in a snow storm Saturday over rugged north central New Mexico. Searchers said last night there was little hope any of the 16 survived.

Upwards of 50 planes and hundreds of men searched the area all day for some sign of the plane without success. All were called in for the night except for one plane which was to search for possible flares and campfires. The temperature was expected to drop to five degrees Saturday night.

Blizzard Blowing

The twin-engine TransWorld Airlines Martin Skyliner took off at 7:02 a.m. MST with 13 passengers and a crew of three for the 60 mile hop to Santa Fe. At that time the tailend of a blizzard was blowing light snow over the area.

Group after group of volunteers and Civil Air Patrol ground parties streamed through Santo Domingo Indian Pueblo at sundown, shivering from freezing cold, and living evidence of the suffering from exposure any survivors of the plane would be undergoing.

None of those returning reported any sign of the plane.

Indians Saw Planes

Several Indians in the area told of seeing a huge plane circling the area as if in distress and two told the CAP they heard a "violent explosion" soon after seeing the plane disappear to the southwest.

Pete Quintana, a rancher, observed a plane circling his home southwest of the Domingo three times, each time disappearing briefly in a heavy snow, only to return as if searching for a place to land. He said the plane's wheels were down.

Medford Man Dies In Auto Accident

Roseburg — (U.P.) — A Medford man was fatally injured Saturday afternoon when the car he was driving, plunged over an embankment near the summit of Canyon mountain, about 30 miles south of here on Highway 99.

Raymond Leslie Johnson, 26, of 819 South Central ave., Medford was found pinned under his car shortly after noon. He was rushed to the Forest Glen clinic at Canyonville where he died at 1:40 p.m.

State police were unable to determine when the accident occurred, but thought that Johnson had been pinned beneath the car for some time. Officer Fred Jungwirth said it appeared that Johnson had fallen asleep. The body was removed to the Ganz mortuary at Myrtle Creek.

Johnson was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson, 819 South Central ave., according to officials at Conger-Morris Funeral home, who are in charge of local arrangements.



HEADS DOWN — U. S. soldiers huddle in their six-foot deep trench where they witnessed an atomic detonation about 4000 yards away in first test of the 1955 series.

Coty Picks Radical Socialist To Form French Government

Paris — (U.P.) — French president Rene Coty Saturday asked Radical Socialist Edgar Faure, who last month challenged a leftwing newspaper editor to a duel, to attempt to form a new French government.

Four, right-hand man of deposed premier Pierre Mendes-France is the fourth man Coty has asked to try to solve the governmental crisis which started 14 days ago when the National Assembly ousted Mendes-France.

Confers with Coty

The Radical Socialist leader conferred with Coty for one hour and 25 minutes at the Elysee palace. He said he gave the president his tentative acceptance of the task of premier-designate. He began immediate consultations to determine whether he can form a government acceptable to the National Assembly.

The 46-year-old Faure was premier of France for 40 days in 1952 before he fell while trying to push the annual National budget through the assembly.

Last month he felt slighted by an article in the leftist weekly Express and challenged 31-year-old editor Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber to a duel. He was taking determined target practice in a local shooting gallery before Mendes-France cooled him down and the matter was settled amicably.

Coty turned to Faure after leaders of the 11 political groups in the assembly failed in an extraordinary session to agree on a premier-designate.

Bulletin

Anchorage, Alaska — (U.P.) — A two-man Air Force Paramedic team radioed Saturday night that there were no survivors of the crash of a Navy Neptune bomber on Mount Susitna, 35 miles northwest of here.

BOMBERS SINK 20 RED SHIPS

Democrats Plot Drive To Cut All Taxes Effective January 1

Committee Delays Decision on Plans For Cutting Budget

Belton Warns Group Against Quick Vote

Salem — (U.P.) — Sen. Howard Belton (R-Canby), co-chairman of the joint Ways and Means committee of the Oregon senate, Saturday deferred until Monday a vote on a budget-slashing plan proposed by Sen. Gene Brown, (R-Grants Pass).

Brown proposed that the joint committee and its subcommittees adopt as their policy on budget requests cuts equivalent to 10 per cent of the governor's budget to achieve a savings of \$20,000,000.

Laden With Dynamite

Though the plan, which Belton considered too laden with dynamite to vote on without a second thought, would not solve the problem of an anticipated \$45,000,000 deficit, it would relieve the mounting pressure on Oregon's long vacation from a state property tax.

Sen. John Merrifield (R-Portland) moved to amend Brown's proposal to make it an arbitrary, across-the-board cut of 10 per cent on all budgets drawing from the general fund.

Both the original motion and Merrifield's amendment were laid on the table until Monday morning, when Belton warned "this is a very serious step you are proposing and it's something you're going to have to live with for the next two years."

Might Be Perilous

Brown conceded that approval of his policy might be politically perilous for committee members but he said he believed it was an economy step the voters would ultimately appreciate.

Brown objected strenuously to Merrifield's amendment. He said an arbitrary cut, across the board, would reduce the Ways and Means committee's work to a stenographic job of retyping the budget with no deliberate process to temper economy with justice. The aim of the motion was to furnish a goal that might not be achieved, but would furnish a working policy, he said.

SEATO Defense Treaty Ratified at Manila

Manila — (U.P.) — The SEATO nations ratified their collective defense treaty of Sept. 8, 1954, in a simple 23-minute ceremony Saturday.

Carlos P. Garcia, vice-president and foreign secretary, began receiving the instruments of ratification from diplomatic representatives in the main hall of the new Department of Foreign Affairs building at 11 a.m.

The powers presented their documents of ratification in alphabetical order — Australia, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom of Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States.

Man Observes Funeral Anniversary in Jail

Tenafly, N. J. — (U.P.) — James Scully observed the first anniversary of his own funeral a year ago in jail Saturday.

A body in a New York City lodging house fire was identified as that of Scully by members of his family last year, and the funeral was in progress when he turned up last Feb. 18.

Friday night he was arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct and was sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Nine Local Groups Aiding in Sunday Heart Fund Drive

Heart Sunday volunteers from nine women's organizations will seek donations to the Heart fund at 2 o'clock this afternoon. It is estimated that most Medford families will be contacted for their contributions to the local and national crusade against heart disease by 4 p.m.

Miss Laura York, Heart Sunday chairman, has expressed confidence that the extensive two hour, house-to-house collection will exceed Heart fund contributions from the Medford area in previous years. This will be the community's first Heart Sunday campaign.

Start at 2 P.M.

Each worker has been assigned to call on between 15 and 25 families, and members of the volunteer group will start ringing doorbells at 2 p.m.

Each volunteer will identify herself and present a brown manila envelope, in which a contribution may be enclosed and sealed by the donor before returning it to the worker. It will not be necessary to disclose the amount contributed unless the donor desires a receipt for income tax deduction purposes.

If requested by the donor, this information will be included on the "thank you" slip which is left by the volunteer.

Will Leave Envelopes

At homes where occupants are away, envelopes will be left so that contributions may be mailed to the postmaster, and these in turn will be forwarded to the Heart association.

At the present time, Medford Heart association leads the state since it already has received \$520 in campaign contributions. Of this amount, \$100 was given from the Elizabeth McGlone memorial fund by her husband, John Camarata, Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Camarata suffered a heart attack in Medford and later died after returning to her Georgia home. Three other local contributions in memory of Mrs. Camarata totaled \$70.

Washington — (U.P.) — The Federal Housing Administration announced Saturday that all builders applying for FHA-insured loans henceforth must fill out two forms designed to flush those who allegedly have made illegal "windfall" profits in the past.

\$20 Slash for Each Taxpayer Included In Surprise Plans

Added Reduction Seen For Each Dependent

Washington — (U.P.) — Speaker Sam Rayburn announced Saturday that House Democrats will launch a drive Monday to cut everyone's income taxes, effective next Jan. 1.

He said the Democrats, now in majority control of congress, will back legislation to provide each taxpayer with a cut of at least \$20, with an additional \$20 reduction for each dependent.

Jumps Gun on Ike

The surprise announcement jumped the gun on President Eisenhower on the tax relief question which is bound to be a main

Washington — (U.P.) — Here is how the tax cut proposed by House Democrats would work: The cut would be the same amount of dollars for all classes of taxpayers, regardless of size of income.

Percentage-wise, it would be equal to a 100 per cent cut in the lowest bracket (those whose tax now is no greater than the amount of the cut), ranging down to a reduction of less than one per cent in the highest bracket.

Taxpayer with no dependents — \$20. Married couple — \$40. Married couple, one child — \$60. Married couple, two children — \$80. Married couple, three children — \$100. Married couple, four children — \$120.

Issue in 1956 election year politics. Mr. Eisenhower said in his budget message earlier this year that no tax cuts are warranted this year but he "hoped" to be able to recommend some next year.

Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey restated the administration stand in a Chicago speech Saturday. He said the administration favors tax relief in "the long run" but "not this year."

Rayburn made his announcement after meeting privately with democratic members of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee. It represented a sudden switch in democratic strategy. Only last week key Democrats told reporters they had about given up hope for early tax cuts because of the Formosa crisis.

Planned as Amendment

Rayburn said the democratic plan for across-the-board income tax cuts will be offered as an amendment to administration-requested legislation extending for one year the corporation and excise (sales) taxes due to drop April 1.

The committee will begin hearings on this bill Monday.

The tax relief proposed by the Democrats would cost the government about \$1,400,000,000 a year. Rayburn pointed out, however, that if the cuts take effect next Jan. 1 the revenue loss during the current 1956 fiscal year would be only half that much, or about \$700,000,000. The fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

West Skeptical of Red Atomic Plans

United Nations, N. Y. — (U.P.) — The United States and Britain received with skepticism Saturday Russia's latest proposal for destruction of nuclear weapons, but nonetheless decided to send in a top team of negotiators to meet the Reds at next week's disarmament conference.

Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., the United Nations and Anthony Nutting for Britain will have a chance to review the Russian proposal with Russia's Andrei Gromyko when they meet in London next Friday.

The surprise stature of the Russian delegate was a factor in the decision to have the United States and Britain send top representatives to sit in on the London conference.

Convoy Carrying Chinese Troops Hit Near Invasion Base

41 Craft Destroyed In Two-Day Period

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.) — Nationalist bombers sank or damaged 20 more Communist ships Saturday, trapping a Red troop convoy for the second time in 24 hours near the invasion-buildup base of Taiwan.

Many of the 20 ships hit Saturday were heavily loaded with troops as were the 21 Red warships and a submarine sunk or damaged Friday in an air-sea battle off Taishan, 120 miles north of Formosa.

Claims 41 Ships Hit

The Nationalist Air Force now claims a total of 41 ships sunk or damaged in Friday's air-sea battle and Saturday's bombing and strafing. The Air Force also claims to have bombed and sunk a Communist submarine off Taishan Friday.

The air force communique Saturday said only three of 23 Red warcraft caught near Taishan escaped into the open sea. The other 20 were bombed and riddled with machinegun and cannon fire in the attempt to put new Red troops on Taishan.

Little Tai island lies between Nanchi and Matsuo islands, two of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's island outposts and there are growing indications that the Reds' next strike will be against one of these two islands.

21 Planes Destroyed

Nationalist air and sea forces Friday destroyed 21 Red warcraft in a daylong battle off Taishan. The air force claimed it bombed and machinegunned a submarine which may have been Russian, but the Defense Ministry would not confirm or deny the report.

The Communist fleet hit Saturday was on its way from the port of Foochow on the Red-held mainland to Taishan from which the Reds would have to mount their invasion of either Nanchi or Matsuo, military sources said.

The Reds apparently have been able to push through reinforcements to Taishan despite the Nationalist attacks. Two weeks ago the Communist garrison was estimated at 600 men, today Nationalist sources said there were some 2,000 Red troops on the little island.

Victory Predicted For Tariff Cuts

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.) Saturday predicted victory in the Senate for President Eisenhower's tariff-cutting foreign trade program which has been approved by the House.

The veteran senator, who has steered several trade measures through the Senate in past years, conceded there would be a sharp fight to restrict the program. However, he anticipated final approval without changes.

"I don't think it will be as hard fought as it was in the House," George told a reporter. George now is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations committee. Formerly, he was chairman of the Finance committee which handles such reciprocal trade legislation.

The House voted 295 to 110 to approve the overall administration program. However, the key test on the controversial measure came on a 206-199 vote by which the House rejected a strong bid by protectionist-minded congressmen to trim the president's tariff-cutting powers.

Wire-Tap Arrests Made in New York

New York — (U.P.) — Three men were charged Saturday with setting up an elaborate telephone tapping service on Manhattan's swank east side, home of kings of industry, finance and society.

Police said they knew of only that the three had the equipment. They were tapped but ment and organization to listen in on thousands of conversations.