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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
March 3, 1945
(It was Saturday)

Rogue River High school basketball team, led by Junior Dimick with 10 points, defeats Merrill, 20 to 12, to win right to play Arlington for berth in state tournament.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: March came in Thursday without impersonating any member of the animal kingdom.

20 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1935
(It was Sunday)

P. O. Denson marks second anniversary of active management of Medford hotel.

Moving pictures showing in Medford include Norma Shearer, Fredric March, and Charles Laughton, in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street," at the Roxy, and "After Office Hours," with Clark Gable and Constance Bennett, at the Craterian.

30 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1925
(It was Tuesday)

Jackson county "varmint record" broken during February when $1,074 paid in bounties; story says "If the coyotes and wildcats hold out it will be a prosperous year for agriculture."

John H. Carkin, Medford city attorney, returns from Portland where he represented city in damage suit.

40 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1915
(It was Wednesday)

Secretary of Interior grants permit to Darling and Hodges to operate "stage autos" from Gold Hill to Crater Lake National park.

L. D. Dollarhide, owner of the toll road over the Siskiyous, offers county court chance to purchase 12 miles of toll road extending from Pacific highway toward Colestin district for $1,000.

What's the Answer?

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

1. New Soviet prime minister is Bulganin, Krushchev, Malenkov, Molotov or Zhukov?
2. Does the Senate or the House have more standing committees, or do they have the same number?
3. Most young babies can or can't be made immune to whooping cough?
4. President Eisenhower uses the two bowling alleys in the White House often, seldom or never?
5. Were more TV or more radio sets sold in the U. S. last year?
6. Secretary of State Dulles calls the U. N. more success than failure, more failure than success, or about 50-50?
7. Sigma Xi is a fraternity for eminence in fine arts, dentistry, law, science, or journalism?

The Answers: 1. Bulganin; 2. The House has slightly more; 3. Can; 4. Never; they're being moved out; 5. More TV sets; 6. More success than failure; 7. Science.

Carpets are not harmed by radiant floor heating. Temperatures of the heating system cannot rise high enough to cause damage or danger.

Who Is Right?

As before stated the Mail Tribune opposed the Democratic income tax-cut, because the tax favored only one group. For the same reason we opposed the Republican tax-cut last year, because IT favored only one group.

We believed then and believe now, that changes in income taxes up or down, should not be on a flat individual basis but a percentage basis and thus fair to all.

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THE opposition to the $20 cut from Congressman Ellsworth however, with an able assist from the Portland Oregonian, hits a new high in unconscious humor.

With customary solemnity, for example, the Representative of the Fourth District condemned this effort to reduce income taxes in the lower brackets as, quote:

"In simple language this bill means the government will borrow $2,300,000,000 and give each tax payer a $20 greenback."

If that is correct then the Republican program of tax reduction in 1954, in equally "simple language," meant the government borrowed $60,000,000,000 to give a few taxpayers checks ranging from $700 to $700,000 — at least that is the estimate of one of the tax experts in Washington.

There is no doubt of this much at least,—that tax cut, including elimination of the excess-profit tax, was followed by the most sensational flurry on the stock market since the 1920's and the greatest storm of extra dividends and stock splits in modern history.

This result, proponents of the GOP program claim not only helped the big corporations and the big stock holders, but the "little fellow."

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CONGRESSMAN Ellsworth maintains, however, that this Democratic reduction of $20 in the income tax won't benefit anyone, including the "little fellow."

Why not?

If Mr. Ellsworth had not received a pay raise of some 60 per cent to a total of $22,500 per year, but had to return to a cub reporters stipend of say $50 a week, wouldn't he have benefitted by a reduction of that amount?

There are thousands of citizens who pay less than $100 a year income tax and that $20 reduction would cut the total by 25 per cent — in some cases might cancel the obligation entirely.

If that wouldn't be a benefit what does the term mean?

It would be only a "$20 greenback" it is true, but there are some people who don't find many of them around when they go to market,—just as there are some who regard a $20 bill as small change, to be wrapped up in bundles for the hip pocket.

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HOWEVER, why not be frank about it?

There are two differing schools of thought in this tax business,—the Republicans believe the more relief the boys in the higher brackets get the more they will invest, and therefore, the greater the prosperity for all.

The Democratic theory is the more money you leave in the hands of the rank and file—the lower brackets,—the greater the purchasing power and so also,—the greater the prosperity for all.

Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey is of course a strong advocate of the higher-bracket system, Mr. Leon Keyserling, former financial adviser to President Truman is just as strong a believer in the lower bracket system.

Who is right?

Mr. Ellsworth says Secretary Humphrey is.

Speaker Rayburn no doubt goes along with Keyserling.

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THE Oregonian, however, goes along with neither. It refuses to take sides. In fact it declares the question is not a financial one but essentially a question of morals.

The issue is not one between one taxation system and another, but between honesty and dishonesty,—just as simple as that!

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HOWEVER we won't pay any $64 to anyone who answers correctly the question as to which system the Oregonian regards as morally right and the one morally wrong!—R.W.R.

Our Changing World

What a difference just a few years make!

Only about 10 years ago, there was general agreement among the free nations that the first step to peace on earth and good will to men was the total and permament disarmament of Germany.

Today there is similar agreement, that not only MUST Germany rearm, but must join the free nations in the defense of western Europe against Soviet Russia, if world peace is to be maintained, and another war prevented.

General Guenther declares that if Germany fails to rearm and join the allied coalition, there will be a fatal weakness in the defense line against Communist conquest which might lead to serious consequences if and when Russia declares the zero hour has come.

And now the latest report from Europe is that the people of Western Germany will never sanction rearmament, they are at peace and prosperous. All they want is to be reunited with Eastern Germany and be left alone.

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WELL we hope this report along with many others is incorrect. The only point we wish to make at this time is this: It is surely not a static cosmos but a forever changing one, we live in.—R.W.R.

King of Cambodia Expected To Return As Leader of Nation

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent

King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia is one of those men who make big gestures.

Charles McCann

In 1953, when he wanted to put pressure on France to grant independence to his little kingdom at the southeast corner of Asia, Norodom went across the frontier to "exile" in neighboring Thailand.

He stayed there only a week, then set up a sort of protest capital at Siemreap in Northwestern Cambodia.

Within five months, Norodom was back in the national capital of Pnom Penh in triumph, with a promise of eventual freedom.

Last month, annoyed at his political critics, Norodom called for a national referendum on his policies. He won 99 per cent of the votes.

The critics were not silenced, however, so Wednesday Norodom annunced his abdication.

"I will live in the midst of my people a humble life like that of my subjects," Norodom said in a radio broadcast.

He complained that Son Ngoc Thanh, leader of the Democratic Party, was obstructing his policies.

Among these policies is cooperation with the Western Allies against Communist aggression. Son Ngoc Thanh is a "neutralist," who wants Cambodia to sit on the sidelines like India in the cold war.

It happened, however, that Norodom announced his abdication just when the United States and France are negotiating on the training of the Cambodian army. The United States, with Cambodian approval, wants to take over the training. France is reluctant to step aside. It seems just possible that this has something to do with Norodom's decision.

It seems more than possible, also, that Norodom will soon be induced to reconsider his decision.

If not, a colorful country will lose a colorful king.

Norodom was elected King, by a crown council, in 1941 to succeed his maternal grandfather King Sisowath Monivong. In announcing his abdication, Norodom named his father, Prince Norodom Suramarit, as his successor. But he may be back before long.

McCarthy Charges Stevens Deceived Congress, People

Washington -- (U.P.) — Senator Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.), charged today that Army Secretary Robert T. Stevens "deliberately deceived the Congress and the American people" in the case of former Maj. Irving Peress.

McCarthy's latest blast at his old foe of the televised Army-McCarthy hearings also charged Stevens with an "uncooperative attitude" for delay in naming all persons connected with the honorable discharge of Peress after he refused to tell McCarthy whether he was a Communist.

The Wisconsin Republican also charged that resigned Army counselor John G. Adams and Lt. Gen. Walter L. Weible, deputy chief of staff, "exhibited a contemptuous attitude" when they gave Peress an honorable discharge, ignoring McCarthy's demand that the major be court martialed.

Adams, also a key figure in the Army-McCarthy hearings, resigned in January.

McCarthy's newest blistering of the Army came in the report of the 1954 activities of the Senate Investigating subcommittee, which he headed last year.

Eden Sees Need To Renounce Force

New Delhi, India — (U.P.) — British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden said today his search for a Formosa Strait cease fire would be helped greatly if the two sides would give some indication of their willingness to renounce the use of force.

Eden made the statement to newsmen during his visit to New Delhi to discuss the tense Far Eastern situation with Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and to try to stretch the uneasy Formosa quiet into a dependable cease fire.

Eden said he thought that the gaps between the United States and British position and the Indian position on Formosa "can be bridged."

"What we are seeking is to establish conditions under which a settlement can be brought about by discussion and conciliation," Eden said. "To solve the problem each of us must contribute what we can to solve the problem, which in any event is difficult and could be dangerous."

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 initial 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.

Tourists vs. Sales Tax

To the Editor: Having resided in California when the sales tax was initiated there, I can understand the feeling of some Oregonians who cannot see the advantage of a state sales tax.

It seemed to me then, as it appears to most Oregonians now, that this tax would be, not only a burden but a nuisance. However, experience proved that nearly everyone has a few loose pennies in his pocket, which in most cases is all the tax amounted to. It was spread so thinly that no one actually felt it. Of course, when a new automobile, truck or tractor was purchased, there was a more considerable amount of tax. But on an article of that kind, one seldom has the cost so definitely figured out beforehand that $2 or $3 on a hundred dollars of the price would cause a hardship.

What seems to me the most important item that is being lost sight of is the many millions of dollars spent in our state yearly by tourists, visitors and transient workers. Most of these come from sales tax states. They do not object to also paying sales tax in Oregon — in fact most of them expect it. Such a tax would not keep a single tourist from coming to Oregon. They are used to paying such a tax.

I have yet to find a single person who has been a citizen of a sales-tax-state, who has not heartily endorsed this as the easiest and most logical means of meeting our ever increasing state tax burden, and they fail to understand why Oregon does not see it.

The well-to-do can afford the tax without hardship, no matter how assessed. As for the itinerant worker who comes in for a short time and then carries or sends away most of what he makes in Oregon — well, why shouldn't he pay his part of the tax expense?

It is the ordinary, middle class salary earner, like myself; the small business man or small farmer (much opinion to the contrary) who would benefit most.

It is gratifying to see that the Chamber of Commerce has gone on record in favor of the proposed 3 per cent sales tax, and as editorially stated in the Mail Tribune, a genuine emergency exists which will have to be met some way, and which no amount of wishful thinking can help.

So it is to be hoped that our legislators will have the courage to pass the sales tax measure.

Frank H. Gray,
122 Valley View dr.,
Medford, Ore.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

PITY THE POOR DEMOCRATS

Washington — The hassle over taxes neatly illustrates the hideous dilemma confronting the Democrats. The dilemma is so seemingly insoluble that it has the Democratic leaders of the House and Senate, who are about the shrewdest politicians in the United States, baffled, irritated, and divided.

Stewart Alsop

The dilemma can be defined in a couple of questions: How are the Democrats to win back the White House when it is seemingly political poison even to criticize the well-liked President? And what issues are Democratic Congressional candidates to run on, when the Administration keeps snatching all the best issues out from under their noses?

There are two theoretical solutions to these conundrums. One is to use every means to present the Eisenhower administration as the friend of the rich, casting the Democratic party in the role of the defender of the "little guy." Meanwhile, the Democrats should be ready to stand up and slug it out with the President when need arises. Chief proponents of this strategy are Paul Butler, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and his assistants. With modifications, the Butler view is shared by House Speaker Sam Rayburn and the other House leaders.

Solution number two is to avoid direct conflict with the President, concentrating instead on building up the Democratic party as unified and responsible and the Republican party as irresponsible and divided. As for defeating Eisenhower (everybody assumes he will run again) that is a nasty little problem for the Democratic candidate, whoever he may be.

Chief propcnents of this view are Senate Majority Lyndon Johnson and most of the senior Democratic Senators. This is not to say that there is any row brewing between Johnson (whose illness has complicated matters) and his fellow-Texan Rayburn. But there is a distinct and important difference of approach. There are good reasons for this difference.

• • •

FOR one thing, only a comparative handful of Democratic Senators need to worry seriously about the next election. Moreover, the Senate leaders are by no means starry-eyed about Adlai Stevenson, most probable Democratic presidential candidate. This gives them a rather relaxed attitude toward 1956.

By contrast, Butler and the National Committee officials are Stevenson men, and they are quite aware that Stevenson can hardly hope to win if Eisenhower is considered above criticism. The House Democrats, what is more, feel the breath of 1956 already hot on their necks.

In fact, many House Democrats are worried sick at the prospect of running in 1956, with the popular Eisenhower heading the Republican ticket and with no "gut issue"—no issue that really excites the voters —to use against the Republicans. State delegations have repeatedly passed the word to Rayburn: "We've got to have an issue."

This is one reason why Rayburn and Butler are natural allies in the Democratic war council. It is also one reason why Rayburn and Company decided to spring the $20-for-everybody tax surprise.

The surprise was most unwelcome to the Senate leaders. As the saw it, instead of giving the Democrats the needed issue, the move unified the Republicans and hung the "irresponsible" label on the Democrats, all at one stroke. As this is written an effort is being made to patch up some sort of compromise which will save face for the House leaders without giving the Administration a political bonanza.

This will be a neat trick if it can be done, but it will not begin to solve the Democratic problem. The Democrats thought they might have the essential "gut issue" in aid for education. But Sens. Ives, of New York, and Smith, of New Jersey, needled the Administration to jump in with an education bill of its own. Democrats angrily denounced the Administration bill as a phony. But the bill has nevertheless robbed them of the clear-cut issue to use against the Administration which they are seeking. And the same thing is true all the way down the line.

• • •

PERHAPS events may solve the Democrats' problem. An ugly little war in Asia, for example, might change the political climate. Former President Harry Truman has reportedly written Sen. Wayne Morse congratulating him for his anti-administration stand in the Formosa crisis, and accusing the President of "abdicating his responsibilities." The time might come when some such line would be politically effective.

Or a worsening economic situation might do the trick for the Democrats. But House Minority Leader Joe Martin often remarks to friends: "Give us peace and prosperity in 1956, with Ike heading the ticket, and nothing can beat us." And many Democrats privately agree — at least as regards the White House.

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Communist China Draft Evader Has Uncertain Future

Honolulu — (U.P.) — Tsay Yu-Chen, a former art student who fled Communist China six years ago to avoid the draft, sailed last night aboard the liner President Wilson for an uncertain future in his homeland behind the bamboo curtain.

U. S. immigration officers put Tsay aboard the Orient - bound vessel after he lost a three-month legal battle here to escape deportation. Tsay claimed he faced persecution and possible death if he were forced to return to Shanghai, his home town.

However, immigration officials in Honolulu and San Francisco turned down his plea. Federal Judge J. Frank McLaughlin dismissed a writ of habeas corpus that freed Tsay from a China-bound ship last December.

Tsay had been ordered deported in New York on grounds he was illegally in the United States and had poor morals. He was sailing for Hong Kong when Honolulu attorney Clarence Fong obtained the writ.

Tsay had one more chance of escaping Communism. He has asked the Chinese Nationalists to let him go to Formosa, but so far they have not replied.

Police Give Up Watch On Bank Too Soon

Mansfield, Ga. — (U.P.)—Police watched the Bank of Mansfield for several days after an anonyous telephone caller said it was gcing to be robbed.

When nothing happened police decided the tip was a prank and ended their special watch.

Wednesday the bank was held up and robbed of $6,300.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Fiscal note from New Delhi: Prime Minister Nehru's government asked the Indian parliament to approve the first billion-dollar budget in the seven-year life of the Indian Republic.

Expenditures for the 1955-56 fiscal year, which starts on April 1, are estimated at $1,047,000,000.

LET'S see.

India's present population is about 400,000,000.

Its anticipated expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year will be a shade over a billion dollars.

When figures get even that large they're over my head, but I think that amounts to about $2,50 per person.

GOING on from there:

The present population of the United States is about 160,000,000.

Anticipated U. S. federal expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year will be in the neighborhood of $65,000,000,000 — or thereabouts.

Those vastly bigger dollar figures are still rather over my head, but the fancy computing machine I keep on my desk for such mathematical emergencies tells me that the anticipated cost of our federal government for the coming fiscal year in our country will be about $400 per head.

WHAT do these fancy figures add up to?

They add up to this, I'd say: India needs to spend considerably MORE (if the spending is done wisely) on its federal government.

The United States needs to spend CONSIDERABLY LESS.

I SUPPOSE the thought will occur to you (especially if you are approaching retirement age) that it might be a good idea for you to move to India. With the federal government nicking you for only $2.50 per year in the way of taxes, you ought to have quite a little left over to pay for your necessary food and shelter and clothing needs.

Before you go off the deep end, let me offer a little advice:

Take a trip to India first.

Take a careful look at what is to be seen there — including the splendor of the upper classes and the unbelievable squalor of the lower closses.

After doing that, I think you'll decide to remain in the U. S. for the remainder of your days—taxes or no taxes. It isn't so much WHAT YOU PAY in the way of taxes that counts as WHAT YOU GET FOR WHAT YOU PAY.

I'D like to make another suggestion:

Before moving to India—or even going there first for a look-see—DO A LITTLE THINKING.

India, for hundreds of years, has had CLASS GOVERNMENT. Always, in India's affairs, the upper classes have been pitted against the lower classes — and vice versa.

What India is today is the result of this pitting of class against class.

HERE in America the demagogue politicians are striving increasingly to PIT CLASS AGAINST CLASS — in the hope of garnering votes thereby.

It's BAD business.

If you want to see just how bad it is, you'd better take a trip to India, where the results of centuries of pitting class against class are clearly evident.

I don't think you'll like what you see.

EDITOR DIES

Indianapolis — (U.P.) — Gordon Cummings, financial editor of the Indianapolis Times and veteran of other Scripps-Howard newspapers, died yesterday of a heart attack. He was 61 years old.

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