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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
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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 17, 1945
Oregon legislature adjourns after record-breaking 69-day session.

Office of Price Administration orders cut in April quota of automobile tires which may be sold; old purchase certificates cancelled.

20 YEARS AGO
March 17, 1935
From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: The fishing season opens April 5, and picnatorial enthusiasts view calmly the edict they cannot catch as many fish this year as last.

Medford Realty Board completes survey, finds rents going up, houses scarcer.

30 YEARS AGO
March 17, 1925
News item: "The so-called flu or la grippe which has been quite prevalent here the past two weeks and was the cause of a number of absences in the local schools the latter part of last week, has caused a decided number of absences among the students and teachers yesterday and today.

From the Local and Personal column: Today, in addition to being a clear, sunny one, is the 17th of March, St. Patrick's day, in the observance of which a number of green neckties, coat lapel bouquets and imitation shamrocks are being worn, and a number of social gatherings will take place tonight.

40 YEARS AGO
March 17, 1915
Government prison railroad cars, with heavy screens on windows, passes through valley.

From the Local and Personal column: This being the 17th of Ireland, the green in varied decorations is being worn by all good Irishmen in this section.

What's the Answer?
(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)
Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report
1. Requirements for voting for President are set by the Constitution. Congress, each state for its citizens, or each locality for its residents?

2. A draftee on release from active service is subject to two, four, six, eight or ten years in the Reserve?
3. A foreign-born person, if legally in the U. S., can or can't remain indefinitely without applying for citizenship?
4. De Soto discovered the Colorado, Detroit, Hudson, Mississippi, Niagara, Rio Grande or St. Lawrence river?
5. Bicyclists have covered more than 25 miles in one hour; right or wrong?
6. Silviculture pertains to fish, trees, mining, bee-keeping, or metal-working?
7. The answers: 1.—Each state for its citizens. 2.—Six years. 3.—Most don't. 4.—Can. 5.—The Mississippi. 6.—Right. 7.—It's the care of trees.
Norway has one of the lowest There are 18 1/2 million home gardens in the U.S. today.

No "Give Away?"

Is it now being claimed that the tidelands oil-bill was not a "give away" because a "major portion" of the profits therefrom are going, not to the oil companies, but to the federal government.

At the same time it is admitted the government gets only one sixth of the profits, on a royalty-lease basis to the private companies.

This appears to be another case wherein figures don't lie, but liars figure.

Since when has 16 or 17 per cent of a sum, represented a "major", and 83 to 84 per cent, a minor portion?

Someone should take a refresher course in primary arithmetic!

IN THE same quarter it is now being stated there was no "give away" because the tidelands oil profits going to the lucky four states have to date been "disappointing."

How have they been disappointing? This will be news to John M. Pierce, finance director of one of the lucky states—our plutocrat neighbor, the other side of the Siskiyou, California!

He predicted only a few days ago California may be able to realize as much as \$2,500,000,000 in oil royalties by permitting off-shore oil drilling.

This would be based upon a 35% instead of a 17% royalty. If the state of California can count on a profit like this, "how about Texas, not to mention Louisiana and Florida? Where is the "disappointment?" How much is enough?

THE contention of Senator Morse and others was the off-shore oil (not within but out beyond the legal 3-mile limit) did not belong to three or four abutting states but to all the states—to the American people, as a whole.

And the profits therefrom should therefore go to ALL the people, not to a few "lucky states." This view was sustained in principle by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Of course the cry of "socialism" was raised. But there was no socialism involved. There was no idea of having the government itself pump the oil, and sell it.

The idea was to have the control and ownership in the hands of the government, just as the continental-shelf is government property today. Then leases for operation FAVORABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT, could be granted and the profits from same distributed on a fair and equitable basis, to ALL the states instead of only four.

BUT the big "give away" proposal succeeded. The four big states and the Big Oil companies won.

The somewhat amusing feature is that now those who supported the "give away" are trying to prove it wasn't anything of the sort, because the four states they claim haven't cashed in as much as expected and on some of the lands the government is getting more—a cut of 16 to 17% from the private operators.

Where is the evidence of this? Isn't \$2,500,000,000 probable profit for the state of California and approximately \$4,000,000,000 to the private oil companies operating in that state, a fairly good return on the investment—particularly when the investment consisted not of money so much as political manipulation, skillful lobbying, and the usual wire-pulling in important government places!

It looks like quite a "give-away" to this department.—R.W.R.

The "Indispensable Man"

It has been remarked before that the Republican party is today a one-man party. But that has heretofore been a Democratic charge.

Now such prominent leaders of the Republican party as Vice President Nixon and Senator Goldwater of Arizona, admit the truth of the statement. This comes—to this department at least—as a considerable surprise.

For this means that for what it stands for, for its beliefs and principles, as well as its record, the Republican party can not win in 1956.

It MUST have one man—and only that one man—to head the ticket or it will go down to defeat.

WHEN President Eisenhower at a recent press conference was asked if he considered himself an "indispensable man," he remarked how unfortunate it would be if there were such a thing as an "indispensable man, what a sorry plight for the world to be in, to suffer from such a condition. He wondered if the reporters had considered the matter from that angle, and what would happen when and if the indispensable man were no longer available?

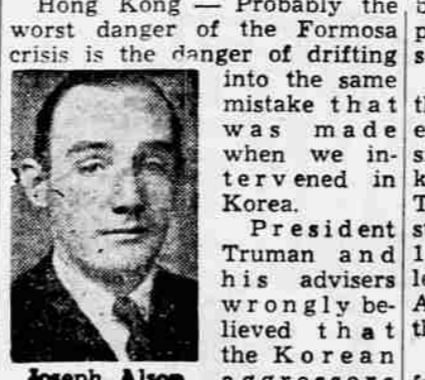
This was evading the question for the reporter did not mean indispensable to the COUNTRY, or the world, but to the victory of the Republican party. However the discussion ended there.

BUT what the President said about the fallacy of the "indispensable man" theory, and by implication its unfortunate results, where accepted, was entirely true.

It is unfortunate that the Republican party or any other party, has to depend for its success upon one man only, and then largely upon his charm and vote-getting powers of his personality.

And for a very practical reason to that party. For American history, has shown, time after time, that personal popularity, as far as the White House is concerned, is an extremely uncertain and variable quantity; what may be true at one date may not be true at all, only a few months later.—R.W.R.

Matter of Fact



Joseph Alsop

Hong Kong — Probably the worst danger of the Formosa crisis is the danger of drifting into the same mistake that was made when we intervened in Korea.

President Truman and his advisers wrongly believed that the Korean aggressors could be halted without using American ground troops. They gave the order to intervene on the false assumption that our Navy and Air Force could do the whole job.

A repetition of this pattern now seems entirely possible, judging by the authoritative picture of Chinese military preparations that you get here in Hong Kong. This picture, which shows the enemy much stronger than seems to be supposed in Washington, broadly falls into three parts.

Part one concerns the Matsu Islands. The necessary enemy ground forces for an attack on the Matsus have been in position for a good many months. On the nearest point of the mainland the enemy is also emplacing very long range Russian heavy cannon. These will be able to cover the islands with artillery fire. But the real drama of an attack on the Matsus will be the air battle, which is always crucial in a major amphibious operation.

It is precisely the enemy's preparations for the air battle which are the most menacing element in the picture. Jet and rotary engine bombers can reach the Matsus comfortably from the great airbase complex that the Communists have built in Chekiang and Kiangsi provinces. From the most southerly of these airfields, the shorter ranged Mig 15s can also fly high cover as far as the Matsus.

Hence all units in the Chekiang-Kiangsi airbase complex will count in an air battle for the Matsus Islands. This means that the enemy will enter the battle with a minimum force of considerably more than 450 Mig 15s, plus a couple of hundred assorted rotary engine bombers well suited for close support missions, plus at least one squadron of their jet bombers, the Ilyushin 28s.

THE confirmed presence of a squadron of JL-28s at Shanghai is a new and most disturbing element in the picture. It means that the enemy is ready to use these bombers which are the greatest single threat to our naval carriers—which have indeed almost the same speed as our carrier-borne fighters.

It can also be revealed, moreover, that the Chinese Communists have approximately doubled their strength of JL-28s in the past year. They now have no less than 250 of these formidable aircraft. And although the main

Morse, Education Groups Agree on School Aid Bill

By SEN. WAYNE MORSE
Twice on my weekly radio report and in a recent newsletter, I discussed the serious shortcomings of the President's so-called aid-to-education proposals and reported my support and sponsorship of more vigorous measures for direct financial aid to the states for school construction and the creation of a multi-billion dollar education fund from Federal oil lease revenues.

The representatives of national education groups have taken similar positions. Members of Oregon school boards, school superintendents and others vitally concerned with educational problems in Oregon have written to me expressing their opposition to the Administration bill and support for S. 5, of which I am a co-sponsor.

They point out that most school districts are approaching or have bumped their heads against bonded indebtedness ceilings; that as badly as they need Federal aid they couldn't qualify under the Administration bill's complicated formula; that there would be too much Federal control under the President's proposals; that it would take at least two years to secure the local legislation needed to make participation possible for Oregon school districts.

Hells Canyon Bill Introduced
March 8 was Hells Canyon Day in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. There were 30 Senators from 20 states sponsoring the bill in the Senate, including all of the Democrats from the Pacific Northwest. During my speech introducing the bill, I was asked to yield by that great elder statesman, Alben Barkley. He said in part:

"With regard to the bill dealing with Hells Canyon, which is a symbol, in a way, and typical to other situations, I wish to say to the Senator from Oregon that I am fully in sympathy with his attitude, with his bill, and with similar legislation that may come before the Senate. All my life I have felt that the great rivers of this country belong to the people and are the property of all the people. I have always opposed turning them over to any private group for exploitation or control. If we ever allow these great arteries of commerce to be controlled privately, it will be a long time before we ever recapture control of them on behalf of the people."

AS for the third part of this picture of enemy power, it is still in the future. Supply is always the key to every Chinese military problem. The enemy is preparing to support operations against the Matsus and Quemoy from airfields inconveniently distant to the North and to the South, because supply problems dictate this plan.

The big tonnages of fuel needed to sustain jet air operations just cannot be laid down on the much nearer airfields in Fukien Province over the mountainous roads that are Fukien's only links with the rest of China. But when and if the Matsus and Quemoy fall to the enemy, the coastal shipping route will no longer be blocked. The Fukien airfields can then be supplied by sea.

That is the real importance of the offshore islands. Once the enemy can supply and occupy the Fukien airfields, he can bid for air supremacy over the Formosa Strait. And if the day ever comes when the enemy rules the air over the Formosa Strait, we shall hear no more vain glorious talk about an attack on Formosa and Pescadores being "out of the question."

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
Just before dawn the other morning, the fifth atomic blast of the 1955 test series was set off in the Nevada desert. It was evidently a pint-sized one, as no shock was felt in Las Vegas and watchers in Southern Oregon saw only a faint flare like a match being lighted in the darkness a block or so away.

Major interest appears to have been centered on the test of the SMOKE SCREEN which the army chemical corps believes can cut down heat radiation from the bomb in vital areas.

THE scientists appear to be taking a leaf from the book of the orchard heaters, who have long used a smoke screen in the hope of keeping the heat in. The atomic people are evidently flirting with the idea of using a similar screen to KEEP ATOMIC HEAT OUT.

YOU never can tell what will happen. When Alexander Graham Bell stubbed his toe on the principle that makes the telephone work, he was experimenting with the idea of a hearing aid for deaf people.

WEATHER item: Wind, rain and dust storms (in the area east of the Continental Divide) have abated. The worst damage appears to have been caused by the big dust storms in the southern and central great plains.

Colorado apparently lost HALF ITS WINTER WHEAT CROP, with a loss estimated somewhere in excess of \$50,000,000.

YOU know the proverb: "What's one man's meat is another man's poison." It's rough on the Colorado wheat growers, but will help to cut down the surplus of wheat bought with taxpayer money and stashed away to keep wheat prices up.

THAT brings up this item from the market news of a week or so ago: "Wheat prices rallied on the Chicago Board of Trade this morning. . . The main factor in the wheat price bulge was an overnight announcement by the department of agriculture that

Ellsworth Sees Long Session of Congress

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH
The signs as I see them point to a long session of Congress this year. My guess right now is that adjournment will not come before mid-August—possibly later.

The basis of my opinion is that the regular annual appropriations bills are very slow in coming to the House Floor for passage. Congress cannot adjourn until all of the money bills have been acted upon. If they come up from committee late Congress will stay in session late into the summer.

Trade Bill Approval Seen
It is anticipated that the bill to extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act will be cleared by both Houses of Congress and sent to the President within a few days. As this is written the Senate is debating the bill. As has been reported, the bill was passed by the House on February 18. It was considered on the Floor of the House under what is called a "closed" rule. That meant no amendments could be considered. We just had to vote for the bill as it was brought from the Ways and Means Committee—or against it.

A motion to recommit the bill with an amendment—which simply meant that one amendment would be included—failed

by five votes. I voted for the amendment and then for the bill. I think the amendment which would have given some protection to our farmers and some small manufacturers should have been adopted. I hope the amendment will get the vote against the entire bill just because we could not get the amendment we wanted, so I reluctantly voted for it.

As a matter of fact, the troubles which have developed from the Reciprocal Trade plan of making tariffs are not due to the law or to the principle of making tariffs in that way. Our troubles have come from the way in which the law has been administered. Presidential advisers on the subject of tariffs have tended to think too much about the rest of the world and not enough about the struggling units in our own economy. In other words they have been too engrossed with the vision of the forest to be able to see the trees, and if I may make a pun or something—they have sometimes been unable to see our Oregon cherry and filbert trees! I hope that the heated debate and the close vote in the House on the amendment will serve to improve the vision of the experts.

Studebaker Wins Mobilgas Run; Rambler Second

Colorado Springs, Colo. —(U.P.)—It was Studebaker by a nose. The American Automobile Association officials had to split a few fractions yesterday to decide the winner of the 1323-mile Mobilgas economy run that wound up here.

The winner was a Studebaker Champion, driven by Dick Johnson of San Diego. Second in the photo finish was a Nash Ambassador driven by Pierce Venable of Los Angeles.

Oldsmobile Third
An Oldsmobile 88 was third in the gruelling three-day test that carried 21 cars through snow, fog, head winds and icy roads to determine which was the "most economical" car.

The winning Studebaker had a total of 58.6320 ton miles per gallon, while the Nash had 58.5560 ton miles. The ton miles per gallon are computed by multiplying the weight of the car by the number of miles driven and divided the totals by the gasoline. This was the deciding factor even though the Nash Rambler made the highest number of miles per gallon, 27.4733.

The four division winners were: Low price, Nash Rambler; low medium price, Studebaker Commander; upper medium price, Nash Ambassador and high price, Buck Roadmaster.

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