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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

April 7, 1945 (It was Saturday) Members of cast of Medford High school senior class play include Bob Boyer, Bill Hedrich, Bill Patton, Chuck Jones, and John Bullock.

20 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1935 (It was Sunday) R. B. Hammond Sr. and E. L. Childers to meet in finals of President's cup golf tournament at Rogue Valley Country club.

30 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1925 (It was Monday) Medford offers a free site for the county courthouse if and when it is moved from Jacksonville.

40 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1915 (It was Tuesday) Residents of North and South Riverside ave. area protest to city police that "the nights are made hideous by wild men riding motorcycles."

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report 1. Name two of the three present Supreme Court justices who're Republicans.

A Truly Great Man

One of the best stories about Prime Minister Winston Churchill (retired) we have heard was told recently by the well-known newspaper correspondent, Dorothy Thompson, in the Oregonian.

It seems that Mrs. Thompson was invited to a White House dinner during the Roosevelt administration (F.D.R.) and sat next to the affable and ingratiating host, whom she had known for several years.

During the conversation which was shortly after the now famous Yalta meeting, President Roosevelt told a story he thought amusing about a contretemps which occurred at the final banquet at Yalta, between Stalin and Churchill.

STALIN, it seems, liked his vodka and after drinking 30 or 40 toasts proposed one of his own namely: that after the Germans had been defeated, which promised to be soon, 50,000 German officers be taken out and shot. The Russian leader found this very appealing and proper, as he thought the German people were not so bad but their officer class was, and should be liquidated.

President Roosevelt, who was feeling in good spirits also, and favored taking drastic measures against Germany at that time—but not later—arose to suggest that instead of shooting 50,000 German officers, it might be better to shoot only 49,000! That comment relieved the tension somewhat with everyone around the table, but Premier Churchill.

The Premier of England did not think the suggestion funny. He kept his seat, offered no toast, but did remark gruffly, and so all could hear:

"Her majesty's government does NOT shoot prisoners of war!"

THAT was a slap in Stalin's face, so taken and intended. (It has been hinted since he and Churchill were never on good terms thereafter).

When the dinner had ended Sir Winston, who had not neglected his brandy preferring it to vodka, did not yield to any alcoholic exuberance or the social amenities however, and took President Roosevelt severely to task for siding with the Russian leader regarding such an inhuman and barbarous proposal.

"It was only a joke on my part," was the smiling rejoinder. "I thought it better to turn it off that way than to take it seriously."

At this point Mrs. Thompson said she turned to the President and quietly but pointedly observed, that she agreed in this case with Premier Churchill completely.

"But Dorothy" was FDR's rejoinder, "you must realize I did not mean what I said, I merely thought it best for all concerned, to take such a proposal with a smile instead of otherwise, and cause a scene."

THAT was the end of the story.

But we think it one of the best to date, as revealing the true inner characters of these three leading statesmen of World War II, and particularly of the British war leader, whose resignation now at the age of 80 has brought tears of regret to his own eyes, and tears of sorrow and regret to the eyes of the civilized world.

Winston Churchill liked his brandy and his 50-cent cigars, neglecting neither, he even took things in his stride and whenever appropriate with a smile; but when matters of principle became involved, when questions between what he regarded as right and wrong were concerned, that jaw of his became firm, those smiling eyes became cold, and regardless of the nature of the company, social or otherwise, or the temptations to go the "easy way" he took his place on the firing line, to defend the British traditions and especially the one he cherished most, that of good sportsmanship, decency and fair-play.

IT WAS this fundamental moral sense and courage imbedded in the hard core of his fighting nature, that made him stand alone on this occasion and out so far ahead of his contemporaries in time of national and world crisis.

He was in short a truly GREAT Man, one of the few in public life of the present generation. He was a man not only of fortitude—few men in high position lack it—but of wisdom, vision and the type of initiative so rare and yet so essential to successful leadership.

As has been stated previously, the world, particularly the English-speaking world, will not seem the same without him.

BUT fortunately this is not an obituary.

Sir Winston although living on borrowed time, appears to be in excellent health and vigor, his mental powers not noticeably impaired, and so while on his vacation, his old seat in Parliament will be waiting for his return.

It is not only the hope of his countrymen, but of all men of good will, we believe, that he may resume his place in the government soon, and for many years the benefit of his unerring foresight, wisdom and devotion to principle will be available to the struggling and sometimes frustrated, nations of the Free World.

Billy Graham Lauds Winston Churchill

Glasgow, Scotland — (U.P.) — American Evangelist Billy Graham last night lauded former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill "as the greatest man of our times."

Graham recalled he visited Churchill at 10 Downing Street last year.

"I got the impression he was a man of deep religious conviction," the evangelist said. Graham drew a capacity

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Headed south from Tucson toward the twin towns of Nogales—one of them in the American state of Arizona, the other in the Mexican state of Sonora. The distance from Tucson is about 65 miles, over a truly wonderful highway. It is wide, and for the most part straight, and the surface is as smooth as a table.

THE terrain slopes gently toward the south. There is a strong tail wind. It would be easy to let the speed drift into the upper brackets on the speedometer. But there is the ever-present psychological bugbear of these unmarked Arizona patrol cars, equipped with radar, of which the signs warn you about every mile and a quarter. In the back of your mind there is a chilling picture. The picture is that of a cop seated in a car bearing NO insignia of the great state of Arizona. Maybe a Ford. Maybe a Chevrolet. Heck! Maybe a Cadillac. This is a fabulous country down here.

In your mind's eye, you see the cop watching a radar screen. On the screen there is a blip. You have the fearsome feeling that the blip is YOU and that the radar jigger is saying to the cop: "This guy is from Oregon and his foot is getting heavy on the throttle and in about two shakes of a lamb's tail he's going to be over the limit. Then you can NAB HIM."

MIND YOU, I don't take too much stock in this radar business. I have a sneaking notion that at the worst about all it amounts to is a couple of cops sitting in their cars a measured mile apart and talking to each other by two-way radio. In that event, it would be just an old-fashioned speed trap, and if you keep an eye peeled for lurking cops you will be OK.

But—How can you be sure? This radar is mysterious stuff. DOES it DOES see all. Maybe it DOES know all. So I ease up on the accelerator. The UNKNOWN is always terrifying.

THE road from Tucson to Nogales follows an ancient watercourse. The stream has long since dried up. But in the underground reservoirs beneath the gently sloping valley, nature has STORED WATER—as a squirrel stores nuts in seasons of plenty for use in seasons of scarcity. Man, probing with his drills, has FOUND these underground stores and with his electrically driven pumps he is lifting the water up and putting it on the thirsty soil.

The result is the miracle of irrigation, which maketh the desert to blossom as the rose. The hotter the desert, it seems, the better, for when heat and moisture and good rich soil are mixed in the proper proportions the consequences thereof are something wonderful to gaze upon.

I HOPE man down here doesn't get greedy and pump the water out of the underground reservoirs faster than nature is willing to fill them up. That would be tragic.

AT the border there is another miracle.

It is the miracle of what happens when government, by and large and lumping everything together, has been GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE instead of being GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE.

Between the American state of Arizona and the Mexican state of Sonora there is only an imaginary line. On both sides of this line the soil is the same. There is as much water on one side of it as on the other. The same beneficent sun looks down on it all.

OH, shucks! Let's skip that. To describe in meticulous detail the differences between the American state of Arizona and the Mexican state of Sonora would be to cast aspersions upon our neighbor Mexico, and casting aspersions upon our neighbor is mean and churlish and altogether unforgivable.

But the contrast in ways of life is a startling thing and if you find yourself getting soured on your country and its institutions you'd better come down here and take a good look.

What you'll see, I think, will teach you a lesson that will be good for your soul.

Churchill Planning To Remodel House

Westerham, England — (U.P.) — Sir Winston Churchill today kept a long promised date with the builders who will remodel his country house while he vacations in Sicily.

The newly retired Prime Minister is full of plans and projects, despite his 80 years. The first is to convert Chartwell, the red-brick Georgian house he bought in 1922, from a week end retreat to a full time residence.

Later, Chartwell will be altered into the Churchill Museum that Churchill will leave to posterity, much as the late President Roosevelt left his Hyde Park estate.

The museum will be financed from Churchill's 80th birthday fund. Donations are still coming in from all over the world, adding to the \$280,000 "first in-



ON HIS WAY OUT—As a large crowd sets up a thunderous cheer, Sir Winston Churchill leaves his London residence, No. 10 Downing Street, for last official mile ride to Buckingham Palace. There he handed Queen Elizabeth his resignation as the prime minister of Great Britain.

Kremlin Shows Great Anxiety Over Youth Who Fled To Freedom

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Foreign Analyst

The Kremlin is showing great anxiety over the flight of Valery Alexandrovich Lysikov to the freedom of West Berlin.

So far there have been four official Soviet demands for Lysikov's return, each more excited than the one before.

The fourth protest was made by no less a personage than Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav M. Molotov.

Molotov summoned American

Ike's Appointment Recalls Forgotten Pact With Russia

Washington — (U.P.) — The United States has a 40-year-old trouble-shooting treaty with Russia which has lain dust-covered and forgotten in the cold war.

This came to light after President Eisenhower surprised everybody—including the State Department's official spokesman—by appointing a French historian to a commission set up under a similar treaty with Sweden. His action sent reporters to their history books.

There they learned that the United States at one time had such treaties—known as "Bryan Cooling Off Treaties"—with about 40 nations, including Russia. The agreement with Russia never was annulled and still is carried on U.S. books as technically in force.

The treaties were the pet project of William Jennings Bryan, who served as Secretary of State during part of the administration of President Woodrow Wilson. He felt the best way to head off serious trouble was to prevent it before it got out of hand.

Under the agreements, five-member commissions were set up to handle any dispute between the treaty signatories if it could not be handled through normal diplomatic channels.

The treaties ran for five-year periods and were automatically renewed unless "denounced" by either party.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

THE ARMY AND THE ISLANDS

Washington—The vast majority of responsible army officers—including Gen. Matthew Ridgway, Chief of Staff—believe that American ground troops will ultimately have to fight, if the decision is taken to hold Quemoy and the Matsus.



This conviction, of course, flies in the face of the Air Force and Navy doctrine that the job of defending the off-shore islands can be done with air and naval power alone. There is certainly a professional bias in the Army view. But there also seems to be a good deal of plain common sense.

In the first place, army tacticians believe that Chiang Kai-shek's heavy commitment of troops to the off-shore islands—more than 50,000 on Quemoy alone—is tactically as dangerous as the French commitment at Dien Bien Phu. As at Dien Bien Phu, an extremely valuable force is being risked in a geographical situation in which all the tactical advantages belong to the enemy.

The islands are so close to the mainland that Communist troops can land in strength on Matsuo or Quemoy or both, any dark night. A land battle will then ensue, in the Army view, and this battle will be decided on the ground, like any other infantry battle, however successfully the American Air Force and Navy may bomb mainland installations. If this country intervenes, the island battle must be won—otherwise the United States will indeed look like a paper tiger.

To make sure of winning, we must be ready to stiffen the Nationalist forces with crack American troops, the Army men maintain. Therefore, if the intention to hold the islands is serious, this country ought ideally to have at least a full Army corps in the Formosa area, with at least one crack division in readiness at all times to reinforce the Nationalist troops on the islands.

BUT this is only the beginning of the story, in Army eyes. Suppose, for purposes of argument, the Army men say, that Nationalist ground troops, plus American air-troop strength, do succeed in holding the off-shore islands without American ground forces. If we bomb the Chinese mainland with atomic weapons, surely the Chinese Communists are not going simply to sit and take it. The minimum response to be expected is a Chinese Communist and North Korean attack on the Korean front.

The Chinese are of course aware that we have only a couple of skinny divisions left in Korea, and that our available reinforcements are even skinnier. The Republic of Korea forces are not negligible, but the real deterrent to renewed Communist aggression in Korea has been the threat of nuclear attack on the Chinese mainland. If we use atomic bombs against China in the defense of Quemoy and the Matsus, this deterrent will be spent. For months, the Communists have been preparing for a resumption of the Korean war, in open defiance of the truce terms. Thus we should also be prepared for a second Korean war.

There are other possible Communist moves which must be taken into account. They range from the bombing of Formosa, and of American bases in Okinawa and Japan, to the maximum response—invocation of the Sino-Soviet treaty and nuclear war with Russia.

Army men agree that Russian intervention is on balance unlikely, but nevertheless they say

that cannot be ruled out. And they claim that we cannot become heavily committed in Asia and play our promised part in NATO also, unless the current cut-back in troop strength is immediately and sharply reversed.

Finally, the Army men say, suppose the optimistic Air Force and Navy views are right. Suppose the Chinese Communist air force is knocked out of the war, the islands are held, and the war does not spread beyond China. What then? How do you finish what you have started, except by going on to win the war? And after all, the Army men point out, winning major wars has in the past required the services of armies.

CONTRARY to report, neither Gen. Ridgway nor any of his subordinates opposes defending Matsuo and Quemoy, if the President and his advisers conclude that they must be defended in the national interest. But most responsible Army officers do believe that the much publicized notion of a rather painless little war, in which hardly any one on our side gets hurt, is a dangerous illusion. They believe that a war starting over the off-shore islands will be no picnic—no picnic at all.

Certainly the Army, like the other services, has "parochial" tendencies, to use President Eisenhower's word. But surely there is also a certain unhappy logic in the Army's position, all the same. And by the same token, if the Administration is serious about defending off-shore islands, there is surely precious little logic in the announced intention to continue the heavy cut-backs in Army ground strength.

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