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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

Medford residents hear announcement of Germany's unconditional surrender with calmness; merchants close stores celebrating VE Day.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: There are clouds in the sky today. Some farmer must have some hay down.

20 YEARS AGO

Medford High school officials study 23 applications for high school football coach.

Dime chain letters flood Medford post office forcing substitutes to help handle the increase.

30 YEARS AGO

Stockholders elect new directors for Jackson County fair.

A two-day DeMolay order convention starts in Medford with 200 representing orders throughout Oregon.

40 YEARS AGO

Dorothy Conner, aboard the Lusitania when it was sunk, cabled a confirmation of her safety to Medford residents.

More than 1,000 residents attend first Community Day in Medford.

What's the Answer?

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

1. Children have been most susceptible to polio under five, from five through nine, from 10 through 14, or from 15 through 19?

2. U. S. Communist Party members number a little over 2,000, 20,000, 120,000, 200,000 or 1,200,444?

3. Fleetwood is a body style of the Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Ford or Mercury car?

4. Does more water-borne traffic go in one year through the Panama or the Suez Canal or the Sault Ste. Marie locks?

5. The outside walls of the White House are of stone, brick or board under the white paint?

6. About 10, 20, 30, 40 or 50 million tin cans are opened in U. S. homes every day?

7. Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain is 30, over 30, or under 30?

The Answers: 1. From five through nine. 2. A little over 20,000, according to J. Edgar Hoover. 3. Cadillac. 4. Sault Ste. Marie locks. 5. Stone. 6. About 30,000,000. 7. Under 30.

Central Point NOMA

Slates Test Series Central Point—The local chapter of the National Office Management Association will give typing, shorthand and other tests relating to office work to Crater High school students Thursday, May 12.

In addition to Crater students, the tests also will be given juniors and seniors from Jacksonville High school at Crater school.

Four times as many Minnesota dairy farmers use bulk tanks to store their milk than a year ago.

Why Not Forget It?

As previously remarked we live in a democratic government, of a representative type.

We send our representatives every two years to Salem to attend to the state business for us, instead of trying to do it ourselves. That involves a certain obligation on both sides.

This year the outstanding problem was to arrange state finances so that Oregon could pay its way, instead of going further and further into debt.

The new tax bill is the result.

It is also the result of over 3 months of investigation, research, examination and reexamination by our representatives, especially by the tax committees of the two houses. Not only were many citizens "back home" consulted, but the Governor was in almost constant communication with some of the committee members, regarding various and sundry details, giving his recommendations and receiving same.

IT SEEMS generally agreed that the resulting tax bill while not ENTIRELY satisfactory to ANYONE,—tax bills never are,—was the best solution that in the judgment of a vast majority of our representatives, could under the circumstances, be obtained. The measure passed in both houses by large majorities and undoubtedly will be signed by the Governor. In other words it will soon be the law.

OUR ONLY suggestion, at this time, is to give it a chance. Before a referendum or an initiative is considered, let's first see how the new schedule works. It may not prove as calamitous as some of the boys particularly in the upper-income brackets, think.

There can't be a referendum vote anyway until late next year so why not forget taxes for a while, particularly the virtues and vices of a sale tax, and let Nature take its course, for a brief breathing spell at least.

Nature, incidentally, is particularly worthy of public consideration and careful examination at the present time!

R. W. R.

Asia and the Solid South

The impending visit of Nehru to Soviet Russia and the revival of a modified Ku Klux Klan in portions of the South in opposition to dis-segregation appear miles apart—and are—but they have a common root in human nature.

Nehru's prejudice against the USA, is a factor in his sympathy for communism,—or what is more euphoniously called his "neutralism."

The opposition in certain parts of the south to one school-system for both whites and blacks, proceeds from a deep-seated prejudice against the Negro, going back to America's beginning.

Both of these prejudices, we think, have to be taken into account and understood, if one is to understand the difficulties facing 100% school de-segregation below the Mason and Dixon line, and the difficulty of any immediate and satisfactory cooperative unity between the United States and Asia.

BOTH GOALS, are not only politically desirable but morally right. However, we fear neither can be fully attained as soon as most of us desire, or attained at all without serious delays and difficulties, because of the deep emotional prejudices that go back not days, nor months, nor years, but centuries.

IN SPITE of the great changes recently in attitudes and political relationships that have been brought about by the western white race still represents colonialism, exploitation and oppression to millions in the Far East as well as their leaders; and the acceptance of the Negro on an equal basis, educationally as the Supreme Court has ruled, has to overcome a racial prejudice entertained by thousands of people in the South.

It is too much to hope therefore that any legal decision, or any signature on a piece of paper, can remove these prejudices overnight, unfortunate and unfounded as they may be. As President Cleveland remarked about a different situation some years ago, we face not a theory, but a condition.

This doesn't mean the peaceful and satisfactory solution of either problem is impossible, it does mean it will take patience, time, and hard work.

R. W. R.

A Good Sign

One of the most encouraging reports from inside Russia we have heard for some time, came via Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, who was interviewed over the air by Senator Morse the other night.

Mrs. Chase visited Russia on her own, as an American citizen not as a Senator, and talked more with the people, than the officials.

She returned with 3 strong convictions namely:

One: there is no great enthusiasm among the Russian people for their present government one way or the other; (2) there is a very strong desire for peace, and (3) there is an equally strong fear that the only threat to their peace proceeds from the United States.

The latter, of course, is due entirely to the mendacious and effective Communist propaganda.

But the cheering point to this department was the strong desire for peace among the Russian rank and file.

IT WOULD seem at least that as time goes on with these conditions existing it would be possible through an improved system of radio communication to demonstrate the falsity of this fear of the U.S.A. to enough Russians, to so strengthen the popular demand for peace in that country that no government—especially a government not supported with any great enthusiasm—would desire to risk the dangers of an unpopular war.—R. W. R.

Matter of Fact

Washington — Theoretically, the entire human race can for all practical purposes be eliminated for the small sum of about 40 cents per human, give or take a few cents either way.



Stewart Alsop

The authority for this statement is found in a rough estimate recently made by the distinguished physicist, Dr. Leo Szilard. Dr. Szilard estimated the cost of covering the globe, on an over-lapping checker-board pattern, with lethal concentrations of radioactive fall-out.

In arriving at his estimate, which he emphasizes is informal and subject to drastic revision, Dr. Szilard used the Atomic Energy Commission's figure of 7,000 square miles of lethal radioactivity per thermo-nuclear weapon. He then drew on his knowledge of the nature of the new weapon,—knowledge now shared by every competent physicist in the world—and toted up the cost of the number of bombs needed to blanket the world, in terms of lithium, tritium, uranium, and other materials.

The resulting computation came to about \$1,000,000,000, plus or minus a few hundred million. Given a population of about 2.4 billion, this works out to a per unit cost of roughly 40 cents.

The notion of ending human life on this planet at such cut rates may seem rather fanciful, even though, as Dr. Szilard points out, it is "not one of the major planets." And in a sense, of course, the estimate is deceptive, since it makes no allowance for the cost of delivery or the attrition of defense. It assumes, in effect, a deliberate, unopposed effort to commit global suicide—and the human race is, presumably, not yet ready for this. Even so, Dr. Szilard's little calculation cannot be dismissed simply as a peculiar sort of scientific joke. Dr. Szilard is a most serious scientist. Working with the late Dr. Enrico Fermi, he made an enormous contribution to man's foolhardy triumph over the atom. And although his estimate is a casual one, made in part for his own amusement and instruction, it has a serious significance of its own.

FOR it serves to point up a fact that very few people—even those in the higher reaches of Washington officialdom—have really grasped. The new kind of thermo-nuclear weapon (it should not properly be called a "hydrogen bomb" at least as important as the first atomic bomb. "Quantum jump" is scientists' shorthand for an unprecedented, situation—transforming scientific breakthrough.

The simple, disagreeable fact is that American scientists—and Russian scientists too, alas—have done what was previously thought to be inherently impossible. They have found a way to use uranium 238—natural uranium, the stuff that is dug out of the ground, as bomb material. This has been public knowledge, at least among scientists, ever since the Japanese announced the presence of split atoms of uranium 238 in the fall-out from our Pacific thermo-nuclear tests.

How it is done is of no interest to the layman. What is of interest to the layman is that this enormous scientific advance opens up the possibility of genuinely unlimited destruction at very low cost. Combined with the fall-out phenomenon it basically transforms the whole world situation.

For example, since the entire Soviet stockpile of atomic bombs can now be used as mere triggers for the immensely more powerful thermo-nuclear weapon, the Soviet stockpile has been multiplied by a factor estimated as high as 100. The Soviets have thus presumably overnight entered the age of atomic plenty.

The superiority of our Strategic Air Command over the Soviet "Long Range Air Army" still provides us with an important margin of superiority. But this margin cannot be expected to last forever. What happens when it is lost, when the Soviets can visit wholly unlimited destruction on this country, as we already can on Russia? Will not our Strategic Air Force, the center of our military power, then be neutralized?

THE Air Force itself has recognized that this is a serious question, which needs a serious answer. Under the sponsorship of the Air War College a study called "Operation Stand-Off" is that both sides will fear to use the thermo-nuclear weapon, and that therefore any future war may be only a limited war.

The Air Force, it must be said, deserves credit for the courage to undertake such a study, since the above assumption strikes at the very heart of American strategic doctrine—above all Air Force doctrine. In the past, it dry bread with candy coating?"

By Stewart Alsop

has always been regarded as the ultimate heresy even to consider the possibility that the Strategic Air Arm and the thermo-nuclear weapon might not be used. Yet if one considers seriously the essentially suicidal nature of the new weapon on which Dr. Szilard based his 40-cents-a-head estimate, it is a possibility which must surely at least be taken into account.

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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 is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarity and brevity. Communications submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

The Last Frontier

To the Editor: One of the last but not the least mineralized frontiers according to some of the older seasoned prospectors we have contacted, lies around 200 miles to the East from here, especially both East and West of the 120° meridian that forms the West border line of Nevada.

Very little is yet known of all the precious minerals that occur in the region of Northeast California, Southeastern Oregon and all of Northern Nevada.

The whole region is arid or desert. But with modern methods of travel the mechanized prospector is able to surmount the former difficulties the old time pack mule prospector had to contend with in the way of a water famine.

From all reports we have gathered, this vast expanse of desert land has produced much placer gold, including native silver, also valuable gem-stones as well.

Bert Kissinger 520 Boardman Medford, Oregon

A Problem Solved

To the Editor: Our esteemed legislators, working under a heavy strain for approximately the past four months, burdened with the financial worries of the state, have not only apparently solved our great financial problem—for the time being at least—but they have "preserved the public peace, health and safety" with passage of House Bill 566. Health and safety has been attained by placing a ban on women wrestlers in Oregon. Just how a bill forbidding a few ladies to follow the ring game can preserve our peace, health and safety remains to be seen, but it certainly must or, we are sure, the heavily burdened legislators would not have taken time from their troublesome financial problems to enact this piece of legislation.

This writer's health hasn't been too well this spring and now he knows the cause, having seen several wrestling matches in the past few months in which women participated. But his peace and safety have followed the same old rut as for years past. Maybe they would have been affected soon had these matches been allowed to continue.

No one objects to the legislators taking time out for a few laughs, especially when under such a strain as they have been with our great financial problems. And we wouldn't be surprised if they got a good laugh when they passed House Bill 566. And we imagine the usually staid Governor Patterson snickered a little when he signed it.

Now that we are safe from the alleged assault on our peace, health and safety by no longer being able to enjoy women wrestling matches, we expect the legislature to follow its own course and outlaw women's basketball teams, swimmers, softball players, golfers and what have you.

After all, someone once said "A woman's place is in the home."

Harry Chipman 155 Highland Drive

All In The Mind

To the Editor: It shouldn't be surprising or worrisome over this mind indoctrinating that we're running into more and more. The Russians and Reds are sure making use of it, featuring it so to speak and making us more conscious of it. It cropped up here the other day when some chocolate and caramel mixtures was brought home from the markets where they have a bewildering display of such things and at moderate prices. My plan was to use it with this flood of day-old bread that a sizable part is going to feed the pigs, good baker's bread that you and I and the other guy has to pay for in the quarter dollar loaves. So we took some day-old bread, cut it into inch squares and after drying, dipped them in the hot chocolate mixture. Sure tastes good to us, far better than straight candy which is nauseatingly rich to me.

But we were surprised when the "snackroos" as we named them, were tried out on some neighbor moppets who came trooping in and are most welcome when we're not too busy. They are usually treated to some toothsome provender. "There's old dry bread in them," they chorused in injured surprise. "What's the matter with good dry bread with candy coating?"

Is That So?

By Eugene Burns Ranger-Naturalist

Unusual as the variations are among animal eggs and what emerges from them, perhaps even more so are the methods of brooding and the care bestowed upon the infants once they escape their sealed-in chambers.

Among birds, some fledglings never see their parents—the adults simply do not brood; among snakes, some brood their eggs and hover over their young solicitously; among crocodiles, some croclets send out an S.O.S. when yet imprisoned within their shell; and as for our egg-bearing mammals, one broods it in a custom-built pouch on its stomach. For that matter, there is a bird with a built-in brooding pouch, too.

Incubation time varies. The shortest is that of a mammal: the duck-billed platypus which takes from 8-10 days. Next come the birds—most of the commoner small birds take around 14 days. Sparrows a little less, 10-13; hummingbirds, a little longer, 14-15. The longest, understandably, are the larger birds. Chick-



ens incubate in around 3 weeks; ducks may take a week longer, 3-4 weeks; a goose usually a week longer still, 4-5; while the ostrich, the longest takes from 6 to 7 weeks. A snake like the python takes 3 months, roughly, 13 weeks.

Avoid Cares of Home Several birds do not bother about hatching their own eggs—the European cuckoo and some of its relatives, together with the American cowbird, avoid the cares of home by simply laying their eggs in other birds' nests.

To assure its young of preferential treatment, the cowbird's eggs hatch unusually fast, from 10-12 days, despite their large size. Another bird, the Pacific megapode, or mound builder, lays its eggs in a scratched-up heap of vegetation and never goes near them again. The decaying vegetable matter generates enough heat to hatch the eggs. Another, the African crocodile bird buries its eggs in the sand and the heat of the sun does the incubating.

Needless to say, both the mound-builder and crocodile bird young are hatched in an advanced state of readiness. In fact, the mound-builder is ready to fly and take care of itself within minutes of hatching. In contrast, look into a newly-hatched pigeon's nest. The young is scarcely able to lift its head—it requires the assistance of its parent who, engaging the pip-squeak's beak within its own, pumps softened regurgitated food down its gullet.

Record Nesting As for birds hatched by their parent's brooding, the fledgling of small birds remain in the nest around one to two weeks; those of bigger birds usually take longer—the record nesting, perhaps, being the condor's. Its young remain in the crib for most of a year.

Although most snakes leave their buried eggs unattended, there are a few which incubate their eggs—curling around them and assisting with the heat and moisture of their bodies. The python, a notable example of this rare maternal care, carefully stacks her eggs into a convenient pile, coils herself around them, and solicitously broods them for 90 days. An American counter-ovip snake which will even defend its newly-hatched young against the onslaughts of adversaries.

To get out of their leathery eggs, infant snakes grow a hard egg tooth on the upper jaw, much like that of the bird, which develops shortly before birth and lasts only a few days after it has served its one and only purpose, but a vital one. With the crocodile, whose eggs may be buried below mud which has set and

we asked, "Dry bread's no good," they chorused. Well, they were very honest and frank about it, no politeness like the most of us learn to use. But what impressed me was how their young minds were indoctrinated against day-old bread like it was something untouchable.

Like a young mother some time ago when presented with two loaves of it that was scarcely day-old drew her mouth in a straight line as she said, "I'll make 'em eat it."

Golly, no bread is wasted here. We usually sun-dry any surplus and store it against the time when needed for chicken or turkey dressing or the making of fine old-time bread puddin', so little heard of now. The garbage man gathers up what might have been. What a wasteful nation we are getting to be.

F. J. Clifford, 1211 W. Main, Medford, Ore.

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

A city couple recently went suburban, thinking how much fun it would be to have a few acres, raise some livestock, and so on. Ah dreams!

Well, they went to an auction last week. Steers, chickens, pigs, calves—even goats—were sold. But the couple did not bid on any of the livestock. Their single purchase was a pair of ski poles.

It could be added, accurately, that they don't ski.

During the steady down-pour of rain Tuesday evening, the lawn sprinkling system at the corner of Oakdale ave. and Dakota st. was in full operation.

A gentleman of our acquaintance last week was struggling against the assaults of some sort of virus, presumably a variant of the flu bug. As he kept at his desk during the morning, mounting dizziness and discomfort plagued him. He called his doctor and obtained an appointment for the following day at 9:30 a.m. Then he gave up, went home, climbed in bed and went sound asleep.

After what seemed like a long-limbed slumber, he awoke, groggily looked at the clock, which said 8 o'clock, put on hat and coat and journeyed forth for his doctor's appointment.

A slight feeling of unease—that thing's weren't quite-right, somehow—came to a head when he was almost all the way downtown and discovered that it was evening, instead of the following morning.

The discovery didn't help his equilibrium any, he reports.

Tuesday evening, the city council was discussing speed limits imposed on trains in the city limits. City Attorney Frank Farrell assured members that the city ordinance limits its trains to 20 miles per hour. "But they haven't reached that yet," he added.

A local woman entered an office building last week, uncertain of the number of the doctor's office she was seeking. She stopped in front of the elevator and paused to peer at the lobby sign listing the office numbers. Suddenly she felt pressure on both sides of her head and, startled, found herself peering into grinning faces.

The elevator operator had pushed the "up" button, and the woman's head had been caught in the quiet, relentless, but gently closing doors of the elevator.

Four young men last week entered a bar in a Jackson county town which shall here be nameless. The bartender, observing their youth demanded evidence to show they were at least 21 years of age. Three promptly complied, but the fourth found he had left his at home, and said he'd go home and get it.

He did. It showed he was of legal age. He then ordered a bottle of orange soda pop.

"Mutual thoughtfulness," seems to describe this story: A Medford man was hospitalized.

hardened, the young cry for help before they hatch and the mother, hearing them, uncovers the eggs. Then the young cracks the shell and pokes out the tip of its ugly snout, and it isn't a small one, either.

But surely the most amazing brooding of all belongs to the two sole egg-laying mammals—the platypus and spiny anteater. The platypus digs a burrow and at the end builds a nest with wet leaves and hatches its 1, 2 or 3 eggs there in the darkness; but the spiny anteater, takes her tiny walnut-sized egg and transfers it into a brood pouch on her abdomen and there in the warmth after several days, it hatches.

And now, to both parents comes the problem: neither mother has teeth! But to give nourishment to their helpless, blind young, they have scattered glands in their skin which secrete milk. For the anteater, the area is in the pouch; for the platypus it is on the abdomen—and the pair of young simply lick up the flow of milk which runs off the hair.

As for that bird with the built-in pouch, that's the Emperor penguin. Living in the cold antarctic, it holds its eggs off the ice on its foot which has over it a flap which protects the egg. Just what the doctor ordered.

ized for an illness. A friend decided to call on him. The friend drove up to the hospital, parked, and got out of his car. As he did so, he slipped and broke a bone in his foot, which had to be placed in a cast.

A few days later the man with the broken foot, confined to his home, received a call from his once-hospitalized friend, convalescing but sympathetic.

Denver — (U.P.) — Both Dismounts Thrice of Denver Dismounted a marriage license to marry Katherine Chasing Horse.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS After wrestling for 115 days with the problems presented to it by its employers, the people, the Oregon legislature adjourns, and as this is written its members are on their way back to their homes to take up their businesses—and their professions where they left them some four months ago.

Their last act was a decision to ask the people to double their present \$600 annual salaries. I'd like to put the cart before the horse in this piece with the statement that I think the request should be granted.

WHEN the 1955 Oregon legislature assembled, it faced a basic problem. This basic problem was a financial one. It had horns—sharp ones.

Briefly, the problem was this: The people of Oregon wanted from their state government some \$60,000,000 MORE in the way of services than the present revenue system would produce. The legislature first tried to CUT THE AMOUNT of money asked for, as summarized in the governor's budget. It didn't have any luck in the way of CUTTING DOWN.

So— It had to tackle the other horn of the dilemma. It had to FIND MORE MONEY.

IT found the money (basically) by boosting income taxes and imposing a tax of three cents per package on cigarettes. That's the story in a nutshell.

All in all, considering all the angles of the problem, it did a pretty good job.

BUT— It was a temporary job. It meets the problem for this biennium only.

WE'RE going to need a PERMANENT solution. We'd better start at once the job of putting together an Oregon taxation system that will provide over the years—in the fairest manner possible, in the manner that will best serve the needs of the changing and EXPANDING economy of the state of Oregon—enough to pay for services that are going to be demanded by the people of Oregon from their state government.

AS for the people, they'd better start adjusting themselves to the hard fact that if they want more services from their state government they're going to have to pay the bill. They're going to have to pay it with taxes.

Whatever money the people demand in the way of services from the government HAS to be paid for with tax money. The tax money will have to come out of the pockets of the people.

There is nowhere else for it to come from.

THROUGHOUT this session of the Oregon legislature, there was continuing talk of a sales tax as a major revenue producer. Nothing came of it.

Personally, I think that is just as well. The place for a sales tax, when looked upon as a major revenue producer, is as a PART of a carefully considered tax program to meet the needs of the Oregon of the future.

I'd like to point out here, however, that the idea of a sales tax is nothing new in Oregon. There is nothing revolutionary about it. We've been relying FOR YEARS upon a SALES TAX to produce a VERY LARGE SHARE of the revenue we have to pay our bills with. It is a sales tax (on gasoline) that has paid the cost of building and maintaining our highways.

To this very considerable sales tax on a single commodity (gasoline) the 1955 legislature added a sales tax on ANOTHER commodity—cigarettes.

What is happening is that we're adopting the sales tax in a PIECEMEAL fashion. It is no longer a question as to whether or not we shall have a sales tax. We have one now. It's merely a question of how far we shall go in the way of integrating a sales tax into a carefully considered program of taxation in Oregon.

An estimated 166,000 anglers caught 1,590,000 striped bass in 1955. The northern boundary of the United States is 2987 miles long.