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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

May 9, 1945

(It was Wednesday)

Rogue Transit company granted permit to operate between Ashland and Grants Pass.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Experts and researchers are now prowling for the "basic causes of the war." Offhand, one would guess, the "basic causes" were too many guns, and too much shooting.

20 YEARS AGO

May 9, 1935

(It was Thursday)

Medford invited to participate in National Housing show in Portland.

A record tourist flow predicted for southern Oregon this year.

30 YEARS AGO

May 9, 1925

(It was Saturday)

The annual De Molay convention holds last session.

Medford school board asks residents to visit prospective sites for new high school.

40 YEARS AGO

May 9, 1915

(It was Sunday)

Members of Greater Gold Hill club to hold annual mining celebration.

The county court authorizes bridge across the Elliptic at Middle Fork and Elliot creek costing \$1,000.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

Copr. 1955. Editorial Research Report

1. The proposed and controversial Echo Park Dam would be in the basin of the Missouri, Snake, St. Lawrence, Colorado or Tennessee river?

2. Most states give new driving tests on renewing driving permits: right or wrong?

3. Are there many more widows than widowers in the U. S., or many more widowers, or about the same number of each?

4. When a U.S. Representative dies, the Governor of his state appoints a successor until a new election is held: right or wrong?

5. Mossadegh is or isn't prime minister of Iran now?

6. Kansas City, Mo., is larger or smaller than Kansas City, Kan., or are they about the same size?

7. The wife of which of our recent Presidents was named Grace?

The answers: 1. Colorado river. 2. Wrong. 3. Many more widows. 4. Wrong (but true when a Senator dies). 5. Isn't. 6. Kansas City, Mo., is much larger. 7. Coolidge.

NOT APPRECIATED

Knoxville, Tenn. — (U.P.) — Landlord Kenneth Ownby complained to civic clubs sponsoring "Operation Facelift" slum-clearing projects that toilets and bathtubs he put in four homes at their urging had been ripped out by the tenants and sold to a junk dealer.

ROCKY GOING

Anderson, Ind. — (U.P.) — Sewer diggers found a huge granite-like rock 14 feet across and seven feet high several feet underground. They estimated its weight at 14 tons and figured it was part of a glacial deposit pushed here ages ago.

Not Best, Not Worst

The legislature which adjourned last week was far from the best in the history of Oregon legislatures. Neither was it the worst, as some rather shallow comments on its labor would indicate.

The press of Oregon has arrived at a surprising variety of verdicts about the legislature and its work, ranging from praise to condemnation. Most of the more extreme comments were motivated by the writer's stand on one or two specific issues.

BUT, as with most legislatures, there was much accomplished that was good, some that was bad. Some of the bills which the legislature did not pass were junked justifiably; others had merit.

As in so many other fields of human endeavor, the picture is neither black nor white, but composed of varying shades of grey.

ONE of the big credit items, and it is a major one, was the passage of House Bills 25 and 26, setting up a water resources board and organizing a ground water code for western Oregon.

This was no easy task, for in attempting to organize the use of water, the legislature ran the danger of treading on the toes of practically everybody in the state. Charles A. Sprague, editor of the Salem Statesman and a former governor, one of the most knowledgeable observers in the state, comments:

AS Governor Sprague also points out, Oregon is again pioneering, as it has in the past, with this legislation. Other states have made some gestures toward conservation and administration of their water resources, but as far as we are informed at the moment, Oregon is the first one to do so on such a broad scale.

The bills were drawn after a two-year study conducted by an especially appointed committee, which issued a report which ran to volume length. (Much of it was written by the committee's executive secretary, Don Lane, known here as a former chamber of commerce manager. The chances are excellent that Don may get a bid to serve the new board in one capacity or other.)

Governor Sprague adds to his comments: It is safe to hail this as one of the major achievements of this session of the Legislative Assembly. That it has been approved in both houses by very large majorities testifies not only to the general recognition of need for such legislation but to the ability of the sponsors of the bill to reconcile differences and to allay fears of such diverse groups as irrigators and those interested in fishing.

ANOTHER major accomplishment, at least as far as Jackson county is concerned, is the passage of Senate Bill 434 — the sanitary authority bill.

The measure was written by Sen. Phil Lowry and his associates expressly to meet Jackson county needs, although the measure is, of course, applicable elsewhere. It will permit unincorporated areas to explore the possibility of forming one big sanitary district to furnish the financial stability and the engineering skills necessary to solve the problem of sewage disposal and sanitation.

That the bill was passed at all is a tribute to the hard work and newly-learned legislative skills of Senator Lowry, who earned an enviable reputation as a legislator of stature during his first session.

THE freshman senator figured in many another legislative battle, and came out, if not always successful, at least respected. He was a non-partisan co-sponsor of the measure (passed) to ban wiretapping in Oregon except under orders of a court. He was one of a hardy minority who fought a difficult and losing battle to place a sales tax measure before the voters of Oregon, a proposal he sincerely felt was a prelude to the establishment of a sound, long-range program of fiscal stability for the state, rather than the admittedly "stop-gap" plan finally adopted. He was a member of another minority who voted against the rather absurd ban on women wrestlers, and the "emergency" clause which put it into effect immediately.

He received an unofficial accolade from members of the press, who declared him to be the outstanding freshman senator. It appears that the judgment of Jackson county voters, who elected him without opposition, was justified.

THE difficulty of commenting on the legislature is caused by the same reason that it is difficult to "cover" it completely in the press—there's just too much going on.

The session lasted for 115 days, and passed 774 new laws, some of them important, some vastly unimportant. (One of the legislature's "achievements" was the congratulating of the Turkish government on the valor of its troops in Korea).

The true value of much of the legislation will become known only as it becomes law and is applied to the every-day lives of Oregon's citizens.

In the meantime, we can be grateful that 90 men and women are willing to make sacrifices of time, money and strength to do their best to represent us. If they fail, it oftentimes is our fault as much as it is theirs.—E.A.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

WHY PEACE TALK?

Washington — The change of atmosphere in Washington in the last few weeks is astonishing.



Stewart Alsop

Hardly a month ago there was more war talk than at any time since the Korean war. Now the talk is all of peace, with President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles both on record with optimistic remarks about the prospects. Why the change?

Partly, perhaps, it is wishful thinking induced by handsome spring weather. Partly, certainly, it is because of the carefully hedged Chinese Communist offer to negotiate on the Formosa crisis. Even more, it is because of the apparent willingness of the Soviets to withdraw their troops from Austria — the first post-war withdrawal of Soviet troops from Soviet-occupied territory. But in addition, there has also been a steadily growing belief in the Eisenhower administration that the Soviet regime may genuinely wish a period of relaxation of war tension.

There have been seemingly reliable reports that the Soviets restrained their Chinese Communist allies at the height of the Formosa crisis. But the belief that the Soviets may want a breathing spell, which is of course, still very tentative, is also based on the following factors.

First, there is no doubt that Soviet agriculture is faced with a most serious crisis. Careful analysis suggests that the Russian urban population is growing at a rate of 4 1/2 per cent a year, while food production is largely confirmed by Communist party boss Khrushchev himself, and by other party leaders, who have made no bones about the seriousness of the crisis.

Population growing at double the rate of food production is a formula for eventual famine, as any child can see. The Khrushchev plan for averting this disaster envisages heavily mechanized agriculture in the arid, virgin lands of the Soviet Far East. So far, this solution has proved a costly failure. But the attempt is continuing, and it places an extremely heavy strain on the Soviet economy for tractors, transport of all kinds, and other hard goods.

SECOND, there is also a heavy, growing and directly competitive strain on the Soviet economy, arising from the demand for military hard goods.

The satellite ground forces are still equipped with Soviet war surplus and captured German arms, now rapidly becoming obsolete. With the Kremlin establishing a "unified command" in the satellites, to counter NATO, there is a real need to re-equip the satellite armies. At the same time there is increasing pressure to re-equip the Red Army itself.

The tactical doctrine of the Red Army, which calls for enormous concentrations of foot soldiers and material to achieve a breakthrough, has been made obsolete by the tactical atomic bomb. The Red Army leaders are aware of transport, communications equipment and so on required to provide dispersion and mobility as protection against atomic attacks.

To add what may be the last straw, promised Soviet delivery of military hard goods to the Chinese Communists has fallen far behind schedule, and, according to intelligence reports considered reliable, the Chinese are angrily pressing for the promised arms. For political reasons it is immensely important to the Soviets to make good their promises to the Chinese.

Thus a picture emerges of the already over-strained Soviet economy being subjected to enormous demands from two different directions, agricultural and military. Now add to the picture the further evidence of the steadily growing political influence of the Red Army. Marshal Zhukov's initiative in writing to his "old comrade in arms" President Eisenhower, is only the latest of many small signs that the army is becoming a decisive influence, as it never was under Stalin.

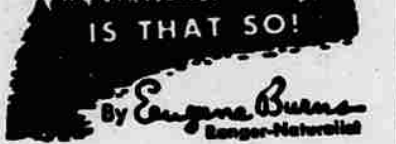
One such sign, for example, was a recent promotion list for Red Army generals. Always in the past, there was a careful balance between the political, or party generals, and the professional soldiers. This time, according to a careful analysis by U.S. Army G-2, every single man promoted was a soldier with a good war record — and some had decidedly doubtful party records. Such signs clearly suggest that the Red Army is very much more independent of the Communist party, and thus very much more powerful, than ever before.

IT SEEMS to be a law of nature that professional soldiers — at least ground soldiers — are cautious about political adventures and over-extended commitments (President Eisenhower and Gen. Ridgway seem to

be obeying this law here in the United States.) It may be that the Red Army leaders, faced with an over-strained economy at home and risky commitments abroad, really are eager for a period of relaxation and retrenchment, perhaps even for the kind of "you stay in your back yard and I'll stay in my back yard" arrangement that soldiers like.

That, at least, is the theory. It may be dead wrong. There are those who believe instead that the Soviets and the Chinese Communists are now making a brilliant double play, the object being to choke off the Western alliance in Europe, and then kill it outright in Asia. But at least the theory outlined above is worth testing, and this the Eisenhower administration is now preparing to do.

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IS THAT SO?

Over the Canadian Arctic, With S.A.S. (Delayed) — While cruising in comfort over this north polar area at five miles a minute, I am looking down at one of the world's most fascinating and misrepresented lands. The popular conception is that it is bleak; that it contains precious little animal life; and vegetation is nonexistent.

Actually, it is one of the world's richest lands—as for the Arctic Ocean, polar experts tell me, it is more prolific of life than any other in the world!

First, let's consider the plant life. Indeed it is not tall, but it is luxuriant. Although covered with snow in winter, during the summer the land is green with dwarf shrubs, moss cushions over one foot in depth, lichens in great abundance, and many grasses including cotton grass. Beyond this, there are myriads of wild flowers, all vividly brilliant—much more so than their counterparts in our temperate zones.

This heavy plant growth in areas which are free from snow



5-9-55

in summer is due to the long daylight hours. In fact, during the three months of Arctic summer there are as many hours of growing sunshine as in a tropical summer of five months' duration.

Among the animals feeding on these plants are the hare and the lemming which are most abundant. Another plant eater is the musk or ox which takes its name from the musk flavor of its flesh. (The apparent size of the creature is a fraud — it looks larger than its actual size because of the extreme thickness of its shaggy coat.)

Not to be overlooked are the enormous herds of reindeer and their close relatives, the caribou, who dwell well above the Arctic circle.

Where there are herb eaters, there are flesh-eaters. Monarchs of them is the polar bear whose long neck and small snake-like head distinguishes it from all other species of bear. He preys over the whole of the Arctic, eating seal and fish principally.

Wolves and Wolverines, too, are both circumpolar. And such fur-bearing mammals as the well-known ermine exist—but the ermine is not so plentiful now due to current fashions.

But prettier than these, to my way of thinking, is the short-muzzled Arctic fox which inhabits almost all of the Arctic lands. It is often quite gentle and unafraid. (In fact, when our SAS plane taxied to the ramp in Greenland, we saw Arctic foxes from our windows.)

As for the waters, they abound with life. There are seals in large numbers which live off marine life; and many walrus — a full-grown male may weigh over a ton and a half and measure 12 feet in length—a formidable antagonist to all animals, even the polar bear. The whalebone almost depleted by commercial whalers once common, has been slaughtered but it can be found in the open waters in the farthest navigable north.

Fish, shrimps and other marine forms are abundant, together with bird life.

So for those people who bring an understanding to the Arctic, polar explorer friends have told me, the northland holds no fears — there is plant and animal life in profusion, and the land is not hostile, but friendly.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best questions on nature and wildlife a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Seal-

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is National Conservation Week.

So— Since the whole future of the West depends upon INTELLIGENT conservation of the West's natural resources—

This newspaper, along with other Western newspapers, has been devoting a great deal of space to the subject of INTELLIGENT conservation.

CONSERVATION of our natural resources is a big subject. Looked at in its entirety, it is so big that it is apt to terrify us. So let's see if we can break it down into a segment that will be small enough for us to see.

Let's use the forest lands of the Klamath Indian reservation as such a segment. Fortunately, over most of the period during which timber has been harvested from them, these lands have been handled under an intelligent program of forestry management.

Within recent weeks, this program and its results have been described for us by Earl Wilcox, forest officer on the Klamath reservation, in a series of talks at various points in Oregon.

It is a fascinating story.

MR. Wilcox says:

"On Dec. 31, 1954, 42 years of intensive logging activities on the Klamath reservation had been completed. During that period a total of 4,674,000,000 board feet of sawlogs had been removed under contract by private operators from approximately 538,000 acres of tribal and allotted forest lands, bringing to the Klamath Indians a gross stumpage of about \$32,750,000.

"The average volume cut each year for the 42-year period has been over 111,000,000 board feet. The average volume cut per acre has been almost 8,700 board feet of sawlogs."

THAT is more lumber than most of us can visualize readily, so Mr. Wilcox gives us an example by which we can judge it. He tells us that the 4,500,000,000 feet of sawlogs harvested from Klamath reservation would furnish lumber enough to HOUSE ALL THE PEOPLE IN SAN FRANCISCO, SEATTLE AND PORTLAND!

HE then says: "We have found that, despite the removal of over 4,000,000,000 board feet of sawtimber from these tribally-owned lands, there is NOW a stand of more than 2,500,000,000 board feet remaining on them.

"We have measured the past growth, and have predicted future growth, on a sufficiently conservative basis to be confident that under good forest management there will be CONSIDERABLY IN EXCESS OF 3,500,000,000 BOARD FEET OF TIMBER REMAINING ON THESE CUTOVER TRIBAL LANDS AT THE END OF THE FIRST (50 - year) CUTTING CYCLE. APPROXIMATELY TEN YEARS HENCE."

He adds: "We feel certain that this land will continue to grow timber at an average gross rate exceeding 140 board feet per acre per year if sustained yield management is continued."

LET me summarize: In 50 years, around 5,000,000,000 board feet of sawtimber will have been harvested from these lands.

At the END of the 50 years, somewhere in excess of 3,500,000,000 board feet of sawtimber WILL STILL BE THERE to be harvested in the future.

That's intelligent conservation. I WANT to close this piece with some food for grave and serious thought on the part not only of the Klamath Basin and Southern Oregon but the whole state of Oregon.

Under a law passed by the last congress, federal administration of the Klamath Indian reservation is to be terminated. In order to carry out the provisions of this law as it was enacted, it is possible that these tribal lands may have to be sold off to the highest bidder.

THAT would be a CALAMITY — because it could result in taking these lands out from under intelligent forest management and throwing them on the market for IMMEDIATE, UNRESTRICTED cutting.

The result of that could be a temporary, WILD boom in rough lumber cutting. But such a boom would result in exhaustion of a reserve of timber that if INTELLIGENTLY managed will supply us with adequate raw material for GENERATIONS TO COME.

I THINK I'm safe in saying that we mustn't let that happen. But it CAN happen unless intelligent steps are taken to prevent it.

craft binding. Each week, new questions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your questions to: IS THAT SO? c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.



URNS DOWN WRITING OFFERS—General of the Army George C. Marshall poses with his wife, Katherine, at their Leesburg, Va., home in one of very few photos permitted to be taken in commemoration of his 75th birthday this year. In recent Look magazine article, General Marshall revealed that he turned down offers of "up to a million dollars" to write his intimate memoirs.

India-China Talks May Lead To Parley On Formosa Situation

By CHARLES M. McCANN

United Press Foreign Analyst

The visit which India's peppy Vengalil Krishnan Krishna Menon is paying to Chinese Communist Premier Chou En-lai this week may make him a diplomatic hero.

It is entirely possible that the Krishna Menon-Chou talks, starting today in the Red Chinese capital of Peking, may lead to United States Communist negotiations on a Formosa cease fire.

They also may have important bearing on the suddenly intensified effort of United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld to win the release of American and other Korean war prisoners held by the Reds in violation of the armistice.

The State department does not often care much for the diplomatic activities of Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Krishna Menon, who is chief delegate to the U.N. and chief diplomatic adviser.

Nehru and Krishna Menon can not fairly be called fellow travelers of the Reds. But too often, in the United States viewpoint, they and the Communists happen to be going the same way diplomatically.

This time it is difficult to see how Krishna Menon can do any harm. He could do much good. Here is the situation: Chou En-lai made the dramatic announcement on April 23, at the Asia-African conference in Bandung, Indonesia, that Red China was ready to negotiate directly with the United States on the Formosa situation and Far Eastern issue in general.

Ever since then, there has been a bubbling under-current of secret diplomatic negotiations involving countries which have diplomatic relations with both the United States and Red China.

Formosa Discussed Nehru announced in New Delhi on April 30 that during the Bandung conference Krishna Menon and Chou had discussed "certain aspects" of the Formosa situation.

As the result, Nehru said, Chou invited Krishna Menon to Peking to continue the talks.

"We have known for some time that Red China was ready to enter direct talks with America on Formosa," Nehru said. Krishna Menon took off for Peking Saturday.

Before he left, he had some long talks with John Sherman Cooper, the new United States ambassador.

It happened, interestingly, that Hammarskjöld's stimulated attempt to get the American prisoners in China freed coincided with Krishna Menon's visit.



Frank Perl

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Portland Fires Kill One; Hurt Two

Portland — (U.P.) — One man died and two others were hospitalized by a series of fires which swept the Portland area Saturday night and early Sunday.

The dead man was identified as Joseph D. Gurley, 65, of Oregon City. He perished early Sunday as flames destroyed his house on Thayer road. Cause of the fire was believed to be a cigarette near his bed.

Two other persons were injured when a Portland fire truck speeding to a fire call and a passenger car collided.

Both car occupants were pinned in the wreckage by the impact. The driver, 41-year-old Peter Lucas, and his passenger, James Eugene Watterud, 38, were taken to Emmanuel hospital where they were listed in "fair" condition.

Another fire early Sunday caused several thousand dollars damage to the Kay Manufacturing company in Portland.