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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

June 8, 1945 (It was Friday) Jackson county ranked sixth among top 10 Oregon counties in "E" bond sales of current war loan drive.

20 YEARS AGO

June 8, 1935 (It was Saturday) Jacksonville starts construction of new water system.

30 YEARS AGO

June 8, 1925 (It was Monday) Several hundred Rogue valley residents visit Camp Jackson, encampment of Oregon National Guard.

40 YEARS AGO

June 8, 1915 (It was Tuesday) Blue Ledge bridge over junction of Elliot creek and middle Applegate fork completed and open to traffic.

What's the Answer?

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

1. U.S. church membership in the last 25 years has gone up less or more than the population, or about the same?

2. First state giving women full voting rights was Louisiana, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin or Wyoming?

3. More new housing units are being built in cities or in rural areas?

4. The term "spare" is used in which game?

5. Many more men than women are in hospitals getting medical care on a typical day, or many more women, or about the same number of each?

6. For Mohammedans the Holy City is Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, Istanbul, Jerusalem or Mecca?

7. The Aleutian islands are part of Japan, Russia, Formosa, Red China, the U.S. or Great Britain?

The Answers: 1. More. 2. Wyoming. 3. Slightly more in cities. 4. Bowling. 5. Many more men. 6. Mecca. 7. The U.S. (off Alaska).

PINBALLS LEGALIZED

Vancouver, Wash. — (U.P.) — The city council voted 6-1 last night to legalize pinball machines for amusement only. The machines will be licensed at \$40 a month.

Sno-Cat Chosen Again

It's good news that the Tucker Sno-Cat has been chosen as the principal vehicle for four Antarctic expeditions.

Rogue valley people who have long been familiar with the versatile contraption have never had much question about its potentialities, but it has taken a long time for W. M. Tucker and his sons and associates to gain the full international recognition which goes with the Sno-Cats being picked by France, England, the United States and Australia for a major assault on the Antarctic continent.

THE 'Cats have proven themselves in practically every kind of snow-covered terrain. Their success is based principally on the design of the equipment which conveys the power of the engine to the ground.

This is done through the use of the unique "pontoon," which are the invention of the president of the firm. These are large, flat-bottomed metal contrivances which almost literally "float" on the snow. Around these go an endless chain, propelling the pontoons forward rather in the manner that a swimmer is propelled by his hands while doing the Australian crawl.

ONLY the Sno-Cat, out of a number of over-snow vehicles, has this type of propelling mechanism, which gives it an advantage both in weight, for the pontoons need not be heavy, and in maneuverability, for the front pontoons in a four-pontoon rig are flexible, and are used for steering.

It is obvious from the fact that these important Antarctic expeditions have chosen the Sno-Cat that it is now achieving its place as the premier over-snow vehicle.

For which all of us in the Rogue valley can be glad, for it means more jobs, more money and better times for southern Oregon.—E.A.

Highways

Why all this talk about highway construction? Isn't it going ahead pretty well?

The answer to the second question is "no." The answer to the first lies in the fact that the United States is not building highways fast enough to keep up with (1) the growing number of cars, and (2) the fact that people take good roads pretty much for granted, even when they aren't there. As a result people get killed.

CONGRESS is now considering ways and means of federal participation in highway construction. We are not arguing here how this should be accomplished—simply that it must be, one way or another.

A large group of leading citizens recently formed what they call a "Highways for Survival Committee," which is dedicated solely to urging this needed highway construction, and to pointing out how vitally necessary it is to us in all our day-to-day living.

THIS committee declares that improved highways are vital to our economic, social and military needs. Here are some facts which it quotes in support of its thesis:

Out of the 3,366,000 miles of roads in the United States, only about 919,000—about one quarter—are paved, and only one out of every three miles is adequate for the job it is supposed to do.

There are now an estimated 58,000,000 vehicles on America's roads, and the total is growing by the millions each year.

The traffic death toll in 1954 was 36,300, with more than a million injured. Except for the wartime gasoline rationing period, the death toll has been over 30,000 for the past 22 years. If traffic volume increases by 50 per cent in the next 10 years, as is estimated, the death rate will be about 55,000.

Safety experts estimated that an adequate system of highways would reduce traffic accidents from 40 to 50 per cent, and that one life would be saved for every 10 miles of adequate highway constructed in a proposed interstate system.

The money-cost alone of accidents in 1954 (not figuring the loss of life) was estimated at \$4,300,000,000. Money wasted in gasoline, wear and tear on tires and brakes, in accident damage and in time lost in traffic jams on out-moded highways is estimated to total \$3,000,000,000 annually.

ADDED up, the committee says, the facts mean:

"We are paying more in lives and money for bad roads than good roads would cost us."

What is this cost?

The committee estimates that for the proposed "interstate highway system" the cost would be \$23,200,000,000, with slightly more than half for the rural portion and slightly less than half for the urban portion. Another \$4,000,000,000 would be needed to bring this system up to the 40,000-mile limit proposed initially more than 10 years ago. Other federal-aid road needs total \$44,900,000,000, and needs of non-federal-aid roads would require some \$28,700,000,000.

The total cost, then, is estimated at some \$100,800,000,000 for a 10-year program.

IF THE cost is high, so is the cost of inadequate roads, for, in addition to other economic and military and safety factors, the committee points out that one out of every seven workers in the nation earns his living from highway transport industries, which move 77 per cent of the nation's total freight load.

This, briefly, is what the talk is all about. It's a big problem, and an important one.—E.A.

HAS THE ANSWER

Columbus, O. — (U.P.) — A first-grade teacher asked her class Tuesday why the ugly, old troll wouldn't let the three billy goats cross his bridge. "You have to pay money to cross a troll bridge," one 6-year-old answered.

POLICE FAVORED

Troy, O. — (U.P.) — John Weaver, 33, West Milton, O., admitted 12 burglaries and three arson cases because "I was getting such good treatment at the jail I thought I would return the favor and confess."

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

IN FAIRNESS TO A LADY

Washington—In all fairness, it is time somebody spoke up for Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, beleaguered Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.



It is fashionable nowadays to beat Mrs. Hobby over the head, editorially and orally, as if she were solely responsible for the confusions and delays in the polio vaccine program. Adlai Stevenson, who knows a good issue when he sees one, took up the cudgels the other day when he said that he "didn't think it required any special clairvoyance to estimate the demand for the vaccine, the supply, and the hazards of production."

Yet the truth is that the blame really rests far less on Mrs. Hobby than on a mysterious polio virus, which for reasons yet unexplained refused to die when it should have died. Stevenson to the contrary, it would have required clairvoyance of a remarkably high order to foresee this particular hazard.

The facts are simple enough. On April 12, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis announced the success of the field tests of the Salk vaccine. On the same day, Mrs. Hobby licensed six manufacturers to distribute the vaccine, and the polio foundation went a head with its free vaccination program for all first and second grade children.

Mrs. Hobby has been much criticized by hindsight for "not having a distribution plan ready." In fact, a distribution plan was ready—the polio foundation's program for vaccinating first and second graders, which is still incomplete, and which will use all available vaccine until it is complete. It never occurred to anyone in Mrs. Hobby's department to move in and take over the foundation's program, simply because there was no visible need whatsoever for doing so.

What, then, really went wrong?

WHAT went wrong was that virus that refused to die. On April 27, the Surgeon General, Dr. Scheele, received reports of six cases of polio among children who had received vaccine from the Cutter Laboratories in California. The polio had apparently resulted from live virus in the vaccine. Dr. Scheele immediately asked Cutter to withdraw all its vaccine.

The scientists of the Public Health Service then descended on the Cutter Laboratories to try to determine why the virus had not died. And even now, they do not really know for certain.

Making the Salk vaccine is a tricky business. To put it in the simplest and most unscientific terms, the vaccine has to be strong but not too strong. It must be treated with formaldehyde for a certain length of time in order to make sure that no killing polio virus remains. But it cannot be immersed too long, or the immunizing effect is lost.

A standard operating procedure—the best the scientists of the Public Health Service could formulate at the time—for achieving this life-and-death balance, had been laid down for all six laboratories, including the Cutter Laboratories. And even now, the scientists have been unable to determine why the polio virus survived in the Cutter vaccine. It should have died.

It was the tragic incident of the Cutter vaccine that threw the whole polio program into turmoil. The stubborn virus has also come rather close to destroying the reputation of the able Mrs. Hobby.

The stubborn virus is not the whole story, of course. The polio foundation is dependent on public contributions, and it has the usual public relations setup of such foundations. Thus the success of the Salk vaccine was announced with the maximum ballyhoo (something Mrs. Hobby had no control over) and the impression got abroad that the scourge of polio had been conquered completely overnight. In fact, of course, the vaccine is only partially effective, and supplies were unavoidably limited.

THE press relations of Mrs. Hobby's department are also even more stupidly handled than most, and Mrs. Hobby's famous statement that "no one could have foreseen" the demand for the vaccine was no help. Perhaps the worst fault of all was the failure to explain, simply and understandably, that using the vaccine could in rare cases be dangerous—which is still true—but that on balance its use vastly increases a child's chance of avoiding the terrible disease.

Any such admission it was thought, would scare the living daylight out of the American people, and thus destroy the value of the life-saving Salk vaccine. Lack of confidence in the American people's common sense is a besetting sin of this Administration. Yet in fairness

it is hard to understand how Mrs. Hobby, clairvoyant or not, could have foreseen what some of the best scientists in the country did not foresee—and cannot wholly understand, even now that it has happened. (Copyright, 1955, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)



Helsinki, With SAS — How often have you heard such expressions: "That horse has a mean look in his eye." Or, "that dog has an intelligent look."

Last night a group of us were sitting in my room in the Palace Hotel, overlooking the harbor, and our conversation dealt with

these animal character — reading signs — and gradually came around to the discussion of the traits of the human being. As a result here's a fact vs. fallacy on reading the "inner human being from outward signs."

Fallacy: A high bulging forehead is a sure sign of superior brainpower; a low hairline, in turn, indicates a less advanced stage of mental development.

Fact: The appearance of the face, the shape and size of the forehead have nothing whatever to do with a person's intelligence.

Fallacy: A receding chin denotes a lack of will power. A so-called "lantern jaw" shows determination. A pointed chin points out a penny — pinching individual. A dimpled chin usually belongs to a charming, highly affectionate person with generosity to spare.

Fact: The chin, whether receding, pointed, or forward thrusting, has nothing whatever to do with a person's inner character.

Fallacy: Long slender fingers belong to artistic temperaments—and, to be sure, their possessors make the best pianists.

Fact: The shape of the fingers has nothing to do with a person's artistic temperament. Neither does a cold hand have anything to do with a person's state of affection. Circulation? That's another matter.

Fallacy: Red-headed people are more temperamental than blondes; blondes are apt to be less trustworthy than brunettes; curly hair is an outward manifestation of vitality.

Fact: Red-headed people are no more temperamental than any others blondes are just as trustworthy as brunettes; curly hair does not proclaim vitality—in fact, it is due to the shape of the individual hair, and one side grows faster than the other.

Fallacy: You can read a person's true meaning by looking him "straight in the eye."

Fact: Small eyes, large eyes, bright eyes, dull eyes, smiling eyes, sad eyes—even if they did exist — could reveal nothing about a person's character. Even the crow's feet may be due to weak eyes or overpowering sunlight.

And, despite what many people say, neither can one judge the "character" of a wild animal by reading "outward signs."

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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 question on nature and wildlife a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft 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.

IF we Americans are going to try to run the world (we'd better learn at least to UNDERSTAND the languages of the people we're trying to deal with.

THE teletype tells us: A situation reminiscent of the '49 gold rush has developed in California. It will be highlighted in a few hours from now by the opening by the federal government of nearly 3000 acres of public land for persons who want to stake out claims in a search for uranium.

The area lies in Kern county, where California's richest uranium strike was made recently.

Scelba's Job May Have Been Saved by Sicily Vote Results

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Foreign Analyst

Italian Premier Mario Scelba may have saved his job by his victory in the Sicilian regional election.

If so, it is good news for the United States and its allies. Scelba is a firm friend of this country. He hates the Communists, and the Communists hate him.

Scelba has been in trouble for several months. The coalition which he leads is shaky. Rebels in his own Christian Democratic Party have been gunning for him.

He suffered a loss of prestige when Giovanni Gronchi, one of his party enemies, was elected president of Italy on April 29.

Gronchi is a member of the left wing of the Christian Democratic Party. Scelba's leadership is opposed also by a strong group of right wing members of the party.

Everybody agreed to let things rest until after last Sunday's election in Scelba's native Sicily for a regional assembly of 90 members.

No Confidence Threat Had the Christian Democrats suffered a defeat, Scelba's enemies planned to introduce a motion of no confidence against him at the opening of the Italian Parliament next Monday.

In the old Sicilian assembly, the Christian Democrats held 30 seats and the Communists and left wing Socialists held 30. The Christian Democrats ruled with the support of small groups.

The Communists, who are losing strength steadily on the Ital-

ian mainland, threw everything they had into the Sicilian campaign.

The election, however, proved a clear victory for Scelba. The Reds kept their 30 seats. But the Christian Democrats gained seven—at the expense of splinter parties—to make their total in the assembly 37.

Also the Communist popular vote declined for the first time since World War II.

Scelba's pro-American, anti-Red policy has been strengthened, and he has been strengthened personally.

Future Looks Bright There is to be a Christian Democratic Party caucus Friday. What will happen there remains to be seen. But the stocky, smiling, 53-year-old premier may be expected to face his critics boldly and to ask no favors. At the moment, his chance of riding out a threatened crisis looks good.

Scelba has had a long, spectacular career in politics. He attended his first political rally when he was 13. He was a protégé of Don Luigi Sturzo, founder of the Popular Party, which has now become the Christian Democratic Party.

Little Mario went to an opposition meeting. He reported so efficiently on the meeting that Don Sturzo said:

"Young man, if you keep on listening so intently to what people say you will become police chief."

Scelba did just that—he became police chief of all Italy, as interior minister, in the critical year of 1946. Communism was at its peak. Revolution was a clear threat. Scelba reorganized the entire national police and formed the famous anti-riot squads.

Every Red riot was smashed. The Communist threat was overcome, and Scelba later became premier.

As this is written, several hundred men and quite a few women—many of them toting shootin' irons—are awaiting the signal for the rush, which is expected to be given at 10 a.m. A sheriff's posse is on hand, and the sheriff says the situation is explosive.

I THINK the reporters got a little tangled up in their history. The situation down Bakersfield way is much more reminiscent of the opening of the Cherokee Strip in Oklahoma back in the Gay Nineties.

On Sept. 16, 1893, a motley mass of people estimated all the way from 50,000 to 100,000 was lined up along the border of the Strip waiting for the opening, which was signaled by a pistol shot from a detachment of U.S. cavalry.

On horseback, in wagons, on foot, in "little old surreys with the fringe on top" — any way to get there—the homesteaders streamed in and when they found a spot that looked good they staked out a claim. There were battles galore over choice quarter sections. There were cheaters. These slickers had sneaked into the Strip ahead of the opening and hidden in the brush along the streams. On the morning of the opening, they emerged from their hiding places and staked out claims in the richest spots.

When the more honest ones arrived, they found these sharpies in possession—which led to many shootings. These early birds were called "sooners" and from them Oklahoma took its sobriquet of The Sooner State. On that one day, 50,000 claims were staked out in the Strip.

AS this is written, more of the Pacific Northwest's surplus grain is getting water borne. Loading of reserve (mothball) fleet cargo vessels is starting at Longview, in Washington. Half a dozen ships will be loaded there by the end of June and eight more will be filled in July. Four ships previously loaded at Astoria have been berthed at permanent anchorages in Cathlamet bay.

The dispatches explain that the idle reserve fleet is being used because of LACK OF LAND STORAGE SPACE for

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 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.

Ads in School Books

To the Editor: School's out. Now, comes the time for the school boards and the Department of Education to start figuring on what additional rooms, buildings, and equipment will be absolutely necessary for the coming school year... and how to raise the money for it all.

Having three school children and also being a property owner, I'm interested in schools and the money angle too.

I've thought of a simple method to help raise some money for our Oregon schools without involving taxes and would like to present it for the consideration of the people of Medford.

First, take a look at The Mail Tribune you're reading now. You paid only five cents for it and bought news, entertainment, and information. The Tribune is still in business after many years because it's run like a business. If it weren't, it would have long ago gone bankrupt... or, we would be paying 50 cents or more per copy! Circulation alone couldn't give us this size paper for five cents. It's advertising that helps pay for our daily paper.

Take a look at magazines... any magazine. Without advertising, even the Reader's Digest had reached the point of either having to raise the price or taking selective advertising.

Now, look at the books our children are using in the schools. There's no advertising to even help pay for the books themselves. Taxes have to pay for school expenses. Why? Just because they always have.

Why shouldn't advertising pay for some of the school expenses in Oregon? Selective advertising surely wouldn't hurt any child! Our children are always cutting out ad pictures of foods, meats, dairy products, etc. To take to school. Why not put such ads in the school books and let them earn money for our schools?

Mrs. L. C. Fowler, Route 1, Box 332, Talent, Oregon.

Attorneys Attack Smith Indictment

Portland — (U.P.) — The first degree murder indictment against Mrs. Marjorie Smith, who was accused in the bombing-slaying of her husband, Oliver, was attacked by defense attorneys here yesterday.

A demurrer attacking the indictment was taken under advisement by Multnomah Circuit Judge Charles W. Redding. It charged the indictment failed to clearly state the facts of the slaying.

The defense action was similar to a move by the attorneys for Victor Laurence Wolf, 45, who later confessed to the slaying in open court. Wolf's petition was denied.

Yesterday's action delayed the entering of a plea by Mrs. Smith.

QUESTION

What will happen when there isn't any more room ON THE WATER to store surplus wheat?

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday. Money for Monday: other days 5:30 previous day.

There Is No Substitute

For an insured savings account. Start with any amount. You'll discover friendly, personal service.

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSN of Medford

27 North Holly An Institution Dedicated To Those Who Save

DRIVE A DeSoto BEFORE YOU DECIDE. Phone Dick Knight Co., 2-3203, and One of Our Courtous Salesmen Will Drive Up To Your Door.