

Recommended

A feature story on the proposed annexation of a large area to the city of Medford appears on Page 12 of today's issue of The Mail Tribune.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE



WEATHER

FORECAST: Partly cloudy except chance of scattered thunderstorms in the mountains Sunday. Fair Monday. Continued warm with a high near 85 Sunday. Low tonight 57. High Monday 87.

50th Year

30 Pages

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70 KILLED, 100 HURT BY EXPLODING RACE CAR

Truman Joins Fight Over Power Control

Charges Eisenhower 'Used' by Enemies Of Public Projects

Former President Praises Sen. Morse

Portland — (U.P.)—Harry S. Truman was back in fighting campaign form Saturday night as he charged that President Eisenhower was being "used" in a deliberate campaign against public-financed power projects.

After riding in a Rose festival parade before 425,000 spectators, the former President told a cheering audience of power-conscious Pacific Northwest Democrats that "a Republican President is being used to cripple the program of River Development that has brought prosperity to many regions of our land."

Mr. Truman also mentioned the budding Atomic Power industry and warned against it falling into private hands. "Don't let it happen," he said.

Mr. Truman accused private power proponents of indulging in "tricky and devious ways" to destroy public faith in federal power policies. He charged they had stacked the federal agencies with enemies of public power.

They had been encouraged, he said, "by a Secretary of Interior who openly opposes public power."

Mr. Truman's address before a capacity Jackson-Jefferson day dinner was full of praise for Sen. Wayne Morse, one-time Oregon Republican who will seek reelection next year as a Democrat.

Morse had been forced, Mr. Truman said, to abandon his party and turn to the Democrats because he had discovered "that you cannot protect the public interests under present Republican management."

He told Democrats from four Northwest states at a \$25-per-plate dinner that Morse must be kept in the Senate to help stop "something evil" that is happening in the country today.

He said "the future of this part of the country depends not only on having a congress that is sympathetic to projects necessary to your economic growth but a sympathetic administration as well."

At a press conference earlier in the day, the former President expressed dislike for a House appropriations bill that failed to provide for any new hydroelectric starts in the Northwest.

He described the bill as part of the technique of the Republicans for the destruction of federal power. Regarding Hells canyon, he said the technique called for the federal government to give up crucial dam sites and get the Federal Power Commission to turn them over to private power companies "for piecemeal exploitation."

(See story on Page 3)

Crowd of 425,000 Watches 1955 Rose Festival Parade

Portland—(U.P.)—A crowd estimated at 425,000 persons jammed Portland streets Saturday to watch the grand floral parade of the 1955 Rose Festival pass by former President Harry S. Truman as honored guest.

Viewers started gathering at dawn for the 3-hour, 44-minute spectacle of 51 flowered floats which wound through downtown Portland and across the Willamette river.

Stream of Floats Sharing honors with a tanned and fit-looking Mr. Truman were Oregon Gov. Paul Patterson and Mayor Fred Peterson of Portland. They rode by in a stream of floats composed of roses, daisies, peonies, lupine and snowballs.

Portland General Electric company won sweepstakes honors in the commercial division for their "Three Coins in a Fountain" float and the City of Van-

Order Impossible, Equalization Board Tells Commission

The Jackson county board of equalization Friday informed the state tax commission that a commission order for assessment of orchard trees by June 16 "is physically impossible."

A letter to the tax commission, signed by the three members of the county board declared:

School District 6C Schedules Election On 1955-56 Budget

Central Point — Voters in School District 6C tomorrow will cast ballots on a \$252,996.48 levy over the 6 per cent limitation to provide for additional teachers' salaries and increased operational expenses.

The total district 1955-56 budget is \$800,841, an increase of \$402 over fiscal year 1954-55. Estimated revenues will bring the net total down to \$276,800. The amount within the 6 per cent limitation is \$344,041, with \$252,996.48 over the limitation.

Inadequate Base An election is necessary because of an inadequate base as well as additional expenses, H. P. Jewett, superintendent of schools, said.

The budget provides for a new teacher at Central Point Junior high school, two in Central Point elementary school, one at Gold Hill and one at Crater High school.

Jewett said "the six per cent limitation law, dating back to the early 1920's, is such that a favorable vote on the budget is necessary if schools are to operate next year." He pointed out that district 6C has a school census of more than 2,200, an enrollment of 1,800 children and a staff of 75 teachers.

Careful Consideration The budget committee he said, have given careful consideration to budget which they believe will provide good schools at a reasonable cost.

A reduction of \$44,698 in the local levy for next year was noted by Jewett. The reduction is due to O and C funds available for bond redemption and to a substantial cash balance carried over from this year.

Polling places will be Central Point Junior High school gymnasium and the Gold Hill school gymnasium. Polls will be open from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Voters are eligible if they have resided in the district for six months and have registered as voters at least 30 days prior to the election.

"While we recognize that it is the duty of the board of equalization to carry out an order of the state tax commission, we are of the opinion that it will be entirely impossible for us to comply with this order for the reasons set out herein. If you believe it possible for this board to fairly and justly assess all of the orchard trees in Jackson county within the time allowed by your order, we would like to have your advice as to how the task should be accomplished."

The letter was in answer to a state tax commission order received here June 6. The order, in two parts, instructed the county board of equalization to: 1. Assess orchard trees in Jackson county at the same percentage of true cash value as other real property and include the same in the assessment of real property upon which the trees are located.

2. Remain in session from day to day until there has been substantial compliance with the order, but in no event later than June 16, 1955.

Have Considered Problem The letter to the commission declared that "since receipt of your order, this board has given consideration to the problems involved in attempting to comply therewith, and we are at a loss to determine how to carry out your order, particularly within the limited time allowed thereby."

"According to the best information available to us, there are approximately 12,000 acres of land planted to orchards in this county. In addition, there are countless residential and farm properties containing from a few to a dozen or so fruit and nut trees."

Concerning the possibility of placing a blanket assessment on orchard trees, which county officials have stated is the only assessment method which would be followed in the short time before the June 16 deadline, the board of equalization said:

"Applicable statutes require the assessment of property at its true cash value or a certain percentage thereof. Obviously, this board cannot tell in advance what effect, if any, the existence of orchard trees on real property may have upon the true cash value of that property."

Variable Factors The letter to the commission adds, "It is also obvious that the relative value of orchard trees will depend on a number of variable factors, and that it will be necessary to examine the individual properties involved in order to fairly and justly appraise the value of the orchard trees situated thereon at a percentage of their true cash value."

County Assessor R. G. Fowler has estimated that it would take two qualified men at least six months to make the appraisal of formally planted orchards. The board pointed out that it "has no employees to assist in the task assigned to it by the commission, and has not funds with which to employ help, even if qualified help were available."

The next step in the dispute will be up to the state tax commission. It has been suggested by local orchardists that the most equitable solution to the problem would be for the state tax commission to vacate its order at the present time and reissue it later when more time would be available.

The members of the board of equalization signing the letter to the commission were County Judge Rodney Keating, Arnold Bohnert, and Ralph Cook. The board was recessed Friday subject to call by Keating, who serves as chairman of the group.



CONGRATULATIONS are given Pierce J. Gerety (right), by President Eisenhower after attorney is appointed deputy administrator of Refugee Relief law, succeeding Edward J. Corsi. In background are Secretary of State John Foster Dulles (left); Scott McLeod, State Department security chief, (International)

Final Changes Made In County's Budget

The revised Jackson county budget for 1955-1956 was being prepared for the signatures of the county court and county budget committee Saturday.

Work on the budget, including a few changes, most of them minor, was completed Friday afternoon following a public hearing.

Most important change involved the district attorney's office, where three substantial salary increases were approved. These changes were made following receipt of a series of recommendations from the Jackson County Bar association.

Under the changes, District Attorney Walter Nunley's salary will be increased from \$9,000 to \$7,500 a year. As in the past, \$5,000 will be paid by the state. The additional \$2,500 will be paid by the county.

The budget committee also approved a \$2,000 a year supplement for the \$3,000 state salary.

Teamsters Ratify New Wage Contract

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — An AFL Teamsters strike which had tied up trucking in 11 western states since May 19 was formally ended Saturday with ratification of a new contract between the union and the trucking industry.

Federal Conciliator John Fenton said truck firms expected to resume full-scale operations at midnight last night following what was described as "overwhelming" acceptance of the agreement by union members.

The agreement generally gave long-haul operators an immediate eight-cent hourly pay increase, an additional eight cents next year and seven cents the third year. Local contracts will vary.

The union had asked for hikes totaling 29 cents an hour over a three-year period, but that amount was granted only to short-haul drivers.

The Teamsters also received an \$8.65 monthly employer contribution for a drivers' pension plan and a one-fourth cent per mile mileage increase.

Two Burmese Men End County Visit

Maung Thein Nyun, Rangoon, and Ko Tun Oo, Myaungmya, two Burmese who have lived in Jackson county farm families for the past month, ended their stay yesterday.

They left at noon for Oregon State college at Corvallis. From there they will go to Camp Meriwether, Sand Lake, Ore., where they will attend a western states regional Boy Scout administration session for one week.

The two are in the United States under the International Farm Youth Exchange and Boy Scout programs. Ko Tun Oo has been with the John Ousterhout family, Dutton rd., Eagle Point, while Maung Thein Nyun has been with the Don Minears, Jacksonville-Phoenix rd.

They will spend a month in Marion county and then will go to Illinois. The two will attend the International Boy Scout Jamboree at Ottawa, Ont., Canada, before returning to Burma.

Bill Thomas Dies; Services Tuesday For Medco Official

William J. (Bill) Thomas, 56, Butte Falls, one of southern Oregon's best known loggers, died Saturday in Medford.

Mr. Thomas, woods superintendent for Medford Corporation, was stricken by a heart attack while in his car near the Medco office.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 10 a.m. in Conger-Morris chapel with the Rev. Paul Calhoun of the First Presbyterian church officiating. Committal will be in Siskiyou Memorial park, with Medford Lodge 103, AF&AM in charge.

Mr. Thomas was born May 31, 1899, in Cucamonga, Calif. He came from San Bernardino county in 1912 with a logging group, and helped found the town of Brookings, Ore. A resident of the Rogue Valley since 1926, he has been employed by Medford Corporation for 20 years.

A member of the Masonic lodge and the Butte Falls Lions club, Mr. Thomas also was active in the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association and the Society of American Foresters.

On July 20, 1920, in Crescent City, Calif., he was married to Anna K. Hibbard, who survives. Other survivors include four daughters, Mrs. Wesley W. Driskie, Medford; Mrs. P. B. Keckell, Medford; Mrs. P. B. Keckell, Brookings, Ore.; and Miss Joanne Thomas, at home; two brothers, Ben A. Thomas, Reedsport, Ore., and Carl Thomas, Smith River, Calif.; a sister, Mrs. Ed Hoar, Brookings, and seven grandchildren.

Request Approved A request by Sheriff Howard Gault for added funds for legal department equipment was approved, and Gault was told that funds would be available for extra help, despite the fact that this item was removed from all departmental budgets.

Extra help, this year, is included in a lump item of \$9,960 under the "Miscellaneous General County" listing. In the tentative budget, extra help had been set at \$11,560.

Despite the changes, there will be no change in the overall budget total, which will remain at \$3,542,368.20 with a levy of \$615,459.13. This was made possible by changing the total amount allotted in the tentative budget to the sinking fund for improvements and equipment.

Those working on the budget this year were the budget committee, composed by M. T. Wray, chairman; Roger F. Rath, secretary; and Arnold Bohnert, committeeman, and the county court, made up of County Judge Rodney Keating, and Commissioners Chester Wendt and L. G. Morthland.

Bulletin

Earl Herman Imhausen, 25, route 3, box 180, Medford, was fatally injured when the car in which he was a passenger apparently missed a curve on the Valley View rd., about 9 p.m. Saturday night.

J. C. Skaggs, 38, route 2, box 376D, Medford, the driver, was injured, but state police said his injuries were not considered serious. He was taken to Sacred Heart hospital.

State police said the car apparently missed a curve and struck a power pole beside the road.

Offer by GMC as Deadline Nears

Detroit — (U.P.) — General Motors Saturday handed the CIO United Auto Workers union a new offer aimed at averting a strike by 385,000 GM workers at midnight Sunday.

The offer came shortly before a four-hour recess late Saturday afternoon. The recess was called by the union to study details of the offer.

Like Ford Settlement The offer was reported to be patterned closely after the settlement reached between the UAW and Ford Motor company last Monday. The three-year Ford contract included a "guaranteed semi-annual wage," a six-cent hourly pay hike (or 2.5 per cent if that is larger) each year, higher pensions and improved insurance benefits.

General Motors spread its new offer before union negotiators shortly after CIO President Walter Reuther tried unsuccessfully to get GM President Harlow Curtice to join the contract talks.

Curtice turned down the invitation and said other company officials had "full authority to negotiate."

No Confirmation The abrupt recess came after the exchange between Reuther and Curtice. It raised speculation that the company had come up with an offer to ease the threat of a company-wide walk-out. But because of a "new blackout" shrouding the negotiations, the company action could not be immediately confirmed.

A flurry of activity followed the recess. Union negotiators hurried to their hotel near the General Motors building for a private conference. The company's top negotiators went to executive offices high up in the GM building for special meetings. GM financial experts also went into a private huddle in a special conference room just off the bargaining room.

Reuther told Curtice negotiations "have reached a critical stage, with time running out and with a number of basic issues still unresolved."

10 Americans Die In Air Force Crash Stuttgart, Germany — (U.P.) — A U. S. Air Force Superfortress, climbing blind up a fog-shrouded dead end valley, smashed into a German mountainside Friday night in a flaming crash that killed all 10 airmen aboard.

The big four-engined SB29 was based in Britain at the Moleworth Air Force Base that launched B-17's over Nazi Germany in World War II. It was making a non-stop instrument training sweep over Germany.

The pilot, flying on his instruments alone in the dense fog, let down for a practice approach to a nearby airfield before climbing west again to return to England. His climb was too slow.

The straining plane crashed 1300 feet up the side of a 2200 foot peak in the Swabian Alps. It burned fiercely. The bodies of the 10 men were found by rescue workers at the scene some 13 miles southeast of Stuttgart.

Washington — (U.P.) — Stepped up aircraft production to keep the United States well ahead of Russia may enable the Air Force to reach its 137-wing goal much earlier than the mid-1957 target date, it was learned Saturday.

Nations Friendly to U.S. Receive Offer Of Aid in Building Up Nuclear Research

University Park, Pa. — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower offered Saturday to help friendly nations build research and power reactors to open "the gateway to a broad avenue of world progress."

Dramatically lending new emphasis on his original atoms for peace proposal, the President proposed that this nation: Would Pay Half Cost 1. Pay half the cost of constructing research atomic reactors in partnership with free nations which would use them for "peaceful atomic progress." The United States would furnish the fuel free.

2. Make available — "within prudent security considerations" — American skills and know-how to those friendly nations which would build their own power reactors and operate them for "peaceful purposes."

Standing before some 20,000 rain-drenched persons in Beaver Stadium, Mr. Eisenhower made his proposal in a commencement address at Pennsylvania State University where he had inspected a new \$300,000 atomic reactor.

Seek to Spark Skills "Our purpose is to spark the creative and inventive skills latent in the free world, to pool them and to put them to work for the betterment of the conditions under which men must live," the President said.

In making his dual atoms-for-peace proposal, he also suggested that where one nation does not have the skills and resources for construction and operation of a research reactor, the United States would support a voluntary grouping of several friendly nations within a single region to acquire and operate one together.

The Chief Executive's suggestions went far beyond an existing U.S. program for sharing atomic information with friendly nations and was a new challenge to Russia to join in an international atomic agency to put the atom to peaceful pursuits.

This country now is sharing some non-military atomic information with friendly nations. Ten bilateral agreements have been initiated and 10 more may be completed by the middle of this month.

Under these agreements the United States provides uranium to run research reactors which are built or purchased by other nations and contributes certain information.

Those friendly nations now would build research reactors with the United States paying half the total cost which averages about \$350,000. In fact, the United States already has embarked on the program.

The reactor the United States will put on display at the atomic energy world exhibit at Geneva in August will be sold to Switzerland for \$180,000.

French Road Race Accident Declared Worst in History

Car Going 160 MPH At Time of Smashup

Le Mans, France — (U.P.) — A Mercedes car hitting 160 miles-an-hour ran up the rear of another in the LeMans Road race Saturday, catapulted over the heads of a screaming throng of spectators and exploded like a bomb. Police said the flaming debris of the wreck killed 70 persons and injured 100 more.

It was the worst racetrack smashup on record. Unable to Move More than 250,000 persons were lined up along the 8.3 miles of road the 24 hour sports car race is run over. They were packed in so tightly at the spot where the Mercedes hurtled a double barrier, that few could move when the silver-grey death car exploded.

Flaming fuel dumped on their heads. Parts of the car flew like shrapnel in all directions through the crowd. Straw bales forming part of the barrier burst into flame. The screams of the dying were drowned by the roar of the powerful cars still racing down the straightaway.

France's Pierre Levegh was driving the silver-grey Mercedes death car. His American teammate John Fitch, of Stamford, Conn., was standing on the sidelines in the gay crowd of 250,000 waiting to take his turn at the wheel when the accident occurred.

Going 160 MPH The Frenchman was hitting 160 miles an hour as he came down the four mile straightaway on the course, a rectangle of roads outside Le Mans, which is sealed off for the famous 2,500 mile race.

An Austin Healey driven by Britain's Lance Macklin, pulled aside to allow Britain's famous Mike Hawthorne to pass in a speeding Jaguar.

The Mercedes crashed into the back of the Austin Healey, hurtled into the air and exploded like a fragmentation bomb on the grandstand side of the track.

The rear end of the Mercedes was flipped over a double barrier of wooden fences, straw bales and sand into the crowd massed at a point near an underpass leading to the grandstand.

(See Story on Page 10)

Medford Blood Donor Appointments Lag

Only a small number of appointments have been made to donate blood when the Bloodmobile visits Medford Tuesday, according to the Red Cross.

Appointments may be made by telephoning 3-3813 all day Monday, and drop-in donors are always welcome during blood collection hours.

The unit will operate from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Elks temple Tuesday. A total of 250 donors will be needed to meet this month's quota of 200 pints of blood for use here and in the regional blood bank.