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ROBERT W. RULL, Editor. HERB GREY, Advertising Manager. E. C. FERGUSON, Managing Editor. ERIC ALLEN, Jr., City Editor. HARRY CHIPMAN, Telegram Editor. RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor. OLIVE STARCHER, Society Editor. JACK JACKSON, Sunday Editor. GERALD LATHAM, Circulation Mgr.

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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

August 16, 1945. (It was Thursday). A total of 6,174 items prepared this summer by Red Cross "Jeep" shop kids for wounded soldiers.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column (taken from Corvallis Gazette-Times): Oregon editors have a new style hot water to get into. Returned sergeants, mentioned as corporals, demand justice and corrections.

20 YEARS AGO

August 16, 1925. (It was Friday). Will Rogers and Wiley Post killed in Alaska air accident.

C. M. Brewer elected county Chamber of Commerce president.

30 YEARS AGO

August 16, 1925. (It was Friday). Table Rock grain harvest termed "exceptional." Seventy bushels per acre reaped in some places.

Two forest fires still out of control in Crater Lake National forest.

Chandler Egan, former national amateur champ, and others leave for golf team match with Eugene.

40 YEARS AGO

August 16, 1915. (It was Monday). Amy and Pottenger building on Main st. being remodeled for armory.

Bucky Rathburn wins riding money in Butte Falls Buckaroo.

What's the Answer?

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

- 1. The 48 states as a whole are collecting in motor fuel taxes about one-third, one-half, or two-thirds more than five years ago?
2. President Eisenhower accepted or rejected the Tariff Commission's plea for higher tariff duties on foreign watches?
3. Natives on the British-held island of Cyprus want independence, Dominion status, union with Greece or an alliance with Russia?
4. A score of over 200 at duckpins is made often, occasionally or rarely?
5. "Al" Smith was placed in nomination before the 1928 Democratic convention by Jim Farley, Cordell Hull, Bernard Baruch, F. D. Roosevelt or Harry Truman?
6. What was the name of Moscow before the Communist revolution of 1917 in Russia?
7. Who in the Bible ate grass as an ox: Shadrach, Samsun, Nebuchadnezzar, Methuselah, or Jerod?
The Answers. 1. About two-thirds more. 2. Accepted. 3. Union with Greece. 4. Rarely. 5. F. D. Roosevelt. 6. Moscow. 7. Nebuchadnezzar.

LUMBERMAN DIES

Portland—(U.P.)—Albert Hermann, 63 one of the founders and directors of the Western Pine association research laboratory, died at his home yesterday. Hermann, during his 30 years with the research unit, developed new methods of processing hardwood, and a solvent seasoning now widely used in the lumber industry.

Should Sec. McKay Resign?

Palmer Hoyt publisher of the Denver Post, and former hard-hitting editor of the Portland Oregonian, wants Secretary of the Interior McKay fired.

He doesn't say he is the worst Interior Secretary since Albert Fall, but he does say, in effect, he is a mill-stone around the Eisenhower administration's neck and should be allowed to return to Salem and his General Motors agency where he belongs,—and from whence he should not have departed.

The Mail Tribune seconds the motion.

BUT the Salem Statesman doesn't.

Former Governor Sprague, editor of the Statesman,—who naturally has a kindly feeling for his old friend and neighbor, as well as gubernatorial colleague—scribes the enmity of the Denver Post chiefly to the non-passage of the Upper Colorado development measure,—one of the Post's pet projects.

The Statesman also in refutation calls attention to the fact that the Denver Post does not question former Governor McKay's personal integrity, patriotism or his abilities as a politician, but condemns him for taking a "sentimental journey" to European battle fields, when the fate of the cherished Colorado development bill was at stake.

THIS Editor Sprague seems to think is not quite kosher.

If that were the Post's only or chief argument, such criticism might be justified. But it wasn't,—far from it in fact.

For example we quote the Denver paper:

"... the administration has pursued no dynamic selling job on western development. That has been historically the function of the Interior Department. But Mr. McKay has failed either through ignorance, indifference or a calculated compromise engineered by the US Utility industry and its many, many friends."

We have no doubt which item mentioned has in the opinion of the Post, been the chief motivating factor in this "failure,"—it is No. 3, of course, the U.S. utility industry pressure.

And we might add this doesn't proceed from "ignorance" or "indifference." It proceeds from Secretary McKay's strongest political conviction, namely: that what is the best for the Utility combine is best for the United States, just as he believes that what is best for his own General Motors is best for the United States. That is the corner stone of his political philosophy—as it is of so many of his colleagues in Washington. We don't question the Secretary's sincerity, we do question his conception of democracy.

To quote the Post further:

"Why doesn't Douglas McKay follow Mrs. Hobby in retirement from President Eisenhower's cabinet? Mr. McKay has been anything but an asset... Mr. McKay hasn't helped the Eisenhower administration articulate a water and public works policy that makes sense. He has been of little help in passing legislation that would strengthen the Republican party record in that field. Nor has he dramatized the national investment values of reclamation and the use and re-use of water for the benefit of the West, whence he entered his office, or the nation he is supposed to represent... He has no enthusiasm for the role of championing the economic expansion of a region which now as always relies upon the Department of the Interior for cooperation. And he has evidently been touted away from that feature of his responsibility by the slickest and best-heeled touts of that never resting gang known as the "Washington Lobby."

It is also known as the "Private Power Lobby."

As the Sacramento Bee recently commented regarding Oregon's unfortunate contribution to the Eisenhower cabinet, Mr. McKay may well be best and longest known as the member of the present Eisenhower cabinet who did more than anyone else to "stymie or even destroy public power."

The Bee then agrees with the Post, and concludes even more forcefully, as follows, quote:

"Mr. Eisenhower would be wise to send his Secretary of the Interior out of the country for the duration of the 1956 campaign year. And he would be wiser still to name a Secretary who would and could use the prestige of a cabinetship to defend and promote the legitimate investment functions of the central government."

THE Sacramento Bee and the Denver Post are not only strong supporters of the Republican party and President Eisenhower, but are tremendously influential in California and Colorado politics.

Does the above indicate then that the opposition of the Denver paper proceeds only from personal pique or resentment over the fact that one of its pet projects did not pass the House?

Hardly!

In fact the Eisenhower administration did everything it could to get the Post's power measure enacted, and if Secretary McKay did not approve 100 per cent it's the first time he has failed to do so regarding anything with a GOP "ok" on it. In other words wasn't that trip to Europe, as the movies say, coincidental?

WELL at any rate the growing opposition to Secretary McKay does not proceed from any personal prejudice against the man or wounded local pride nor any doubt of his essential honesty.

It proceeds solely from the conviction he is WRONG—100% wrong—it proceeds from realization that Secretary McKay like Secretary of Defense Wilson is not interested primarily in advancing the general welfare of the country and its people, but in advancing the interests of Big Business in general and General Motors in particular.

The Denver Post concluded:

"The people of the US need a Secretary of the Interior who will act boldly in the demonstrated PUBLIC INTEREST—one who will not retreat behind the fatuous double-talk about "socialism," the preeminence of local interests or that frightfully abused phrase "free private enterprise" which is touchingly symbolized by what the late Mr. Ickes described as "the barefoot boys of Wall Street." —R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

ALL PASSION SPENT Paris—"The French people do not wish to be troubled or upset. They wish only to be entertained and kept interested. That is the present mood of France, and Mr. Faure understands the mood very well. That is why, bar the worst kind of crisis in North Africa, his government should last through to the elections in the spring."



The speaker was a high official in the government of Prime Minister Edgar Faure, who is probably France's cleverest politician. The Faure government has no intention whatsoever of troubling or upsetting the French people, if it can possibly help it. As a result, most observers here agree that the Faure government has a better chance of survival than any French government in a long time—if only the trouble in North Africa can somehow be dealt with.

Except for North Africa, all the passion of French politics has suddenly been spent. When this reporter was last in France two years ago, France was engulfed in a great wave of strikes, and two tremendous issues—the war in Indochina and the rearmament of Germany—were troubling and upsetting the French people.

Now France is calmly prosperous. Production stands at 176 per cent of pre-war. In the last year wages have increased by eight per cent while living costs have held steady. In contrast to England, there is no monetary crisis. All in all, although basic dislocations in the French economy still exist, France is better off now than the most drearily optimistic Marshall aid planners dared hope a few short years ago.

And now the tremendous issues of two years ago no longer even interest France. As for Indochina, that unfortunate country has simply ceased to exist in French eyes. The process of total abandonment began at Dien Bien Phu, continued at Geneva, and was completed this spring, when the United States insisted on backing the violently anti-French Premier Diem.

AS one French official rather bitterly put it: "If you want to shove a knife in our backs, you can hardly expect us to help."

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.

The Same Old S.P.

To the Editor: What I am about to write may be ancient history but I think that it is noteworthy in that it may help to prove the adage that "a leopard never changes its spots".

Back in the 1860s Congress granted the usual alternate-section rights along a 20 mile strip to any company that would agree to build a railroad from Portland, Oregon to the California border, and also to any company which would agree to build a military wagon road from Eugene, Oregon in the Willamette Valley, to Coos bay on the southwest coast. The Oregon and California Railway Company was formed, accepted the offer, and took the rights to both grants. The present Southern Pacific Railroad company succeeded to the rights—and the duties—of the Oregon and California railroad.

Congress had stipulated, however, that the taker of the grant could not sell these lands except (1) to actual settlers, (2) in tracts of not more than 160 acres, and (3) for a price of not more than \$2.50 per acre. The Southern Pacific violated all three conditions, selling to timber speculators, as well as actual settlers, sometimes in acreages far exceeding 160, and sometimes at prices well above \$2.50 per acre. Complaints became howls, and about 1912 the United States began a suit to restrain further sales by the Southern Pacific, and to forfeit the grants. The Supreme Court restrained the sales with most of the lands still unsold, but left up to Congress the disposition of the grant.

In 1916 Congress revested, or ordered reconveyed, the unsold lands to the United States, the Southern Pacific was later paid off, and the lands were placed under the Dept. of the Interior. There they are today, known by the tongue rattling name of the "Revested Oregon and California and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagonroad Grant Lands." Their short and convenient title is the "O&C" Lands.

Perhaps the Southern Pacific Railroad didn't amass their complete assets with this one venture, but I would risk a wild guess and say that it didn't hinder their progress or for that matter cause them to lose their spots.

Ken Corliss 1564 Myers Lane Medford

Back Stairs: Ike's Offices Get Smaller

By WARREN DUFFEE United Press Correspondent

Denver, Colo.—(U.P.)—Backstairs at the summer White House.

President Eisenhower is traveling lighter on his work-and-play vacation this year—a smaller staff of office workers and a smaller press cadre.

The Denver White House staff is smaller by a half-dozen this summer, largely because the President stayed in Washington long enough to clear up the legislative work Congress left for him. The press corps is smaller because Mr. Eisenhower hasn't scheduled the side trips he took last year, and there is no congressional election campaign to add to the interest in the chief executive's every word and visitor. Twenty-five reporters and photographers from Washington are here this year.

The President's offices get smaller and plainer as he acquires each new one. His office in the White House, where it was so hot in the room during the last pre-vacation session that when an usher announced "193 on the floor" (to indicate the number present), one newsman asked if he meant the temperature. The President has also had some things to say about the need for air conditioning, but still no air conditioning.

The White House, of course, is air conditioned. But the news conferences are held on the third floor of the old State, War and Navy building across the street.

The President's whereabouts are of interest to the whole world, and of particular interest to the groups who want him to be where they are. The desire to have the chief executive visit one's club, convention or city can be so feverish that sometimes people start imagining things. The other day, in the short space of an hour, the White House had to deny reports Mr. Eisenhower was headed for Miami, Chicago and San Francisco.

Mr. Eisenhower has taken a rain check on one ladies' breakfast invitation. Without knowing it in advance, the President was the first man out on the links at the Gettysburg Country Club's ladies' day last Tuesday. The ladies were just sitting down to a club breakfast when he finished his first nine holes, and they invited him in for a doughnut and coffee. The President said he had to play on and get back to work in our steaming capital city.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Lessons of history note: Police throughout England have been alerted to watch for an armed band of about 20 men who raided a British barracks near Reading and seized a quantity of ammunition and arms. The raiders, some of them wearing British uniforms, were identified as members of the outlawed Irish Republican Army. The outlawed Irish army is pledged to fight the political partition of Ireland, where six northern counties are still a political part of Britain.

IT MIGHT be a good idea for the big boys in the Kremlin to take a day off some time and read up on the situation of which this Irish Republican Army is the modern hangover.

It got started back in the 12th century when England's Norman conquerors stuck their noses into Ireland's affairs. They intervened in the first place in behalf of a deposed Irish king, but that was only an excuse. What they wanted was IRISH LAND.

The ruckus that started then has been going on, in one form and another, ever since. The affair in Reading was just an insignificant incident in the eight centuries of turmoil that followed the first Norman invasion in 1171.

IN THE closing weeks of World War II, the Russians grabbed the eastern part of Germany. They are still hanging onto it. It is probable that they will hang onto it as long as they can.

Ireland has been a hot potato, and over these eight centuries there have been many times when the English have wished they could drop it and be done with it. It isn't at all improbable that the Russians will find Germany an equally hot potato.

Pipeline Construction Delayed by Holdouts

Ontario, Ore.—(U.P.)—Construction of the Ontario to Hermiton section of the Pacific Northwest Pipeline corporation's transmission line to the Pacific Northwest has been held up for at least 30 days by several landowner holdouts two miles north of here.

Superintendent G. E. Beavers of Fulghum Construction Company, said prices demanded by the land owners amounted to a refusal to grant right of way for the pipeline across their land.

He said delay of at least a month would result as the contracting company must start condemnation proceedings in order to lay the pipe.

Many of the 250 workers who were posed to start work yesterday will be placed in a poor financial position by the delay, Beavers reported.

Industrial Production Sets Record in July

Washington—(U.P.)—The Federal Reserve Board's index of industrial production hit a record high in July.

The board said the index reached 140. This was an advance of one point from June on a seasonally adjusted basis and a jump of 14 per cent above the index figure for a year ago.

July was the 11th straight month in which an advance was recorded.

In another development on the economic front, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported new housing starts declined 11 per cent in July. The drop was principally due to a voluntary tightening up on mortgage money as a result of competition for loans of all types.

Domestication of musk ox for farm use is being tested near Huntington Center, Vt., says the National Geographic Society.

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YOU KNOW—

Considering the present state of the potato market—Which in considerable part is the result of declining per capita consumption of potatoes—I can't help wishing we could get another BIG immigration of potato-eating Irish.

On The Side

By E. V. Durling

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

What organization in this country having "and Sons" in the firm name has the most sons actively engaged in the business? Sam Sene and Sons, Chicago, specializing in tuxedo and full dress suit rentals, includes Sam, the father, and six sons. Can you top it?

Among the Married

The majority of American husbands consider ability as a home manager the most important of a wife's talents. After that a pleasant disposition and loyalty. Or, so I note it claimed, I cannot agree that housekeeping ability should be rated tops in selecting a matrimonial mate. The best type of wife is a sympathetic girl with a sense of humor who has had some experience in the business world. If a wife can be sympathetic, gay and reasonably careful in handling money, many of her faults as a cook or housekeeper can be overlooked by discerning men of experience. The husband who wants hotel service in the home is usually no bargain as a matrimonial mate.

Losing Weight

Note it said that Don Newcombe, Dodger twirler, lost 12 pounds pitching one game on a hot afternoon in St. Louis. Brings to mind I once lost 14 pounds one hot October afternoon playing in a football game in Hoboken, N.J., against the Stevens Institute. Before the contest I weighed 190 pounds, after 176!

In a Few Words

It was Mark Twain, who said: "Let us so live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry." Dr. Samuel Johnson observed: "A second marriage is a triumph of hope over experience." Salvador de Madariago said: "A drunkard is a man who wants to get rid of himself and can do so by no other means. Asking

Queries from clients. Q. How long has Ronald Coleman been in films? A. Thirty-eight years. First appeared in British films. His first American film was "The White Sister" in which he was leading man for Lillian Gish. . . . Q. In what year was the song titled "Whispering" written? A. In 1921 by John Schonberger, Richard Cobern and Vincent Rose. It may interest you to know that "Whispering" is referred to by Katharine Cornell and Guthrie McClintic, who have been happily married for 33 years, as "our song." In fact, the orchestra was playing that tune when Guthrie proposed to Katharine on the roof garden of the Pennsylvania (now the Statler) Hotel in Manhattan. Other songs on the 1921 hit parade were "April Showers."

Athletic Beggar

Newark, N. J.—(U.P.)—Detective Benjamin Zager said he arrested Harris Brent, 47, of Nashville, Tenn., when he saw Brent spring athletically onto a bus while carrying some braces.

Zager told a judge Monday he had seen Brent a short time before the arrest, begging on a Newark street while wearing heavy braces on his legs. The judge gave Brent 30 days to think it over in Newark jail.

JAPAN FISHERMEN DROWN

Kushiro, Japan—(U.P.)—The Maritime Safety Office reported today that 156 Japanese fishermen have drowned and 234 are missing so far in the north Pacific salmon and trout season. During the season, which began May 1 and will end in late August, 35 boats have been sunk or are missing and 37 have been damaged.

Volcano Entertains Tourists in Sicily

Catania, Sicily—(U.P.)—Etna volcano threw pieces of redhot rock 500 feet into the air Monday night in a spectacular display for thousands of holiday tourists.

Visitors to Taormina and other towns for the Ferragosto holiday watched as the rocks and lava poured from the crater. Experts said there was no danger to the villages on the slopes. Etna has been in a state of intermittent eruption for 48 days.

Hells Canyon Group Votes Court Fight

Portland—(U.P.)—The board of directors of the National Hells Canyon association voted yesterday to carry the fight against private development of the Hells Canyon area to the U.S. Supreme court if necessary.

James T. Marr, president of the four-state group, said directors decided their first move would be to file with the Federal Power commission a motion for rehearing of the case. The FPC recently granted Idaho Power company a go-ahead for three low-level dams in the Hells Canyon reach of the Snake river. The NHCA wants federal development of a high dam.

Marr said that in event of a denial of a motion for a rehearing, the association would take its case to court, either the District Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., or the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

Milk Producers Ask For Higher Prices

Eugene—(U.P.)—Oregon Milk Producers met here yesterday and decided to go along with action taken by Grade A Milk Producers in the Portland area last week by asking distributors for a 46-cent increase per hundred pounds of milk starting Sept. 1.

Manager Lester Adams said the increase was needed to meet rising costs and prevent more decline in milk production. He said many dairymen would be forced out of business unless the increase is granted.