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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

Sept. 8, 1945 (It was Saturday) Local Sheriff's posse members to ride in Canyon Passage motion picture.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Congressmen are warning the nation "not to put all its eggs in one basket." After more than 12 years of putting all the nuts under the tree, this makes sense.

20 YEARS AGO

Sept. 8, 1935 (It was Sunday) AP wire increases speed of transmission to 60 words in 14 seconds.

Ray Hedgeson, formerly junior high coach, promoted to physical education director for all grade schools.

30 YEARS AGO

Sept. 8, 1925 (It was Tuesday) Medford schools open, record freshman class of 130.

Portland firm given bid for construction of new high school with low bid of \$160,000.

40 YEARS AGO

Sept. 8, 1915 (It was Wednesday) City fire department to use coal from Roxy Ann mines for heating this winter. Experimental load purchased.

Special election move to re-bond city for \$1,020,000 for paving indebtedness tabled at fiery city council session.

What's the Answer?

Can You Get a 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

- 1. About 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9,000,000 more jobs are now filled in the U.S. than at the end of World War II.
2. World War I arose out of the assassination of a royal duke in what is now East Germany, Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, or the Soviet Union?
3. About one-fifth, one-fourth, one-third, one-half or two-thirds of all plane travel is by air?
4. The Hall of Fame is connected with a great university: New York, Harvard, Notre Dame, Chicago, California or City College of N.Y.?
5. The death rate in summer is higher or lower than in winter, or about the same?
6. The skin surface on the average adult comes to about 6, 13, 20, 27 or 34 square feet?
7. Father of psychoanalysis was Sigmund Freud: a Swiss, German, Austrian, Englishman, Czech, American or Belgian?
The Answers: 1. Nine million more. 2. Yugoslavia. 3. About one-third (1954). 4. New York U. S. Lower. 5. 20 square feet. 6. 20. 7. Austrian.

JUICY REPORT

Bismarck, N. D.—(U.P.)—Police made a quick investigation after receiving a phone call from a woman reporting a bloody leg dangling from the trunk of a car. They found three tea-agers hiding in the trunk eating hot dogs dripping with catsup. They were trying to save the price of admission into a drive-in theater.

Do Papers Color News

There was a radio broadcast the other night which treated the question of newspapers and their treatment of news.

This particular panel of experts included an editor of a fairly popular magazine and a high-up representative of a News Weekly—men who should know something about the subject from an impartial standpoint.

Their conclusion, however—as far as there was any—was to the effect that most newspapers do slant their news according to their political prejudices, but most of them unintentionally.

In other words the newspaper reporters of the U.S.A. slant their news reports, according to their own or their newspapers political leanings but do so unconsciously.

THIS is surely something for the book! We wish the radio commentators had named a few of the reporters who color their news articles while they are unconscious.

There would, we are sure, be many representatives of the press looking for a job.

It is bad enough to slant the news in any way, at any time, on any paper, but if a newspaper reporter, doesn't know when he is slanting it—or not slanting it—then the profession as far as he is concerned is in a mess. Such a reporter would be a greater public menace than "Typhoid Mary."

BUT, of course, such an indictment of the American press is absurd. Some papers, particularly in the metropolitan areas, have and still do slant their news reports. But outside of the Chicago Tribune during the McCormick regime, and the Hearst chain under the late William Randolph, they have been—and still are—few and far between.

THE mistake the experts on this panel made, we believe, was their failure to distinguish clearly between the news columns of the American papers, and their editorial and special-comment columns.

One of the first things a reporter is told, on the average American newspaper, is to confine himself to the facts, above all get them straight, and cut out any "editorializing," or bias he may have. If he can't do that then he better give up newspaper work and try the street-carnival or press-agent business. Might even go into politics. But he has no proper place in the newspaper field.

THE editorial page, including the editor's remarks and the opinions of various and sundry news-commentators is, of course, a different kettle of fish. ("Fish" of an ancient variety to some, but fresh rainbow trout, hot from the frying pan, to others.)

There, and there only, are interpretations of the news permissible and naturally of course such opinions are colored by the writers convictions and opinions—also permissible—in fact mandatory.

THE Portland Oregonian is a good example of what we mean and we have often commented favorably upon it. It is politically 100% conservative Republican, and its favored commentators, with a few exceptions like Norman Thomas, are of the same general school. But it never allows its political prejudices to seep over into its news columns, and in fact gives the political opposition fair objective treatment, and practically equal space.

This is as it should be. And we believe IS with U.S. newspapers as a whole. The Oregonian, in our judgment, is more representative of the American press therefore than the Los Angeles Times or the San Francisco Examiner, for example.—R.W.R.

The Nixon Mystery

The "Salem Statesman," edited and published by former Governor Sprague is another good example in Oregon of a consistently Republican newspaper that always gives a fair shake to the political opposition.

This "fair deal" is not confined to its news columns however, but also is true editorially. Unlike the Oregonian, the "Statesman," sees flaws in BOTH parties and never hesitates to express them.

TAKE the Vice President Nixon "build-up" for the 1956 campaign, for example.

Editor Sprague refuses to swallow it. He doesn't agree in so many words with former President Truman that Nixon is a phoney, but he does maintain that the photogenic VP won his seat in the Senate on a "false basis" and he has "not been surprised" that this sort of falsity "has been his stock in trade ever since."

IN FACT the Statesman Editor agrees with Richard Rovere political writer for "The New Yorker" who says, quote; he,—

"can't help wondering precisely what it is that his admirers—President Eisenhower called him a 'great leader of men'—and the rank and file Republicans who favored him over so many of their leaders (see to) admire."

EDITOR Sprague can't see it either.

We doubt if many Republican editors can. But, as far as our record goes, Editor Sprague alone among them has the courage and candor to admit it.—R.W.R.



SPEED KING—Col. Horace A. Hanes, USAF, holds Thompson Trophy at Philadelphia he was awarded for shattering world's speed record of 755 m.p.h. He flew record 822.135 m.p.h. in two passes over 11-mile course above Mojave Desert near Palmdale, Cal.

Shigemitsu's Visit To U.S. May Reduce Prison Population

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The population of the Sugamo Prison in Tokyo may be reduced radically soon as the result of Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu's visit to the United States.



Charles M. McCann release the 210 men still held in his behalf.

Shigemitsu says it isn't quite right to ask Japan to rearm for a possible future war while a number of its military and political leaders are still confined for taking part in the last one.

Both Shigemitsu and his chief, Premier Ichiro Hatoyama, feel strongly about the issue.

Shigemitsu served part of a seven-year sentence as a "class A" war prisoner. Hatoyama, who took no part in the war, was not tried. But he was barred from politics for some years by Gen. Douglas MacArthur because of his prewar activities and views.

It is part of a confused world situation that Shigemitsu and Hatoyama should have come back to the top in politics, and that both should be cooperating with the United States.

Their cooperation will be even closer, and Japanese enthusiasm for rearmament will be strengthened, if the United States makes the gesture of releasing some of the prisoners it still holds in Sugamo.

In addition to the 210 still held by the United States, there are 347 others. Australia sentenced 149 of them, The Netherlands 111, Great Britain 80. The remaining seven, "class A" criminals, were sentenced by an international court, Japan wants all of them, including the "class A" men, given their freedom. It will not be surprising if the

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although 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.

What Is Big Business?

To the Editor: What is Big Business?

Lately I have heard it referred to as some horrible monster ready to strip us of all we possess.

Is it not true that Big Business is American industry? This includes management, employees and stockholders in co-operation.

Is it not true that when American industry is flourishing and prosperous it means greater employment, higher pay for workers and more tax money for the government? Is a business genius any less entitled to his salary than a union leader? How could the United States have fought and won the wars without Big Business? Do we not enjoy the highest level of prosperity among the peoples of the world—thanks to Big Business which makes the jobs and pays the salaries?

Big Business isn't the old Bogie-Boo that Mr. Truman and others would like us to believe, but it is all of us—those who employ, those who work and those who invest. It adds up to American industry. Am I wrong? Voter and Taxpayer, Talent, Ore. (Name on file)

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is the hurricane season along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. It is the FOREST FIRE SEASON in the timbered Far West.

BOTH hurricanes and forest fires arise out of weather conditions.

The hurricanes are born down in the doldrums, where confined hot, humid air forces its way up through a cooler air stratum and starts a whirlwind that grows and travels.

BAD forest fires arise out of heat and LOW humidity. When the air gets tinder dry, a spark is all that is needed to set off a conflagration.

NOBODY has yet been able to control the weather.

THE teletype tells us:

Forest fires continue out of control in Central and Northern California, with a total of some 25,000 acres already burned. Fires in Humboldt county in the north have covered about 18,000 acres and one threatens the VIRGIN stand of redwoods known as Rockefeller grove.

The world's tallest tree—the General Grant redwood—is threatened by a fire in the Sequoia national forest in the Sierra Nevada.

WE'RE still inclined, you see, to think of fires in VIRGIN timber as the BAD ones.

That isn't really true. Old, ripe trees, with their thick bark, can resist a pretty hot fire. Even if killed, they can usually be salvaged by immediate logging.

It's the NEW GROWN that really concerns us most vitally. The new growth has to do with our raw materials of the future.

WE SHUDDER, of course, at the thought of damage to a thrillingly lovely thing like the Rockefeller stand of virgin redwoods or the fabulous General Grant tree in the Sequoia national forest—commonly said to be the oldest living thing on this earth. That appeals to our sense of the dramatic.

But I can't help wondering. One can hardly look at and meditate upon such fantastic marvels of nature without being old boys must have weathered struck by the thought that these many a hot blaze in the long centuries during which they have remained alive.

Maybe they will weather this one.

It seems reasonable that they can.

BUT the new growth—

Well, that is a horse of another color. New growth, when run over by a hot, HOT fire is a goner.

It's the new growth we must look to for the maintenance of our timber industries in the long years to come.

SOME interesting new thinking about virgin old growth timber is entering the forest picture. A recent report on the forest products industry of Oregon, prepared by competent lumber people and sponsored by Lewis and Clark college and Reed College during the current year has this to say:

"The capacity of Oregon's forest lands to produce wood fiber will not become evident until a large proportion of the virgin old growth material is REMOVED. Loss from fire, insects, disease and windthrow may actually offset or EXCEED growth within an area of virgin, old-growth timber.

"When this mature and over-matured timber is used and replaced with young growing trees of sawtimber size, then the annual growth of wood fiber should EXCEED THE PRESENT CUT of 8.3 billion board feet annually."

The future of our timbered area in Oregon and Northern California will continue bright IF WE CAN KEEP THE NEW GROWTH GROWING.

Farmers Find it Hard To Keep Hired Hands

Madison, Wis.—(U.P.)—The old question, "How're you going to keep them down on the farm?" is part of no jolly song for farmers these days.

Stan Witzel, a University of Wisconsin farm engineer, points out that the hired man is disappearing in many places. The only thing that can be done about it is to get along without him.

However, he said, the problem isn't just extra manpower. It's finding some time for the farmer to sit down and plan his management. After a farm gets to a certain size and productivity, Witzel explained, good management "is a must for survival," but routine chores take up nearly all the time.

Witzel said farmers should rely more heavily on mechanical energy, which is "very cheap compared to human energy." He also recommended such things as self-feeding devices, silo unloaders, bulk milk tanks and other labor savers.

Bryan's Crater Lake Visit in '15 Described

(Editor's note: This is another article by George Putnam, editor emeritus of the Salem Capital-Journal and former editor and publisher of the Mail Tribune. It is reprinted from the Salem paper by permission.)

By GEORGE PUTNAM

When a student at the University of Nebraska in 1891-93 I became acquainted with William Jennings Bryan. "The Commoner," then a member of congress, afterwards three times Democratic nominee for the presidency and some 23 years later U.S. secretary of state under Woodrow Wilson, whose nomination for the presidency he had engineered.

Whenever Bryan visited in Oregon for his Chauquaqua speeches at Ashland, he always looked me up at Medford and frequently I drove him to Ashland. I always stressed a visit to Crater Lake.

When Bryan resigned as secretary of state in 1915, because of lack of sympathy with Wilson's policy after the sinking of the Lusitania, he wired me that he and Mrs. Bryan were coming west and the Medford Commercial club, at my request, wired him an invitation to visit Crater Lake.

Bryan accepted the invitation and asked to be met at Montague the nearest California station on the Southern Pacific. Two autos were volunteered for the trip to avoid delay, for Bryan's time was limited and roads were unpaved, steep, rough and dirty.

Bryan's train arrived on schedule in the afternoon in mid-August, 40 years ago. Two autos were supplied and driven by County Judge Frank L. Touvelle of Jacksonville and Harry Walthers, manager of the California-Oregon Power Co.

Only One Stop Only one stop was made on the trip to the crater. That was at Klamath Hot Springs, where a crowd of summer vacationists welcomed him and offered iced grape juice which the Bryans drank after handshakes in the "pause that refreshes."

It was dark long before the lake was reached and the new lodge was darker still. We finally aroused the concessionaire Parkhurst and a cold dinner was hastily served. There was no telephone to the lake in those days, and the letters sent notifying Parkhurst of the Bryan visit, lay unopened on his desk. Harassed financially, he thought it was a dun or a bill he owed.

The Bryan party was up at dawn and joined by Will G. Steele, park commissioner who had spent most of his life in having Crater Lake made a national park, and Miss Elizabeth Putnam who was spending the summer with them and a couple of park rangers. Steele guided the party down the steep, rough trail, to the lake and the cruise over the blue waters in a cabin motorboat around "Wizard Island" and the "Phantom Ship."

Then the laborious, slow climb up back to the rim. Charmed with Beauty The Bryans were charmed with the beauty of Crater Lake and its scenic approach, and its jagged volcanic rim. After an early lunch the party left for Medford where that evening, the "silver tongued" orator spoke from the bandstand to a vast audience that filled the city park, expressing his gratitude for the trip and explaining his reasons for resigning as secretary of state and his dread of war.

On the return drive, as a newspaperman I asked Bryan for a story on Crater Lake I could broadcast and he made the following suggestion: "Get Oregon congressmen to introduce a bill to construct a tunnel just above lake level, through the rim to a connecting road, so your visitors can reach the lake without the laborious 1000-foot or more steep descent and climb over a slippery and dangerous trail which can only be made for a few months in the year, and is almost impossible for old people. Tourists could reach the lake without undue

exertion, even in winter." Bryan's suggestion was never seriously considered and no survey was made to ascertain its location, cost or practicality. Now they are talking of an elevator or escalator, but the chances are that the steep trail will be the only way to reach the spirit lake of the Indians. After all, the chief attractions are the changing colors and rugged vistas presented to the eye from the top, not the base of the circuitous rim.

My first trip to Crater Lake was made in early August, 1907 and there was plenty of snow in evidence. I was one of a party of six (three men, three women) that drove in two light spring wagons, with tents and camping equipment. It took three days to reach the lake, camping out near Trail, at Union Creek and at Whiskey Creek and Trail on the way back, hours less than in the climb.

I visited Crater Lake nearly every year I lived in Medford until I left in 1919 and several times since.

Bryan was still cheerful despite his political crucifixion, not on a "cross of gold," but on a cross of peace, with a "crown of thorns" pressed down upon his brow. And he later sent each of his three hosts autographed copies of his books.

New Library Hours Scheduled To Start On September 19

New hours at the Medford Public library will go into effect on Monday, Sept. 19, it was announced today by Miss Helen Webster, librarian.

The changes were ordered by the library board, she said, and are for the purpose of providing staff members with more time to process and put on the shelves books now on hand.

Under the new hours, the main library will open at 10 a.m. instead of 9 a.m., and the children's department will open at noon. There will be no change in the closing hours.

Budget Reduced Miss Webster pointed out that the library budget was reduced by \$1,000 when voters last July disapproved an increase in the city's overall budget. This cut makes it impossible to put sufficient personnel on book-processing, she said, unless money set aside for the purchase of new books were to be used for this purpose.

The librarian said she and the board believe patrons of the library would prefer the slight curtailment of hours, rather than any reduction in the purchase of new books. The change will free library personnel from desk duty for the period when the library is least used, she said, allowing them to devote full time to catalog and process the books for use.

Plan Endorsed Miss Webster, who attended the Pacific Northwest Library association convention at Gearhart, Ore., last week, stopped in Salem on her way back and conferred with Miss Eleanor Stephens, state librarian, and members of the staff, who endorsed the decision to change the hours.

Grandparents of Five Are Free-Lance Clowns

Columbus City, Ia.—(U.P.)—Roy and Joy Thomas, grandparents of five, are proof that you're never too old to be a clown.

The couple has toured the United States, Canada, Mexico and Hawaii in their trailer as free-lance clowns and traveler's way of life.

Roy and Joy, who are 59, have been clowns for about 20 years but have been in show joined a tumbling act when he was nine years old. He trained Joy as a tumbler after they met here and married.

CHAPEL MORTUARY Across from the Courthouse Frank Morgan - Harold Snodgrass FUNERAL DIRECTORS