

## In The Day's News

BY FRANK JENKINS

I suppose you're at least causally aware of the ruckus that has arisen over the alleged demand of three U.S. senators that military planes be sent over to bring them and their wives back from a junket in Europe.

The point of it is that if they had returned by regular civilian passenger planes the cost would have been PEANUTS whereas the cost of getting them home by special military planes would have to be reckoned in FOLDING MONEY.

THE PENTAGON said the other day that special planes had to be dispatched to Europe to bring the senatorial globe-trotters back—at a cost of \$20,000. Two of the senators say it AIN'T SO—that they're returning to Washington on a regularly scheduled military flight.

WHO'S right? I wouldn't know. The senators could have called for the special planes (which, of course, would be a nice way to return from Europe) and then, when they heard the political uproar which COULD threaten their political future, they could have claimed they didn't do any such thing.

And— We must keep in mind the fact that our federal government has become so immense and sprawling that no human mind can handle all its details. Someone among the tens of thousands who work in the Pentagon building could have pulled an unintentional boner.

MARKET news note: Cotton future prices broke sharply on the New York cotton exchange, with some contracts down more than \$7 a bale in early trading. Brokers said the severe break followed a wave of selling on the Liverpool (England cotton exchange, triggered by authoritative forecasts of rising cotton production in areas other than the United States.

The International Cotton Advisory Committee said that if foreign cotton production maintains its present rising trend THE WORLD IN A FEW YEARS MAY BECOME WHOLLY INDEPENDENT OF U.S. COTTON

THAT is to say: Continued high parity support has kept American cotton prices so HIGH that foreign nations have increased their cotton production to the point

where in a few years more they will be SUPPLYING ALL THE COTTON THE WORLD NEEDS.

In that event, all that would be left to do with our cotton surplus (above our domestic needs) would be to pile it up in government warehouses.

I HATE to keep harping on this farm price support string. But it is so TERRIBLY important to the future of American agriculture.

If the political farmers succeed in doing what they so obviously have in mind—which is to buy farm state votes by the process of pledging themselves to continued high price support for American farm products, regardless of supply and demand—they will destroy our agricultural economy.

We can't go on FOREVER piling up surplus crops in government warehouses at taxpayer expense.

IT ISN'T just a political issue in which the Republicans line up on one side and the Democrats on the other. Unfortunately, there are Republican politicians who are not above dabbling their feet in this business of selling the long-term agricultural economy to their country down the river for a mess of political pottage.

## Mt. Shasta Survey Contract Signed

Mt. Shasta, Calif.—(U.P.)—A contract for survey and preliminary engineering work on a proposed ski resort development on Mt. Shasta has been signed. The Heron Engineering Co., Denver, Colo., will make a thorough engineering survey of the Mt. Shasta Ski Bowl terrain, including location of possible ski-lift lines, snow depth, slides, weather conditions, and other data pertinent to construction of a major lift in the area.

A \$1,000 deposit accompanied the contract, which was mailed to the Denver firm last week end. The money was raised by the Mt. Shasta Chair Lift Development committee from merchants in Mt. Shasta, Dunsuir, Weed, Yreka and Redding. Total costs of the preliminary work are estimated at \$5,000, and some \$4,000 has already been raised, according to George R. Schrader, executive secretary of the committee.

## Sen. Morse Has First Grandchild

Portland—(U.P.)—Sen. and Mrs. Wayne Morse received word here yesterday that they had become grandparents for the first time.

The Senator got a telegram from his eldest daughter, Nancy, in Hartsville, S.C., which read: "Dear Grandfather. How are you. I am fine. Weigh seven pounds. Mother, daddy and grandmother fine. All my love. Signed—Melanie Campbell." Mrs. Campbell, the former Nancy Morse, is married to a pulp-and-paper business executive in Hartsville. Morse said he will fly to South Carolina in November to see his granddaughter.

## Is That So?

Many popular notions about the world around us have been in circulation so long that we regard them as basic truths. To dissipate some of these entrenched old guides' tales, here another helping of facts vs fallacies.

**Fallacy:** Snow is frozen rain. **Fact:** Sleet, not snow, is frozen rain. Snow, which is formed by the condensation of moisture at temperatures below freezing, falls directly as snow from the clouds.

**Fallacy:** In our northern hemisphere, summer is warmer than winter because the earth is nearer to the sun.

**Fact:** Quite the contrary — we're actually nearest the sun on Jan. 2, during the height of

By EUGENE BURNS  
Ranger-Naturalist

winter. Because of the tilting of the earth on its axis, the sun's rays are more slanting and the days are shorter so we fail to



get the full benefit of the sun's heat.

**Fallacy:** A shark always turns belly-up to bite its victim. **Fact:** True enough, a shark

Wednesday, October 28, 1935

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

often does turn over in order to attack or grip its prey more advantageously in its undershot jaws but don't count on it—it can bite most effectively while in a normal position.

**Fallacy:** Moss grows thickest on the north side of trees.

**Fact:** Drugstore woodsmen to the contrary, moss need not grow on the north side of the tree. Moss growth depends chiefly on two other things: the exposure of the land and the direction of the prevailing winds.

**Fallacy:** The beaver frequently uses its tail as a trowel to carry mud and to plaster the face of its dam or the interior of its lodge.

**Fact:** Although I have seen artist's renditions of this, it is a wholly false belief. He does no plastering with it and he

does not curl it up under his body to carry loads. Nonetheless, he does put the tail to many uses: it is a rudder while swimming, a prop when standing on his hind feet—particularly when gnawing down a tree; and by whacking it smartly upon the water, a signal.

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