

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 27-29 North First St. Phone 2-6141

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Subscription Rates: Daily and Sunday—One year \$12.00. Daily and Sunday—Six months \$6.50.

Official Paper of the City of Medford. Official Paper of Jackson County. United Press—Full Leased Wire.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER. OREGON NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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. Jan. 6, 1946. (It was Sunday) Medford Corporation sawmill to resume operations after striking workers agree to new wage increase.

20 YEARS AGO. Jan. 6, 1936. (It was Monday) United States Supreme court rules that Agricultural Adjustment administration unconstitutional; opinion based on idea that "invaded states rights."

30 YEARS AGO. Jan. 6, 1926. (It was Wednesday) Irving Berlin, composer, marries Ellin Mackay; honeymoon in Atlantic City, N.J.

40 YEARS AGO. Jan. 6, 1916. (It was Thursday) From Eden Precinct news: A very pleasant community watch party and social dance was held last Friday evening at Phoenix.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 77? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Congress usually votes more or less money than the Administration asks for foreign aid, or about the same amount?

2. Which religious feast is ushered in by Twelfth Night?

3. Most presidential annual messages in Congress since the founding of the Republic have or have not been spoken in person?

4. Footballs are or aren't made of pigskin?

5. Sen. Russell (Ga.), who got 268 votes at the 1952 Democratic convention, says he is or isn't a candidate for the presidential nomination again, or hasn't decided?

6. Alberto Gainza Paz is a famous editor of a famous paper in Madrid, Buenos Aires, Rome, Rio de Janeiro, Paris or Mexico City?

7. The year 1956 is or isn't Leap Year?

Answers: 1. Usually less. 2. Epiphany. 3. Most have not. 4. Aren't. 5. Isn't a candidate. 6. Buenos Aires. 7. Is.

PASSENGER KILLED. Marino, Italy—(U.P.)—One passenger was killed and 16 seriously injured when a runaway street car hurtled down a hill and into a brick wall Thursday night. The accident was attributed to brake failure.

"Fergie"

Downstairs the linotypes are clicking as usual, and the press is running—also as usual—but upstairs the usual atmosphere today does not prevail.

For after a gallant fight for over 6 long months against overwhelming odds, E. C. Ferguson, or "Fergie" as he was generally known, has been forced to put a "30" to his final copy after nearly 30 years of capable and faithful service as Managing Editor of The Mail Tribune.

As a result the atmosphere of the organization upstairs and down is one of genuine mourning and sorrow. It is, for all, hard to realize "Fergie" has gone.

A NEWSPAPER is essentially a business, like any other business. It is a part of the profit system and must take in more than it pays out or it can't—unless some "angel" comes to the rescue—survive.

But it differs, we think, in one respect from most business concerns. That is—as the years go by the "active press" takes on more and more something of the character of a family—not necessarily always a happy or entirely harmonious one—but a family nevertheless, bound together by one common and overriding purpose, namely—contributing their BEST each day to getting out the best NEWSpaper that time and talents available, allow.

THEREFORE, the death of "Fergie" after all these years, comes not only as a serious business loss but as a loss of a more personal nature—a highly regarded and needed member of the MT FAMILY is no more.

LEST this develop into a somewhat sentimental offering of the conventional type, it should be clearly stated that like most seasoned newspaper men, the lachrymose touch in what is known as the obituary column was one of Fergie's most cherished aversions.

Ferg had strong feelings and sympathies, but he was not of the sentimental, emotional type. Far from it—he was conservative, restrained, always in there pitching and always had his feet very much on the ground. He was a practical, capable administrator—and incidentally a shrewd judge of news values and an equally shrewd judge of people and business matters.

THOSE who mistook his kindly somewhat retiring manner, however, for the weakness of an "easy touch" were due for a rude awakening.

Underneath that quiet and restrained exterior was a ready wit, a clever, biting come-back, and plenty of what certain fastidious commentators like to call "intestinal fortitude." (His old associates in the Legion and the Crater club would testify to this.)

"Fergie" never looked for trouble or a fight, but once in either, and he could be depended upon to give an excellent account of himself.

His outstanding quality, however, we would place as "LOYALTY."

The present writer knew more about this characteristic than "Ferg" ever imagined. For in so many years of close association, some differences as far as editorial policy are concerned were sure to develop.

But few outside of the immediate MT family ever suspected it, as far as Fergie was concerned. In his position as "second-in-command" he had to act often as sort of shock-absorber to protect the sanctum sanctorum from mob action. But he never complained, and he never failed to defend the ship and its commander even when privately he may have thought the individual in the pilot house was charting the wrong course.

As for "Fergie" the Mail-Tribune was HIS paper, in the strict Admiral Decatur sense of HIS country, and right or wrong, Ferg could always be depended upon to be in there swinging with both fists when anyone in his presence, launched an attack against it.—R.W.R.

West Germany's Armed Forces' Start Seen As Best Good News

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Correspondent. The week's good and bad news on the international balance sheet:

The Good. 1. The first army, navy and air force men of what is to be a 500,000 strong West German Streitkraefte—striking force—entered barracks. At the same time, 38 German officers and non-commissioned officers arrived in the United States for training and study.

2. The Sudan became an independent republic after 51 years of joint rule by Great Britain and Egypt. The new free nation, with an area of 987,500 square miles and a population of 9,000,000 in northeastern Africa was recognized by the United States and other countries.

3. The newly-elected Parliament of the Saar coal region elected Dr. Hubert Ney, a moderate of the Christian Democratic party, as its minister-president. But it was indicated that France and Germany would succeed, in negotiations later this month, in reaching a friendly agreement on the Saar's immediate future. It would remain economically tied to France.

The Bad. 1. France's parliamentary election confirmed the worst fears of Allied governments. Neither the moderate right-wing coalition of Premier Edgar Faure nor the moderate left-wing coalition of former Premier Pierre Men-

Communists gained materially. Pierre Poujade, who doesn't care whether he is called a Fascist, won 51 seats in the 626-member National Assembly.

There was talk in Paris that it might take five weeks or more to form a government. Then it would be a government that could be overthrown at any time. The prospect is for a further long period of French political instability.

14 Polio Deaths Noted in Oregon

Portland—(U.P.)—The 1955 polio season in Oregon took the third highest toll in the state's history, the State Board of Health announced yesterday.

Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer, said that although 1955 was one of the worst epidemic years in the state, there had been no cases of paralytic polio among any of the thousands of Oregon children receiving two or more Salk vaccine inoculations last year.

Dr. Erickson said 297 of the total number of cases were paralytic, terming the figure "well above" the average of one case of paralysis in every two cases of polio. The health officer also reported that 1955 was the first year in which Oregon has reported no cases of diphtheria. He said the upward trend in infectious hepatitis was halted during the year with 1081 cases reported. There were 1821 cases in 1954. des-France won a majority. The

Rehabilitation Described By Red Cross Disaster Worker

Rehabilitation work of Red Cross in Rogue River and Shady Cove was described yesterday noon at the monthly meeting of the Jackson County Red Cross board of directors.

A total of 170 families and businesses in Rogue River and 107 in Shady Cove were affected by the flood, according to Miss Josephine McNamara, disaster worker sent to southern Oregon from San Francisco. Many others were affected in other areas of the county, she said, and 115 in Josephine county.

Eligible For Assistance. Of the total, Red Cross estimates between 65 and 75 per cent and businesses in Rogue River are eligible for Red Cross

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.

Defends Unions. To the Editor: I get disgusted with remarks made by our senators in Washington about our union men—just dirty. Every man and woman in U.S.A. in and out of unions, are getting better pay and working conditions by the Union. If we did not have Unions we would still be working 10 hours for \$1. With my past 67 years in the industrial world I really know a lot as I came up the hard way, an orphan. A man I knew took me in to learn the woodwork of building all kinds of vehicles, such as buggies and wagons for one year, pay \$25, board, room and laundry. I was lucky. You had the chance to pay the boss 50c a day to learn a trade 62 years ago.

Then big business got going. You would have to work in factory, all piece work. I learned the trade, build a vehicle, complete factory, you just made one of the parts, still had to have your own tools, and work like you were fighting snakes 10 hours to make \$1.25 to \$1.50. Then big business cut pay per piece, then it was hell to even make that, also raised the price to the public, made men work harder than ever. That is the time unions began starting.

I quit carriage business from Ohio, got my \$5 day in Minnesota, a millwright, then landed in Portland, Ore., Oct. 2, 1900—10 hours a day for \$1.50. This state's bosses would have been glad to hang you if and when you used the word union. So much of this story is my experience from Canada to Mexico. This coast was hell to work in until we got unions. I could write many columns about the industrial world. I went to school to study architectural engineering, then I began to get better pay, but I must say for the 55 years building, I have never had one of many hundreds of men, not one of my men, have been hurt on all kinds of buildings, except steel, and ships, as I designed all cabins on ships, and many buildings.

There are not today in our congress any more intelligent men than we have in our unions. William Ross Sharp, 26 Portland ave. Medford, Ore.

THE senate agriculture committee is meeting today on farm legislation. Democratic Senator John Sparkman predicts the Democratic majority of the committee will come up with its own farm plan—which, he says, will be based on restoration of rigid farm price supports. But—

He adds—"It will go a LONG way beyond that." That ought to nail down the farm vote.

THE Democrats obviously have the GOP's scare on this farm vote business. The New York Times says this morning the Eisenhower administration is reported to have a program to pay FARMERS NOT TO PRODUCE SO MUCH.

The Times says congress will get next Monday an administration plan intended to reduce corn, wheat, cotton and rice crops by 20 per cent. Farmers who cooperate by NOT PLANTING all their acreage could take their reward in cash or in government surplus of the crop they DIDN'T GROW, disposing of that as they see fit.

I HOPE it isn't true. If it is true, I'm afraid I'll be tempted to buy a farm and let Uncle Sam pay me in cash in my little hot hand for letting it lie idle and grow up to weeds.

I don't think that would be good for our national economy and I'm SURE it wouldn't be good for me. People need to WORK for what they get.

I'D LIKE to interject here a little story that has just come off the wire.

Police in Formosa have caught up with a young Formosan who was riding without lights. He was posing as a policeman in plain clothes, and when the cops nabbed him he had collected \$15.

He has all the makings of a modern politician—whose motto is never WORK if you can think up a racket to get out of it.

IN CLOSING—Republican Senator Joseph McCarthy this morning renewed criticism of some of President Eisenhower's advisers—including the President's brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower. McCarthy says the administration would have a much better record if it would get rid of the Paul Hoffmans, the Harold Stassens and the Milton Eisenhowers.

A YEAR or so ago, McCarthy was a Big Bertha. Now he doesn't even rate as a pop-gun. So he's hollering bloody murder about how BAD things are—his idea being to get back into the spotlight, without which a politician is sunk.

assistance, between 30 and 35 in Shady Cove, and 50 to 55 in Josephine county during the early disaster period, she said. Although no figures have been made public as to the amount the agency expects to spend on rehabilitation, Miss McNamara said there are "sufficient funds to do the job here."

Expenditures totaling \$8,000,000 are expected in the three western states, directors were told, including \$1,000,000 in Klamath, Calif., and \$3,500,000 in Yuba City.

She said of money spent five cents of each dollar goes for administrative costs, 20 cents for emergency work, and 75 cents for rehabilitation.

Miss McNamara, who is in charge of work in both Jackson and Josephine counties, said Red Cross now will concentrate on rehabilitation work. Most families affected still are in an emergency phase, with many still unable to get back into their homes.

Demostating the rehabilitation work, the disaster worker said the agency seeks to return all families to their pre-flood living standard. Red Cross works with families to determine their cost of living, including resources, liabilities and disaster damage and listing what the family can and cannot do alone.

"No plan is good unless the family participates in it," she said. Cash grants are given those unable to sustain loans through other agencies.

Local Economy. Local economy is assisted by patronizing local merchants, including furniture and grocery stores, contractors and other businesses. Families are allowed to select their dealers, after needs are determined through study of price lists.

Aid is available as outright grants; maintenance costs, purchase of food, furniture, and clothing; home repairs; construction; and almost any other item which will help return those hard hit to their former status. She said, however, that it does not mean "replacing mink coats," but supplying warm ones.

A building advisor is expected in the valley soon to help determine cost of repairs to homes. Each application is handled on an individual and confidential basis, with workers being careful not to refer a family to a government agency when it has not the ability to sustain further debts.

Example of Action. An example of the agency's quick action to return a community to normalcy, Miss McNamara reported, was setting up of two businesses in Rogue River immediately following the flood. One small business man was given a \$500 grant, although his application had not been completely processed and another was helped through purchase of a truck immediately following the flood.

Workers should encourage families in need to seek Red Cross assistance, according to the speaker, who declared that all have been "quite modest in expressing needs." Many do not understand the scope and speed with which Red Cross works, she said.

"Vulnerable Sites." Asked why families are helped to finance homes rebuilt in the same "vulnerable sites," the worker answered that "home is a precious thing, and no plan is good unless it is the family plan."

Members of the board commended Miss McNamara for her "exceptionally outstanding" work in disaster relief and rehabilitation work in Jackson county. She, in turn, paid tribute to men and women of the Red Cross, civil defense, courthouse staff, banks, press, radio and survey teams.

Further commendations to the groups were made by Eugene Thorndike, chairman; executive secretary, Mrs. Helen Wilson, and vice-chairman of disaster relief, Mrs. O. A. Eden.

Mrs. Eden especially mentioned the work of civil defense director, Maj. Gen. Joseph Hicks, and other volunteers in the agency.

Describes Work. Mrs. Wilson, who has more than 5 years of Red Cross experience, said she had "never seen such an outstanding example of working together." She also described the past two weeks' work in the Red Cross office, where 900 wires have been handled, each requiring personal verification by Red Cross personnel.

Among volunteers and board members introduced were E. S. Strother, Shady Cove, mass care section chief; and Mrs. E. W. Seggesman and Mrs. J. Rich-



SURPRISING POLITICIANS, followers of Pierre Poujade, 34, anti-tax crusader, win 49 seats in French National Assembly, further snarling national government. Mme. Poujade is wiping brow of husband after strenuous speech. (International)

Babson Talks Chances Of Ike's Reelection

Washington—The most important comment in my last week's Forecast for 1956 was this statement: "If no unforeseen event happens, President Eisenhower will be re-nominated and re-elected in 1956."

I am no politician, but I do honest statistics. Hence, first let me dispose of the question of age. The President will be 66 in 1956. This would make him 70 by the close of his second term. His rivals, in both the Republican and Democratic parties, say he is "too old to run again." Yet, Warren of California is 64.

Let us discuss first the possible Republican candidates. My first choice would be Vice President Nixon, who is an ideal man, at an ideal age of 42. Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, my second personal choice, is 65, but because of his success as a constructive businessman, I doubt if he could be elected. Next in order I would select Thomas E. Dewey, former governor of New York. He probably is the ideal age, namely 53; but the party would be loath to nominate one who had been defeated twice, even though he is an excellent administrator. My fourth choice would be Secretary of State Dulles; but he is two years older than Mr. Eisenhower! The other active Republican aspirants are Senator William Knowland of California, 47, Presidential Assistant Harold Stassen of Pennsylvania, who is 48, and Governor Christian Herter of Massachusetts, who is 60.

Now let us apply statistics to the possible Democratic rivals. If the nominating convention were to be held this month, I am sure that ex-governor Stevenson of Illinois (55 years old), candidate four years ago, would get the Democratic nomination. If Eisenhower should not run again, Stevenson would have a good chance of election; but not against Eisenhower as a candidate. This is in my humble opinion.

As for Governor Harriman of New York, who is 64, he surely could be featured as a "malefactor of great wealth" more than could Mr. Humphrey. Har-

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FIFTY-SIXTH SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT FIRST FEDERAL

Savings & Loan Association of Medford MEDFORD, OREGON • DECEMBER 31, 1955

STATEMENT OF CONDITION. ASSETS: First Mortgage Loans \$2,447,814.52; Share Loans 5,000.00; Investments & Securities 143,300.00; Cash on Hand and in Banks 220,944.92; Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment, less depreciation 2,654.92. Total Assets \$2,819,714.36. LIABILITIES: Members' Share Accounts \$2,532,746.33; Loans in Process 92,892.33; Other Liabilities 788.10; Specific Reserves 300.00; General Reserves \$176,427.81; Undivided Profits 16,559.79. Total Liabilities \$2,819,714.36.

An Institution Dedicated To Those Who Save