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ROBERT W. RUHL, Editor; HERB GREY, Advertising Manager; E. C. FERGUSON, Managing Editor; ERIC ALLEN, Jr., City Editor; HARRY CHIPMAN, Telegraph Editor; RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor; OLIVE STARCHER, Society Editor; EARL H. ADAMS, 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: Jan. 9, 1946. Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce amends by-laws authorizing elections semi-annually instead of annually.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Trade journals report an abundance of canned peas, and they may show up for every eatery meal but breakfast, as did string beans during war times.

20 YEARS AGO: Jan. 9, 1936. Talent city council acts on organizing fire department at special meeting.

Plans for reorganizing company A of the national guard here discussed.

30 YEARS AGO: Jan. 9, 1926. Mount Vesuvius becomes active with eruptions, and molten lava streams.

Ernest Williams of Ashland named second vice-president of Independent Service Station Owners association of Oregon.

40 YEARS AGO: Jan. 9, 1916. Medford isolated for 24 hours when heavy snows break communication wires.

From Local and Personal column: Garden plots about the city are being cleaned up and otherwise put in readiness for early planting this year.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report.

1. If you buy a fifth of hard liquor, \$1.10, \$1.60, \$2.10, \$2.60 or \$3.10 of what you pay is for federal excise tax?

2. About the same number of new as used cars are sold every year, or twice as many new cars, or twice as many used ones?

3. Net income of all farmers in 1956, predicts the Agriculture Dept., will be about the same as last year, or 2% higher, or 5%, 10% or 15% lower?

4. The U.N. General Assembly is scheduled to meet again this month, this spring, this summer or the coming fall?

5. Pay rises in recent years have been on the average proportionately as high for women, or higher or lower?

6. An increase in number and intensity of sun spots is or isn't expected to interfere with TV reception?

7. Gov. Harriman of N. Y. has never been which one of these: ambassador to Britain, ambassador to Russia, mutual security director, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of the Treasury?

The answers: 1.—\$2.10. 2.—About twice as many used as new. 3.—10% lower. 4.—The coming fall. 5.—Proportionately lower. 6.—Is, says the Federal Communications Comm. 7.—Secretary of the Treasury.

In World War II, 88 presidential unit citations were awarded National Guard units while serving in all overseas combat operations.

The Big Story

The members of the Mail Tribune's news staff, who write the local stories which appear in this newspaper throughout the year, recently voted that the late December floods constituted the biggest overall story of 1955. There were only a couple of dissents.

This judgment, we think, was correct, on the basis of "spot news." But there was a bigger story which ran throughout the year. It was not told in any one headline, nor in any one issue, but served as a constant, throbbing undercurrent to all the local news.

IT COULD be summed up in a headline something like this: "Medford Completes Most Prosperous Year in History."

Perhaps some of the "old timers" would argue that the outstanding growth of Medford during the "boom" period of 1910 and thereafter was more prosperous. Possibly they would be right.

But our view of 1955 embraces a multitude of things. It includes the start of the city manager plan in Medford, reflecting the coming of age of the city as a corporate entity; the plans for a big new hospital; the attempts to annex a large area to the city; the successful elections for sewer and water bond issues in nearby districts; the expansion of highway construction plans; the developments in irrigation, with the Talent project getting under way and rehabilitation work starting in two irrigation districts.

THROUGHOUT the year, employment in Jackson county was the highest, and unemployment nearly the lowest, in decades. There was a box car shortage, reflecting the bumptious state of the lumber industry. New schools were planned, constructed, completed. The telephone company planned a wide extension of its service. Old buildings were giving away to new ones. The fruit crop was the largest on record.

The Christmas shopping season, though slowed by the floods of the last few days, still was one of the best on record—perhaps the best when the final count is in.

White City, that amazing industrial phenomenon, continued its startling growth, with new enterprises starting operations almost monthly, if not weekly, there.

CHARITABLE projects had unprecedented success, with the United Medford Crusade meeting its goal earlier than ever before, and with the drive for funds for the hospital showing a healthy early response.

Interest in prospecting, both for oil and for other minerals, was at a post-war high.

It was a year of growth, of development, of construction and planning for the future. It was not orderly, particularly, for democratic societies seldom grow in an orderly manner. But it was vivid and alive and there was a spirit of optimism and adventure.

IT ADDS up to prosperity for a majority of the citizens of the Rogue valley.

We have no crystal ball tucked away in the desk drawer. But we see nothing which would diminish this to any great extent. There will be dips and levelings-out in the economy, as there always are; there may even be dips amounting to "recessions."

But, barring a war, the continuing growth of the American economy and population as a whole, and of the west and of southern Oregon in particular, would seem to constitute a pretty firm guarantee of a continued high level of prosperity.—E.A.

Nature's Flood Control

An editorial in the Bend (Oregon) Bulletin, which sounded as though it had been written by Phil Brogan, Oregon's outstanding newspaperman-ama-ter geologist, explains the reasons why the Deschutes river was one of few in Oregon which remained, placid and peaceful, between its banks last month.

The river, one of the state's most beautiful streams, hardly rippled the surface of Mirror pond, while others were raging and carrying homes away.

THE EDITORIAL reported that the stream flows through heavily volcanic soils and rocks, which act as natural "sponges," soaking up any water over an average flow, holding it, and releasing it gradually. And:

Should mountain lakes reach flood stage there is no danger of overflow into the Deschutes. The high water is carefully stored in subterranean basins under lava fields, from which it is gradually withdrawn through the season.

"The Deschutes is a friendly stream," the editorial concludes. "It is a stream whose quiet ways can be appreciated in these days of death and devastation resulting from flooded rivers."—E.A.

FHA Loan Changes To Help Flood Victims

Portland—(U.P.)—J. Guy Arrington, Oregon Federal Housing administration director, said Saturday two major changes have been made in FHA loans to help flooded-out Oregon and California residents.

The changes permit a special low-cost home loan with no down payment required and also an extension to 30 years for repayment of regular FHA loans which now demand a 25-year payoff.

Arrington said the low-cost, no-down-payment plan also could be paid over a 30-year period by flood victims in disaster areas.

FHA has also eased its requirements for lending institutions whose loans are FHA-insured. That will give flood victims more time to make payments on present mortgages, including loans for home repair as well as purchase.

Rough Campaign Seen; 'Smear' Tactics Depend on Candidates

Washington—Republican and Democratic spokesmen, warming up for the coming presidential contest, already have given signs that the 1956 campaign will be rough and hard-hitting. Cries of "Smear!" are being exchanged as leaders of the party organizations jockey for favorable positions.

The Republican National Committee a few weeks ago accused the Democratic majority in Congress of using the investigative powers of the House and Senate "to launch a smear campaign of immense proportions." Democratic National Chairman Butler retorted that such charges would not keep members of his party in Congress from "getting at the truth about any mistakes and wrongdoing of the (Eisenhower) administration."

He added that "a desperate Republican party" has already indicated that it would use again in 1956 the "smear technique" it had employed in 1952 and 1954. Depends on Individuals.

What kind of campaign actually is waged will depend in large part on the identity of the presidential nominees. If Eisen-

hower and Stevenson once more head the respective tickets, harsh and extreme attacks by one side on the other will be held to a minimum. But other possible standard bearers—such as Harriman for the Democrats and Nixon for the Republicans—have displayed a taste for less moderation on the political battlefield.

American history is full of examples of rough-and-tumble political campaigning. Not only have charges of corruption been leveled at the opposition, but the personal character of the candidates also has often been defamed, sometimes by deliberate falsehood.

John Quincy Adams in 1828 was accused of immorality, and a document falsely depicting him as a freemason was circulated in areas opposed to freemasonry. Jackson was reviled in the same campaign as an adulterer, a drunkard, and a brawler. In 1884 the Republican candidate was accused of drunkenness, unsavory financial dealings, and anti-Catholicism, while Cleveland, the Democratic nom-

inee, was charged with fethering an illegitimate child.

Politicians today rarely impugn the private morals of candidates for public office, but the cry of venality is a hardy perennial. Disclosures during the 1952 campaign about a special expense fund of the Republican vice-presidential candidate, and about a fund used by the Democratic presidential candidate to supplement salaries of certain state officials, called for extensive explaining by Nixon and Stevenson. Nixon seemed to profit in the end, however, by staging a highly publicized TV defense of his conduct.

Congress in recent years has given extended consideration to the problem of how to lift the level of political campaigning without unduly restricting freedom of speech and of the press. After inquiring into the Maryland senatorial campaign of 1950 in which workers for John Marshall Butler were accused of using unfair tactics to defeat Sen. Tydings, a Senate subcommittee called for formulation of "standards or guidelines for what constitutes sufficient grounds for unseating a senator."

Proposals Made: The same subcommittee proposed in 1953 that penalties for publishing anonymous and defamatory campaign literature be increased; that complaints about unethical campaign practices be investigated promptly; and that use of scurrilous campaign literature, with the knowledge of a candidate for office, be made a basis for disqualifying him to serve in Senate or House.

A bill to revise the federal election laws, reported to the Senate last June and still awaiting action, aims to make a candidate responsible for campaign activities undertaken in his behalf. By requiring the candidate to authorize expenditures by all groups campaigning for him, and empowering him to withdraw the authorization and stop expenditures of any group, the proposed legislation would make it difficult for a candidate to profess ignorance of questionable campaign practices engaged in by his supporters.

Facist-Like Poujade Has No Program But Hatred for Taxation

By LEROY POPE, United Press Correspondent

The surprising Pierre Poujade who elected 51 deputies to the French Parliament says he doesn't care if people call him a Fascist.

He also says he will call strikes in France in order to force Parliament to do his bidding.

The trouble is people don't really know what Poujade wants.

The violent campaign of his followers revealed no program except hatred of the present parliamentary system and of taxes.

Hate Tax System: Specifically, Poujade and his followers hate the complicated system by which France's small shopkeepers have to collect most of the nation's taxes and pass them on to the government after keeping elaborate sets of books.

It is a revolt of the lower middle class and the upper working classes against being ground to dust between modernization and rationalization of business and archaic government.

The 51 men elected to Parliament with Poujade's support reflect this revolt. They are a new type of deputy. Most are shopkeepers or working men. Traditionally French deputies have been lawyers, professors or businessmen of the larger and more highly professional kind.

But the Poujade deputies include a laundry worker, a printer, a traveling salesman, a clock-maker, a gardener, a photographer, a clerk, a contractor, two

students and a number of butchers and bakers.

Like Mussolini's Supporters: It was people of this class who were among the strong supporters of Benito Mussolini in the early days of Italian Fascism.

Many such were early supporters of Hitler in Germany.

On the other hand, these people are the first targets of the Communists when they attain power. In Hungary, Poland and the other Eastern Satellites such small tradesmen and independent artisans have been ruthlessly liquidated.

This suggests that Poujade's followers should fear the Reds. It raises the risk that if the Communists start throwing their weight around in the new Parliament, many French may stampede to the Poujade camp. It also suggests that Poujade might see a golden opportunity later in taking up the anti-Communist cause.

Burned by Dictators: Yet, it would be very dangerous to make any such prediction. The French were burned so badly by dictatorships in the 19th century under the two Napoleons and Louis Philippe, the so-called "Citizen King" that they have a holy horror of strong men.

In fact their intense fear of Napoleonism and of all strongly authoritarian government is the main psychological reason for the instability of French governments.

Poujade probably hasn't reached his zenith yet, but if the Fascist label really is hung on him—the French likely will turn against him quickly.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS: It has just occurred to me that for several days this column has been dealing heavily in politics—which is getting to be a depressing subject. So let's turn today to something lighter.

And what could be lighter than the engagement of the poor little rich girl of Philadelphia, who made good as a movie star, to the handsome and charming Prince Rainier of Monaco?

It's almost certain to work out happily. She will get a title, and in the course of time he will get quite a chunk of American money—which in these modern days is pretty sure to come in handy in the case of a prince.

THEN—Of course—There is always the possibility that they may live happily together and raise a family and in due time become members in good standing of the Grandparents club—which is one of life's great achievements.

AS THIS is written, there is rejoicing in the romantic little principality of Monaco where the news of the engagement has just been received. A full holiday has been declared. The people are deliriously happy, and are dancing in the streets—and from time to time, as happy folk are apt to do along the sunny shores of the Mediterranean, are h'isting a few in the wine-shops.

It is a pretty pastoral scene and might well serve as the framework for a fairy tale.

WHY are the people so happy? Is it because, as loyal and loving subjects, they are happy because their prince is so happy? Well-l-l-l, yee-e-e-s. In a way. But there is a quirk to it. The quirk is this:

Their prince is a bachelor. Under the peculiar terms of the now nearly a century old agreement by which the principality of Monaco ceased to be a protectorate of the then Kingdom

of Sardinia and became a protectorate of France, taxes were abolished in Monaco.

But—the agreement provided—If the Prince of Monaco dies without issue the principality of Monaco will revert to French rule WITH FRENCH TAX RATES IMMEDIATELY PREVAILING.

That would be TERRIBLE!

IT IS little wonder that the people of Monaco are so happy over the impending termination of their prince's estate of bachelorhood and his prospective entrance into the estate of matrimony.

The 20,000 inhabitants of Monaco are largely French, and if there is anything a Frenchman hates above everything else it is TAXES. Witness the stir that was created in the recent French election by Monsieur Poujade (pronounced Poo-ZHOD) and his new party with its new and appealing slogan of NO TAXES!

ONE question in conclusion—a question which interests all of us:

How has Monaco (whose total area is 370 acres) been able to get along all these years without taxes?

It is supported by revenue from gambling in its capital city of Monte Carlo, whose Casino and International Sporting club are the most famous gambling spots in the world. I suspect that the state of Nevada may have got its original idea from the principality of Monaco, but Nevada never has been able to get away with a taxless existence.

THE tiny principality of Monaco has been caged over the years. Its citizens are forbidden to gamble. If one of them is caught taking a chance he is promptly clapped into the clink.

Their job is to make their money off the visitors—as the Las Vegas do.

Matter of Fact By Joe and Stewart Alsop

THE NATIONAL ESTIMATES: Washington—Every so often nowadays, anyone who still bothers to report the life-and-death facts of the American national situation gets a very peculiar feeling of being suddenly transformed into one of those super-heroes who insist on reciting last night's bad dream at next morning's sunny breakfast table.

These reporters must confess to having this feeling at the moment. The last three reports in this space have been filled with an admittedly ugly and repellent mass of facts. Those facts were not printed because it is enjoyable to deal in what is repellent and ugly. They were printed because they unfortunately but all too conclusively prove a point of vital national importance.

The point is simple. The American air-atomic superiority that has served so long as the free world's sole defense, is now rapidly melting away. The Soviet Union, by making vastly greater efforts than this country is now making, is beginning to surpass us in the one area of strength that used to be exclusively our own.

IT MIGHT be supposed that the merest suggestion that this could happen would stir things up a bit. The knowledge that it is happening, and the virtual certainty that nothing is going to be done about it, sometimes fills these reporters with an almost irresistible impulse to run around in circles barking like dogs. But in our present national condition of prosperous euphoria, most people are inclined to think that facts which prove anything unpleasant are really not facts at all.

So there is one further thing that needs to be said before this painful subject can be finally dropped. The facts are facts (one is almost inclined to shout it), or at least they are as near to facts as any information about the Soviet Union can ever be.

What then is the origin of these facts concerning Soviet output of advanced aircraft types, Soviet missile development and the like which we have been publishing? The answer is simple. They are squarely based on undoubted information concerning the "national estimates," which are, or at least ought to be, the basic building blocks of American policy-making.

A COMPLEX machinery to produce these national estimates has been set up under our highest policy-making body, the National Security Council. These are first of all an Estimates Board, composed of brilliant specialists from the Central Intelligence Agency, the Armed Services and the State Department, and headed by the author of the most important postwar book on strategic intelligence, Sherman Kent. The board has the task of making what may be called staff studies of special problems, such as the rate of Soviet aircraft output, for example.

But the process by no means ends there. The output of the Estimates Board, or any intelligence from other sources for that matter, cannot be accepted as official and therefore "national" until the problem has been examined by the National Intelligence Advisory Committee.

The committee is called advisory because the director of

the Central Intelligence Agency, Allen W. Dulles, has the exclusive statutory duty of providing intelligence to the National Security Council. Dulles serves as chairman of the committee, which in theory advises him. But the committee exists so that the final opinion offered to the Security Council by Allen Dulles may be fully agreed and approved by all interested parties.

HIGH level representatives of the armed services, the office of the Secretary of Defense, the State Department and the FBI sit on this committee. Unanimity of opinion is required. Any national estimate that emerges from the committee is a synthesis of the best opinion from all the different sources listed.

Experience has proved, moreover, that the national estimates can be safely relied on, except in one important way. Perhaps because the unanimity requirement works in favor of the lowest common denominator, all national estimates of future Soviet military-industrial achievements have always turned out to be far too conservative when finally tested by events. It was true with the Soviet A-bomb and the Soviet H-bomb. It was true with the MIG-15 and the TU-14. It was true again with the "Badger" and "Bison" bombers and the "Farmer" and "Flashlight" fighters.

IN EVERY case where there has been a test to date, the official intelligence forecast indicated that the Soviets could not do the job so soon, or that they could not do it on such a large scale, or that they could not do it really well. And in every case where there has been a test to date, the result has shown, alas, that Soviet capabilities had been sadly underestimated.

No allowance has been made for this built-in error, in the facts and figures that have been printed in this space to show the massively growing air-atomic power of the Soviets. Most probably the true situation is measurably worse than we have represented it. In any case—to revert to our original image—it is the bad dream that is likely to turn out to be reality, and the sunny breakfast table that will prove to be a dream.

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SPEAKER SCHEDULED: Portland—(U.P.)—Doctor Robert M. Hutchins, former president of the University of Chicago, and now head of the Fund for the Republic, will speak at Reed college in Portland Jan. 17.

Sam Went Along: GEO. N. TAYLOR: When we moved from Arkansas, I sent the young folks to the nearest Sunday School there in Dallas.

Dr. Scofield was pastor and our crowd kept after me until I went along. Then we wanted Sam to go but he said Dr. Scofield would hear he bawled him out.

But we kept after Sam and one Sunday he rigged up and went. Just as we entered the door, Dr. Scofield was telling how at 35, he had one foot in a drunkard's grave and the other a-slipping. That won Sam and he kept going and in time gave his heart to God. So our troubles were settled.

Dr. Scofield was brought up in a fast liquor-loving crowd. But before her death, Mother Scofield had prayed God to save her boy. So the answer—Call upon me and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things that thou knowest not.

This message sponsored by an Oregon dairyman.—adv.

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