

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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. 11, 1948. (It was Friday). William H. Fluhrer elected president of Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Wonders never cease. Recently upstate, a juvenile was caught driving an auto that was not stolen.

40 YEARS AGO. Jan. 11, 1938. (It was Saturday). O. S. Walden to be installed noble grand of Medford IOOF lodge, and Faye Ackley to be installed as noble grand of Olive Rebekah lodge.

Rainfall totaling 3.60 inches since Jan. 1 sets new all-time high record for precipitation during first 10 days of year.

30 YEARS AGO. Jan. 11, 1928. (It was Monday). Fish and Four Mile lake irrigation reservoirs show increase in water storage over same time last year.

Four Medford youths arrested for having hard cider wine in their possession.

40 YEARS AGO. Jan. 11, 1916. (It was Tuesday). Voters go to polls in city elections; small number of ballots cast.

From Local and Personal column: The hours of sunshine each day will be lengthened by 38 minutes this month. In February the hours between sunrise and sunset will be lengthened by 53 minutes.

What's the Answer? Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1935, Editorial Research Report

1. Both branches of Congress usually convene at the same hour, which is 9 a.m., 10 a.m. 11 a.m., noon or 1 p.m.?

2. The race horse Nashua was recently bought by a syndicate for an even million dollars, or less or more than a million?

3. Clare Boothe Luce, ambassador to Italy, was once U. S. Senator. U. S. Representative, state governor, city mayor, or minister to Luxembourg?

4. The Farm Bureau Federation, largest organization of U. S. farmers, is officially for or against flexibility in farm price supports?

5. The proportion of Negroes in the U.S. population is rising or falling considerably, or staying about the same?

6. "Track" shouted by a skier does or doesn't mean the same thing as "fore!" shouted by a golfer?

7. Which Republican leader with an eye on the 1956 presidential nomination was a newspaper publisher before getting public office?

The answers: 1. Noon on most days. 2. Somewhat more than a million. 3. U. S. Representative. 4. For flexibility. 5. Staying about the same. 6. Does. 7. Sen. Knowland (Calif.)

DIVORCE COMPLAINT. South Bend, Ind. — (U.P.) — Mrs. Imogene V. Lowe testified in a divorce petition that her do-it-yourself husband trimmed the toenails on her pet parakeet and the bird lost so much blood it almost died.

On Progress & Taxes

What's ahead for the city of Medford in 1956? No one knows, for sure. But there are some things that can be predicted with reasonable certainty.

First of all, perhaps, will be a continuing question of where to get the money to perform all the services and construction needed by a growing city, the people of which have come to expect high standards of city administration.

There is, to begin with, a healthy amount of money necessary to continue operation of the city on the levels of the past. But, with the growth the city has enjoyed, more will be needed.

WE WERE interested to note that in Mayor Earl Miller's first-of-the-year message to the council, he listed a system of arterial streets and off-street parking as the No. 1 needs of the city.

The mayor, as he and the councilmen well know, wasn't talking about peanuts. Streets cost money, and so do parking lots, particularly if they are to be located where they will do any good.

As anyone who visits downtown Medford can attest, parking is a real problem — and it concerns all motorists and not just downtown merchants, although there is some support for the idea that the major burden of it should be carried by the ones that benefit the most, namely, the merchants.

AS FOR arterial streets, all needed is a cross-town drive to demonstrate how traffic has slowed down in the past few years. This is simply a case of more automobiles using the same street system as in the past. The only thing that will ease the congestion will be new crosstown streets to get us from here to there more rapidly and with a minimum of irritation.

The situation at present is not exactly insupportable. But the situation of the present is not the situation of the future, and if population and business keeps increasing at its present rate, it won't be long before the problem will be getting across town at all — let alone slowly.

WHILE we agree with the mayor that the street-parking question is of major importance, our own choice of the No. 1 problem would be that of sanitation and sewers. Involved here is health — life and death, if you will — rather than inconvenience and delay.

Medford, as we have stated repeatedly, has a stake in the development of sanitary standards in the immediately-surrounding fringe area, and in the annexation of those sections which cannot solve the problem effectively on their own.

We supported the last big annexation proposal (which was defeated) and we are supporting the present one, which will come up for a vote next Monday. There are many reasons for our support, but the question of sanitation alone is a sufficiently impelling one.

OVER the past half-decade or so, we have gained the distinct impression that the city of Medford is not throwing money around carelessly. Members of the citizens budget committee, who have no axes to grind, are keeping an increasingly sharp eye on spending proposals, and are reluctant to approve those which are not to the best interests of the community as a whole.

With this in mind, we, as voters, are going to have to make up our minds whether we want the city to continue its program — which will cost money; or whether we want to starve the services on which we depend because, admittedly, they cost considerable sums of money.

Taxes — federal, state, county, school district and city — are pretty high now, when you add them all together. They are going to stay that way, too, for a while. And they are going to go up, one way or another, if we are going to get the things which, as citizens, we know deep down we are going to have to have.—E.A.

Why The March of Dimes?

Jackson county's first case of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was recorded this week.

Last year there were five cases. How many there will be all together in 1956 is in laps of the gods.

But there is hope that within a few years polio will go the way smallpox has gone. If this comes true, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, more than any one factor, will be able to claim the credit.

NOW we do not have unalloyed admiration for the National Foundation. Some of their policies we feel to have been unsound and unwise. We believe that the big mixup over the Salk anti-polio vaccine last year was largely the fault of the foundation and its promotional activities.

But there is no getting around the fact that, through its local chapters, the foundation has, literally, given life and hope to thousands of sufferers; that its research programs have paved the way for the eventual eradication of the diseases — and that these two phases of activity have been supported by the dimes and dollars of a public-convinced of the overall worth of the endeavor.

THIS all leads up to the fact that the annual "March of Dimes" is again underway this month.

"Polio Isn't Licked Yet" is the slogan — and it is accurate. A great deal remains to be done before polio vaccination becomes routine and universal. And even then, polio victims of the past and present will continue to need the assistance only we can give them — through the March of Dimes.—E.A.

THE RAINS CAME

New Britain, Conn. — (U.P.) — The city ordered a new rain gauge for the Shuttle Meadow reservoir after the old one was put out of commission — by too much rain.

MANY DAFFODILS

Ripley, Tenn. — (U.P.) — Mrs. Walter Padgett, called the "Daffodil Lady," started growing the plants 20 years ago to "get out in the sunshine," and now grows 1,600 varieties.

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 initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Mrs. Lyman Supported

To the Editor: May I take this opportunity to commend your paper for the straightforward manner in which it has reported the unfortunate action taken by our state welfare office in the dismissal of Mrs. Blanche Lyman. Hats off, too, to our local commission for their immediate action in making public their feelings regarding her loyalty and personal integrity. I feel that both actions will have far reaching effects in counties throughout the state.

I have attended many state welfare conventions with Mrs. Lyman and have noted with pride the instances in which her advice and sound judgment was sought. Her administration of the Jackson county office was cited as an example to follow. Judging from the calls, local and long distance, the letters and the number of people who have voiced their concern, that respect has not been lessened. Rather it would indicate the strength of the support of those who respect and admire her.

Mrs. Lyman was on the board that first worked to establish the Nursery School in Medford during the war years. Although it has been a privately owned business for the past 11 years, I have had many occasions to consult with her. Her interest and helpfulness have continued. With this, as with so many organizations, she has given much time and effort. To cite a few I might mention the Juvenile Advisory Council, the Jackson County Council for Children and Youth, the Child Guidance Clinic, and Civil Defense.

May her good works continue. I trust many others will take the time to express their appreciation of her friendship and to assure her that this has only served to strengthen their faith in her integrity. Ethel Tennant, Owner Medford Nursery School, Medford, Ore.

Editorial Comment

'FERGIE' WILL BE MISSED

By the death Thursday of E. C. Ferguson, managing editor of the Medford Mail Tribune for more than a quarter of a century, the people of Jackson county have lost one of their most valuable citizens, and civic workers.

"Fergie," as he was known to his many friends at home and throughout the state, was not only a newspaperman of the highest integrity, but, until illness overtook him, was an untiring worker in the civic field. A veteran of World War I, "Fergie" was active for many years in veterans circles.

Jackson county has one of the most efficient historical societies in the entire state, including the museum in the old county court house in the original Jackson county seat and one-time state metropolis, Jacksonville.

Much of the credit for the Jackson county accomplishments in this respect goes to Ferguson, both as an individual and as a local editor. It included prevailing upon the Jackson county electorate to vote a county tax to make the Jacksonville venture a reality.

The deceased newspaperman first became acquainted with the field in which he made his mark, as an Associated Press telegrapher in the days before the teletype replaced the man at the telegraph key. He had served for years in that capacity, in the Mail Tribune office before quitting that service to assume the post he held until his death.

"Fergie" was one of the first newspapermen this writer met upon coming to Oregon. Our similar occupations brought us together on numerous occasions. The thing which impressed us most about the Medford man was the serenity he displayed on all occasions, even when pressing for objectives in which he was most vitally interested.

We extend our sympathy to the widow who shared Editor Ferguson's life for more than 45 of his 64 years. —Grants Pass Courier

OLD TIMER

E. C. Ferguson, who died in Medford last week at 64, was a member of a disappearing race — the old time Morse telegrapher turned newspaperman. Managing editor of the Medford Mail Tribune for nearly 30 years, he was widely recognized as an astute commentator on problems of local government.

"Fergie," as he was known after he dropped the names "Everett Carl" that his parents had given him, got into journalism via Western Union in the days before the teletype and the teletypewriter made Morse code only a picturesque memory in newspaper city rooms. From Western Union he went to the AP and thence to the Mail Tribune. In the words of somebody, "They just don't come like that no more." —Eugene Register-Guard

Fun on 11 Cents

To the Editor: Just to keep the record straight, re the "terrible pre-union times" per William Ross Sharp of 26 Portland ave., in the M-T Jan. 6:

My pay as a teen-age apprentice machinist in the "gay-nineties" was 11 cents per hour, giving me \$6.60 for 10-hour day weekly pay, \$3 of which went for room and board.

Those glamorous Sunday mornings when Will LaDue, my bed and board pal, and I strolled out on the avenue, gleaming patent-leather shoes (less than \$2 if you knew how and where to buy), fancy socks (10 cents) pridefully disclosed now and then, celluloid collar with silk-en four-in-hand (25 cents for both) wind whipped up from a fancy vest and shirt (\$1 or less) bisected with a gold chain (heavy plate) with watch (\$1.50) and best girl picture in locket. Fancy straw on our slicked down hair (35 cents) plus perfume, complete with carefully tended and pressed suit (\$8 to \$10). Pretending to window-shop at a windy street corner but getting a breath-taking lift of a pretty, trim cotton stockinged ankle that the owner seemed a little bit slow in hastily hiding.

Five cents for a ham-sandwich or cents for a loaf of bread, 15 cents for bologna and sour pickles with a dab of butter, and away we swayed, we had our girls on a 5 cent picnic street-car ride to the park. Or for \$1, if well known to the liveryman as easy drivers, we could have a horse and buggy ride to some quiet lake and a boat for 15 cents, then home in the evening with a big 5 cent ice-cream soda and goodnight.

Today, we do work less hours but worry far more in trying to make a go of it. Union labor demands ruled so high in construction costs that our taxes were doubled this last fall, forcing us to the most stringent economies. These same demands have eliminated the hired-man, so the farmer turns to machinery. But the constant demands of "more money" are pricing it and repairs out of his reach, bringing the No. 1 headache to our president and advisers.

Worse, if possible, an are welder tells of his union's refusal to accept his friend's union card as he is fast, does too much per man-hour. So, he and his family must go hungry or surrender his pride of accomplishment. Our senators, all of us, are becoming greatly concerned with the incessant demands of our power labor unions. F. J. Clifford, 1211 West Main St., Medford, Ore.

What About Bridge?

To the Editor: I would like to bring to your attention conditions surrounding the Netherland bridge washout.

Since the bridge washed out the people up here have been walking out and driving out in four-wheel drive Jeeps on a mile and a half of mud road that bypasses Big Butte creek. Today when I called the county engineer, he informed me that even four-wheel drives were getting stuck. How well I know this. Last week when a friend came in to take me to town in his Jeep we got stuck to the running boards. My friend walked to a neighbor's who had a larger four-wheel drive who came to pull us out. He got us out but in the process got stuck himself. They were until 1 p.m. the next day getting his truck out.

About the only way we can get out now is in a high wheel tractor. Our neighbor takes his two boys out each morning this way to meet the school bus and to pick them up in the afternoon. Another neighbor has had to move out in order to get to work and so his child could get to school.

It would be very rough to try to get someone out to a doctor. When I was out last week I went to the county engineer's office. He was out but they informed me that the bridge would not be rebuilt until next spring. They said they were waiting to get a right-of-way from someone in California. There is already an old county right-of-way that is shown on the maps.

They also informed me that they were doing everything possible. If what they are doing is everything possible, I am getting worried because it doesn't look like they will do anything.

After talking to the engineer today it doesn't look as they even know what they are going to do, much less when they are going to do it. Maybe he will figure it out while in Florida. Ralph Herzog, Star Route, Box 37, Trail, Ore.

Baghdad Pact Dispute Viewed As Setback of Western Hopes

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Correspondent

The United States and Great Britain have suffered quite a setback in the Middle East.

It looks as if they have got to review their entire policy in the area at the eastern end of the Mediterranean. The grave anti-Western riots in Jordan have seriously weakened the Middle Eastern Treaty Organization — the so-called Baghdad Pact — which the United States and Britain sponsor.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria, the leading members of the Arab league, has won a corresponding victory.

It is a victory in which Soviet Russia, now conducting a vigorous campaign of penetration in the Arab countries, share. For a while, the Baghdad Pact was going strong. Its formation and development constituted a distinct Western victory in the cold war.

Turkey and Iraq were the original members. Britain, Pakistan and then Iran joined it. The United States associated itself with it.

The alliance resulted in a chain of defense of free countries along the southwestern borders of the Soviet Union. The Kremlin denounced it angrily.

Pact Extended. Then Britain decided to extend the pact by including Jordan, presumably with American approval.

Both Iraq and Jordan are members of the eight-nation Arab league, which was formed in 1945. The league is now dedicated to joint opposition to the new Jewish state of Israel.

Arab League members did not like it when Iraq first allied itself with Turkey. They liked it even less when the pact was extended.

When Jordan agreed to enter the pact, it came into direct conflict with the unity of the Arab League. Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria, the three leading members of the league, were bitter. Anti-pact sentiment in Jordan exploded in anti-Western riots.

There are strong indications that the riots, which broke out last month and have broken out anew, were partly due to Egyptian and Saudi Arabian influence. Jordanian Communists aided.

It is now certain that for the foreseeable future Jordan will

ICY REPLY

Muncie, Ind. — (U.P.) — A woman driver rolled down a car window to tell the truck driver in the adjoining lane his truck was on fire and smoke was pouring from the back. "Dry ice, lady," was his explanation.

not enter the Baghdad Pact. Hence the victory for the Arab League and for the Kremlin. The Long Wait

What is to be done about it remains to be seen. British Prime Minister Anthony Eden is due in Washington Jan. 30 to visit President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

It is reported in London that Eden will make a strong bid to get the United States to join directly in the Baghdad alliance, and thus help to strengthen it. But another issue is involved — the steadily-intensifying enmity between the Arab countries and Israel.

If the United States and Britain can find a way to get the Arab countries and Israel to make peace, the Baghdad Pact situation will settle itself. But the Arabs and the Israelis are still formally in a state of war six years after they concluded a set of armistice agreements, and no solution is in sight.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written, President Eisenhower has just sent to the congress a special message on the farm problem and what to do about it.

"The MAJOR problem, he says, is the SURPLUS. He adds: "The attack on the surplus must go forward in full recognition of the fact that farm products are not actually marketed when delivered to and held by the government. A GOVERNMENT WAREHOUSE IS NOT A MARKET. Even the most stable commodities can not be added forever to government granaries, nor can they be indefinitely held. Ultimately, the stockpiles must be USED."

HIS MAJOR recommendation for reduction of the present surpluses in the "soil bank" plan, which has already been hinted at.

The soil bank plan—plus minor devices he names in his message—would be aimed, he says, at using present price-depressing crop surpluses to REDUCE CROP OUTPUT. Farmers who helped cut back production would be offered government surpluses as COMPENSATION. That is to say:

He proposes to give the present surpluses to farmers IN LIEU OF NEW PRODUCTION.

PRESUMABLY, this is the way it would work:

If you are a grower of wheat— or corn, or cotton, or rice, or peanuts, or any other crop presently in surplus—you would be paid to keep your land out of production. You would take your pay IN TRADE—that is, in wheat or corn or rice or cotton or peanuts or what have you now stored in government warehouses.

SOUTHERN OREGON and Far Northern California are vitally interested in what will be done with this land that is taken out of production. If it is put to crops that WE GROW NOW—such as barley, potatoes, grass, grass seeds, etc.—we will be seriously hurt. We have already been hurt along that line. This soil bank proposal COULD hurt us even worse if it results in putting more land elsewhere into these crops that are our basic reliance.

I THINK we can all agree that as the first step toward solu-

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