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1955

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. 15, 1946

(It was Tuesday)

Phoenix city council passes ordinance governing construction of buildings.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Jack Frost, a valley caller for five mornings straight, was today accompanied by Jim Fog, another non-member of the Better Climate committee of the Cham. of Comm.

30 YEARS AGO

Jan. 15, 1936

(It was Wednesday)

Plans and specifications of a proposed \$130,000 expansion of Medford airport completed for Portland office of PWA.

George A. Coddling announces he will seek reelection as Jackson County District Attorney.

30 YEARS AGO

Jan. 15, 1926

(It was Friday)

Al Smith, governor of New York, announces he will retire from public life next January.

Grant Matthews elected president of Riverside Community club; other officers are Clarence Boyd, vice-president; Mrs. Maude Champin, secretary; Mrs. Zelma Wohl, treasurer; Fred O'Kelly and Charles Gray, directors.

40 YEARS AGO

Jan. 15, 1916

(It was Saturday)

Rogue River Canal company announces plans to construct highline ditch from Bradshaw drop to Bear creek at Talent.

A three-story summer hotel on Rogue river at Elk creek almost completed; being built by W. G. McDonald.

What's the Answer?

Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Benjamin Franklin was born 250 years ago in Baltimore, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Williamsburg (Va.) or England?

2. Re-marriage of divorcees comes, on the average, one, three, five or seven years after the divorce?

3. States now have or haven't the right to choose their presidential electors by Congressional districts instead of by state-wide vote?

4. Southernmost U. S. city is San Diego, Brownsville (Tex.), New Orleans, Mobile or Key West?

5. Most Methodists reporting in a national survey do or don't consider Sunday golf-playing as sinful?

6. Slivovitz is the national drink of Russia, Austria, Switzerland, Hungary, Greece, Yugoslavia or Turkey?

7. "Ask the man who owns one" used to be an advertising slogan for which car still being made?

The answers: 1. Boston. 2. Three years. 3. Have. 4. Key West. 5. Most don't. 6. Yugoslavia. 7. Packard.

Minnesota produces 2,000,000 board feet of lumber annually.

Illinois motor vehicle registration in 1955 through October was 3,300,300, which was 160,000 more than in all of 1954.

An "Iffy" Question

According to all the important polls, if President Eisenhower should not be a candidate for reelection, Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren would be far ahead of any other Republican aspirants.

But if Justice Warren should be foolish enough to yield to party pressure and agree to run, he would have to abandon any hope of getting—as "Ike" did—any electoral votes in the Solid South.

That verdict of the Supreme Court outlawing segregation in public schools would tend to that.

AS Justice John Harlan, grandfather of the present Supreme Court member of the same name, said in his dissenting vote back in 1896 when the Supreme Court upheld segregation, quote:

"The constitution is color blind and neither knows nor tolerates classes among its citizens."

THAT is true today in the North, but it plainly is not true in the South. Virginia demonstrated this and on the same issue there is little doubt that the following 12 states of the South would follow suit: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and South Carolina.

These states would add up to quite a package of electoral votes, Mr. Warren.

THERE would also be opposition to Justice Warren from the isolationist-reactionary wing of the GOP. This would probably be headed by Republican leader Senator Knowland who is as anxious to get into the White House as he is to get a 50% reduction in his income tax.

For ex-Governor Warren was a member of the Liberal Wing of the Republican party in California and even opposed the imposition of a loyalty oath in the University of California. The Knowland faction put him far over on the left wing for that exhibition of common sense and enlightenment.

So if Justice Warren should be foolish enough to yield to pressure, and answer the call to save his party's honor (assuming of course Ike would NOT) California's ex-governor would not find the nomination any easy sailing, or presented to him, as was the case with Justice Hughes many years ago, on a silver-platter.

In other words he and his followers would have a fight on their hands in the convention.

But as things look today, Warren would score a victory over both Southern opposition and the Knowland hatchet-squad and with President Eisenhower's aid and blessing would, in this paper's judgment, be a very hard man to beat.

BUT all this is what former President Franklin D. Roosevelt liked to call an "iffy question"—very much so.

For as was remarked in this column over a month ago, there is little doubt that unless he should suffer another heart attack, or his doctors should explicitly advise otherwise, the President will yield to the tremendous pressure of his party leaders and agree to make the race for another 4-year term.

The Mail Tribune hopes he does.

Not because of any sense of duty as stressed by self-seeking politicians of the Joe Martin type, but because he WANTS to run, FEELS like it, and the best medical advice he can get, sees no reason from a physical standpoint, why he shouldn't.

That would be good news for all!—R.W.R.

Good News for Russia

It is not pleasant to think that the issue of states rights and "nullification" were not settled by the Civil War.

But quite apparently they were not.

The Supreme Court decided on November 25, 1955, that segregation in public schools of the U.S.A. is unconstitutional.

To "nullify" this decree Virginia, Georgia, Mississippi and many other southern states plan to amend their state constitutions so they can in effect abolish public schools, and by giving financial aid to private schools, continue their system of segregation on the basis of the pigmentation of the students' skins.

AND we have representatives of the South in congress maintaining solemnly that for the government to interfere with educational regulations within any state is unconstitutional.

So there we are back where we the people—and Abraham Lincoln—started from.

HOWEVER we don't expect there will be any surprise attack on Fort Sumter, or any secession movement south of the Mason & Dixon line. For many years the constitution has been violated as far as negroes in the South are concerned, in some states, for a negro to mark a ballot today at any election would be to risk his life and perhaps lose it. So our prediction is no U.S. troops will be sent to Virginia or anywhere else in the South to enforce the Supreme Court decision.

The decision probably will stand, and be observed in the North but not in the South—at least in most portions of it—and time will march on. However, in due course we hope Father Time will make this a country of, by and for the people—ALL the people—regardless of the color of skins, in fact as well as theory.

THE serious side of this segregation question is not so much here at home as it is abroad, particularly in Asia, Africa, and way stations where Soviet Russia is working so hard—and to date effectively—to gain political control.

Here surely is grist for the Kremlin propaganda mill presented on a silver platter to Bulganin-Khrushchev, et al, by the southern half of the U.S.A.—R.W.R.

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE NATIONAL CONSENSUS

There is an old rule in American politics that as the elections come nearer, the differences in what the two parties offer become smaller and smaller. The rule seems to be working now.



In his State of the Union message, which is a comprehensive platform of Eisenhower Republicanism, the President has moved very far indeed into the ground occupied by the Democrats. It requires an effort to say how the Eisenhower social principles and social program differ in any fundamental sense from what, after some 30 years of trial and error, remains in the New Deal.

WHATEVER one may think of this or that feature of it, there has developed a national consensus which makes it very difficult to draw sharp partisan issues on the legislation before Congress. There is a consensus among the Eisenhower Republicans and the main mass of the Democrats on the principle of social security, otherwise known as the welfare state.

There is a consensus among them also on the principle that producers and consumers shall be protected against the unregulated impact of the open market.

There is no genuine party issue on the subject of the tariff. There will be differences between Eisenhower Republicans and the Democrats from the farm states on farm relief. But both parties are committed to the same principle—once regarded as heresy—of government intervention with subsidies and controls into the free market for farm products. There is probably not a single member of Congress today who would stand up and argue that it is not the duty of the federal government to attempt to protect the farmer's standard of life.

THERE are, it may be said, differences between the two parties as to how these principles, on which they are agreed, are to be applied. In such matters as housing, power, the development of resources, health, education and highways, the Eisenhower Republicans prefer to work through measures to subsidize, to help and to protect private enterprise. The Democrats are more ready to use the government itself in such undertakings. But even here the issues tend rather to cut across than to run with the lines between the parties.

Some, seeking further for differences, have argued that the Eisenhower Republicans stand for the welfare and protective measures within a balanced budget; that the Democrats do not mind deficit spending. As a matter of fact, both parties are

now committed to the same fiscal doctrine, which descends from Keynes—the doctrine of the compensated economy under which in times of boom the budget should be balanced with a surplus, in good times it should be balanced without a surplus, in times of recession, it should be unbalanced with a deficit. We are now in a high industrial boom and quite properly the Eisenhower administration is in favor of balancing the budget with a surplus.

But let there be a recession, if the unemployed begin to approach say five millions. The treasury and the Federal Reserve Board will reverse the engines in order to have the federal government spend more money than it takes in.

THE real contest and conflict in our modern politics is not about legislative measures. It is about the administration of the government. It is about the way farm policy, the military establishment, fiscal affairs, the welfare and protective measures are in fact conducted and operated. That is why the Presidency has become so paramount in our system. For the Presidential office is the fountainhead of administration. This may also be the explanation of why the investigative power of Congress, which has to do with administration, has tended to become so much more important than the legislative powers of Congress.

It is also the reason why it is virtually impossible these days to think about any national question without coming back very quickly to President Eisenhower's unresolved problem. Until his decision has been made, the whole political system is held in suspense.

SINCE the President was stricken in September, we have been made to realize as perhaps never before how extraordinary is the role of the President in our affairs. We have been forced to think not only of what happens if a President dies in office but more particularly about what happens if he is not well enough to perform the duties of his office.

It was an accident that the President became ill at a time when Congress was not in session and it was, therefore, feasible to postpone big decisions and to let the government machine run on its own inertia. It would have been a very serious business indeed if the President had not made so good a recovery before the political season opened, if at this time of year he were incapacitated for three months. There is a gaping hole in the usages of our constitutional system in respect not so much to the death as to the disability of the President. This, as the President indicated at Key West on Sunday, is a prime consideration in the decision he must make.

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Editorial Comment

LIES ABOUT RED CROSS

None of the agencies that dedicate itself to helping people in need suffers the abuses heaped upon the Red Cross. Until we had served three years ago as county Red Cross membership drive chairman we had not realized the extent to which deliberate lies about the Red Cross were circulated. We wanted (and still do) to hang by the heels the authors of all the vicious stories that are told about the organization. This editorial from the Astorian-Budget hits some of the liars in the teeth:

When Astoria had slides and the Red Cross came to the aid of local citizens, there was a widespread belief, disseminated by irresponsible gossip, that the Red Cross required recipients of its help to pay back the money granted them. Apparently the Red Cross was victimized by similar malicious gossip when it came to the help of New England flood victims last year. No doubt similar tales are being spread in California and southern Oregon, where once again this year the Red Cross is helping those impoverished and made homeless by disaster.

The current Red Cross newsletter tells how New Haven, Conn., citizens killed the vicious rumors that the Red Cross was selling its services and supplies to flood victims. A group of leading New Haven citizens simply placed a large advertisement in newspapers offering \$500 reward to anyone who could prove the charges against the Red Cross. There were of course no takers. After five weeks, the escrow

BROWN RESIGNS

Klamath Falls (U.P.)—Lawrence Brown, manager of the Klamath Medical Service bureau, Saturday announced his resignation effective as soon as a successor is found. Brown came here in 1943 from Portland where he had been manager of the Industrial Hospital association. He did not state future plans.

agent holding the \$500 gave it back to the citizens who offered the reward. And the rumors died out.

This was a simple and effective way to give the lie to gossip mongers. The same thing could be done in Astoria, should we once more need Red Cross help and should falsehoods about it be disseminated again.—Pendleton East-Oregonian.

(Editor's note: There were lies and rumors about the Red Cross during the recent flood period in southern Oregon too, as the Astoria suspected.)

Safety Council Sets Dinner Meet

The annual dinner meeting of the Medford Safety Council will be held Friday, Jan. 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Jackson hotel, with State Sen. Mark Hatfield as main speaker. He is the dean of students at Willamette university, Salem.

R. L. (Bud) Palmer, who has served out the unexpired term of the late Alan Cameron, will be installed as chairman; Aubrey Loper as vice-chairman; Mrs. Ruth Ragsdale, secretary; and Medford Police Sgt. Clyde Fichter, treasurer. New directors are Dr. William Thompson, Emerson Anderson, and John Chiders.

Awards will be made for outstanding contributions to individual, institutional and industrial safety during the past year. Claude Haggard, safety engineer for the California-Oregon Power company will make the awards.

LeRoy Williams of the Medford fire department received last year's individual award and the California Pacific Utilities the industrial award.

Entertainment will be provided by a string ensemble from the Medford senior high school, directed by John Drysdale. The public is invited and reservations may be made by calling 2-6504.

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.

The Need for Blood

To the Editor: There has been much activity recently in the Medford area regarding construction of a new and larger hospital to replace the Community hospital. The brochures indicate a desire to make Medford a medical and surgical center, and if sufficient medical and surgical skill is available there is little doubt but that our hospital population will increase. Many cases now being sent to larger and more adequate centers could stay in this area.

It is understood by this committee that the need for blood rises in direct proportion to the increase of beds in a hospital catering to the general needs of an area.

The people of Jackson county furnished less than 60 per cent of the blood needed by our present and admittedly inadequate hospitals in a recent four month period. This is arrived at from the anticipated needs and actual donations to the Red Cross Blood program during the past two visits of the Blood-Mobile, the figures being taken from the news columns of our paper.

There has been no indication that our residents will furnish an increased amount of blood should the new hospital be erected, but it is to our best interests that we do so. We cannot expect the people of other areas to shoulder the responsibility that is our own. A breakdown in the present program can only result in going back to the old system of paid blood donors which would cause a large increase in the cost per transfusion.

Do the people of our area care so little for the lives of their fellowmen that they refuse to support the blood program? Transfusions, when needed for accident victims and surgical patients, materially shorten the recovery period and frequently are the deciding factor in saving lives.

The pint of blood you can give may be returned by another donor when it is needed to save your life.

Dan F. Krotz II, Chairman for Community Service, Steelhead Post, VFW, Shady Cove, Ore.

Article Said Misleading

To the Editor: An article entitled "We Liked the Veteran Problem," which appeared in one of our nation's leading magazines late last fall and which has caused many misconceptions, of the situation, should, in our opinion, have been entitled, "We Liked the Veterans."

Judging from the expert twisting of words, the use of half truths, and we think, in some places, the deliberate use of untruths, the author seems to consider himself as having delivered a KO punch to the cause of disabled veterans.

A sample of the inaccuracies contained in the article is a table showing compensation payments to 100 per cent service-connected disability cases. He calls it pension and, we believe, not un-wittingly. The purpose as we see it is to cause the public to think every veteran will receive, upon becoming 65 years of age, an automatic pension amounting to more than a 100 per cent service-connected compensation. Even more, because he has mis-stated the amount of compensation that the S-C veteran with wife and kids draws, by about \$1,644 a year too much.

In speaking of the general cost of rehabilitation of the veterans of our wars, this author fails to recognize that a sizable portion of the overall cost of veterans' benefits is for educational aid and training, as well as other assistance programs which have a definite termination date in each case.

Those who fight the wars, and those who cause them, come from different sections of the population. If the group who hate so to see the good money that was accumulated via the war boom spent on care for war veterans no longer able to care for themselves because of having fought the war, will refrain from another war long enough, the cost of veterans' benefits will be appreciably reduced by elimination of the temporary assistance programs during transition from G.I. to civilian.

When it comes to pensions for the aged, ailing veterans with non-service disabilities, the author of the article ignores the fact that the government maintains an income limitation of \$1,400 a year for such veterans who have no dependents, and \$2,700 for those with dependents. Social security, private pensions, several private retirement plans, are all counted as income to report against the non-service pension limitation.

Another wrong inference in the article is that all a war veteran has to do, upon reaching the age of 65 years, is to notify the VA that he is of that age and ready to commence drawing the non-service pension. This is

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

It must have seemed like paramnesia.

Gal staff member early last week attended a wedding held in the Jackson county jail—the first such she'd ever attended.

Later in the week she attended a play, "Cry the Beloved Country," in which one of the scenes depicts a marriage—conducted in a jail.

A "rather tall, nice-looking" lady has been distributing chick feed in the flower beds at Hawthorne park this winter, for the birds. That's the report of another Medford woman who, herself, likes to put out food for birds, and thinks the park lady deserves recognition.

Our informant, who like to watch the antics of the birds as they go after the food, suggests that placing a box of such tidbits for the feathered residents near the bedroom window provides good entertainment for a sick person or other shut-in.

Another Medford woman recently picked up a prescription at a drug store. She didn't check the bottle too closely, and had taken most of the medicine contained in it before she discovered that it had someone else's name on it. Whatever it was she was taking didn't seem to bother her particularly, fortunately.

When you're working with lines of type, such as are used in the publication of a newspaper, odd things can sometimes happen. Like last Sunday, for instance, when, as a matter of routine, this paper carried a little boxed notice labeled "Subscribers." It called attention to the number which can be called to report improper or non-delivery of the paper.

Then, there was a paragraph which, after one line of type had been dropped out accidentally, read:

"If regular delivery arrives shortly after you call please notify office thus eliminating special mes . . ."

The sports department has confessed the real reason why the Medford High school basketball team lost its pre-conference game with Cleveland High of Portland.

For most of the season, the sports editor has used a red and blue pencil to keep special notations during the cov-

erage of the game—blue for one team, red for the other. In every case so far the team for which the blue end was used has won. In a mad rush to get away from the office to make the trip to Grants Pass for this game, however, the pencil was left behind.

A little man appeared at a tavern not too long ago, and slumped on to a stool at the end of the bar. The bartender, a man dedicated to his profession, inquired about his order. "I jus' wanta bowl of shilly . . ." he said, and dropped his head on his arms in apparent slumber.

The bartender, sensitive to this insult—food being mentioned in such a place—and sensitive to the respectability of his establishment, ordered the man out. The fellow collected himself with an effort and made his way out the front door.

Moments later he appeared through the back door, slumped on a bar stool and said, "I jus' wanta bowl of shilly . . ."

The bartender escorted him, none too gently, out the back door, closing it sharply behind him. He returned to his post of duty behind the bar. In the front door came the little man again, streeching (that's a word we just made up—it's half way between stroll and reel) toward the bar.

The bartender forestalled him, however, turned him around, and shoved him out the front door. Then, wiser from experience he dashed to the back door to await the little man's reappearance there.

The crowd in the place of business watched tensely as the bartender kept his post at the back door. Almost unnoticed, the little man slipped in the front door, made his way to the bar, slumped on to a stool, and announced "I jus' wanta bowl of shilly . . ."

We never did learn how the story ended.

We are reliably informed that if you want to get longer life from a light-bulb, you should buy bulbs designed for 130 volt current, rather than the standard Copco 120 volt.

We don't know the reason for this, but our informant, an engineer who could be expected to know, says it has something to do with bulb capacity and current fluctuations. They won't be quite as bright, but they'll last longer, he says.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This modern world note:

A special advisory group that has been studying the problem reports in Washington this morning that the nation's airways are becoming so crowded that there are now, on the average, four reported near-collisions involving the commercial airlines every day.

The committee recommends that a prominent person should be appointed immediately to head a review of all aviation problems and draw up with as little delay as possible a 20-year aviation facilities development plan.

THAT is to say: It is beginning to look like the airways are going to be as badly crowded in the future as the highways are now.

IT ISN'T true, of course, that the actual air itself is becoming so crowded that there is no longer room for the planes to get through it without hitting each other. The trouble lies in the big cities, where the bulk of the air traffic originates. They haven't enough airports to accommodate safely and expeditiously the planes that need to land and take off every day if the traffic is to be taken care of.

That is basically the trouble with our highway system. Out in the open country cars and trucks can manage to get along without becoming completely bogged down. It is in the big metropolitan cities that the trouble comes. So many people are collecting in the big cities that there just isn't room enough to move the cars (and trucks and buses) that need to be moved.

THAT'S where the bottleneck is. Everyone who drives reasonably long distances is aware of this fundamental fact. In spite of the congestion, it is possible to make fairly good

not the case. To be awarded the pension, any veteran must be totally and permanently disabled, and that means unemployed at gainful occupation. It is also conditional that the physical disability is not due to the veteran's own misconduct.

Pat Graham, Adjutant and Service officer

Jackson County Chapter Disabled American Veterans

1515 North Riverside ave. Medford, Ore.

time, without too great a hazard to life and limb, out in the open country and through what we call the "country" towns. It is when one hits a Bigtown that that the trouble begins.

The shining example of that in the West is Los Angeles. If you're headed, say, from Palm Springs to Santa Barbara, or from Bakersfield to San Diego, and feel that you must pass through Los Angeles, you're in for trouble. You might just as well shrug your shoulders and say you'll take a half day off