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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: March 21, 1946. (It was Thursday) C. E. Gates of Medford re-elected vice-president of Oregon State Motor association.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: A few of the Older Girls have their better halves putting up window screens that fit perfectly when they took them down last fall, but don't now.

20 YEARS AGO: March 21, 1936. Oregon Highway commission indicates that new Siskiyou highway south of Ashland will be completed by Aug. 1, 1937.

Temperatures in Medford reaches 79; cool air forecast to arrive.

30 YEARS AGO: March 21, 1926. City Engineer F. C. Dillard making plans for new water system in Medford; approved by voters recently.

Mason Motor company, Bartlett and Sixth sts., offers new Refined Star 4 for low price of \$636.

40 YEARS AGO: March 21, 1916. State health department tests show that mineral spring water from Ashland is free of germs.

Medford Commercial club and Jackson county Business men's club propose bond issue to build railroad to Blue Ledge Mine.

What's the Answer?

- Can You Get 4 of the 7? Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report... 1. Salary of a U. S. Senator is \$15,000, \$17,500, \$20,000, \$22,500, or \$25,000 a year? 2. Salary of a member of the U. S. House of Representatives is \$12,500, \$15,000, \$17,500, \$20,000, or \$22,500 a year? 3. Napoleon Bonaparte died on Elba, Corsica, the field of Waterloo, St. Helena, or the site of his present tomb in Paris? 4. U. S. city with most Negroes is Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, Richmond or Washington? 5. A tendency to baldness is or isn't inherited? 6. The Panama Canal is slightly over (a) 15, (b) 50, (c) 150 or (d) 500 miles long? 7. Average wind velocity is higher or lower in Chicago than in New York, or about the same? The answers: 1. \$22,500. 2. \$22,500. 3. St. Helena. 4. New York. 5. Often is. 6. 50 miles. 7. Lower in Chicago.

Relatives and Friends Competition To Hotels

Milwaukee—(U.P.)—The main competition of hotels does not come from hotels but "relatives and friends," according to Charles A. Horowitz, New York, executive vice-president of the Northwestern Hotel association, which recently convened here. Horowitz said 38 per cent of all motoring vacationists stayed in private homes en route and 51 per cent stayed with friends and neighbors when they got to their destinations.

Spring Means Tourists

Spring began early yesterday. Sunday was the first really good day for most office-workers to get their hands dirty (and their muscles stiff) working in the yard.

There are signs that blossoms will be in bud soon. The grass is beginning to get a greenish (instead of a yellow-brownish) tinge. Dogs are gamboling in droves and throngs, to the distress of early-rising garden enthusiasts.

THIS BRINGS the thought that the tourist season will soon be upon us, to the delight of the motel, hotel, restaurant, resort, service station and chamber of commerce people.

Last year was one of the best for the tourist industry in Oregon—which, money-wise, is the state's third largest source of income.

Throughout the three Pacific Northwest states, a total of \$425,000,000 was spent by tourists visiting the region in 1955. Oregon's share of this is figured at some \$127,000,000, which is a sizeable addition to the state's economy. There was no depletion of natural resources associated with this income, either.

THE BENEFITS of tourists to the service industries are obvious. The benefits to the rest of the economy are perhaps less obvious but are equally substantial. If a million or so dollars are spent in Jackson county, which otherwise would not be spent here, the entire population receives financial benefits as the money circulates and recirculates. Everyone is helped.

The tourist trade has been growing steadily over the years, and Jackson county has been getting its share. Rather substantial promotional efforts have been made to attract tourists, and to keep them longer. These have been made by the local chamber of commerce, regional groupings of chambers, the state of Oregon itself, and the Pacific Northwest Travel association.

THIS COMBINATION of facts serves to remind us that it is time for our annual reminder to residents that everyone can help keep the tourists coming, and coming back, by proper attention, by courtesy, and by being able to give adequate information and advice when called upon to do so. This sort of thing reacts to the credit of the area, and not only with tourists, but with everyone—entirely in addition to the fact that southern Oregon is a splendid place to live, and it's fun to know about it for its own sake.—E.A.

Billboards

Newspapermen generally and editorial writers in particular are frequently far from the hard-boiled, hat-on-the-back-of-the-head characters described in song, story and the motion pictures.

Many of them are inwardly sensitive to criticism, and in some cases it takes a real effort of will to take a strong stand on anything, particularly when their motives may be questioned.

THIS MAY be one reason why so few newspapers have had much of anything to say about billboards on the public highways. Since the lifeblood of newspaper revenues is in the advertising which it is able to sell, the papers are particularly vulnerable to the accusation of self-interest if they so much as hint that a big sign extolling the virtues of some variety of beer may be slightly less attractive than a vista of tree-covered mountainside.

The truth is, nevertheless, that Ogden Nash was right when he remarked "I think that I shall never see a billboard lovely as a tree."

His conclusion, while undoubtedly hyperbole, also has the ring of poetic truth: "Perhaps, unless the billboards fall, I'll never see a tree at all."

BECAUSE OF their reluctance to speak out against a competitive industry, newspapers generally have left the fight for clean and uncluttered highways up to the Roadside Councils of each state. The California council recently mailed out a brochure which was convincing evidence that they have both esthetics and right on their side.

Among its pictures were two of the same locality—a sort of before and after effect—and more conclusive proof we've never seen.

MORE RECENTLY, the news letter of the Oregon Roadside Council points out that "every court and practically every legislative body that has ever considered the matter" recognizes billboards as a menace to safe driving.

The 1955 legislature passed a bill which places limits on billboard advertising. But it is far from a flat ban.

Public opinion is the strongest force in keeping the highways free from distracting signs. And we say, at the risk of being classed as a dog-in-the-manger, that it would be a good thing if the public demanded that its view of what can still be seen of Oregon remain unimpaired.—E.A.

Cyprus Liberation President Dies

Athens—(U.P.)—Archbishop Spyridon, primate of the Greek Orthodox church and president of the Committee for the Liberation of Cyprus, died here today at the age of 82.

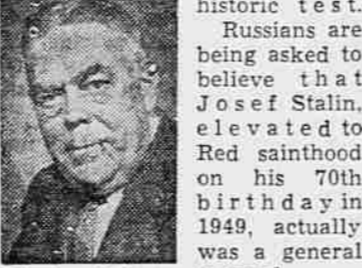
Officials at Evangelismos hospital said he was admitted early this week suffering from defective circulation of the blood and that he died early today from tuberculosis and a heart ailment.

His body will be embalmed and taken to the cathedral where it will lie in state.

Russia's Leaders Attempting Difficult Feat of Propaganda

By CHARLES M. McCANN, United Press Correspondent

The Kremlin evidently has decided to put its Communist "thought control" system to a historic test.



Charles M. McCann

Russians are being asked to believe that Josef Stalin, elevated to Red sainthood on his 70th birthday in 1949, actually was a general no-good.

That ought not to be difficult. It certainly was no secret even from the people themselves.

They knew all about the secret police. They knew about the slave labor camps in which millions of people were worked and starved to death. They knew about the police spies in their own families.

The real test which the handful of Russia's leaders have decided to risk is their attempt to put over the idea that they, like the people, were victims of Stalin's lunatic dictatorship.

It is impossible not to believe that people will ask about Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin, Communist party leader Nikita S. Khrushchev and the rest: And where were you all the time?

All the men in the presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist party, the rulers of Russia, were close collaborators of Stalin.

The Helpers: It was they who elevated him to sainthood, they who helped to send Communists and non-

Communists alike to the slave labor camps, they who made Russia itself a gigantic slave camp.

Stalin's life in power is now being divided into two parts. First, the period between 1917 and 1934 when he collaborated with Lenin, succeeded Lenin and consolidated his own power. Secondly, the period from 1934 until his death in 1953, when he ruled as absolute dictator.

But Bulganin, Khrushchev and the rest were Communists long before 1934. They were co-directors of the Red terror. They, too, shared responsibility for the famine of 1932-33 in which untold millions died—a famine caused by ruthless farm collectivization.

After 1934, Bulganin, Khrushchev and the rest cooperated with Stalin in the purge trials of the mid-1930's, when he wiped out the "old Bolsheviks" who had been his closest colleagues.

Easy Job: It was relatively easy for Stalin to concoct the evidence

on which these men were judicially murdered. Also, the victims themselves were dedicated Communists. Though confessions were extorted from them by torture, many of them seemed to cooperate in their own denunciation. They, too, were thought-controlled.

It is not going to be so easy for these men to convince Russia's 200 million people or even its 7 million members of the Communist party, to swallow the idea that they were guiltless.

Nevertheless, it is quite plain that the men in the Kremlin are convinced that they can get away with it. Henry Shapiro, chief U.P. correspondent in Moscow, returned there last fall after a stay in the United States. Shapiro has spent most of the last 23 years in Russia. One of the first things he noted was a new air of confidence among the top leaders. Undoubtedly, they already had decided to debunk Stalin—and had decided the Russian people would buy the new party line.

Control of Congress Lies in 20 Districts

Washington—(CQ)—Twenty of the nation's 435 Congressional districts hold the key to the fate of Republican efforts to recapture control of the House of Representatives in November.

In 1954, the dozen winning Democrats averaged 52.9 per cent of the vote. Even more striking is the fact that the total Democratic vote was only 9.5 per cent under that of 1952, while the 1954 vote for Republican candidates was down by 30.4 per cent.

GOP prospects for victory in these 20 districts may be governed by many factors in addition to the strength of the national ticket. All of the Democratic incumbents intend to seek re-election; their records in office may strengthen or weaken them. The relative efficiency of local Republican and Democratic party organizations may be a deciding factor. And important local issues, like unemployment in Wilkes-Barre or public power in Portland could determine the outcome.

But statistics alone suggest the GOP may have a better chance of winning back the eight seats they won in 1952 and lost in 1954, than of recapturing the 12 seats they held for two or more terms before losing in 1954.

Tougher Time: In general, Republicans appear to be gaining strength in the first group, while Democrats are gaining in the second group. President Eisenhower did equally well in both groups of districts, and might do so again in November. But the disproportion in the fall-off votes in 1954 suggests Republican Congressional candidates will have a tougher time winning in the second group.

Much of President Eisenhower's popular appeal has been credited to wide acceptance of the view that he is a national leader above party. Thus the President might be re-elected with the support of the same voters who choose to back Democratic candidates for Congress. Such split-ticket voting occurred to a marked degree in 11 districts which elected Democrats by narrow margins in 1952 and in 1954.

If this pattern should spread to the 12 districts where the 1954 Republican vote fell so sharply, the GOP's chances of taking over the House in the 85th Congress would be slim indeed.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

By Pacific Coast standards, Southern Oregon and Far Northern California have had a pretty rugged winter. But we began to get a break a couple of weeks ago. Maybe it will hold and maybe it won't.

At any rate, the East has had—and is still having—a WORSE winter. It always makes us feel better to know that somebody else is having it worse than we are.

That isn't good ethics, but it's Old Human Nature.

BOUNCING from the weather to politics, Congressman Harris Ellsworth of the Southern Oregon district west of the mountains says Monday morning that ANYTHING can happen to the farm bill.

One possibility, he says, is a deadlock between the two houses of congress and NO FARM BILL AT ALL.

THAT suggests a question: Which would you rather have—a counterfeit dollar, or no dollar at all?

PRESIDENT Eisenhower sends to congress his foreign aid program. He wants a shade under five billion dollars and says it will require that much to meet and counter what he terms "the new Soviet expansionism."

AGREEING generally with Ike's ideas (with occasional exceptions such as federal aid for the schools) and having complete confidence in his integrity and his sincerity, I can't help wondering about this foreign aid business.

It looks like Britain and France, as great powers, are gone to the races. In all the world—save in our own North America and perhaps in Western Germany—there seems to be no grim determination to resist communism.

One can't help fearing that in the last final showdown—when it's a choice between fighting to the death for freedom or accepting communism—the bulk of the tired Old World will accept communism.

If that is true—and it may not be true—conserving our own strength becomes immensely important. If we're to use our resources to strengthen other peoples so that they may become dependable allies clear through to the end of the road, maybe we'd better do it in our own hemisphere.

If the world is to be split half communist and half free, we'd better keep the Western Hemisphere ALL FREE. During two World wars, we've concentrated our interest in the Old World and have neglected our neighbors of the New World.

These, of course, are only thoughts. But one can't help thinking.

LET us get too serious. Let's turn in conclusion today to the guy in Miami who when he got off a commercial plane from Chicago left behind in his seat a book entitled "How to Stop Forgetting." In its pages, as a bookmark to show him where he left off reading so that he could start in again at the right place, was a pamphlet on MENTAL CONCENTRATION.

We'd better take steps to find him and hustle the book back to him. He NEEDS it.

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.

"Automatic Medication"

To the Editor: I'm confused. Until the arguments for and against fluoridation of our water supply came up, I had believed I could thank the diet of my mother before I was born, and the good, wholesome foods that my parents provided in my early years for the good set of teeth I've carried around for about 40 years.

Now, it seems that all that is needed for good teeth is to spike the water supply with fluoride. If this be so why can't this ingredient just as well be added to the diet of those who need it or wish it so as not to infringe on the rights of those who do not?

Also the comparison of sodium fluoride with iodine is really a far stretched comparison. Sure iodine is a poison, but it isn't poured down every one's throat because some, myself included, need more than others. Plain salt sets on the same shelf as iodized salt and we take our pick. I've had to use iodine, putting it drop by drop into a glass of milk, and didn't notice any great hardship or need any great brain power to manage to get it done every day.

Any mother who believes fluoride will protect her children's teeth could do the same with it. It actually wouldn't take but a second of time and there would still be plenty of time for that cigaret or the gossip on the phone.

It seems as though people get lazier and lazier. Push-button gadgets for so many uses. Now some even want Automatic Medication!

Mrs. Paul Elgin, 1221 Withington st., Medford, Ore.

Start Living!

To the Editor: How does a timid woman get active politically is a question on many women's minds today. As vice-chairman of my county Democratic committee, I'm probably asked that question more often than the average citizen. I think an answer at this time is particularly timely.

I feel that becoming a precinct committee woman in your own neighborhood, be you Democrat or Republican, is the quickest, easiest way to "get into politics."

Most precincts are composed of approximately 300 voters. As precinct committee woman, you perform the service of calling personally on your neighbors, telling them where and how to register, furnish them with candidates' literature and sample ballots. In general, you become the hub around which your voters can revolve.

Timid souls will find the work stimulating, informative and a good one for which they'll receive "many thanks" from neighbors as well as candidates running for office.

Filing for precinct work close March 9, but you can become a precinct worker by writing in your own name on the ballot at the May primary under "precinct committee woman." If you want to make sure that you are elected, ask your neighbors to write your name there, too.

Take the first step, ladies; you'll get lots of help. You will soon be living! Hasn't everyone said that more women should take an active interest in politics?

Beulah J. Hand, 2515 10th ave., Milwaukie, Ore.

Standard Oil Reports Income for Past Year

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Standard Oil Company of California reports a net income of \$231,138,655 for 1955, equivalent to \$7.31 a share.

The 1955 earnings compared to an income of \$211,872,447 in 1954, equivalent to \$6.70 a share.

Sales and other operating revenues during 1955 were \$1,277,840,419 compared to \$1,113,342,594 for the previous year.

Two Victories

To the Editor: On March 1 the House of Representatives passed the Colorado River Storage Project bill, minus Echo Park dam which had been opposed by the conservation groups of the country as an invasion of the national park system, by a margin of 120 votes. Last July an unofficial test vote showed that the same bill with Echo Park dam in it would have lost by a margin of 50 to 60 votes.

Here is a good numerical measurement of the sensitivity of Congress to threats against the national park system.

Another good measuring stick of conservation strength on the grass roots level is the three to one vote by the people of New York state last November against the proposal to build Panther Mountain dam in the state-owned Adirondack Forest Preserve, in spite of the fact that the proposal was backed by the leading officials and politicians of the state.

Two such impressive victories in one year should serve notice on the would-be despoilers of the public domain that the voters are strongly backing the combined conservation forces of the country.

C. Edward Graves, Western Representative National Parks Association, Box SS, Carmel, Calif.

Capistrano's Miracle

To the Editor: How wonderful it would be if the unpredictable swallows did return to the old Capistrano mission, as reported in the M-T, for they seldom do arrive on schedule as Editor Ruhl observed one time on a visit there, and a questioned youthful gas station attendant there replied, "Aw, the swallows almost never return on time. It's just a gag."

For there are so many people who prefer to believe what it pleases them to believe, turning unseeing eye and an unhearing ear to obvious facts and logical reasoning. As mentioned, every year since 1938 when your writer was there but the swallows were not, and neither on the day following. When some grass-roots reporters got after the old padre there, he replied that the swallows had returned but were scared away by too many people. Yet the Los Angeles Times ran a three inch banner announcing the return of the swallows and a picture of a cock-sparrow atop an old swallows nest. When taken to task, the editor said something about his photographer and reporter "must have been over-enthusiastic," but he failed to print the retraction in his paper. So the false information went out to be reprinted by the country's press.

Last year, the Audubon Society came out on my side, saying how the swallows vary considerable in their date returns and it would obviously be the same at old San Juan Capistrano. As Ranger Naturalist Burns remarked once, how could the swallows figure out and make allowance for the leap-year change of date? If the Capistrano publicity man and California press would treat it as a joke as we do ground-hog day, all well and good. But given any leeway, they'd go back as first reported how old St. Joseph once fed the starving swallows and so they always returned that same day, which is also obviously impossible, as swallows, like bats, feed only at night.

But the real miracle at Capistrano is how the early Indians, so allergic to sweat work, were persuaded to help in the building of the old mission work-house, as that's what it was, attested by the huge brick emplacements for tallow rendering and drying of hides for shipment to Spain.

F. J. Clifford, 1211 West Main st., Medford, Ore.

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

Libertyville, Ill.—Adlai Stevenson on Sen. Estes Kefauver's stunning Democratic victory in Minnesota: "I congratulate Senator Kefauver. The unprecedented Democratic vote in Minnesota overcomes any personal disappointment I might feel."

Minneapolis—Sen. Estes Kefauver on his upset victory: "I am confident that the large vote cast indicates revolt in the Midwest against President Eisenhower's farm program."

London—Prime Minister Anthony Eden when asked the cost of the Bulganin-Khrushchev visit: "Much less than the millionth part of a hydrogen bomb."

Washington—Rep. Donald L. Jackson (R-Calif.) on the packed committee room of the House Foreign Relations committee meeting on President Eisenhower's foreign aid program: "Mr. Chairman, could we not have larger quarters for this important hearing? Twice I've reached for my handkerchief, and twice I have picked the pocket of Congressman Lecompte."

London—Arthur Thompson of the Humane Education society in an address to the League Against Cruel Sports: "To try to abolish the Grand National Steeplechase would be like trying to do away with the British Royal Family."

Washington—Robert D. Elasier, Westinghouse Corp. vice-president on the settlement of the Electrical Workers strike: "We have come through a long and difficult period, and it is now vital that bitterness and retribution be forgotten."

London—Deputy Soviet Premier Georgi M. Malenkov on his visit to Shakespeare's birthplace at Stratford-on-Avon: "Shakespeare has given me much pleasure."

Washington—Assistant Air Force Secretary Dudley C. Sharp on development of a 2,500-mile-an-hour speed plane at sea level in the not too distant future: "At this speed an aircraft could beat the sun around the equator by about 14 hours, or circle the earth in less than half a day."

Advertisement for Hallmark Easter Cards for children. Includes text: "don't forget Hallmark EASTER CARDS for children" and "Easter bunnies... cute ducks and chicks... gay-colored eggs... you'll find all the favorite Easter designs in our new selection of Hallmark Easter Cards for children. All the children you know will be thrilled to receive these exciting Hallmark Cards designed just for them." Also features an illustration of children and a rabbit, and the Swem's Books-Gifts-Records logo.