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NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO May 14, 1946 (It was Tuesday)

Total exemptions in Jackson county from taxation amounts to \$52,219,776, according to a survey just completed by County Assessor C. A. Meyers.

20 YEARS AGO May 14, 1936 (It was Thursday)

A sort of freak storm hit Medford last night, a heavy downpour being accompanied by thunder and lightning.

30 YEARS AGO May 14, 1926 (It was Friday)

Tonight will be a big one for boys and girls under 16 years of age who take part in the bicycle parade.

40 YEARS AGO May 14, 1916 (It was Sunday)

J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, Salem, will deliver the commencement day address to members of the high school graduating class on Friday evening, May 19.

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

1. Adlai E. Stevenson is now younger or older than Gen. Eisenhower when was elected President in 1952, or the same age?

2. About (a) 1. (b) 3. (c) 6. (d) 10 or (e) 15 per cent of all Americans suffer from some form of mental illness?

3. Which is the largest of the Great Lakes? 4. If you buy a cotton shirt for \$4, about 25c, 75c, \$1.25 or \$1.75 has gone to the cotton farmer for the cotton in it?

5. Which large U.S. city was called Ft. Dearborn in its early days? 6. As compared with last year, truck sales are down more or less than passenger car sales, or is the sales drop about the same for each?

7. Which recently deceased prominent U.S. political leader was buried at Paducah, Ky.? The answers: 1. Younger. 2. About 6 per cent. 3. Superior. 4. 25c. 5. Chicago. 6. Truck sales down less than car sales. 7. Alben W. Barkley.

Andorra, tiny principality between France and Spain, pays a strange yearly tribute to its ruler, the Bishop of Urgel; 6 hams, 6 cheeses, 12 hens and 460 peetas, or about \$42. Andorra's other ruler, the president of France, receives only \$2.80.

Glimpses of the Future

The genre of "science fiction" has never quite achieved respectability. But it's fun.

There are a few works which have overcome this handicap, and been added to the classics of literature. The writings of H. G. Wells are pure and simple science fiction, yet they have attained a measure of respectful attention, as, more recently, have such works as "1984," and a few others in which critics believe the format is secondary to the message.

A LOT of the current output of "science fiction" is valueless, "space opera" stuff. On the other hand, a great body of other types of writing is also valueless when judged by any criterion other than pure escapism.

The best of the "futurist" writing (a more accurate name than "science fiction," by the way, for often the scientific connection is tenuous at best) can be intensely stimulating. Some of it provides a penetrating glimpse into the future, or into human motivations, or into the obscure world of science.

WE KNOW of two examples of areas in which the perusal of one of the higher-quality "sf" magazines paid off in understanding.

Remember that August night in 1945 when President Truman announced that an "atomic bomb" had been dropped on Japan? To most of us the phrase was entirely without meaning. To "sf" fans, however, it was old stuff, for the writers of futurist fiction (many of them qualified scientists who write imaginatively for relaxation) had long speculated about nuclear energy, and, in flights of fancy based on scientific research, had detailed the possible end results—and their consequences.

(One such magazine, incidentally, was the only publication in the U.S. during the war permitted to discuss freely—though fictionally—the probabilities of nuclear physics. It was so permitted only after it was pointed out that it had long been doing just that, and the sudden end of such stories might serve as a give-away to the enemy that the U.S. actually was making progress along atomic lines.)

THE other example began to make sense only recently, when the best-informed of the "head-shrinkers"—psychologists and psychiatrists—began to doubt the efficacy of some of the surgical techniques used in the treatment of mental illness.

It was only a week or two ago that one of America's leading neurosurgeons, at a conference of his colleagues, spoke out strongly against the results of the prefrontal lobotomy, that operation which has been described as "scrambling the brains with an icpick."

Long before this, articles in "sf" magazines had inveighed against the practice. It is entirely possible—even probable—that some of them were written by physicians who had become convinced earlier than their brethren, and had hit at the operation from the safety of a nom de plume, rather than risk the embarrassment possible in voicing an unpopular opinion in a professional publication.

FUTURIST publications serve as a medium for imagination and for fantasy. It is for this reason that they have been regarded with something less than respect for so long.

Yet they have their place, for the fantasy of the scientist of today may well be the accomplished fact of tomorrow. In looking at the array of scientific accomplishments so commonplace today, we see the fantasy of yesterday.

The futurists offer us a glimpse of tomorrow, which, if taken with a proper quantity of salt, can be refreshing and salutary.—E.A.

The New Frontier

... Ignorance is a far greater handicap to an individual than it was a generation ago, and an uneducated populace is a greater handicap to a nation. This trend is obviously going to continue and quicken.

An equally important and less frequently mentioned reason for the growing importance of education is the plain fact that the schools have become the chief instrument for keeping this Nation the fabled land of opportunity it started out to be.

IN OTHER decades, the opportunities of America lay primarily in escape from the rigid class barriers of Europe, the availability of free land at the frontier, and the excitement of a violently growing nation, where farms often became villages and villages became cities within the span of one human life.

When the frontier was closed, it would have been easy for opportunities to dry up in this Nation, and for rigid class barriers to develop. It has been primarily the schools which have prevented this from happening.

AS LONG as good schools are available, a man is not frozen at any level of our economy, nor is his son. Schools free men to rise to the level of their natural abilities. Hope for personal advancement and the advancement of one's children is, of course, one of the great wellsprings of human energy. The schools, more than any other agency, supply this hope in America today. By providing a channel for ambition, they have preserved the independent spirit of a pioneer nation.

The schools stand as the chief expression of the American tradition of fair play for everyone, and a fresh start for each generation. —(From the Report of the Committee for the White House Conference on Education).

Spiders are near-sighted. Despite its eight simple eyes, the spider cannot clearly distinguish objects more than five or six inches away. Michigan State Normal college at Ypsilanti was the first in the nation, in 1897, to offer a four-year course in teacher education.

Poland Leads Satellites Away From Stalinism; Changes Seen

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent Poland is leading the retreat of the Communist Satellite countries from "Stalinism."

In no other satellite has the impact of the demotion of Stalin from Red sainthood been so great.

There has even been a slight stirring of political freedom. Poland is the largest of the six Communist countries upon which Kremlin Communism still imposes its rule.

To the Kremlin, it is by far the most important because it lies as a buffer between Russia and Germany.

Things started happening in Poland one month ago when a cabinet minister, who had once been minister for state security, and two chief prosecutors were dismissed.

Since then many other high officials have gone. Some have been arrested and face trial for their oppressive actions.

Deputy Premier Jakub Berman, one of the country's most

powerful men, has been let out as vice premier and member of the ruling Politbureau of the Communist party—officially called the United Workers Party.

Things like that have happened in other satellite countries and in Russia itself.

For instance, the other day five members of Parliament voted against a government bill. It was a minor measure, on regulation of abortion. But in Poland, where for years votes had been unanimous, it was sensational.

It happened that these members are Roman Catholics. Since then the Roman Catholic delegation in Parliament has demanded the formation of an independent Roman Catholic youth organization. These men, who call themselves progressive Catholics, accepted Communist rule. But their demand certainly seems to indicate a radical change in the political situation.

Sweeping Amnesty Begun The socialists also started to take advantage of the new trend.

Dr. Boleslaw Drobnier, the Socialist leader in Parliament, demanded that Socialists who had been purged under Stalinism be restored to political life.

The government has started to

carry out a sweeping amnesty, and has even announced the abolition of the death penalty except for the gravest crimes.

The amnesty will result in the freeing of 30,000 political prisoners and a reduction in the sentences of 70,000 more, it has been announced.

This has been followed up by an announcement that thousands of members of the wartime Polish "Home Army" will be restored to good standing.

These are the men who, as underground partisans, resisted the Germans so gallantly only to be betrayed by Russia's Red Army. When the Reds succeeded in taking over the government after the war they were sent to prison or reduced as outcasts to misery.

It will be worthwhile watching further developments in Poland.

They may foreshadow an altered Kremlin policy toward some satellite countries.

HAIRCUT REGULATION Meriden, Conn.—(UP)—Meriden's school board followed up its ban on the wearing of dungarees and cowboy boots in high schools with a ban on "ducktail" and "Detroit" haircuts. Local barbers agreed to refuse to cut a boy's hair in those two fashions.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS You've heard of course, of automation. It's the Big Word in modern industry. We hear it used oftenest in connection with manufacturing. We think of it vaguely as a system in which tape is fed into one end of a complicated machine and finished products come out of the other end untouched by human hands.

Automation is moving at an accelerating speed into the nation's offices. With only the fuzziest understanding of how they work, we are all aware of these "mechanical brain" robots that take in facts and figures through a sort of hopper and spit out at the other end computations that would have taken thousands of man hours to get by traditional methods.

The principles of these robots are being applied to bookkeeping machines that reduce materially the number of man hours hitherto required in accounting departments.

It D LIKE to report here that automation is moving into the business buildings in our large cities in which the offices of our larger business concerns are located.

The Equitable Life Building, San Francisco's newest and most modern, located down on Montgomery Street in the center of the city's financial district, uses automation elevators.

From the lobby, you step into

an elevator that is totally unattended. As you enter, you punch a button for the floor you want. After a certain interval, designed to permit the elevator to fill up, it takes off, stopping on the way up at each floor for which a button has been punched.

When it is empty, it starts down, stopping at each floor at which a down button has been punched in its mechanical mind. It stores up all the orders that have been given to it by the button pushers and executes them in the order in which they have been given, never missing a bet.

IN LOWER New York, down in the tall-building financial and big business district at the foot of Broadway, they've added another refinement. Not only do you go up—30 or 40 stories—in an automation elevator that takes its instructions from button pushers. When you arrive at your destination, if it happens to be in a big establishment that occupies a whole floor, you step out into a reception room in which there is no receptionist.

Instead, there is only a desk with a telephone. Beside the telephone is a sign instructing you to call the operator and ask for the person you want to see. You do so. The person you want to see—or, more likely, his secretary—answers. You state your business and if your prospect is busy at the moment you are told to wait and Mr. So-and-So will call you as soon as he is at liberty.

SO YOU wait—you and perhaps a dozen others. At intervals the telephone rings. Whoever happens to be nearest to it answers and calls the name of the person wanted. If it happens to be you, you are told how to find the office of the person you want to see. When you get there, he's all set.

IT'S just that simple. The point is that it WORKS. And it saves the cost of a receptionist. Big business is beginning to watch the pennies just as carefully as little business.

ONE can't help wondering about all this substitution of machines for human hands. Where will it end? Will it result someday in great unemployment?

I wouldn't know. We must remember that when mechanical looms came into use in England long ago everybody was scared stiff. There were riots in which the new machines were the targets. But, over the long pull, nobody got hurt because the machines CREATED MORE JOBS THAN THEY ABOLISHED.

That has been the history of the machine ever since. It has steadily created more jobs than it has done away with. So maybe it will work out the same way in the case of automation. At least, we all hope so.

Hold's Dead Babe

GEORGE N. TAYLOR

All that day and night she held her dead babe. None could persuade her to give it up. Then a mother who had lost her own boy a few weeks before, slipped in. Instead of offering to take the dead babe she told the sorrowing one of how she had lost her own boy. With never a word, the mother handed her dead babe over to the one who had also suffered.

And Christ suffered all, when His death blotted out your sins. Know your Bible. He tasted to the full, the woe of eternal separation from God. In the hour of sorrow turn to Him, for He drank the deepest woe of all.

This Message sponsored by a Scappoose family. —Adv.

Renewed Arguments On Plane Effectiveness Foreseen in Capital

United Press correspondents around the world look ahead at the news that will make the headlines.

Tooth-Grinding That big argument in Washington over the value of the Navy's planes in long-range strategic bombing may get hotter.

Statements by President Eisenhower and Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson that carrier planes helped offset Russia's lead in inter-continental bomber production set high Air Force officers grinding their teeth. Now both Gen. Nathan F. Twining, Air Force chief of staff, and Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, chief of the Strategic Air Command, have contradicted their chiefs by belittling Navy striking power. It's the Navy's turn next. And Ike and Wilson may have something more to say.

Rumor This one won't be confirmed. But there's a new rumor in London on the reason why missing British frogman Lionel Crabb was snooping around the Rus-

sian cruiser Ordzhonikidze during the visit of "Mr. B. and Mr. K." It's this. The admiral wanted Crabb to look for any signs that the new cruiser might have under-water gear with which it could lay atomic mines or set loose a miniature submarine from under the surface.

More trouble is cooking in Algeria. It is reported that the banned Algerian Communist party is organizing its own underground movement to fight the French army. Secret party cells are recruiting commando and spy units. The Reds would like to join the official rebel national liberation front as equal partners. So far their feelers have been rejected.

Watch for a section of Communist China's Bamboo Curtain to be lifted soon. British authorities and the Peiping Red government are near agreement to reestablish through railroad service between Hong Kong and Canton, chief city of South China.

Matter of Fact By Stewart Alsop

WHO'S THE GENIUS? Washington—"Who's the new genius in the White House?"

The question was asked, rather sourly, by a leading Democrat when he heard of the President's appointment of Sen. Walter George of Georgia as his personal ambassador to NATO.

The question was a tribute to the move as a political masterstroke.

The appointment will be popular everywhere, but especially in the South, as a generous gesture to an admired elder statesman.

But that is not the only plus for the Administration. The George appointment blunts Democratic charges that the Administration has abandoned bipartisanship. As the President's personal envoy, the revered George will also serve as a lightning rod to divert Democratic criticism of the Administration foreign policy.

MOREOVER, as the question quoted above suggests, the George appointment is only the latest in a series of sure-footed and brilliantly timed White House moves, which have kept the Democrats off balance and at a loss for winning issues. Leaving the merits of the issues to one side, consider the political aspects of the President's two major vetoes in this session of Congress.

It is no secret that a Presidential veto of the farm bill was precisely what very large numbers of Democrats thirsted for, to provide them with a winning issue. Indeed, some provisions of the farm bill were carefully framed to force a veto. But, especially since the President scored so high in the Indiana primaries, the Democrats are beginning to wonder whether the veto will provide quite the bonanza they had counted on.

THE President's fireside chat on the veto was effective. Much of the political curse was removed from the veto, moreover, when the Administration, quietly abandoning the policy of flexible supports, raised the supports on the most politically sensitive crops to within a few points of 90 percent. Then the Administration proposed prepayments to farmers under the soil bank plan (which would have been denounced as fiscal madness if the Democrats had proposed it). This was the unkindest cut of all—it put the Democrats in the horrid position of refusing money to the beleaguered farmers in an election year.

From a straight political viewpoint, the gas bill veto was unquestionably a brilliant move. It put the Administration morally on the side of the angels and blunted the "giveaway" issue. At the same time, the powerful gas and oil interests were put on notice that they would get what they wanted eventually—but only if the Republicans remained in control of the White House.

Or take the Administration's

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.

Myrtle To the Editor: Of interest, I believe, to our southern Oregon friends is a little information about the tree that is known in this area as the "Oregon myrtle." As in my case, it is hard for many of our "native folks" to accept the fact that our "myrtle tree" is in reality a California tree as much or more than an Oregon tree. However, facts are facts and when one sees the true picture he can appreciate some interesting information that I wish to set forth.

The botanical name of the tree is Umbellularia Californica, a species of laurel, many times called California laurel. Actually, the tree is more widely distributed in California than in Oregon. This is not the myrtle tree of the Holy Land as many have been led to believe. They are two separate and distinct species, although very similar. The Holy Land tree is usually much smaller, as in bush or shrub form, while the Oregon myrtle is a large and stately tree except in the extreme southern limits of its range.

The boundaries set up by man do not interfere with those of nature as much as a chamber of commerce or novelty industry would like, some times, for people to believe.

On the northern California coast the tree is commonly called pepper, pepperwood or myrtle tree. Around the San Francisco bay area, where the tree occurs, as well as farther south and in isolated patches in the Sierra mountains (often as small bushes) the tree is called California bay tree or sassafras.

Environment and climatic conditions will usually have an effect on the appearance of vegetation in different localities.

The largest myrtlewood tree on record is located on the Eel river in California.

If this has dented anyone's Oregonian pride, they can take comfort in the knowledge that Oregon has some beautiful native redwoods on the Chetco river.

Eugene L. Parker, 128 Chestnut St., Medford, Ore.

Dislikes "Smear" Campaign To the Editor: It seems that few candidates for nomination at the primary election tell us of their qualifications for the offices they seek. It has always been my belief that more can be gained by citing the superior qualities of a given product or person than by setting forth a smear campaign. The particular person in mind is the man presenting himself as opposed to our present District Attorney, Walter Nunley.

The thought that occurs to the undersigned when exposed to the propaganda for this person is that he condemns all of us. We approved the increased cost of the District Attorney's office by not opposing the higher expense and in return we have enjoyed a better performance of duty. The cost of the higher budget for the District Attorney's office is hardly perceptible in our total tax bill.

We wanted full time defense of the law when we elected Walter Nunley to his first term of office. It would be a long step backward if we return to the low budgets, as proposed by Mr. Rode, and force our District Attorney to accept private practice to give him a livable income. We do not want a condition where a fat fee in private practice might spell immunity to prosecution for violations of the law.

It is known that Walter Nunley does serve the interests of all of us impartially. He is not the tool of any small special interest group.

Dan F. Krotz II, Route 1, Box 315, Eagle Point, Ore.

Dr. E. O. Jacobson Naturopathic and Chiropractic Physician Announces the Opening of Offices 827 West Jackson Near McAndrews Road Phone 3-2989

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