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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

May 28, 1946

(It was Tuesday)

Travel is not yet possible on the Diamond Lake highway it was reported from the National Forest service this morning.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: In many fields hereabouts the wheat is up almost as high as the yellow mustard with good stands of both.

20 YEARS AGO

May 28, 1936

(It was Thursday)

Campaign expense accounts were filed today by Commissioner Ralph Billings of Ashland, successful candidate for the Republican nomination at the primary for county commissioner, and his opponent William Bruin, of Talent.

About 200 farmers of Jackson county have filed under the soil conservation act for 1936, according to County Agent Robert Fowler.

30 YEARS AGO

May 28, 1926

(It was Friday)

Actual motion pictures taken on the western front at the cost of the 14 members of the signal corps of the United States Army, will be shown at Hunt's Craterian Monday and Tuesday.

Baccalaureate services for the high school graduating class held Sunday at Federated church.

40 YEARS AGO

May 28, 1886

(It was Sunday)

The annual tribute of the living to the dead of the Civil war will be paid tomorrow, Memorial day.

J. W. McCoy, of Ashland, elected chairman of group four of the American Bankers' association at a meeting of bankers of Lake, Klamath, Curry, Jackson and Josephine counties in Ashland.

What's the Answer?

1. Former Sen. Millard F. Tydings (D-Md.) unseated six years ago after a quarter century in the U.S. Senate, will run against his 1950 Republican opponent again next November; right or wrong?

2. Most of the people of Austria are Protestants, Greek (Orthodox) Catholics or Roman Catholics?

3. Skilled entrants in tennis and other tournaments usually are seeded—assigned to definite places in advance of the general draw for positions—to make certain there will be exciting matches at the start of the tournament; right or wrong?

4. A cryptanalyst is an authority on Egyptian tombs, an expert on secret codes, or an investment adviser.

5. Taft as President did not travel anywhere nearly so much as Franklin Roosevelt; right or wrong?

6. Largest of all whales is the blue, killer, right, or sperm whale.

7. President Sukarno of Indonesia has no first name; right or wrong?

The Answers: 1. Right. 2. Roman Catholics. 3. Wrong (seeding is to prevent the best players from meeting in early rounds). 4. Expert on secret codes. 5. Wrong (both averaged nearly 29,000 miles per year in office). 6. Blue whale (up to 95 feet in length). 7. Right.

Roller-Coaster Financing

The county budget committee, which includes the county court and three citizen members, has an exceedingly difficult job this year.

Because the county placed a big levy on property last year in order to protect its tax base, and because a number of factors combined with the big levy to produce a whopping increase in taxes for most taxpayers, the budget committee this year has been busting its collective neck trying to avoid any tax levy at all.

IS THIS necessarily good?

We don't think so. Violent fluctuations in budgeting and tax levying do not appeal to us as the soundest approach to steady, consistent government. And perhaps other taxpayers would agree they would prefer to have a moderate and fair tax, which they could calculate in advance, rather than none one year and a humdinger of a tax bill the next.

This argument is especially effective when judged in the light of their action in denying almost all wage and salary increase proposals for county personnel—proposals which, by and large, are in line with salary adjustments in other related lines.

THE denial of salary adjustments (in all fairness, it should be pointed out the action is tentative, and pending further study of budget requirements) begins at the top with elected officials and goes all the way down through the ranks of county workers—with only one or two exceptions.

The county court recently mailed out a number of questionnaires to selected residents of the county, asking the latter's opinions on the county salary levels. They have been disappointed in the results, for there has been no particular support for changing the salary schedule for elected officials.

But we happen to think that many county workers are grossly underpaid, and we said so a few months ago in a call for salaries which are both realistic budgetwise, and sufficiently hefty to attract competent men into the public service.

THE same thing applies all down the line. If we want effective public servants in non-elective offices, we're going to have to pay for them too, or suffer the consequences. In this case the consequences are good people leaving, and either having no replacements at all, or replacements of inferior quality and accomplishment.

Is this what we want in government—a place for second-raters and quasi-pensioners? It looks like bad economy to us.

AN example (and we cite this example because it is typical, because it is an important spot, and because it was pointed out to us by people who are concerned) is salaries for deputy sheriffs.

The deputies now receive \$300 to \$330 per month, with the chief deputy receiving \$350.

Ten years ago that would have been pretty good pay, even for a man who goes armed among his neighbors to protect their peace and safety.

Today... Well, a rookie state policeman gets \$335 to start; a private can go up to \$355, and a first class private is paid between \$370 and \$415. And we understand from high officials of the department that they are worried about how to recruit competent men even at these salary levels.

THE Klamath county budget committee last week approved a salary increase of \$120 per year (\$10 per month) for all courthouse personnel.

The Josephine county budget committee has brought the minimum salary for its present criminal deputies up to \$365, and has added two more at starting salaries of \$350, or the same top salary we pay our chief deputy. The maximum is now \$415.

Medford police start at the same as the present Jackson county deputies, but can look forward to periodic merit raises bringing the top pay to \$350. And there is a recruiting problem here, too.

IF IT IS true that the budget committee is shooting for no tax levy next year, (figuring on paying the year's expenses out of O and C revenues and carry-over funds from current income and present taxes) we think they are being penny-wise and pound foolish in ignoring justified demands for competitive wages.

The county is a multi-million-dollar concern. If it is to be administered efficiently, if it is to meet the demands for service to which the taxpayers are entitled, if it is to be stable and dependable—then it must have competent people.

Economy in government is important. But it is not true economy to pinch pennies one year, and then be faced with trebled needs another year.

Let's have an end to roller-coaster financing. —E.A.

The Limit's To Blame

As a post script, it should be pointed out that the underlying cause of up-and-down financing lies in the Oregon constitution, which provides that budgets may not increase in any year more than 6 per cent over the maximum budgeted in one of the immediately preceding three years.

As a result, some units of government (like rapidly-growing school districts) must go to the voters each year for approval of budgets millions of dollars over the unrealistic 6 per cent limitation.

OTHER units, like the O and C counties, with huge timber revenues, are almost forced to levy taxes they don't need (as Jackson did last year) at least every three years, just to protect their tax base.

Silly, isn't it? It's an example of how a good, conservative idea can get so far out of date that it defeats its own purpose. —E.A.

Neutralism Rapidly Becoming '3rd Force' In World Affairs

By CHARLES M. McCANN

United Press Correspondent

President-Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt gave the "neutralist" movement a boost when he recognized the Chinese Communist regime.

Nasser is one of the three key men in the neutralist movement. The other two are President Tito of Yugoslavia and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India.

Nasser quite evidently is bidding for leadership of the Arab world, which extends along the entire southern shore of the Mediterranean and on into Southwestern Asia.

Tito is the chief neutralist of Europe. He would like to become the leader of a Balkan federation in Southeastern Europe—consisting of countries which now are Russian satellites.

Nehru, the pioneer in the neutralist movement, exerts great influence over a big area of Southern and Southeastern Asia. Red Aims Unchanged

The United States takes a very dim view of neutralism. Its feeling, though not officially expressed, is briefly: If you're not with us, you're helping Communism.

It is not an illogical position. Despite the present historic changes incident to the debunking of Joseph Stalin, the long-range aim of Kremlin Communism is still world domination.

The more countries which can be lulled into neutralism, to become bystanders in the West-East cold war, the better for the Kremlin.

But neutralism is steadily growing into an important "third force" in world affairs.

It includes all nine members of the Arab League except Iraq. It includes such countries as Indonesia, Ceylon, Burma and

Cambodia. Neutralists rule about 540 million people.

There also is a quiet, growing neutralist movement in Europe outside of Yugoslavia. It is being promoted not—at least openly—by heads of government, but by men of great political influence, some of whom have been high in government and could be again.

U. S. Facing Decision

It looks as if the time may be coming when the United States will have to reconcile itself to the fact that neutralism is here to stay. That will mean decisions as to what to do about it.

Recognition of the appeal of neutralism is behind the present talk of broadening the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to include economic cooperation.

Nasser has no Communist problem in his own country. He is quite openly using the Communist countries to strengthen his own country against Israel and his own influence in the Arab world. He might well outsmart himself.

Nehru is completely in control of India. He is friendly with the Communist countries. But he keeps his foot down on Indian Reds.

Tito is a Communist. But he is definitely not a Kremlin Communist. He seems determined to keep his independence in foreign affairs.

But neutralism is still harmful to those countries which are allied to defend world freedom. The big question is what to do about it.

In The Day's News

This squib in the news interests me greatly:

The post office department announces that it is calling a conference of five noted authorities to study what the department calls a SERIOUS PROBLEM.

That, it should be added, is the modern method. When you're confronted by a problem, call a conference of skilled and competent authorities. These specialists will then take the problem apart to see what makes it tick.

When they have isolated the factor that is causing it to tick WRONG, they will propose a solution. It's as simple as that.

But let's get back to the post office and its problem. The problem is posed by this fact: Every year 6000 mailmen are bitten by dogs. Three-fourths of the 6,000 dog-bitten couriers of the post have to see a doctor. That involves an admittedly serious waste of manpower. It is to CUT DOWN this waste that the conference has been called.

The conferees will include five authorities on dogs. Four of them are William E. Buckley, president of the American Kennel Club; George Foley, publisher of Popular Dogs Magazine; William Rockefeller Jr., president of the SPCA, and Kerns Wright, board chairman of the American Humane Association.

The fifth is C. R. Harbison, of New York, who describes himself as a dog psychologist.

THESE skilled experts, I'd guess, will divide the problem into two general classifications:

1. What makes dogs want to bite mailmen.

2. What can the mailmen do to make dogs NOT want to bite mailmen.

Once those basic questions have been satisfactorily answered, the rest will be duck soup. The mailmen will thereafter make their daily rounds unhampered by dog bites and the doctors who have been treating the 6,000 bitten mailmen will have just that much more time free for taking care of their patients.

Isn't our modern conference system wonderful?

IT'D LIKE to offer just two pious hopes:

1. That these trained and able experts will be able to REACH AGREEMENT on what makes dogs want to bite mailmen and what the mailmen must do to make dogs NOT want to bite mailmen.

2. That after the conclusions have been agreed upon the dogs and the mailmen will cooperate freely and fully in carrying out the recommendations of the experts.

WE'VE been having all kinds of conferences of experts. On all kinds of problems—including how to stop war and bring on peace and whether or not to put stuff in the city water to keep children from having cavities in their teeth.

Two troubles have plagued these conferences:

1. The experts end up in a fight over whether the proposed solutions will work or not.

2. The public winds up in a fight over whether or not to accept the solutions proposed by the experts.

Governor Signs Dairy Month Proclamation

Governor Elmo Smith has signed a proclamation announcing June as Dairy Month.

Present at the signing of the proclamation was Arthur Hurlbert, Portland, Oregon's Dairy Month chairman. "This is the lush season when milk production is the highest of the year," he said, "and one of the best ways we know of to avoid a surplus is to drink more milk and eat more dairy foods."

Slogan for June Dairy Month is "June's Best Buys Are Dairy Foods."

Typographical Union Votes To Strike Paper

Des Moines, Ia. — (U.P.) — Local 118 of the International Typographical union has voted 108 to 1 to "initiate strike action" against the Des Moines Register and Tribune, union leaders said Sunday.

Local President Norman Miller said notification of the strike vote was to be given to the newspaper's management today. No strike date has been set, he said. Miller said the local's negotiating committee "has been unable after five months of talks to arrive at a satisfactory contract."

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

Look for Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to come up with some big new ideas soon. Dulles is making a reappraisal of United States foreign policy. It may be agonizing. Insiders say Dulles wants to figure out how to (1) counter Democratic campaign charges that the administration is losing ground to Soviet Russia and (2) convince some of this country's Western allies, who feel the same way, that it isn't so.

Washington expects heavy pressure from the Kremlin to get invitations for high-ranking Russians to visit the United States. All the talk about American military visits to Russia, Washington believes, is simply a build-up for reciprocal invitations.

Big Thaw

Mr. B. and Mr. K. have been invited to visit Sweden, Norway and Denmark. London expects Finland to invite them soon. Norway and Denmark are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Revolt in Desert

Young King Hussein of Jordan is in trouble. He fired Gen. Sir John Glubb as commander of his Arab Legion to appease pro-Egyptian elements. They were not appeased. Middle Eastern capitals are buzzing with rumors of a plot to oust him.

Prospects have brightened for some extension of the GI home loan privilege for veterans of World War II. The loan plan expires July 25, 1957, as of now. Chairman Olin E. Teague, (D-Tex.) of the House Veterans Committee, bottled up proposals to extend it. Now he's been bypassed.

Labor Says No

London looks for a wave of big strikes in Britain. The government thought labor unions would accept a wage freeze as part of an anti-inflation drive. It guessed wrong.

Pocketbook Pinch

Washington predicts gradual increases in the price of crude oil before very long. Independent domestic producers are fighting for them. If the increases come, it means a new squeeze on the consumer's pocketbook.

THE RIGHT MAN

Olympia, Wash. — (U.P.) — The state auditor has an examiner by the name of Sherlock Holmes.

Empty Boast

GEO. N. TAYLOR

"Count on me, Lord for I never will desert you." So Peter boasted that he would stand by the Lord. "But Peter, you will deny me three times before sun-up," said Jesus. So after that Jesus let him prisoner, and Peter denied three times that he had ever known Jesus. Dawn came and Jesus looked down on Peter. Their eyes met and Peter goes out and weeps bitterly. Next, Christ is led away and crucified.

"The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. Being buried, Christ arose from among the dead and at once sought out Peter to forgive him. Forgive 70 times 7. Christ had said, As Christ raised Himself from among the dead, so He is to raise you who believe in Him in your heart as your own Lord and Saviour.

This message sponsored by a Scappoose family—adv.

Engineer, Science Institute Scheduled

Corvallis — The first annual Junior Engineers' and Scientists' Summer Institute will be held at Oregon State college, June 10-23, for all high school students entering the 11th or 12th grade in September receiving recommendations from their high school principals.

All students who are eligible and interested in science can pick up an application and further information in their principal's office.

The student cost of this science and engineering orientation program is \$75. The fee includes board, lodging, tuition, field trips, class supplies and incidental materials. Incidental and travel expenses are defrayed by the student. Some scholarships will be provided for students who can't afford the fee.

All applications must be filed not later than May 15. Students will be notified of their enrollment by May 21.

The orientation program is being sponsored by the Scientists of Tomorrow, a non-profit corporation, and the industries of the state of Oregon.

There are ten species of the skunk in North America.

Writers of News Forecast Headlines Of Coming Events

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Elmo Smith Said Bitter Foe of Social Equality

The civil rights voting record of Oregon's Gov. Elmo Smith makes his nomination for reelection "a revealing study in contrasts, when compared to the Administration's professed concern for the rights of racial and religious minorities," Sen. Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon said today in a speech prepared for Senate delivery.

Neuberger questioned whether the Republican party can "lay claim to sincere sponsorship of civil rights, so long as it supports a candidate with the obvious views and attitudes in this field" held by Governor Smith. He added that Smith "voted against all three measures adopted by our state to prevent discrimination against members of minority races or religions."

What Does GOP Plan To Do?

"Mr. Smith, by his votes as a State Senator, has demonstrated his opposition to the most simple and elemental legislation for safeguarding minority rights and privileges," Neuberger declared. "I ask the Republican party what it plans to do about Elmo E. Smith, Republican candidate for Governor of Oregon and now head of his party's 1956 ticket in the state."

Neuberger explained that Smith voted in the Oregon Senate against the state's fair employment practices bill to forbid racial or religious discrimination in jobs, against a bill forbidding discrimination against students in trade and professional schools, and against a bill forbidding discrimination in public places. "From our research, we can find no other member of the Oregon State Senate who voted against all three of these bills to safeguard minority rights in the state of Oregon," he added.

Will Be Interesting

"Administration spokesmen have been making many speeches and statements proclaiming great and profound interest in the protection of racial and religious minorities," Neuberger told the Senate. "It will be interesting and significant to determine what the administration has to say about the fact that the most determined foe of minority rights and minority liberties in Oregon is now the head of the Republican ticket in our state for the 1956 elections, the elections in which national GOP leaders expect to play so prominent a part."

THE RIGHT MAN

Olympia, Wash.