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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
June 20, 1946
(It was Thursday)
C. A. Smith, operator of Cloverhill Dairy, Old Stage rd., announces dairy will cease to operate July 1.

20 YEARS AGO
June 20, 1936
(It was Saturday)
C. E. Gates, president of Lake of the Woods company, announces that W. M. Walls, proprietor of Lithia hotel has leased concessions; Ward V. Croft of Ashland to manage resort.

30 YEARS AGO
June 20, 1926
(It was Sunday)
Little public interest taken in Medford school board election; no contests for board positions.

40 YEARS AGO
June 20, 1916
(It was Tuesday)
A. J. Vance elected president, C. E. Gates and G. A. Morse, vice presidents of the new Jackson County Fair association.

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

1. Douglas McKay, Eisenhower's first Secretary of Interior, is running for the Senate from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, or Montana?
2. The duodenum, jejunum, and ileum are different sections of what part of the human body?
3. At its World War I peak the U.S. public debt amounted to \$26.5 billion, \$39 billion, or \$73.2 billion?
4. The oldest university in North America is in Canada, the United States, or Mexico?
5. Bobby Jones in 1930 won the U.S. and British Open golf tournaments and the U.S. and British Amateurs; the feat was popularly known as a home run, hat trick, grand slam, or Big Casino?
6. The sacred ibis of Egypt is an ox, a snake, an insect, or a bird?
7. What does the Latin motto of the United States—"E Pluribus Unum"—mean?
The answers: 1. Oregon 2. Small intestine. 3. \$26.5 billion. 4. University of Mexico (over 400 years old). 5. Grand slam of golf. 6. Wading bird related to the heron. 7. One out of many.

Klamath Council OKs Fiscal Year Budget
Klamath Falls — (U.P.) — The Klamath Falls city council yesterday approved a \$1,056,348 operating budget for the city during the next fiscal year.

DON'T KILL UMP
Newport Beach, Calif. — (U.P.) — The Rev. R. M. Boas umpires the games of the St. James Episcopal Day School baseball team. "He takes the usual abuse that goes with the job," a friend said.

NO FIRE, JUST WATER
Racine, Wis. — (U.P.) — Firemen answered an alarm at St. Edward's Grade school Tuesday with mops. A lightning bolt had split a water pipe and the school was awash.

Planning

Not long ago we received a letter which asked, somewhat ill-temperedly: "What in — do we need a county planning commission for?" It's a perfectly proper question, and the only difficulty in answering it is that there are quite a lot of reasons. They can, however, be boiled down to two general classes of reasons: Economic and aesthetic. The two are interrelated.

LET'S say that our letter-writing friend is named "A." Let's assume he owns a nice home somewhere in the county, and has put many hours and considerable money into getting it fixed up just the way he wants it. Let's further assume that another chap named "B" comes along and buys the land right next to A's property. He decides to put in a skunk-works.

Legally, he has a right to do this, and there's very little that A can do to stop him. So he goes ahead, builds his skunk works and starts producing skunk juice. Alas, however, for A, who objects to having the aroma of skunk juice drifting over the fence.

AT FIRST, A objects on aesthetic grounds, because of the smell, and because a skunk works is displeasing to the eye. His temper mounts, but because he cannot do anything to force B to stop making skunk juice, he finally decides to sell his property and move elsewhere.

So he places it on the market. People come to see it. But they, too, dislike having a skunk works nearby, and most of them reject outright his offer. Those that are interested do not offer nearly the amount which A has already invested in his place.

VIEWED in one light, all uses of property can be thought of as variants either of A's pleasant residence or B's skunk works.

It is to bring a reasonable amount of foresight and public control into such situations that a planning commission is designed to function. In a sense, it serves as a community sounding-board to reflect the best possible uses of given areas of land.

And it functions with a bare minimum of police authority. It cannot, for instance, order someone to stop using his property for some purpose for which he has used it in the past. But it can, under certain circumstances, make such reasonable rules and regulations as would prevent an abuse in the future.

GOVERNMENT is a social organization set up to do the things which we, as individuals, cannot do for ourselves. And while each of us can plan ahead for our own purposes, we cannot plan ahead for others and for the maximum public good unless we entrust government with this function.

A planning commission is advisory in nature, and will not be able to lay down rules and regulations unless and until it is given authority to do so.

But it would be well to remember that such a commission is designed to protect the majority from actions—intentional or unintentional—of the minority which would do public harm.

It's one way of putting horse sense into community development. — E. A.

Flood Receding

The "flood of 1956" has receded from the headlines. A good thing, too. It could almost be called the flood that didn't happen. No lives were lost, which is the most important thing.

It did a lot of damage, caused a number of people to leave their homes in low-lying areas temporarily, and so on. Tremendous stretches of territory were under water for a few days, and possibly the worst damage was to soil.

THE FLOOD this spring was within a few inches of the one in 1948, when the dike at Vanport gave way and a dozen or more people lost their lives, and it was miraculous that the loss was not more.

We've learned a bit about floods since then, and it was foresight and planning which allowed this spring's high water to pass as harmlessly as it did.

The snow survey and water forecast service of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, started by a former Rogue Valley man, Arch Work, assisted by another former Medford man, W. T. (Jack) Frost, called the 1948 flood accurately, but in those days the forecasts were not as much trusted as they have since come to be.

THIS YEAR, again, the flood's height was accurately predicted. This time, however, because of a long record of accuracy, coupled with more detailed information from the SCS and other sources, the warning was heeded, precautions were taken, and the danger, although not entirely eliminated, was minimized.

The Columbia river is still about five feet above flood stage, but it isn't causing much excitement any more. It's now dropping at the rate of about six inches a day.

And the flood has receded from public view to the extent that it merited only one paragraph in the Journal the other day, at the tail end of a story headlined "Northwest Skies Clearing." — E. A.

Non-Russian Communist Parties Give Kremlin Policies Setback

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent



Charles M. McCann, United Press correspondent, is seen here in a recent photograph.

The Kremlin has suffered a big setback in its attempt to blame Josef Stalin for all the crimes of the Soviet Russian dictatorship.

The French and Italian Communist parties, the two largest in Western Europe, have issued pronouncements of policy on the "Stalin did it all" campaign of the new Soviet collective leadership.

Both parties agree that Stalin sinned. But both take the view that the men who denounced Stalin now as Russia's evil genius were his active accomplices.

Both parties agree also that in future it will be necessary for them to take a more independent attitude instead of blindly following the Moscow party line.

Looks Like Blunder
This new development makes it more likely that, as has been suggested, Soviet Premier Niko- lai Bulganin and Communist Party Leader Nikita S. Khrushchev and their fellows blundered in denouncing Stalin so savagely and so completely.

It is becoming increasingly evident how deeply the denouncing shocked all but the inner circle of Communists in Russia, and all Communists including the top-most leaders in satellite and other countries.

The one Communist who has emerged from it all with prestige untarnished is President Tito of Yugoslavia, who denounced Stalin as evil eight years ago.

Unless all present indications are misleading, "Titoism" is going to spread.

Tito Bloc Boss
It is indicated not only that non-Russian Communist parties are going to show an increasingly independent tendency but that Tito may wind up as the leader

of a bloc of Communist countries in Southeastern Europe. Palmiro Togliatti, leader of the Italian Communist party, started the newest flare-up in the Stalin situation.

His party is the largest Communist party in Europe outside of Russia itself. Poland, largest of the Soviet satellites, has about 1,400,000 Communist party members. Yugoslavia has but about 650,000. Italy has more than 2,000,000.

Togliatti, in a formal statement of policy, said that he could not accept the idea that Stalin sinned alone.

Question of Responsibility
"The question of the responsibility of the entire Soviet directing group must be considered," he said. "This includes those comrades who today have taken the initiative in denouncing the errors of Stalin and their consequences."

Togliatti said also that "the Soviet model of Communism cannot and must not be obligatory any more."

The French party's statement was made public by its Politburo, or inner leadership. It was issued in the name of the 650,000 members of the French party. It took the Italian line. It said that it was unjust to blame Stalin for all the errors of Soviet leadership. It called for "a profound Marxist analysis" of what happened during the Stalin era.

Both the French and Italian parties seemed to make it plain that they will no longer regard the Kremlin as infallible.

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.

The Old 'Nat'
To the Editor: I received a letter with a clipping from your paper and a picture of the dear old "Nat" being torn down. I moved to Medford with my parents in 1908, so I saw the Nat built and was at its dedication. It was a very wonderful affair for a kid of 15, merry-go-rounds, etc. It was on the skating rink floor I met the boy I married.

We now live in L.A. and have for 45 years, but I'm still a true-blue Oregonian and always will be. I have a daughter living in Jacksonville, Mrs. Floyd Wyatt, with her husband and four children. We were married in Jacksonville by the justice of the peace, and at that time we had to get our license in the big brick building that is now the Museum. We moved to L.A. on Dec. 10, 1911 about three months after we were married, and our family started coming along about 1912, and at one time we were internationally known for the largest motion picture family in the world.

I still love Medford, Ore., where all my young girl memories are so very dear, and my wonderful little mother lies buried there. I expect to be in Medford and Jacksonville this summer.

I had to laugh at Mr. Nelson's description of the Nat. There was one thing he left out, the big pop corn stand that stood inside, but I never forgot it, and all the grandstand seats where people could sit and watch you swim and skate. Ah, yes those are truly very lovely and wonderful memories. How I wish I knew where some of the old timers were, especially a fellow named Frank Slocum, who was my husband's roommate. We have tried to locate him. My maiden name was Golda Wimer. I will be sad not to see the Nat as I always went to visit it on my trips back to Medford.

Mrs. Coy Watson Sr.
2217 Berkeley ave.
Los Angeles 26, Calif.

Mercy Flights Thanks
To the Editor: I wish to express my thanks to the good people of Medford for the existence of the facilities of Mercy Flights Inc.

I was involved in an automobile accident south of Dunsmuir, Calif., on May 3, 1956. The accident took the life of my wife and I was taken to the McCloud hospital at McCloud, Calif., for treatment. My wife's body was shipped to Seattle and final rites were set for the following Wednesday. As I needed specialized orthopedic attention, arrangements were made through the doctor and Mercy Flights to get me to Seattle. I was taken by ambulance to Montague, Calif., and picked up by plane and taken to Seattle.

Mercy Flights made it possible for me to be in Seattle for final rites of my dear wife and to get specialized attention for myself sooner.

Thanks again to the good people of Medford.
J. O. Sims,
3523 South 198th st.,
Seattle 88, Wash.

Treasury Surplus Seen This Year for First Time in Years
Washington—When the U. S. Treasury closes its books for the fiscal year 1956, on June 30, it will be able to report the first government surplus of the Eisenhower administration.

The exact amount of the surplus depends principally on the volume of corporation taxes collected on June 15, which is believed to have been well above earlier expectations. The Treasury estimated in mid-May that the surplus would be \$1.8 billion; the staff of the congressional Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, that it would be \$2.3 billion.

The actual surplus may turn out to be larger than either of these figures. Whatever its size, the favorable balance will be the first in five years and only the fourth in the last 25 years.

As Treasury Secretary George M. Humphrey has observed, the surplus will make possible "a most welcome reduction in our huge national debt."

The public debt on June 1, with the June 15 tax payments still to come, was about \$276 billion. The present debt limit is \$281 billion. A temporary increase of \$6 billion, voted by Congress in 1954 and renewed in 1955, is scheduled to expire on June 30. Secretary Humphrey now says the ceiling can be cut back by \$3 billion to \$278 billion, which Congress is preparing to do. This will be the first debt limit reduction since the war ended cut to \$275 billion.

It will be particularly satisfying to Chairman Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) of the Senate Finance committee, who blocked almost singlehandedly the President's 1953 request for a \$15 billion increase in the debt limit. Byrd said at that time that the legislative branch had lost control of the purse strings and he had concluded that the only way federal spending could be held in check was by preventing further increases in the debt limit. — Editorial Research Reports.

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'Right To Work' Issue Campaign Debate Seen

Washington — (CQ) — The "right-to-work" issue, ignored by Congress for the past four years, seems certain to have a thorough airing during the coming political campaign.

The controversy concerns the "right-to-work" laws enacted by 18 states which prohibit "union shop" contracts requiring an employee to join the union in order to keep his job.

These union shop contracts are permitted by the Taft-Hartley act. But the law also allows states to ban these union shops if they want to.

The Supreme court in May decided the state "right-to-work" laws do not apply to railroad unions, controlled by a separate federal law, the Railway Labor act. But the decision did not interfere with the application of the state laws to other industries.

About two dozen bills have been introduced in the 84th Congress to revoke the Taft-Hartley authorization for the "right-to-work" laws. But the Senate and House Labor committees, under Democratic control, have not held any hearings on the bills.

President Eisenhower has recommended some changes in the Taft-Hartley act, but none involves the "right-to-work" issue.

Opposing pressure groups already have turned their attention from the current Congress to the forthcoming Presidential and Congressional election campaigns.

Arguments Listed
In summary, this is what the controversy is about: Backers of the "right-to-work" laws say: "Compulsory unionism is destructive of individual freedom. Americans must have the right, but not be compelled to join labor unions. Unless union compulsion is checked and outlawed, workers will find they are allowed to hold a job and earn a living only by permission of the leaders of private labor organizations. This will be a socialist labor dictatorship."

Opponents say: "Since unions are required by law to represent all workers in a unit, union members or not, the 'right-to-work' is really a right to a 'free ride' for the worker who wants the benefits of union representation without the obligations of union membership. The real purpose of the laws is not to protect individual freedom but to hamper union organizing efforts and destroy union security in plants already organized."

Candidates Opposed
The top contenders for the Democratic Presidential nomination—New York Gov. Averell Harriman, Sen. Estes Kefauver (Tenn.) and Adlai E. Stevenson—all have come out flatly against the "right-to-work" laws. Kefauver says they "breed strife and confusion." Stevenson calls them "misnamed an undemocratic."

The Republican position is not yet clear. Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell told the CIO in 1954, "I oppose such laws categorically." He pointedly reminded another union in May that the 18 states with "right-to-work" laws are represented in Congress by 114 Democrats and only 37 Republicans.

The states are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

No Decision by Ike
President Eisenhower has given Mitchell free rein to express his own views, but he never has

endorsed them. The President told a 1954 press conference "he couldn't say he had reached an irrevocable decision" on "right-to-work" laws.

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, who voted for the Taft-Hartley act in the House, has made no public comment on this particular issue. As a Senator, he voted against an amendment to make railway unions subject to the "right-to-work" laws.

In the Cabinet and in Congress, there are strong Republican voices on both sides of the question. Framing a platform plank acceptable to both factions may be a problem.

Voters in three states probably will have an opportunity to ballot directly on the issue in November. In Nevada a referendum will be held on repealing the "right-to-work" law passed in 1952. A similar repeal effort was narrowly defeated two years ago.

Petitions Seek Votes
Petitions are being passed in Montana and Washington for popular votes on enacting the anti-union shop legislation. The "right-to-work" issue is prominent in the contest for the Indiana gubernatorial nomination and dominates the Republican primary in Kansas, where Gov. Fred Hall (R.) vetoed a "right-to-work" bill last year.

In Louisiana, the legislature passed a bill repealing the state's 1954 "right-to-work" law, after an angry debate in both houses. Gov. Earl Long (D.) is expected to sign the repeal measure.

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The number of radios in the United States increased from 51 million to 140 million in the past 10 years.

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