

1956 in Retrospect

The newsroom staff asks itself as each year comes to a close, "What was the 'biggest' story of the past 12 months?"

The individual members do not always agree. But in the course of the poll a few stories emerge as being more important or more interesting or more significant than the others.

AS 1956 was an election year, the campaign and its results naturally took a top billing, including the changes effected by the county's voters, who went solidly Democratic for contested county partisan offices (except surveyor) for the first time in many years.

There have been many "post mortems" conducted on the election in an attempt to determine why.

The visits of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Vice President Richard Nixon were high points of a year which also saw all the candidates for major state office arrive at one time or another.

BOTH telephone companies serving valley people continued their rapid expansion and improvement projects. Work at Southern Oregon college, which will total millions in new buildings in the next few years, continued.

Two big suburban areas voted to join the city of Medford, and the Medford school district grew greatly through consolidation and annexation. Other areas progressed with civic improvements.

Construction began on the \$22 million Talent project, which will do so much for the agricultural economy of the valley. Work began on the "Mission 66" improvements at Crater Lake, which will total some \$4 million when completed. Construction started at the new Rogue Valley Memorial hospital. Medford residents approved a long-range capital improvement program to include streets and sewers.

The major flood of December, 1955, continued to have an influence on the thinking of valley people through 1956, reinforced by the "high water" floods of February, and resulted in a flurry of protests, petitions and hearings on flood control which have produced as yet no results, but which may, in the long run.

JUST a year ago, we concluded that the "big story" of 1955 was the fact that 1955 was probably the most prosperous in the history of Jackson county. Both agriculture in most of its phases, and the lumber industry, boomed at record levels that year.

During 1956, however, a slump hit the lumber markets, and the last half of the year was the leanest in a long time in that field. Crops other than fruit (which enjoyed a successful, if not record-breaking, year) did less well in 1956 than in 1955, on the basis of estimates. All the figures are not in yet.

As a result, 1956 could not be called the most prosperous. But it was a year of solid accomplishment and progress, and the consolidation of gains.

THERE were lighter moments, too — particularly in the story of the Stumbo boys' tangles with the highway department over a strip of property they owned athwart Highway 99, and in the flurry over the Bermuda shorts worn by Medford High school boys — a picture of them was carried by many newspapers in many parts of the world.

Another of interest was the drama of the rescue of two Boy Scouts who were injured in a remote area along the Rogue river, boated to Agness, and flown to Medford by Mercy Flights, Inc. (The latter, incidentally, was completing its seventh year of service as the year ended, having carried more than 600 patients).

In court and criminal matters, the stories of greatest interest were probably the trial and conviction of Billy Nunn for the murder of a 14-year-old Klamath Falls boy, and the continuing attempts to secure a new trial for Hugh D'Autremont, one of the three brothers convicted in the 20s of the Siskiyou tunnel murders.

AN ITEM of major controversy during the year was the debate over the location of a future Highway 99 freeway in the Medford area, which will be constructed in three or four years. As the year ended, it was still unresolved officially, although it appeared likely the four-lane freeway would follow the Bear creek line right through Medford, much to the distress of many residents and the relief of farmers and orchardists whose lands lie along other proposed routes.

The Christmas shopping season in Medford was what economists sometimes call "spotty," with some lines doing better than in prior years and others doing less well. Generally, it was rather slow up to the last few days, but some merchants made up the difference on the Saturday and Monday before Christmas.

FROM a news standpoint, then, 1956 was an interesting but not startling year. There was no one spot news story which clearly and obviously outstripped the others in importance and interest, although news staffers were unanimous in selecting the election campaign as the top continuing story of the year.

But there was a continuing grist of news which reflected the growth, the general, overall prosperity, the continued development of Jackson county.

And we see no reason to alter in any marked way the conclusion we reached at this time a year ago, as follows:

"... Barring a war, the continuing growth of the American economy and population as a whole, and of the west and of southern Oregon in particular, would seem to constitute a pretty firm guarantee of a continued high level of prosperity." — E.A.

Three Nations May Begin Talks Soon About Future of Cyprus

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent



Charles M. McCann, United Press correspondent, is seen here in London.

Great Britain, Greece and Turkey may start negotiations soon on the future of Cyprus. Britain, which holds the eastern Mediterranean island, has offered its people a constitution which would give them a measure of home rule and the hope that some time in the future they might get the choice of remaining in the British Commonwealth or leaving it.

Greece, which wants Cyprus, has rejected the proposed constitution as outlined might provide a basis for negotiation. Greece Claims Island. Greece, though it never has possessed Cyprus, lays claim to it on the ground that 400,000 of its 500,000 people are of Greek racial stock.

Turkey wants to protect the rights of the 100,000 Turks in Cyprus. It holds further (1) that Cyprus was Turkish until it came under British rule in 1878; (2) that the island is only 43 miles from the Turkish mainland and 683 miles from the Greek mainland. Hence, Turkey holds, if there is any change in the sovereignty over Cyprus, Turkey should get it.

Though Greece has rejected the proposed constitution, dispatches from Athens quote government sources as saying that it might join Britain and Turkey in talks on Cyprus after a forthcoming debate in the United Nations.

This debate may come late in January, Greece wants to argue that the people of Cyprus have the right of self-determination. Britain wants to air its charge that the Greek government is supporting the campaign of violence in the island. But the United Nations can take no action.

U.S. Enters Dispute. The United States has now entered the situation. The State department in Washington issued a formal statement last Thursday in which it said that "the making by the United Kingdom of proposals for self-government could be the first step toward an eventually peaceful and generally acceptable solution of the Cyprus problem."

The statement noted that the proposed constitution as outlined "seems to be unacceptable in certain respects by some who are concerned with the matter."

Nevertheless, the statement continued, "the United States still hopes that our three allies will strive to agree upon a way of moving together toward a solution."

This statement appeared to be aimed at Greece. Both Britain and Turkey are ready to talk. The State department seems to feel that Greece, despite its insistence that it must have Cyprus, may come around to negotiating on a realistic basis which would make agreement with Britain and Turkey possible.

Headlines of Future Eyed by U.P. Writers

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

Kadar and the Kremlin. Vienna hears that a high-ranking Hungarian delegation will go to Moscow this week. Puppets Premier Janos Kadar may lead it. The reason: To get a briefing on what lies ahead for the country, politically and economically. After two months of industrial paralysis, Hungary needs immediate aid to stave off chaos. The Russians may offer some political concessions in an attempt to appease the still-rebellious workers. It's possible that Kadar will be told he'd better quit. There is still talk that "Titoist" leader Imre Nagy might be restored as premier.

Fred Hall, lame duck Republican governor of Kansas, may get a sub-cabinet job in the Interior Department. That is, if the two Kansas senators agree. The White House has asked them if they would approve an appointment for Hall. Hall failed to win renomination this year. Hall has been feuding with Sen. Frank Carlson. But Carlson is likely to leave the decision to his colleague Sen. Andrew Schoepfel. Schoepfel may or may not regard Hall as a possible contender for his Senate seat in 1960.

Japan. Look for new Japanese Premier Tanzan Ishibashi to name a minister of state in charge of defense, which he now holds himself. Ishibashi favors business executive Juichi Tsushima. But he may choose Adm. Kichisaburo Nomura, who was ambassador to Washington at the time of Pearl Harbor. Nomura's handicap: Japanese leaders shy away from

Public Relations. Incidentally, Britain may overhaul its entire public relations setup as the result of the Suez Canal dispute. Britain took a propaganda beating from Egypt throughout its dignified attitude didn't make headlines. President Gamal Abdel Nasser's free-swinging statements did.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Problems of state bob into the relaxed and let-down week that intervenes between Christmas and New Year's Day. Queen Juliana's problems for example.

Juliana is the hereditary ruler of The Netherlands, which in this country we normally refer to as Holland. All down through history, queens have been supposed to have it pretty soft. So far as things go around the house, they have no worries. Come the first of the month, when the hills flock in like snowflakes in a winter storm, they just pass 'em on to the royal treasurer and he takes care of the situation. If the household bank account runs low, a new tax is levied and that's that.

It sounds wonderful. But Juliana is fed up with it. She wants to run her own life. In her annual Christmas broadcast to her people she up and says so.

SCREWBALL? I wouldn't know. But note, please, that all over the world people are demanding the right to RUN THEIR OWN AFFAIRS.

Why shouldn't a queen yearn to run HER own affairs, just like millions of commoners?

IN Britain another queen takes to the air waves. In a royal Christmas broadcast Elizabeth pleads with her people to be tolerant, to be reasonable, to be SENSIBLE. Specifically she urges "healing of the serious rift that has imperiled the unity of the British Commonwealth as a result of the recent Anglo-French attack on Egypt."

She calls for UNITY. What she means is this: "We pulled a boner. Let's admit it, instead of trying to lay the blame on somebody else. Let's forget our wounded pride and get down to business and work with our allies, for if we don't we'll get into serious trouble."

SO much for queens — who are born to their jobs. Let's turn now to ELECTED officials — in this case President Sukarno of Indonesia.

SUKARNO has a rebellion on his hands. It is a peculiarly embarrassing rebellion. It is embarrassing for this reason:

For a long, long LONG time the Indonesians weren't allowed to run their own affairs. They were a colonial people, under the rulership of the Dutch. They yelled bloody murder over the injustice of it and demanded the right to run their own shebang. Under the leadership of Sukarno, they pulled loose from the Dutch and set up their own government, with Sukarno at the head of it.

NOW a considerable number of them are dissatisfied with the government as administered by Sukarno and under the leadership of an Indonesian army colonel by the name of Simbolon they are REBELLING against Sukarno — just as Sukarno rebelled against the rule of the Dutch.

So Sukarno is calling for UNITY — which in this case means UNITY BEHIND SUKARNO.

WHAT I'm getting at is this. We're hearing a lot in these days about the cruel injustice of rulership of one set of people by another set of people. We're especially critical of the system of colonial empires, under which one people holds rulership over another people. We're pretty sure that's BAD.

But — No sooner did the Indonesians get out from under the thumb of the Dutch than they began to get restive under the thumb of the leader who got them out from under the thumb of the Dutch. Now they're staging a rebellion against him.

AND in Britain one segment of Britishers is dissatisfied with government as administered by another segment of Britishers —

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

ON THE MAKING OF POLICY. With inauguration day not far off, a large part of the President's business is the picking and choosing of men to fill the offices that become, or by his decision, are made vacant. It is normal at a time like this to think not only about who is to be sent to this or that foreign capital, and who is to replace whom in Washington. It is a time also when the administrative machinery comes in for reappraisal.

This is especially true of the machinery for conducting foreign policy. We know that the constitutional machinery comes down to us from a very different age. In this century, since the time of the first World War and the administration of Woodrow Wilson, there has been built up, largely by improvisation, an exceedingly complicated machinery for conducting U.S. foreign policy.

So complicated is it that serious thought is being given to creating a new office for the Vice President with the power and responsibility to see that all the different departments and bureaus responsible for a "policy" do in fact administer the same policy. There is even talk of a constitutional amendment to give the Vice President, who as presiding officer of the Senate belongs to the legislative branch, a greater authority in the executive branch.

EXPERIENCE shows, I think, that there can be no such thing as the one best type of machinery for conducting foreign policy. All depends upon the person of the President and upon how stabilized or how fluid is the world situation in which the policy has to be made and conducted. In tranquil times, for example, the President has usually been able to leave foreign affairs to the Department of State, which has administered them along the reasonably well-settled lines of a fixed policy. This was the case, for example, under President Coolidge.

But in the crises of the great wars, under Wilson and again under Roosevelt, the conduct of foreign affairs has been drawn into the White House. The Secretary of State has not been the Foreign Minister. He has been either a powerful figure in domestic politics, who could help the President with Congress and with public opinion, as for example William Jennings Bryan

and Queen Elizabeth has to call for unity behind the government in power just as Sukarno is calling for unity behind Sukarno.

And in The Netherlands Queen Juliana is fed to the chin WITH THE WHOLE SYSTEM OF RULERSHIP, under which THE QUEEN can't do as she pleases but has to do as other people think she OUGHT TO DO.

Where will it all end?

Oil Exploration Ground Work Laid

Pendleton — (UP) — The groundwork for oil exploration work in the Westland area adjacent to Hermiston in Umatilla county, is being laid.

Hugh D. Smith, a rancher in the area, said that 90 acres of his land had been leased to a Pendleton group. He said other farmers in the area have combined to lease more than 1000 acres to the group.

Earlier drilling has indicated that valuable oil deposits may be under the surface in the area, spokesmen said.

and Correll Hull — or he has been a high civil servant like Lansing? In such times, when the White House has been the real Foreign Ministry, the President has usually employed special agents for the really delicate negotiations. The best know of these are of course Col. House and Harry Hopkins. But both Wilson and Roosevelt employed many other special agents who operated outside the foreign service and the Department of State.

THE situation under Eisenhower is quite different from any that has gone before. Although we are not at war, the world situation is profoundly unsettled, and U.S. foreign policy in the critical areas of Europe, Asia and Africa is having to be reappraised, replanned, and refashioned. According to the precedents of our history, this would be a time when foreign policy would be made and directed by the President.

But Gen. Eisenhower is not that kind of President. It is far to say, I think, that except in the recent emergency when Mr. Dulles was ill, the President does not make and conduct foreign policy. What he does, to judge and to choose among alternatives that are brought to him by his staff officers. This would mean that the responsibility for initiating for making for building up policies would fall upon the Secretary of State.

But the fact is that Mr. Dulles has a peculiar conception of his office. It is one which requires him not only to make and direct foreign policy but also in the big matters to administer it personally. This has meant his being away from his office so much of the time that it has been impossible for him to be in intimate touch with the conduct of foreign policy.

THUS, there is no one here in Washington who has high authority and devotes all his time to the making of foreign policy. Yet foreign policy cannot be made by the Under Secretary of State, conferring with, let us say, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Defense. Under our system of government, the essential business of making high foreign policy cannot be delegated successfully beyond the Secretary of State, and in time of great crisis it cannot be delegated at all.

The President's way of working being what it is, he needs closely and continually at hand a Secretary of State, who, in effect, is another self. Without that, the responsibility for making foreign policy gets pushed off and chewed up in a complicated bureaucratic machine.

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Bloody Skull Dance

GEORGE N. TAYLOR

The African chief, Kappa Kall, danced round and round the pyramid of bloody skulls. Up slipped a missionary to whisper to the chief — "God had a son who died for your sins!" Later on this chief, Kappa Kall, came to the missionary for more teaching, as to God's Son.

Then he asked for baptism and was told to bring converts and so show his faith. Kappa Kall was away for some weeks and came back with a group of converts. Then he was baptized. Out of his conversion the whole section had peace and God a great soul winner. John 6:44 tells why we must pray for the lost until they turn.

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