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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO Feb. 19, 1947 (Wednesday) A plea for world peace and unity through racial tolerance and understanding is voiced before Medford Rotary club by George Thomas, representing Oregon Council of Churches.

26 YEARS AGO Feb. 18, 1931 (Friday) Medford's net water income in 1930 totaled \$131,158.90 compared to \$127,055.83 in 1929, according to Bob Duff, water commission superintendent.

30 YEARS AGO Feb. 19, 1927 (Saturday) John H. Piper, regional scout executive, Spokane, will be in Medford Sunday on his annual inspection of the 11th Boy Scout region.

40 YEARS AGO Feb. 19, 1917 (Monday) Demobilization of entire National Guard force along Mexican border is ordered today.

What's Your I.Q.? Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. Negro slaves were first used in a Southern colony; true or false?
2. In which of Scott's novels is "Rebecca the Jewess"?
3. Bible: According to Deuteronomy, were the Israelites permitted to eat fish without fins or scales?
4. Is the U. S. total of combat casualties in men killed in the Army and Navy during World War II more than 250,000?
5. Name the Commodore who, in 1853, first opened the port of Tokyo to general shipping?
6. Is Dzugashvili the real surname of Lenin, Trotsky, or Stalin?
7. What does "gesundheit" mean?
8. What is the correct title of the presiding Justice of the Supreme Court of the U. S.?
9. Is "poorly" in the sense of "not in good health," an acceptable provincialism?
10. Where and when did Gen. MacArthur say, "Let us pray that peace be now restored to the world, and that God will preserve it always. These proceedings are now closed."
Answers: 1. False. In New Netherlands (c. 1650). 2. "Ivanhoe." 3. No. 4. Yes. 254,485. 5. Perry. 6. Stalin. 7. Good health. 8. Chief Justice of the United States. 9. No. 10. Abroad the U. S. Missouri (Japanese surrender ceremony).

How About Harris Ellsworth?

The Washington Post, Washington, D.C., carried the following editorial in a recent issue, quote:

WHY ELLSWORTH? The President has chosen well in nominating Christopher H. Phillips to be a member of the Civil Service Commission and in continuing Frederick L. Lawton for another term. Mr. Phillips, although he is only 36, already has a distinguished career behind him in the State Department and the Massachusetts Senate. Mr. Lawton, a former Director of the Budget, and the only Democratic member of the Civil Service Commission, also has served well and deserved reappointment.

On political grounds, we agree with the above. But the fact is the appointment of Ellsworth was not to a political but to a non-political federal unit, namely: the U.S. Civil Service Commission.

In fact the "C.S.C." might be labeled an anti-political organization, for, in theory at least, it disregards the political label entirely, and makes its decisions on individual and non-partisan merit alone.

THE Mail Tribune would oppose the selection of former Congressman Ellsworth to ANY political post just as we have opposed him for reelection ever since he went over to "McCarthyism," and campaigned on the ridiculous contention that the Democrats were not only soft on communism, but favored a form of socialism that was equivalent to communism—the two terms, he said, being synonymous, etc., etc.

THE Mail Tribune had supported the former Roseburg newspaper editor nearly half a dozen times, but when he descended to the "Joe McCarthy" level for the sake of votes, we bid him goodbye, and have opposed him ever since.

BUT this appointment is another kettle of fish. We never questioned Harris Ellsworth's essential honesty, his slow but sure ability, or his conscientiousness, moreover always having had a friendly feeling toward the man personally we saw no reason—and see no reason now—to oppose his appointment to the U.S. Civil Service Commission.

Whether named chairman or not we believe Ellsworth will be a useful member of that organization, and are glad the boys have taken care of "Harris," after his 14 years of devout devotion to what this department regards as the most reactionary and least desirable elements in the "Grand Old Party."

WE CAN'T go along, however, with the many Republican papers in the state who are trying to make people believe that as Congressman, Mr. Ellsworth was some sort of hero in the much-publicized and unsavory "Al Sarena" case.

Probably more than anyone else in the congress he was instrumental in securing favorable action from the Department of the Interior, which allowed this harvesting of federal timber worth several thousand dollars at the "give away" rate of \$5 an acre.

Only after the horse had escaped from the stable did he shut the door. And then by legislation which will allow a repetition of this "deal" by any individual, or group of individuals, who have enough effrontery to disregard the recommendations of the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and enough cash in the bank to pay all the development work in one year, instead of five.

HOWEVER, as strongly as we fought this sort of "give away," we never doubted that as far as Congressman Ellsworth personally was concerned, he was guilty of no duplicity, but was merely being true to his weird conception of good government from the standpoint of good business, good profits, and what the G.O.P. "Higher Ups" in the Lower House desired.

Needless to say, not our idea of the type that should represent this state in Washington. But, as indicated, in an administrative position on a non-political board, we could not see, and still don't see, any valid reason to oppose him.—R.W.R.

Delay Proposed in Guard Training Plan

Washington (U.P.)—Rep. Overton Brooks proposed a one-year postponement today in the Army's plan to require six months active duty for young recruits to the National Guard. The Louisiana Democrat said he might offer the idea as a compromise in the controversy between the Army and the Guard over how much training young guardsmen should have. Brooks is chairman of a House Armed Services subcommittee which has conducted long hearings on the dispute. The Army contends that 80 per cent of the guardsmen now lack enough training and has ordered all guard recruits to serve six months active duty after April 1.

Soil Bank Payment Expansion Voted

Washington (U.P.)—The House Agriculture committee by a close vote today approved a Democratic plan calling for vast expansion in soil bank payments to farmers for taking land out of production. The measure was approved over Republican opposition. A bitter floor fight is expected between Democratic farm leaders and administration forces when the bill is considered in the House. One member said the vote in committee was 17 to 15. The Democratic plan would set up two supplementary programs of soil bank subsidies. It also would grant, in modified form, the administration's request for restoration of last year's soil bank benefits for commercial corn growers. There are two other kinds of

Negotiations Slated Between U.S., Poland

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

The United States is preparing to strengthen the Communist government of Poland, which a few months ago was Russia's No. 1 satellite.



Charles M. McCann

An official Polish delegation is to leave Warsaw today for Washington to start negotiations for an important economic aid agreement. There seems no doubt that the negotiations will be successful.

The negotiations are opposed both by many Polish Communists and by many American anti-Communists. Polish exiles in the United States and Britain are divided on the issue. A Political Move The Polish Communists who oppose it are those who are still fighting the breakaway of their government from Russian domination. The Americans in opposition are those who, as Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland put it, are against aiding any Communist country behind the Iron Curtain.

The Polish delegation will be made up solely of financial and economic experts. But the motive behind the American deci-

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

MEMO FOR BUSINESSMEN Kemerovo—On this Siberian journey I have by now talked at very great length with the leaders of eight important business enterprises, ranging in size from the local branch of the Soviet Industrial Bank to the vast Kuzbass Coal Company, which controls all the mines in this great regional center of the Soviet coal and iron industries.



Joseph Alsop

It has been a remarkable experience in many ways, and not the least remarkable for the light thrown on the way business is done in this strange Soviet society. So this is a memorandum for American businessmen, who may wish to know how their Soviet opposite numbers tackle their jobs. Soviet business, in the first place, is overwhelmingly the business of mining and industrial production. The service industries that all but dominate the American scene hardly exist in this country. As for retail trade, with every class of consumer goods in more or less short supply, the chief problem of the trading organizations is to keep reasonable stocks of goods in their chains of shops.

Also each major Soviet industry is organized under a "Ministry," but this "Ministry" is very unlike any American idea of a government department. In fact, it very closely resembles the head office of the General Motors Corporation in all ways but one. Instead of doing half of the total business in its industry, the Ministry does all the business.

AS WITH General Motors, there are also divisions and subdivisions. An enterprise bearing the proud title of "Kombinat" deals directly with the Ministry itself. A very big combine, like the coal combine here, may be further subdivided into "trusts" in which several mines or factories are grouped together. Or a combine may consist of a single gigantic producing unit, like the vast cotton textile plant I saw at Barnaul, which will eventually produce 400 kilometers of finished cloth each day and thus supply most of Siberia.

The capital structure of these Soviet enterprises is both simple and logical. Funds for a new enterprise are allocated in the state budget, and advanced by the Ministry through the local branch of the industrial bank. Once production has started the plant director is expected to make profits.

Out of his gross profit, he retains a relatively small amount each year in a reserve fund, which he may spend at his own discretion for needed repairs or improvement. He further pays amortization on his buildings and machinery into an amortization fund at his Ministry. And finally, he pays all his remaining profit—what would be the net profit in the United States—into his Ministry's profits fund.

HE CANNOT count on the amortization fund being spent to modernize his own plant. It is for the Ministry to decide where this money is invested. He cannot count, either, on the sums he pays into the profits fund being used to expand his own industry. It is for the state to decide which industries are expanded, and the immense profits earned by the consumer industries are largely used to finance the expansion of heavy industry. There are two other kinds of

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

I suppose you are wondering what this Arab-Israeli ruckus that threatens an explosion in the Middle East is all about.

It's a LONG story. It began awa-a-ay back in 1400 B.C. when the Jewish people under their great leader Joshua conquered the land known as Palestine and took it away from the Canaanites and the Philistines.

For some 1500 years, it remained the undisputed home of the Jewish people. Then—in the year 70 A.D.—the Romans conquered Palestine and destroyed the Jewish state. The Romans muddled along with it for some 600 years, and then it fell into the hands of the Moslems, who were then embarking on a world conquest bender. In the course of a century they built up an empire that stretched from southern France to India. Palestine was a tiny part of this vast domain. It remained under Moslem rule until World War I, when the British drove the Turks out.

It should be added that there was plenty of fighting during this long period, including the wars of the Crusades. IN 1917 (after having driven the Turks out of the Holy Land) the British government issued the famous Balfour Declaration, which promised the Jews of the world that they could build a national homeland in Palestine. That was the beginning of what is now the state of Israel.

Thousands of Jews began to flock to the Holy Land, and that aroused the fears and the anger of the powerful Arab leaders. Wars followed. The British toughed it out for some 30 years, but gave it up in 1947 and laid the problem in the lap of the United Nations.

In 1948, the Jews of Palestine proclaimed the state of Israel, with Tel Aviv as its capital, and organized a provisional government. This provisional government was made permanent in 1949. But it didn't stop the fighting. The Jews and the Arabs have been fighting more or less continuously ever since.

THE Jews brought modern methods and business principles to Palestine. They built irrigation systems and provided modern agricultural methods and machinery. The desert began to blossom like the rose. They built factories and began to make things for people to use—modern things, such as we have in America. They profited employment and good wages for Jews and Arabs alike. The country began to prosper as it had never prospered before.

ALL this INFLAMED THE FEARS of the medieval Arab rulers, who could see their powers and their perquisites being steadily eroded if things like that were permitted to go on. So the fighting continued, more or less without cessation. The situation came to a head when Egypt's Nasser seized the Suez canal and the Israelis and the British and the French launched their ill-starred retaliatory war a few months ago.

WHY should we mix into this centuries-old mess? I tried to explain that in this space a few days ago.

SINCE the dim beginnings of history, this Middle East area has been the most strategic spot on earth. It is now more strategic than ever before because of the recently developed fact that perhaps THREE FOURTHS OF THE WORLD'S KNOWN OIL RESERVES ARE LOCATED THERE. The modern world depends on oil.

We face this brutal fact: If somebody doesn't prevent it, Russia will move in and TAKE OVER this Middle East, with its strategic location at the crossroads of the world's great trade routes. AND ITS VAST STORES OF OIL.

WHO will be the somebody? It looks like we're elected.

Not only else in the world is strong enough. Britain handled the situation for a long, long time. But Britain is GONE. She knows it herself.

We stand alone as the only nation powerful enough to do the job. If we don't do it—if we lack the courage to face our responsibilities—Russia may be able to gain the resources that will enable her to conquer the world—INCLUDING US.

Suit Says Planes Disrupt Home Life

Knoxville, Tenn. (U.P.)—The U.S. Court of Claims conducted a hearing today in a \$50,000 federal law suit in which a sales engineer claims Air Force planes have disrupted his home life. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wright sued the federal government, charging low-flying jets at nearby McGhee Tyson Air Base have cracked plaster, interrupted television programs and scorched tree tops at their swank Mimosa Heights home. Wright testified the noise of one jet frightened children at a birthday party, sending them running and screaming to "their mothers like chicks to a hen."

Legislative Letter

By ERIC ALLEN JR. Mail Tribune Managing Editor

Salem—Few people here wish to predict how long this 49th session of the Oregon state legislature will last, but none of them believe it will be any shorter than the 1955 session, which wound up in May.

A lot of work has been done so far, but much more remains to be done. And the 90 members have yet to come to grips with the big, central problems which must be solved before the session can end.

One can find heated discussions in the legislative halls and committee rooms and in the lobbies on almost any subject. But agreement is general that taxation is the biggest question-mark of the session.

Appropriations Pose Problem And taxation—that is, how much is to be raised, and in what way—in turn is intimately related to the biggest state appropriations, which this year as in most years, are education, both on the lower and higher level, and public welfare.

The public welfare budget will not be markedly different from the one in past years—perhaps a million or so dollars more.

But the state system of higher education has requested a "shock budget" this year, much of the increase for faculty salaries, and the rest to prepare the state's university and colleges for the vastly increased enrollments coming in the next few years. The budget presented by ex-Gov. Elmo Smith cut the request by a few million dollars, but Gov. Robert Holmes has indicated he supports the full budget. And legislators who have studied the budget in detail declare, perhaps with reluctance, that it appears to be sound and well thought out.

School Support Hike The third item—and perhaps the "iffiest" one of the lot, is the basic school support proposal, which would raise the present state contribution of \$80 per census child per year up to \$120 per year, or some amount in between.

School people are fairly unanimous that this \$120 figure, which would make the state's contribution to primary and secondary education about 50 per cent of the cost of educating a child, is a "must" if schools are to continue doing a good job.

But even here there are disagreements, and these stem in large part from the way in which this big state appropriation should be divided. Most downstate school districts do not favor the present formula under which the money is distributed, claiming that metropolitan areas (chiefly Portland) get an unfairly large portion of the money. They have presented a new formula for distribution, which puts more emphasis on the equalization factor of the formula than on outright per-pupil grants, as does the present formula.

But under the proposed formula, Portland would receive less money, proportionately, than it does now, unless the basic school support basis is raised from \$80 to about \$112. Working out the relationship between these two proposals, therefore, is one of the things which must be accomplished before the total tax needs of the state can be known.

The same complicated interrelationships of a hundred different proposals are similarly slowing the process of the legislature.

The people who are dependent on state funds for their jobs (such as the educators and school people), are not hesitant in asking for the money they honestly believe necessary to do their jobs well. It is the job of the legislators (and principally the members of the Joint Ways and Means committee) to weigh these requests, and then balance them against the arguments against them, and against expected income.

As the budget is taking shape, the taxation committees must try to figure out where to raise the money to meet the budget needs.

It is in this role that they have hardly done more than skim the surface so far.

The House several weeks ago killed, by majority vote, a combination sales tax and income tax proposal, against the advice of some members who wanted it sent back to committee where it could still be revived if necessary.

It also appears probable that the property tax will be eliminated as a source of state funds, being reserved to local units of government. As a result, the legislature faces a situation where the only major way of raising the money to pay for state needs is through greatly increased income taxes.

There has been considerable talk about increasing exemptions for dependents, thus adding to the number of low-bracket taxpayers who would have to pay little or no tax, which would result in lowered income from this source. Double Question The question, at this moment, is a double one. How much money should the state spend? And how should it be raised?

The answer to the first question ranges from \$259 million (as proposed in ex-Governor Smith's budget), to some \$318 million, which is one estimate of the amount which would be required to finance Governor Holmes' proposals—including the increased basic school support fund and the bigger budget for the system of higher education.

The lower figure (\$259,000,000) could have been raised by income taxes at present levels, plus using some of the state's \$30,000,000 surplus expected at the end of the biennium. The latter figure cannot be raised by present methods. And now before the legislature are bills which, if enacted, would increase that total even higher—such things as more than half a million dollars for a meat inspection program, a couple of hundred thousand for starting state support of local and regional libraries, more than \$300,000 for construction of new 4-H facilities at the state fair grounds and a number of others for smaller amounts—all for purposes considered both worthy and important by their supporters. County's Legislators Jackson county's legislators—Sen. Philip B. Lowry and Reps. Robert Duncan and Al Littrell—in common with other members of both House and Senate, have devoted much thought to this basic and continuing quandary of popular government. How much do the people really want their state government to do in the way of spending for increased state services? And if they want these services at a high level, how do they believe they should be paid for? They all would appreciate hearing from people at home on these questions. They say they feel "cut off" from public sentiment at home, and wish they could return to Jackson county more frequently. Considerable Pressure They have been under considerable pressure to approve the 4-H fairgrounds building, the meat inspection measure, and others. At the same time, Jackson county is one area of the state which seems, generally, to favor some form of sales tax—which is now dead for this session (except by a two-thirds vote of the house to reverse itself, which is highly unlikely). In addition to this basic dilemma, of course, are literally hundreds of bills, each of which someone thinks should pass, and each of which must have some consideration, even if only enough to bury it in a committee.

These range through the entire field of legislation, from agriculture to welfare, and from commerce to local government, to military affairs. The wonder, to some observers, is how the legislators turn out as much basically good legislation as it does—and how little poor.



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