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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 March 21, 1947 (Friday)

Plans for construction of the valley's first drive-in movie theater are announced by Matt Freed, district manager of Robert L. Lippert theaters.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Spring arrived today with the legislature still in session, and Russia on the peck.

20 YEARS AGO March 21, 1937 (Sunday)

Second special train carrying CCC men home for discharge leave Medford for Camp Bulls, Tex., with detachment of eighth corps area enrollees.

Eari Ulrich reelected president of Elk Creek Stockmen's association at Elk Creek community hall.

30 YEARS AGO March 21, 1927 (Monday)

Twenty-seven Boy Scouts of Medford troops take trip to Table Rock.

Paul Rynning, county engineer, speaks at Kiwanis club.

40 YEARS AGO March 21, 1917 (Wednesday)

Dr. Robert J. Conroy of Medford is offered commission as assistant surgeon in the Navy.

E. M. Wilson, who has been conducting an audit of the accounts of City Recorder Foss presents report to city council.

What's Your I.Q.?

Who wrote the music of the opera "Falstaff"?

Would you say that the stars of the universe are numbered in the thousands, millions, or billions?

Bible. Was the province of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee or the Red Sea?

How many Jacks with one eye are in the standard deck of playing cards?

Why should green vegetables be soaked in cold water?

The capital of Switzerland is Geneva; true or false?

What nickname personifies the English nation?

Pure alcohol will not freeze; true or false?

Seven U.S. coins equal twenty cents; name them.

Many girls in foreign countries have married American servicemen; does such marriage automatically give each bride American citizenship?

Answers: 1. Giuseppe Verdi. 2. Billions. 3. Sea of Galilee. 4. Two. 5. To make them fresh and crisp. 6. False. (Bern is the capital). 7. John Bull. 8. False. 9. Five pennies, a nickel and a dime. 10. No.

25 Natives Hanged by South Africa Officials

Pretoria, South Africa—(U.P.)—South African authorities hanged 25 natives from six scaffolds here today while their relatives sent up a great wail of mourning from outside the prison walls.

It all took just 35 minutes. The 25 natives were hanged for taking part in a series of raids at Daggia in Natal last year in which five policemen were clubbed to death.

Back To Dick Croker

Mr. Dave Beck of the Teamsters Union is a throwback from days of Boss Tweed and Tammany Chief-tain "Dick" Croker.

Beck too is the "Big Boss."

He is the big man physically and a shrewd man mentally. But he rules and for many years has ruled essentially by the force of his personality, his skill and his ruthlessness.

His opponents have not been converted, they have been crushed. And as the supreme overlord of the largest union in the country, Boss Beck has, as Messers. Tweed and Croker did before him, profited enormously, not only by a steady increase in power but personal profits of gargantuan proportions.

IT WAS much the same in the "good old days" of boss rule in New York City.

We never knew Tweed, of course, except by reputation, but we did know "Dictator" Dick Croker slightly. Once upon a time we interviewed him at his "castle" retreat near Dublin, Ireland.

He had decided the "Emerald Isle" was a more relaxing and comfortable place than Lower Manhattan, particularly with Charles E. Hughes of insurance scandal fame in the Governor's chair at Albany.

AT THE time of the interview Governor Hughes had just secured the outlawing of gambling at horse races in the Empire State, which of course, ruined the "sport of kings." Mr. Croker had just won the English Derby, and had an extremely profitable "stable" in operation at Leopardstown, near his home, so he had a few terse and sizzling remarks to make about what he called that "pink-whiskered gospel singer," adding that instead of being chief executive of the state of New York, Mr. Hughes should be beating the drum and singing hymns in the Salvation Army.

MR. CROKER also had a bronze statue of his prize bulldog (deceased) in the huge reception hall, and there was facially (except for the Croker graying whiskers) a striking family resemblance.

Moreover, temperamentally, they were kin. Dick Croker, too, was built for fighting and had a pugnacious undershot jaw as well as a fighter's heart.

He was no black knight in shining armor, however. When things got too hot for him, and he was far down on the short end of the betting odds, as to a Sing Strip, the battle scarred warrior, who always had a sharp eye out for feathering the Croker nest, turned his vast assets into cash, and took a royal suite on the next liner for Liverpool, on his way to his dream city of Dublin.

He also took unto himself a new wife, if we remember correctly. But that whether true or not is far afield from the present theme of this offering which is merely to emphasize the fact that as a prominent figure on the American political stage today, Mr. Dave Beck is not so much a devil as an anachronism. He and his technique hark back over 50 years to the hey day of Tammany boss rule. Also, as we view it, he represents in mores and morals an age that flourished in New York particularly in the dark decades following the Civil War but which the country as a whole has passed, and let us hope, forever.

SO AS we listened to Dave Beck over "TV" last Sunday we were continually reminded of Dick Croker, — there was the same vital physical FORCE, the same strong uncompromising, combative convictions, the same very slightly veiled contempt for what Croker liked to call the "drum-beaters and the hymn singers" — the entire caboodle of reformers who, if they had their way, would, he thought, ruin business from the Battery to the end of upper Broadway.

DICK CROKER was not like Tweed, a crude crook and cheap grafter. He was crude all right, according to Emily Post, but he was essentially a shrewd and forceful business boss in politics. He ruled Tammany, and therefore New York, with an iron hand and believed—no doubt sincerely—he only got what was his rightful share of the profits of a "wide-open town." Croker never forgot the poor people of New York—he had been one of them himself—he saw not only they got food and coal when in need, but that they voted for the candidates he wanted, at election time. And for many, many years they did.

IT WAS nice work if you could get it and Dick Croker got it. Well Boss Beck showed in his interview over the air, that being boss of the teamsters union is also nice work if you can get it, and he got it and still has it.

He borrowed millions from the union funds, and he made millions for the union and himself.

When asked if he paid the union any interest on the loans or put up any adequate collateral, he replied in the negative. When one of the panel inquired in ingratiating tones if he (Beck) thought that "good business" practice, the Seattle labor-leader pondered a moment then said in a low voice "probably not" but he at once shouted, "they were paid back, weren't they, every cent? And I have two more millions to spend in their behalf."

LEST the above be misunderstood, Dave Beck, like any other citizen, is to be judged innocent of any wrong-doing until his guilt has been proved in court.

And no guilt as yet has been proved, and our guess is none will be. As far as the ethical quotient is concerned, just as Dick Croker ranked several degrees of latitude above "Boss" Tweed, so there is little doubt that Boss Beck, has operated on a far higher plane — and a smarter one — than Grand Sachem Richard Croker.

Soviets Make Determined Try To Strengthen Kadar Regime

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

Soviet Russia appears to be making a determined attempt to strengthen the regime of Communist Premier Janos Kadar of Hungary.

At the same time, it is making Kadar more and more of a puppet who is completely under Russian domination.

Kadar, who betrayed the government of Imre Nagy during the Hungarian revolt, arrived in Moscow Wednesday on a "state" visit which is expected to last 10 days or more.

His hosts really rolled out the red carpet for him.

They knew, as Kadar did, that he left behind him a sullen, bitter people who accept him only because a Russian army of occupation is ready to turn its tanks and artillery against them at the first sign of a new revolt.

Russian Unity Campaign

It is no doubt true that Kadar's visit, like that of other leaders of the Soviet satellite countries in recent weeks, is part of a Russian campaign to strengthen the "unity" of the satellites.

The strengthening is being effected by stamping out, as far as possible, every vestige of liberalized government in the countries of Communist Eastern Europe — except Poland, which made its revolt stick by not carrying it too far.

When the air-power race with the Soviet Union is most acute.

General Twining and the upcoming Air Force chief, General White, will make a formidable team. General White is a creative, imaginative thinker in the whole range of air strategy. Together, they can hardly fail to make a considerable impact upon the thinking of the J.C.S. Admiral Burke is also one of the most air-minded men in the Navy.

The naming of Adm. Felix B. Stump, who has been the Navy commander in the Pacific for several years, as the supreme commander of all American forces in the Pacific is a far-reaching change. A succession of Army generals — Gen. Matthew Ridgway, General Taylor, Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer — succeeded General of the Army Douglas MacArthur as supreme commander and as pro-consul of the occupation of Japan. Obviously the Korean war and its consequences justified these appointments since the role of the Army was transcendent.

THERE are Army officers who are genuinely anxious over the shift which is now being made, particularly the removal of supreme headquarters several thousand miles further away from the scene of potential trouble. Frankly, one of the reasons — at least one of the by-products — of General Taylor's present trip to the Far East is to quiet the mutterings and ease the heart-burnings among the top Army command from Alaska to the Philippines.

In all of this there is no reservation about the personal and professional qualifications of Admiral Stump. He is one of the Navy's best and respected by all the services.

General Lemnitzer, now supreme commander in Tokyo, is due to return to the Pentagon as Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. He will succeed General William B. Peimer, who will probably take over the 7th Army command in western Europe.

General Taylor, an air-minded, paratroop-experienced officer, will remain a major figure at the Pentagon and at the end of two years will be at the top rung of the ladder when it will again be the turn of the Army to chair the Joint Chiefs.

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Most of the present leaders in the satellites are pretty firmly in control of their countries. All of them, again with the exception of Poland, are tough "Stalinists," who opposed the trend toward liberalization that resulted from Khrushchev's denunciation of Josef Stalin.

Kadar Regime Jittery

But Kadar and those associated with him in the Hungarian government, are jittery. They were openly alarmed last Friday, the anniversary of the 1848 revolution against Hapsburg rule at the possibility of a new revolt by workers. They seem to

be afraid that despite the ruthless repression to which they have resorted, the workers and students may break into revolt again at any time.

Kadar's position personally is so weak that he has had some difficulty in finding suitable men to share the responsibilities of government with him.

Aware of the situation, the Russians are preparing for a long-term occupation of Hungary. Families of the Russian occupation force are reported to be arriving by trainloads in token that the occupation is to last for the foreseeable future.

distance—that she governed Portland much as a wise mother would govern her family. Her basic idea, it always seemed to me, was that laws were enacted to be enforced.

Among other things, she was familiar as a lawyer with the section of the Oregon constitution that forbids lotteries—a provision of the state's constitution that still stands. She took it seriously. Along with the rest, she enforced the laws against gambling.

A lot of people didn't like that. They thought it was "bad for business." So, in time, Mrs. Lee ceased to be mayor of Portland. Her successors were less rigorous than she had been. There were times, it is alleged, when they looked the other direction when games of chance were under way.

SO— In time—

The word got around that Portland might be a good place to do a little gambling for profit.

ONE THING I want to make clear. Portland is a splendid city. It is inhabited by splendid people. Taking them by and large, no finer people can be found in America. They are home-loving people. They want their children to grow up in a good atmosphere.

But they made a bad mistake. They let themselves fall into the delusion that politics is no fit business for good citizens. They FORGOT that when good citizens cease to take an active and vigorous part in politics government tends to fall into the hands of citizens who aren't so good.

That seems to have happened in Portland.

It explains nearly everything that has taken place.

ONE MORE question: Why was Portland chosen as the place for all this to be brought out into the open by a U. S. Senate investigating committee?

THE ANSWER is significant: Portland has an alert and courageous newspaper that when all this nasty business began to happen BROUGHT IT OUT INTO THE OPEN BY PRINTING IT.

It took the chances of million-dollar libel suits and went ahead and told the news. That is a good newspaper's business.

When people know what is going on, they can take steps to cure what is wrong.

Wild rice, long a favorite of gourmets, is not rice but a perennial grass indigenous to North America, says the National Geographic Society. Most of the annual crop is still hand-harvested by Indians in the lake regions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Canadian provinces of Manitoba and Ontario.

THE real test of President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Macmillan is to find a way to dodge the final payment for those follies. This will be nothing less than the destruction of all the vital Western interests in the Middle East, by inflamed Arab nationalists led by President Gamal Abdel Nasser and strongly supported by the Soviet Union.

If this final payment is exacted — particularly if the oil sources are nationalized — the effect on the Western Alliance and most particularly on the Anglo-American partnership will be downright catastrophic.

BUT the first hopeful factor is the grim bout of fact-finding that has been going on here in Britain. British power and influence in the Middle East, which have always been overestimated in London, have now altogether ceased to exist. They have therefore got to be replaced by American power and influence. If anything at all is to be saved from the wreck.

Fortunately, the members of the inner circle of British policy-makers have faced these unpalatable facts. It is a hard blow to British pride. It will cause much friction before it is all over. But they are now willing to commit the protection of their Middle Eastern interests to American hands.

As for the second hopeful factor, it is the gradual emergence of relatively serious American policy for the Middle East, not based on moralistic prating, and not characterized either by hasty unloading of national responsibilities into the leaky vessel of the United Nations.

Curiously enough, this new American policy rather closely resembles the old British policy. It is based on rallying and reinforcing the Arab leaders not implacably hostile to the West—"good Arabs" as Sir Anthony Eden used to call them.

Wednesday classes beginning March 27: painting, 2 hours credit, 7, 8 and 9 p.m., Miss Marion Aduy; orchestra, Medford High school, Room 244, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Glenn Matthews; skate dance (fee \$5), 1 hour credit, 6:30 p.m., Dr. Alexander Petersen.

Thursday classes beginning March 28: psychology of adolescence, 3 hours credit, 7, 8 and 9 p.m., Dr. Loren Messenger; first aid, 1 hour credit, 6:45 p.m., Mr. Dan Bulkley.

Fees, either for credit of adult, are \$8 per quarter hour with a minimum of \$16, and enrollment may take place on the night the class begins, Mrs. Winston said.

Fund Recommended for Flood Relief at Vale

Vale — (U.P.) — A three-man group surveying the flood relief needs of Vale has recommended \$325,883 for the area, Judge G. Y. Chester of the county court said today.

Judge Chester said the city originally asked for \$500,000. He believes the area will get 75 per cent of the money recommended.

Judge Chester also announced that work will start on the repair of bridges in Vale next week.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

THE 'GOOD ARABS'

London — The Bermuda meeting between President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Harold Macmillan has a double-edged importance. It is about the last chance to save the Anglo-American partnership and the Western alliance.

Yet the prospects of success are not at all bad, despite the ugly morifying disclosures of phony American promises which are now being broken in record time, is essentially a mere interim payment for the follies of all the Western partners in the Suez crisis.

The real test of President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Macmillan is to find a way to dodge the final payment for those follies. This will be nothing less than the destruction of all the vital Western interests in the Middle East, by inflamed Arab nationalists led by President Gamal Abdel Nasser and strongly supported by the Soviet Union.

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ALL the complexities must be examined and resolved at Bermuda, moreover. As a practical matter, for instance, clear agreements must be made about the way to handle the very touchy human problem that is bound to arise in certain Middle Eastern capitals. In these places, the British ambassador has always behaved almost as a viceregent, while his American colleague has never been more, in Hamlet's phrase, than an attendant lord. Reversing the roles will not be easy. And it will require cards-on-the-table negotiation.

Hence the main reason for qualifying one's optimism is simply the personality of John Foster Dulles. The Secretary of State prefers to tell nothing to any one, even in his department. He detests putting the cards on the table, especially for allies. He and British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd also carry a leaden luggage of bitter Suez memories.

In other words, Anglo-American agreement on a new Middle Eastern policy is now theoretically possible. But if this agreement is to be reached, and the Western Alliance is thereby to be saved, President Eisenhower will almost surely have to carry the ball in person at Bermuda.

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