

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"
Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO

A "Heck" Of An Editorial

In the collection of papers and mail resulting from an extended absence is a copy of an editorial in the Grants Pass Courier of July 23rd entitled "Heck of a way to treat a railroad."

This is a slight modification of the well known "punch line" of a familiar story "This is a hell of a way to RUN a railroad."

ACCORDING to a notation on the clipping the contributor would like to have this paper's opinion of the editorial which espouses the cause of the "Friendly Southern Pacific" in toto and takes to task those newspapers and civic leaders in Southern Oregon, who think the passenger service should be restored, and the "billion dollar corporation" forced to live up to the clear-cut obligations of its franchise, as a public utility.

OUR communicant expressed surprise that any daily paper in this part of the state, should be so blind to the public interest and such an easy mark for the S.P.'s plausible but entirely fallacious propaganda, as to not only condemn the effort to secure the kind of railroad service the communities in Southern Oregon are entitled to, but maintain—apparently without a smile—that the Southern Pacific is the aggrieved party, not the people.

IN FACT the editorial writer makes the extraordinary claim, that instead of being criticized for its policy of "the public be damned" the "Friendly Southern Pacific," should be patted on the back and given the "Order of Merit" with stars, for running such handsome freight cars through its Siskiyou area, and shunting all passenger service to the Natron "cut off" where according to the SP's own figures car loadings are one sixth of those in the abandoned area from Eugene to the California line!

THIS is, to repeat, an extraordinary position for the Grants Pass Courier or any other daily newspaper in this long-suffering section of the state, to take. That the editorial writer rather suspects his sentiments will not be welcomed with joy by the people as a whole, is indicated by his admission that he supports the SP propaganda line "just to be different." Well no one can deny he gains that distinction. But after all is that such a desirable one?

THE "Courier" was "different" during the height of the Joe McCarthy controversy, and according to our records was the only daily paper in the state that not only refused to take a stand against the methods the Senator from Wisconsin used—and for which the U.S. Senate later censured him—but also every day in every way praised and honored him—until of course after McCarthy had been branded as a political "outlaw" by his fellow senators, and his brand of politics had been officially condemned and repudiated. Then he was through—and so was the Courier.

YES that WAS "different." But is it a "difference" our neighboring contemporary wishes to repeat? We hope not.

In fact we wish the writer of this editorial would take a day off in August after the 21st when the briefs regarding SP service in Southern Oregon will be presented to the State Public Utility Commissioner and read them over. He would not need to read the SP side for obviously he is letter-perfect in that direction. These briefs after presentation are open for public inspection.

WE DON'T claim he would change his mind for we realize the time honored Courier infatuation for Big Business, would be a strong deterrent, but it could do no harm to get the facts concerning both sides of the question instead of only one and it might do both Josephine County and the Courier ultimate good.

At any rate it would give the Courier a better understanding of why the people of Southern Oregon from Eugene to Ashland as a whole (around 250,000 strong), view with amazement and incredulity any newspaper in possession of the facts who could describe the rail transportation situation in this section of the state or a "Heck of a Way to treat a RAILROAD" instead of as a "Heck of a Way for a railroad to treat the people."—R.W.R.

Back Stairs: Gruenther's Long Handle

By MERRIAM SMITH UP White House Writer
Washington—(AP)—Back stairs at the White House: Around the White House, Homer Gruenther bears the imposing title of assistant to the deputy assistant to the President.

With this complicated identification out of the way, it is possible to report that the amiable Gruenther is known around the executive establishment by some other titles: "Homer, the vegetable man" or "Homer, the king of queens." The subtitles stem from the fact that Gruenther, brother of the famous general and present head of the American Red Cross, is on the receiving end of numerous delegations that call at the White House.

House also does not have the President welcome "queens" of various aspects of American life. Thus it falls to Homer to glad-hand the visiting vegetable and fruit bearers and their respective queens.

In recent weeks, Gruenther has played host to and been photographed with the cheese, citrus, milk, peach, watermelon, vegetable and potato "queens." The cherry queen from Michigan brought in a pie big enough to feed a regiment.



"I SURE LIKE TO EAT WATERMELON OUTDOORS. YA DONT HAVETA SAVE THE SEEDS!"

Tito Wins Economic Assistance, Gomulka Loses, in Russ Talks

By CHARLES M. MCCANN United Press Correspondent

Independent Communist Yugoslavia has won a big victory in economic negotiations with Soviet Russia.

But Poland is still in serious economic trouble and there is no immediate prospect that it can get either from Russia or the United States the aid it needs to safeguard its semi-independent status.

President Tito of Yugoslavia decided recently to test the Soviet government's expressed desire for better relations by asking it to make good on unfulfilled promises of \$250 million in credits.

A delegation of economic experts which he sent to Moscow has returned to Belgrade with a promise that the credits will be given.

The United States granted Poland credits totaling \$95 million dollars in surplus farm products and mining machinery to strengthen its weak economy and help it to maintain the large measure of freedom it has won from Russian domination.

The first shipment of 9,168 tons of wheat under this credit arrived at the Polish port of Gdynia on July 24.

But Poland had asked a total of \$300 million and there is no doubt that much was almost desperately needed.

While the final stage of Polish-United States negotiations was approaching in Washington, Polish Communist leader Wladyslaw Gomulka went to Moscow at the head of a trade delegation to seek help.

Gomulka asked that Russia pay Poland \$75 million it has owed for years for transporting goods and troops between Russia and East Germany. He also asked Russia to increase shipments of iron ore to help Polish steel mills in fuller operation.

Nikita Loses Temper Gomulka got nowhere. He is reported that Soviet Communist leader Nikita S. Khrushchev lost his temper during a conversation with Gomulka.

He is said to have told Gomulka that Poland is "milking" Russia and that it had better go elsewhere for help. Khrushchev was referring to Poland's request for American aid.

Shortly afterward, Khrushchev sent Soviet First Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan to Warsaw to smooth over the bad feeling caused by his outburst. Mikoyan is understood to have told Gomulka that the Soviet government would "study" his request for the transit payments.

But there has been no indication that the payments would be made.

Washington—(AP)—The United States Air Force flew high, wide and handsome today in marking the end of its first half century as a military arm.

There were many to claim that the youngest of America's defense forces had become its mightiest.

Its men were entrenched in the nation's top military positions. Its money was almost half of the total spent on national defense. Its machines were poking farther and farther into the frontiers of space.

Its wings were a protective cover for the free world and a warning to the Communists not to commit aggression.

Air Force regulars and veterans assembled this morning in Arlington National cemetery amphitheater to hear their service eulogized by Gen. Thomas D. White, Air Force chief of staff, as a symbol of "strength and righteousness in the eyes of liberty loving people everywhere."

The golden anniversary memorial service honored the airmen who died in the three wars since the Air Force was born—302 in World War I, 52,173 in World War II and 1,200 in Korea.

"They were the best of fighters," White said. "But they were not warlike. We honor them in the name of peace."

The 3,000 delegates to the annual Air Force association convention will be lifting glasses tonight to the memory of the Billy Mitchells, Hap Arnolds and other air power prophets who showed the air service the high road to success.

Three Air Force memorial dances here are being billed as the biggest celebrations in the capital since the inaugural balls last January.

Development of the land and water resources of said basin, there are hereby authorized to be, as units of the Rogue River Basin project, the Lewis Creek dam, reservoir and powerplant, Trail diversion dam and powerplant, Pease Bridge, Meadows, Ruch, Slate Creek, Indian Hill and Deer Creek dams and reservoirs, and Cascade Gorge dam and powerplant, or reasonable substitutes therefor, and related diversion works, tunnels, canals, distribution and drainage systems, pumping facilities, transmission lines, re-ventments, and, as provided in section 4 of this Act, projects for the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife and recreation facilities. The projects authorized by this Act shall be constructed in substantial accordance with the engineering plans therefor set forth in the report of the regional director of the Bureau of Reclamation entitled "Rogue River Basin Project, Oregon," dated February 1950.

SEC. 2. Except as otherwise agreed upon by the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior, Lewis Creek dam, reservoir and powerplant and Ruch dam and reservoir, or the reasonable substitutes therefor, and other projects the primary function of which is flood control shall be constructed, operated, and maintained by the Secretary of the Army, and Cascade Gorge dam and powerplant, Trail diversion dam and powerplant, and Deer Creek dam and reservoir, or the reasonable substitutes therefor, and other projects the primary functions of which are irrigation, municipal and domestic water supply and hydroelectric power shall be constructed, operated and maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. In constructing, operating and maintaining said projects, the Secretary of the Army shall proceed in accordance with the laws relating to the construction of projects for flood control and the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Federal reclamation laws, except as otherwise provided in this Act.

SEC. 3. The costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the projects authorized by the first section of this Act shall be allocated to (A) irrigation, municipal and domestic water supply, and commercial power and (B) flood control, the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife, and recreation. The costs allocated to the functions named in (A) shall be reimbursable and returnable under contracts entered into by the Secretary of the Interior and the costs allocated to the functions specified in (B) shall be nonreimbursable and nonreturnable. The provisions of section 2 (B) and section 2 (C) of the Act providing for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Talent division of the Rogue River Basin project (Act of August 20, 1954, 68 Stat. 752, 753) shall be applicable to contracts under section 9, subsections (C) and (D), of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (53 Stat. 487) for irrigation, for municipal and domestic water, and for commercial power which the Secretary of the Interior enters into in connection with the units of the same project authorized by first section of this Act, and to amortization of the reimbursable and returnable costs of said units.

SEC. 4. There is hereby established the Rogue River Development Fund, to which shall be credited the sum of \$1,000,000 from appropriations made pursuant to section 5 of this Act. The Secretary of the Army and, when lands under his authority are involved, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting jointly, shall utilize said funds to promote, for the benefit of the people of the United States, the readjustment and development of areas in the Rogue Basin directly affected by the projects authorized by the first section of this Act. Such readjustment and development shall include, without being limited to, the creation of facilities to aid in the conservation and reestablishment of the fish and wildlife resources of the basin, the establishment of public park facilities, fish hatcheries, wildlife refuges, and similar developments which are necessary or desirable to implement the enjoyment, utility and beautification of the areas directly affected by said works.

SEC. 5. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$66,500,000 for the construction of the projects authorized by the first section of this Act, plus or minus such amounts, if any, as may be required by reason of changes in the costs of construction of the types involved therein as shown by engineering cost indices and, in addition thereto, such sums as may be required for the operation and maintenance of said works.

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Text of Porter's Rogue River Basin Bill Published in Full

(Editor's Note: The text of the bill which Congressman Charles O. Porter was scheduled to introduce into the House of Representatives today is published here in full. Porter has explained he will not press for immediate passage of the bill, but has introduced it at this time to permit greater speed in completing preliminary studies designed to provide changes necessary to make the final measure acceptable to all interests.)

"To provide for the development by the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior of certain units of the Rogue River Basin project, Oregon, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to provide for the control of floods in the Rogue River Basin in Oregon and to further

the development of the land and water resources of said basin, there are hereby authorized to be, as units of the Rogue River Basin project, the Lewis Creek dam, reservoir and powerplant, Trail diversion dam and powerplant, Pease Bridge, Meadows, Ruch, Slate Creek, Indian Hill and Deer Creek dams and reservoirs, and Cascade Gorge dam and powerplant, or reasonable substitutes therefor, and related diversion works, tunnels, canals, distribution and drainage systems, pumping facilities, transmission lines, re-ventments, and, as provided in section 4 of this Act, projects for the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife and recreation facilities. The projects authorized by this Act shall be constructed in substantial accordance with the engineering plans therefor set forth in the report of the regional director of the Bureau of Reclamation entitled "Rogue River Basin Project, Oregon," dated February 1950.

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Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarification and concision. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Wants Tax Relief

To the Editor: This letter concerns the need for a new tax program for Oregon, and the recognition of that need by a group of Klamath County citizens.

Oregon people have been aroused to an awareness of their tax burden this past two years; a tax burden that is discouraging industry from entering the state; a burden that is resulting in unemployment and few job opportunities being created.

The past session of the Oregon Legislature did very little to remedy this situation. It would seem that any movement toward a fairer tax program must come from the people themselves.

We who live near California's borders note that in that state great employment possibilities have been created, and that the tax program is especially designed by their legislative bodies to encourage new industry.

Oregon needs new industry. Oregon workers need jobs. High and inequitable taxation is preventing the establishment of a good and fair business climate, to bring better payrolls and job opportunities.

Taxation is not a partisan consideration. Let's take taxes out of politics. Our group of Republicans and Democrats and people who are from all walks of life are planning an initiative measure to give Oregon a modern and competitive tax program.

Before finally drafting an initiative petition, we wish to invite your readers to give us the benefit of their thoughts on the subject of a proper tax structure for the state of Oregon.

We would also be glad to meet with other Oregon counties who wish to form a non partisan tax league. Does your county have a tax study group?

Please send your thoughts and suggestion to the Non Partisan Tax League, Box 456, Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Yours for a Fairer Tax Program. Josephine Kittridge, Chairman, Non Partisan Tax League of Klamath County.

COLLEGE SECRETARY DIES Suffern, N. Y.—Charles R. Pace, 48, secretary of Pace College in New York, died Wednesday.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Senate GOP leader Bill Knowland of California says in Washington that Republican advocates of civil rights legislation are willing to stay in session until mid-August . . . or ALL WINTER, if necessary.

Senator Richard Russell of Georgia, leader of the Southern bloc, promptly retorted: "Well, we'll stay with him—if necessary. He'll have some company around here."

There will be a break. Southern Democrats and most Republicans in the senate have agreed to a truce to let the senate catch up on some pressing business.

The senate just HAS to pass some urgent legislation to get MONEY to some of the federal government agencies or these agencies will be WITHOUT money.

In an emergency like that, even the civil rights debate has to give way.

JUST what are civil rights? Fundamentally, civil rights include the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness which is the birthright of every American, regardless of his racial origins, the color of his skin, his religious beliefs or anything else involving his PERSONAL rights within the limits of the personal rights of others.

IT WILL be well to remember, however, that the mere passing of a law won't in itself secure these rights. There must be HUMAN TOLERANCE. It's going to take time.

This business of securing civil rights for everybody is more than a campaign for votes in the next national election.

THE head of the United States Chamber of Commerce says in Washington that federal aid programs tend to make state officials too dependent on the federal government.

He tells a house government operations subcommittee that such aid makes the state officials consider themselves—as he put it—"super salesmen."

He added: "They try to sell the need for federal aid—instead of trying to solve the problem themselves."

THE big trouble with federal aid programs for the states, the cities and the counties, it seems to me, is that it TENDS TO TAKE GOVERNMENT TOO FAR AWAY FROM HOME.

The farther government gets from the people who pay the taxes, the more extravagant it tends to get.

HERE is probably the principal reason why government aid programs have spread like fire in dry grass: EVERYBODY has had the feeling that "if we don't get it SOMEBODY ELSE WILL."

That has caused states, cities and counties to ask for things they wouldn't otherwise have thought of asking for.

And what happens to all of these choice edibles brought to the President? They go into the White House refrigerator for consumption by the Eisenhower and their guests. The ice box must bulge at the seams come berry-picking time and the first run of salmon.

This time of year there are numerous summer bachelors in official Washington. The man of the executive and legislative branches must remain on the job while their wives flee to the mountains and the seashore. The President joined the bachelor ranks this week and reacted quite normally.

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