

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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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: Aug. 9, 1947 (Sunday) Formation route and instructions for the V-J day celebration parade announced.

20 YEARS AGO: Aug. 9, 1937 (Monday) James Stevens, one-time nationally famous opera baritone dies in his home here.

30 YEARS AGO: Aug. 9, 1927 (Tuesday) First cartload of Rogue River valley Barlett pears will be shipped by H. Van Hoenberg this evening to the eastern auction market.

40 YEARS AGO: Aug. 9, 1917 (Thursday) Medford's Company 7 requests plenty of canned fruit from Rogue River valley while in training.

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

1. The novelty play, "Polka Mania" resulted in the popularization of which famous dance? 2. In what city is famous "Newgate Prison"? 3. Bible: Who said "In my Father's house are many mansions...?"

Answers: 1. Polka. 2. London, England. 3. Jesus. 4. Jane Adams. 5. The plane used by President Truman. 6. No. (it is hoop-skirt). 7. Small cucumbers. 8. William and Mary. 9. Yes. 10. Poor man.

Responsibility for Retarded Child Told

Salem—Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton said today that the primary responsibility for educating mentally retarded children rests with local school districts.

Bomb Scare Grounds Passenger Airliner

Chicago—A Northwest Airlines DC6 with 53 passengers aboard was ordered to return to Midway airport early today following an anonymous phone call saying a bomb was hidden on it.

Let's Look Ahead

There's a story going the rounds about the man whose friend said to him, "Cheer up, things could be worse." So, the man said, "I cheered up, and sure enough, things got worse."

This is a sort of reverse slant on an attitude which appears to be fairly prevalent these days in southern Oregon—that things seem to be worse than they really are.

No one is going to be Pollyannaish enough to claim that there isn't a slowness in the lumber market, or that prices are down. And no one is going to convince someone who's had trouble finding a job that everything is rosy.

But a look at the facts should convince the most critical cynic that southern Oregon is NOT going through a depression, and that the future is promising.

THE painstaking job of research performed by Mayor John Snider on what is good about our situation, and why it is bound to get better, is based on facts—facts which can be documented and proven with no difficulty.

It was not intended to be a rounded and comprehensive picture of the economy, and made no pretense of being such. It simply was a survey of what is ahead in the way of development and construction in this area, of why there is reason for optimism, and of why there is reason to believe that the picture is far from being as bad as it is now so often painted.

Eyed from a short-range viewpoint, one of the most crucial facts developed by the mayor's study is the fact that carloadings of lumber from the Medford area are virtually on a par with last year, down only one or two percentage points, and that the indications are that August will go above the figure set for that month in 1956, which was in some respects a near-record year.

THIS is important, for it indicates that lumber production is not down seriously. Prices received are, of course, another matter. But the individuals most seriously concerned with prices are the owners and operators of the firms, not the employees, most of whom continue to bring home their paychecks steadily.

And it is not lumber profits which keep an area's economy moving along nearly as much as it is the payroll checks, which are used to buy the groceries, the shoes and the automobiles on which retail trade is based.

EMPLOYMENT is, at the moment, virtually non-existent in Jackson county, except for a few people who are physically unable to work in the fruit harvest.

Last week, before the harvest began, an estimated 800 people, out of a total labor force estimated at about 28,000 persons, were out of work. Some of these were "between jobs," and others could accept only certain types of employment.

The employment service reports that there just isn't any labor "surplus" this year, and that some of the fruit growers are short-handed for harvesting or packing-house help.

THE magazine U.S. News and World Report, in its current issue, makes some population forecasts which indicate the west coast is due for phenomenal growth, with Oregon gaining more than 66 per cent.

Jackson county, situated about mid-point between the population centers of the Pacific coast, is in a highly strategic position as a distribution center, and the added number of people here and in this service and trade area is going to add to that importance.

The mayor's survey pointed out the development of highways. The money put into highway construction will be a helpful "shot in the arm," of course, but more important will be the opening up of more and better arteries of transportation and communication, which are the life-blood of trade and commerce.

WE ALSO have the feeling that the full significance of the Talent project, which will be completed in another few years, has escaped many people's notice. Not only will it increase the number of irrigated acres on existing farms, and add to supplies available to those now irrigating, but it will also make possible more and more of the "small farm plot" type of development, where people in seasonal work can supplement their income and their larder by small crops grown on their own property.

It will broaden the opportunities for a wider variety of crops, and permit greater concentration of specialty crops. And the increasing population in the west will virtually guarantee a market for everything that can be raised here.

ALL this is entirely aside from the fact that a backlog of more than \$70 million in construction is now or soon will be under way in this trade area, which is a graphic illustration of the confidence which investors and the government have in the area's future.

All these factors can add up to only one answer—that growth and prosperity are inescapably ahead, barring only a major catastrophe.

The lumber market is down; there's no blinking that fact. But it is bound to improve. The only way it can go is up. And in most other segments of the economy, the facts are on the side of the optimists, not the pessimists.—E.A.



YOU PROMISED ME A CAKE ON MY BIRTHDAY. I WANT MY BIRTHDAY NOW!

Retirement Aspects Discussed by Babson

By ROGER W. BABSON: Babson Park, Mass.—The present system of retiring faithful and efficient workers is probably good for the junior employees. It gives them a better chance for promotion. But the younger ones must indirectly contribute to the support of those being retired through paying one half of their Social Security and other benefits. Some one must pay the bills.

In many cases compulsory retirement is a blessing to all concerned. Many workers are physically unable to continue at their usual manual labor or even at office work. This, however, does not justify children putting such parents into nursing homes. This procedure is becoming too common. There is money in nursing homes for the operators; but they are sad places to visit. When I see children ruthlessly put a parent into a nursing home, it makes me feel very sad.

It seems as if some semi-retirement, or half-time plan could often be used instead of full retirement. When I discuss this with employers they state that such an arrangement would upset their "streamlined" production system and their efficient office systems. This may be true in a few cases; but if this half-time arrangement were applied to all competitors, no one concerned would be handicapped.

LONGER VACATIONS: Another suggestion is that retirement systems be based upon longer vacations, in both summer and winter. Instead of a worker going on half-time by working half a day every day, he could work all day when

going to the plant or office but take two months off in summer and two months or more off in winter.

With some businesses this would be a less disrupting method of adjustment; but with other industries it would be more of a handicap. Therefore, why not amend the retirement regulations to give corporations their choice? Undoubtedly, labor unions would want to be a party to such decisions; but that, too, could be worked out.

AN Important Warning: The most valuable advice which I can give to readers who are approaching retirement is to avoid the temptation of going into business for themselves. If you want to take a salaried job with some other concern this is OK, provided it is not a company competing with the one from which you are retiring. Certainly it is bad ethics to retire from one company on a pension and then work for a competitor or start in business yourself as a competitor. In my opinion, this comes close to plain dishonesty.

I issue a special warning against starting or putting any money into a new business of any kind. I have seen thousands of cases where able retired persons have lost, after retirement, the money which they had earned and saved before retirement. This applies equally as well to successful businessmen as to employees. They have thought that because they made a success of one business, they could make a success of some other business. This has often proved a costly mistake.

LUCK vs. Ability: Although these men had business ability when operating the business from which they had retired, their success was not due entirely to business skill. Other factors contributed to that success. A man may have entered his former business when the times, political atmosphere, or tax system, may now be very different. They may have operated at a different period in the business cycle, but styles and demand for the product may by now have completely changed. The person himself may be less vigorous or progressive due to advanced age; while competition is now such that more vigor and capital are needed.

I especially warn retired persons not to go to California or Florida or to some other booming state unless they can count on a check of at least \$200, besides Social Security benefits, coming from home each month as a pension or as interest or dividends. Also, before you take any job anywhere after retirement, ascertain how it will affect your Social Security and other benefits. In most cases, if you earn more than \$1,200 per year you will lose your Social Security.

Officials Predict Trend Back To FHA Loans in Prospect

Washington—A government housing official predicted today that changes in FHA rules will reverse a strong trend away from financing of homes by use of FHA-insured mortgages.

The Federal Housing Administration announced Monday it will cut down its down payment requirements on government insured home loans almost in half. But with the cut it raised interest rates to 5 1/2 per cent, plus one-half per cent compulsory insurance on the loan.

The FHA is counting on the "more realistic" interest rate to attract money-lenders back into its mortgage market and boost FHA back into an important role in the housing picture. The FHA itself does not lend money.

The federal agency, which once insured about half of all the nation's home loans, has been quietly drifting out of that picture.

Not Attractive: Its 5 per cent interest ceiling and other rules were not attractive enough to builders and potential lenders on lower priced homes and offered little or no advantage to borrowers on middle and high priced homes.

In a recent month, only about 8 per cent of all money borrowed on home mortgages across the country was under the FHA system. The Veterans Administration, through its "GI" loans, guaranteed 20 per cent, and the remaining 72 per cent was conventional mortgages negotiated with banks and other lending institutions without government assistance or backing.

Government housing experts believe the new higher interest rates and lowered down payments will bring the public and the money lenders back to FHA. They hope the agency will be participating in about one-fourth of all home mortgage arrangements by next year.

STICKY PROBLEM SOLVED: San Diego, Calif.—Detectives didn't have to go far to solve the vending machine tapper mystery. William Paul Newton, 47, was arrested Thursday on charges of tapping the candy machine at the central police station of \$3.85. Newton worked in the building.

New Jersey Governorship Race Seen as Crucial Straw-in-Wind

By RAYMOND LAHR: United Press Correspondent Washington—The administration and the national Republican organization are showing extraordinary interest in winning the New Jersey governorship next November.

A victory would return to Republican control one of the statehouses in pivotal states where Democrats now hold the governorships. State house provide the patronage sinecures for state party organizations.

Coincidentally GOP victory in New Jersey would kill off one of the potential candidates for the 1960 Democratic presidential nomination. It would mean the defeat of Gov. Robert B. Meyner, the incumbent Democrat seeking reelection.

Malcolm S. Forbes, state senator and Republican nominee for the governorship, visited Washington Thursday to see Vice President Richard M. Nixon, members of the New Jersey congressional delegation and Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams. He saw President Eisenhower during another recent visit.

Nixon offered to make a campaign appearance. Forbes said he would be invited. Eisenhower has offered to give any help he could.

In bringing the national party into the picture, however, the New Jersey GOP must guard against fanning resentment over outside intrusion in a state campaign. But New Jersey voters

will no doubt be reminded that the state election will be watched nationally as a barometer forecasting future political weather.

The adjoining states of Pennsylvania and New York, both politically important ones with Democratic governors, will hold state elections next year. So will the weather-vane state of Connecticut and more heavily populated Massachusetts and Michigan, which also have Democratic governors.

President Eisenhower carried all those states in 1956 even though the rival party controlled the statehouses. But his name will not be on the ballot in 1960. Look For Trends

Among the so-called pivotal states whose electoral votes are most prized in presidential elections only California, Illinois and Ohio now have Republican governors.

The New Jersey election will be one of three 1957 state contests which will be carefully watched for signs of a trend. The first will be Aug. 27 when normally Republican Wisconsin elects a successor to the late Republican Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy.

Even if the Republican nominee is the favorite, Democrats will analyze the Wisconsin results to see if there is still evidence of farm discontent with the administration in the Middle West.

A governor also will be elected in November in normally Democratic Virginia where the GOP is more optimistic than usual. Their nominee is Ted Dalton. He ran for the same office four years ago and polled 45 per cent of the vote, the best showing by a Republican candidate since the Reconstruction years.

Only one special election has been held this year—in New Mexico—to fill a vacancy in the House of Representatives. A Democrat was elected to a seat formerly held by a Democrat.

'Action' Program to Chop Government Size Sought in Meetings

By TOM NELSON: United Press Correspondent Hershey, Pa.—State and federal officials today sought an "action" program to cut the size of the huge federal government.

A joint 17-man committee of governors and high-ranking representatives of President Eisenhower opened a two-day meeting to launch a study of whether some federal functions can be turned over to the states.

A key question was where the states would get the money to pay for any federal functions they might assume.

Lane Dwinell of New Hampshire, chairman of the 10-man governors' delegation, said enough research has been done by the Hoover Commission and others to lay the groundwork for some action.

"I don't think anybody is optimistic that we're going to set the world on fire," Dwinell told a reporter. "But the mere fact that this project is being undertaken makes me confident we can achieve some success."

Dwinell said he found "general agreement" among the nation's 48 governors that it was "desirable" for some federal programs to be shifted to the states.

"There are many fields which the states can operate more efficiently—if they have the revenue sources which have been preempted by the federal government," he said.

Dwinell conceded it was difficult "to turn back the clock and reverse yourself." But he said if the joint committee succeeded only in being a "deterrent influence on going farther in respect to federal aid" it would be a success.

President Eisenhower set the stage for today's meeting at a Pennsylvania resort hotel in a speech to the annual governors' conference at Williamsburg, Va., June 24.

Eisenhower proposed the creation of a joint state-federal committee to determine whether the states can take over some federal aid programs and whether the federal government can relinquish some revenue sources to the states.

The governors' conference appointed 10 governors to work with seven Eisenhower appointees. The governors were scheduled to meet separately today and join the federal appointees headed by Treasury Secretary Robert B. Anderson later today.

Dwinell said the two-day session here would decide on the agenda for further sessions by the joint committee.

MOVIE STARS WED: Gibraltair—British stage and movie stars Margaret Leighton and Laurence Harvey were married Thursday night in a brief ceremony aboard a passenger tender.

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 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.

Suspicious of Zoning: To the Editor: Attention, Mr. Staley of Eagle Point. I have read with a great deal of attention your articles on the zoning of Jackson county and am interested enough to reply to your plea for support.

I assure you, you have mine in full measure. I have been a resident taxpayer in this county for more than 30 years. And I feel that some one must come forward to do something to prevent something we shall always regret if it should come to pass.

I agree with you that the Big Business of Medford will stoop to almost anything to hamstring the growth and prosperity of the county dweller. Especially if he does not profit in everything the producer on the farm brings forth to market.

There is a point that I must mention in connection with the "Zoning".

In the first place the city nor the county can proceed with such a plan except the state has provided for such a contingency by statute, regularly enacted. Has it done so? And by whom presented? Why was it presented? Who wanted the zoning badly enough to start proceedings to bring about such a result? How will he, or they, benefit? There is a "nigger" in the woodpile somewhere. You can bet your last dollar on that, too.

I have a smattering of law, having studied it for some three years. And, as of now, I cannot see how it can be done. However, I am ignorant of the late statutes of the state in which we live. Should it be that such a law is now on the books it could be a different story.

In such a case then a strong opposition must be built up from scratch. That will take time and work.

Gazing at the thing from the sidelines, it looks to me to be a filthy and yet a bold attempt to gain control, and I mean CONTROL, of all business carried on in the county by it public or private, and thus be tantamount to full ownership. And the real owner might just as well move out—if he can get permission, or walk out with out it.

Andy L. Unger, 634 Pennsylvania Ave., Medford, Ore.

Not Billboard Alleys: To the Editor: By all means let us not destroy the main purpose for which our automobile highways are built, not billboard speedway alleys. (Take the jet plane for speed) Let's make the highways so the auto traveling public may use and enjoy them, see the natural scenery by and through which they go, breathe the pure healthgiving air and return safely to their homes, not with an unforgettable hideous nightmare of having passed through a dark tunnel bordered with disgraceful decorations of commercial billboards. Let our visitors return with pleasant, sweet memories of the trip and what they saw.

The dollar-greed craze of commercialism and its accompanying ills, unless checked soon

destroy America's great land of wealth, health, beauty, usefulness to mankind. Greed for wealth and power has stripped America of forests, soil, streams, woods, water and wildlife; far too much of her health and beauty, and is too fast creating a land of droughts, floods, deserts, famines. Perhaps few people will want to see such a land on an automobile trip!

Every billboard along the highway is a potential casualty, excessive billboards mean extra death traps. And a billboard alley not only is extremely dangerous, but deprives all travelers, especially out-of-state-travelers, seeing, enjoying and getting the health benefits they may have made a long trip to realize.

Not all users of America's highways are speed demons nor people bent on getting to the other end of their trip just as fast, and quickly as possible. Automobile travelers, I believe, want to see, enjoy all the natural scenery they pass through and by. I doubt if any make a long trip just to see such advertising as too often disgrace commercial billboards.

I drove 35,000 miles on our U.S. highways, through every state, into Canada and Mexico. We saw America all the way, blocked nobody's desire to go faster, nor were we obliged to drive through a billboards alley-like tunnel. Let us Save Our Scenery, our natural resources for posterity; it's up to us, we who are here now.

John E. Gribble, 139 Kenwood Ave., Medford, Ore.

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