

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: Oct. 11, 1947 (Sunday). Ground work for anti-jay walking campaign planned at Medford Traffic Safety Council meeting.

20 YEARS AGO: Oct. 11, 1937 (Monday). To assist city in making survey of areas affected by ear-wigs, City Superintendent Fred Scheffel requests all brush be burned.

30 YEARS AGO: Oct. 11, 1927 (Tuesday). Cook and Chilloquo police chief tried before federal court jury here on possession and sale of liquor.

40 YEARS AGO: Oct. 11, 1917 (Thursday). Company C patrols trains passing through Siskiyou to prevent gambling and drinking.

What's Your I.Q.: 1. Does a planetarium house exotic plant life or marine life? 2. If you suffered from alopecia would it be loss of sleep, hair, or weight?

NEW STAMP ANNOUNCED: Washington—The Post Office Department will issue a commemorative stamp in connection with religious freedom in the United States.

Hidden Treasures

Probably everyone at one time or another has felt the undeniable fascination of tales of "buried treasure," "lost mines," hidden caches, and other sorts of bonanzas just waiting to be discovered.

Our own part of Oregon is particularly rich in such tales, for as an old-time mining district, the opportunities for such legends to grow were great.

Our friend Bert Kissinger has, from time to time, told of such tales and legends in letters to the communications column. As an "old prospector" he has a fund of them.

NOW comes a new book which, for the first time, assembles many of the best-known tales and legends—and some little-known ones—inside one cover. It is entitled "Lost Mines and Treasures of the Pacific Northwest," and was written by Ruby El Hult.

The book runs the gamut—all the way from the Spanish galleons which may, or may not, have been wrecked along the Oregon coast, to "lost mines," to hidden loot, to the possibilities of finding gem stones of value in the old placer sands of northern Idaho.

The two categories which were most interesting to this reader were, naturally enough, the more familiar ones, namely, the tales of Spanish gold and beeswax on Neahkahnie mountain, and the lost mines and booty of southern Oregon.

THE legends of buried treasure, presumably from either a pirate vessel or a Spanish vessel on the Manila run, and the finding of oriental beeswax, in the Neahkahnie area, seem to us to be the most "romantic" of the tales. The mysterious inscriptions carved on rocks, the beeswax with the undeciphered markings, the stories handed down from one generation of coast Indians to another of the men who landed, buried treasure, killed a man on the spot and then either left or were in turn killed by Indians—these are the things romance are made of.

The stories from southwestern Oregon, likewise, have fascination. They include the many "lost cabin mine" stories, of which there are a plenitude in this region. Many of them are from here in Jackson county.

Other tales of this area involve the "Lost Soldier Mine," the "Randolph Trail Cache," the "Lost Saddle Horn Cache," and the "lost" Port Orford meteorite.

OTHER stories and tales in the book deal with similar finds and losses in eastern Oregon, (including the fabled "Blue Bucket Mine," the Willamette valley, and Washington and Idaho.

The thing which gives these tales a special piquancy is the fact that the author has assembled most of the stories from as nearly original sources as she could, and has put emphasis on the fact that most of these "lost treasures" are still unfound—and are waiting for the smart or lucky treasure-hunter who can find them.

She says: "Mysteriously, bafflingly lost, are those mines of gold and silver, those hoards of gold dust and silver coin, those rubies, diamonds and opals, and those buried chests full of them all—gold, silver and jewels. And treasure is for the finding."

This book is a "must" for anyone seriously interested in seeking lost treasures. And it is a small treasure in itself for those who prefer to do their prospecting from an easy-chair.—E.A.

On the Threshold

Four hundred sixty five years ago tomorrow three tiny ships made a landfall in the western hemisphere. It was not the first time that Europeans had landed on the shores of the western world, but it was the first time that the impact of discovery moved around the world, changing it forever.

The impact hit every field of human endeavor—commerce, exploration, government, social structure, education. And it hit them in a way that changed them permanently.

Probably the greatest change wrought by Christopher Columbus' discovery, however, was in the field of ideas.

DURING most of the Middle Ages, and to a lesser extent in the Renaissance, it had come to be believed that the world was at its ultimate stage of development, that "from now on" there would be few if any new discoveries, inventions, or changes in the old, established patterns of life.

But the news of the mysterious lands across the sea, at first thought to be Asia, changed all that. Over a period of only a few years commerce expanded and changed; exploration virtually exploded in every maritime nation of Europe; governments were strained by new forces, and seeds of revolution were planted as men seeking freedom found there was a new world.

AND so it went. The IDEA was as important as the physical act of discovery itself. The world stood on the threshold of a new age.

And today, in the week before the 465th anniversary of the discovery of a new world, we again stand on the threshold—this time of space. The idea of mankind venturing toward the stars, we believe, will be as revolutionary as the idea which Christopher Columbus brought home with him.—E.A.



"I'M SORRY I TOLD DENNIS YOUR HAIR HAD BLACK ROOTS, MRS. MITCHELL. THAT WAS JUST THE KITTY IN ME."

'Artificial Rivers' Of Canadian Water Predicted by Babson

BY ROGER W. BABSON: Babson Park, Mass. — Some day our great Central West will blossom like a rose. That is why it is called the "Magic Circle."

This includes the six states of Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas, which have a total area of about 400,000 square miles.

The area has the potential of being the breadbasket of the entire United States. It has good soil, much sunshine, and, in some years, plenty of rain. Unfortunately, however, it has very dry periods for some years, and then a deluge which takes away good topsoil and does other harm.

This lack of regulated water holds back agriculture, handicaps industry, and makes retail trade very fluctuating. There is much talk of some form of Federal insurance to offset the very dry periods, but such insurance is wholly unnecessary. Moreover, "rainmaking" by chemicals is only "robbing Peter to pay Paul."

Water Sources: The western part of Canada is blessed with heavy rainfall. This rainfall collects in four lakes: Great Bear Lake, Great Slave Lake, Lake Athabaska, and Lake Winnipeg. These are part of a tremendous system carrying this fresh water into the Arctic Ocean.

Some day an artificial river will be constructed from these lakes, across the Canadian line southerly to the very Center of the United States. This "Center" will be near Greenwood County, of which Eureka, Kansas, is the hub. From Eureka, canals will radiate in different directions to provide water for all sections of the Magic Circle.

I am interested in the woodlands of New Hampshire; in lake-front land in Florida; and, of course, in land in Wellesley, Mass.; but the only pasture land which interests me is in this Magic Circle. I have bought such land because I believe that some day an artificial river will be constructed to utilize this runoff water by sending it southerly to the Magic Circle instead of letting it be wasted in the Arctic Circle.

Plans should immediately be made and negotiations started. We should not wait until we are in dire need of the food from the nation's breadbasket. Those who own land which will some day be irrigated by these Canadian waters should retain their land and perhaps buy more. A Federal Authority will someday be organized to build the new river, the bonds of which should easily be paid off by "tolls" on the increased crops. Today we have a surplus of certain crops which we are storing; but this situation will soon change because of population growth and export demand.

Work of John W. Fowler, Jr. Really, my friend Mr. Fowler of Homewood, Alabama, deserves the credit for this idea although it is only a portion of his grand plan. He believes that as soon as the Government completes its proposed national highways and toll roads for automobiles, it will immediately start on a similar program for water. Mr. Fowler believes that there will be three North and South "toll" rivers built: One along the east side of the Rockies, starting from Fort Peck and following the Rocky Mountains, giving sufficient water supply to Southern California, Arizona, and New Mexico. A second fur-

ther east would feed the Magic Circle by gravity and would start from an elevation of 2,000 feet; while the third would change the flow of the Great Lakes so that instead of this fresh water running off through the St. Lawrence into the Atlantic Ocean and being wasted, it would flow westerly and be distributed where needed.

These possibilities are clearly shown on the Great Relief Map of the United States (65 by 45) and the World's Largest Revolving Globe (about 30 feet in diameter, weighing over 20 tons) both of which may be seen at Babson Park, Massachusetts.

Editorial Comment

"BETTER WAKE UP" On the first day of the World Series, a Yankee day, a Braves fan who lives for the sport and who spends a good deal of time in these offices, stomped past the door. In response to our gentle needle, he retorted, "I really don't care about the Series anyhow."

A more celebrated case involved a fox who looked hungrily at some grapes across a fence too high for jumping. "Oh well," the fox said, "I don't want those grapes. They are too sour." More recently, when the Russians beat us in the satellite business, several have declared, "Of course, it wasn't a race anyhow."

Maybe it wasn't. But we should have liked to have won, as we are accustomed to winning. For whatever the political and military ramifications of a Russian victory may be, there is no doubt that America took a licking on the prestige front.

Why? Senator Stewart Symington wants Congress to investigate, as it investigated that other licking, the one at Pearl Harbor. Others see in the Russian success a chance to throw stones at the Eisenhower administration, they say.

Don't blame the government. Blame the people. Blame all Americans because we have failed to put a premium on brains. Blame all of us because we'd rather have our standard of living than the ownership of a celestial basketball. Blame our disappointment on our belief that Americans just naturally have things sooner, bigger and better than anybody else. Blame us for assuming too much, for failing to give credit to foreigners.

This Russian satellite was not "ordered" as one might order a carload of new station wagons. Rather it was developed over a period of many years, and developed by people whose principal job was thinking. The Russians wanted a satellite badly enough that they employed men to think. We didn't, and perhaps don't, want one that badly. "Free science" is great and generally it will achieve better results than the "directed science" of a slave state. But "free science" cannot be free as long as scientists continue waking up and realizing they must go to work and stop dreaming.—Lumber Register-Guard.

LUMBER FORECAST: At the meeting of the Oregon Bankers Association in Portland last week Hillman Leudemann, who manages the extensive interests of Pope and Talbot in the Northwest, spoke with measured optimism about the future of the lumber market. He foresaw an increase in home building next year, with resulting better demand for lumber. No early bounce-back is in sight, but a progressive recovery that by 1962 should see the lumber industry going strong again. This forecast is informed and reasonable. Family formation

Sputnik Leads News of Week; French, Polish Troubles Noted

By CHARLES M. McCANN: United Press Correspondent. The week's good and bad news on the international balance sheet:

Soviet Russia's Sputnik, the first earth satellite, sped steadily round the world at 18,000 miles an hour this week.

Its launching had marked the dawn of a new era in space travel.

It was a scientific rather than a military triumph. President Eisenhower said, for instance, that it did not increase

his apprehensions over American national security — "not one iota."

But Russia followed up the launching by announcing that it tested a mighty new hydrogen weapon. And it announced in August of testing of the first intercontinental ballistic missile, called the "ultimate weapon."

There was a tendency in official Washington to minimize the importance of Russia's beating the United States into the air with a satellite. The United States really was not trying to be first, it was said. This view was not shared by the scientists of the United States or any other country, and little Sputnik certainly captured the imagination of ordinary people throughout the world.

The launching of Sputnik coincided with a visit by Marshal Georgi Zhukov, Soviet defense minister and No. 2 man in the Kremlin, to independent Yugoslavia. Russia's success in this enterprise, along with the testing of the ICBM and of a new hydrogen weapon seemed likely to help him in negotiations with President Tito.

Soviet Communist leader Nikita S. Khrushchev disclosed in an interview in Moscow with James Reston, chief of the Washington bureau of the New York Times, that the Soviet government had tried to get Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to invite Zhukov to Washington. Khrushchev made no attempt to conceal his annoyance over Dulles' rejection of the bid.

Student riots in Warsaw against the semi-independent government of Polish Communist leader Wladyslaw Gomulka flared and subsided.

It had been feared that industrial workers, taking their key from the students who protested against the suppression of a newspaper, might strike for higher pay.

The singular situation in which the bitterly anti-Communist Roman Catholic church is supporting the Gomulka regime was emphasized by an editorial in the Vatican City weekly newspaper Osservatore Della Domenica, an unofficial publication. It warned against riots, saying they could result only in Russian intervention.

The Republicans are the congressional outs and should be on the political offensive as the off-year campaign approaches. But that is not the way the cookie crumbles. What used to be regarded widely as the Grand Old Party is back to the wall in defense of the modern Republican administration and of its minority position in Congress.

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If it is a successful firing — and it better be — the U.S. Sputnik will be in outer space when Congress reassembles here in the first week of January.

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Next year is an election year in which the foreseeable trouble for the Republican Party and the Eisenhower administration already is sufficient to give party men the gollywobblers.

On the record of the current fiscal year to date, the Eisenhower administration is unable to hold the spending line at the point where the President insisted that his department heads nor the Budget Bureau offers more than faint hope and good intentions to ward reducing spending and taxes in the immediate years to come.

New Figures in January: Eisenhower must come up with new budget figures next January. Another spending program of 70 billion dollars or more with no tax relief seems to be in the works. It will invite all over again next year the high tax, high spending rebellion of 1957.

That would be trouble enough for any lot of politicians but there is more. Inflation is still with us making the high cost of living higher month by month. Elements of the U.S. Army remain on duty in Little Rock, Ark., and none knows how they may, finally, be got out of there.

Moreover, the most severe test of the Supreme Court's order for the racial integration of public schools still is to come in the Deep South. In those states the people appear to be solidly behind the determination of their state officials to undertake massive resistance.

There may be some political comfort for Republicans in the possibility that the dispute over racial integration of public schools will lure northern millions of Negroes into the Republican Party. Aside from that, the Republican prospect in next year's congressional election is grimly unpleasant.

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In the year since his reelection in 1956, Eisenhower's personal popularity has slipped. Democrats no longer fear to make personal political attacks on him. Republican politicians are critical and the word in Washington is that the party organization, coast to coast, is in disrepair.

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France's cabinet crisis seemed as far from solution as when it started on Sept. 30. Premier Maurice Bourges-Maunoury was ousted on a confidence vote in which he sought approval of a plan for self-rule in Algeria.

President Rene Coty called first on Guy Mollet, then on Rene Pleven — both former premiers — to form a new government. Both men failed to get the support necessary to control a majority of the National Assembly, the controlling house of Parliament.

Just one thing was certain: Until French politicians are willing to give a premier authority to rule, without being constantly at the mercy of the country's 15 different parliamentary groups, any government that may be formed will be shaky.

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Political Troubles Said Rising for GOP

By LYLE C. WILSON: United Press Correspondent. Washington — The United States plan to begin next

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