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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 Jan. 12, 1948 (Monday)

Telephone calls to and from Jacksonville, subject to a five cent toll charge effective today, according to R. B. Hammond, manager of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "The auto driving classes started at the high school today. Good time was made by all getting there."

20 YEARS AGO Jan. 12, 1938 (Wednesday)

Jackson county completes 1937 with a budget balance in the general fund of \$20,268.98; general fund expenditures totalled \$233,342.14.

Expansion of facilities to make Crater Lake National park into a winter sports rendezvous and completion of the road construction program announced by E. P. Leavitt, superintendent.

30 YEARS AGO Jan. 12, 1928 (Thursday)

Sewing class for business and professional women will be formed at the local YWCA under the direction of the home demonstration agent.

Well-known Jacksonville merchant said rumors of a gold strike near his city is news to him.

40 YEARS AGO Jan. 12, 1918 (Saturday)

Jackson county ranks fourth among counties in the state in the December records of sales of war savings stamps.

Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne, will star in the forthcoming Metro super-feature, "The Adopted Son."

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. The height of horses is generally measured by—?

2. Bible: Was Methuél or Methuselah the oldest living man?

3. The Sino-Japanese war began in 1936, 1937, or 1938?

4. What is the Gaelic name for Ireland?

5. Who wrote "My Three Years with Eisenhower"?

6. Who was the inseparable friend of Pythias (or Phintias)?

7. Will food, if properly canned and stored, keep a year or more?

8. Were American Flying Fortresses used in the bombing of Berlin during World War II?

9. What is Nippon?

10. Falstaff is a character in which of Shakespeare's plays?

Answer: 1. Hands. 2. Neither (Methuselah was). 3. 1937. 4. Eire. 5. Captain Harry C. Butcher, U.S.N.R. 6. Damon. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. A name for Japan. 10. "Merry Wives of Windsor" and "Henry IV."

NATO BRASS TO MEET

Stuttgart, Germany—Top-ranking army officers from five NATO countries will meet here next Tuesday to discuss infantry problems and training.

Officers from the Belgian, British, French, West German and U. S. armies will participate in the conference.

The President's Speech

We have been asked what we thought of the President's "State of the Union" speech. Well, we thought it a good one.

In fact, we would go along with the congressman who considered it the best President Eisenhower has ever delivered. (Incidentally that is not, in our case at least, as high a compliment as a casual observer might suppose.)

BUT, in our judgment, it was in no sense a GREAT speech. It was vigorous, pertinent, reassuring, persuasive and above all, as the President stood there before a packed chamber with SUPER earnestness and strain, making his points clear, he did cut a gallant and inspiring—in a sense, a really touching and heroic—figure.

BECAUSE it was NOT a great speech—there was really nothing new or unexpected in it—we were surprised at the frequent bursts of enthusiastic applause. According to the press-reports the President was interrupted by applause 39 times, while a year ago in his 1957 "State of the Union" speech he was practically ignored—applause interrupted him only FIVE times. That is a jump on the "applause meter" of about 800%—almost as much of a sensational burst as "Sputnik."

HOW come?

Well, we have an idea it is really a problem for a psychiatrist.

But in lieu of one, our guess is the bursts of spontaneous applause were as much or MORE, for the MAN, as for what he said.

The partial answer is, we believe, "EVERY-ONE LIKES Ike."

Yes, it is just as simple as that.

Everyone doesn't agree with him, many completely reject his FUNDAMENTAL political philosophy—which we do—but no one—or practically no one—dislikes the man. Even those who do, have something the conciliating attitude of the Hollywood "Western" hero saying, "don't shoot the piano player, he is doing the best he can!"

YES, the volume and frequency of the applause surprised us.

But after some consideration—and after being forced to hear the speech—or parts of it—over the air at least a dozen times—our conclusion is that as far as an understanding of the speech is concerned and the effect it promises to have upon the future, the times the congress did NOT applaud, had more significance than the times it did.

FOR example, when the president said "all the peoples of the world want peace," one of the loudest and most prolonged outbursts occurred.

Yet, the President has often made the same observation, it is as well-seasoned a platitude, as could be imagined. It had no more originality or real significance than Calvin Coolidge's pastor's pronouncement, that he "was against sin."

On the other hand, when the President, with force and courage, upheld the policy of continued "foreign aid," continuation of the reciprocal tariff, federal aid to U.S. education, the sharing of atomic secrets with our allies, and other less trite and more controversial and important topics, he was greeted, the tape-recording shows, with silence.

IN OTHER words, we would classify the speech as an excellent one, particularly from the standpoint of President Eisenhower's basic political beliefs and his conception of "Modern" as opposed to "Ancient" Republicanism.

But its importance historically and politically will depend not upon what was said but how the congress reacts to it.

It may well be a case of the President "disposes" but the ultra conservative coalition in congress DISposes.

Only the future can determine this, so we shall have to wait and see.—R.W.R.

Nothing Is "Perfect"

We have also been asked to explain a statement in a recent Oregonian credited to the present writer that he believed, quote:

"Medford has the best city government it ever has had and it is probably as perfect as anything designed by human hands could be."

Our critic inquires somewhat caustically:

"How do you get that way? I don't say our present city government is the worst in history but it is not far from it."

WELL, so it goes!

We can't agree at all with our communitant. We think the present city government is one of the best—if not THE best—in the memory of the undersigned—and that memory, while nothing to write home about, goes back many, many years.

HOWEVER that may be, the point we wish to make, is this:

Some time ago, one of the members of the editorial staff of the Oregonian asked this department to give its opinion of how the "Council-Manager" form of government had worked out in Medford.

We sent a sizeable letter in reply and among other things, did write what the Oregonian, in



DOES HAVIN' THE FLU MEAN HE CAN'T TEACH ME TO ICE SKATE THIS AFTERNOON?*

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

HITCH YOUR WAGON TO A STAR

It is unusual for the leader of the opposition to make a statement, like Sen. Johnson's on Tuesday, just two days before the President delivered his message on the state of the union.

But the circumstances were unusual in that the President, when he faced the country on Thursday, had, for the first time in his experience, an audience which does not accept his military judgment on his own say-so.

The two speeches he made after the Sputniks, and the various comments that emanated from Mr. Hagerty and others in his official family, have only added to the mood of skepticism and doubt.

He cannot tell the country what to believe. He will have to convince it.

Yet it is most important to an orderly and effective treatment of the problem that leadership should remain in the President's hands, that what is surely an executive task should not drift by default into the hands of Congress.

The state of the union message is almost certain to make or break the President's power of leadership in this Congress. Did the President realize the problem? If not, he had a timely warning from Sen. Johnson. The Senator disclosed to him, before it was too late to make changes in his message, the hand of the opposition party which is in control of the Congress.

This was a great service to President Eisenhower, and a most generous and statesmanlike act.

BESIDES presenting a summary of the issues and problems which Congress will expect the President to deal with, the Johnson statement makes a point of principle which has in it the saving truth. It is not an easy and obvious point to explain, and if it is to be brought home to this country, it will require the highest art of those who make it their business to describe and explain and make intelligible the difficult themes.

Sen. Johnson, who has plainly learned much from some of the best minds among us, puts this point of principle as follows: "We have, for many years, been preoccupied

with weapons. We are, even now, concerned with what some currently regard as the ultimate weapon. But, when we perfect such a weapon for ourselves we may still be far behind. The urgent race we are now in—or which we must enter—is not the race to perfect long-range ballistic missiles, important as that is. "There is something more important than any ultimate weapon. That is the ultimate position—the position of total control over earth that lies somewhere out in space."

The basic truth in this statement lies in the idea that the race or armaments is now an incidental by-product of a much greater thing—the scientific exploration of the nature of the universe through man's ability to project his scientific instruments into outer space.

Sen. Johnson, it seems to me, has weakened, has diluted, the truth he had got hold of by setting up the notion that the conquest of outer space would now lead to a physical, military, control of the whole earth. This is almost certainly not true. For even if it were true that from outer space the world's weather can be managed, and terrible bombs dropped anywhere on earth, it will still not be true that the United States and the Soviet Union can by advancing into outer space dominate the earth. It is as certain as anything can be that the scientific knowledge of outer space cannot become the monopoly of any one nation, and that out there as on earth there would be a fluctuating balance of power.

IT IS not true that the exploration of outer space is a military proposition. The main objection to using this as an argument is that, while this prospect may prove popular with some people, it will not evoke that highest kind of scientific work which is needed for the conquest of outer space. The military domination of the globe is not an idea that will inspire enough or many of the young men of genius in the creative years of their lives.

This cannot be proved objectively. But I think it will be understood by those who have known well men working in the higher reaches of human knowledge. If we want them to go far, we must hitch our wagon to a star.

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an editorial survey of the state later printed.

We were not misquoted.

But as often happens when a brief quotation is made out of a considerable context, an entirely wrong interpretation can be made, and in this case, was.

THAT is, we did not say the present city GOVERNMENT is as perfect as human hands could make it—or words to that effect.

What we did say was that we believe the Council-Manager SYSTEM FORM for a city of this size, had proved to be the best in our municipal history. But we added—as the letter will show—that, of course, no system is perfect, nor can any system in itself automatically produce good government, any more than the best motor car money can buy, can produce the best, safest and most skillful driving. It is in the last analysis the human factor that determines the net outcome—the man at the wheel in one case, the men at the "city wheel" in the other. Well, we have—and have had good men—AND a good system—that is the answer.

That was all made plain enough in the letter as a whole, but we grant the sentence quoted was easily susceptible to a different interpretation.

We hope this explanation will make the matter clear, as far as our somewhat disturbed subscriber is concerned.—R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

HOW BOLD, HOW NEW? Washington — When that tactless fellow, former Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson, was asked whether he considered a defense budget of \$40 billion too high, he replied: "I wouldn't think so. That would hardly cover the cost of inflation."



Charles Wilson's words are worth bearing in mind, in trying to judge the reality that lies behind the fine words of the President's state of the union message. Budgets are boring, at least to most people. But the defense budget does provide a fairly accurate measuring stick of the national response to the Soviets challenge.

The President's supplemental request for this fiscal year raises the current defense budget some \$1.3 billion above the previous, or Wilson, level, to the neighborhood of \$40 billion. Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy has said that the defense budget for the next fiscal year will also be close to the \$40 billion mark. How much of a step-up in the national defense effort does a \$40 billion defense budget really represent?

THE answer seems to be that the new level does not really represent any sharp increase in the overall defense effort at all, but only a shift of emphasis. Take the projected 1959 defense spending budget. It is expected to include about \$700 million more for personnel pay. This will provide some needed extra butter for those who get the raise. But it will provide no new guns.

Thus the real increase in expenditures for actual hardware over the Wilson level will be under \$1 billion in fiscal 1959. As Wilson so tactlessly said, this will "hardly cover the increased cost of inflation." The fact is that, instead of buying a lot more defense, the Administration means to buy a somewhat different kind of defense.

Take the Air Force as an example. The Air Force share of the new budget will be about \$19 billion, a proportion now long sanctified by tradition. Included in this share are big increases for such Air Force missiles as Atlas and Thor. But these increases will be balanced by sharp cutbacks in spending for manned aircraft, notably the B-52 strategic bomber, the basic weapon of the Strategic Air Command. An arbitrary upper limit of about 600 planes has been set for SAC's B-52s. This will mean that further purchases of B-52s will end in the coming fiscal year.

THE increased missile effort will also be financed out of our already depleted conventional forces. Still another cut of 100,000 in military personnel is contemplated. As in the past, the cut will doubtless be largely at the expense of the Army Ground Forces, which partly explains the despair of such Army men as Gen. James Gavin. For our ability to fight limited wars will be further reduced, at a time when Soviet nuclear-missile power is beginning to make unlimited nuclear war a suicidal alternative.

Even the increased emphasis on missiles does not really represent an all-out effort. For example, Secretary of the Air Force James Douglas has predicted that we will be producing operational Atlas missiles before 1960. His forecast may have been optimistic, but it was perfectly serious—the schedule calls for test-firing an Atlas over the full 5000 mile course this year. But a missile like Atlas is little use unless it is supported by an enormously complex base system which takes years to build.

Each base costs around \$100 million. Because the prospects for the Atlas were thought to be so good, it was proposed by the Air Force to start work immediately on six more bases. For economy reasons, serious work is to be started on only one base. Thus the chances are that in the fairly near future we shall be producing many more ICBMs than we shall have bases from which to fire them—which is an odd sort of economy.

IN THIS and other ways, the effort even in the newly fashionable missile field is far less than total. It will be said—correctly—that \$40 billion is a lot of money. But power is a relative matter, and the only realistic way to measure our defense effort is in terms of the power of our potential enemy. The Rockefeller Fund panel, which measured our defense in those terms, asked for an immediate increase on the order of \$3 billion. The Gaither Committee, which did a similar job, reached a similar conclusion, asking for graduated

increases up to \$8 billion over the current level. Both groups urged a major effort to ensure our ability to fight limited wars.

Perhaps it is too early to judge, particularly now that defense has become what it has been, but for the timidity of most Democrats, years ago—a major national political issue. But as of today, our "bold, new" defense program looks neither very bold nor very new. It looks like essentially the same old product, but somewhat redesigned, and put into a bright new package.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

President Eisenhower's message on the state of the union is much too long and much too important to be discussed off the cuff. But he made three statements that are easily understood:

1. I direct this message from the American people to the Russian people: "Join us immediately in the reduction of world tensions and move toward a genuine peace."

2. However, until the leaders of the Soviet Union show some signs of sincerely cooperating with the West, AMERICA MUST REMAIN STRONG.

3. Whatever the differences between the armed services, AMERICA WANTS THEM STOPPED.

AS TO Statement No. 1 (which is a proposal to the Russian people that we seek to find a way to get along together in the world) let's go back some 2,000 years into history. Rome and Carthage occupied in the world of that day almost the identical positions now occupied by the United States and Russia.

They faced two choices: 1. Find a way to coexist. 2. FIGHT IT OUT.

THEY fought it out. Carthage was UTTERLY destroyed. Rome, left in complete mastery of the world, rose—but finally FELL. After the fall of Rome came the Dark Ages, during which nearly everything that was good in the world disappeared.

AS TO statement No. 2: If we are to find a way to get along with Russia, we must remain IMPREGNABLY STRONG.

There is no other way to get along with Communist Russia.

STATEMENT No. 3 stands on its own feet. Whatever the differences between our armed services, America wants them STOPPED.

A football team whose members quarrel constantly with each other wins no games.

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 an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Toy Project To the Editor: Both the Medford Lady Lions and the Medford Fire Department wish to thank you for the tremendous help you gave in advertising our Christmas project for needy children. We have no doubt but that the publicity given was largely responsible for the success of our venture.

Please accept our sincere appreciation. Peggy Ashton, Secretary, Medford Lady Lions

Foolish, Pitiful Humans To the Editor: Nov. 29, 1947, is certainly not long ago, regardless of bad weather previous or since. Mother nature did offer compensation in the form of a pageant of magnificence fit for the Gods, as the saying goes. There was a sunset so gloriously inspiring it could never be forgotten by ones who were fortunate spectators.

All that day clouds were arranged and rearranged by an Artist who can't be emulated. Designs and color tones had to be the quintessence of perfection so as not to detract from the one and only star of his kind in all creation (Mr. Sun). At the appointed time an Angel must have pushed the button, and there on display was heavenly splendor so sublime it was positively breath-taking.

Without realization, the human soul must have gone down on its knees, while the observer stood on his feet, awe-stricken. The after-effect was a minimization of the greatest of human achievements, and realization that the present world trouble is

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

The New Year is a week and a half old—time enough for most of us to have gotten around to breaking those New Year's resolutions, if any.

But not one enterprising university student, a reporter on the Daily Emerald at the U. of O., who resolved not to kick small dogs, not to rob mailboxes and not to turn in false alarms to the fire department.

This is not only a New Year — it is also the start of an election year, to the mixed sorrow and elation of those on the news staff who will from now on have to contend with the jealousies, the plots and counterplots, the sensitivities and the obdurances of office-seekers, not to mention having to cover all those long-winded political meetings, in reporting the always-interesting political news.

One of our writers, who has had some previous experience in political reporting, declares this is the time that politicians "go into their annual dance step. It seems to be a combination of a feinting shuffle and a sidestep."

He explains, "The shuffle is designed to make one's opponent think an incumbent is

Not all politicians are like this, thank the Good Lord. Some of them live up to the honorable name of their profession, which means the practice of politics, which in turn is defined as the art and science of government.

Before getting off the subject of politics, we should report that the weather, also, has some effect, and not only on election day.

One county official was scheduled to make a speech not long ago, and when the night turned out to be one of those nasty, foggy ones, decided to telephone instead. This was done, and the group was told any questions would be welcome, and would be answered via telephone.

Our farm editor attended an auction recently, and observed how a twitch of the finger or lift of the shoulder can sometimes be used in making a bid. He opined, "An ambitious flea could certainly create havoc at one of the livestock auction yards."

A Medford police officer the other day picked up a ringing telephone. Thinking it was an inter-office call, he jocosely said "Racket Squad" into the receiver, and then spent several minutes explaining to the bewildered lady on the other end of the line that that it WAS the MPD.

As a result, his section has been dubbed the racket squad by the rest of the force.

A member of our staff tried to wash his car the other night when the wind was blowing so hard. He reports he managed to do a fairly respectable job on the car, but did a far better job of giving himself a cold shower.

A large manila envelope was delivered to the office the other day, addressed simply to "Daily Newspaper, Medford, Oregon — Society Editor." Down below was written, "Postmaster — if more than one daily newspaper, take your choice."

Thank you, Moore Hamilton.

A couple we know recently acquired a TV set, and, like most new owners of television, they are going through the process of learning to live with it. The man in the family commented, "For a relaxing evening, and something a little different in at-home entertainment, just turn off the set and read a good book. It's amazing how soothing it is, especially if you are used to talking over the noise of various TV shows."

Another TV story is about how personal it can sometimes become.

Sunday night one staff member was watching the Rosemary Clooney show when one of the cast halted a dramatic skit in mid-sentence, looked directly at the audience, and exclaimed, "Stop, that woman is munching!"

The staff member almost dropped her pickle sandwich on the floor.

Speaking of eating, about four of the people in this office bring their lunches with them, and a lively trade has arisen, with one person swapping one type of delicacy for another. Or, as one of them said, "You know, something like the old school days — apples, cookies, dates (the eating kind), figs, etc."

Still another food story, about the young, recently-married couple, who stretched their budget to eat at a fancy restaurant at Christmas.

They enjoyed their meal, deposited a good-sized chunk of the family's monthly income with the cashier, and went to the parking lot, where they said they found their Chevrolet almost smothered by Lincoln and Cadillacs.

An upstate columnist comments that the old saying about wishing we could see ourselves as others see us wouldn't do much good. We wouldn't believe it.

A man woke up from a dream the other day, and telephoned in a want-ad to the Mail Tribune. We have some doubts that he was entirely serious. The ad said:

Couple with gin seeks couple with olives. Object: matrimony.

Emma Lou Carpenter 811 Sherman st. Medford, Ore.