

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
 Jan. 28, 1948 (Wednesday)
 O. H. Bengtson, Medford attorney and legislator, leaves for Washington to appear before a congressional committee on labor and public welfare which will hear testimony on a bill for acquiring Camp White hospital as a domiciliary.

Ben Day, Sams Valley rancher, announced today he would be a candidate for nomination for representative from Jackson county in primary election.

20 YEARS AGO
 Jan. 28, 1938 (Friday)
 Letter received by Ashland Police Chief Charley Talent requesting the birthplace, date of birth and location of burial of C. O. Johnson and Elvyn Dougherty, two victims of the D'Aughtmont train robbery.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: "Pussy-willows are reported to have their vernal debut along Bear Creek."

30 YEARS AGO
 Jan. 28, 1928 (Saturday)
 Harry Lindgren, livestock expert for Oregon State college, urges sheepmen of this area to raise the quality of their herd to make their product more easily salable.

Considered one of the most successful of its kind, the third annual Owen-Oregon Lumber company employees' dance held at Oriental Gardens.

40 YEARS AGO
 Jan. 28, 1918 (Monday)
 Farmers in this area are urged to grow sugar beets.

From local and personal column: "The Rogue River valley milling company is now ready to begin operations."

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

1. Jack Broughton introduced the first set of boxing gloves and — what else?

2. Bible: Who was the father of the brothers, Gad and Asher?

3. The Jewish Day of Atonement is known as — — —?

4. Is the former King George of Great Britain the V, VI, or VII Great?

5. What is the motto of the U. S. Army?

6. For what purpose is the Bertillon system used?

7. What State of the union is known as "Mother of Presidents"?

8. Does the Zodiac contain 11, 12 or 13 constellations?

9. What college is located at Hanover, N.H.

10. What national organization is known as "Patrons of Husbandry"?

Answers: 1. Boxing rules. 2. Jacob. 3. Yom Kippur. 4. VI. 5. "Duty, Honor, Country." 6. Identification of male criminals. 7. Virginia. 8. 12. 9. Dartmouth. 10. The National Grange.

"Blue Monday"

This is BLUE Monday. Outside it can't decide whether to be foggy or rainy, and as this is written is making a sickly compromise by doing a little of both. Inside the news is not cheering.

WE have not yet recovered from the shot-gun suicide by one of our railroad favorites, Robert Young, former president of the Chesapeake & Ohio and more recently chairman of the Board of Directors of the New York Central.

He was the man who told the world a hog could ride from New York to San Francisco without changing cars but YOU—a human being—couldn't.

By persistent and expensive advertising he had all this changed and at least report many railroads were running through Pullmans from coast to coast, without a transfer.

HE was a man of great imagination, energy and nerve. He was perhaps, too much of a gambler and promoter to suit the ultra-conservative financiers on Wall Street—his inability to secure financing for his elaborate program of New York Central improvement and modernization, undoubtedly was a terrific blow to his pride and self confidence, and a contributing factor in the recent decline of New York Central common stock, from 50 to 15.

ACCORDING to reports from Miami, Florida, and New York this stock tumble in his railroad was not the cause of Young's break down, however, but the trouble was ill health which had recently pursued him, and resulted in extreme depression and melancholy.

We have no inside information, so can't deny this report has some basis in fact.

But we are convinced, nevertheless, that had there been no such recession in the stock market, and the New York Central had been able to secure its financing and declare its regular dividend as expected Robert Young would be alive today.

We never knew the man personally. But we did correspond with him when the "Friendly S.P." first announced it would deprive Southern Oregon of all passenger service. And at the time we were greatly impressed by his clear understanding of the situation, and his enlightened view of the place an up-to-date and progressive railroad has—or should have—in the national economy.

We don't mean he did not champion the railroads' cause—he did and strongly urged less government and state controls and restrictions. But at the same time, he maintained, with characteristic vigor, that the railroads that were living in the past, refused to keep up with the times, and secretly yearned for the "good old days" of "the public be damned" had no place in the modern transportation picture, and better get out of it—or if not make way for some younger, newer and more enlightened blood.

TO those who lived through the stock panic of the Hoover administration this suicide of Chairman Young brought up some rather disturbing memories. Later in that era it became a sort of vaudeville joke, the way the Wall Street brokers were almost daily jumping out of windows like pieces of pop-corn out a lidless hopper.

But it was no joke at the time and while latest reports from Wall Street indicate no collapse in New York Central stock or any special unfavorable reaction in the market as a whole, there were, no doubt, many of the veterans of that "1929 bust," who when they heard the shocking news from Miami did not sleep so well Sunday night wondering what the market would do on Monday morning.

THIS was not the only news item contributing to the traditional "Blue Monday."

Someone was kind enough to send us a recent report by Economist expert, Professor Sumner Slichter of Harvard—who like most Harvard professors is a stalwart Republican in good standing. The Professor did not mince matters regarding the present "state of the union." Far from questioning the existence of a sharp and nationwide recession, he blamed it all directly upon the "Federal government and the Federal Reserve particularly."

From such a source that statement can hardly be dismissed lightly. Comments accompanying the clipping supported this view, called attention to the fact "President Eisenhower had publicly urged consumers to buy less" and added that the recession was no surprise to the administration "chiefs of staff" for it occurred "as planned" and was endorsed by Big Business "to put labor in its place."

WELL, however that may be—and probably any exact picture of what is really happening today economically, will have to wait for some future time when a proper perspective can be obtained—the news picture as a whole this 27th day of January, certainly can't be called reassuring. And as indicated the Weather Man isn't helping any.

But tomorrow when this is read will be another day, and no doubt in all aspects a better one. We hope so.

MEANWHILE we would suggest that the words of the late Franklin Delano Roosevelt be recalled when at the time of his inauguration,



"DRINK YOUR MILK, JOEY. THEN YOU'LL GROW UP BIG AND STRONG LIKE ME!"

Editorial Comment

HOW TO POLICE MAGAZINE RACKS

The district attorney of Lane county recently wrote distributors of magazines urging that they clean up the printed material they put out on news-stands with intimidation of prosecution if they failed to comply. The Oregonian calls this action "out of bounds." Proper procedure, in his opinion, is arrest and prosecution. The Portland editor says he doesn't want some assistant district attorney acting as censor.

The Eugene Register-Guard commenting on the same problem, refers to the fact that some large grocery chain has an approved list of publications which it permits to be offered on its racks. The R-G wonders if some citizens' committee couldn't be set up that would prepare a list of approved books and magazines. Dealers would be free to follow it or not, but those who did not wouldn't get to display the "seal" of committee approval.

We don't think the Oregonian is correct in scolding the Lane County DA. Experience here shows how hard it is to prosecute successfully. What the DA was doing was to encourage policing by the distributors, in the hope that would be more effective than yanking them into court, trying them on particular issues of particular publications. All the case could do would be to punish the distributor for the single offense. The expectation would be that he would purge his products thereafter. Why not urge him to do it before staging a prosecution? From reports the DA's request has brought results.

As for committee approval, that at least is an affirmative approach rather than Watch and Ward policing. The problem there would be to keep such an organization going, retaining persons of reasonable tolerance rather than zealots. Who would have time to go through the monthly output of reading matter from the nation's presses? In the end "social security" must depend pretty much on self-policing within the industry, scrutiny by the vendor, and selection by the customer.

—Oregon Statesman (Salem)

Campaign Starts On Bike Licenses

Medford police will start a 1958 bicycle license enforcement campaign on Feb. 1, according to Chief Charles P. Champlin.

He said bicycle riders would be cited into municipal court for failure to display the 1958 license. He added riders will also be cited into court for failure to obey traffic laws, riding double, riding at night without lights and for failing to use arm signals when turning.

The police department began a more rigid enforcement of the bicycle ordinance in mid-December. Chaplin said. He added bicycles are being impounded by the court up to seven days when an offender is found guilty.

Licenses for 1958 may be purchased at the police station for 25 cents.

Tree Farm Group to Meet Friday Night

Rogue River National forest officials will discuss the method of government stumpage at a meeting of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31, at the Rogue Valley Country club.

A social hour will start at 7:30 p.m.

Other business will include a report from the traffic committee, preliminary plans for a fire school, naming a nominating committee to select names for three directors, and awarding at least two new tree farm certificates.

Not A Candidate, Littrell States

E. A. Littrell, Republican representative from Jackson county announced today he would not be a candidate for reelection to the Oregon state legislature.

Littrell has served for the past two terms as a representative from the Jackson county or district number 19. He will devote full-time to the operation of his business in Medford, Littrell Parts, a spokesman said.

A course in rocks and minerals will also start Tuesday night in room 226, Medford high school.

A course for nurses aides will start Wednesday night in room 11 at the high school. Starting time for all of the courses is 7 p.m.

Other classes starting this week are millinery, clothing, shorthand, typing and book-keeping, lampshade craft, Spanish, public speaking and welding.

and the Hoover depression was still fairly strong he told the country—and the world—"the only thing to fear is fear itself."

WE believe it would be a pious idea to recall those words now and profit by them.

There is certainly no point in performing the ostrich-act and denying there is a nation-wide recession.

Of course there is. But it is nothing to be alarmed about. Compared with 1929 it is no more alarming than the ebb and flow of the sea—in fact that is what it is economically speaking—a part of the organic economic process. In short a necessary period of readjustment.

So don't rock the boat boys and girls, or jump overboard. Remember this is "Blue Monday" and if Tuesday and Wednesday aren't, certainly Thursday and Friday will be MUCH better! —R.W.R.

Summit Meeting This Year Now Said To Be Inevitable

By K. C. THALER
 United Press Correspondent

London—Highly-placed diplomats said today mounting public pressure in Europe has made a summit conference this year "inevitable." They said there no longer is a question of whether there will be a heads-of-government meeting. The question now is how soon and on what conditions. The western governments

have, step by step, whittled down their terms for such a gathering, the diplomats said, and now are merely seeking an advance agreement on the agenda for a "summit" meeting. Public Pressure The diplomats termed it a clear case of public pressure forcing a course of action on the Western governments despite skepticism by some leaders of the usefulness of a rushed top-level get-together.

Pressure from public opinion on European governments—including Britain—was in turn considered to be forcing the pace of a reluctant United States in drawing closer to a heads-of-government parley. This authoritative appraisal of the West's position followed Communist Party Leader Nikita Khrushchev's renewed call for an urgent summit session over the weekend and latest reaction from European capitals.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

NIKITA'S LATEST

Bonn—Nikita Khrushchev's brisk announcement of the suppression of the "machine tractor stations" that control the whole vast Russian country—side is even more exciting news than the dramatic fall of Marshal Zhukov.

Machine tractor stations may not sound like institutions highly charged with human emotions. Many months have also passed to cool this correspondent's recollections of the Soviet Union. But the news is still so stirring that a comment is irresistible.

It is stirring because the machine tractor stations were the rural command posts of the omnipotent Soviet party-government. It is stirring because the abolition of the machine tractor stations and the sale of their machinery to the collective farms will almost unavoidably give Soviet peasant life a wholly new kind of internal autonomy and local freedom.

OF COURSE, there may be the biggest kind of hooker in this news. It may conceal a decision to adopt the much-coveted policy of transforming the collective farms themselves into "state farms." The collectives, as their name implies, are at least collectively owned and collectively managed by their members, of course with much state-guidance. Like huge Roman slave estates, state owned, state managed and worked by laborers having no personal stake in the land.

Khrushchev has lately been expanding the state farms at the expense of the collectives. Yet both the terms and circumstances of his announcement appear to indicate a bold change of course. He specifically mentioned the collective farms as the prospective beneficiaries of the disappearance of the machine tractor stations.

At the same time, "Pravda" published a grim warning to party "conservatives" who were erroneously clinging to "antiquated institutions"—just the sort of people, in short, who would prefer state farm expansion of any other expedient whatever to the desperate expedient of giving more freedom to the wretched peasantry.

These indications do not deceive. Soviet agriculture has started on another extraordinary whirl on fate's strange merry-go-round. The odds of fate is indeed illustrated by the history of the very institutions now being abolished.

The machine tractor stations were economic necessities in the early, terrible period of Soviet agricultural collectivization and mechanization. At that time machines and machinists were desperately short. So the tractor stations were set up as pools of mechanical equipment and mechanically competent personnel, each station serving several surrounding collective farms.

Long since, the machine tractor stations lost this purely economic function, because of the Soviet success in producing farm machinery and training many hundreds of thousands of young people to use farm machinery. Long since, Soviet agriculture entered a stage of contradictions described in the same way to this reporter by all the very able foreign agricultural experts in Moscow last winter.

On the other hand, these experts agreed that abolition of the machine tractor stations and transfer of the machines to the collectives would be the quickest, cheapest, surest

way to obtain a large, immediate increase of Soviet farm production. Plenty of machines and care for them were now available. If the collectives were allowed to own and run their own machines, the results would surely be greater pride of work, greater incentives to get the best from the land, and consequently much greater farming efficiency.

On the other hand, the foreign experts also agreed that abolition of the machine tractor stations, while economically so desirable, was politically absolutely impossible.

THE tractor stations were the government's eyes in the country. They were the government's hands holding the collectives in a tight grip through their control of the machines the collectives needed to till their fields. Abolish these command posts, said the experts, and the Kremlin would suddenly be confronted with collective farms almost like true agricultural cooperatives of the Western type.

Judging by the fragmentary evidence that is as yet available, Nikita Khrushchev has now accepted the economic reasoning of the foreign experts, while defying their political reasoning. Reasons for this bold gamble are not far to seek. Continuing the policy of extending the state farms demanded great additional outlays of capital.

Then too, the weather in the virgin lands last summer failed to follow the party line (borrowing the wonderful phrase of a party official interviewed in the virgin lands by this reporter.) There were drought conditions and dust bowl conditions in large areas of Kazakhstan. Seemingly, this partial failure of Khrushchev's first great agricultural gamble in turn demanded a further, even bigger gamble.

Maybe, as stated above, the gamble conceals a hooker that will make the Soviet peasant's even worse than before. One must wait and see. But if there is no hooker, then this is the biggest demonstration to date of the degree of which the supposedly all-powerful masters of the Kremlin are mere servants of the great industrial-economic revolution which they have achieved in the Soviet Union.

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Holt Orphans Due To Arrive Thursday

San Francisco—A planeload of 85 Kearsage orphans, brought to this country by Harry Holt, Creswell, Ore., farmer, is scheduled to arrive here Thursday night.

Included will be 12 orphans suffering from tuberculosis. Immigration authorities issued visas for their entry after the National Jewish hospital at Denver promised to care for them.

ATTACKS CLAIM PAIR

Bronxville, N.Y.—Heart attacks claimed the lives of Frank K. Gilg, an executive assistant in the boiler division of Bobcock and Wilcox Co., and his wife, Mrs. Helen Tatnal Gilg, within an eight-hour period. Gilg, 57, died Sunday at his home. Mrs. Gilg, 56, died early on Monday morning, also at home.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

I suppose you have been reading about British and American experiments aimed at harnessing the H-bomb reaction to produce industrial electric power.

Perhaps you wonder why the H-bomb reaction is so important. Why not just rely on the good old A-bomb reactor, which is ALREADY producing power in usable quantities and is expected to produce vastly more power in the not too distant future?

WELL, it's like this: In the A-bomb reaction, energy is released (that is, power is produced) by the fission (splitting) of certain atoms. In the H-bomb reaction, energy is released (and power is produced) by the FUSION (going together) of certain atoms.

The big point is this: The world doesn't have an inexhaustible supply of the atoms that will SPLIT, thus releasing energy. Presently, uranium is our chief source of them. It is estimated that all of our reserves of fissionable atoms would give us energy equal only to from 10 to 100 times the amount of all the world's remaining coal.

The supply of FUSIBLE atoms is practically inexhaustible. Sea water, for example, is a source of the atoms that release energy in the process of fusion.

THERE is another important point. The splitting of atoms creates highly dangerous radioactive ashes which are becoming more and more troublesome to dispose of safely. Presently, the idea is to put them in special containers and take them out and dump them in the deepest known seas. Presumably, if that went on indefinitely, the time might come when the waters of all the oceans might become radioactively contaminated. "Indefinitely" is a long time, but the risk still has to be taken into consideration.

The process of FUSION produces in itself no radioactive ashes.

THE British are supposed to be a little ahead of us in the production of power by the fusion of atoms.

How far? This seems to be the answer: At their laboratory at Harwell, British scientists have succeeded in fusing TWO hydrogen atoms. In the process of fusing two atoms, a microscopic amount of energy was released.

The big job that lies ahead is to produce a CHAIN REACTION—that is to say, to find a way to keep the process of fusion going on and on and on and thus producing dependable power. How to do that isn't yet known, but it IS known that it will require almost unimaginably high temperatures—exceeding, probably, the heat in the interior of the sun.

The encouraging part of it all is that we and the British appear to be CO-OPERATING in the research that is required instead of keeping everything we learn SECRET from each other.

By that kind of co-operation the process of finding a way to create a chain reaction of atomic fusion can be hastened immeasurably.

IT WILL take time, of course. But—

A lot of time intervened between the moment when—watching steam lift the lid of his mother's teakettle—James Watt got the idea of the steam engine and the time when the steam engine was actually turning factory wheels in England—thus bringing on the Mechanical Revolution.

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