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Flight 'o Time
Medford and Jackson County
History from the files of The
Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40
and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO
Feb. 4, 1949 (Friday)
Mrs. Don J. Stoner wins
\$7,000 in merchandise in the
"Sleepy Hour" quiz program
being conducted to raise funds
for completing the Hawthorne
Park swimming pool.
Dr. Edwin Durno leaves for
Eugene to attend the 30th an-
nual reunion of the U. of O.'s
first Pacific coast champion-
ship basketball team, on
which he played forward.

20 YEARS AGO
Feb. 4, 1939 (Saturday)
Daughters of the American
Revolution will dedicate a
marker commemorating the
Old Stage road.
From Arthur Perry's "Ye
Smudge Pot" column: "There
has been an increase of police
dogs in town, where they are
in less danger of being mis-
took for a coyote."

30 YEARS AGO
Feb. 4, 1929 (Monday)
A bill is to be introduced
in the Legislature to prohibit
bootlegging of steelhead in the
Rogue river.
A deal is reported under
way for construction of a new
hotel at Sixth and Ivy sts.

40 YEARS AGO
Feb. 4, 1919 (Tuesday)
The city council may adopt
a measure providing for the
presence of a matron at all
public dances.
The annual fight over
Rogue river fish and fishing
bobs up again in the Legisla-
ture.

50 YEARS AGO
Feb. 4, 1909 (Thursday)
A battle over telephone
service absorbs local die-hards
on both sides of the fence.
Medford firemen plan a
grand ball to raise money for
uniforms.

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

1. Is graphology the study of graphs, graphites, or handwriting?
 2. Who was Citizen Genet?
 3. Was Luther Burbank famous for his work in photography, plant breeding, poetry, or philately?
 4. Where is the carotid artery located: arm, thigh, lower leg, or neck?
 5. On what island is the city of Batavia?
 6. Correct the following sentence: "Either my mother or my father come to see me every day."
 7. "Virtue, Liberty, and Independence" is the motto of what State known as the Keystone State?
 8. In grammar, what are the three degrees of comparison?
 9. Which British Queen had the longest reign?
 10. Did Charles A. Lindbergh serve in World War I?
- Answers: Handwriting. 2. Citizen Genet. 3. Plant breeding. 4. Neck. 5. Java. 6. "Either... comes..." 7. Pennsylvania. 8. Positive, comparative, superlative. 9. Victoria. 10. No (Too young.)

Freedom and Maturity

The recent successful revolution in Cuba brought memories of past revolutions in Latin America to an editorial writer on the Eugene Register-Guard.

"Why," he speculates, "are Latin American governments so unstable? Why are there so many revolutions south of the border?"

Reporting on a "coffee-break" conversation on the subject, he observes that the least-stable governments within the past few hundred years have been "Latin" countries—in South and Central America, in Spain, Italy and France. He adds Germany to the list, but notes that the northern countries generally have been less inclined to violent overthrow of regimes.

THE coffee-break discussants rejected blood or race, and even climate, as an underlying cause of governmental instability and wound up with no definite conclusions at all—only a sense of puzzlement.

We should like to join in this discussion with the observation that there seems to be a high correlation between experience in democratic forms of government, and stability in government.

England, for instance, has often been cited as one of the world's most stable countries. But this is quite recent.

From the days of Alfred the Great and before, up until the reign of the House of Hanover began, England was far from stable. Think only of the disturbances which preceded the signing of the Magna Carta, the Wars of the Roses, the turmoil attendant on the Stuart reigns.

THE Scandinavian countries, models of governmental stability for the past few centuries, likewise were wild and woolly areas of civil war and government turmoil earlier. The same was true in Switzerland.

In Russia (which is sort of in a class by itself) the reign of the czars was supported by armed might, but even then there were plots and counterplots. Revolutions shortly after the turn of the century (unsuccessful) and in 1917 (successful) were followed by another reign of dictatorship.

In America (which benefited from years of growing governmental peace in England) started out shakily enough, and government was riven through during the Civil War.

THE point seems to be that stable government, other than that maintained by force, must come with practice, with the establishment of traditions and institutions for the orderly conveyance of power following the dictates of the governed.

These traditions are, relatively speaking, new. In the English-speaking world they did not get firmly established until 300 years ago or less, in England (the home of the "Mother of Parliaments").

One hundred years ago both Italy and Germany were not nations, they were groups of tiny quarreling principalities. In France, true parliamentary government has always been subject to divisive disputes. Spain had democracy only for a few fleeting years.

IN LATIN America the tradition is similarly short. The same is true of the former colonial nations, which are just "getting their toes wet" in parliamentary and democratic processes, such places as Indonesia, India, Pakistan, the Middle East, and the newly-free nations of Africa.

But in Latin America, there are signs of growing political maturity. Four dictatorships have been overthrown in the recent past, and in most countries democratic forms are now functioning.

It's a heady business, this thing of being free, and it takes responsibility and maturity to handle it, in nations as in individuals.—E.A.

Cassandra's Song

Columnist Joseph Alsop, almost alone, has been singing the song of Cassandra about the nation's defenses.

We are starkly vulnerable, and becoming more so, Alsop has said, and said again, and said again and again—almost to a point where he becomes wearisome.

But he has cited figures, named names, described the circumstances of horror. And no one has yet successfully challenged his facts.

CHARLES A. Sprague, editor of the Oregon Statesman in Salem, former Republican governor of Oregon, former alternate delegate to the United Nations, and not a man to be stampeded or swayed, has this to say:

... We know that our intelligence estimates of Russian weapons progress have been short-sighted in the past.

We know we badly misjudged their scientific capacities.

We know that Russia developed a missile program years in advance of our own and conducted a full-range test of an ICBM over a year ago.

Yet we are told by our secretary of defense that: The Russians have twiddled their thumbs and somehow allowed us to overtake them in the IRBM department; have not gone ahead to make ICBMs in quantity production; have no means of launching these missiles.

In testimony before a Senate committee, we found that we had been deluded into believing that armed, combat-ready SAC planes are air-borne at all times, out of range of enemy missiles. Actually, the only planes aloft are training planes.

The same department that misjudged the speed of Soviet weapons development in the past now wagers our entire airborne retaliatory force on its estimate that Russia does not have the power to launch a surprise missile attack.

Our soap-salesman secretary of defense should not go unchallenged. How dare we depend on the intelligence estimates of persons who have been so tragically wrong in the past? It is futile to argue that all-out war is "impossible and unthinkable." History has shown that it is only "impossible" if our strength renders it so.

—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"CHEER UP, DAD! I'M GONNA HELP YA!"

Wilson Thinks Devalued Dollar Clearest Present Danger to U.S.

By LYLE C. WILSON

Washington—UPI—The clearest present danger to the people of the United States probably is the abuse and devaluation of the dollar in their pockets and their dollars in the bank.

This abuse has continued, roughly, over a period of 20 years although it could be argued that 25 or 30 years would be more on the target.

However, that may be, the U.S. dollar is not quite a 50-cent piece today although disguised as a valid buck with George Washington's picture on it.

Compared to its 1939 value, the dollar now will buy almost 50 cents worth of groceries or baby shoes. That is a situation which should urgently interest the mass of the population because it is the mass man, or the common man as the politicians call him, who has the most urgent stake in the cost of his groceries and shoes for his babies.

The mass man does not give a hoot, however. If he did give a hoot there would be an early end to the big time government spending, the big time borrowing of money to pay government bills and the big time dollar inflation which such practices help to bring about. The

mass or common man is a mighty fellow at the polls. He could, if he would, vote the spenders out and vote some economists in.

Made Pled With Taft

He could, that is, if he could find some economists. President Eisenhower was an economy candidate in 1952. He made a campaign pact with the late Sen. Robert A. Taft that the federal budget should be hauled down to about 60 billion dollars, and the voters supported him by the multi-millions.

The president still was campaigning as an economist as late as last year when he warned the people that they had better elect a Republican Congress because the Democrats were wild-eyed spenders fit to wreck the national economy. That did not scare the voters any.

The Democrats are spenders, all right, and they prob-

ably are going to prove it when they work over Eisenhower's 1959 fiscal budget. That budget, however, is something of a pending document on its own. It was presented as a balanced budget.

The balance depends, however, on some new taxes which are not likely to be voted and on persuading congressional Democrats to hold appropriations to the budget limits. That is not likely, either. What is likely is another unbalanced budget, which likely, will drop the dollar down another notch or two, making the groceries and baby's shoes a little more costly next time.

Expenses Going Up

Some of this big new spending is for national security and there isn't much argument about that, except that it is not enough. In eight other categories of government spending, however, there is only one reduction in the 1960 fiscal budget compared to that of 1955 which was Eisenhower's most economical. That reduction was \$52 million for international affairs and finance.

Veteran's services and benefits are up in 1960 by \$631 million over 1958; labor and welfare up \$1.5 billion; agriculture and agriculture resources \$1.5 billion; natural resources \$629 millions; commerce and housing \$621 millions; general government \$534 millions; interest on the public debt \$1.6 billion.

Overall, the 1960 budget is for spending \$12.4 billion more than the 1955 budget which was as close as Eisenhower ever got to that \$60 billion figure he discussed with Taft. Even 1955 was not very close.

Spending that year totalled \$64.5 billion.

Cuban Troubles

To the Editor: As a patriotic American citizen, I ask you, in the name of justice, to reprint the enclosed article in full.

Dale Francis is considered by the Catholic press and his readers (many of whom are Protestants) to be one of the ablest reporters in the United States. He is honest, fearless and a loyal American interested in the welfare of his fellow man.

Roy F. Thompson
660 Clover Lane
Ashland, Ore.

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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 condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

TODAY

In Oregon History

(A Centennial Feature)

FEBRUARY 4, 1890

The raging Willamette poured down Portland's Front and First Streets, destroyed the bridge at Salem, and did terrible damage at Oregon City in one of the valley's worst floods. The Morrison bridge, creaking under the strain, was closed to traffic at eleven this morning. Business in Portland was at a standstill throughout most of the day and crowds gathered along the docks to watch the rampaging waters. Smith Bros. and Penney's saw mills were flooded, the mill floors being covered to a depth of three to four feet. Though the flood is expected to soon recede, Front Street is navigable to row boats and skiffs this afternoon through a good part of its length.

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German Airliner, Businessman Symbolic Of Resurgent Nation's Postwar Progress

By PHIL NEWSOM

UPI Foreign News Editor

From a luxury airliner which had flown nonstop from Frankfurt, Germany, to New York, stepped a youngish-looking man with a mission last week.

Both the airliner and the man were significant.

The airplane belonged to Lufthansa - German Airlines, headquartered in Cologne. It was a real luxury job. The airline called this particular flight "The Senator." It was designed with special appeal to successful businessmen and for every three of its 32 passengers it carried one crewman. It had its own special chef.

Lufthansa began flying the international airlines at al-

most exactly the same day West Germany became a sovereign state, May 5, 1955.

The man was Berthold Beitz, managing director of the vast Krupp combine of steel mills, coal mines and factories in West Germany. While here he would confer in New York and Washington.

The man he answers to is Alfred Krupp, by right of succession sole owner of the Krupp interests, a man reported able to write a check for one billion dollars, and also reputed the richest man in Europe.

Represent New Germany

Together, the airline, with a passenger service through Europe, the Middle East and North and South America, and the man, representing interests with a business turnover of nearly one billion dollars a year, were repre-

sentative of the Germany that has arisen since the end of World War II.

They also are representative of the present-day thinking of the Western Allies who once went so far as to propose that Germany should be reduced to a purely agricultural nation and that its war-making potential be erased forever.

The U.S. visit of Berthold Beitz has not been particularly publicized. One phase of it may be assumed to have to do with announcement on Monday from Bonn that the West German government formally had asked an extension of the time by which Krupp and the Thyssen family must sell their coal and steel holdings.

These orders to sell were part of the Potsdam agreement and were pursued with vigor against German industry from the years 1947-53.

Expect Extension

In the years since World War II, Krupp has disposed of properties worth in the neighborhood of 34 million dollars. He still holds properties whose value runs into the hundreds of millions.

It now generally is expected that the Western Allies will agree to the extension asked by both Krupp and Thyssen, although both had been among those held responsible for bringing Adolf Hitler to power and in preparing for and maintaining Hitler's aggressive war.

Why the Allied switch? An obvious answer is that West German troops and war potential now are being developed on the side of the West as a barrier against Communism.

Few Buyers

Another is Krupp's own answer that it is not easy to find a buyer with 500 million dollars in his pocket, and that, even if he could, it would be economic suicide to break up into small bits an industrial complex in an age of automation and steadily increasing production.

Meanwhile, there has grown up the European coal and steel community under which, in Western Europe, materials flow freely across boundaries to benefit industries of all member nations. Included in the community are those two ancient enemies, France and West Germany. The Allies believe the coal and steel community may offer guarantees effective enough to prevent Krupp or other great industrial concerns from becoming a political danger again.

It is definitely worthwhile for Republicans to play "percentage politics" for even small gains in predominantly Democratic Negro districts. Could Be Crucial

A Republican National committee study says: "In a close nationwide election, the vote of Negroes may well be crucial in determining which party wins the Presidency."

3. Any effort to increase the GOP's share of the Negro vote must start from the recognition that, as one official put it, "Negroes do not form a separate bloc, immune from the factors that affect other voters." In almost every case, the trend in the Negro vote parallels the trend in the Northern cities where the Negroes live.

For example, New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller (R) ran 9 per cent ahead of the 1954 GOP gubernatorial nominee in New York City, the surveyed Negro districts.

4. Republicans have established their record on broad civil rights issues to the satisfaction of most Negro voters and would be mistaken to think that an effort to "outbid" the Democrats in this field would yield additional political returns.

In most Northern districts with substantial Negro populations, differences between the parties on this issue are infinitesimal.

5. Nonetheless, there can be important differences in the appeal rival candidates with similar civil rights records have for Negro voters. Republicans believe both Rockefeller and Vice President Richard M. Nixon have demonstrated an abundance of such appeal.

6. Republicans should put more emphasis in the next two years on "implementing" their civil rights position by securing tangible advances for Negroes in the party organization and in public offices. Wise use of their patronage power in both Federal and state governments can do much to solidify Negro support for Republican candidates in 1960.

One official put it this way: "Negroes, like all other racial, religious or nationality groups, are strongly influenced by personal loyalties. When leaders of their group are given recognition, the impact is widespread." (Copyright 1959 Congressional Quarterly Inc.)

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