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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

May 17, 1949 (Tuesday)
The Medford city council will consider a proposed ban on bee keeping.

20 YEARS AGO

May 17, 1939 (Wednesday)
Charles E. Clay Sr. is appointed to the Medford water commission.

30 YEARS AGO

May 17, 1929 (Friday)
L. A. Banks, California fruitman, fires a volley against smudging in the valley.

40 YEARS AGO

May 17, 1919 (Saturday)
Ed G. Brown takes 100 boys to the Al G. Barnes circus.

50 YEARS AGO

May 17, 1909 (Monday)
Saturday is Crater Lake day, with the governor expected here to preside over festivities and appoint a Crater Lake road commission.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. A native dish of Hawaii, known as poi, is made from coconuts, taro, or pineapples?

2. Water is composed of two gasses, name them.

3. Decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court must be by at least two-thirds majority; true or false?

4. Are male whales known as rams, bucks, or bulls?

5. The nickname for privates in the British Army is "Tommy"?

6. Will the Federal Government redeem counterfeit money from innocent victims?

7. One mill is what part of one cent?

8. For what metal is quicksilver another name?

9. Which creates the most smoke when burned - anthracite, or bituminous coal?

10. Which President did Calvin Coolidge succeed as President of the U. S.?

Answers: 1. Taro. 2. Hydrogen and oxygen. 3. False. 4. Bulls. 5. "Tommy." 6. No. 7. One-tenth of a cent. 8. Mercury. 9. Bituminous. 10. Warren G. Harding.

JEWELLED GARBAGE

San Pedro, Calif. - (UPI) - A load of garbage worth \$10,000? Garbage truck driver Noble Ross was jockeying a load worth exactly that for a while Friday. Then sanitation officials, who had been contacted by Mrs. Edward Johnson in a frantic telephone call, stopped Ross and recovered from his load a \$10,000 package of diamonds Mrs. Johnson had accidentally thrown out the garbage.

BLM and Forest Service

The proposal currently in the news, which would place administration of O&C forest lands of the bureau of land management under the administration of the forest service, is not a new one. It keeps popping up from time to time.

According to A. Robert Smith, our correspondent in Washington, the proposal probably will have tough sledding, for the reason that Fred Seaton, secretary of the interior, is opposed to it. (The BLM is part of the interior department; the forest service is part of the department of agriculture.)

THERE are valid arguments on both sides of the proposal.

One of the state's best-informed men on the subject is Charles A. Sprague, who as an editor, as a former governor of the state, and as a member of the O&C advisory committee, has been closely informed on the problems of the BLM in Oregon for many years.

He concludes that:

"... The gains from BLM's intensive management outweigh possible savings in overhead. However, good forestry will prevail whether the merger is made or not, because of the public demand for it."

He is undoubtedly correct in that conclusion. But some heated arguments can be generated about the proposal, just the same.

FOR instance, the BLM sells timber on a cruise basis—that is, BLM foresters mark the trees to be cut, and set a price for them as they stand. The forest service sells on a scale basis—or an actual measurement of the board feet of lumber as the logs come out of the forest by truck.

Some loggers prefer one method; some another. And in any meeting of lumbermen it's possible to stir up a discussion over the merits or demerits of each.

Another factor, probably even more important to the smaller lumber operator, is the fact that most national forest land is in fairly large blocks, while O&C lands are to a large extent scattered in "intermingled" ownerships, many of them in fairly small plots. As a result the BLM tends to offer a larger percentage of smaller sales than the forest service—sales which the small logger can afford to bid on.

BOTH agencies, as Governor Sprague points out, are dedicated to good forest management and silviculture, and both, as they gain experience and are provided with necessary funds, are doing an increasingly good job.

Because of the patterns of ownership, the forest service has worked out its system of ranger districts, with men living in the area where they work, while BLM personnel usually is concentrated in the immediate area of the district office, driving out to the field when necessary.

The forest service is dedicated to multiple-purpose use of the forests. The BLM, a more-recent comer to the field of forest management, only now is working more and more toward this ideal, but does not have the facilities to do the same job in some fields, such as recreation, that the forest service does.

ONE principal reason why the proposal will meet opposition, particularly in the 18 O&C counties of western Oregon, is the fact that while both agencies turn part of their land revenues over to the counties, they do it under different formulas.

Revenue from O&C lands goes to the counties in which they are located on a basis of 75 per cent to the counties, 25 per cent to the federal government. (In recent years, the counties have allocated one third of their 75 per cent to construction of access roads and reforestation. The remaining portion has no strings to it, as to how counties may use it.)

Revenue from forest service lands go 25 per cent to the counties and 75 per cent to the federal government. The counties' portion must be used for school and road purposes.

ONE can readily see, therefore, why the O&C counties would fight tooth and nail against any proposal which threatened the substantial source of income which the O&C lands represents. In Jackson county, for instance, it is the O&C revenues which have made the levying of a tax for county purposes unnecessary recently.

An administrative reorganization, placing O&C lands under forest service administration, would not affect the distribution formula, for that is provided by law. However, it might lead Congress to reconsider the formula—something that gives O&C county officials the shakes just to think about.

In addition, it would create a major disruption in the BLM office here, for the Medford district office devotes a major part of its activities to O&C lands, less to other BLM responsibilities. It would also cause an upheaval in the administration of the Rogue River and Siskiyou National forests, which would be faced with a tremendously increased job virtually overnight.

AS NEARLY as we can determine, no decision has yet been made—despite "rumors" published in an upstate newspaper that the proposal has "already gained official sanction and will be instituted as of June 1, 1959." This rumor, almost certainly, is wrong, for such a reorganization plan must be submitted to Congress 60 days before becoming effective. If it wishes, Congress can veto the suggestion within that period of time.

If it is to be done this year, it will have to be done soon, because of the 60-day limitation.

Because of the controversial aspects of the plan, we will be somewhat surprised if it is undertaken, soon, anyway.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"HOW MUCH WOULD YA CHARGE TO GIVE A WHITE RAT A BUTCH?"

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

UNEASY MONEY

IT is still touch and go whether the President will get from this Congress exactly what he has asked for.

But on the broad principles which he has adopted, he seems now to be assured of support.

These principles are that the next budget shall be balanced approximately and that this shall be done not by raising taxes but by holding down military and civilian expenditures. For the time being the battle the President is waging against inflation is going reasonably well, in that the price level is on the whole standing still.

Nevertheless, the news from the money markets gives little support to the idea that the battle against inflation is being won. The Treasury is having to pay very high rates for very short term money. The long term bond market is depressed while stocks and real estate are booming.

THESE are the classic signs of inflation, that is to say, of a lack of confidence that money will conserve its purchasing power. When there is this lack of confidence, people prefer to own tangible goods, as they do when they buy equity shares, to having what are promises to pay dollars in the future.

The behavior of the markets reflects the judgments of the great investing institutions with their expert advisors. These markets are, therefore, a kind of running Gallup Poll in which those who are questioned back their opinions with their money. They are saying inflation, whether or not the President wins his fight in this Congress about this particular budget.

THE PROSPECTS in defense and in internal civilian improvements make it virtually certain that with our present tax structure and our normal rate of growth, there will be a heavy pressure against the balance of the budget. A consideration of these realities may account in considerable measure for the pessimism of the money markets.

Is there a remedy? Certainly there is no simple and easy one. What must come first, however, is to stop pretending that the 1960 budget is a genuine and adequate answer to the problem of inflation. Then we have to begin defining and posing the real questions which will confront us. They arrive from the fact that in order to balance the budget against the rising expenditures which are inevitable, we must brace ourselves to the grim, the politically unpalatable and unappealing truth that we shall have to raise more taxes.

(Copyright 1959, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

IF WE look at our national commitments, it is unfortunately all too probable that our position as a whole is going to be out of balance for years to come. Our national commitments are for defense, for internal development, for welfare and public facilities. Lined up against these commitments we also have commitments to the farmers and to the veterans and to the taxpayers, who are expecting a tax reduction. Some mighty political battles will be fought to bring these conflicting commitments into balance.

There is no reason whatever to think that we shall be able to spend less on defense. On the contrary, almost surely we shall feel compelled to spend more. In the field of civilian expenditures, there must be a substantial increase over the present level unless by some unlikely miracle the huge agricultural subsidies can be done away with or at least drastically reduced. It is virtually certain that the public money spent for public facilities will rise steeply in the years to come.

The growth of our population is one reason why these expenditures must rise. The growing concentration of our growing population in big cities is another reason why the expenditures must rise. Moreover, owing to the World War and the Korean war there is a big backlog of necessary public expenditures for schools, hospitals, and many kinds of projects to conserve and develop our natural resources. If a third world war is averted, as probably it can be, we can count it for certain that the decade of the sixties will see a movement, comparable with the New Deal of the thirties, to modernize the public facilities of this country.

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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 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.

Support Consolidation

To the Editor: Concerning the question of Phoenix-Talent school consolidation, versus the districts remaining as they are:

The following is a quote in part from a letter received from Alf B. Mekvold, County School Superintendent, of May 12, 1959, in response to our specific question:

"What are the provisions of the Reorganization Law concerning the possibility of Phoenix District remaining as it is at present?"

Quote: "It is to be emphasized that at no time has the Reorganization Committee considered a proposal to leave either Talent or Phoenix as they are. One of the considerations is the size of the Phoenix High School. Another major consideration, of course, is the disposition of Talent which has even a smaller high school than Phoenix. It might be said in another way that leaving Phoenix as it is does not solve the total problem in this area."

The consolidation of Phoenix-Talent would be an advantage to both schools, for with the increased enrollment both districts would more closely meet the recommended requirements in Dr. Conant's report. We would be able to meet all requirements for college preparatory subject offerings as to English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, Foreign Languages, plus the customary elective subjects and a very adequate program of vocational subjects.

We feel that the school boards of the two consolidating districts would work out a plan of utilizing all existing facilities to the greatest advantage of all concerned.

Mrs. J. L. Martin  
4189 Colver rd.  
Medford

Mrs. H. C. Slopser  
4756 S. Pacific Hwy.  
Medford

Played for a Fish

To the Editor: I can't help but feel that Phoenix is being played for a fish in the coming Talent-Phoenix consolidation.

Why did Talent suddenly raise each of its teachers' salaries \$900? That is many hundreds over our Phoenix teachers. That's a pretty good raise, particularly when most of it will be paid by Phoenix taxpayers. Also they say that we won't be responsible for Talent's bonded indebtedness. But what about their debts that aren't bonded? I know of \$17,000 that will suddenly be our problem if we carry out an immediate consolidation.

On top of all this, Talent doesn't even own its own buses. They pay a group in Ashland to haul their children. Does Phoenix want to pay Ashland to haul Talent children? We have a good bus system of our own. Let's keep it alone!

I have had several legal opinions and each attorney has stated absolutely that we can't be forced to consolidate with anyone. I can refer you to them.

If we do consolidate, our taxes will go up 11 mills immediately, according to the Phoenix School Board. This doesn't include all of the things Talent wants to build. They want a gymnasium (estimated at \$60,000 to \$70,000). They can't use the gym they have because the children, would have to cross the street to get there. I ask you, are we fish? They have to have their grade school overhauled. No one seems to know what that will cost.

I don't like to be played for a fish. Vote against Phoenix-Talent consolidation, Wednesday, May 20.

Cleo Small  
Rt. 3, Box 240  
Phoenix

Alternatives Discussed

To the Editor: Regarding Phoenix-Talent Consolidation: Should we consolidate or TRY to stand alone?

The Reorganization Committee early this year recommended two alternative plans for Phoenix district: Phoenix-Talent consolidation or Phoenix-Medford consolidation.

The coming election on Phoenix-Talent consolidation is a voluntary election. A simple majority will rule the outcome. However if this consolidation fails, the Reorganization Committee can present a plan, which in all probability will be a Phoenix-Medford consolidation. After the usual legal procedures, an election will be held, and determined according to Oregon school law, Sec. 12. Read it carefully!

Votes are counted separately, and if 60 per cent or more of the votes cast in any district are against the formation of the district, the formation

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

CARDS ON THE TABLE?

Geneva - In the American and French delegations here, there is increasing disquiet about the British delegation's tendency to concede points to the Soviets.

The arguments at Geneva, so far, have primarily concerned procedure rather than matters. But the Soviets are well known to regard such arguments, even if they merely concern the shape of the conference table, as highly significant tests of will. Hence every trivial concession made to the Soviets at the outset means an insistent Soviet demand for a much larger concession later on. This is the explanation of the seemingly bizarre intensity of the preliminary skirmishes.

Even so, the British tendency to give way in these preliminary skirmishes would be causing only momentary concern, if it were not for certain other developments elsewhere. For example, the news has just reached Geneva that the Federation of British Industries and Reuter's news agency have both decided, with surprising simultaneity, to open offices in the East German Republic.

IN VIEW of the timing and other circumstances, it is very hard to believe that the decision by Reuter's and the Industries Federation was not officially approved, or even actively encouraged. One of the issues in dispute here at Geneva is of course the Soviet demand for some sort of de facto recognition of the Communist regime in East Germany. The British think that de facto recognition ought to be accorded. And the move by Reuter's and the Industries Federation looks unhappily like a unilateral first step in the direction desired by the Foreign Office and opposed by Britain's allies.

That is by no means all of the story either. The second installment is far more sensational though fortunately far more doubtful too. In brief, reports have reached Secretary of State Christian Herter and his French colleague, Maurice Couve de Murville, of Anglo-Soviet transactions that would set a wholly new pattern.

THE reports, apparently coming from Turkish and German sources, actually suggest that an important Anglo-Soviet economic and political deal has been made in the very midst of the Berlin crisis. It is alleged that the British government has tentatively agreed to extend a massive purchasing credit to the Soviet government, in order to increase Soviet trade with Britain. It is further alleged that the Soviets have undertaken to order the Arab Communist parties not to disturb British oil interests in the Middle East, in return for a British undertaking to see problems outside the Middle East with an eye more sympathetic to the Soviets.

On their face, these reports are incredible. They are not believed for a whole series of obvious reasons, by the American government.

Something new is added at Geneva, where the West proposes that the four - power talks that are under way there shall be held in secret.

Why?

Two reasons are offered:

1. The West's envoys are said to believe that acceptance of secrecy at the sessions would indicate that Moscow wants genuine negotiations for a settlement.

2. They think rejection of secrecy would be equivalent to admission that the Soviet government regards the Geneva meeting, mainly as a propaganda forum.

The suggestion to negotiate behind closed doors was offered yesterday by U.S. Secretary of State Herter. It was firmly endorsed by Britain and France.

So?

In a propaganda battle we're apt to lose.

BACK to the home front. In Washington, President Eisenhower says he wants not only a balanced budget from the congress but enough federal revenue to start REDUCING the staggering public debt.

Why does he have to FIGHT for an objective as laudable as that?

The answer is simple. A very large number of the members of the congress believe that huge public spending is popular and that a large majority of the voting public

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

Weather is always a safe topic.

It was an interesting one, too, last week, when the temperature soared to 96 degrees on Tuesday, and then Thursday morning it rained like anything.

It reminds of Mark Twain's remark about the New England climate, to the effect that if you don't like the weather, just wait a few minutes.

Oh, it's spring all right. A friend who lives in a small neighboring town reports that it must be, because in recent days he has observed youngsters who have cut a finger whittling a boat, been hit over the eye with a baseball bat, shot off a rocket, run barefoot, brought home a stray puppy, played hooky from Sunday school - and counted the days until school is out.

Spring brings many things. This year it brought to the valley a visit by 22 members of the Oregon State college farm crops club.

They had dinner at the Eagle Point Grange hall one night, and breakfast there the next morning. No tabulation of their consumption at dinner was recorded, but for breakfast, the good ladies of the Grange reported in some awe, they ate 20 pounds of country sausage, five dozen eggs, and 10 pounds of pancakes.

One local entrepreneur who runs his business from his home has solved his communications problem. He has two telephones - one for his business and one for his wife.

People-plain, ordinary people who have made the adjustments necessary for a successful marriage, can be forgiven if they look with just a little cynicism at the antics of some of the Hollywood crowd.

We have a reference, of course, to the recent marriage of a young singer and a young actress - good looking kids, both of them, and probably with decent enough motives who flaunted their lack of basic morality in the faces of the world last week.

Are they to blame?

With this funny, mixed-up world the way it is, the answer probably is both yes and no. They lacked the moral stamina, the loyalty, the common decency to make a go of previous marriages, and to preserve the amenities of life by waiting for a period before rushing off, amidst popping flash-bulbs, for a "honeymoon in Spain."

But, as mentioned, they are still young. And more important, they live in a world of false values, of big money which according to some standards is mostly unearned, of public adulation. It takes a pretty stable character not to let the entertainment world turn one's head, and form a distorted picture of what is fair and honest, and what is cheap and shabby and false.

We don't blame them, particularly. But we can feel darn sorry for them. They're letting sex and glamor and excitement fill a void which happier people fill with love and loyalty and perseverance and with all the little annoyances, triumphs, difficulties and the basic underlying understanding which go into a successful marriage.

The cynicism of some of us was rather well put by an editorial writer on the Eugene paper, who started out this way: "By the time this appears in the paper, Eddie Fisher and Liz Taylor will be married, and, if it appears soon enough, they will still be married."

Did you hear of the psychiatrist who received a postcard from a former patient saying, "Having a wonderful time. Why?"

It's easy to find the standard of living you can afford. It's the one you were on before you got your last two raises.

has no fear of snowballing public debt.

So?

Believing that?

They think the way to get votes is to spend more and go deeper in debt.

HOW about you?

Are you ALL FOR more spending and more debt?

Or are you getting a little scared?

IF YOU'RE getting a little scared, I suggest that you write your senators and your congressman and tell them so - and why. Tell them in your own words just how you feel.

If several million Americans were to do that-sincerely and genuinely - the turn toward fiscal sanity in the United States would come with surprising speed.

Editorial Comment

PROFIT VS. OBLIGATION

This week the Southern Pacific succeeded in convincing the interstate commerce commission that it could not afford to run its Shasta Daylight more than three times a week except during the summer months and the Christmas holidays.

One day after this announcement was forthcoming, D. J. Russell, president of the SP, told stockholders of the railroad that the system had a net income of \$2.01 per share for the first quarter of 1959 compared with \$1.33 per share for the same period of 1958.

In dollars and cents, the SP earned \$18,182,000 the first quarter this year and \$12,023,488 during the first quarter a year ago. By any measurement this is a handsome increase in profits, a tribute to the astuteness of Mr. Russell as a manager, but not much of a reflection upon the railroad's obligation to provide reasonable passenger service.—Ashland Tidings.

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