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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. Aug. 23, 1949 (Tuesday). Teamsters local 962 signs agreements with wholesale grocers, cheese distributors and beer distributors. Mercy Flights, Inc., plans to file incorporation papers this week.

20 YEARS AGO. Aug. 23, 1939 (Wednesday). Medford city council adopts complete and coordinated city traffic ordinance. From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column (by Don Upjohn): "We understand that the world famous Labish onion which beats a perfumed path to our back door, now has a feeble but well intentioned imitator in the valley of the Rogue."

30 YEARS AGO. Aug. 23, 1929 (Friday). The humane society is thanked for curbing stray dogs. Rogue River cannery will start canning pears next week.

40 YEARS AGO. Aug. 23, 1919 (Saturday). Prospect saved from being destroyed by forest fire. Ashland protests against establishing oil storage tanks in the city.

50 YEARS AGO. Aug. 23, 1909 (Monday). Edgar Hafer has interested the Packard motor car company in participating in a try to set a new auto record to Crater Lake. Mines being developed in the Gold Hill area are reported to be showing great promise.

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

- 1. In what sport is the term "dog-fall" used?
2. Was it Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge, or Warren G. Harding who was sworn into office as President by his father?
3. Name the sea mollusk whose muscle is the only part we eat.
4. Did Diogenes search with a lantern for a wife, thief, honest man, or a lost dog?
5. Why are some important messages sent to the Congress by the President called "state of the Union" messages?
6. From whom did the U. S. purchase the American Virgin Islands?
7. Cape Horn is at the southern point of what continent?
8. A flag flown upside down is widely recognized as what sort of signal?
9. How many acute angles are found in every triangle; two or three, two, three, or one?
10. A sailboat is to a tiller as an auto is to a windshield, engine, steering wheel or brake?
Answers: 1. Wrestling. 2. Calvin Coolidge. 3. Scallop. 4. Honest man. 5. The Constitution calls for such a message from time to time. 6. Denmark. 7. South America. 8. A distress signal. 9. Two or three. 10. Steering wheel.

Sears and "Downtown"

That was quite a remarkable welcome which the people of southern Oregon gave to the Sears Roebuck company when it opened its big new store here last Thursday. Despite the rain, thousands upon thousands of curious people turned up to look (and perhaps buy) at the shopping center. It was, in fact, a major event in the growth and progress of this community, and most people recognize this fact. It isn't every day that a major new industry opens up a multi-million dollar plant.

IT IS natural that many of the merchants in the "downtown" area are a bit worried. The Sears company, with its tremendous reserves of cash, its years of merchandising experience, its efficient methods, and its buying power, undoubtedly will make it difficult for some of the merchants. But we have enough faith in this area to believe that no one enterprise like this, no matter how big, is going to force anyone out of business — no one, at any rate, who is doing a good, progressive job of his own.

A COMPARABLE situation occurred in Salem a few years ago when Meier and Frank company opened a big branch there. Friends in the capital city tell us that it did, indeed, put a few "marginal" stores out of business. But the others, the better ones, although pinched a little for a few months, actually did better in the long run, for it forced them to improve their own operations. And, as the community continued to grow, they capitalized on this, and attracted their share of customers.

TOO, there is the fact that the Meier and Frank store in Salem attracted more customers from a larger radius around the city, people who before did their shopping either at home or in Portland. And the Salem merchants got "their share" of these new customers' dollars, too.

We foresee a similar situation in this area. The Sears establishment is going to draw customers from Cave Junction, Grants Pass, and very likely from as far away as Klamath Falls, Yreka and Happy Camp. If the "downtown" area is smart enough and progressive enough, they'll get "their share" too.

They have already taken many steps in the right direction — such things as the pretty little trees and flowers along Main street, the "shop and park" plan which we hope will catch on soon, and a dressing up of their own establishments and more aggressive merchandising. In our view, Medford is due for a future of growth and progress. And there's no reason all cannot share in it.—E.A.

Rain

The cool dampness of the rain which greeted valley residents when they got out of bed Thursday morning was mighty welcome.

It was welcome to gardeners and to many farmers with pasture crops. It was welcome to foresters as it dampened the dry woods.

And it was welcome to those many who just like the smell of wet earth and foliage, and the sound of rain splashing on the roof.

It was also welcome to those who think that autumn is about the nicest season of the year. For even though it's still August, the rain showed that fall can't be far away.—E.A.

Stop The Deer Slaughter

We're on the side of the Izaak Waltonians in their efforts to get something done to protect the deer in the Green Springs area.

The 17 1/2-mile Howard Prairie delivery canal has proven to be a hazard to the deer population there. Many of them have fallen or jumped into it, and many of them have drowned. The count of dead deer now stands at around 50.

Presumably the bureau of reclamation does not now have the funds to do whatever is necessary to protect the deer, in the forms of fences, bridges, steps, or other structures.

But the federal government has a real responsibility in this matter, and it is to be hoped that the funds for this can be found, even if it takes special action by the Congress.

THERE will be a half-year respite, for it is planned to empty the canal after this irrigation season, and leave it near empty until next April. But then it will become a death-trap again unless something is done.

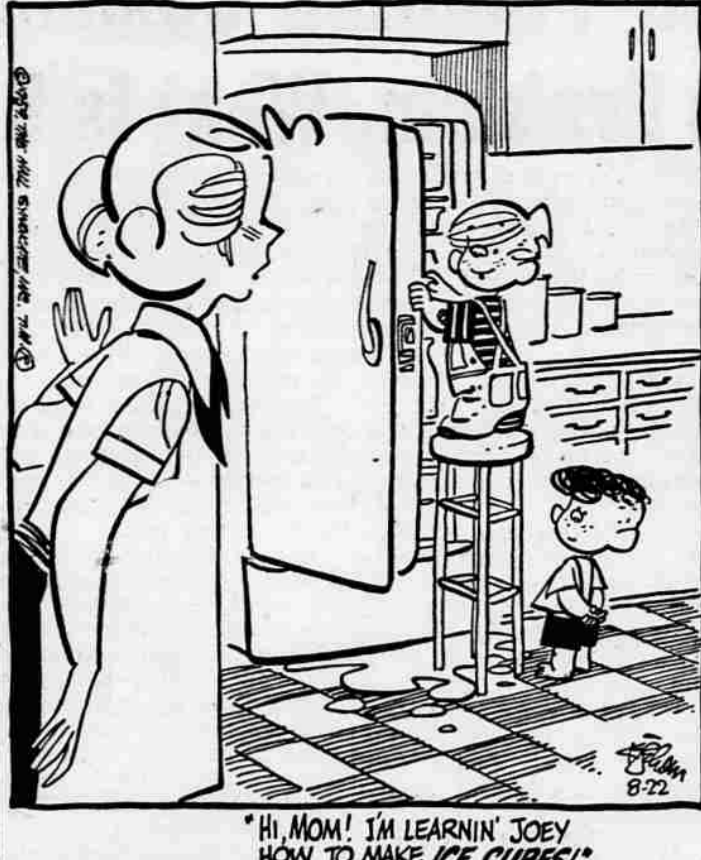
It seems only proper that the government should assume its responsibility, and not remain in the reprehensible position of being a deer-slaughterer on a mass scale.—E.A.

Anonymity

Anonymity is a wonderful thing. Gee, all you have to do is pick up a telephone. Then you call the fire or police departments and report a non-existent bomb. Or you call a sincere and well-meaning woman and threaten her with all sorts of fiendish actions.

Or, you can write a poison-pen note — unsigned, of course. Then you sit back and chuckle. That fixed 'em, didn't it? Makes you feel real big and brave and adventurous, doesn't it? The best part of all, of course, is that you don't have to say who you are, so no one will know what a slimy coward you are.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"Hi, Mom! I'm learnin' Joey how to make ice cubes!"

Matter of Fact

AS UGLY AS QUEMOY! Washington — "I hope it doesn't turn out to be as bad as it looks. But I think we've got to be prepared for a Laos crisis as ugly as the Qemoys crises." This authoritative governmental summary of the outlook ought to bring up with a sharp jerk the huge majority of people who have hardly noticed the events in remote little Laos. What is going on in Laos is crude, active Communist aggression. It not only seems likely to cause another spasm of the kind of acute international attack on Qemoys. It can also lead to even more unpleasant results.

The chief base of the aggression is the Communist state of North Vietnam, established in 1954 after the American government gave its blessing to the partition of Indochina. The secondary base is Communist China, which also has a long common frontier with Laos.

AS ALREADY reported in this space, pro-Communist Laotians have been invited across the North Vietnamese border; have been formed and trained there in military units; and have been infiltrated back into Laos. The first major infiltration into the Laotian provinces of Phong Saly and Samneua occurred some weeks ago. The infiltrating forces, numbering perhaps 2,000 men in all, were attacked by the small Laotian Army with some initial success. Some units have therefore retired again across the North Vietnam border, while others have fragmented into small guerrilla outfits.

If this were the whole story, the outlook might not be so ominous. But there is a high probability that only a relatively small percentage of the invasion force organized in North Vietnam was used for the first attack. The American analysts believe that an additional force of 5,000 men is ready for further border crossings. Most of these reserve battalions are in North Vietnam, but some are also thought to be in Communist China.

Additional infiltrations on anything like this scale, carried on in mountainous country devoid of communication, will present the gravest sort of problem for the Laotian Army. Yet the signs suggest that the Communist high command means to continue the attack on Laos.

DURING the past week an arrogant official statement in Hanoi was followed by a crudely threatening blast from Peking; and the Peking blast, in turn, led to a Moscow statement that supported the Chinese-Vietnamese position in more moderate language. In addition, the Vietnamese Communist boss, Ho Chi Minh, was the guest of Nikita S. Khrushchev in Moscow during the opening phase of the Laos invasion. The successive statements and Ho's Moscow visit are pretty plain indications that what has happened so far is not a mere isolated incident, but the opening phase of a pretty big show.

The nakedness of the new aggression also deserves to be noted. The infiltrating Communist units were not only organized and trained in North Vietnam. They are also using North Vietnam as a supply base at this moment, receiving ammunition and food by coolie transport over the mountain trails. And they are further stiffened by North Vietnamese cadres

and long experience of jungle fighting. The reaction of the American government to this new Communist aggression has been somewhat delayed by Secretary of State Christian A. Herter's absence in Chile. No decisions on the President-Secretary of State level have as yet been taken. But on the lower levels of the State Department, they are already pointing out that it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for President Eisenhower to receive Nikita Khrushchev as his guest while the attack on Laos continues.

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

WEEKS OF CRISIS Washington—These last, hot weeks of the 1959 session of the 86th Congress are weeks of decision for more than the great legislative issues now being debated. They are weeks of crisis also for two of the Democratic party's principal 1960 Presidential possibilities — Senators Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas and John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

Johnson and Kennedy are being put painfully over the barrel. They must confront and resolve questions peculiarly involving their own 1960 prospects, their party's prospects and, of course, the interests of the country itself.

The third and fourth members of the Senate's field of Presidential hopefuls, Senators Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota and Stuart Symington of Missouri, are in no way so severely affected. In a general sense what this Congress does or does not do will, of course, vaguely touch their fortunes. But neither is so utterly tied to that record. For neither is in personal command of a major issue. Neither, thus, can be so hurt, or maybe so helped — by congressional action or inaction as can the Texan and the man from Massachusetts.

HUMPHREY'S one possible chance to win the Presidential prize — and his own people admit it is a long chance — is not as a man of Congress. If his candidacy is to "go" at all, it will be because he has declared himself the champion of a non-Congressional and extremely liberal wing of his party.

This wing wants a Presidential nominee in the image of Franklin D. Roosevelt, a nominee standing not on a Congressional record, good or bad, but on the policies and, need, the memories of the New Deal.

The Humphrey backers are not the Congressional people. They are well typified by the identity of his campaign manager, James H. Rowe Jr., a Washington attorney who was White House assistant to FDR.

Symington's main chance — and this must be conceded even by his critics to be a very considerable chance — also will not really rest on what he does or doesn't do in the Senate. He is the indicated champion not of the Roosevelt New Deal but of the Truman Fair Deal. The "Truman

Debre is not the voice of Gen. de Gaulle, and that all the opinions of M. Debre are not also the real opinions of Gen. de Gaulle. This is a necessary assumption. Otherwise, it is hard to see how our two governments are to understand each other on the most difficult subject of the coming talks, which is the rebellion in Algeria.

If M. Debre's speech means what his word says, he is demanding a free hand in Algeria based on the unqualified support of France's allies. "It is for a renovated France to make her allies understand that she has the right to demand from all their most complete support..." This is going pretty far. We are to sign a blank check which would then be filled in at will by M. Debre's government.

THIS is quite impossible, and all true friends of France and of the ancient alliance between France and America are in duty bound to tell M. Debre what are some of the realities of the problem. The crucial one is that this country cannot and will not give its "most complete support" to a war which is conducted without consultation with us by M. Debre's government in its uneasy and clandestine relationships with the extremists in Algiers.

For this war is capable of spreading to Tunisia and Morocco and of bringing about an irreparable break between the West and the predominantly friendly Moslems of North Africa. We are bound to keep our independent position and to avoid being entangled in a political policy and in a military strategy which seems to be dictated by pressures upon the government in Paris.

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

There's NEWS as this is written. Big news—it's RAINING Glory be!

WHY IS THAT big news? John B. Bogart, who was city editor of the New York Sun from 1973 to 1980, explained it this way: "When a dog bites a man, that is not news, because it happens so often. But if a man bites a dog, that IS news."

Around these parts, rain hasn't been happening very often. Practically since the time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary thereof, the precipitation total for the stream year, which began last October 1, has stood at about 5.8 inches. That's hardly enough to see.

CONTINUING in the lyric vein— Back in May of the year 1901, Harper's Magazine printed a liltin' little poem entitled April Rain. It was written by Robert Loveman, and it started off like this: "It is not raining rain to me, 'Tis raining daffodils; 'In every dampled drop I see 'Wild flowers on the hills."

HERE in the high desert, we can share Post Loveman's vision of wild flowers on the hills. But, now that it is raining at last, we can see more than that. We can see (in our mind's eye) lush fall pastures, with cattle wading around in grass maybe up to their knees.

We can see F L L E D U P WATER RESERVOIRS. Over here in the high desert, water is GOLD. No placer miner ever valued the nuggets in the rifles any more highly than we value the liquid nuggets that fall from the sky when the elements are in a kindly mood.

YESTERDAY the week was less bright. If we sang at all, after seeing our monthly water bill, we were inclined to chant the ribald song that goes: "Oh, 'tain't gonna rain no mo', no mo', 'Oh, 'tain't gonna rain no mo', 'And how in the heck 'Can I wash my neck 'If 'tain't gonna rain no mo'?"

WELL— Today we can wash our necks. every similar rebellion for the past half-century, will end only when the French government does what the British government has learned to do, to recognize the genuineness of the demand of the rebels for a new status. We do not believe that France can pacify and retain Algeria by a policy of military paternalism.

For these reasons, the degree of our support of France in Algeria is bound to depend on whether France adopts a policy which, as we see it, promises to work. Until there is such a policy which we can believe in, the most we can do, and the most that France should expect of us, is an attitude of benevolent neutrality and of discreet abstention.

ALGERIA, though it is the thorniest question, is by no means the only one which troubles Franco-American relations. One of the others is the French view that we ought to share our nuclear secrets with France as we do with Great Britain, and thus spare the money and the trouble of developing her own nuclear weapons.

The President may find that here he has some small room for negotiating a kind of token concession. But we would deceive ourselves if we thought that Congress, which has the last word, is going to change the law in order to promote France to the rank of a nuclear power. In this respect Congress will have the overwhelming support of American public opinion, which thinks that three nuclear powers are more than enough, and to go on from there to include France, West Germany, and China, would be very much worse.

The best prospect, it seems to me, is on the third point which troubles Gen. de Gaulle. This is the fact that we do not consult him before taking actions like those around the offshore islands of China and the landing in Lebanon. It might be a good thing, in my view, if we offered France and Great Britain a pledge always to consult them, unless we are the victims of a surprise attack, before taking actions which could lead to war anywhere in the world.

This would be a recognition of the fact that France and Great Britain are world powers in the sense that there can be no war anywhere in which they are not involved. Because of this fact they have a special right to be consulted and to participate in the great decisions not only within NATO but all over the globe.

TRUMAN AND BENNY Hollywood — (UPI) — A widely-known amateur musician, former President Harry Truman, will team up with another amateur musician of note, Comedian Jack Benny, Oct. 18 on television. Truman will be a guest on Benny's show on the Columbia Broadcasting System TV network.

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippman

BEFORE PARIS The President has been put on notice by Gen. de Gaulle's Prime Minister, M. Debre, that his visit to Paris is not going to be a holiday.

Debre made a speech last Sunday which, to speak mildly, is disturbing. It is disturbing, for what it claims is that the Prime Minister of France on the eve of a visit by the President of the United States to make a speech in which he says, aloud to the Eisenhower-Khrushchev visits, that "to avoid being crushed by agreements between very great powers, a nation like France must be in a position to make itself heard and understood."

We may perhaps pass by the words "crushed" which taken at face value would mean a Soviet-American conspiracy at the expense of France. Possibly the word is a mistranslation, probably it is a tactless rhetorical exaggeration. But it is very disconcerting to learn that the Prime Minister's distrust of our loyalty and of our friendship for France is so profound and so pervasive, indeed so pathological, that his mind dwells on the crazy idea of a Soviet-American pact at the expense of France.

It was evident from their attitude on their first day in town that they came here to play ball and to win. They did just that. It wasn't easy as they had tough opponents and hard, close games in all three of their wins. They played to win but at the same time displayed excellent sportsmanship and courtesy both on and off the field. Game umpires rated each team in each game and their score for the tournament was 148 out of a possible 150 points. Their hustle in playing was the talk of local and visiting tournament observers. We are very proud to have been host to such a fine group of young men.

The coaches, Don Miller and Keith Johnson, have set a fine example for the boys. In addition to the team's "good" attitude they were well coached in fundamentals and theory of the game. Your community can be well proud of the new state champions. Dean Brown, President, Eugene Boys Athletic Association, Eugene, Ore.

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name of initial publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarification and concision. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

More Monkey Business To the Editor: The Acklin got us cacklin'. Ev'rythin' stirred the poet's wit. With one humorous tid-bit— When he made his English janky 'Witing' 'bout dat kwazy monkey.

So, in spite of all the hecklin', Compliments to Ev'rett Acklin! Gold Hill Billy Gold Hill, Ore.

Cubs Praised To the Editor: A group of boys from your community were recent guests in our city over the past week end and during their stay here captured the Oregon Junior Baseball association. I would like to make a few observations concerning this team, the Crater Cubs from Central Point.

It was evident from their attitude on their first day in town that they came here to play ball and to win. They did just that. It wasn't easy as they had tough opponents and hard, close games in all three of their wins. They played to win but at the same time displayed excellent sportsmanship and courtesy both on and off the field. Game umpires rated each team in each game and their score for the tournament was 148 out of a possible 150 points. Their hustle in playing was the talk of local and visiting tournament observers. We are very proud to have been host to such a fine group of young men.

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