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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
Sept. 13, 1949 (Tuesday)
Smoke jumpers are used in the Rogue River National forest for the first time this year in combating a fire on Whiskey ridge in the Applegate district.

20 YEARS AGO
Sept. 13, 1939 (Wednesday)
Medford police remind motorists of the municipal ban on parking cars on paved streets for more than 30 minutes between 1 and 9 a.m. when sweepers are in operation.

30 YEARS AGO
Sept. 13, 1929 (Friday)
Mayor Pipes has been asked to rescind the city's new ban on double parking and the 30-minute parking limit in the downtown business district.

40 YEARS AGO
Sept. 13, 1919 (Saturday)
The farm bureau barbecue and picnic in the city park draws hundreds of hungry country people.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 13, 1909 (Monday)
Porter Brothers, contractor for the P and E railroad extension submits the work to H. N. Randall.

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

1. The city of Washington is, or is not, coextensive with the District of Columbia?
2. Dried coconut meat, from which coconut oil is expressed, is known as what?

3. What is an unusually large or fine crop called?
4. What Asiatic country once held a mandate over the Marshall, Caroline and Mariana groups of Pacific islands?

5. Does the State of Hawaii have one, or two, members in the U. S. House of Representatives?
6. In which city is the Bastille?

7. In what war did the battle of San Juan Hill occur?
8. Who wrote under the pen name "Uncle Remus"?
9. In what scientific field is the name of Lee DeForest prominent?

10. What body gets between the moon and the sun to cause a lunar eclipse?
Answers: 1. It is. 2. Copra. 3. Bumper crop. 4. Japan. 5. One. 6. Paris, France. 7. Spanish-American War. 8. Joel Chandler Harris. 9. Wireless telephony. 10. The earth.

Parole -- Good or Bad?

The Oregon state board of parole and probation is in a touchy spot. The hundreds, and over the years, thousands, of men who have made good on parole, go largely unnoticed. But once let a parolee get into trouble after leaving the penitentiary, and then there's hell to pay. The board is assailed as a bunch of soft-headed theorists who deliberately turn dangerous men loose in society.

These criticisms, while understandable in view of the lack of public information about how the parole system works, are still unfounded.

CONSIDER these facts: A man under parole is a far smaller expense to the state than is one in prison. The former requires a certain minimum of supervision; the latter requires feeding, housing, clothing and medical attention — not to mention education and attempts at rehabilitation.

The record of parolees is excellent, with by far the largest portion of them returning to useful lives in the community. The one who "goes bad" and is returned to prison, is the exception.

THE man who is under parole supervision is less dangerous to society than is the man who "serves his time," and is released with no strings attached.

The former is counseled, guided, helped to find useful work, and is required to observe certain rules of behavior. The latter is turned loose with a few bucks in his pocket, the stigma of an "ex-con" upon him, poor prospects for a job, and little reason not to return immediately to a life of crime.

The parolee is a man who has been studied while in prison, and who a board of intelligent, responsible men is willing to send back into society as a "calculated risk."

The "time-server" has no such bona fides. Chances are that he is either a short term prisoner with no chance for parole, or a man who has been denied parole as a "bad risk."

OREGON'S parole system is soundly based on that provision of the state constitution which says:

"Laws for the punishment of crime shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice."

A man in prison is of no use whatever to society. He creates nothing; he pays no taxes; he buys no goods at the corner store. He is, instead, a tax-eater, an unwilling parasite on society.

This is not to say that prisons should be abolished — far from it. They are necessary evils, and will remain so as long as society is as imperfect as it gives every promise of remaining.

BUT it is to the self-interest of each member of society to understand that punishment of criminals by imprisonment, as punishment and nothing else, is a wasteful and unproductive endeavor.

Historically, imprisonment has had three objectives: (1) punishment ("an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth"); (2) protection of society from a malefactor who may err again, and (3) reformation of the malefactor so he can again become a productive and useful member of society (rehabilitation).

The first one once was virtually the sole reason for imprisonment. The second arose when society stopped mutilating or executing criminals for all types of offenses. The third is a relatively recent concept, and is based both on the fact that an imprisoned man is an utter waste to himself and society, and on the ideal of the worth and dignity of individual human beings.

SHOULD Hugh D'Autremont have been paroled?

Should Ray D'Autremont be set free? Should Jake Pinson, cop-killer, prison escapee and riot-leader, be paroled, now that he has made an excellent prison record for the past eight years?

The answer, in our view, is "yes" to each of these — provided the men have ceased to become a potential threat to society, and the parole board is convinced each will make good.

Many sincere people will disagree. They will feel that these men, who committed awful crimes, have not yet "paid their debt to society." Other equally sincere people feel that each of these notorious three should have been executed.

BUT at what profit? Hugh D'Autremont died shortly after his parole.

Pinson and Ray D'Autremont are still imprisoned, and are being supported by tax money. If they are ready for parole (and in this we must trust the judgment of the parole board), why not let them go, and become producing, tax-paying members of free society again?

If they are paroled, they will bear a heavy burden of responsibility, not only to themselves, but to the parole system itself, without which they would have died in prison; without which the Oregon state penitentiary would have to double its size, and without which we would lack the assurance that many former prisoners are under supervision and trying, with help, to make good. — E.A.

Let not us, who dropped the first atomic bomb, shudder too much about the sins of Khrushchev who, although persistent, has been a retail killer. — Sherman County Journal.

Dennis the Menace



LET'S BUY ONE WITHOUT SEAT BELTS! I LIKE TO BE LOOSE!

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

miraculous for Laos to train a fully efficient modern army in about 14 months. The Lao army has no more than 25 battalions, which were already fully occupied in July with the remaining internal Communist underground. In July, the Communist high command unquestionably expected that five battalions of border-crossers would be enough to tilt the balance and thus spell the end of Laos.

Despite the odds on success, the first Communist operation quite largely failed. The northern provinces of Phong Saly and Samneua did not rapidly give in. The carefully coordinated guerrilla attack in the rest of the country did not attain its aims. Hence on Aug. 30, as first reported by this correspondent, the Communists launched another invasion that was really massive by Lao standards.

TWO additional Communist battalions drove into Phong Saly, where the original invaders had been all but routed. At least seven battalions drove into Samneua, where the government forces were just going over to the offensive. The new invaders from North Vietnam, moreover, were not just Lao Communist refugees. The Lao refugees were a small element, compared to guerrilla trained tribespeople of North Vietnamese origin. In all the new invading battalions, at least at the outset, the stiffening was also supplied by regulars of the North Vietnamese Communist army.

The parallel with the imagined Czechoslovak case is exact, except that Laos was immeasurably more vulnerable and the Communist aggression was immeasurably more naked than the supposed aggression organized by Allen Dulles.

But instead of running around in circles, self-righteously barking, Dag Hammarskjold is wearing that judicial, doubting air which he reserves for Communist aggressions. More important, instead of ordering mobilization, as the Kremlin would be doing if Czechoslovakia had suffered this sort of incursion, the White House is ironing its best linen and polishing its new-bought vodka glasses in preparation for a jolly week end visit from Nikita S. Khrushchev.

THE basic problem for the U. N., and for us as a member of the U. N., is how Laos can be unified, and how it can then maintain its national independence. The civil war poses the primary problem, and unless the civil war can be ended, there is no form of intervention which is not

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

DELICATE TASK Washington—At first glance the United States Government seems not to have taken out much insurance against the possibility of an outright propaganda triumph for Nikita Khrushchev in his forthcoming swing through this country.

Officially, Lodge is designated simply to accompany Khrushchev on his tour, to extend this country's formal greetings, and so on. Unofficially, his assignment is far more significant. He will be found ready to reply to Khrushchev from the same rostrum whenever and wherever the Soviet boss tries to use a public occasion for extreme Soviet propaganda.

VICE-PRESIDENT NIXON himself would have been the logical man for this job, considering his recent experiences with Khrushchev in the Soviet Union. It was for reasons of protocol that Mr. Nixon did not take on the task. He has made it a policy not to accompany any foreign visitor, not even the Queen of England, in any visit to this country outside official Washington. This he has done to avoid setting an example that would commit the office of Vice-Presidency to such tourism for all comers who might be heads of state. Thus, Mr. Nixon recommended Mr. Lodge.

And Lodge, though no Nixon in the kind of infighting in which the redoubtable Khrushchev is very good, indeed, is also no amateur. From the viewpoint of the top leaders of this government, the Khrushchev visit poses two quite separate problems. One is the public problem, that is, the Soviet Premier's travels and meetings with the American public. On this, our leaders wish Mr. Khrushchev to see what scenes and people he wants to see. They wish him to have freedom to argue his case — but not freedom to distort history beyond recognition as over and over he tried to do with Nixon in Moscow.

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

In dealing with the Laotian affair, the first action of the Security Council has been responsible, skillful and addressed to the right objective. This is to find out what is really going on in Laos generally, and in the border regions touching Communist Vietnam in particular.

What the U. N. has to aim at is a political solution of the Laotian civil war. In seeking such a solution it should make use of all available diplomatic channels, the good offices of the Soviet Union, the good offices of India, the Sub-Committee of the Security Council, and, it may be, of the International Commission which was set up at Geneva in 1954.

WHILE there does not exist as yet any trustworthy account of the situation and how it has developed, we know enough already to see that there is a fairly long history which goes back of the new Eisenhower-Khrushchev exchanges. The trouble in Laos was not stirred up by Mr. K., as some weird prophets have suggested, in order to show his scorn of the President. Nor was the trouble stirred up by Red China to spoil the exchange of visits. For the trouble began long before the visits were even considered.

THE kingdom of Laos, which became independent after the liquidation of the French imperial power in 1954, is far from being a unified national state. It is an artificial construction in which one part of the country, where the fighting is now taking place, had a separate army of its own and was avowedly Communist in sympathy. The original arrangement was for a synthetic unity of the two armies and the two ideological parties. It was a hybrid state which was to be lightly armed and neutral in policy, which was to exist outside the cold war for the forbearance of the two coalitions.

During the past year this synthetic arrangement, which never looked as if it would be workable, has broken down. The Laotian government, with our moral and material support, has taken increasingly strong action against the Communist army and the Communist party, and they in their turn have undoubtedly been seeking and obtaining material and moral support from Communist Vietnam.

Be that as it may, what the Security Council has done was the wise thing to do. It is the most and it is the least that can be done until the fog in which the whole affair is shrouded has been cleared away.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

School starts tomorrow. When we were a grade school pupil, the year always "started" when school opened, and January 1st was nothing but a holiday a week after Christmas.

Our mental calendar was a circle, with Christmas at the top, a long open gap at the bottom representing a school vacation, and a big mark at the start of the circle going up — school.

And, despite the fact that we now operate under a conventional calendar, that old school - days mental picture sticks with us. Tomorrow, though it is in the middle of the ninth month, is still the beginning of the broken circle, sweeping up toward Christmas, down into spring, and vanishing again as vacation-time arrives.

We have no idea where that mental calendar came from. It operated counter-clockwise, incidentally, for no good reason.

Remember the election to decide whether or not Phoenix and Talent school districts should consolidate which was held last spring?

Communications

Desert Minerals To the Editor: According to all available information, indications are that any major mineral discoveries in the future will be concentrated in the area of central Oregon.

"It was raining in Eugene, of course, when I arrived. I suspect it has done so continually since I left there last June. The flight from Eugene to San Francisco made three stops — to wind the rubber band, I think — and the longest was in Medford. We waited so long I almost came back to work for a day.

"The flight to Klamath Falls was sort of rough, and the people got sick. You might pose the question of how the stewardesses can weave down the aisle with a SMILE on their faces while they carry those horrid paper bags. "I found out the pilot used to be a yo-yo champion; after we went up and down in Sacramento, we finally arrived in San Francisco, where I lost my baggage and took a different plane than the one I was scheduled to. Of course, in California they're more organized, and we non-stopped it right down the coast. I think that points up the difference between the two states. Here (California) they're more efficient, but somehow the personality is gone.

"I finally arrived in Los Angeles. At least, I THINK I did; the smog hasn't lifted enough for me to tell for sure. But the lady who fed me last night looked familiar, and I wouldn't be at all surprised if it was my mother. "Anyway, I was p.o.p.e.d. Who said it was relaxing to fly!"

Unhappily, another letter which recounted the misadventures of a young girl "making her first flight alone got swept into the waste-paper basket the other day, or we'd pass that one along, too. It was to the effect that the youngster was scared stiff, and that no one seemed interested in giving her much of a helping hand. That's unusual or airlines. Most of the time the people are as nice and helpful as can be. She made the flight, incidentally, only because the friendly SP doesn't want the patronage of unaccompanied children any more — a fact which was discussed on this page a day or two ago. What are kids supposed to do — walk?"

From the Sa'em Capital Journal: You know how seeing Niagara Falls is supposed to remind you that you forgot to turn the bathtub off before leaving on vacation, or seeing the monkey cage at the zoo makes you wonder what the neighbors' kids are doing at the moment? Things like that. Well, West Salem firemen were called out on a grass fire just before noon (I think) and Fireman Jack Johnson was working his way down a slope toward the blaze when suddenly he yelled, "Oh my gosh! My beans!"

Fortunately a friend and neighbor was watching nearby and she volunteered to go to the station and turn down the heat under the noon meal at the fire station while Fireman Johnson took care of the problem at hand.

Like the time the family we know best started on a long-awaited camping trip, drove to the city limits, asked themselves, as families will, "Have we forgotten anything?" and came to the sudden realization that they had — the sleeping bags.

Truckers' Contribution To the Editor: My purpose in writing to you is to tell you of a series of contributions to the success of the Oregon Centennial celebration. I am referring to the very substantial assistance given to the Centennial by the Oregon trucking industry through its trade association, the Oregon Trucking Associations, Inc.

No single promotion project of the Centennial attracted as much nationwide attention and did as much to stimulate interest in the Centennial, in my opinion, as the "on to Oregon" wagon train. And a most essential factor in this wagon train was the presence of a truck and trailer, a "rolling barn," to follow the wagon train from Independence, Missouri to Independence, Oregon, carrying feed, supplies, spare parts, equipment and much other paraphernalia necessary to keep the wheels rolling.

The truck and trailer, and all expenses were contributed by the OTA. In addition the industry hauled all of the wagons from Oregon back to Missouri, then hauled them from Independence, Oregon, to Portland for exhibition at the Centennial, again at no cost. Another major contribution by OTA was the furnishing of a truck and trailer and all expenses for the Van of History, the pre-Centennial promotion project which toured the state carrying historical treasures to virtually every community in Oregon.

The total contribution of all of these projects represented an amount close to \$100,000. The trucking industry has performed a notable public service for the citizens of Oregon. Anthony Brandenthaler, Chairman, Oregon Centennial Commission.