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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
Removal of U. S. deputy marshal from Medford to Klamath Falls is under consideration by department of justice.
Copco's Toketee falls power generator, dedicated last Thursday, is first of eight units to be constructed.
20 YEARS AGO
Crew of German battleship, Graf Spee, scuttled ship outside of Montevideo harbor.
From Arthur Perry's "The Smudge Pot" column: "This week end it seems, would be a good time to launch the 1940 'Christmas shop early' campaign."
30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 18, 1929 (Wednesday)
Federal building at Ashland among those planned in state.
Valley orchardists to spend \$30,000 during coming year for planting pear trees and installing spray systems.
40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 18, 1919 (Friday)
Drill for Trigonia oil well to be in city in few days.
Price of food up 10 per cent in Oregon over last six months.
50 YEARS AGO
Dec. 18, 1909 (Saturday)
Plans are under way for \$125,000 Catholic hospital in Medford.
Ashland grocers in dispute with creameries over poor quality butter.
What's Your I.Q.?
Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.
1. Is the outside of a sphere concave or convex?
2. Alligators are hatched from eggs; true or false?
3. Is a chamois a bird, a fish, or an animal?
4. Who or what are the Hopis?
5. In music, what sort of instrument is a tympan?
6. Name the author of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."
7. Since 1878, has the population of the United States been less in any one year than the year previous?
8. Are Greece and Turkey members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization?
9. What is the "distaff" side of a family?
10. Is the principal grain crop in Kansas rye, wheat, oats, or corn?
Answers: 1. Convex. 2. True. 3. Animal. 4. U. S. Indian tribe of S.W. S. A. drum. 5. Robert Louis Stevenson. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. Female branch. 10. Wheat.
North Bend Man Hurt in Collision
Biloxi, Miss.—UPI—James D. Bell, 20, North Bend, Ore., was "recovering satisfactorily" in Keesler Air Force base hospital today from injuries suffered in an automobile accident.
Bell was a passenger in a car which collided with another Dec. 6 four miles east of Gulfport, Miss. No one was killed in the accident.
Bell is stationed with the 3380th supply squadron at Keesler.

The American Paradox

"What a mixed up society!" laments the Oregon Statesman of Salem.
It is, too. Here's what the Statesman has in mind:
"We provide youngsters with lessons in crime on television. Then we restrict the teaching of moral ethics in schools if they are tied to a religion. We provide countless activities for children to drag them out of their homes, and then ask parents to spend more time with them.
"We rant about their irresponsibility, but then we grant them full use, at age 16, of one of our most lethal weapons, the automobile.
"To paraphrase a recent quip, anyone who thinks he has an answer to the situation just doesn't understand the problem."

If we think the younger generation is confused, how can we blame them, when the older generation every day confesses to even greater confusion?

We preach freedom and liberty in the midst of a society which demands conformity in thinking and action, and which reserves its severest strictures for those who hold their consciences inviolate.

We prate of freedom of religion, and then abuse those who take religious freedom seriously enough to make an issue of it.

We boast we are a charitable, "Christian" and progressive nation, and then complain about the taxes and charities which are the necessary means to put charity and progress into effect.

We brag of the Declaration of Independence, which says "All men are created equal," then deny some 14 million citizens equality because of their color.

WE DEMAND "better education" for our children, then vote down school budgets and bond issues.

We hold human life sacred, then slaughter thousands on the highways.

We build a tradition of love and good feeling at Christmas time, and then turn it into a Roman carnival of spending, drinking and commercialization.

We deplore the condition of the people in undeveloped nations, then protest our foreign aid program.

We boast of our science and technology, then when Russia surpasses us in one field we turn on our underpaid scientists and technicians and teachers and viciously demand why.

AMERICANS, in short, are inconsistent, and we all live in the midst of constant and eternal paradox.

We are a nation which pays a teenage cater-wauler more than the President of the United States.

We spend more on liquor and cigarettes than on education.

We spend more for cosmetics than we do for research into the cause and cure of diseases.

We pile up billions of dollars in food surpluses while half the world's population goes hungry.

It is any wonder that youngsters today are confused? Or that foreign nations view us with wonder and dismay?—E.A.

A Brush With Death

Often it happens that just when we get the gloomiest about things, something happens to restore our faith in humanity in general and people in particular.

Just after the pessimistic piece immediately above was written, we received a telephone call from an old friend of ours who recently escaped, injured but intact, from a narrow brush with death.

Here he was, in the hospital, in considerable discomfort if not actual pain, and he took the trouble to telephone to repeat a complimentary reference he had heard.

WE WERE pleased and touched. To cover our embarrassment we asked about the accident in which he escaped death by the narrowest of margins.

He described it in some detail, then added a comment to this effect:
"You know, they say that when you're drowning, your whole life flashes through your mind. This didn't exactly happen to me, but it's amazing how many things you can think of in a few seconds.
"Anyway, since I didn't cash in this time, I've got to thinking that until I do cash in, I'm going to devote whatever skill and energy I have to doing the things I believe should be done in this world.
"It is amazing how coming close to dying can change your attitude toward life."

THOSE weren't his exact words, but they convey the idea he was expressing.

In a world so full of woe, and unfilled needs, and unsavory contradictions, men of good will who give their time and energy and skill to the things they believe are right and just and good are badly needed.

There are many who do feel an obligation to their fellows.

And because this is true, one does not altogether despair for the nation and the world, but, rather, one hopes for an increase in this band of men who hold that service to their fellow man is the highest calling of all.—E.A.

Department of Correction and Amplification: The Crater Lions club (Bless 'em) has already agreed to provide a wading pool at the new West Side city park—a project suggested here yesterday as an appropriate "living" memorial for the Veterans Allied Council. The principle is unchanged however; a usable memorial is more worthwhile than a tomb or monument.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"YOU STILL NEED A SHAVE!"

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
THE "COMMENDATORE"
Paris—The giant, mysterious, and glacial figure of Charles de Gaulle towers over the Allied scene here, rather in the awe-inspiring manner of the statue of the Commendatore in Mozart's "Don Giovanni."

A JOSEPH ALSOP good many end fear that de Gaulle will end by dragging the Western alliance down into ruin, as the statue of the commender, come to life, ended by dragging Don Juan down into hell.

The factor is excessive, yet it begins to be urgent to penetrate the mystery and to see the motives of the man himself. The best clue perhaps lies in de Gaulle's habit of speaking of himself sometimes in the first person and sometimes in the third.

In his superb memoirs of the last war, this peculiarity is carried so far that a single sentence describes a crowd "cheering Charles de Gaulle" and "taking my hand."

A friend once asked him to explain this strange grammatical construction. He replied "simply that the people in the crowd were not cheering de Gaulle the individual. They were cheering the image of Charles de Gaulle which had come to stand for France's hope and France's freedom. Hence the third person in this passage. But the hand they shook belonged to Charles de Gaulle, the individual, all too human man. Hence the first person in this passage."

IT HAD BEEN a great and humbling shock, de Gaulle continued, when, a simple, Brigadier General, first discovered the power of the image of himself that the war was creating. Since then, Charles de Gaulle-the-image had always been a heavy burden for Charles Marie Andre Joseph de Gaulle-the-individual. But the burden had to be borne honorably nonetheless.

There is no exact parallel for the curious mixture of personal modesty and deep, unshakable sense of mission which the foregoing story reveals. It also reveals the reason for the extreme touchiness which American leaders have complained about from Franklin Roosevelt to Dwight D. Eisenhower. De Gaulle is quick to resent any slight treatment, not as an individual, but because any supposed affront to Charles de Gaulle-the-image constitutes an indirect affront to France herself.

There is another trait that increases the seeming mystery, too. Rank for rank's sake is not important to most Americans, but it is deeply important to de Gaulle. Perhaps that is because he was formed in the intensely hierarchical French army.

At any rate, since de Gaulle is so rank-conscious, any failure to accord France her traditional rank as a great power drives him into a rage that may seem irrational to us but is entirely rational to him. No doubt there is something of this in de Gaulle's habit of referring to the NATO commander, Gen. Lauris Norstad, as "the General american qui me gene."

Norstad does not trouble de Gaulle as an individual. But de Gaulle is certainly troubled by the implication of national rank in the choice of an American to command all NATO's forces.

If this seems petty, and not without reason, there is still another element in the de Gaulle mystery which has a certain grandeur. His sense and view of history are grand

in the most literal sense of the word. He thinks about the historic process, not in petty current terms, nor even in terms of mere decades, but always in terms of centuries and millennia. Nations, he plainly considers, are the great actors in this process. Equally plainly, he believes that nations endure while political systems wither and disappear.

THUS there are many signs that de Gaulle regards the Communist system as a mere episode in the history of the great Russian nation. Intermittently, indeed, he almost seems to regard the United States as a gigantic accident in the history of the British nation. Instead of the "British and Americans," he almost invariably speaks of "the Anglo-Saxon powers."

Thus it would be very unwise to laugh off such things as the now-famous passage in the memoirs, in which de Gaulle speaks of a Franco-Russian understanding as potentially useful, not merely as a safeguard against German aggression, but also to counter "the Anglo-Saxon attempts at hegemony."

De Gaulle does not look at the modern world through the same eyes as the other Western leaders. If driven too far, he is also capable of actions that would downright horrify, not merely the other Western leaders but also most of his own people.

These facts about de Gaulle have to be faced, because they are facts. At the same time, de Gaulle's judgments have been right too often. The man himself is too big, too courageous, too superb in his general style. As the long awaited political rebirth of France, he is, very simply, too important. For all these reasons; petty irritation, patronage, mockery, and self pity under harassment, are all equally out of place in Allied dealings with de Gaulle.

Troubled these dealings surely will be, until a more vigorous American government can initiate a profound re-examination of the strategic basis of the Western alliance. But if and when this sadly overdue re-examination is finally made, one may hope de Gaulle will be, not one of its great strengths.

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Wall Street Chatter

New York—UPI—The year 1959 is closing with professional Wall Street more optimistic than it has been for months. Business Reports Inc. points out in its latest market letter.

The optimism stems, technically, from the strong manner in which the market has weathered the severest steel strike in history, and economically, from expectations of a good automobile year in 1960, heavy steel output to make up for shortages, and continued record spending by consumers, the letter notes.

The firm admits, however, to viewing the future with a feeling of nervousness. "We have found from long experience that the time to be careful is just when . . . the outlook is crystal clear."

Meanwhile, Bache & Co. believes there still appears to be more of a disposition to liquidate stock during periods of weakness than to make commitments when the averages rise. "Until this situation is reversed we expect the pattern of irregularity to continue."

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.

A Word of Explanation

To the Editor: Because of some inquiries as to how and by whom the judging of the talent was done at the DAV Talent Show, I am presenting this short letter to inform all concerned that the judges were imported from across the Green Springs Mountains and were neither of them personally acquainted with any of the contestants in the show.

The judges were Mrs. Mary DeLap, junior past department commander of the DAV auxiliary, and current national executive committeewoman, Lloyd DeLap, commander, 5th district, DAV, and Daniel Johnson, commander of Dewey Powell chapter No. 12, DAV.

Jackson county chapter No. 8, DAV, herein wishes to thank all those who assisted in making this one our very best annual amateur talent tournament. To all contestants, judges, and our department commander of DAV-AUX, Mrs. Hazel Rawls, who was present and assisting, a Merry Christmas.

Pat Graham
Chairman
DAV Talent Show
Medford

Saves Trouble and Work

To the Editor: In view of the approaching Christmas season and the decorating of homes, businesses and city streets with trees and portions of trees, I wonder how most of the people who are doing so can justify their action in the light of the Bible.

In the Book of Jeremiah, chapter 10, verses 2, 3, 4 and 5, say:
"Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed of them, because the customs of the people are vain; for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

"They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammer: that it move not.
"They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not; they cannot go. Be not afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good."

We use no Christmas tree at our house, considering it as a foolish gesture. Besides, it saves a lot of trouble and work.

I have, as yet, found no evidence in the Bible, at any place, which gives us a cause to use such decorations. Nor have I found any authorization to consider "Christmas" as the Birthday of Christ. Those who have pursued the matter have found overwhelming evidence that Jesus Christ was born in summer.

Evidently we are not supposed to celebrate the coming of Christ. True, I have not studied the matter, much, myself, but I do feel it is a "heathen" practice.

Floyd R. McCabe
Mt. St. Start.
Butte Falls, Ore.

Program a Success

To the Editor: The members of the Travel Study club of the Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs would like to thank the Medford Mail Tribune for the space given them for their "CARE" program for Greece.

The project was very successful and gratifying due to the splendid cooperation given by the press and the people of Medford.

Mrs. Clay M. Lee
President of Travel Study club,
Medford, Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs.

Bird Count

To the Editor: I want to thank the readers of my Bird-watcher column who responded so well to my request for information about locating owls or other birds for our Christmas count on Dec. 29. We have heard now of several places where barn owls may be found, and have some leads toward a great horned owl, too. We also got information about the whereabouts of a pileated woodpecker and some smaller birds.

One good turn deserves another. Has anybody spotted a place where robins, starlings or tri-colored blackbirds are roosting in considerable numbers?
Thanks again,
Thomas McCamant
300 Oakwood dr.
Medford

Singers Scheduled

To the Editor: On Monday, Dec. 21, at 5:30 p.m., a television program will be presented on KBES-TV which I feel should have special mention and which will add a great deal to the enjoyment of the holiday season for all those who view it.
The Madrigal Singers of

Herter, Man-of-the-Week, Has Difficult Dilemma to Solve

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor
The man-of-the-week: U. S. Secretary of State Christian A. Herter.

The place: Paris.
The quote: "We have a strong impression of a general desire for peace among the Soviet people."

In Paris this week, the U.S. secretary of state found himself on the horns of a dilemma.

On the one hand, as advance man for President Eisenhower, part of his job was to convince the reluctant French and West Germans that enough of a thaw had occurred in the cold war to warrant a summit

conference with Soviet Russian Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

On the other, he had to convince the foot-dragging members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) that the time had not yet come to relax Western defenses which, in fact, must be strengthened if the West were to be able to meet any surprise communist attack.

Convinced French, Germans
As part of the first point, he had to convince both the Germans and the French that the United States would not sacrifice Berlin to the Communists for the sake of an overall settlement.

"We are determined," he said, to protect the freedom of West Berliners. He said the "acid test" of Soviet desires to relax tensions would be its attitude toward Berlin and

that Khrushchev had been so informed.

He added that the United States expected negotiations to continue through numerous meetings, from the summit on down.

So far as NATO was concerned, Herter's task broke down into two categories.

One was to convince the United States' prosperous fellow-members that they now must bear more of the financial burden.

The other was to convince them that, with NATO one-third below strength, they must meet their manpower commitments to the defensive force.

Since both would cost individual nations more money, his task therefore became doubly difficult.

Scandinavian Speaks Bluntly
A Scandinavian member put it bluntly when he said his people knew only what they were told, and they were told that tensions were relaxing. Therefore, they asked, why were large defensive forces necessary?

Herter's reply, in effect, was that only with strong forces behind them could Western negotiators hope to reach suitable agreement with the already strongly-armed Russians.

The central figure remains President Charles de Gaulle of France, the man who insists on a NATO veto but refuses to commit his forces to it. He would be for President Eisenhower to tackle.

For the arthritis-burdened Herter it was yet another in the unending trials that beset an American secretary of state. Herter, then new to the job, demonstrated at the foreign ministers conference in Geneva that he could be tough and patient. Now he must be tactful and patient.

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France's De Gaulle Is Thorny Problem In NATO Meetings

By LYLE C. WILSON
Washington—UPI—Reading between the lines of the NATO news from Paris will induce eye-strain, at least. At most, it will induce headache, heartache and, perhaps, an uneasy sense of fear.

NATO is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. NATO represents the combined first line of defense of the allied Free World. The free allies are annoyed now, each with the other. And, Frenchmen, especially, are annoyed at hints that France deliberately is not doing her share of the NATO job.

There are more than mere hints about France. American officials assert that NATO nations, especially France, are weakening the mutual defense alliance by shirking their military obligations. Gen. Charles de Gaulle, the French President, has refused to permit the French Air Force to participate in the integrated NATO tactical air command.

Medford High school will be presented on the regular program of the Jackson County Tuberculosis and Health association as a Christmas remembrance to the people of the Rogue valley.

The program will include some of the best known and some of the newer in Christmas music as well as a reading with choral accompaniment to be given by Mrs. C. Ivan (Frankie) Burton.

Under the direction of Lynn Sjolund, the Madrigal Singers, which include approximately 16 of the best voices in the school, have attained almost professional perfection. Those who have heard them state they are on a par with many of the well-known professional groups. They are a great credit to our community and it is a privilege to have them on this program.

This is the fourth year the Medford schools have assisted with the Health association's Christmas program, which replaces the usual medical panel done in cooperation with the Medical society and KBES-TV.

Janet C. Guches
Route 4, Box 368
Medford

France's De Gaulle Is Thorny Problem In NATO Meetings

De Gaulle has said he would withhold the French Mediterranean fleet from NATO in time of war. He balked at basing U.S. missiles or nuclear stockpiles on French territory. American officials have stated the U.S. case that France is the weak spot.

Survivors of the World War II scene in Washington or Western Europe will not be surprised that France poses her allies a delicate diplomatic problem. Delicate diplomatic problems were forecast with confidence when General de Gaulle became head man in France. That was in June, 1958.

The French have a word for him. Formidable! That is de Gaulle. Vain, touchy, egotistical, stubborn and proud were other descriptions of de Gaulle in the chit-chat of the Washington cocktail circuit and in the hush-hush, off record wartime conferences which the top civilian and military brass were forever having with newsmen.

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