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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
Jan. 4, 1950 (Wednesday)
Stan McGuire, captain of
next year's Oregon state col-
lege football team, killed in a
toboggan accident.

20 YEARS AGO
Jan. 4, 1940 (Thursday)
President Roosevelt urges
congress to slash farm, relief,
and public works spending,
only budget increase wanted is
defense with spending
amounting to \$1,800,000,000.

30 YEARS AGO
Jan. 4, 1930 (Saturday)
Fire damages south wing of
the White House.

40 YEARS AGO
Jan. 4, 1920 (Monday)
Republican rally in Chicago
berates Communists, and de-
mands that all undesirable
aliens be deported at once.

50 YEARS AGO
Jan. 4, 1910 (Tuesday)
Two new clubs formed in
Medford, West Side Good
Roads club, to improve roads,
and New Book Club, to im-
prove reading.

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

1. Did the "D-Day" landing
in World War II take place
on June 6, 1943, 1944, or 1945?
2. Who wrote the music of
the opera "Carmen"?
3. Who was the first Sec-
retary of Defense to head the
united armed services?
4. How often is a popula-
tion census of the United
States taken?
5. What was Ali Baba's
password?
6. Who was the Spaniard
who conquered Mexico?
7. Supply the last names of
the persons: Harriet Beecher
Edgar Allen ---, Ralph
Waldo ---.
8. From what famous moun-
tain top did Moses behold the
Promised Land?
9. Does a tennis ball, when
hit, come to a complete stop
before reversing its direction?
10. Does a musical staff
have five, seven, or nine
lines?
Answers: 1. 1944. 2. Bizet.
3. James Forrestal. 4. Every
ten years. 5. "Open Sesame."
6. Corleze. 7. Stowe, Poe, and
Emerson. 8. ---om Mt. Nebo.
9. Yes. 10. Five.

Social Security and Taxes

Don't look now, but social security taxes went up Jan. 1, ironically enough the start of an election year when both parties will speak hopefully of some easing of the tax bite.

Wage earners making \$4,800, the maximum annual earnings subject to the tax, will find that the new 3 per cent rate means a total outlay of \$144 annually—\$24 a year or 46c a week more than under the old 2-1/2 per cent rate.

And the end still is not in sight. Even without further legislation, social security taxes by 1969 will siphon off 9 per cent of the base payroll (4-1/2 per cent each from employer and employee).

Here's the statistical story of social security tax progression:

Table with columns: Cal. Year, Employee, Employer, Self-Em., Earn. taxes. Rows show data from 1937-49 to 1969 & aft.

A NOTABLE LACK of public squawking about the increases gives support to Rep. Aime J. Forand's (D-R.I.) contention that "people are willing to pay to get the benefits." Forand favors making the people pay a little more (1/4 of 1%) to finance a compulsory health insurance plan.

Many lawmakers, however, are wondering if the taxpayers' patience—and pocketbook—hasn't just about reached the breaking point. The question is more than academic — social security sweeteners have been enacted in each of the last five election years and both parties are on record in favor of some revisions in 1960.

Adding to the dilemma is the knowledge that the venerable Old Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund has been feeling the pinch of Congress' generosity. The fund's net assets, accumulated in previous years, totaled about \$21.6 billion on June 30, 1959, but receipts failed to meet expenditures in the past two fiscal years (the deficits were \$216 million in fiscal 1958 and \$1.2 billion in fiscal 1959) and an \$87 million deficit has been forecast for fiscal 1960—the year ending next July 1.

The Social Security Administration's board of trustees believes the deficit should be last in the foreseeable future and assures that the fund is in "approximate actuarial balance."

LAWMAKERS in search of ways to raise more revenue to finance more benefits are expected to consider further increases in the amount of wages subject to social security taxes.

Economist Seymour E. Harris of Harvard University recently submitted a study to the Congressional Joint Economic Committee suggesting that the maximum earnings base be put at about \$9,000. If this were ever done, a \$9,000 a-year man in 1969 would be paying \$405 a year in social security taxes, with his boss contributing a like amount.—E.R.R.

Our Place in the Space Race

The House Science and Astronautics Committee isn't going to waste any time about investigating the state of the nation's space program. The committee, headed by Rep. Overton Brooks (D-La.), plans to begin extensive hearings Wednesday, the day Congress convenes.

Democrats have given top priority to probes of the "space lag" during the 1960 election year. Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, chairman of the Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee, is expected to announce his plans soon for a similar investigation on the other side of the Capitol.

JOHNSON'S group was the last to put the Eisenhower Administration on the blast-off pad. A special subcommittee report last July 18 charged that U.S. space development efforts, both military and civilian, had been handicapped by administration failure to develop a "comprehensive" long-range civilian-military space program.

New grounds for criticism likely will be found following Russian successes in hitting the moon with Lunik III, launched Oct. 4. U.S. moon-shot efforts, meanwhile, were largely disappointing.

A FOUR stage Atlas-Able vehicle launched Nov. 26 from Cape Canaveral, Fla., failed to make it to the moon when premature splitting off of a plastic nose sheathing caused disintegration of the upper stages.

Inasmuch as no back-up vehicle for the complex Atlas-Able was available, the only way to attempt the feat again in the near future will be to divert an Atlas booster from some other civilian or some military project that already has been labeled essential.—E.R.R.

Search for Two Planes Pushed

Hamilton AFB, Calif.—UPI—Pilots searched again in the Sierra Nevada today for two missing planes carrying five persons.

Dennis the Menace



YA KNOW WHAT I REALLY MISS? MUD PUDDLES!

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 a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Will Something Be Done?
To the Editor: After the lack of response to my letter about road conditions in this and other areas, I can only say that I feel like the fellow whose wife came into the kitchen and found the maid sitting on her husband's lap. "Well," she says, "I'm surprised." "No, my dear," says her husband, "I'm surprised you're amazed."

I am amazed that there was only one letter in reply to the one I sent in. Thank you, Mr. Van Horn.

Since Oregon in general and Medford in particular are noted for their splendid educational institutions and schools, I feel reasonably sure that this letter was well read. I can only conclude that there is no one interested enough in the problem to try and get something done.

We all show the proper respect for warnings that are given us about not eating cranberries that are suitably processed because they would kill you in about 45 or 50 years (if you ate them three or four times a day) and we smoke filter cigarettes like mad 'cause they reduce the tar and nicotine and we get our chests x-rayed every now and then to see if we are in tip top shape. I wonder if we are taking these precautions so that we will be in condition to drive our cars and then get killed or seriously injured because of inadequately kept roads.

I could go on for another page or so, but there is not much use in beating a dead horse, is there?

I would like to relate an incident that I would rather have not seen on the morning of 29 December. I don't really mean that I would like to; I should say, I think I ought to. I happened to be at the scene of the accident that took four lives, just north of Eugene. There were four young people killed outright and the fifth was critically injured. There ages were 21, 22, 20, 21 and 23; just at the threshold of life, you might say. It is impossible for me to describe the horror. Absolute horror. Think of the misery of their families. When I came back south some ten or twelve hours later, the highway was well sanded. It was not there at the time of the accident. If it was, I couldn't tell it.

How about the accident at Phoenix the same morning. When will something be done? The first paragraph is meant to be descriptive and certainly not humorous. Lionel H. Guy 314 Laurel st. Medford.

From Farm Home
To the Editor: As we, patients of the Jackson County Farm Home, enter into the New Year, we extend our sincerest thanks to those who have participated in the many pleasing calls to us during 1959.

To the clergy, who by their continued visitations on the Sabbath bring us cheerful tidings of the Holy Bible, we are deeply appreciative. At Christmas time a pleasant surprise by the Kiwanis, presenting an hour of versatile entertainment... their "famous band," followed by a group of young men in song, not to forget Mr. Frank Perl as "Santa Claus," presenting gifts to all.

Unfortunately, the fog hindered the appearance of many church groups, the Salvation Army, Apostolic church and others, much to our disappointment. However at a clear-

ing in the skies the St. Mary's school under the direction of Sister Marian Joseph presented an hour of traditional carols and other celestial melodies sung by the school's glee club, being followed by Mrs. Richard Schuchard directing some 30 voices likewise in song. As an assist to those in song a Hammond Organ kindly loaned by the Purucker's Music House gave forth the true musical background, the instrument most cherished in religious or other church services. To those unable to attend, we wish to extend our thanks just the same.

Foreign Notebook: Plans for Summit; French A-Bomb; Radar

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor
From the foreign editor's notebook:

Summit Strategy: Soviet diplomats quietly are setting up the strategy Premier Nikita Khrushchev will use at next May's four-power summit meeting. He is understood to reject in advance any "package dealing" which would lump Berlin and Germany together or any attempt to link a German peace treaty with disarmament. The Soviet diplomats say each are separate questions. The Soviet Premier also will take the position that withdrawal of troops from Berlin substantially was agreed upon in the four-power Foreign Minister's conference in Geneva last summer. He will propose

that Western forces in Berlin be reduced to "symbolic" status, that a Soviet "commissar" be named and that United Nations observers be assigned to the city for a period of five years or so. The Soviets will not permit Communist East Berlin to be drawn into the picture at all.

Atomic Club: Latest prediction for the date of the explosion of the French atomic bomb in the Sahara: no earlier than March. The explanation is that the

As you read your newspapers and listened to your radio and watched your TV on New Year's Day you heard a lot of rosy predictions about this new year that is beginning. The old year that died at midnight wasn't all it might have been. But the new year that was born as the old year died is going to be WONDERFUL.

On with the new. Hope springs eternal in the human breast. "Twas ever thus. Always, to mankind, the future has looked brighter than the past has been. Always the Star of Hope has led us on.

Without hope, life would be a drab adventure. And over the long centuries... the world HAS got better and better instead of getting worse and worse.

Let's not forget this: THIS NEW YEAR THAT IS JUST BEGINNING WILL BE WHAT WE MAKE IT. It won't just automatically be better than the year that has ended.

There's a lot of cynicism about this modern world. There's a lot of cynicism about

tists will see, when they finally land on the Moon. Instead, it will be those hardy American Pioneers of ingenuity and resourcefulness—Outdoor Advertising Men, putting up signs.

Harvey Robinson 103 North Central ave. Medford

Snow is Fun
To the Editor: Snow, snow, it's snowing! The beautiful white snow comes tumbling down. How do you like the white snow? I think it's fun! Susan McGinty 1805 Roberts rd. Medford (Age 8)

National Disaster
To the Editor: This is to thank you for the editorial regarding Mr. Nixon from the Pendleton East Oregonian. Printing this was a real public service and we look forward to more in the same vein. I feel very strongly that the election of Nixon to the Presidency would be a national disaster.

Mine Hunts
To the Editor: One of the main attractions among the prospectors and miners living on the California deserts in wintertime are "lost mine hunts," sponsored by the "old desert rats" and the more romantic-minded fortune hunters.

The plan is to stage a round-up, or rather form a circle after leaving their vehicles at the nearest place of some designated road or trail before starting out on foot. The most likely locality is chosen where there is always a reasonable chance of re-discovering some old legendary ledge, vein or ore chute carrying gold values.

Some discoveries are reported to have been made by this method as well as a day of fun. There are such places to be traced out yet in Jackson and Josephine counties. The best part of the year for this kind of mineral searching in southern Oregon is the early part of spring when there is most likely to be ample water for panning samples in the little draws and gulches.

Think it over all you mountain hikers. Bert Kissinger 520 Boardman st. Medford

Kilroy Was There
To the Editor: During the last twenty odd years, you and I have, time and again, found that the sign maker had long anticipated our arrival. This has included everything from the unblushing appeals for Pills and Chewing Tobacco to the crude pictographs left by the first advertisers, Prehistoric Men. Wherever our feet or vehicles have taken us, we find, to our chagrin, that someone has been there before, with a sign.

No doubt, Man's effort to influence Man, will be further extended into Space, which prompted the following: Little Julius, at School, heard that Dr. Edward Teller, the eminent Scientist, when asked what he expected to see when he landed on the Moon, had sardonically replied: "Russians!"

bomb is ready but the scientific measuring instruments are not.
Asia Nightmares: With trouble threatening in neighboring Laos, one of the things that give U.S. military officers in Thailand the "creeps" is the almost total lack of adequate radar installations. "They could hit you without your knowing it," was the way one officer summed it up.

No Hurry: Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's government does not intend to be stampeded into banning all right-wing parties as result of the recent outbreak of anti-semitic acts in West Germany. Insiders say the government quietly will start work on stamping down the more hot-headed right-wingers known to hold anti-Jewish views. Banning of the right-wing parties, these sources say, merely would drive them underground and make them harder to control.

At the same time, it would open the government to charges that the West German regime is not truly democratic. While retaining basic freedom of speech, the government is expected to make an example of half a dozen leading anti-semites the minute they step out of line. This would have the two-fold effect of showing the world that the government is determined to stamp out anti-semitic acts and of demonstrating the same conviction rather more forcefully at home.

Trouble Spot: Despite denials, there are persistent reports of deadlock which could delay scheduled independence for Cyprus on Feb. 19. Chief stumbling block for the treaty makers is a British demand that Britain be allowed to retain sovereignty over 126 square miles earmarked for two British military bases. President-elect Archbishop Makarios is insisting that the area be no more than 36 square miles.

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DONATE \$5 MILLION
New York —UPI—Brooklyn born snack bar and coffee magnate William Black has donated \$5 million to his alma mater, Columbia university, for its medical school.

ARMY OFFICER KILLED
Wuerzburg, Germany —UPI—A 30-year-old U.S. Army officer was killed Sunday in a shooting incident at an American friend's apartment in Schweinfurt, police reported. They declined to reveal any details of the case, other than to say the officer and his friend both belonged to the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division.

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