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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
April 6, 1950 (Thursday)
New \$20,000 Moore Steel
Service company distributing
warehouse at 741 Grape st.,
will start operations Saturday.

20 YEARS AGO
April 6, 1940 (Saturday)
Ex-con was apprehended
here yesterday while trying
to steal a car; he pulled gun
on state policeman but was
overpowered before he could
shoot.

30 YEARS AGO
April 6, 1930 (Monday)
Improvement on Pacific
highway from Medford to
Talent starts.

40 YEARS AGO
April 6, 1920 (Wednesday)
City council passes resolution
prohibiting any more
money drives in this city.

50 YEARS AGO
April 6, 1910 (Wednesday)
A committee of Greater
Medford club plans to ask city
council to set aside 7 1/2 acres
of land at the city reservoir
for park purposes.

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

- 1. Which city in the United States is the largest railroad center?
2. Is the city of Washington, D.C., north, or south, of the Mason-Dixon line?
3. What European country once had a reigning family known as the "House of Hanover"?
4. Did any members of the Waves serve on fighting ships during World War II?
5. Port-au-Prince is the capital of what Latin American Republic?
6. If a cubic foot of water is frozen, will its volume as ice be greater, or less than, a cubic foot?
7. Dinosaurs were dangerous foes of primitive man; true or false?
8. With which arm does a southpaw pitcher throw balls?
9. Which of these was elected to the Presidency: Tyler, Van Buren, Arthur, Fillmore, Johnson?
10. Is a type of freight steamer used on the Great Lakes, with a smokestack at the stern, known as a stickleback, a yellowback, or a whaleback?
Answers: 1. Chicago, Ill. 2. South. 3. Great Britain. 4. No. 5. Haiti. 6. Greater. 7. False. (They came before man.) 8. Left. 9. Van Buren. 10. Whaleback.

Jim's Being "Used"

Jim Welch is being "used." He wrote an editorial a couple of months ago for the Capital Journal in Salem, of which he is now managing editor, in which he said:

"We favor banning billboards from all rural highways in Oregon. We'll sign petitions to ban them all at once, or from interstate freeways alone as a first step."

So far, so good. Jim's on the right track up to this point, and is in tune with a lot of forward looking citizens who want to ban the billboard monstrosity from the public highways — with certain exceptions.

BUT he went on to say that he thought the petition (now in circulation) to do just this was "a lousy bill."

He couldn't understand it, he complained. He said it needed clarification, and all the highways and byways which it would affect should be spelled out.

And that's where he stubbed his toe. He should have known that legislation (and that's just what this is — a new law, plus an amendment to an old one) isn't necessarily designed for easy readership, but for legal precision.

So, when he grumbles that the petition gives the impression that the anti-billboard people are making "a sly attempt to put something over on Oregonians," he gave the billboard interests a potent weapon.

AND with what delight they pounced on it! "Petition of Deceit" is what they're calling it now, based on Jim's complaint about "the appearance of deceit" — which resulted from his own misapprehension of the purposes of bill-drafting. Jim's being used.

And if he means what he says about being against billboards, we suggest he do something about it.

We have read the proposed bill in its entirety, as well as the information sent along with it by the Oregon Highway Protection Committee. There's no deceit there; but there is an honest effort to get some meaningful billboard control legislation on Oregon's law books.

SPEAKING of deceit, the billboard interests are to palm off the story that this billboard-control effort is being sponsored by "the garden club ladies" — the snooty implication being that they are a bunch of "do-gooders" meddling with things that aren't their business.

If we belonged to a garden club, that would make us mad.

Since we don't, we'd like to give them credit for their concern over Oregon's scenic beauties, and then go on to point out that the "garden club ladies" are far from alone in this attempt.

What the billboard interests do NOT bother tell you is that the sponsor of the billboard-control petition is the Highway Protection Committee, which is composed of a number of organizations.

GARDEN clubs? Yes — the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs belongs; so does the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, the Oregon Roadside Council, and the Oregon Society of Landscape Architects.

So, for that matter, do the Oregon chapters of the American Association of University Women, American Institute of Architects and the Izaak Walton League of America, the Oregon Association of Nurserymen, the Oregon State Grange, and the Oregon State Motor Association.

Individual officers of the Highway Protection Committee include such well-known "garden club ladies" as former State Sen. Rudie Wilhelm Jr. of Portland, chairman; State Sen. Alfred H. Corbett, State Grangemaster Elmer McClure, State Treasurer Howard C. Belton, J. W. Forrester Jr., Pendleton, an editor and member of the state board of higher education; E. B. MacNaughton of Portland, banker, industrialist and former college president; Mayor John Snider of Medford; Charles A. Sprague, Salem, editor and former governor; and a lot of other solid citizens.

THESE are people who, along with the "garden club ladies" so sneeringly mentioned by the billboard interests, know that tourists don't come to Oregon to look at billboards.

They have enough of those where they come from.

They come to Oregon for its scenery, for its inspirational views, for its recreational resources. And billboards don't do a thing to enhance any of these.

The proposed legislation provides for adequate informational signs at appropriate intervals to give our guests guidance. The rest of the time (outside of cities and industrial areas) it will let them look at the scenery — pure, not in a bottle nor through a forest of billboards.

ONE more thing. The billboard industry is entirely responsible for this legislation being proposed. It is tougher than the rather moderate measure defeated in the last legislature with the enthusiastic assistance of the billboard lobby.

And it is motivated by the billboard industry's lack of scruples, lack of self-policing, lack of judgment, and, if you will, "deceit" in claiming they'd clean up the highways themselves, and then going along blithely building more of them in violation of their own pledges. "Petition of deceit" my foot! Jim, you've been used. — E.A.

Dennis the Menace



"THE FEET? OH, I CUT 'EM OFF."

Britain in Uneasy Position On South African Situation

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

Addressing a joint session of the South African Parliament early this year, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan said:

"... In this shrinking world in which we live today, the internal policies of one nation may have effects outside it. I hope you won't mind my saying frankly that there are some aspects of your policies which make it impossible for us to support you without being false to our own deep convictions about the political destinies of free men."

Coming from the Queen's highest representative, Macmillan's words came perilously close to violating one of the cardinal rules which govern the exclusive Commonwealth club.

Determine Own Policy Commonwealth members decide their own internal policies, maintain their own diplomatic service and decide for themselves the issues of peace or war.

Macmillan's words roused deep resentment among South African members of the cabinet — both have accepted hospitality from persons subject to their regulation — since they came to Washington.

Senator Proxmire Answers Columnist On Public Morals

To the Editor: In Bill White's provocative column relating to legislating public ethics in your paper recently, he decries my recent proposal for a "we-mean-business ethics law."

White, a perceptive and competent newspaper man with great experience, derides my suggestion that, as he writes, we "make it a crime for a lobbyist to give a lawmaker a cigar or a drink of whiskey."

I suggest that Mr. White overlooks these facts: 1) This proposal is firmly based on a Wisconsin statute that has been on the books for more than two years. Wisconsin newspapermen, lobbyists and public officials agree that it works very well. It works without cramping the understanding or performance of legislators or public officials. There is none of the winking, dining and vicarious entertaining by lobbyists of legislators or public officials in Wisconsin. At the same time, they are not, as White avers, cut off from the industry which they regulate or for which they legislate. They are not cloistered. They associate freely and regularly. They just pick up their own checks.

Before this law was passed in 1957, there was more than \$50,000 per six-month legislative year reported to the Wisconsin Secretary of State for liquor and food paid for by lobbyists for the benefit of legislators.

The disclosure statute that preceded the present law followed a situation in Wisconsin many, many years ago when as Lincoln Steffens reported, state legislatures were considered the "bawdy houses" of government in America, and Wisconsin was typical.

A little inquiry around the country would have further convinced Mr. White that generally most competent observers agree that too many state governments are still bawdy houses.

Two former Wisconsin public officials — John Doerfer, the former Chairman of the FCC, and James Durfee, the

present Chairman of the CAB — both have accepted hospitality from persons subject to their regulation — since they came to Washington.

Both previously served as Chairman of the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. Both discharged this responsibility in Wisconsin under Wisconsin law without engaging in any of the hospitality which has been criticized in Washington. These were the same men. Only the law had been changed.

3) Bill White's argument that you can't legislate honesty conveniently overlooks the obvious fact that most of the criminal statutes of this country and the 50 states are based on legislation against specific acts of dishonesty that cause injury to the public interest. Only the most naive and starry-eyed devotees of perfection in human nature would join White in the argument that legislation outlawing acts of bribery and fraud can be repealed without suffering an increase in bribery and fraud.

In my book the purchase of legislative advantage by buying things of value for the legislator is bribery.

4) Let White answer how lobbyists can charge their clients hard cash for the entertainment of public officials and how the lobbyist's clients can deduct the cost of this entertainment from their income tax as a necessary business expenditure. Does White think that this hard cash is not being spent because the corporation and their lobbyists have a cold-eyed and well justified understanding that the expenditure will get reported, state legislatures are spending their money for this purpose they are defrauding their stockholders and the U. S. Treasury.

No, Mr. White, there isn't any Santa Claus.

White concludes with the intimidating charge to "keep a sharp eye" on the politician who tries to do anything about ethics — such a politician is probably an unethical scoundrel. As a matter of fact, the political life of the reformer is likely to be to quote

Congressman Curious Why Diplomat Who Speaks Chinese Was Assigned to London

By DICK WEST

Washington — I always thought the Army was our best fitter of square pegs into round holes.

But now I wonder if the prize should not go to the State Department.

The department certainly showed exceptional ability along this line in a volume of testimony just published by a House Appropriations subcommittee.

I mean teaching a diplomat to speak Chinese and then packing him off to great Britain was a stroke of pure genius in square pegmanship.

It was almost as brilliant a coup as the assignment of a foreign service officer to Niagara Falls, N.Y., after he had spent several weeks learning to speak German.

These feats might have gone unheralded had it not been for subcommittee chairman John J. Rooney (D-N.Y.), who has charge of interpreting the State Department's budget.

As you may recall, the department some time ago persuaded Congress to put up school for a foreign language on grounds our diplomats were too dependent on the mother tongue. So Rooney & Co. were trying to find out how the program was going.

The job of explaining it fell to Aaron S. Brown, deputy assistant secretary for personnel. Brown is a modest man and I do believe he would have been willing to let some of the lights stay hidden under a bushel.

First off, Rooney wanted to know how come a student who made an "A" in his Chinese studies wound up in London. Well, Brown replied, his second language shouldn't be entirely wasted there. He can converse with foreign language specialists in the British Foreign Office.

Quoted Dialogue "So instead of speaking in English to one another, they will sit in the London office and talk Chinese?" asked Rooney.

"Yes, sir," said Brown. "Rooney: 'Is that not fantastic?'"

Brown: "No, sir. They are anxious to keep up their practice."

Rooney: "They go out to

Chinese restaurants and have chop suey together?"

Brown: "Yes, sir." I must say that training a diplomat to read a Chinese menu seemed a mite fantastic to me. It seemed more so as Rooney pressed on.

The chairman next inquired about French-speaking diplomats who were sent to Denmark, Austria and Ireland, and German-speaking diplomats, were assigned to Turkey, Wales, Hong Kong and Niagara Falls. Brown said he hoped they found someone to talk to.

I don't know how many languages Rooney himself speaks but I think Brown would agree he does very well in blunt English.

Wisconsin Win Calls Big Guns Into 'Stop-Kennedy' Movement

(Editor's Note:—Lyle C. Wilson, UPI's Washington manager, assesses the results of the Wisconsin election in the following dispatch.)

By LYLE C. WILSON

Milwaukee — The time has come for a couple of battered old political pros to take over strategic command of the stop-Kennedy movement.

The old pros are speaker Sam Rayburn, of Texas, and Harry S. Truman, of Missouri.

They may have valuable aid from another pro, also old, who in

her own right is worth a regiment of politicians.

That other old pro is Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Returns from Wisconsin's presidential preference primary summer Rayburn, Truman and Mrs. Roosevelt today to the stop-Kennedy high command.

By any reasonable evaluation of the Wisconsin returns, Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) licked Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) and licked him good in Humphrey's own back yard. They will meet again in West Virginia's presidential primary but Humphrey's chance to stop Kennedy will not come again. It was right here in Wisconsin.

Much at Stake

Rayburn, Truman, and Mrs. Roosevelt apparently must accept the stop-Kennedy high command because each has much at stake. Rayburn is promoting Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) for the Democratic presidential nomination. HST is the big gun behind the candidacy of Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.). Mrs. R. is on record — several times — that Kennedy will not do for president. Her boy probably is Adlai E. Stevenson, or, even, Humphrey.

It added up to this: Kennedy picked up powerful momentum in Wisconsin. He is the front runner now on better evidence that more polls or the judgment of political observers. Mr. Sam, HST and Mrs. R. faces this question: What happens if Kennedy is not stopped?

On To Nomination

What happens? This happens: Kennedy will go on to be nominated. So, the old pros must gang up now and stop him if there is to be a chance for the nomination of Symington, Johnson or Stevenson. They will try, and that should make it a wonderfully rough and tough prevention season.

Kennedy won the Wisconsin popular vote by a fat margin and took at least six of the state's 10 congressional district contests. His popular vote and six district victories earned Kennedy 20 delegate votes at the July Democratic National Convention. Thirty delegates voted were at stake in this primary. Best con-

SENTINEL

VISITS IRAN

Tehran, Iran — Jordan's King Hussein received a flag-waving reception on his arrival here Monday for a 10-day state visit. Hussein was welcomed by the Shah of Iran, the cabinet, members of the diplomatic corps and other officials.

Why? We would like to know.

F. J. Clifford Route 2, Box 200F Central Point, Ore.

Will Steel

To the Editor: Thanks so much for the mention of Will Steel in connection with our National Parks, those we have and the ones we hope to have while there is yet time to have such provisions made.

Will Steel was a lonely man as dedicated men usually are. This may be the reason why he has ever been so generally unknown, as mentioned by the Oregon Journal's blind editor Irvine. It was the 20th of October, 1934, he called me in from the street as he stood at entrance of the old Journal building. How he came to know it was me has ever been a mystery. In his usual right-to-the-point way, he asked me to be seated at his typewriter as he said, "Will Steel is dying in a Medford hospital. It is not at all fair that a man who dedicated his life to such a grand project as Crater Lake Park should go

Hobbes, "nasty, brutish and short." It's both unpopular and dangerous. But it's also necessary.

William Proxmire, United States Senate, Washington, D.C.

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