

Medford Mail Tribune
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"Vanishing" Farms

The U. S. Census Bureau's report on farms in Jackson county shows the trend here is the same as it is in Oregon and the nation generally. The number of farms is down; the size of farms is up.

This is in turn a reflection of the fact that farming is, more than ever before, becoming a specialized occupation, for highly trained people, who have sufficient acreage and capital to make for a successful operation.

In the five years between 1954 and 1959, the size of the "average" farm in Jackson county went from 178.6 acres to 328.6 acres—or an increase of 150 acres.

That's a big increase. But increasing mechanization, increasing use of fertilizers and other chemical aids, and other factors have increased the pressures on the small farm, and made the larger one more economical, as well as requiring greater capital.

It's also interesting to note that the average value of a farm is up—from \$25,862 to \$35,282, or more than a third.

This is due both to the larger average size, and to increases in the valuation of farm land.

THERE are two other facts revealed by the census figures which are worthy of note. Less than half—800—of the 1,908 farms in the county are listed as "commercial" in nature. This indicates that a great many of the "farmers" work part-time at farming and earn some portion of their income, large or small, in other ways, or are retired or semi-retired.

And the census also revealed the great spurt in planting of orchard trees in the last five years. This indicates that orchardists are generally optimistic over the future of fruit raising.

ONE reason the figures differ so sharply between 1954 and 1959 is that the definition of a farm has been changed. Last year, "farms" were at least 10 acres in size, having sales of \$50 or more, or, alternatively, smaller than 10 acres, and having sales of \$250 or more.

In 1954 the definition included any place from which \$150 worth of farm produce was sold.

It would be interesting to know what would happen to America's much-discussed "farm problem" if a "farm" were given a more accurate and realistic definition. Maybe about two-thirds of the "farms" and "farmers" would simply vanish—statistically, anyway.—E.A.

M-T's "Politics and Religion"

We received an interesting telephone call from a courteous woman the other day, and since the subject might be of interest to readers of the Mail Tribune, we'd like to pass it along.

"What is the political affiliation of the Mail Tribune?" was one of her questions. We assured her that the Mail Tribune is, and always has been, politically independent.

However, it does make its views known, in the editorial column, on candidates. On some occasions it has supported more Republican candidates than Democratic; on other occasions the other way around.

BUT not in any election that we can recall has the M-T's editorial support been given to a complete party ticket. Judgments are made on the worth of individual candidates and issues, insofar as is possible.

And these judgments are reflected in the editorial columns—not in the news columns, where every effort is made to give both sides an "even break."

We do not expect, nor even hope, that all readers will agree with editorial assessments of men and issues. But we feel that the newspaper owes it to its readers to make its views known, and the reasons for them. That is part of the democratic process.

OUR telephone caller's next question concerned the "religious leanings" of the Mail Tribune. We told her it has none; has no church affiliation of any kind, and that an attempt is made to treat all denominations fairly.

She said she had heard that the Mail Tribune was a "Seventh-day Adventist newspaper." This is an old, old story, and it never fails to amuse staff members. We hold the Adventists in high respect, but so far as we know (and we haven't inquired, as a matter of fact), not one member of the news staff belongs to that church.

We told our caller that we'd heard the story before, and have a suspicion that it originated because the M-T has no edition on Saturday, the Adventists' Sabbath. (What the story-tellers fail to take into consideration is that the staff works all day Saturday in order to prepare an edition for early Sunday delivery.)

SO that's that. Republicans tend to think of the Mail Tribune as a Democratic paper—and as a matter of fact it has leaned toward Democratic candidates and philosophies in recent years.

Democrats are more inclined to acknowledge the paper's political independence, particularly those who have been around long enough to remember when Republican candidates were more apt to receive support.

But we make no prior commitment to anyone as far as politics is concerned. So, for the record: Politics—Independent; religious affiliation—none.—E. A.

Dennis the Menace



"MOM! TAKE A LOOK AT THIS GUY! AN' HE SAYS HE NEVER DRINKS MILK!"

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.

The Devil's Tricks

To the Editor: How much do you really know about the devil and his tricks? And are you sure you are not doing any harm?

I am not slamming the Bible, nor any religion. Discussing religion is one thing, arguing about it is another. "Come now and let us reason together" doesn't mean to argue.

It's amazing to see so many well-meaning people all trying to be the first to convert Mr. Reando and Mr. Helpher through communications. And now, after five weeks, the slow thinkers are coming in at the end of the race.

Mr. Reando had a good trick. Now he has most of you saying "I just can't understand" this or that. Of course you can't, and that's why you should let your pastors do the preaching. At least they won't try to convert him through letters to the editor. He baited you on by simply taking advantage of your preacher's itch, and you swallowed the hook, line, sinker and all. You should have scratched your itch and forgotten about it.

I said, of course, there must be a devil. And your letters prove that, for sure, because now the devil has got you to where you are slamming the pastors of churches.

One of you said in a letter that the amateur preachers made more sense than most of the ministers that you have listened to. Then you say that if you listen long enough to a song you might get to like it.

Well, you just try that the next time you listen to some pastor. If you listen long enough to his song you might get to like it too.

You can call me an amateur preacher if you like, but I'm not so foolish to fall for the devil's tricks as you did. So now, if you will slimmer down a bit and think it over, you ought to see that you are playing right into the devil's hands, the same old boy whom you claim to know so much about.

William Helpher c/o Addie D. Train Route 2, Box 312A Gold Hill, Ore.

The Dog is Dead To the Editor: The tom cat said to his neighbor: "The dog that chased us is dead, or in the pound, or with a muzzle on, or on a chain."

Richard Harkness, news analyst, tells of a day when Democrats and Republicans in the Senate were going after each other in a big way. Republicans were "pointing with pride," Democrats were "viewing with alarm." Senator Lyndon Johnson said it reminded him of the day a young Texan applied for a school teaching job in a backwoods district. A school board member allowed as how there was a difference of opinion in those parts concerning the world. "Now how about you?" inquired the board member. "Would you tell our pupils that the world was round, or that it was flat?" The would-be teacher replied without hesitation, "I teach it either way."

An old farmer saw an electric fan for the first time. He watched its whirling blades in amazement, then shook his head and observed, "There's the dangest fastest squirrel in that cage I ever did see!"

By BENNETT CERF

Way Off Base To the Editor: Unless you have information about our defense capabilities which is not known to the general public, you are way off-base about the "Sky Shield" exercise which is to be held on Sept. 10.

The general public has been given information by way of the press, television and articles of all kinds that our defense capabilities are such that we will have at least a two or three hour warning prior to any mass attack by enemy jets on the continental United States.

We have spent billions preparing our present air defense system to operate in an efficient manner so as to use those precious hours to eliminate all of the planes which may make up any mass attack on us.

Public information indicates that we have ships on and under the sea, planes in the air, and land stations operating 24 hours a day which send electronic information to a combat operation center

never check cars entering Oregon. It's a one-way highway for bugs entering Oregon. It seems to me like we should be allowed to take their bugs back, or give them some of ours. We could trade termites for fleas, straight across the border.

We do return some of their bugs, but they don't know it. Every time I make a trip to California, I take a load of their bugs back in the radiator. That's the one place they don't check.

When you go through the station, they always ask: "Do you have any bugs in the trunk?" I never do, the trunk is as clean as a hound's tooth. But BOY, if they ever looked in the radiator, I'd get 99 years packing bugs out of California. We got bugs from every state in the Union, in the radiator.

Everett Acklin, Ashland, Ore.

She's for Durno To the Editor: As one of the hundreds of "Democrats for Durno" I want to point out a few of my own reasons for supporting this growing organization in the fourth district.

First of all, what does Charles Porter know about the problems of the farmers and ranchers? Having owned a ranch until just recently, I know personally that most cattle ranchers are against supports and parties. After all, why should they want to be told how many head of cattle they can raise, when they can sell them, who, to, and at what prices? The cattle association voted against this control.

What has Porter ever accomplished by meddling in foreign affairs without official sanction, undermining our important foreign policy by acting like a one-man state department?

Why does he keep demanding new projects when our natural resources when the old ones are not finished? Furthermore, the dams should be built through private enterprise.

Our representative apparently has no interest in what I think, although he is supposed to be representing me. I have written him numerous times and have never received an answer, except the regular form letters.

As a good Democrat I will vote for Sen. Edwin R. Durno in order to have better representation for this district.

Mrs. Winn Tibbet Central Point, Ore.

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'Double Standard' in U.N. Policies Seen Drawback; France Continues on Own Path

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

In the midst of United Nations efforts to restore order in the Congo, President Charles de Gaulle of France has told the world body sternly to keep its hands off Algeria.

Thus he exposed again a weakness of the U. N. which has been a cause of complaint almost from its beginnings and of concern for its future among its supporters.

It is the charge that the U. N. operates under two sets of rules — one for the small nations, and another for the major powers.

For example, Belgium complained bitterly but felt forced to comply with a U. N. demand that its forces leave the Congo.

Belgian Premier Baston Eyskens then accused the U. N. of working under a double standard.

In his first press conference in a year, De Gaulle referred scathingly to "the nations that are so-called united."

France, he said, will pay no heed to any action concerning Algeria taken within the United Nations.

With the exception of the United States, each of the major powers has at one time or another flouted majority opinion of the U. N. Russia continues to do so in Hungary, Britain and France did it in Egypt.

In his drive to force France into the forefront of major nations, De Gaulle frankly expounds the theory of power blocs. Thus, he would place in the hands of France, Brit-

ain and the United States final decisions affecting all 15 nations of NATO, keystone of West European defenses.

He would link France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Belgium and Holland into a political and economic force whose strength and population would rival either the United States or Russia.

In this third force, France would be the bridge to the U. S. and Britain.

The U. N. charter does not bar regional treaties but conceives of them as organizations functioning within the larger structure.

De Gaulle now pointedly ignores the United Nations. The United States, France and Britain alone, he said, could have prevented chaos in the Congo had they coordinated their policies in advance.

In both his suggestions to NATO and his disregard of the United Nations, De Gaulle runs directly counter to the United States, which regards the U. N. as a foundation stone of its foreign policy.

But, great tests face the United Nations and still greater ones are in store. A powerful Afro-Asian bloc, neutral in its sentiments, is on the rise. Latin American nations no longer can be counted on to vote with the United States.

And Russia, as it has demonstrated in the Congo, is determined that if this is to be one world, it will be a Communist one.

Civil Aviation To Cooperate in 'Sky Shield' Friday Night

By RICHARD SPONG Editorial Research Reports

Civil aviation, whose leaders often vigorously dispute federal controls over commercial and private flying, are pledging complete cooperation in this week-end's "Sky Shield" exercise which will ground all non-military planes for the first time outside of a war emergency.

The cooperation will be entirely voluntary. No civil air regulation has been issued.

The disruption of air line schedules, as well as of private and business flying, has been kept to a minimum by careful consultation among military planners, aviation interests, and the Federal Aviation Agency. Nevertheless, during the six-hour period of the exercise the U. S. planes alone which will be grounded normally would have made about 1000 commercial flights, carrying some 37,000 passengers, and about 700 general flights. In Canada some 310 aircraft would be carrying 3000 passengers. Foreign-flag lines would be engaged in 31 operations.

The exercise of air exercises will cover some 14 million square miles of the North American continent and its adjacent waters. The exercise begins Friday at 10 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, and will last six hours. Civilian radio and television will not be affected.

Cooperating in addition to the commercial lines are the Air Transport Association, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the National Business Aircraft Association, and other aviation groups, as well as the FAA and the Canadian Department of Transport. The airlines naturally hope that prospective passengers will rearrange their schedules to fly earlier or later. Otherwise as much as \$5 million in flight revenue could be lost.

But just for this once some airlines will be prepared to divert last-minute traffic to their surface competitors. Bus and railroad timetables will be available at airline ticket offices.

The willingness to "sit out" the near-emergency operation appears to be general in civilian aviation. Acceptance by the public appears equally assured. E. R. Quesada, FAA administrator, in a statement of Aug. 3, put it this way: "The Sky Shield exercise is a vital training requirement for our entire air de-

Washington (UPI)—The Agriculture Department said today timber cut in national forests in fiscal 1960 totaled record 9.3 billion board feet with a value of about \$1 billion.

This compared with a total of 8.3 billion board feet in fiscal 1959 with a value of \$1 billion. Until 1959 the previous high was a harvest of seven billion board feet in 1957. The 9.3 billion board feet cut from national forest represents 14 per cent of total saw-timber harvested the entire nation.

Sold More Timber The Forest Service sold more timber in fiscal 1960, reporting an increase of 30 per cent over 1959. Most of the increase was attributed to a long-term sale of three billion board feet of pulpwood in the Southwest.

The department said the sale, the largest ever made outside Alaska, will mean important new industry in the Southwest. It will supply a new paper mill, produce a daily capacity of 150 tons of kraft paper and 210 tons of newsprint and will provide additional jobs.

The timber will come from the Colorado plateau of Arizona and New Mexico in Kaibab, Coconino, Sitgreav, Apache, Tonto, and Cibola National Forests.

Sustained Yield Increases The department said sustained yield of timber provided by these public forests has increased sharply in the last decade, under the stepped-up multiple-use management and rising demands for timber. With the new development plan, the program of the national forests, the yield of timber from these lands is expected to go up steadily to an ultimate annual harvest of some 20 billion board feet by the year 2000.

Marion County Judge Returns To Bench Salem (UPI)—Marion County Judge Rex Hartley returns to the job Wednesday after spending most of the summer recuperating from an illness. The jurist spent some time in the hospital but recuperated mostly at home.

Defense system. I am confident that by understanding the principle will not object to the short period of inconvenience that will experience."

located at our Continental Air Defense Command. Electronic communication capabilities are such that information about enemy planes heading toward the general direction of the U. S. from known Russian bases can be reported to CONAD in a matter of minutes.

In case of an alert from any outpost, (according to Russia, some of our agents are located on their air bases) our defense would go into action at a distance from our main country while all commercial, private and non-essential planes would be grounded in order to clear the decks for our fighter planes and missiles.

Of course Russian capabilities change as time goes by, but so do ours. We try to keep in touch and block any and all changes. I know we are doing a much better job than you indicate. We have had our "Pearl Harbor." All we need now is a few exercises in order to test our blocking capabilities.

William Doernbach 143 Mace rd. Medford.

From a Rhyming Dog To the Editor: Now I'm just a "Peke," seven years old. A friendly sort, so I've been told. This is my son, a nice little guy. Who the neighbors all liked to come by and say "Hi!"

But here we are, all chained up. Now is that the life for a good old pup? The kids take us for walks, which helps a lot. But when school starts with all that rot. Will we still go for walks around the block? Or get all stove up, to where we can't walk?

Now our neighbors never complained before. But after last night and a few nights more, I'll bet they hope we get loose soon. So we won't bark and howl at the moon.

So come on folks, what do you say? Go to the polls on election day. Set us free to be happy and then. Our mistress can sleep at night again. Gwen St. Germain 2830 La Pine ave. Medford.

YOUR NEEDS FORM THE PRINCIPLE OF OUR SERVICE

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