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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. 15, 1950 (Friday)

Assistant School Superintendent Elliott Becken said today that classroom facilities for Medford school children are, in nearly all cases, adequate.

The land appraisal committee of the city council is considering leasing some of the city-controlled Camp White property.

20 YEARS AGO
Sept. 15, 1940 (Sunday)

Oregon's national guard, for the fourth time in history, became part of the United States Army today as its 6,073 men were mobilized.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The first juvenile vandalism of early autumn to be blamed on a premature outbreak of the Hallowe'en spirit, has been noted by the police."

30 YEARS AGO
Sept. 15, 1930 (Monday)

Five former Medford High school football stars turned out at the opening practice session at the University of Oregon; one is on the Oregon State roster.

A total of more than 150,000 visitors were recorded at Crater Lake during the summer season.

40 YEARS AGO
Sept. 15, 1920 (Wednesday)

Petitions being circulated for the transfer of the county seat from Jacksonville to Medford are gaining signatures rapidly.

The Elks will hold their annual barbecue and fish bake here Sunday.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 15, 1910 (Thursday)

Two old soldiers, comrades during the Civil War, met on a downtown Medford street yesterday for the first time in 40 years.

The first "mistaken for a deer" victim was recorded in Jackson county yesterday when George Megerle, Woodville, was shot and killed a few miles from his home.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. "D.A." is the abbreviation for which prosecuting officer?
2. Name the five boroughs in New York City.
3. The Post Office recommends what abbreviation for Pennsylvania?
4. A major-domo is a drum major, a master of ceremonies, or the steward of a household?
5. An 18-karat gold ring is what percentage of gold?
6. Name the only U. S. President ever to have been impeached.
7. Without actually counting, would you guess that "t" is the 18th, 20th or 22nd letter of the alphabet?
8. In which State is Washington and Lee university?
9. Indigo is what color?
10. What are the measurements of standard-size (letter size) typewriter paper?

Answers: 1. District Attorney. 2. Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx and Richmond. 3. Pa. 4. Steward or butler. 5. Seventy-five per cent. 6. Andrew Johnson. 7. Twentieth. 8. Virginia. 9. Reddish-blue. 10. 8½" x 11".

Security and Politics

A House Armed Services subcommittee today begins a sweeping investigation of government intelligence agencies triggered by the defection to the Soviet Union of Bernon M. Mitchell and William H. Martin, National Security Agency junior mathematicians. The House Un-American Activities Committee opens a similar series of closed hearings tomorrow. President Eisenhower on Sept. 7 said that the executive branch "must go through our entire procedures" for hiring and firing employees of senstitive government agencies, and that investigation is reported already under way.

Keep it out of the campaign. Don't let McCarthyism get a fresh start.

These are the sentiments being expressed about the latest security scandal—the defection to the U.S.S.R. of two National Security Agency mathematicians—by partisans on both sides of the national political debate.

Disinterested observers agree. One newspaper suggests creation of "a commission of outstanding Americans whose judgment would command universal respect" to review government intelligence activities. The group should be "outside the pull of political partisanship"; presumably its scope would include government security policy.

The history of investigation of sensitive areas of government activity by special commissions in this country—as opposed to experience in Great Britain and Canada—suggests that any such group would be accomplishing a great deal more than its predecessors if it even succeeded in keeping the NSA scandal out of the presidential campaign.

* * * * *

THE PROPOSED nonpartisan commission sounds like the old Hoover Commission. A Hoover Commission task force several years ago also suggested a study of the government security program by a group of "distinguished citizens whose judgment cannot be questioned." However, the full Hoover Commission in its report of Feb. 13, 1955 ignored the task force recommendation.

Congress at the 1955 session did establish a a bipartisan commission to study "the entire government security program." This group embraced distinguished private citizens and members of Congress; its members were appointed, four each, by the President, the Vice President, and the Speaker of the House. Its report was submitted on June 23, 1957. (In the meantime, Congress in July 1956 had received two reports on the federal security program, one by a nine-member special committee of the New York City Bar Association and the other by a Senate Post Office and Civil Service subcommittee. No legislation followed.)

The (Hoover) Commission on Government Security's 11-point program of 1957 aroused little enthusiasm either in the administration or on Capitol Hill. Although several measures embodying its recommendations were subsequently introduced in Congress, none achieved passage. Congress in 1958 did come within one step of approving a bill to make all federal government jobs subject to the security regulations previously applicable only to sensitive positions.

* * * * *

BASIC SECURITY POLICY is set forth in Executive Order No. 10450 of April 27, 1953. The effect of the order was drastically limited, however, by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, June 11, 1956, in the Cole case, that Congress had authorized the used of summary suspension procedures of the Federal Security Program only for government employees in sensitive jobs.

Review of security and intelligence activities appears inevitable at the next session of Congress.

In the meantime, Democrats, remembering the political campaigns of 1952 and 1954, and the "numbers game" housecleaning of 8,008 so-called "security risks" by the Eisenhower administration, will be exercising unusual restraint if they decide to keep the NSA goof out of the campaign.—E.R.R.

What Is "Security"?

Speaking of "security," as the above editorial does, reminds us of a conversation among a group of men the other night, during which the problems of survival in modern war, foreign affairs, and security in general, were discussed.

At one point the question arose, "What is 'Security'?"

It is a difficult word to define in the present context of world affairs. One of the group suggested that "security means you have no question that you'll be alive and kicking tomorrow and the next day." It's a pretty good, though limited, defintion.

* * * * *

SECURITY, in today's world, probably can be better defined by saying what it is not, rather than what it is.

It is not a massive national defense—unless it is adequate, well-deployed, and in the hands of the best possible and wisest possible men.

It is not suspicion of one's fellow countrymen.

It is not "witch-hunts' by congressional subcommittees, badgering teachers or ministers—or anyone else—about their political beliefs.

It is not calling anyone who disagrees with you a "commie," "red," or "pinko."

* * * * *

THESE things are not security.

They are the antithesis of security. They are the actions of fearful, muddled, ignorant men.

True security for the nation today lies in self-confidence, in a sense of purpose and direction, in wise and dynamic leadership, in a willingness to discard outmoded and ineffective ways of doing things and thinking about things.

It is facing our future with courage and determination and positiveness. Fear, name-calling and witch-hunts prove us cowards.—E.A.

Dennis the Menace

Laotian 'Brush Fire' Dangerous To U.S.; Civil War Threatens Tiny Asian Kingdom

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign Editor

The headlines say: Laos crisis worsening.

It means that in another of the faraway places into which the United States has poured material and money the friction between pro-Western, pro-Communist and neutralist forces has touched off another political brush fire dangerous to a much larger area than its own immediate vicinity.

PHIL NEWSOM

Laos, threatened now with civil war, is a tiny landlocked kingdom in what used to be French Indo-China.

The names of its cities and its leaders fall with an unfamiliar ring on Western ears.

Its administrative capital is Vientiane. Its royal capital is Luang Prabang. Its neutralist premier is Souvanna Phouma. Jungle chieftain of the Communist Pathet Lao is Prince Souphanou-Vong, a half-brother of the premier. Leading the fight against the Reds is Gen. Phoumi Nosavan.

Unlikely Names

These are names as unlikely as the fact that to the average American they should suddenly become of real concern.

But as the average American struggles through a suddenly intensive course in world geography he has one thing in common with the sarong-clad peasant in the dusty streets of Vientiane. Until a short time ago, the peasant had never heard of him either.

Even now, as world events swirl about him, he has little real interest.

UPI correspondent Arthur Dommen covered last month's overturn of the pro-Western Laotian government and in a letter to New York headquarters wrote:

"A crisis in Laos, bound to cause a disturbance in the order of a tidal wave outside the country, hardly produces a ripple here. Such a very small number of educated, politically conscious persons in the capital are involved in what's going on that one can say practically that Laos sleeps peacefully through cabinet reshuffles, interim governments and even coups d'etat."

Outcome Important

But as civil war threatens Laos, its strategic position makes the final outcome one of vital importance.

On the north and east lie Communist China and Communist North Vietnam. On the south is Cambodia and to the west Thailand.

Premier Souvanna Phouma is a neutralist who has shown no stomach for measures which would prevent Communist infiltration and ultimate take-over.

Reports trickling out of the Laotian jungle say Gen. Phoumi Nosavan is battling Communist guerillas but with little or no support from the government. Meanwhile, Thailand hints it might send its own troops into Laos if it appears the Reds are gaining an upper hand.

The United States, a member of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization pledged to Lao's defense, has warned Red China there should be no outside interference. But for the moment there is only agreement on this, in tiny Laos anything can happen.

State Department Press Conference Puzzles Reporter

By DICK WEST

Washington — (UPI) — If you want to find out what's going on in the world, a State Department news conference can be a good place to stay away from.

Dick West

You are likely to leave the conference more bewildered than when you went in, which is saying a lot. This, I hasten to add, is not the fault of Secretary of State Christian A. Herter. It is mostly the fault of the acoustics in the department auditorium, where Herter holds his journalistic seances.

On the occasion of Herter's most recent session with the press, I arrived rather late and took a seat just in front of the cameramen who were clustered in the rear.

Cameras Shoot

Every time some newsman arose to ask a question, five television cameramen, using my right ear for a tripod, would start shooting. This created a buzzing noise of the kind a bee makes when it finds a buttercup filled with margarine.

Since Herter's voice was amplified, I could occasionally hear what he was saying, but the reporters were inaudible. Thus, I spent an intriguing half hour trying to figure out the questions to his answers.

But even had I been able to hear the questions, I doubt it would have made much difference. This is because I don't speak Diplomat.

Regardless of what tongue is used–English, French, German or whatever–Diplomat is a language all its own.

It was not until I got back to the office and read the ticker that I became aware of what transpired at the news conference I attended.

Much of it concerned the travel restrictions being placed on Khrushchev and other foreign visitors during the coming United Nations meeting in New York.

As the conference was breaking up, I overheard part of a conversation between a couple of State Department employees.

"I wish," one said, "that they'd restrict me to Manhattan Island for a week."

Now that I could understand.

... 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.

Veterans and Responsibility

To the Editor: Your editorials are always read by this writer, who invariably agrees with you, but believes that this time you are away off base in "How Much Help for Vets?"

You quote Changing Times, a publication primarily interested in business promotion and profits. To it and to you I address these few remarks.

The veterans were not assured that they would return home unscathed by war. They were available and took their chances. Neither was a guarantee given that the war would end at a certain date, and not continue for another year with its fearful toll of casualties.

As for the apparent apathy of veterans to join veterans organizations – it is a human failing which is cured when a crisis arises.

There was no G. I. Bill of Rights for World War I veterans.

Do you favor closing down Camp White?

David Frisch
P. O. Box 292
White City, Ore.

Editor's note: Two points: 1. Changing Times, which carries no advertising and is affiliated with no business organization, has no particular ax to grind. 2. Camp White should remain, primarily for the care of service - connected cases, and in any event until other means of caring for indigent, non - service - connected veterans can be worked out. But we oppose a monthly-sum pension for ex-servicemen without regard to means or disability.

Measure No. 11

To the Editor: The Association of Oregon Counties wishes to draw attention to the merits of Measure No. 11 on the November ballot. The association has supported the "home rule" movement for Oregon counties, and favors adoption of this additional amendment to clarify the financing powers of counties which adopt home rule charters.

In the arguments for passage of Measure No. 11, the points of major importance are:

1. Measure No. 11 is corrective in nature. It was submitted by the legislature to offset a district attorney's opinion which, if sustained in the courts, would severely hamper the financing of public improvements in home rule counties.

2. The measure would not increase property taxes. If it is not passed, charter counties might have to resort to the cumbersome procedure of creating "benefit districts" to finance improvements which are regularly financed from general revenues.

3. Passage of Measure No. 11 will strengthen the statewide "county home rule" movement. Nine counties have already appointed charter committees, and more might join if this obstacle is removed by passing of Measure No. 11.

We will appreciate whatever coverage you are able to provide on this issue. The subject matter is somewhat technical, and there is a great need for public discussion of the proposal.

Kenneth C. Tollenaar
Executive Secretary
Association of Oregon Counties
Salem, Ore.

Reporting Dogs "Mean"

To the Editor: I am sure the person that reported the two dogs running loose, and reads in the paper that one was taken to the pound – perhaps to be killed – must feel very proud of theirself.

I would give them a new title, "The Meanest Person in Medford."

Many mothers are working in the fruit now and things naturally would not go as smoothly at home.

Perhaps the children did not watch the dog as closely as they should, or perhaps it broke or chewed itself loose.

Dogs are not yet used to being tied up.

In the early days no one respected a man that beat his horses.

Today we should put the person who delights in reporting loose dogs in the same category.

Leila A. Morrow
531 North Bartlett st.
Medford.

Boost for Red Raiders

To the Editor: Knowing your propensity for assisting causes which are genuinely justified, I should like to make a plea for what, I believe, amounts to a real need in our Rogue River Valley.

Southern Oregon college has, over the years, provided sensible, as well as, in many cases, spectacular athletic programs to the Rogue valley. In this process, but not incidental, a good number of boys have been helped to secure a college education. Many of these boys have risen to become top educators as well as businessmen throughout Jackson county and the State of Oregon.

This has been made possible through personal and financial sacrifice by a large number of people. For example, the 50-odd boys who engage in football each fall must stop work at least three weeks early to engage in pre-season practice, thereby giving up income sorely needed by them to support themselves during the year. To offset this, and to give assistance to athletes in other sports who could not continue school otherwise, a small group of us, mostly from Ashland, have provided scholarships for approximately a dozen deserving boys each year.

Currently our group, the Southern Oregon Red Raider's Boosters, are at something of an impasse. Rising tuition costs ($78 per term) have just about made it impossible to continue scholarship aid to the extent that we have previously.

Frankly we need more help. I cannot think of a more deserving cause than to help to provide a college education for a deserving student in these times. And I can assure you that "deserving" is an apt word.

Over the years, the athletes at SOC have compiled an outstanding record scholastically. For example eight of ten basketball players on a recent squad were in the honor society, which requires a B-plus average for two terms.

At this point I should like to make one point clear. No excessive proselyting or subsidizing program is run by our group. Every cent collected by us is turned over to the college to be used exclusively to apply on tuition scholarships. No free room and board, books, incidentals, or spending money is ever given to a student.

As I say, we need help. If any individual, firm, or service or other organization could possibly supply one term, or even lesser amount, of scholarship funds, I believe they could consider this money well spent. Would anyone with ideas or where-with-all who wishes to assist us either contact me at 343 East Main st., Ashland (MU 2-4221), or Ted Schopf, the athletic director at Southern Oregon college? Our organization is solidly behind a bigger and better continuance of athletics at Southern Oregon college.

E. H. Singmaster, President
Red Raiders' Booster Club
Ashland Ore.

How Better?

To the Editor: I am Charlie Porter's secretary and have been since he went to Congress in 1957. I have submitted my resignation to take effect after the election because I love the West and do not want to live 3,000 miles away from it and my family in California. I therefore have nothing to gain personally by the results of this election. I am moving to California, somewhat regretfully.

But I am tired of seeing a sincere man, devoted to his neighbors in Oregon and to all mankind, vilified and harassed unfairly.

He has the vision to see that every one of us is a citizen ultimately of the whole world, not of a single isolated area.

He has the capacity to survey the whole world without neglecting his own part of it.

He has the enviable constitution to work at his job more hours than most of us are awake.

He has a devotion to democracy, not only for America but for every country and for every race in the world, that has been equaled by few men of our time.

He has the bigness to believe that there is room for difference of opinion without getting overheated or bearing grudges.

I appeal to the people of the Fourth District – the neighbors of Charlie Porter–to assess the character and principles of this man and ask themselves how better they could be represented in Congress.

Barbara Burke
Secretary to
Congressman Porter
Washington, D. C.

Hurricane Donna

To the Editor: Here is some real news – directly from one who has just come through hurricane "Donna" which struck us Saturday night and truthfully gave us a rough time through the night. Well, we are thankful that there was practically no loss of life, however, the great loss will of course be in a financial way and will amount to millions of dollars.

To those who have had a personal experience of either a hurricane or a tornado, we who have been through both experiences will take the hurricane, due to the advance notice of its direction, force and likely path, thus enabling us to be prepared. A tornado gives so little warning or chance to get out of its path that the results are beyond description. The writer and his families and relatives have been through both experiences.

The experience of being in one's own home and hearing the terrific beating of the wind and rain against the windows and walls is actually beyond description, especially with power lines and phone lines down and broken tree branches coming down upon houses and autos and in the cases of uprooted trees, the blocking of streets.

And in some cases the overflowing of lakes, or a few of the 42 lakes within the city limits of Orlando, Florida, caused some of the families to leave their homes for Red Cross shelters and church buildings, etc., where the best of protection and care was taken of one and all.

However, to look out the window, as I am writing, and see the beautiful sunny day one would hardly realize that we had just been through the terrifying experience of one of the worst hurricanes to have hit Florida – this Donna gal was sure a wild one – the only reminder is that our yards are piled high with branches, leaves, etc., and that we are still without electric service and without phone service.

Just one other reason to be thankful we had gas equipped appliances so were able to assist our next door neighbors to keep their meats and other eats from spoiling. So in conclusion, may we say there are so many ways and things to be thankful for – as it could have been a lot worse, in many ways.

Our relatives, living in your fine city, are being also advised that all of us are safe (Mrs. Cora M. Doney and Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins of 1883 Cunningham, Medford).

L. Dean Mather
Orlando, Fla.

Happy Boy

To the Editor: The Jackson County chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of America wishes to thank all of the people who so generously responded to the fund-raising dinner given by the Eagles lodge and auxiliary last Saturday night for the motorized wheel chair. Larry is a very happy boy and so are all of us. It was a huge success. Thank you all so very much.

Wanda Brown,
President
Jackson County
Chapter MDAA
216 East Main st.
Medford

Publicity for Reds

To the Editor: In a midweek edition of our Portland morning paper the past week on page one, there were 15 items; five of those items were of, or about, Red Russia, Communism or Khrushchev.

On page two, nine items; seven referred to Red Russia, Communism or Khrushchev.

On page three, two items; one about Khrushchev.

On page four, three items; three items about Red Russia, Communism and Khrushchev.

A total of 29 items; 16 devoted to Russia.

There was more in the edition but I gave it up after the count down.

Somebody, somewhere sure likes em, don't they?

Most of the items were APs releases; I might say the rest of the pages were of Meier and Frank advertisements, not there being any connection.

But when they cram us full of those releases, makes a guy wonder what the Hell is going on around here.

(Name on file)
Medford

Editor's note: Question – Is it safer to have an enemy you know about, or one about which nothing is known?

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Dag Hammarskjold, secretary-general of United Nations, made an interesting statement at UN headquarters. He said:

"United Nations was originally created as an organization of the GREAT NATIONS of the world to keep the peace.

"It is now changing into the Great Opportunity of the SMALL NATIONS to shape the future of the world."

HE was referring, of course, to the situation in Africa, where a two-bit demagog, who was referred to the other day by the London Times as "one more unpredictable and virtually MANIACAL national leader," is teaming up with Communist Russia in an effort to become a Big Shot on his own account.

He is threatening to call in the Russians if he doesn't get what he wants, and if he calls in the Russians all of Africa will be likely to become just another slave satellite of the U.S.S.R.–which is about as far from what the Africans want as the North Pole is from the South Pole.

The Africans want to run their own show. If this Patrice Lumumba beckons the Russians in, and they come in, there will be no running of their own show for the African countries. They will do as they are told.

AS this is written, the nine-nation African group of UN members, seriously worried about the anarchy and bloodshed that independence brought to the Congo, have scheduled a session to discuss the plan for a subcommittee "investigation" at the scene–meaning in the Congo.

They'd better do more than investigate. They'd better make it plain to all the world that they don't want the Russian camel to get its nose under the edge of the African tent. As Secretary-General Hammarskjold suggests, that is their Great Opportunity to go on running their own affairs.

WHILE we're at it, we'd better offer the same advice to Latin America, where another two-bit demagog of the "maniacal" type so well described by the London Times is threatening the peace and the liberty of a continent by inviting the Russians in to help him become a Big Shot.

There is still some reason to believe that if the nine small African nations who are members of UN make it flatly plain that they want the Russian camel to keep its nose out of the African tent Russia might be scared away from Africa. There is even better reason to believe that if all the nations of the Western Hemisphere make it unmistakably clear that there will be TROUBLE if Russia moves into Cuba Russia may decide to STAY OUT of Cuba.

There is still a possibility that Russia fears world public opinion.

AT ANY rate, Mr. Hammarskjold hits the nail on the head when he asserts that in the present situation United Nations offers to the small nations their Great Opportunity to shape the future of the world.

HEADS WOMEN ZIONISTS

New York — (UPI) — The 46th national convention of Hadassah, Women's Zionist organization of America, concluded Wednesday night with the election of Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky of New York City as new president. She succeeds Dr. Miriam K. Freund, also of New York City.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

THERE'S A hard-luck actor who's appeared in one colossal failure after another for several seasons. Recently, however, he got a break. A broken leg, to be exact. Herb Stein points out that it's the first time in his career the poor fellow's been in the same cast for more than a week.

* * *

Henny Youngman is one comedian who has learned the value of compromise in married life. "Take last week," he proposes. "My wife wanted a fur coat; I wanted a new automobile. So we compromised. I bought her the fur coat—but she has to keep it in the garage."

* * *

Papa's pride and joy flunked geometry in the twelfth grade. "Don't you worry, my boy," consoled his pa. "Practically nobody in the dress business speaks it anyhow."

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