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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
Dec. 28, 1950 (Thursday)
Gov. Douglas McKay late yesterday appointed Frank J. Van Dyke, Medford attorney and former speaker of the state house of representatives, to membership on the state board of higher education.

20 YEARS AGO
Dec. 28, 1940 (Saturday)
A replica of this year's Christmas seal, in giant size form, is the window decoration at June's Day Nursery on East Main st.

30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 28, 1930 (Sunday)
Leaders of the county Grange will be installed at special ceremonies in the Medford Armory tomorrow night.

40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 28, 1920 (Tuesday)
A considerable amount of enthusiasm was expressed at yesterday's chamber of commerce meeting for the continued exploration of possible oil deposits in the Rogue valley.

50 YEARS AGO
Dec. 28, 1910 (Wednesday)
Leading citizens here confidently predict that 1911 will see the greatest development and growth in the city's history, breaking even those growth records set in 1910.

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

1. In which European city is Piccadilly Circus?
2. This at last is the bone of my bones and the flesh of my flesh; she shall be called... (what)?

Is Humankind All Alone?

Man's strides toward space are amazing. Twenty years ago, only readers of science fiction, and a few far-seeing scientists, ever seriously considered the proposition that men might someday stand on the moon, or on Mars, or even consider crossing the immense void which separates our own little solar system from other parts of our galaxy.

Ten years ago it was no longer considered wild to think that maybe, some day, in a century or two, science would progress to a point where interplanetary travel would become possible.

AND as recently as five years ago, it was an optimist indeed who foresaw a man on the moon in this century.

Today, however, it is beginning to appear likely that this could happen within the decade. And as the accelerating rate of research, experimentation and speculative thought (all of them prerequisites to space flight) indicates the necessary breakthroughs could come even sooner.

Once the first big leap — to the moon — is made, the technology that permitted it to happen could also send terrestrial vehicles to Mars or Venus soon thereafter.

WITH this preliminary goal actually in sight, and who knows what sort of scientific and technological breakthroughs in the offing, some attention has turned to what will be found when men reach toward the stars.

The "little man from Mars" gags have gone the rounds in recent years (they're old stuff to science fiction buffs). But underlying them is serious consideration and serious concern in scientific and theological circles.

The New York Times comments: "What would be the result of our making contact with other intelligent life in the universe?"

Now the topic has received the dignity of being considered in a formal report prepared by the Brookings Institution for the government. This report raises the question of whether our civilization could survive if confronted by a superior extraterrestrial society. At the least, the discovery of any kind of extraterrestrial life would force the revision of many ideas which lie behind traditional thinking.

IT WOULD indeed. Such revisions have been forced on men, sometimes against their will, a number of times. The flat world which was the center of the universe; the round world around which all creation spun — both of these ancient concepts went down the drain with the discoveries of Copernicus, Brahe, Kepler, Galileo and Newton.

We now know that we are inhabitants of a tiny planet, circling a smallish sun, tucked way off along the edge of a galaxy incorporating billions of stars, and which itself is just one of millions of such aggregations of stars, planets, and masses of gas and interstellar dust.

If, then, it were found that any substantial number of the billions of planets contain intelligent life (and who can say they don't?) it would force a major revolution in our earth-centered thinking — a change almost as shattering as was the acceptance of the theory of human evolution, which upset the theological world a little more than a century ago.

If we do make contact with extraterrestrial intelligence, superior to us in any significant degree, what will be the consequence?

Could we, proud humans, reconcile ourselves to being "second best" to an alien race? Could we, steeped in an earth-centered theology, make the mental and emotional leap to concepts with a far broader base?

These must be some of the questions which the astronomers are asking themselves as they train their radiotelescopes on far-off stars, half-hoping and half-fearing to receive the ordered radiations which mean someone else is out there, that mankind is not unique and all alone. — E.A.

Camping Fee Proposal

We have been concerned, and so have the United States forest service and a lot of other state and local agencies, about the "recreation explosion" as it applies to outdoor camping.

For years, public agencies have been constructing and maintaining public camps at no cost to the camping public, using general revenues.

More recently, this practice has been questioned, on the basis that those who use them ought to pay for them — or at least pay a higher proportion of their cost than those who do not.

THIS is one of the questions the county court is now sweating over in connection with the camping facilities at Howard Prairie Lake.

And it is of concern to the Rogue River National forest particularly at such heavily-used facilities as Lake of the Woods and Fish Lake.

The state some time ago began charging for overnight use of its public camping facilities. The National parks have long charged a modest fee.

In our experience, those who use these facilities are more than happy to pay a small overnight charge (usually \$1 per night) for clean and well-cared-for facilities.

IN the case of the forest service a difficulty has sometimes been in collecting such fees.

Congressman Joseph W. Barr of Indiana, who recently completed a nationwide forest service camping tour, now proposes that \$5 windshield stickers for cars be sold — the purchaser to be allowed in any overnight forest service facility; the receipts to go for their construction, maintenance and upkeep.

It makes sense, and we hope it gets some serious consideration. — E.A.

Dennis the Menace



\*THEY'LL LET YA PET 'EM... IF YOU'RE QUICK ENOUGH!\*

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.

30-Plus Poem
To the Editor: So many members requested this "scribbleation" that I haven't time to write it for them.

Thanks, and Season's wishes for the very best for you and yours. Pearl F. Spackman, Jacksonville, Ore.

Together
When oldsters get together As we have here today, You know of what I'm thinking—

Of the words I wish to say, Sometimes I forget about Santa Claus And good works he used to do, But I'm sure I've memories in common

With those of you and you and you. Our kiddies have grown and moved away Taking our grandchildren, young and spry. Of course some have few memories To help Old Father Time get by;

But we, with friendship's togetherness, Have learned to know each other well. For we're Fifty Plus Club members Sharing joys that naught can quell.

Each smile we smile, each message sent, Each call voiced over the phone Gives its added Season's Joy: Make us know we're not alone.

Resolved: that no harsh words escape us— No frown creeps 'cross a brow. Let the clean-slated New Year that's stealing in Help us to keep this vow. We've read that Christ loves children; We've proof that he loves us, too.

Or he wouldn't have let us grow so "big." I didn't say "old," did you? As long as we live we'll be loyal; Good cheer will remain with us. We'll work, we'll play, we will sing together Every week at the Fifty Plus.

Old Soldier
To the Editor: Just a few words before the close of 1960, then maybe I will shut my mouth too. It is very hard for a bunch of old fighting men to pick up the newspapers and reach such headlines as: Laos War Threatened, Nasser Threatens War, 130th Warning Marks Holiday, Castro Makes Big Deal With Nikita.

If our ex-Soldier President had forcefully warned that long whiskered Ho-Bo long ago to pipe down, things would be different today. Now every two-bit insurrectionist thinks that he, too, can slap us and then run to his pal Nikita for help.

The propaganda broadcast to these countries is ridiculous, but we sit back and sigh. As an ex-soldier, I think that Ike is leaving the country in a heck of a condition, and as a politician, I think that he should have stayed in the Army.

Happy New Year. Malemute Slim, White City, Ore.

"P.U." Said the Skunk
To the Editor: We read with interest Mr. Widmer's letter regarding smoke, liquor and poisons. Some will argue that tobacco is not a poison or injurious, even though it has been proven injurious to lung cancer and heart disease. If it is not a poison then why is it that government hospitals that handle nicotine inmates only have made arrangements with the tobacco companies

to use the nicotine which has been brought out of the bodies of these inmates through steam baths and run into a vat where it is then processed into a spray called "Black Leaf Forty" and labeled "Poison." If this spray kills insects, what will it do to humans?

It used to be that hospitals and doctors' offices would have a sign "No Smoking Please." But now it seems there is no restraint. Probably because so few heeded the request. Some people will even smoke in a sick room without asking permission.

We did see one sign in a doctor's office that read "No smoking please, it is offensive to some and harmful to all." If smokers wish to commit suicide the slow way, it seems they should have respect for others, especially in a sick room and not fill it with smoke, but be courteous to leave the room. Why should hospitals have to put a smoker and a non-smoker in the same room? When it's difficult to breathe and the room is full of foul smoke, it doesn't help the patient to improve. Some hospitals have vending machines as do other public places, where even a child can get cigarettes, yet it is against the state law to sell to minors.

Yes, tobacco may have its use for spray to kill pests, but not for the benefit of health for the human body. A respectable skunk one day met Grandma smoking a cigarette— One whiff of the odor And he started to flee. "P.U." said the skunk, "THAT beats ME." Mrs. Ernest Santo 204 Lozier Lane Medford.

Hospital Needs
To the Editor: Seven years ago when we came to Medford I first heard of Mercy Flights and decided to contribute to it as a very fine enterprise. Mercy Flights has now contributed to me by taking me up to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Vancouver on election day and I much appreciate the speed and ease with which they worked. George Milligan as pilot and Hank Hart as co-pilot did a perfect job and pleasantly took me up on what turned out to be a very nice day.

May I also mention the cooperation of Medford Ambulance Service, and was happy to assist in routing their bill through the proper channels as I imagine they help out in times of distress and often have to wait a long time for their return.

The hospital at Vancouver is staffed by most capable, dedicated doctors and a friendly group of nurses and nursing aids. Except for the fact that I was anxious to be at home I enjoyed and certainly benefited by the care I was given. The physical therapy was particularly helpful to me and I am now planning to install a bar in our house (parallel, that is) so that I can continue the helpful exercise that did me so much good. Considering the fact that two of us in my ward were from Medford, two from Grants Pass and one from Coos Bay, one is inclined to think about the possibility of some day having hospital facilities available closer to their homes for southern Oregon and northern California veterans. I can't help but think of the empty, unused buildings available at the White City Domiciliary and in my layman's thinking, hope that some day they can be

Gossip About Political Future of Two Kennedy Brothers Mentions Senatorship

By LYLE C. WILSON
Washington — (AP) — The political word today is that brother Bobby Kennedy will have an escape hatch from the Justice Department if he wants it.



It would be a chance to go to the U. S. Senate in 1962. There will be a special 1962 Senate election in Massachusetts for the final two years of the term of President-elect John F. Kennedy. The president-elect resigned his Senate seat last week.

Gov. Foster Furcolo of Massachusetts named to the vacancy 43-year-old Benjamin A. Smith II, of Gloucester, Mass. Smith was John F. Kennedy's Harvard roommate. Furcolo acknowledged in announcing Smith's appointment that the pick had been by the president-elect.

Kennedy is known to have told Furcolo bluntly that the Kennedys did not want a person named now to the Senate vacancy who would desire to continue in the Senate beyond 1962.

Furcolo May Run
This was stipulated to protect Bobby from having to run in 1962 — if he wants to run — against an incumbent. Furcolo's announcement said Smith had agreed to be a two-year senator, no more. Furcolo also has said that he might, himself, be a candidate

for the Democratic senatorial nomination in 1962, regardless of the Kennedy's.

The idea of an escape hatch from the Justice Department for Bobby does not connote that he might run for the Senate in 1962 if he goofed in the cabinet as attorney general. A cabinet officer who flubs his job is not likely to hazard further embarrassment by seeking major elective office.

It is likely, however, that the Senate is now and will be in 1962 more attractive to brother Bobby than a cabinet post. He was always reluctant to accept the attorney generalship. Those lawyers who serve as counsel in big-time senatorial investigations were often than not developed a great desire to be senators.

Brather Ted, too. The Boston Globe said last week that brother Edward (Ted) Kennedy would be named assistant U.S. attorney in Boston after the first of the year. The Globe said brother Ted wanted to run for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1962.

There have been rumors that Ted had his eye on that Senate seat in 1962. If so, he would just squeak by on age, if he actually would be eligible. Ted is 28 and senators must be 30. The House eligibility minimum is 25 years.

The New York Times reported from Boston that some Massachusetts Democrats were sullen about the Smith appointment. Some of them promised Bobby or Ted a real fight in 1962 if either sought the Senate seat. That could be quite a shindy, what with Fishmen involved, and all.

Hill To Submit Bill On Barge Control

Salem — (AP) — Public Utility Commissioner Jonel C. Hill said Tuesday he will submit a bill in the 1961 legislature calling for abolition of state controls over barge lines.

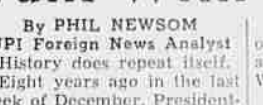
The law, passed 11 years ago, was designed to have barge firms pay fees comparable to truckers and railroads. A 1951 federal court decision said the state has no authority over barges on the Columbia river and the law now applies to the Willamette river only.

Hill said along with the Columbia, harbors and the coast are exempt and the law is "meaningless" and should be removed from the books.

The fee now collected by the state for administering the law is one tenth of one percent. A few barge operators still are paying this.

History Repeats: Mr. K. Seeks Talk With New President

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst
History does repeat itself. Eight years ago in the last week of December, President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower was preparing to take over from President Harry Truman.



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He also said he would cooperate in a new diplomatic attempt to end the Korean War.

"The U.S.S.R.," he said, "is interested in ending the war in Korea."

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Hopes For Talks
Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev hopes for early, close contacts with President-elect John F. Kennedy. Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko tells the Supreme Soviet:

"I am authorized to state that on the part of the Soviet government there is full readiness to promote the all-around betterment of Soviet-American relations."

The Asian hot war today exists in Southeast Asia where Russian air drops and arms flowing overland from Communist North Viet Nam feed the pro-Communist Laotian forces of Capt. Kong Le and the guerrilla fighters of the Communist Pathet Lao.

India especially fears that Laos, whose pro-Western elements are being aided by the United States, could develop into another Korea. U.S. observers do not believe that Russia will let the Laotian situation get that far.

Pressure Play
One theory is that the Russians and the Red Chinese are exploiting the Laotian situation as a pressure play to force the new United States president into an early meeting with Khrushchev and possibly Red Chinese leaders.

In any event, the Reds are well prepared to foment trouble below the "great south Asia divide" which separates areas of Chinese and Indian cultures.

Early in 1953, only a few weeks after Eisenhower took office, the Red Chinese announced the establishment of the "Thai people's autonomous government" in the southern part of China's Yunnan province.

People of the Thai race predominate in Laos and Thailand and also live in Burma and northwest Viet Nam. Thus Red China set up a natural springboard for infiltration through the whole of Southeast Asia.

Gun Handling Promotion Lauded

Portland — (AP) — The State Game commission said today that for the second year in a row it has received an award of merit from the National Rifle association for its efforts in promoting safe gun handling in Oregon.

Oregon was rated as one of the top 10 states in the nation for outstanding achievement in hunter safety training during the year.

utilized for hospital facilities. White City, or Camp White as I know it, already has a very good dental department, an x-ray department, a fire department and adequate water and sewer systems. Although it does not have a medical school in the backyard, it is close enough to Portland so that specialists and consultants could readily be brought down by plane, perhaps on a recurring system if training were needed for local personnel. It is my impression that the veterans themselves actually prefer resident physicians rather than changing interns.

So in every way I feel that a great service might be rendered in the opening of additional facilities in this area. Veldon J. Diment 213 Portland ave. Medford

Happy New Year?
To the Editor: It was the day after Christmas and all over the place Employees were resuming the 'Old Rat Race'.

The Boss man greeted each one with a sneer; Gone was all the Merry Christmas cheer; Well might his secretary be out of sorts.

Her desk was piled high with reports and reports; Like it or not, she had no choice. She had to get out that annual invoice. Even the janitor was up on his car.

The once clean floors were covered with smear; When in came the errand boy, whistling and gay. As if it were still the glad Christmas day. The Boss man growled, "What's wrong with you, Mike?"

"Oh, sir," said the boy. "Santa brought me a bike. Now I can run errands in half the time. And you won't say again I'm not worth a dime." The Boss man smiled, took the hand of the lad, "Well, good for you, and for that I am glad." The workers all smiled at the happy boy. They were glad to share some of his joy. The dreary day had somehow grown brighter; Each worker felt his task had grown lighter. Because of a boy who was full of good cheer And willing to help make it a HAPPY NEW YEAR. L. G. W. 108 South Ivy st. Medford

Advice on Foreign Policy Pours In To President-Elect

By RICHARD SPONG
One thing President-elect Kennedy will not lack—advice.

He had a reputation in the Senate for unusual diligence in keeping himself informed. His scholarship was more generally demonstrated in the presidential campaign. And in the interim between election and inauguration he has been receiving reports from his "brain trust" on a wide range of subjects, including national defense, governmental organization, depressed areas, and, most importantly, foreign policy.

Some of this advice is extremely informal. For example, he will get a report from three Democratic senators who recently completed, in the company of Ted Kennedy, the President-elect's younger brother, a tour of 16 African countries. Interviewed on Dec. 21, they said they would recommend a support for an independent Algeria and a stronger United Nations role in the Congo.

Other Groups
Kennedy will also receive foreign policy recommendations from a dozen groups and sub-groups on such concerns as economic policy, including the balance-of-payments and gold outflow problems, foreign aid, trade, the role of U.S. Information Agency, disarmament, and relations with specific areas.

One example, Gov. G. Meenen Williams of Michigan, designated Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, has been so busy with foreign policy briefings, and with term-end cares of state, that he is postponing his planned African tour until after inauguration Day.

The appointment of Williams, or at least its timing, has raised some fears among U.S. friends in Latin America and Europe. That an assistant for a specific area should be named before the top man—or, as it appeared, even before the top man had even been selected—led to the anticipation that area would receive undue attention (translated as economic aid) to the neglect of other areas.

Others Criticized
The same criticism was made, in a sense, of other Kennedy appointments in the State Department. Both Dean Rusk and Under Secretary Chester Bowles have concentrated, diplomatically, on Asia; it is feared they too will be preoccupied with their best-known friends. Choosing Adlai E. Stevenson as Ambassador to the United Nations was taken in some quarters as meaning that the world body will play an even greater role in future American diplomacy, to the disadvantage of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other regional alliances.

Medford Man Gets Klamath Timber

Yreka — John W. Bratton, Medford, was named high bidder in the recent sale of 315,000 board feet of timber in the Upper Barkhouse unit, Klamath National Forest.

Total advertised value was \$3,065.50, and the value based on the highest bid was \$7,461.

Timber volumes included ponderosa pine, 135,000 board feet; sugar pine, 32,000 board feet; white fir, 3,000 board feet; and Douglas fir, 145,000 board feet.

Seismograph Records Quake Near Seattle

Seattle — (AP) — The University of Washington's seismograph recorded a "moderately strong" earthquake at 2:37 a.m. Tuesday, centered about 330 miles from Seattle.

Prof. Frank Neuman, university seismologist, said the quake "probably" was an underwater tremor off the West Coast.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

PLAYWRIGHT HARRY KURNITZ, on an Atlantic crossing, once occupied a deck chair next to the great George Bernard Shaw. Shaw had his nose buried in a book the first two days, however, and Kurnitz was too over-awed to interrupt him, although he was dying to know what book it was that engrossed Shaw so thoroughly.

Finally, Kurnitz saw his chance on the third morning. Shaw put down the book and set forth on a walk round the deck. The moment he was out of sight, Kurnitz picked up the book. It was "Volume IV of the Collected Plays of George Bernard Shaw!"

Raymond Moley tells about a small-town minister who reluctantly conducted funeral services for a consistently sinful brother. He concluded his brief remarks with a heartfelt, "We all hope the deceased is now residing where we know he ain't!"

Dot Rone has found the perfect name for the new dog pound in an upstate city. She calls it "Check-Pull-O-Mutt."

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