

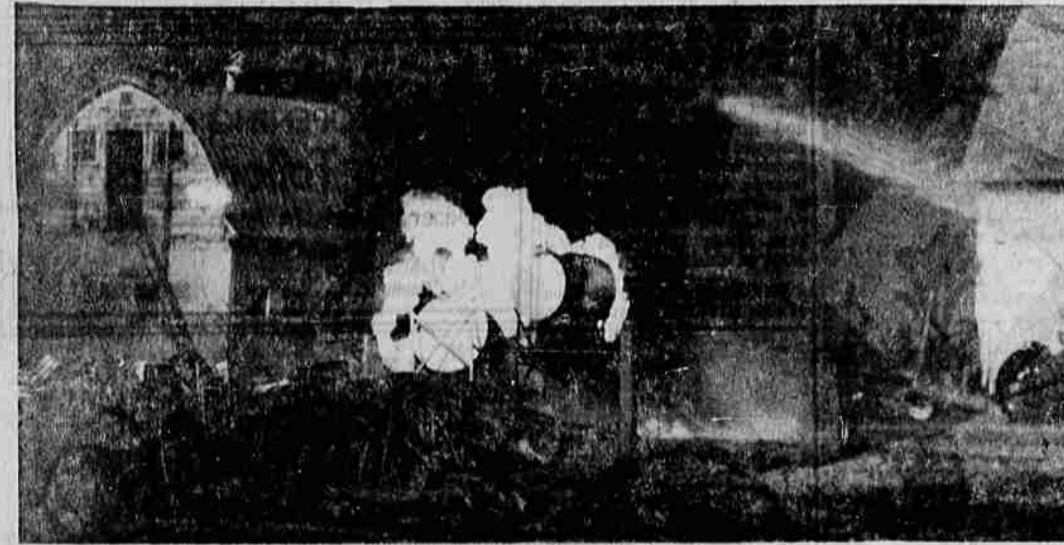
Shooting of Officer Picked As Top Spot News



CRATER LAKE HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE
... Work commences on freeway in Medford ...



... Four bodies found at plane wreckage ...



... Buildings destroyed in Table Rock fire ...



... Bids opened for \$1.5 hospital wing ...



... Candidates' fair highlights political campaigning ...

Material Witness Story Best Feature

A state police officer being shot in the leg, two material witnesses held in the Medford city jail, and the Jackson county home rule study committee organization and discussion of county government were voted the top news stories of 1960 by members of the Mail Tribune's news department. Eight of the 12 employees in the news department chose the shooting of State Policeman Donald Cain as the top "spot" news story of the year. "Spot" news is considered a story which has no long-range effect on the citizens.

Two staff members picked as the top spot news story the finding of a Cessna aircraft near Dutchman's peak. Four California people were killed in the crash, and a search for the missing plane was conducted for some time before a hunter found the plane's wreckage.

The Medford Domestic Laundry fire and the O. H. Bengtson case involving embezzlement of Medford Escrow company funds were rated the top stories by two other staff members.

Half the news department employees rated the Bengtson case the second most important story of the year, and half rated the murder of Mrs. Marion S. Hamilton in Ashland as the third most important spot news story.

The rest of the votes for the most important three spot news stories were divided, among the number of traffic fatalities in Jackson county (there were 24 during the year), the death of William Campbell by beating in a downtown Medford parking lot, Sen. John F. Kennedy's visit to Medford for the Pear Blossom Festival, the Table Rock forest fire, and John Day's mountain climbing accident in Alaska.

Five staff members picked the home rule study committee as the top general news story of 1960. A general news story is one which has a long-range effect on the public welfare.

Two first place votes went to new construction in the area, and two went to the announcement that Sacred Heart hospital would close, and the subsequent announcement that it would remain open.

One first place vote each went to the lumber market conditions, the rabid bat news, and the generally good business progress in the valley. The latter includes new construction, highway work and similar long-range programs.

Four staff members rated the home rule study group as second most important general news story of 1960, and five voted for Highway 99 freeway work as the third most important story.

The rest of the second and third place votes were divided among discussions on distributing O and C in more counties to help education, the Rogue Valley Art association, the proposal for a multi-purpose stadium in Jackson county, the Mt. Ashland ski area development proposal, the Agate dam portion of the Rogue Basin project, Dr. Edwin R. Durno defeating Charles O. Porter as fourth district Congressional representative, and progress in air pollution in the valley.

Eleven of the 12 news department employees voted for the material witness story as the best feature news story last year. The witnesses, Virgil Payne Bennett and Norman James (Mac) McNis, were held in the city jail several weeks because they saw William Campbell beaten to death.

Other First Place Vote
The other first place vote went to the continuing legal procedures between Mrs. Ann Todd and the Eagle Point Irrigation district and its officers.

Five second place and three third place votes went to the Mrs. Todd-EPID legal battle, and five second place and two third place votes went to the off-and-on dog control situation in Jackson county.

Other second and third place votes in the feature news category went to stories on Dallas Purcell, who lives with his family in the mountains north of the Table Rock area, and the town affiliation with Alba, Italy.

Following is a month-by-month review of activities in the area during the past year.



... Medford affiliates with Alba ...

Moore elected vice president, First National Bank of Oregon ... John Dellenback seeks state representative office.

FEBRUARY
Mrs. Evelyn Nye seeks reelection as state representative. Mrs. Ann Todd objects to Eagle Point Irrigation district's actions. Three directors — James Sandoe, Robert Loper, and Jerry Turner — announced by Oregon Shakespearean festival. Fruit growers petition state for emergency funds. Petition filed to place Sen. Wayne Morse on primary ballot for presidential nomination. Chamber of commerce endorses Agate dam proposal. City council grants license for second taxi cab company, and airport limousine service. Bomb scare evacuates city hall for 30 minutes. Town affiliation committee recommends Alba, Italy, to be sister city. Higher than usual employment credited to mild weather. Members of county court receive state assignments. School officials plan bond issue to finance needed classrooms. Edwin Durno plans to enter Congressional contest. Alan Holmes to seek district attorney job. Pat McLaughlin, Medford High senior elected mayor for Student Government day. Edward McGinty and L. E. Ager file for county surveyor position. Reorganization committee debates annexation of area south of Barnett rd. Petitions filed to enter Hubert Humphrey in Presidential race. A hunting accident responsible for death of Homer W. Buttram. Charles O. Porter to seek reelection. Gerald Scannell Jr. files for district attorney. Pacific Telephone Northwest tells of three-quarter million dollar improvement plan in Ashland. Medford celebrates 75th anniversary. Plans discussed for unionizing food clerks and restaurant workers in area. Miss Annette Gray, retired city teacher, named 1960 Woman of the Year. Distinguished Service award presented to Delbert T. Landing. Two-million-dollar federal building proposed for Medford. Mayor Snider succeeds as president, League of Oregon Cities. County jail prisoners riot.

MARCH
Rural school district budget cut. Two-car collision claims lives of Clarence E. Pullen and Vernon L. Ogye. Ashland council approves hospital plans. Edwin H. Taylor to seek county commissioner job. Sheriff Joseph Walsh serves as chairman of County Republican group. Donald M. Thompson, sentenced to life imprisonment for Safeway robbery. Miss Inez Holcomb files for state representative office along with Robert Duncan. W. J. Rogers, horticulturalist, arrives for fruit frost forecast season. Chester Rapp files for county treasurer along with Karl Janouch. Ashland woman, Mrs. Marion S. Hamilton, found shot to death in home. New pressroom facilities readied for Mail Tribune. City officials complete preliminary plans for extending facilities at airport. Phoenix residents okay water bond issue. Girl Scouts purchase campsite land in "Little Switzerland" area. Faber's Farmers Supply company destroyed by fire. Sen. John Kennedy agrees to head Pear Blossom festival parade. Fire destroys home of pioneer Anderson family.

APRIL
Medford voters approve \$750,000 bond issue to finance needed classrooms. March said to be "second worst" March on record in vicinity. Fire damages Cooley Theater building. Robert Ha-



... Taylor wounds Officer Cain ...

worth considered for county recreation director as well as city recreation head. Robert C. Mix sentenced to 8 years in state penitentiary for assault with deadly weapon. Pear trees in full bloom. Season tickets for city swimming pools planned. Three high school athletes seriously injured in auto crash. Some 10,000 Easter eggs "hunted" in Hawthorne park. Clifford L. Howard, long-time circuit court reporter, dies. Rosemary Doolen, Medford, named Miss Salem. More than 70 citizens protest dog control law in Jacksonville. County juvenile department announces expanded activities in crime prevention. County Commissioner Chester Wendt elected chairman of local district of Association of Oregon Counties. Sen. John Kennedy discusses political issues while in valley for Pear Blossom festivities. Delegates converge here for 47th convention of Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers. 1960 census nears completion. Douglas Kliever, high school senior, named merit scholarship winner. Gov. Mark Hatfield tours southern Oregon. New Catholic high school planned for southeast Medford. Estimated \$4,000 worth of furniture and appliances taken from Buy-Rite Furniture and Appliance company.

MAY
California Oregon Power company applies for rate increase. Newly consolidated Phoenix-Talent school district names board members. Youth camping area proposed for Howard Prairie. Medford school patrons defeat budget. Simulated attack provides test for Civil Defense authorities. Some 75 persons assigned positions in Shakespearean festival company, Ashland. Building activity during April reaches all-time high for 1960. Reduction made in Medford school budget. Poor weather blamed for employment lag. Medford Corporation announces plans for plywood plant. Inter-City Construction company, Eugene, low bidder for construction of 10th st. bridge. City planning commission recommends adoption of preliminary civic center plan. Dr. George Verne Blue, SOC professor, dies. Precipitation at Crater lake above average. Eugene Orr named American Legionnaire of the Year. About 500 attend Roosevelt Memorial dinner. Northwest remodels Medford office. John Day hurt in accident on Mt. McKinley. Jacksonville discusses possible contamination of water supply. Angus Bowmer leaves for six-month tour of U.S., Canada, and Europe.

JUNE
Yellow traffic lines changed to white. DeAnne Taylor, MHS senior, selected to visit West Berlin, Germany, in American Field service program. More than 400 students graduated from Medford High. West side residents oppose proposed zoning plans. Shakespearean festival begins casting. County recreation commission tables proposal to put athletic stadium on ballot. First full-color ad appears in Mail Tribune. Modernistic play equipment prepared for use in city parks. Jackson park swimming pool dedicated. U.S. National bank submits low bid on school construction program. UMC sets \$147,850 fall campaign goal. Robert D. Froehrich, 14, Ashland, killed in tractor accident. A rooster belonging to Mrs. Denker crawls 67 times to win annual Rogue River Rooster Crow. SOC offers two acres of Jacksonville Britt estate for park. David Foote, Central Point, named First Citizen at Beaver Boys State, Corvallis. Wendell J. Toole killed in logging accident near Lake Creek. Federal Communication commission hearings on television Channel 10 postponed. Harper Edwards elected chairman of County Democratic committee. Joseph Walsh selected Republican head. Brown Brothers Lumber company, Williams, destroyed by fire. Merchants declare retail business slow. Construction starts on Oregon Broadcasting company's cable-TV line. Medford Irrigation district's stored water supply being depleted. Wallace Wong, long-time businessman in southern Oregon, dies. Thunderstorms cause numerous lightning-started fires in valley.

JULY
Fire officials order removal of some fireworks from sale. Gas war tension decreases as stations take down signs. Milford E. Vanderpool killed while working on road patching project. Sen. Hugh Scott slated to speak at Republican rally. O. H. Bengtson and Mrs. Rachel Peterson Carter, employees of Medford Escrow company, (Continued on Page 7A)