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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
May 9, 1951 (Wednesday)

Eleven youths, ranging in age from 13 to 17, were arrested by city and county police during the week end and accused of crimes varying from car theft to petty thievery.

Alf Mekvold took over his duties as the new county school superintendent today.

20 YEARS AGO
May 9, 1941 (Friday)

Official word was awaited eagerly here today regarding a proposed army cantonment in the Antelope area.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The rumor situation has calmed down a bit, until there is only a major general behind every fence post as far north as the Umpqua divide."

30 YEARS AGO
May 9, 1931 (Saturday)

The city council is considering the necessity for a new sewage disposal plant, and is planning a $200,000 bond issue to finance it.

The Medford High school debating team has won the state championship.

40 YEARS AGO
May 9, 1921 (Monday)

The city has hired a caretaker for the municipal campgrounds at $50 a month.

A revival here is attracting record crowds.

50 YEARS AGO
May 9, 1911 (Tuesday)

The city of Ashland has filed suit to compel the Rogue River Light and Power company to furnish the city with power.

The Mexical civil war is still raging; U. S. troops are poised at the border.

What's Your I.Q.?

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

1. In which state is Notre Dame University?
2. Does a spider have six, or eight legs?
3. Is the planet Neptune larger or smaller than the earth?
4. By presidential proclamation, what date in October is set for the observance of United Nations Day?
5. The low portion of South America extends farther south than does the lower portion of Africa; true or false?
6. A young deer is called a f——?
7. Who was Secretary of State when the U.S. declared war on the Axis powers?
8. Which state in the Union is located nearest to the North Pole?
9. Ambergris is obtained from amber, whales, or musk oxen?
10. What were the colors of the uniforms worn by the Federal and Confederate soldiers during the War between the States?

Answers: 1. Indiana. 2. Eight. 3. Larger. 4. Oct. 24. 5. True. 6. Fawn. 7. Cordell Hull. 8. Minnesota. 9. Whales. 10. Federal—blue; Confederate—gray.

LIZ TAYLOR OKAY

Hollywood —UPI— Elizabeth Taylor was reported recovering satisfactorily today from a brief fever which caused her husband singer Eddie Fisher, to cancel his part in a major Hollywood charity affair.

Day of the Sky Hook

The plans, now well advanced, to put high-lift helicopters to work on an experiment in aerial logging, are both interesting and significant. Some of the details will be found elsewhere in today's paper, and others have been reported previously.

The idea is not new. It has been kicked around as a possibility ever since the first practical helicopter was developed. But it was always way off in the future.

Now, due to the energy and determination of Medford's Glenn Jackson, the forest service, defense department, and the Sikorsky Helicopter company are in agreement on a plan for experiment and development.

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IT BEGAN during a half-joking conversation between Jackson and this writer about a year ago, on a hill above Evans creek overlooking a logging operation, during a bureau of land management field trip.

This resulted in a series of discussions, both here and in Washington, with various individuals and agencies at interest, and the results were first announced by Sen. Wayne Morse in a Senate speech a couple of weeks ago.

In his speech, Senator Morse pointed out many of the advantages if the experiments are successful, and the use of a high-lift 'copter proves practical in woody, hilly country.

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THE advantages would be many.

They include fire control (both direct by water or chemical "bombing" and in the rapid transportation of men and equipment); in control of erosion, in protection of young growing stock, in esthetics, and, not least, in utilization of forest products which now go to waste because it is not economical to haul them out of the woods.

Maybe the day of the legendary skyhook is actually near at hand.—E.A.

Succumbing to Pressures

The current session of the legislature, which seems to be in its closing hours as this is written (but which may drag on several more days), is, we believe, the most susceptible to pressure and influence of any we recall observing.

There have been many examples of this, but one of them most flagrant has been the way it kow-towed to Portland interests to permit a portion of the state to observe daylight saving time, while the rest of it, by law, remains on standard time.

What a farce! What a mess!

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THE Daily Astorian suspects that "popular demand may force the lawmakers back into special session to correct their egregious error after the bemused and bewildered citizens have endured this current nonsense for a short time."

The Salem Capital Journal hopes that the legislature, "before it dashes off in 90 directions, would reverse itself on its time ruling. Or give us all daylight time, Greenwich Mean Time or Far East Standard Time—anything, just so it's uniform within the state."

And the Portland Reporter (which hasn't succumbed to the nonsense largely perpetrated by the Oregonian), points out, "We had a majority in the state deciding we wouldn't have DST. Now we turn around and let the minority do what it pleases. Keep this up and we'll have two presidents one of these days."

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JUST for the fun of it, we checked back on last November's DST election returns.

Throughout the state, the vote was 393,652 against, 357,499 for DST. This isn't an overwhelming margin, to be sure. But it is the authentic vote of the majority, and the legislature has no business reversing it for part of the state.

Only five counties — Benton, Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington—voted for DST, and only in Multnomah and Washington was the margin substantial.

To cap it all, the counties which were allowed to go to DST are not all the same ones which voted for it.

How on earth can the legislature justify this asininity?—E.A.

Forest Colors

The Oregon Grape (Berberis aquifolium) was desginated as the Oregon state flower in 1899.

Now it's a nice little flower, attractive in a modest sort of way with its green, shiny leaves and small, ragged yellow blossoms.

But on a day in May when the dogwood is in bloom in the tall forests of Oregon, one thinks that, if a state must have a flower at all, Oregon might well have thus honored the dogwood.

The stately conifers of western Oregon really need no embellishment. But twice a year they are delightfully enhanced—in the fall by the exquisite colors of the vine maple; in the spring by the gay white blooms of the dogwood.—E.A.

Measures Signed By Gov. Hatfield

Salem —UPI— Signed by the governor Monday:

SB254—Indebtedness.

SB266—Court authority in divorce, annulment or separation.

HB1136—Mining leases.

HB1636 — Boat operations.

HB2075,2100—Secretary of state, penitentiary budgets.

Kennedy's Platform Plank Goes To Irish

Dublin — UPI — A plank of President Kennedy's platform rested in Ireland today at the home of his ancestors.

Kennedy sent one of the planks from his inauguration platform to County Wexford in Ireland. Irish Airlines hostess Marjorie Ryan delivered it here.

Dennis the Menace

"I'M TRYING TO BE SNUG AS A BUG!"

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 Measure of Man

To the Editor: Enjoyable it is for the favored one to bask in the bright light of success, tinged though it may be with luck.

But the measure of man or woman is in defeat, if defeat it be. That great inventor, Thomas Edison, lent graphic understanding to it when he remarked to a female admirer, "Madam, my knowledge is not from the few successes I have been lucky enough to attain. It is, in 5,000 blankety-blank good ideas that just wouldn't work."

Today we are disturbed witnesses to one of those ideas that just wouldn't work. It concerns our youthful but equally sincere President John Kennedy. The attempted return of refugee Cubans to their homeland, and attending disaster, is not a failure in the full sense of the word. For it does unmask the evil scheming of Dictator Castro and his master, the Soviet of Russia, briefing up just what their intentions are, plainly for all to see, even their deluded pinkos and fellow-travelers here in the U.S.A.

But the one bright opening in the clouded issue is the way our President measures up to the occasion. The way he fairly but also firmly censures those who would blame others for what happened, though it does appear to be much the fault of our CIA and its so opinionated leader, Allen Dulles.

Neither does Kennedy appear to take that handy out by way of what he did inherit from the Eisenhower administration. He is wise doing so, for he knew full well just what he was inviting himself into, so well high-lighted by Joe Alsop in his Tuesday MT column.

Still more revealing is "Where U.S. Went Wrong in Cuba," U.S. News and World Report, May 8. It shows a most graphic picture of then Vice President Richard Nixon in his three hour grilling of Castro in his "goodwill" visit to the U.S.A. From it, Nixon reported to Eisenhower and his cabinet that he found Castro a willing captive of the Kremlin and all that goes with it.

Unfortunately, our CIA and others held to the wishful theory of "saving Castro" that President Kennedy is manfully trying to deal with today.

And we're both still alive and normal, we hope, after listening in on the astronaut blastoff, for all the world to know and judge, so different from the dark secrecy of Russia. Congratulations, President Kennedy. Old Glory is flying out front.

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

J. B. Matthews

To the Editor: Honest debate of public issues can be profitable. However, when an opponent refuses to give due consideration to factual evidence submitted and, worse, chooses to indulge in personalities to cover up his own paucity of proved evidence or valid arguments, the discussion ceases to have meaning or value to the participants or the reading public. Therefore, I wish to terminate my correspondence with Robert Howard, courtesy of your pages, with just a few comments on his latest letter (MT 5/7).

I leave to others to judge if my earlier documented evidence "exposes (my) almost complete desertion of common sense" as he claimed. As for Bob's desire to "fill in some of (my) intellectual void" by reference to J. B. Matthews, the late Joe McCarthy's equally unscrupulous defamer of the Protestant clergy, I need cite only the following record.

After the hearings before the H.U.A.C. in 1953, demanded by Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam to refute the wild and unsubstantiated charges against him and Protestant leaders generally, the bishop was hailed by the country's press as a defender of our basic freedoms. Said the Louisville Courier-Journal: "Committee members . . . were revealed as grossly inaccurate slanderers." And declared the Detroit Free Press: "This spirited and patriotic fight of Bishop Oxnam . . . should strike home to everyone the basic un-Americanism of conviction by hearsay, of character assassination . . ."

In his syndicated column, "Washington Calling," Marquis Childs reported from Washington on July 22, 1953 that on J. B. Matthews' list of Protestant "fellow - travelers, espionage agents, party-adherents, and unwitting dupes" were Old Testament prophets, churchmen long dead, and "clergy" not found on the official rosters of the churches with which they allegedly had been affiliated.

The Christian Century of the same date reported that "there should be reassurance in the dramatic sequence of events which brought to such a spectacular end the 17-day career of J. B. Matthews as McCarthy's hatchet-man in the operation of the investigating committee." A majority of the H.U.A.C. voted to dismiss Matthews! And to top it off, President Eisenhower issued his blast against Matthews' defamation of the leadership of the Protestant churches which I quoted in my letter in the MT of 4/30.

And last week's verdict of "Not Guilty" in the trial of an alleged student leader of last year's disturbances at San Francisco's City Hall throws the film, "Operation Abolition," into a cocked hat.

Arnold Eugene Jenny,
Rogue Valley Manor,
Medford.

You Figure It Out

To the Editor: Will Russia start a third world war? No sirree. The first shot fired will be by some country other than Russia.

From the point of view of the Soviet colossus, it is right, and advantageous that a democracy like the United States be goaded to the breaking point. Russia, China, with their satellites, do not fear us. They believe themselves to be the stronger, and would not suffer nightmares at the thought that millions of human beings would lose their lives.

How are we to combat such a society and such a coalition? You figure it out.

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

Cougars DO Scream

To the Editor: For the benefit of those who were wondering if cougars really do scream I am writing this letter to you, as I can answer this question. Yes they do scream!

I have heard and seen one screaming. Also my fathers, Mr. C. H. Peyton, at McCloud, Ore., in the year of 1932 where we lived at this time.

My father was at the barn some distance from the house, with a sawdust pile between, at dusk when we first heard the spine chilling scream that made our hair seem to stand on end. We could see the big cat from the kitchen window. He opened his great jaws and let out two horrible screams that sent the hounds into their houses with their tails tucked between their legs, whimpering with fear. My father heard the hungry cat and came out of the barn with his 30-30 rifle in hand. He took aim, then fired at the cougar, wounding him, but he got away before he could finish him off, though he later tracked down and killed him.

Yes, we have heard the cougars screaming many times during our residence at McCloud. They sound like a human in excruciating pain and send darts of fear shooting into the hearts of those who have had occasion to hear one screaming, I'm sure.

Thank you for the opportunity of writing this educational fact.

Mrs. Juanita Homsby
312 West Elm st.,
Fairbony, Ill.

The General

To the Editor: In Drew Pearson's column on Saturday, May 8, 1961, it is shown that the bungling in the recent Cuban fiasco began long before President Kennedy took office. The C.I.A. under Ike began hiring and recruiting refugee Cuban seamen. They even hired American merchant ships and drunken skippers. This was long before Jack Kennedy was even elected to the Presidency.

I don't know who this Central Intelligence Agency consists of, but I'll bet two bits that President Ike knew who they were and what they were doing.

According to Drew Pearson's report they had two flag ships and two separate commanders, but as I see it, I find only one. (I'll whisper his name to you only) SHhh! He was GENERAL 100 proof ALCOHOL Jr.

Malemute Slim
White City, Ore.

War and Humanity

To the Editor: The editorial headed "Battle of the Giants" in last Thursday's Tribune is a modern version of the old maximum of a "vicious circle;" a method of wits to attain their ends. Probably without the aggressiveness of the human element, all warring, including industrial, economic, personnel and greediness, the human race would be a much different society of creatures.

Most of the elder generation have read some of the books written by the late authors Jack London and Sinclair Lewis, giving the real answer for age old question, "War! What for?" Even the natural elements we breathe, we are told by scientists, are not always in a stable environment but are eternally striving to find a state of enduring perfection.

War is considered sin, regardless of its purpose.

According to Judges, 5:-20, James Moffit version, the stars in heaven were fighting sisters from their spheres. War is a means of destruction.

Bert Kissinger,
520 Boardman st.
Medford.

Dan Smoot Approves

To the Editor: On the whole I have found the members of the John Birch Society God-fearing, Christian people who love their country as our forefathers must have loved it. The foremost objective of this organization is to save our beautiful country from the communist slavery which at this moment is creeping over it.

But their program also involves everything concerning the returning of this nation to a Constitutional government. This means giving back to our citizens the rights, liberties, and freedoms which they have already lost; and giving back to our sovereign states all states' rights which the Federal government has unconstitutionally usurped; and the returning to our Federal government 100 per cent sovereignty over all things whatsoever upon which the United Nations has infringed.

Khrushchev has said, "We will bury you." The John Birch Society is going to do everything in its power to see that this bloody butcher and mass murderer and his One World Government, which has already sunk its cruel talons deep into America, does not succeed in carrying out his brutal threat.

Dan Smoot, in his April 24, 1961, Report has given a hearty, spine-tingling approval of JBS. He says, "I am FOR the John Birch Society. Thomas Jefferson would have been for the John Birch Society, too."

There are already many hundreds of the ablest and most highly regarded patriotic leaders in America who -despite all the tremendous work of other groups-believe that the John Birch Society now offers the one last, best hope of saving our country and civilization from communist destruction. And the communists believe it even more firmly, you can be sure.

The way the communist newspapers of America leaped to obey Khrushchev's orders to destroy the anti-communist groups in the U.S., by spearheading the attack on the John Birch Society as the No. 1 target, is definite proof of that.

And the "liberal" writers of the American press, like wolves who have caught the scent of blood, joined in the most savage attack ever made on a minority group of patriots in the history of journalism. Could it be that they had pressure put on them from sinister source? Were they following orders, too?

Thank God the Society weathered the storm and came through, battle scarred, but more bravely dedicated to the fight for freedom than ever before.

L. C. Powell
316 S.E. Eighth st.
Grants Pass, Ore.

Evidence Shows Russia Hasn't Forgotten It's No. 1 Problem--The German Issue

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Despite its preoccupation with Laos, Cuba and the May Day demonstration of Soviet military and scientific excellence, the U.S.S.R. also has shown it has not forgotten its No. 1 problem — Germany.

Newsom

The evidence came in a formal warning to Great Britain of the "possible consequences" of granting bases in the British Isles to forces of West Germany.

The sharp Soviet warning demonstrated the versatility of Nikita Khrushchev's foreign policy in that it followed by less than 48 hours Soviet-British agreement on a joint peace effort in Laos.

A Soviet note accused Britain of supporting West German elements seeking revenge against Russia for Germany's defeat in World Word II, and said such a policy would lead only to "the continuation of the arms race and the sharpening of tension and suspicion between states."

Germany, in the front line of Western defenses against expanding communism and a full member of NATO, is hard pressed for training areas for her growing army and air force.

NATO allies, including France, have been figuring ways to give West Germany military bases, rocket testing grounds, training camps for tanks and supply bases.

The British offer of bases was part of that move.

Russia charged that Britain "is linking the fate of her country with the militarist and revenge-seeking circles of Western Germany and with their aspirations."

The protest led to a suspicion that Khrushchev is about to return to his favorite subject, Berlin and a separate peace treaty for Communist East Germany.

Of all the people on earth, it is probable that the Russians fear the Germans most, not only for their technical skill but for their amazing energies and recuperative powers.

The Russians fear that the Germany which was levelled in 1945 and has rebounded to become the most prosperous nation in Europe also eventually will resume her drive for living space in the East.

That the Soviet Union's own aggressive policies in behalf of expanding communism has forced Allied support of German rearmament does not enter into Soviet considerations.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

"THE GOVERNMENT WAS TOO HARSH"

Some weeks ago, after studying the underground war in South Vietnam, this reporter passed a week in Hong Kong collecting the best available evidence — the evidence of recent refugees — about the mysterious evolution of Communist China. The resulting reports from Hong Kong were pushed aside, however, by the pressure of events in Cuba and Algeria.

Yet the Hong Kong evidence is not merely sensationally horrible. More significantly, this evidence indicates the clear possibility of an internal explosion which could destroy or radically alter the Chinese Communist government. Hence the Hong Kong series seems worthy of belated publication. This is the first in the series.

Hong Kong — The articles which begin herewith mainly concern a crime almost past imagining, which is being perpetrated upon the Chinese masses by their Communist masters. In the simplest moral terms, the Chinese people are now being offered as a blood sacrifice on the altar of the new Mammon of our times, industrial power.

Alsop

But in hard political terms, the chief interest of this crime lies in the enormous political risks which it involves. For the sake of forced industrialization, the Communist masters of China are now gambling their regime's future. Although this view will seem widly eccentric to the more fashionable analysts, it is quite possible that the Communists will lose their gamble. Oddly enough, the best proof that this view is not eccentric is to be found in the following passages from the official Communist "Outline History of China."

"In the year 209 B. C. a group of 900 conscripts on their way to the frontier for guard duties . . . killed the officer in command and revolted . . . These were the first to raise the cry for the overthrow of the Chin empire. . .

"In less than a month their army had grown to more than 1000 cavalry and several tens of thousands of infantry and owned some 700 war chariots. Inspired by their uprising, peasants all over the country took up arms."

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THE official history goes on to describe how the power of the Chin empire effectively collapsed, almost within a matter of weeks, after this sudden, desperate strike in a chain gang of wretched peasant conscripts. As explanation for this astonishing collapse, the official history also approvingly quotes an ancient author, as follows:

"The more powerful the armies of Chin grew, the more its enemies multiplied. The government was too harsh towards the people and punishment was too severe."

The lessons of the past are supposed to be utterly outmoded nowadays. Yet anyone who reflects upon the real meaning of the foregoing quotations will undestand why the crime the Chinese Communists are now perpetrating is also a perilous gamble. It is a gamble in their own terms, moreover. The harshness of the Chin government towards the people was as nothing—it was the merest milk and water stuff — compared with the present harshness of the Chinese Communists.

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ASSUMING the harshness as a fact for the moment, what are the other reasons why the foregoing quotations have so much current meaning? The first and simplest reason is the inherent proof that even the most awe inspiring facade of monolithic authority can be remarkably deceptive.

The Chin government was founded by a ruthlessly totalitarian power originally based in northwestern China. This state of Chin owed its strength to the iron program of the world's first Stalinist, Shang Wei-Yang. The Chin empire was Stalinist in character over two millenia before Stalin.

The Chin conquest of the rest of China, completed only 12 years before Chin's sudden downfall, not merely produced the first phase of the historic, long enduring Chinese empire. It also produced the most powerful single government ever founded in any part of the world, the whole long period since the first man-ape had first used a rock as an offensive weapon. Such was the state which came to an end because of a strike in a chain gang.

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THIS gigantic police state of the past built the first Great Wall of China to guard against external enemies. But the remedy was probably worse than the disease, because of the internal enemies created by the remorseless conscription of countless labor gangs to build the wall. The enemies who "multiplied" were certainly internal. They were the chinese people. And China really fell because of the first of those sudden, unpredictable, overwhelming general strikes, for which the Chinese people have a curious knack, as their later history proves.

The key to the success of the rising against China is also to be found in the quotations from the official Communist "Outline History." The Chinese peasantry in 209 B.C. could not muster the cavalry and war chariotry mentioned above, any more than the toiling masses in the Communists' peasant communes possess armored cars and tanks today. In fact, the Chin armies, being peasant armies, joined the peasant rising. Without this, the rising would have been quickly crushed. With this, the rising was irresistable, and so will a modern rising be irresistable, if it occurs and rallies the armed forces.

The real question, in sum, is not whether the Chinese Communist government can be brought down by the people. The real question is whether the conditions exist in which the people may be driven to bring down the government.

Strictly Personal

By Sidney J. Harris
(c) General Features Corp.

FREE TRADE ESSENTIAL

Those silly "Buy American" stickers are back on the bumpers of a good many automobiles these days. I recently saw a sign on one car that read: "Unemployment — Made in Japan."

Harris

If anything encouraging has happened in world affairs in the last 30 years it has been the increase of free trade among all nations throughout the world. Trade between countries today is at a higher level than ever before in history.

"Buy American" is one of those slogans that sounds impressive and patriotic and sensible — until you examine the fallacies on which it rests. For one thing, we made almost 20 billions in exports last year, while paying less than 15 billions for imports.

• • •

This five billion dollar excess in our favor would not have been at all possible if we had not purchased goods from abroad. If we tighten up our quotas and restrictions, foreign nations will do the same, and nobody will benefit in the long run.

As for "unemployment," that is caused by the importation of cheap foreign goods. There would be just as much, if not more, unemployment caused by our shrinking export industry. I know these facts are dull, but we must be willing to endure dull facts to gain understanding.

Quite apart from the economic aspects of the problem, it is psychologically desirable that we trade freely with other countries. We cannot cooperate on the political, military and cultural levels if we refuse to compete on the open market. One test of our honesty and friendliness in international relations is our willingness to buy and sell without "protecting" our own domestic producers.

• • •

Besides, unemployment is rarely caused by a flood of low-priced imports; rather, it is much more likely in a country which does not have goods to export, or cannot find foreign markets for its products. So long as our productivity remains high, our unemployment problem can be solved by domestic measures.

One argument of the "Buy American" people is the foreign labor is so cheap, by our standards, that our own industries cannot compete while paying relatively high wages. But we have other advantages to exploit; better and newer machinery, improved production methods, and marketing techniques. If foreign countries didn't have cheaper labor, it would be utterly impossible for them to compete in world markets.

The anti-foreign feeling expressed in the bumper stickers is a regression to our national provincialism of the early twentieth century. In the 1960s, it is impossible that anyone can think he believes in a free world if he denies the necessity of free trade.

School Superintendent Appointment Cleared

Salem — UPI — A bill making the superintendent of public instruction appointive by the board of education instead of elected was approved by the Senate Monday. It went to the governor.