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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
March 15, 1953 (Sunday)
Contracts to be awarded in
fall for new Blackwell Hill
Central Point section of High-
way 99; project to cost \$750,000.

20 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1943 (Monday)
Ration books issued in county
gives Jackson an unofficial
population of 47,249.

30 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1933 (Wednesday)
The Daily News, sold at
sheriff's sale, brings \$6,500.

40 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1923 (Thursday)
Many local residents able
to get Denver radio station.

50 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1913 (Saturday)
Crater Lake appropriation
in Congress now thought assured.

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

1. The extinct dodo bird
could or could not fly?
2. Which is longer, the
coastline of Florida or of California?

3. Of what metal did Solomon
build his Altar?
4. Tomatoes contain which
vitamin that is needed in the
daily diet?

5. Which is larger, an adult
male or female black widow
spider?
6. In what year did Christopher
Columbus discover America?

7. Is Washington, D.C.,
north or south of the Mason
Dixon line?
8. For what lyrics is Samuel
Francis Smith most remembered?

9. From what chronic affliction
did Julius Caesar suffer?
10. A nut cracker, scissors
and crow-bar are examples of
what type of simple machine?

Answers: 1. Could not. 2. Florida. 3. Brass. 4. Vitamin C. 5. Female. 6. 1492. 7. South. 8. My Country 'Tis of Thee. 9. Epilepsy. 10. Lever.

Youth Conservation

The proposed Youth Conservation Corps — an organization designed to give healthy outdoor employment and training to young men of the nation, modeled roughly on the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s — was characterized in this space recently as a "stog-gap" measure.

So it is, if judged in the context of total unemployment, total educational accomplishment, and total improvement of opportunity for a whole generation and those yet to come.

Yet, despite the grudging and negative connotations of the phrase "stog-gap," some very positive and significant benefits would be achieved by such an organization.

FIRST, and most important, it would provide a channel for young men who cannot find work to find, in effect, themselves.

The school drop-outs, who because of lack of motivation or academic achievement, are an ever increasing problem. Many of them would, if given a chance to reassess themselves, and a renewed motivation, reenter school.

Others would find the training and work, most of it in the out-of-doors, a gateway to wholesome and productive lives, which otherwise they never could aspire for. Many of these, unless given such a chance, would inevitably drift into the ways of delinquency and crime. One sees it happening every day.

SECONDLY, it would provide a means of getting done a great many things that are now going undone.

We all know the marvelous work accomplished by the CCCs in park and campsite development, in trail and road building, in the improvement of timber stands, and all the other chores which did so much for our forests and recreation areas.

Much of this work remains. But much, too, has deteriorated. And much, much more remains to be done for the first time, in response to rising demand for more and better recreational areas and for better forest management.

THIRDLY, the YCC would serve as a pilot program for the retraining and, where necessary, the rehabilitation of a significant segment of the nation's future working force.

This type of thing is going to become increasingly necessary as increased mechanization and automation make vast changes and dislocations in our economy. Experience gained with a broad-scale yet not overly ambitious organization, as is proposed for the YCC to begin with, would be of immense benefit in designing effective means of providing the necessary social services and readjustments aids which the changing economy will require.

The potential benefits so far outweigh the relatively modest costs involved that the Congress should adopt the program without further delay. "Conservation," in this case, means conservation of both human resources and natural resources. How could it go wrong?—E.A.

Weird and Wonderful

The English language, as has been noted in these pages before, is a weird and wonderful instrument of communication.

The late George Bernard Shaw was fond of pointing out that the word "fish" could be spelled "ghoti"—gh as in rough, o as in woman, ti as in notion.

But it was also pointed out that "ghoti" could not be pronounced at all, that is a completely silent word — gh as in though, o as in journey, t as in castle, i as in receive.

The list of similar examples of inconsistencies and vagaries in English is almost endless.

OF THE 26 letters in the English alphabet, only four — j, q, v, and y — are never silent. There is one word, "queue," in which there is one sounded letter and four silent ones. Another one is knick-knack — which would be pronounced the same if all four Ks were knocked (or noiced) out.

Is it any wonder that accurate spelling is one of the arts that almost no one fully masters?

We have our doubts, however, that English ever will be revised and reformed into a more sensible and logical system.—E.A.

Stumpage Bids High

The price of timber stumpage in Oregon is relatively high these days. And not too long ago we heard complaints from many lumber producers that the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management had set the appraised prices too high.

At that time we remarked that it wasn't the appraisals that sent the prices so high; it was the bids submitted by the lumbermen themselves.

Now, the BLM reports, bids on BLM stumpage in western Oregon averaged just 50 per cent higher than appraised prices during February, compared to 42 per cent higher the month before. They ranged from a low of 13 per cent over in the Salem office to 71 per cent over in the Coos Bay and Eugene offices.

The prospect of additional blowdown timber becoming available as a result of the Oct. 12 storm didn't slow down the bidding any.—E.A.

One-Man Show



... 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.

Why Read
To the Editor: We have public schools so children, who are later to vote and earn livings, can best develop their abilities and broaden their interests. Through reading, people can continue to learn and find new ideas.

Teresa Hogan, 6th grade, West Side School, 1852 Niedermeyer Dr., Medford

Cold War Policy
To the Editor: First, I wish to commend you for your excellent editorials, especially those about automation and Sunday's "Joblessness - and Dignity." The latter was truly outstanding both for its presentation of present day problems and its philosophy.

With regard to Tuesday's editorial, "Civil Defense" Misnamed, I disagree that it is misnamed. Agencies for natural disasters should be completely separated in name, leadership, and budget, from those dealing with fallout shelters that are supposed to save us in a nuclear war. If civil defense is permitted to permeate our protective agencies, I fear it will use these as aids to carry out bigger and deeper bomb shelters. A civil defense bulletin entitled, "Nuclear Attack - Emergency Procedures and Preparations," was distributed last year to all Medford school children. As its title infers it is devoted wholly to what to do in case of nuclear attack.

In Monday's M.T., March 11, p. 6, Dr. Harold Taylor, former president of Sarah Lawrence College and now vice president and counsel on education for the Peace Research Institute, Washington, said in a speech before the Child Study Association of America, "The nation's families have permitted our educational system to become an instrument of Cold War policy. . . . The modern citizen is faced with the dilemma of having seen the possibilities for disaster or survival in this nuclear age, but sees no way in which his own acts can change the flow of history. In consequence the citizen inclines to accept the situation in which he finds himself. . . . accepts the palliatives by which he may conceal from himself the reality of what comes next. . . ."

For example the fallout shelters of New York where each can find his allotted space to die, the shots to the moon by which one may distract oneself from the situation of the earth. . . . How does this affect the family? His answer: "The effect has been for the families to allow the educational system to become an instrument of Cold War policy, and to sanction programs in which teachers are asked to teach their children how to cower in basements, their hands covering their eyes, in one of the most extraordinary displays of organized irrationality and indignity which American politics has ever spawned."

Renaming CD is not going to change its inhuman and narrow, nationalistic tendencies. It is an invention of military extremists who along with certain scientists would "replace democracy with a system of regimentation centered upon the bomb shelter. Let us put our money and efforts into more constructive plans, such as readjustment to an economy which will require more education and more job training.

Ether Robinson, 29 Ross Court, Medford

Necessary Evil
To the Editor: In answer to poem in the March 11 Communications, "Our Valley." If it were not for burners belching forth their filthy smoke; If it were not for the smudge pots That make you gag and choke; There would be no grimy pay check For you to carry home. So from this lovely valley, I think you'd have to roam.

We cannot live on beauty, Nor can we live on love; Then for the furnaces and smudge pots We should thank the Father above.

We do not like these things, Of course; that is for sure, But better accept them thankfully. Unless we can find a cure. (Name on file) Medford

Comparisons
To the Editor: The lead editorial in MT's March 5 issue surely makes for comment, as it tends to raise criticism of Vice Admiral Rickover, grading our secondary school system below that of Europe in a study he made there.

The Rickover report was a disturbing surprise to me, considering the vast amount of money invested in our schools of learning and best of personnel tax-dollars can hire. To the question of school scholastic standings, educational heads advise inquiry to our State Board of Education. They warned that documented scholastic standings were hard to come by, the best they could offer would be the NEA Ranking of the States Research Report 1962-R1, Washington, D.C.

This was finally obtained. The best and about only part with school scholastic standings, is on page 38, col. 48. At the top of that column we find nine NW states, including Utah, having an average 5.5 per cent of their Selective Service registrants failing the mental test. In the SE states, we find the nine states there with an average 48.1 per cent of their registrants failing the mental test.

This is utterly confusing, remembering how splendidly college men and women of the South stood up to the best other states could offer in TV's Channel 10 all-white question and answer College Hour. But when the "Rosetta Stone" of Negro population is applied, it at once becomes understandably clear. For, although the black population is not given in the NEA Report, it is approximated in the percentage column. Like 4.7 per cent of both white and black school graduates of NW school graduates failing the mental test, this percentage pattern increases to 34.5 per cent of white and black school graduates of the SE who fail the registration mental test which is also the black population in some sections of the South.

It matters little what manner of yard-stick was used in the Rickover report, its evaluational or median, in its evaluation of the NEA findings. But one thing sure, had the Vice Admiral used the NW states percentage, even with the 3 per cent black population handicap, he would have found the school scholastic standing there, well up, or who knows, above the Europe's virtually all-white schools.

F. J. Clifford, Rt. 2, Box 200F, Central Point, Ore.

U.N. Troop Withdrawal From Congo Is 'End of the Beginning' of Rebuilding

By BRUCE W. MUNN United Press International

United Nations, N. Y. — (UPI) — The military phase-out has begun in the Congo.

The 117 men from tiny Sierra Leone led the official exodus from the 20,000-man U.N. force whose necessity was reduced when Moise Tshombe finally agreed to end his Katanga secession. A thousand effectives have gone home to Tunisia. The 5,600-man Indian fighting contingent is in the process of returning for possible service on the Chinese frontier. It will be followed by most of the 780-member unit from Malaya.

By April, the U.N. force is scheduled to be down to about 13,000 troops.

The phase-out will bring a corresponding reduction in the \$10 million a month cost of the Congo operation, which almost bankrupted the United Nations. But it was never more true-

ly said that it marks only the end of the beginning. Now, under U.N. guidance, the work of building a stable nation in the country that has Africa's richest potential can get under way — as it should have three years ago when Belgium gave it independence, perhaps prematurely.

The Congo will require a major outlay of aid for the foreseeable future. Secretary General Thant is following a cautious policy in pulling the U.N. military strength out of the country.

"It may be reasonably concluded that the attempted secession of Katanga is at an end," he said recently. "Given an absence of alertness or a too-rapid withdrawal of the U.N. troop, it is conceivable that it could be revived. There are interests and elements in the Katanga scene which would always favor and flirt with it."

Tshombe, who went to Europe after capitulating to the United Nations and the Leopoldville government, returned to his provincial Elisabethville capital this week amid scenes of wild adulation. But there is no indication that his secessionist movement may be in the process of resurrection.

Thant has started a multi-million dollar program of Congo civilian reconstruction. It is a voluntary fund and pay-on-the-line. Finland was the first country to contribute.

There are roads and schools to be built, educators recruited to staff them; hospitals constructed, professional personnel educated to run them; communications to be restored, expensive equipment imported to operate them.

Above all, there is a need for the training of administrators to operate the government and a parliamentary system lubricated into smooth functioning, starting with approval of the country's new constitution.

Overripe Fruit? To the Editor: Lenin said that after communism has taken over our neighbors, the United States will fall "like an overripe fruit."

Their utterances show that many federal officials and advisers seek for the United States a small niche in a socialist world government, the mythical refuge of men unwilling to accept their moral responsibility to defeat communism. One California Congressman has now accused the administration of abandoning its "no win" policy for a "sure lose" policy. If our leaders were just making mistakes in dealing with communism, wouldn't they occasionally make one in our favor? The past few weeks furnish these examples:

Weakening our deterrent military force and ability to keep trade lanes open by withdrawal of Jupiter missiles from 15 bases in Turkey and 20 bases in Italy and other missiles and B-47 planes from Europe and Africa; cancelling further use of peace-keeping B-52 bombers.

Bagging Soviets for nuclear test ban, knowing their word is worthless and inspections agreed to would be grossly inadequate.

Supporting every anti-Western force in Africa.

Interfering deliberately in France, Britain and Canada to help neutralists come to power in those countries.

Promoting defense of Europe by Polar missiles on allies' surface vessels under NATO — though overwhelmingly opposed by Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy.

Bargaining away our country's future in disarmament talks with a foe who respects only power — military and economic.

Losing respect here and abroad by stated policy of "managed" news.

Tolerating a communist base in Cuba. Allowed Khrushchev to build a bargaining tool so he could blackmail us to remove our missiles from Turkey; we did not even make sure those were missiles on the ships leaving Cuba. With us worried about Cuba, communists have hopped into the driver's seat in much greater prize — Brazil.

Next? Trade Berlin for communist personnel in Cuba. Still bargaining away someone else's freedom. Eventually the appeasers will run out. In 1959 a keen student of the times predicted the "overripe fruit" could fall in 1963 — this year!

What will it be like to live under communism? First off, they plan to slaughter 60 million Americans; so some of us needn't ponder living under communism. Those left will have homes and possessions taken from them — even their children; churches will be destroyed. Can you bear the thought of slavery for your dear ones — your children, your grandchildren?

Mrs. William Fellesen, Route 1, Box 217, Orland, Calif.

was not favorable for reaction. This climate is one of fear and insecurity. Workers are afraid of losing their jobs. Capitalists are afraid of losing their property and special privileges. Everyone is afraid of thermonuclear war. This whole unhealthy climate is an inevitable product of capitalism and other, similar, exploitative economic systems.

Capitalism is obsolete. It is like the horse - and - buggy. Years ago the conservatives might have argued that the horse-and-buggy was the best of all possible transportation systems. Some of them might have even conceded that pneumatics tires and ball bearings would be an improvement but they did not want any real change. Regardless, it still would have been horse-and-buggy transportation.

Today, the capitalists and their supporters argue that capitalism is the best of all possible systems. Some of them will argue that trivial changes will have tremendous effects. Such as claiming that altering the tax structure will change our social system for the better. Tax change or no tax change, we still have the horse - and - buggy system known as capitalism.

The Socialist Labor Party says its time to make a real change — abolish capitalism and establish Socialism. This can be done in a peaceful way as provided for by Article V of the U.S. Constitution.

Henry R. Korman, 2840 Garfield St., Longview, Wash.

Yingles
To the Editor: For two years, I've been listening to television from Washington, and all I learn was a bunch of singin' yingles.

Everett Acklin, Ashland, Ore.

Mirabile Dictu!
To the Editor: Professional right-wingers have been having a field day of vituperation over the recent visit to this country of a delegation of Russian churchmen as guests of our National Council of Churches. As was to have been expected, many of these hatemongers' duped disciples lost no time joining the chorus of vicious, but baseless, denunciation.

As Anna M. Streed pointed out in her letter of 3-10, there has been considerable confusion in the minds of many as to the real nature and purpose of this visit because of "allegations made by some that these men are actually spies sent here to propagate Khrushchev's tranquilizer of 'peaceful co-existence' through American pulpits."

So, ostensibly to dispel the confusion, Miss Streed wrote "to present the actual status of the church in Russia."

And whom does she cite as authority for the "enlightened dictu" — a "former major in the Russian security police (NKVD), Petr S. Deriabian," allegedly a defector to the West and witness before Senator Dodd's investigation of "the status of the Orthodox Church in Russia." Utterly fantastic! Almost like calling on the devil to certify a man's sainthood or the faithfulness of any body of Christians.

I should like to point out, in the first place, that the 16 Russian churchmen included Baptist and Lutheran as well as Orthodox clergymen. As to their faithfulness as Christians and the position of their churches vis-a-vis the communist state, I quote eminent American churchmen of wide and intimate firsthand knowledge:

Charles C. Parlin, distinguished New York lawyer and Methodist layman: "Whether Russia is to be an atheist or a Christian nation, there is a head-on collision between church and state. On this issue no Russian churchman has given any indication that he was prepared to give or to compromise (written to the Russian delegates to the World Council of Churches Assembly in India at which their church was admitted to membership)."

Frank C. Laubach, outstanding missionary and leader of the world literacy movement, on right-wing fundamentalist attacks upon our Russian visitors: "If we are

to reject the hand of friendship from those in Russia who are disposed to be our friends, what is the alternative? . . . With hearts filled with the love of Christ (these men) are seeking to turn Russia and America toward friendship. There is no other possible direction if we are to avert the ultimate disaster."

Arnold Eugene Jenny, Rogue Valley Manor, Irrationality

To the Editor: In J.W.S.'s Sunday column he ended with: "If people are always so upset about air-pollution why do they blow cigarette smoke in your face while they're telling you about it?" This reminded me of an air pollution meeting in Medford about a year ago when the air was especially foul with cigarette smoke. Another incident with similar elements was observed at the Medford hotel recently when Dr. Stressinger, a U of O biologist, spoke to a group of persons interested in the threat of nuclear war. He said the radiation remaining after the initial effects of the bombing were over, would shorten the lives of the 60 per cent (who escaped death) by about 18 1/2 years. Upon conclusion of his interesting talk he nervously smoked several cigarettes in rapid succession.

This set me to thinking — here was an erudite man, a molecular biologist, cautiously proceeding, it seemed to me, to reasonable conclusions regarding the nuclear problem. Yet, I thought, why can he not follow the implications of the American Cancer Society studies and the like, which compare longevity, among other things, in smokers and non-smokers. The statistics imply that the typical John Doe, pack-a-day smoker, cuts off about nine years of his life by smoking. (And not to be overlooked is the finding that he lives those fewer years on a health level below that which would have otherwise prevailed.)

Our five minute discussion yielded one more sorry particular to add to the countless other particulars which permit the generalization, arrived at inductively, that "people," not only those referred to by J.W.S., but almost all people are quite obviously irrational in certain areas of their thinking.

It is a sad thing to see a man of high quality junk his most precious gift, his power of reason. By extension, it is just as sad to see an educator, editor, doctor, legislator, parent, or other person influential in the lives of children, give lip service to reason, then set such a miserable example.

All ranting and exhortation of parents to deter their children from smoking are mere vapor, compared to the power of example. Now, if 30 parents in Medford would quit smoking each day they would end their personal air pollution problems and free their children, and . . . But I guess I was just dreaming.

Irving S. Thomas, Route 4, Box 427 G, Medford.

Wholesale murder by Hitler's methods is avowed by at least one of these groups, the American Nazi Party. According to Herman Hornsby, a private detective who attended meetings in Chicago, members of that party are taught "that Jews should be gassed and Negroes sent to Africa. If the Negroes won't go back to Africa, the Nazis believe they should be gassed, too."

Although it is true that many Americans, including the President of the United States, have raised their voices against the preachments of the "extreme right," these same Americans have failed to point to the underlying cause of these movements. It is the Socialist Labor Party alone that has brought out that these movements would not have been so successful if the social clima-

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