

Capital Journal

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"With or without offense to friends or foes I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

Strangling the Press

There is good reason to suspect from recent revelations that the war and navy departments, particularly the latter, have been suppressing news of this country's participation in the war which the people are entitled to know and which there is no apparent sound reason for their not knowing.

And there is positive evidence that the military authorities are attempting to strangle the legitimate news of the war which the newspapers dig up for their readers on their own initiative.

The tendency has progressed so far that the government is waging the club of criminal prosecution over the heads of newspapers which have had the audacity to supplement stereotyped military bulletins with information of their own uncovering, as is evidenced by the action of the department of justice in instituting a grand jury investigation of the publication by the Chicago Tribune and two other eastern newspapers of news stories purportedly giving the disposition and strength of the Japanese fleet approaching Midway island.

The papers are accused of disclosing confidential naval information.

This particular bit of information was confidential only because the navy arbitrarily chose to regard it as such. Why it was not revealed by the navy at the time has never been explained. Certainly its disclosure could not give comfort to the enemy, and it can hardly be claimed that it furnished them with any information they did not already have in even greater detail than our navy.

The workings of military minds are sometimes complex. But it does seem that they would have more important things to occupy them right now than to harass and hamstring the newspapers in their efforts to keep the American public reasonably and reliably informed of the war developments. Yet the papers are constantly plagued by stupid and dictatorial don'ts and can'ts. News of the death of eight people near Wenatchee in a flash flood that swept their car from the road was delayed in transmission over the press wires for several hours by army orders but finally permitted. Only yesterday the military for a time forbade publication of a call for bids on the construction of two airplane landing strips, although the call was being advertised in a trade journal of general circulation and the flight strips are to be located on two primary highways for all who ride to see and talk about.

The "Unknown Soldier"

There was buried yesterday, with military honors, near the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the sylvan peace of Arlington the remains of Edward F. Younger, 44, a postal employee at Chicago, who selected the body of the nameless American soldier whose glory he shared in life and in death.

Twenty-one years ago in a darkened French chapel, Younger, then a U. S. army sergeant, selected the body of an American fighting man who, "known but to God," is now enshrined in marble high above the Potomac plain in the National Cemetery.

Younger enlisted in February, 1917, and took part in the major engagements including Chateau-Thierry, St. Mihiel, the Somme offensive and the Meuse-Argonne. He was twice wounded. In 1919 he re-enlisted and was stationed with the 50th infantry, army of occupation, in Mayen, Germany, when Washington officials named him as one of six soldiers to go to France to select the Unknown Soldier.

On October 24, 1941, he chose the body. Four coffins had been sent to the chapel at Chalons-Sar-Marne, one from each of the major cemeteries where American war dead were buried. As he told the story to veteran groups, here is what happened:

"At first it was the idea that we (the six chosen soldiers) were to be just pallbearers, but when we lined up in the little makeshift chapel, Major Harbold, the officer in charge of grave registrations, told us: 'One of you men is to be given the honor of selecting the body of the Unknown Soldier.'

"He had a large bouquet of pink and white roses in his arms. He finally handed the roses to me.

"I was left alone in the chapel. There were four coffins, all unnamed and unmarked. The one that I placed the roses on was to be the one brought home and placed in the national shrine. I walked around the coffins three times, then suddenly I stopped.

"What caused me to stop I don't know. It was as though something had pulled me. I placed the roses on the coffin in front of me. I can still remember the awed feeling I had, standing there alone."

Worse Than War

The National Safety council year book "Accident Facts," just released, shows that the accident toll in this country for 1941 was 102,500 killed and 9,300,000 injured, including 350,000 permanently disabled. It states that 97 per cent of the accidents could have been prevented. The record for 1940, showed 96,880 persons killed, 9,100,000 injured, of whom 330,000 were permanently injured.

The safety experts who compiled the record estimate that 200,000 of America's fighting men could have been equipped for war in the time lost as a result of 1941 accidents. The financial loss is estimated at \$4 billion.

Traffic accidents were first in the list, accounting for 40,000 deaths and 1,450,000 injuries. Deaths were 5,500, or 16 per cent, higher than in 1940, but 34,355,000 motor vehicles traveled 317,000,000,000 miles, an all-time record. Accidents in homes ranked second, with 31,000 persons killed and 4,560,000 injured.

Women were involved in only 30 per cent of the fatal accidents. They caused only 23 per cent of the traffic fatalities and 13 per cent of the deaths from firearms. Some 23 per cent of the industrial accidents were falls. One out of five killed in auto traffic had been drinking and the drivers in one out of six cases were drunken drivers.

Lyons — Mr. and Mrs. Alva Zeta Prichard, Mr. and Mrs. Wise entertained a few friends Paul Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde at their home with a card party, honoring Albert Ring on his birthday anniversary. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ring, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Hatt, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Lewis, Miss

Husbands

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

The grand old courthouse elevator had a rest today while a new set of cables was being installed. Incidentally, it may be remarked that the elevator runs almost as fast when it is resting as when creaking its weary way. The new cables will have no effect on the speed of the elevator while going upwards, the idea of the new cables being to prevent a sudden burst of speed some day while the cage is descending. Even the courthouse elevator would travel too fast downward should the cables bust.

Willard Wirtz, well-known local attorney, is responsible for this story about an Oregon man who is now an officer at Camp Adair. While returning from his training in the east he spent much of his time telling the easterners in the contingent that there were no wild animals or Indians at large running around his native heath out here. So,

his embarrassment may be imagined, when the other day a young black bear wandered into the camp. The easterners grabbed him off as a mascot and the Oregon officer is taking his share of kidding.

Life of the Week

(Medford Mail-Tribune)
A Salem worker has returned to his native heath after toiling on the cantonment all summer, and finding out what it was like to have dry feet four days in a row.

The government spent \$100,000 a minute last month, thus putting it in the same class with movie stars and columnists.

About two weeks ago, while walking along Commercial street in deep study, we punted our head into one of these sidewalk barber poles which project itself over the sidewalk. Yesterday, while engaged in another deep study walking along on High street, we ploughed the old dome into another one of these things hanging in from off a beauty shop. If this keeps up we'll have to either quit thinking while walking, or get our dome bumped into shape so it can't think, same being pretty well bashed up in that direction now.

Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

War on Home Front, Too

Memphis, Tenn.—Brig. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, the gentleman who bombed Tokyo, learned about war when visiting here recently. Mallin Ellis, drug store manager, told this episode:

A man walked into the store, asked for toothpaste but couldn't get it because he had no used tube. Then he wanted an item which the store was unable to get because of the war; finally, he protested against the tax on another purchase. "Well, don't take it out on us," said Ellis. "You've heard about this war haven't you?" Replied the man: "I just didn't know. You see, I've been away. Doolittle is my name."

The Thundering Herd

Camden, N.J.—For years cowboys galloped across the Lyric Theatre's silver screen.

But last night "The Adventures of Marco Polo" was the feature. Right in the middle of it the balcony ceiling fell, narrowly missing part of the audience.

Building Inspector John Dziankowski's explanation:

Youngsters applauding the old-time western thrillers had stamped their feet and gradually weakened balcony supports.

Service With Smiles

Tulsa, Okla.—A woman taxi driver answered a male customer's call.

At his destination, the customer met his wife.

Two policemen arrived shortly thereafter to settle the argument. They charged both husband and wife with disorderly conduct.

The cause of it all?

"He didn't have to sit in the front seat with the driver!"

Would-Be Sentry

Chicago—After John Kadlecik, 41, put his wife and three children to bed at 9:30 p.m., and warned them to show no lights during the blackout, he took up his double-barreled shotgun and went out to patrol the streets.

Stopped by Block Captain William Thompson, Kadlecik said "I'm doing sentry duty." Thompson called police who arrested and booked the "sentry" on a disorderly conduct charge. "A lot of good he would have done," the block captain commented. "The gun wasn't even loaded."

Kelly Says

Japan, Not Hitler Greatest Menace

Congressmen Gripe But Are Helpless

Soupin Shark Industry Booms

By John W. Kelly

Washington, Aug. 13—If the United States had a general staff of professional fighters instead of amateurs it is believed that such a staff would recognize that Japan is the major enemy, the one on our doorstep, and not Herr Hitler, across the Atlantic. There is dissatisfaction with the present leadership which places stress on liquidating the Germans and gives secondary consideration to disposing of the Japanese. Congress does not make the foreign policy, that is the responsibility of the president; otherwise congress would listen to the demands of the 11 western states.

Personally interested in giving Japan first place are 22 members of the senate and 43 members of the house. This is the strength of the 11 western states in congress, those regarded as under the guns of the Nipponese. Many of the outstanding members come from the far west. It is seldom that all these senators and representatives work together and take identical position upon any point, but they are in agreement that the Japanese should be put in their place before a great army is sent across the seas to rescue European countries from the nazis. Japan is regarded as the home front, the immediate enemy, the actual threat.

All the lawmakers from the west have received many letters from the man in the street, from mothers, from farmers, from bankers, from widows who have given their last son to the army. The tenor of these letters, scrawled in longhand or typewritten, is the same; they want to know what is being done with the billions of dollars appropriated and authorized; why the United Nations are steadily losing; why President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill do not give young, active strategists an opportunity; why it is considered advisable to throw everything the United States has at Hitler and wait until his scalp has been taken before going after the Japanese hammer and tongs.

Mail Contents Identical

The mail runs to a pattern, whether it comes from Yakima or Roseburg, and frequently the writer wishes to know why "the facts" are not published in the newspapers or "the whole truth," instead of accounts of engagements from one to two months old and rarely any information about American losses. While Japanese broadcasts should always be taken with a grain of salt, more data on the Japanese in the Aleutians have been received from their radio than from government communiques, or at least the Japanese have been first to announce their activities in invading

American territory. The enemy, of course, also minimizes its losses of men, ships and combat planes, as do the communiques.

There is nothing members of congress can do except gripe; the war is not in their hands; they have voted every dollar that has been requested and voted it blindly, not even being told what the money is for. The few members of the appropriation committee who have been advised of certain objects to be obtained with the money are sworn to secrecy; other members of congress are told nothing. Congress knows just as much and no more of what is doing with the "grand strategy" as any newspaper reader.

Orders for a dimout of all west coast towns as long as the war shall last have renewed agitation for giving primary attention to the Japanese, and the suggestion has been made that the thousands of soldiers being trained at Helena, Mont. (Canadians as well as Americans) as air borne units be used against the invaders on the islands of the Aleutians. This mixed command are paratroops, drilled in mountain fighting and marine landing and are to be carried by air transports with equipment including artillery. However, instead of being sent to the Aleutians this brigade of specialists will probably be shipped to Europe.

Price Offerings Jumped

An idea of the importance of the soupin shark industry in the northwest which was practically suppressed by war production board (order L-40) because "it is necessary in the public interest to promote the defense of the United States," can be gained by statistics of the "take" in Seattle. In 1940 taking livers from sharks was now and only 11,796 pounds were brought to Seattle. Last year the livers weighed 111,514, and in the first three months of this year 190,722 pounds were delivered. The halibut fleet of 200 boats discovered that dogfish liver also was high in vitamin A and they unloaded 569,136 pounds of dogfish between January 1 and April 15 this year. Fish and wildlife service supplied these figures; has not completed statistics for the Oregon coast where soupin sharks were first caught at Port Oxford and livers rushed to San Francisco by truck. Price of shark livers jumped from 20 cents a pound to \$6 and \$9. Some individual earnings ran to \$1,000 for one week. Price was \$6 a pound when WPB and OPA stepped in and scuttled the industry.

Scio—Mr. and Mrs. C. Z. A. Zander of Salem visited relatives and friends at Scio this week. Mr. Zander, who has been employed

FOR GOOD THINGS TO EAT SEE ADVERTISEMENT OF STATE ST. MARKET Page 12

LOOK FOR AND ASK FOR Van Camp's TENDERONI ... COOKS IN SEVEN MINUTES SEE RECIPES ON THE PACKAGE

Salem Sketches By Will Danch



In the office at the Scio-Linn hatchery here for some time, has completed his work and returned to Salem. He may take employment in defense work at Portland or Seattle, it is stated.

August SALE

Men's and Young Men's **SPORT COATS**
Reg. 16.50 to 19.50
\$14.95

For Smartness and Comfort you can't beat a well tailored Sport Coat. All this season's newest patterns and colors.

BUY NOW FOR SCHOOL WEAR

Reg. 6.95 to 7.95 **SLACKS**
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Pleated Zipper Fly Smartly tailored gabardines, Bedford cords—in all wool and fine wool mixtures. Brown, tans and blues.

All Wool **PULLOVER SLEEVELESS SWEATERS**
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Reg. 8.05 Now 6.75
Reg. 10.00 to 12.50 Now 8.75

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Panamas - Coconuts Sennits, etc.—all sizes.
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IT'S NOT JUST LUCK!