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Tunisia Only a Portent

The Allied troops, especially the Americans have been enthusiastically greeted as they enter the white towns of Tunisia, pelted with flowers and cheered with enthusiasm. They are welcomed as liberators because for the past six months the towns have been under Axis military occupation and the inhabitants treated as those of all Nazi-occupied countries, as slaves compelled to serve their masters while being systematically looted of supplies and valuables, left on the verge of starvation while shiploads of food went to the Axis mainland.

It is a new experience for the Allied soldiers, who are getting a great kick out of it. When the British occupied Libya, and the Americans Algeria and Morocco, they were greeted with pleased relief and the welcome was friendly but mixed with questions and reservations but not acclaimed with joy, because most of these countries had not experienced the terror of German occupation, as Tunisia had.

One of the American soldiers in the truck service supplying food and essentials to the Tunisians told a correspondent: "Some of the townspeople swarm all over us and it isn't just because we have brought them something. It goes deeper than that. They like to give us little presents and they do everything they can to make us comfortable. Sometimes we get a little tired of being always on the move but whenever we see some scared little kid's eyes bulged out at the sight of the first real food he's seen in months it makes things look up for us."

If this is the reaction to Allied invasion in Tunisia after a comparatively brief German occupation, what will it be in Europe after years of brutal systematic exploitation and looting, of servitude and executions, when the armies of deliverance arrive? It is only a mild prelude to what awaits the forces of liberation.

Let Common Sense Rule

There are grounds for the suspicion that considerations other than reason or the legal problems involved had something to do with the near defeat by the city council of a proposal that officials of St. Joseph's school be permitted to block off Winter or Cottage street, between Center and Chemeketa, during daily recess periods to provide additional play space for the pupils. The request was made by the principal after he had been informed by the state superintendent of schools that more space was required to conform to the state law regarding school playgrounds.

Several councilmen voiced opposition to the proposal, the principal opposition being to the establishment of such a precedent. The aldermen were apparently forgetful of the fact, or ignorant of it, that the practice has been followed in the case of some public schools in Salem and is general in many cities where the schools have outgrown their playground facilities. They also seem to have forgotten the numerous occasions when the council has granted permission to street carnivals and similar attractions to occupy an entire block of a busy downtown street throughout the days and nights of an entire week.

Applications for free use of the streets by these noisy nuisances have invariably been granted by the council without a word of protest, and have usually been accompanied by a waiver of the customary license fee. But when an established institution, providing a valuable wartime service to busy parents in supplying day care for their children, asks the use of a little used side street for a few minutes each school day some of the august aldermen throw a fit. It is to be hoped that the traffic committee, to which the matter was referred with power to act, is less given to technical objections and more inclined to view the matter from a common sense standpoint.

The Spiral of History

History winds back in a spiral if it does not exactly repeat itself and history of the first World war is being repeated in the second, with the Germans victorious well into the fourth year of the struggle, when the tide turned. Reports that Hitler's Balkan satellites are trying to get out of the war before an Allied blitz hits southern Europe recalls the fact that the strength of the central powers in 1918 crumbled first in the Mediterranean sphere rather than on the main front. And it came after the Allies had suffered many reverses in Mesopotamia, Turkey and Salonika. German war power began to fall at the farthest points of the far-flung battle front.

The Axis powers are on the verge of defeat in Tunisia and the Allies about to reopen the Mediterranean to Allied shipping, which probably means an attack on Germany through southern Europe to join Russia, at least the Balkans expect one arm of the attack to hit them. This is shown by the changed attitude of Turkey.

Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary are weary of the war, balking in sending additional forces to slaughter for Hitler and only kept in line by pressure. Jugoslavia is seething with revolt and Italians are ready to oust Mussolini and only German forces have kept Italy in a war for which Axis victory spells servitude.

Farcial Shoe Rationing

By its constantly increasing list of exceptions to the general rationing order applying to leather shoes OPA is making a farce of the whole program, and arousing public suspicion of the need for any restrictions at all. Its latest relaxation order applies to athletic shoes and has the effect of making them available to anyone who wants them, and who will go through the red tape required to get them.

Professional baseball clubs are permitted to buy such shoes as they need for their players, provided title to the shoes remains in the club.

Individual professional athletes, members of semi-pro and company teams, along with individual amateurs are not eligible for supplemental ration tickets with which to buy athletic shoes. But if they use their regular ration stamp 17 for the purchase of sports footwear and then find themselves with less than two pair of "wearable or repairable" street shoes they may apply for an additional ration for ordinary shoes.

If an athlete uses his regular stamps for athletic shoes he is eligible for supplemental rations for regular shoes, but he cannot secure extra stamps to buy sports shoes. There's more than one way to skin a cat.

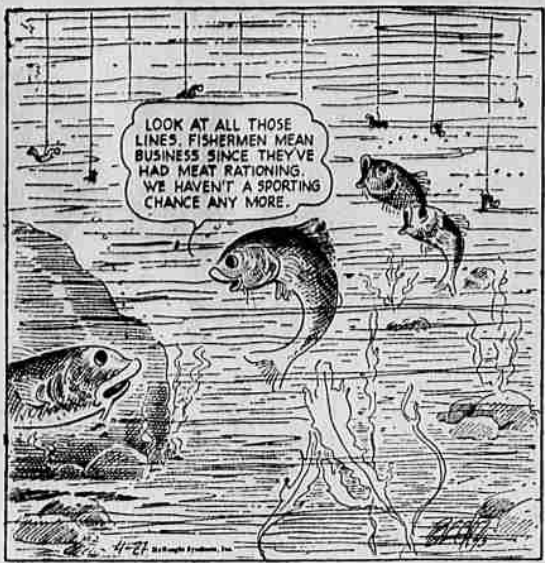
Separated Long Time

Falls City—Clarence Fleming of Indiana arrived here to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Fleming and two sisters' families, Mr. and Mrs. John Boozer

of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Boozer of Dallas. This is their first meeting in 25 years. New Zealand recently was compelled to reduce its sugar ration.

Animal Life

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Warning comes from the agriculture department that the gooseberry fly is at hand and will soon be working on the gooseberries and farmers should act accordingly. This is timely information and should be attended to, but we still can't figure out why a fly can see about a gooseberry that's so dogged hot.

Fish, Tush Item

(Statesman)
 Several council members charged that Alderman Tom Armstrong drafted the resolutions without consulting other members delinquency. Maybe this whole thing

Novelties In the News

Birthday Present

Fort Jackson, N. C.—Hitler bought a \$1,000 war bond for Hitler's birthday. The war bond belongs to Capt. Paul Hitler of Brooklyn, N. Y., for 31 years a member of Uncle Sam's fighting forces—a birthday gift to Adolf Hitler.

Mixup

Charlotte, N. C.—Mrs. Richard Kent, Jr., received a letter from Lieut. Richard Kent, Jr., an army flier in the southwest Pacific area, saying he enjoyed her many letters, "I'm pleased with the snapshots of yourself" and he was sorry he wasn't her husband, but really, he was a bachelor.

You guessed it; the letters were intended for her husband—Lieut. Richard Kent, Jr., an army flier on duty in the southwest Pacific.

O, Happy Day!

Los Angeles—Mrs. George Adam's 70th birthday celebration: She set out at 5 a.m. from her Tujunga home for an all-day stroll. Reaching Los Angeles Exposition park at 10 a.m., she visited the museum, later calling on friends in the city.

By 7:30 p.m. she was home again. Her mileage: 42. And she does it every year.

Younger Generation

Denver—Commando John Armbeck, 9, placed a mattress atop a downtown garage, climbed to the roof of a business building nearby, took a long run and jumped into space.

Hurling 30 feet, he missed the mattress, hit the garage roof and caromed off another 15 feet to the alley pavement. Physicians treated him for a slight head injury.

High River by Saturday Predicted

Portland, April 21 (AP)—The weather bureau predicted that the Willamette river will reach a height of 17.5 feet here by Saturday, a half foot below flood stage. Tuesday's reading was 18 feet. A 17.5 foot mark also was forecast for Vancouver, where flood stage is 15 feet. The Columbia river measured 15.9 there Tuesday.

Needle Club Invited

Falls City—The Tuesday Needlecraft club met at the home of Mrs. E. G. White. Members present were Mrs. Eva Teal, Mrs. Maude Brown, Mrs. I. C. Mehrling, Mrs. D. J. Grant, Mrs. F. E. Driggs, Mrs. Laura Horn and Mrs. E. G. White.

Kelly Says

Northwest Called Enemy Target Area
 Allies in Pacific Still on Defensive
 Australia Almost Fighting Japanese Alone

By John W. Kelly

Washington, April 21—There are eight aircraft factories on the Pacific coast. Very little of their output is allocated to the war in the Pacific against the Japanese. Most of the planes and bombers produced from Puget sound to San Diego are being ferried to the United Nations in the eastern hemisphere. They are flown to various points in Africa, to the British Isles, to Russia. They are being used against the Germans and Italians. The Pacific situation is pathetic; the Pacific northwest is a target area.

Bataan and Corrigador have neither been reaptured nor avenged. China, Australia and General MacArthur are increasing their cries for assistance, and at the moment are in particular need of fighter planes and bombers—such as the Flying Fortress bomber manufactured by the Boeing plants in the Puget sound country, the kind that Americans are operating in their daylight raids over European cities, based on air-dromes in England.

Administration Criticized

The allies in the Pacific are waging a defensive, not an offensive, war. It is impossible for the allies to do otherwise, considering the highest strategists are throwing everything they have, save a small percentage, into the war against Germany and Italy which absorbs their principal attention. The impression exists in the Pacific that the administration does not realize the seriousness of the war in that quarter, inasmuch as repeated appeals for aid have not been complied with. If the thousands of planes which have been given to Russia and the British had been sent into the Pacific the story of the war in that theatre would be different.

China, says Chiang Kai-shek, is now in its darkest hour. The hoped for support from the United States is not even dribbling in. There is little to show for the Chinese mission trip to Washington, D. C., nor for the White House conferences of Madame Chiang Kai-shek, despite the popularity with which she has been received by the American people. The military mission dispatched by General MacArthur accomplished little, according to report.

Dr. Herbert V. Evalt, minister of external affairs for Australia, came to the national capital to make his plea and, so far as known (and judging from the talks, is returning empty handed. Promises, yes; but promises have been given for more than a year. Gen. Sir Thomas A. Blamey, like Joe Stalin, says that Australia is almost fighting alone against the Japanese. Stalin said the red army was fighting alone against the Germans, not mentioning the 5000 planes that were given him by the United States. General Blamey gives some small credit to the American troops, but insists the Australians are carrying the load; the bombers and soldiers and supplies promised by "the arsenal of democracy" have not been forthcoming in the quantities needed or expected.

Japanese Worst Threat

All major engagements of United States forces (sailors, soldiers, marines, and fliers) have been confined to the Pacific and the casualties outnumbered by many thousands the list of casualties accumulating in the North African adventure. The number of Japanese is also far greater than the number of Germans or Italians in the African campaign. It is difficult, if not impossible, to find a resident of Oregon or Washington who believes Germany is as much a threat to this country as are the Japanese.

It is known, of course, that the United States has planned an all-out offensive against the Japanese and is now making preparations, but the immediate task is centered on Europe. On the other hand, Chiang Kai-shek, General Blamey and General MacArthur are petitioning for help now and not in 1944.

The box score for the Pacific discloses that the Americans are sending warships, transports, supply ships and planes to the bottom, but notwithstanding these victories the Japanese are still holding practically every island that they invaded and held more than one year ago; and they have not been driven out of the Aleutians.

Washington's Senator Bone has invited government agencies to give serious consideration to the heavily mineralized belts in that state with the object of establishing a steel industry. The Washington state

Serving Uncle Sam

Cartoons is one method Cpl. Howard Larkins, who is in Australia, has of communicating with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Larkins, station A, Salem. They have received several humorous drawings illustrating the life of a soldier. Three of the Larkins boys are with company B, 162nd infantry of the 41st division. The other two are Staff Sgt. Marvin E. (Buck) Larkins and Sgt. Melvin (Tiny) Larkins. The two latter were formerly Capital Journal carriers. The letters are the first received since January.

Master Sgt. Wilfred R. McKay has been transferred from Fort Lewis to Camp Cooke, Calif. Mrs. McKay (Clara Bell), is enroute to Santa Barbara Tuesday, where she and Master Sgt. McKay will make their home.

PFC Norman W. Bell, who has been stationed in the Hawaiian islands for the past year with the army air force, surprised his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Bell of Portland, by calling them from San Francisco recently.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Van Pelt received news of the promotion of their son, Franklin, to captain. Capt. F. H. Van Pelt is now stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla.

Recruit training began at Faragut, Idaho, this week for Edward Lee Brande, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Brande, 112 Abrams street, Salem, who is a recent arrival at the training station.

Lieut.-Commander Verden E. Hockett, now on active duty with the navy, is spending the week in Salem on leave from Bremerton, Wash. Until going on active duty, Commander Hockett was in charge of medical activities of selective service for Oregon.

PFC William Armour of Salem is doing well in the naval hospital at Mare Island, Calif., where he is confined by wounds suffered in February while serving as a tank commander in Guadalcanal. His mother, Police Matron Bessie Armour, returned Tuesday from San Francisco, where she visited him. Whether the tank stopped a Japanese shell, or just what happened "Bill" doesn't yet know, for he was rendered unconscious and when he woke up he was on an airplane, being taken from Guadalcanal to New Zealand.

Gordon Reeves of Salem, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Reeves, has finished pre-flight course in the army air corps at Santa Ana, Calif., and has been transferred to Cal-Aero field at Ontario, Calif., for primary training.

Just about a year ago Second Lieut. James Haley left the Oregon public utility commission in Salem, and went to join the signal corps in the American armed forces. Yesterday he came back to Salem wearing the insignia of a first lieutenant. The interim between enlistment and return was largely passed with the troops in England. On his return to America he came on to Oregon by plane. "And, does this old state look good to me," said the lieutenant. "I was glad to get back to Seaside for a visit with my folks, where I spent a week. After a visit in Salem I will be on my way to Alabama, where I will become an instructor for a time at least."

Pvt. Joe A. Klein, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Klein, of Mt. Angel, was promoted this week to the grade of private first class. He is stationed at Keesler field, Miss., where the army air forces technical training command is training thousands of future ground crews to service and maintain the B-24 Liberator bombers which are helping carry the war to the axis.

Mt. Angel—Miss Vivienne LeDoux and Miss Edna Braek of Woodburn, have left for Texas and California. They will visit Aviation Cadet Raymond LeDoux at San Antonio; Aviation Cadet Joseph LeDoux, at Corsicana, both in Texas and Robert LeDoux and other relatives at Stockton, Calif.

John Larson, officer on a British ship now in Portland, was a recent guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alois Keber. He was accompanied by Miss Ursula Keber of Portland. Guest from Salem was Miss Madlen Keber.

Mrs. Joseph Berchold and sons, Kenneth and Jimmy are houseguests at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Saalfeld, while her husband is in Montana where he flew to

senate adopted a similar resolution which has been referred to the senate special committee to investigate the national defense program. The legislative resolution says that whenever such development has been proposed it has been blocked by industries already existing in other sections of the country.

Donald Gonser, MBCG, serving at an Oregon base, has returned to service after visiting briefly at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Morris.

Lieut. Howard G. Eberly of the air corps who had a narrow escape from death when his plane fell into the water during the battle of the Bismark Sea, writes Coach Spec Keene of Willamette that he is recovering from his experience, although still confined to a hospital. The letter was written March 25 and said "we really had fun in the Bismark Sea. I was lucky to make my way to shore."

Tom King of the U. S. marine corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. King of 1770 South Liberty street, is spending a brief furlough with his parents. Young King has seen considerable action since Pearl Harbor, including service in the Coral Sea and Midway battles. The ship on which he is a gunnery instructor "stopped a torpedo" at one time but managed to make port.

Lieut. Bert Victor, with M. Victor, arrived in Salem Tuesday evening from Stockton, Calif., where Lieut. Victor is connected with the ordnance department. He entered the service August 12 last year and has been handling motor transport problems in that department. He is on an official assignment in the northwest and stopped here briefly for a visit.

Suit Accuses FDR And Churchill

Pueblo, Colo., April 21 (AP)—A suit charging that President Roosevelt "conspired" with Prime Minister Winston Churchill of England to involve America in war has been filed in federal district court in Pueblo, it was revealed Tuesday.

The suit, filed Monday by George J. Knapp, an unsuccessful contender for the 1938 democratic nomination for governor, asked the court to void the section of the selective service act under which men 45 to 65 years of age are required to register.

Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national draft director, and Major Howard E. Reed, Colorado selective service head, were named defendants.

The suit alleged that Mr. Roosevelt, "through the device of said registration . . . is attempting to nullify the constitution of the United States and to reduce, unlawfully, the people of the United States to a condition of serfdom."

It further charged that the president "resorted to every available device to involve the United States in the European war on behalf of his Britannic Majesty's government."

TRAVEL TALK

MR. WHAT: WHAT'S THE MATTER RAIN-IN-THE-FACE?



MR. WHY: OH, I WISH I WERE YOUNG ENOUGH TO GET INTO A UNIFORM AND FIGHT!

MR. WHAT: YOU CAN FIGHT PLENTY



MR. WHY: TELL IT TO MY DRAFT BOARD! UNCLE SAM THINKS I HAVEN'T ANY FIGHT LEFT IN ME.

MR. WHAT: LISTEN—THERE'S PLENTY OF FIGHT LEFT IN YOUR CHECK BOOK. PUT MORE OF YOUR DOLLARS IN UNIFORM!



MR. WHY: DOLLARS IN UNIFORM! WAR BONDS . . . AND THOSE DOLLARS WILL COME HOME WEARING SERVICE STRIPES OF INTEREST.

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