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It's a Symptom All Right

The New York World-Telegram announces that Westbrook Pegler, columnist, is leaving the Scripps-Howard newspapers at the termination of his present contract to join the Hearst newspapers, which will syndicate his column through King Features. In explanation, Roy Howard, editor of the World-Telegram, says:

"The termination of Scripps-Howard's sponsorship of the Pegler column is not an incident—it's a symptom. It is a symptom of a journalistic problem which frequently develops when a writer is given carte blanche to express himself with complete and uncontrolled freedom. Many years of effort have demonstrated notably in the cases of Heywood Brown, General Hugh Johnson and Westbrook Pegler, the public's unwillingness to accept as something apart from the paper's policy, the opinions of independent writers."

Mr. Howard continues that his newspaper must be judged by its own expressions of editorial policy rather than by the views of a single brilliant writer and that when a newspaper feature is divorced from responsibility, "a problem develops for which we have found no satisfactory answer, a problem not concerned with freedom of the writer to express his views," but concerns rather how frequently a writer may "sound a single note without upsetting a newspaper's editorial balance." No attempt was ever made to control the subject matter or opinions of Pegler, but "we have been unable to convince our readers that Pegler has always expressed Pegler without regard to the opinions or policy of Scripps-Howard."

Mr. Pegler is one of the most colorful, conscientious and effective columnists. He has been a crusader against sham, hypocrisy and crookedness, whether in the seats of the mighty or among gangsters. He has delighted in exposing racketeers of all stripes, especially among the sacrosanct labor bosses, now so firmly in the saddle. As a result, though unable to refute or disprove his charges of graft, coercion and corruption, the latter used their customary bludgeon of boycott against newspapers printing his column—which pressure probably figures in showing him the door.

The stupidity of the people is not so great that they cannot distinguish a signed article by a columnist from newspaper editorials. They are accustomed to see all sorts of conflicting opinions, political, economic and social, in adjacent columns, which is as it should be to preserve freedom of opinion and press. Readers either scan them or pass them up, either agree or disagree and let it go at that. It is the galled jade that winces.

Parley Prospects Bright

In hopes of avoiding the demonstrated mistake of the allies in the last war in allowing the establishment of peace machinery to await the cessation of hostilities, representatives of the United States, Great Britain and Russia convened today at Dumbarton Oaks near Washington to seek agreement on the creation of a new international security organization before the end of the present war. Agreed in advance on the broad basic principles involved, there is every indication that success will crown their efforts.

The general outline of the proposed organization follows closely that of the League of Nations, with the added proviso for enforcement of its edicts by military force if necessary. President Roosevelt last week sketched the general pattern of the new league, the details of which the present conference will work out. Already the British delegation has announced that it is in general agreement with the president's proposal and the Russians, in an official memorandum, are also reported in concord. The principal problem facing the delegates will be that of how force is to be applied to keep aggressor nations under control, a future which all are agreed is necessary to keep the peace.

As a basis for their deliberations the Big Three are generally understood to be in agreement on these points:

1. That full responsibility for keeping the peace after this war is theirs and must not be distributed among the 60-odd nations—big and little—of the world.
2. That the decision to use collective force to put down aggression must be unanimous among the United States, Great Britain, Soviet Russia and China. Such a decision makes certain that none of the big powers will be called upon to use its forces unless it is willing.
3. That there shall be created no super-state, supported by an international police force or armies pooled by the big powers.
4. That the structure of the organization shall be: An assembly of all nations; a council of the Big Four and certain other nations elected annually by the assembly; a World Court; agreements and arrangements for maintaining forces adequate to prevent war and prepared for joint action.

Booze Board Blunders

In an effort of cover up its merchandizing mistake in buying huge quantities of inferior grade imported brandy, rum and gin when domestic liquors were hard to get, the Oregon Liquor Control commission has resorted to a device which not only violates the purpose of its own rationing program but also defies the spirit, if not the letter of the Knox law under which it operates.

Obviously for the purpose of unloading the vile, high-priced imported booze which it cannot otherwise move out of its warehouses and stores, even at bargain prices, the board has decreed that a premium of one bottle of rationed whiskey is to be allowed to purchasers of two bottles of the imported liquors during the rest of August. Such a stunt makes a joke of the whiskey rationing program, which is based upon a presumptive scarcity of that kind of liquor, and will inspire the thirsty to inquire why their whiskey rations are not increased if the commission has a sufficient supply on hand to warrant its use as a bonus bait.

More serious, however, is the board's action in ignoring the restraints imposed upon it by the Knox act, which specifically provides that the commission shall not advertise its wares, nor otherwise seek to stimulate the sale of intoxicating liquors. It was the intention of the legislature in setting up the commission, that it should supply and not create the demand for intoxicants. Simply because the board has bungled in overstocking on liquors for which there is no sale is no excuse for defying the law its was created to enforce.

Four Titles Held by San Francisco Girl

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 21 (AP)—Ann Curtis, 18-year-old San Francisco swimmer, emerged today with four titles in the nation A.A.U. swimming and diving championship meet, won the third consecutive time by the Riviera club of Indianapolis.

Miss Curtis capped her performances in the meet yesterday by defeating Florence Schmitt of New York in the 800-meter free style in 11:29.5, well over the American record held by Nancy Merki, of Portland's Multnomah club.

Jane Dillard Kittleson of Fort Worth, Tex., successfully defended her title in the 100-meter breast stroke, with Miss Merki coming in third.

Including water belonging to municipal territories, the Netherlands covers an area of 13,515 square miles.



Ebb-Tide

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Once again the hoppickers' rain which used to be expected as an annual affair, seems to have passed the valley by leaving nothing but weather such as California would like to have but never gets.

Maybe when the state fair isn't held in the first week in

Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

Wild West

Fresno, Calif.—Mrs. Eula C. Ray was awarded an interlocutory divorce degree from Steel Ray, a rancher. She testified he would not allow her to tune in on anything but religious programs.

Happy Birthday

Wilmington, Calif.—There's some point in a soldier being at the port of embarkation station hospital on his birthday. Local 100 of the United Rubber Workers of America, Los Angeles, gives this birthday gift to any patient: a free telephone call anywhere in the United States.

Manna

Vancouver, Wash.—A. E. Robinson, 77, and his wife, 76, were sadly surveying the fire-blackened ruins of their little farm home. A stranger came up, handed them \$100 and walked away.

"Just consider that it came from the Lord."

Rescue

Kansas City—"Oh, we must have left them up there," cried Paula Dreiling and Helen Kirk.

So firemen, who had just finished rescuing them from a second floor dance studio in which they had inadvertently been locked, climbed back up the ladder and brought down their purses.

A MAN'S WHISKEY

Blended Whiskey • 40 Proof 80 U.S. Grain Neutral Spirits • The Lansdowne Distillery, Maine de France • Md.

Lansdowne Reserve

September a change may be expected to the usual custom of the old days when a state fair was held.

Yea, it seems we are able to report again that while dog races can be held in Portland and horse races at Gresham, the farmer is still denied the right to show off his livestock and pumpkins in Salem. But if all the predictions we hear about the war have any semblance of truth we'll have Leo Spitzbart and his show back with us next year or a good chance to know the reason why.

Had planned to sneak out last night for a squirt at Dominie Swift's melon patch and see how things are coming that way, but the night was as black as ink and you know how the flashlight battery situation is.

Our old friend Ben Pade has learned a lesson in the immunities. Ben has been around poison oak off and on all his life and had made close friends of the same. Poison oak never seemed to bother Ben, so when he was out with some friends the other day in proximity of a poison oak patch he just laughed when they told him to be careful. "What, that stuff," scoffed Ben. "It'll never touch me. So he picked some of it, rubbed it on his face and then just to show his utter contempt for the prowess of poison oak, bit off a chunk or two of the leaves. But Ben didn't laugh long. Something had happened to that old immunity. So he has been nursing himself at home, both eyes shut, lips puffed out and cheeks the same. He has

developed a new respect for nature.

Also others are developing the same respect, as for instance one of our favorite stenographers back from a couple of days of sunburn at the beach with cheeks looking like raw hamburger. Yea, nature is quite an old girl but she's not to be monkeyed with.

If this shortage of cigarettes keeps up it'll only be a short time before a lot of old boys will have to begin practicing that neat trick of youth in rolling your own with one hand. We learned it watching Bill Hart in the movies, but who remembers Bill Hart, outside a few of the pre-World War I vintage?

He also taught another generation how to touch off a match with a thumb nail but this was no more learned to be handled in left style than paper matches came along.

55-Mile Power Line Has WPB Approval

Lakeview, Aug. 21 (AP)—The Surprise Valley Electrification corporation has announced receipt of war production board approval of construction of a 55-mile power line to serve 27 ranches between Lakeview and Paisley.

Feet hurt?

Tormented by blisters, itchy burning dryness or cracked skin? Enjoy a hot Resinol Soap foot bath. Feel like new as its mild, foamy lather comforts your tortured feet. Then smooth specially medicated Resinol on the irritated spots, for lingering relief. Sold at all druggists.

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A milk white liquid laxative that can be taken by both children and adults. It is easy to take.

The War Today

By DeWitt Mackenzie

An interpretative analysis of war developments by a famous Associated Press war correspondent.

The German disaster in western Europe has intensified over the week-end, both in the Paris theater and in southern France. One of the most notable developments is the establishment of a bridgehead across the Seine at Nantes, 25 miles northwest of the capital, by one of Patton's armored columns. This was achieved while other American units continued their sweep around the south of Paris, thus threatening to flank the nerve center of France.

The cutting of the Seine at Nantes is of vast importance strategically. It means that the remnants of Field Marshal Von Kluge's battered 7th army, which have been retreating toward the Seine from the Normandy defeat, are now in a huge bowl-shaped trap whose lid is the river and a short stretch of coast southwest of the Seine's mouth.

Bridges Destroyed

Since all the bridges have been destroyed by the allied air forces, the only means the nazis have of escaping is by barges—and our bombers are circling the sky ready to pounce on them. Last night German troops tried to cross the Seine at several points between Elbeuf—near Rouen—and the sea under cover of darkness, but Royal Airforce warplanes got at them.

While this presents a grim picture we shouldn't assume that none of the Germans can escape. Probably considerable numbers already have made the crossing and others are likely to do so. Once they're on the northern bank of the Seine they will join strong elements of the Nazi fifteenth army which is holding there. However, the retreat will be terribly costly in men and equipment for the Hitlerites.

Paris Flanked

Moreover, with Paris virtually flanked, the nazis will have difficulty in defending any part of the line of the Seine. If they can't hold this line they will have to beat a retreat northward, taking their English channel forces with them. In short, the Germans are in a nasty predicament which presages a wholesale withdrawal to their inner defenses on the Rhine.

Proof that there's still plenty of fight left in the Hitlerites came last night when the forces which are surrounded in the Falaise trap in Normandy made a determined attempt to break out. The Canadians took them on, and a fierce battle raged

Serving Uncle Sam

Don Waller and Duke Osborne are spending their furloughs in Salem after several months' service with the army in the South Pacific. Both are members of the 1937 high school football squad.

Wallace Kay Huntington, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Wilson Huntington, 790 North Winter street, is receiving his initial naval indoctrination at the U. S. naval training center, Great Lakes, Ill.

Promotion of Cpl. Carl S. Dunkle of Mill City, to the grade of sergeant was announced by Lt. Col. A. V. Inge, commanding officer of the 11th armored division's 56th armored engineer battalion. Sgt. Dunkle, a son of Mrs. Susie M. Dunkle of Mill City, attended Tangent high school, and was employed by the Mill City Manufacturing company prior to entering the army.

Jerry Moore, son of Mrs. Katherine Moore, 590 South 22nd street, has written his mother from a Japanese prisoner of war camp. The card stated he was at the military prison camp No. 10-B in the Philippines and "still kicking." This was the first word received

throughout the night, with heavy casualties on both sides. Dawn found the Canadians the victors and today the trapped troops are under terrific fire from rocket-firing Typhoons and Canadian artillery.

The drive into southern France is going supremely well. The great naval base on Toulon is virtually surrounded by French troops, while American infantry is heading into the valley of the Rhone with the port of Marseille only about fifteen miles away on its left.

ed by Mrs. Moore since a card was received in December, 1943. He referred to a telegram he had received which was sent two months ago.

Cpt. Irene E. Soehren, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Soehren of 704 Main street, Dallas, has been awarded the good conduct medal at the Los Angeles port of embarkation, where she is on duty with the station hospital. The award is made to enlisted men and women for one year or more of exemplary conduct and meritorious service.

Sylvester Kremer, 25, son of Mrs. Minnie Etzel, 859 Center street, has enrolled recently in an intensive course at the Diesel Naval Training school located on the campus of the Iowa State college, Ames, Iowa.

Silverton—Flight Officer Jim Ekman, son of the E. R. Ekman, who has been home for several days on furlough, left during the past week for his location at Victorville, Calif.

Lt. Albert N. Espey, accompanied by his wife, made a flying trip to Salem to visit his parents over the week-end. Lt. Espey has completed his training and is now a pilot on a B-17 and expects to leave for overseas duty soon.

Hopewell—Mr. and Mrs. George Marr of Hopewell are stressing the winning of the war theme. Marr, by doctor's orders, was no longer able to do garage work and Mrs. Marr and the younger children, four sons and one daughter, took over his work and he is now employed at the new aluminum plant while three of his older sons are in the United States armed forces. MM2/c George (Concluded on page 9)

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