

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
Publishers

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Fragments of Fact and Fancy

These days of waiting for Hitler to strike next are comparable to those last few days of September and early October, 1936, here in Coquille when we waited for the rains to put an end to the forest fires raging around us. Smothered with smoke, we went through the gestures of living but the ordinary tasks seemed so futile and meaningless as we waited with packed bags and bedding for the emergency which did not come. So today we have lost our interest in the little things which make life pleasant and worth while and, spell-bound, we are both attracted and repelled by the broadcast of news from Europe.

Some men would like to relieve their feelings and express their hate of Hitler by "taking a poke" at German sympathizers. However, those who are loudest in their praise of Hitler are the least dangerous to our welfare. It is the unsuspected worker who can put defective material in war supplies that will cause the real trouble. An instance is the Douglas transport plane which crashed near Los Angeles last week. Sabotage is more to be feared than all the loud talk of foolish men.

Every cloud has its silver lining. At least we can believe the war will cause one desirable effect in this country if congress orders Harry Bridges deported. Strong, unseen bonds have allowed him to remain here and disrupt our shipping. It is whispered that he is a nephew-in-law of a cabinet member. If that is the case, why haven't the newspapers published the fact? We do not like rumors and if the wife of Harry Bridges is not a relative of Madam Perkins, a denial should be made.

In any event a man who has done so much to set laborer against laborer and who has also been responsible for the lowering of the standards of conduct by American sailors on the high seas, can well be dispensed with. We want no Quislings, neither in fact nor in deed.

The strong tide which set toward a third term for Roosevelt with the news of the invasion of neutral Holland is already turning. If the president could have risen to the needs of the hour and forgotten self, it is possible he might have been the first president to be elected for twelve years in the White House (although, history appears to teach us there is more honor in renouncing a third term than in grabbing for one.) It is five months until election and the European war probably will be settled one way or another before November. Therefore it looks now like a republican victory at the polls then and what dark horse could we better support than, Charles McNary?

Hitler is a great lover of the opera and is obsessed by Wagner. Probably he took a tip from the devil in Faust for a German woman is receiving credit for the treachery of Leopold III. The king of the Belgians was almost idolized in America in the last war. How his son, the boy prince who fought in the trenches then, could grow into the man who, after inviting the allied forces to come to his aid, deliberately deserted them when they were well trapped, is beyond explanation—except that it was by the devil's own cunning.

Of course, everyone knows "blitzkrieg" literally translated means "lightning war." From now on "Donner and Blitzen" will not bring to mind the reindeer of St. Nick but will be associated with the thunder and lightning of German savagery directed against neutral people and non-combatant refugees. Thus is severed one more gossamer link which had given us a word of pleasant memories in common with the German speaking race.

The broadcasts of war news via short wave from England have been quite exciting for listeners, though rather difficult to understand occasionally and we sympathize with the man who became disgusted with the broad "a" and clipped speech of the British announcer and said he didn't

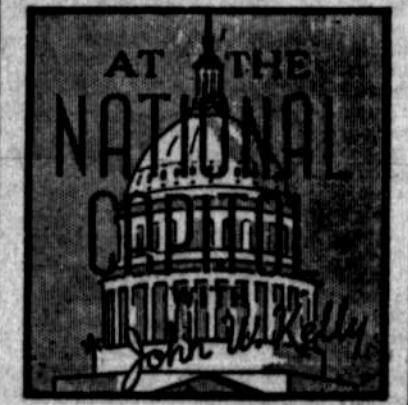
like to listen to anyone who couldn't speak good English.

A peace on Hitler's terms may well mean extinction of every British man, woman and child. That is what makes the situation so desperate for England. It is known around the world how the persecution of Jews in Germany has almost annihilated them. Less publicity has been given to the treatment of the Poles in their conquered state. However it is the policy of the nazi government to place German farmers on the land and dispossess the Polish owners.

It has been stated quite authoritatively, in spite of the censoring of all news from there, that in Poland 200,000 children have been killed, in addition to the adult casualties.

In 1864 Poland suffered from a Russian invasion and was completely subdued. The stanza written by Tennyson on that occasion is as applicable today as it was then, except that the nazi hordes from the west set new records in cruelty for the barbarian in the east to emulate:

"How long, O God, shall men be ridden down,
And trampled under by the last and least
Of men? The heart of Poland hath not ceased
To quiver, though her sacred blood doth drown
The fields; and out of every mouldering town,
Cries to thee, lest brute power be increased,
Till that o'ergrown Barbarian in the East
Transgress his ample bound to some new crown—
Cries to thee, 'Lord, how long shall these things be!'"



Washington, D. C., June 5—Whether the United States can keep out of the war is a debatable question in the national capital. In asking congress for another billion dollars for national defense President Roosevelt's message contained no assurance that this country will not be involved. He said the possibility exists that all continents may become belligerents—and that includes the American continent. Left to his own devices, the average American wants peace, but at this time there is being promoted an intriguing program to influence public sentiment and land America side by side with the allies. Agents carrying on this propaganda plot to drag the United States into war are busy as bird dogs in this federal city. The principal argument—to inspire fear—is that Hitler's legions will attack this country after disposing of France and England. It may turn the trick yet.

Conditions in Washington now are following the pattern of the events which led to America's entrance into the first world war. The United States is the arsenal of the allies; a board of civilians has been appointed by the president to furnish supplies for preparedness (now called national defense); the president is calling for dollar-a-year men; congress is asked to take \$100,000,000 of taxpayer money and give it to refugees in the war-torn countries. Apparently about every step is being taken except sending American troops abroad.

A calm view of the situation in the national capital (there are some who are keeping their heads) is that there is little likelihood of America entering the war unless Hitler, when and if he conquers England, tries to seize British, French and Dutch islands in the Atlantic and invade Canada. Then, under the Monroe doctrine, the United States will be compelled to take a hand and resist this violation of a century old American policy.

Sources close to the White House hint that it is this possibility—violation of the Monroe doctrine—that has aroused the president and inspired him to ask for billions for national defense. Recognizing that seizure of the islands may be a matter of months, Mr. Roosevelt urges that the defense program be rushed, for it requires time to manufacture planes, anti-aircraft guns, provide the rifles and other equipment. Also a year is needed to train and harden troops for a campaign.

Time is the essence. Everything is being speeded against the day when Hitler undertakes to possess the islands, particularly. Aside from the Monroe doctrine, the United States cannot permit the islands to fall into enemy hands as they could be used for airplane bases against the Panama canal. Not unless and until the western

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, June 11, 1920)

Last Sunday Sheriff Gage made quite a haul over between North Bend and Empire when he captured a complete moonshine apparatus.

County Clerk Oddy has received from State Adjutant General White at Portland a list of the men from Coos county who paid with their lives while in the service of their country during the war with Germany. The following were from Coquille: William A. Aberson, train accident; Carl G. Beck, pneumonia; Robert E. Carter, wounds received in action; William John Colebrook, pneumonia; William H. Jensen, pneumonia. Among others from this county were Lee G. Ray, of Myrtle Point, and Rufus C. Sell, of Riverton, both killed in action.

Don Pierce, of Coquille, was in Myrtle Point Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Schroeder, of Arago, returned Monday from attending the state grange at Bend.

In honor of her birth—we decline to say which one—about forty of Mrs. T. B. Currie's friends walked into

hemisphere is threatened will Roosevelt favor war, and only congress can make a declaration of war. But to put our house in order requires tremendous effort. Disregarding increase in the standing army and national guard, increased personnel for the navy, the great task is the making of things. Things cannot be made unless men know how to make them. Consequently, hundreds of thousands of young men are to be trained until they are skilled mechanics; regiments of men must acquire the technique of operating precision tools; the ground crews (mechanics) must be educated for the air program.

President Roosevelt was so entranced by photographs of scenes on the Oregon coast that he approves the idea of a seashore national park being created in Curry county, north of Brookings. Recommendation for the park was made to Secretary Ickes by the national park advisory board and Ickes took the matter up with the chief executive; a bill was prepared and has been introduced by Senator McNary.

There will be 30,000 acres in the area and, aside from a few acres on the coast of Maine, this will be the first seashore national park in the country. No opposition is expected by the county court of Curry county or other residents of that section for it will give county and state perpetual national advertising.

Latest victims of the war in Europe are the loganberry growers of the Willamette valley. The Oregon loganberry control board, which handles 80 per cent of the loganberries grown in Oregon, states that 10 per cent of the crop is consumed in the United States and the rest in England. With the English market gone, half the crop will be unharvested unless aid comes from the federal surplus commodities corporation. Prunes, apples, pears and other products of the Pacific northwest have been affected by the war.

At this time there is no prospect of agriculture receiving a benefit from the war—at least from foreign markets—but the domestic consumption is expected to improve as more people are employed at standard wages instead of the WPA wage. For such food supplies as it requires England is relying on sources within the empire and is not likely to call on American farmers for wheat or meat.

First Four Months Show Fewer Accidents This Year

Fifteen Oregon counties had no traffic fatalities during the first four months of 1940, according to figures compiled by Earl Snell, secretary of state, today. Last year, 14 counties went through the first four months without traffic fatalities.

The 15 death-free counties this year were Baker, Crook, Curry, Gilliam, Grant, Hood River, Jefferson, Lake, Malheur, Polk, Sherman, Wallowa, Wasco, Yamhill and Morrow.

Coos county showed a remarkable decline in the number of accidents during the first four months of 1940 from the number during the months of January, February, March and April last year, dropping from 215 to 160. The number injured during the period dropped from 44 to 23, but fatalities due to auto accidents increased from two in 1939 to three this year.

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her home last Friday evening while she was being detained by car troubles" down town, and when she arrived she was completely surprised and astonished to find the house full of people.

Wednesday evening H. Theodore Hansen, planer foreman at the Coquille Lumber Mills, and Miss Katherine Willoughby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Willoughby of Hall's creek, who has been one of the teachers in our city schools the past year, were united in marriage at the Federated parsonage by Rev. A. B. Barry.

Mrs. Flora E. Dunne and Mrs. Mary Harvey went to Powers Tuesday for a week's visit with their sister, Mrs. Chas. Levine.

A. M. Woodford came in from Medford Wednesday afternoon for a visit with his daughter, Mrs. J. A. Lamb.

Our streets do not have a Sunday appearance owing to the dearth of gasoline and the lack of autos, but are certainly beginning to look as they did before the cars came into general use. Once in a while a car buzzes along and the delivery trucks are still on the job.

Poor Plumbing May Endanger Drinking Water

One of the many reasons why it is important for every city to regulate the installation of plumbing is the fact that an incorrectly designed plumbing system may permit the drinking water to be polluted with waste water with consequent danger to health, the Plumbing and Heating Industries Bureau points out.

Many epidemics of water-borne diseases have been traced to faulty design of plumbing system or to deterioration of the system.

As a result of experience and research work, correct methods for the installation of plumbing fixtures and the design of supply pipe, waste pipe, and vent pipe lines have been worked out. If the correct procedure as specified in an up-to-date ordinance is followed public health will be protected.

A plumbing code is very definitely a protection of the interest of the public, and every city should have a code drawn up in accordance with the most recent developments in the industry.

FOR SALE—The E. H. Kern house at 336 South Maple, lot and a half. Call 34R or see A. Clifford Kern. 291fs

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