

# Southern Oregon Miner

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## IT WAS A SAFE AND SANE FOURTH

**D**ISAPPOINTMENT may have been evident in some quarters, but the Miner personnel has not learned of any cases of serious illness resulting from the fact that Ashland had no formal celebration this year. Some say there would have been more money spent in town, although this would have been offset in a large measure by the usual subscriptions which are put up to guarantee successful promotion of a celebration.

Aside from the money subscribed, business houses, clubs and individuals are called upon for floats—no small item of expense, to say nothing of the work and worry attached—and when all is summed up perhaps we are better off without the celebration, at least until this battered old world is right side up again. When that moment arrives it will not be necessary to wait for the Fourth of July to celebrate, not if memory serves us right about Armistice day 1918. But we were considering Ashland's Fourth of July celebration, an event which for years has focused the attention of a large area upon this upper portion of the Bear creek valley.

The crowd was not so large as in former years, yet one might well have thought there was a celebration program in progress from the number of people roaming the streets and the numerous picnic dinners spread in Lithia park. The nearest approach to a formal program was the concert presented by Ashland's Municipal band, assisted by Mrs. Stephen Epler, who graciously consented to repeat the group of songs she sang on the regular Thursday evening band program. This proved one of the best concerts of the present season and the band members displayed their patriotic zeal in the fervor with which they attacked the marches and other numbers.

Some weeks before the Fourth the Miner advocated some type of program, one in which the band might play a leading part. Perhaps no one took heed of what we had to say at that time but we were pleased with the outcome—just as much so as if the mayor had come to us in person and asked our opinion.

These columns have frequently discussed the superior advantages Ashland has to offer to gatherings of one kind and another and the recent Fourth of July is one more proof of our claim that this town is with out a peer in this region. All the town needs is to show greater appreciation of what we have and the crowds of visitors will increase.

## THIS IS NOT GOOD NEWS

**I**T IS with no small amount of regret that we publish the news of Gordon Tripp's contemplated departure from Ashland. If we could have our way about it we would wish him a permanent berth in the school system as well as director of the Municipal band, for in both positions he has shown excellent qualities of leadership.

When Mr. Tripp assumed the instrumental work in the Ashland system there was little advanced material for him to work on, yet in the short space of two years he has developed both orchestra and band groups that compare favorably with those of larger high schools which have had years of skilled direction.

This summer the Municipal band has shown marked improvement under the young leader's tutelage, drawing favorable comment from all sources for the bright, snappy concerts in which members of the band and some of the town's best vocal talent have been featured soloists.

That Mr. Tripp will be abandoning his chosen profession, temporarily at least, may be listed as one of the misfortunes of war, in which Ashland may be considered the loser. Both Mr. and Mrs. Tripp will be missed in the musical circles of the town.

## AN OBLIGATION TO MEET!

**I**N THIS BRUTAL WAR, the outcome of which in the minds of all Americans is not doubted, there is something more to pay for than past mistakes, guns, ammunition and all the myriad things that enter into the formation of a complete war machine. There is something more that we owe the Japs for besides their treachery at Pearl Harbor. It is coming to the fore gradually as stories of the war are unfolded. It is terrible to contemplate, almost impossible to believe and shocking beyond the capacity of civilized people to comprehend.

Stories of Japanese brutality have trickled through from time to time—how they indulged in orgies of rape, robbery and murder after the British surrender of Hong Kong, their depredations at Manila and in

the Dutch East Indies. In fact, wherever they have conquered it has been totalitarian without dropping a single letter and tales of their exploits make one's blood run cold.

Recently there has been launched a radio series entitled "A Lesson in Japanese." Object of the series is to acquaint Americans with the Japanese philosophy of life. A current program was on "bushido." Bushido is the Japanese way of life. It explains why prisoners of war must be exterminated; it is the excuse for such conduct as that at Hong Kong; it is the reason why Japan must conquer the world—it is the Japanese reason for existence. So, when a captive American soldier is considered too expensive to keep he becomes a victim of bushido. As an illustration this is accomplished in the following manner: Five American soldiers are captives of the Japs. They are in the way so must be removed. Their hands are tied behind them; each one is started out on foot closely followed by a Jap infantryman with bayonet lightly jabbing at the victim's back. The prisoner is told to walk, walk faster, ever faster, until desperate to get away from that prodding with the bayonet, he breaks into a run. He is allowed to get a few yards ahead of his captor, possibly feeling there may be a chance of escape. But no, it is part of the clever Japanese high command's diabolical plan. The prisoner reaches the point where he might think he has a chance of escape and there is the sharp crack of a rifle and a grinning, bloodthirsty barbarian of the Far East returns to camp to receive the plaudits of his comrades.

This story is taken from a dramatization, but there is no doubt but that it is founded on fact. Neither is there doubt in the mind of any sensible American that should these fiends in the form of humans succeed in landing on continental American soil they would outdo anything they have thus far perpetrated in China, the Philippines, Dutch East Indies, Malay Peninsula or other regions to which their conquests have led them.

To those boys whose terrible fate it has been to fall into the hands of the Jap barbarians we owe a debt which can only be paid when the last vestige of Japanese imperialism is wiped off the face of the earth. There can be no peace or security in the world so long of world domination. It will be a big job and probably as there are individuals or groups harboring thoughts a long one, but it is our main object in life right now. It will be done.

## THE JOB IS BEING DONE

**T**HAT is the title of a colorfully illustrated report by the automotive industry on its part in the national war effort. And reading some of this report strengthens one's belief in the ability of the United Nations to reestablish democracy in the world.

It is not difficult to recall how slow this nation was in getting into production of war necessities. How, for instance, the election of 1940 had to be disposed of before the plight of Europe could receive the attention it deserved. Then came the lend-lease law, with a gradual speeding up of war contracts until just prior to the Pearl Harbor incident the automotive industry's share in the national defense program was an accumulation of war orders totaling about four billion dollars.

On December 8, telephone circuits between Washington and Detroit, South Bend, Lansing, Flint, Pontiac, Dayton, Cleveland, Kenosha and other automotive centers were jammed. Long distance calls reached all-time peaks as military officials released a flood of new assignments. In the next five weeks, the War department alone contracted for three and one-half billion dollars of supplies, a total equal to all defense contracts given the industry in the first two years after the Nazi invasion of Poland. In succeeding weeks this total grew to fourteen billion dollars—and it is still growing.

American tanks, manufactured mostly in automobile plants, are showing their worth in spots where fighting is the hottest. News reports tell of a contingent of these heretofore untried tanks engaging in battle with the Nazis in Egypt in which the newcomers inflicted heavy damage on the enemy and returned to base with little harm to machines and no casualties to personnel. Such reports as these are heartening and strengthen the belief that when all of these machines that are rolling off the assembly lines in unprecedented numbers are manned and placed in position to combat the enemy it will be a far different story to that which has come from the battlefield to date.

If so-called "spare tires" could be used there would be no rubber shortage and there would be a lot more healthy people in this old world of ours.

Character cannot be entered on the inventory, but character and individuality are the biggest business assets a business can have.

What we'd like to know is this: If a fool and his money are soon parted, how did they ever get together in the first place?

Everything comes to him who hustles while he waits.

Time is a trust for which we must give account.

Never argue at the dinner table, for the one who is not hungry always gets the best of the argument.

The Holy Spirit, Episcopal church of Orleans, Mass., is supported by offerings placed in a ginger jar at the door.

## WOMEN IN THE NEWS

BY JANET CUPLER

**SIGNS OF THE TIMES:** A former nail polish factory is now making bomber fittings. . . . Actress Helen Hayes revealed another talent when she reported for war work as a volunteer switchboard operator. . . . Adeline Gray offered to make a jump to test a parachute made of nylon.

**SH-H! CAMPAIGN:** So well were the plans to raid Japan guarded that Mrs. James H. Doolittle knew nothing of her husband's flight to Tokyo until she accompanied him to Washington, where he received the Congressional Medal. . . . And the other day she urged delegates from 33 national women's organizations to campaign against loose talk, idle rumors and what she called "a whale of a lot of chatter."

**SUNNY SIDE UP:** That job you have to drag yourself to on a Monday morning could be a whole lot worse. . . . Emil Davies, chairman of the London county council, told a group of American lawyers that the average London stenographer considers herself lucky if, after an air raid, she can still get running water!

Sweet young thing: "You say they make paper from those trees? That's a funny-looking tree over there."  
Lumberman: "Yes, it'll be a comic supplement some day."



"Yuh aint cryin', girl?"

Black Dawn was a "killer" of a horse, but he couldn't kill Dave Bruce, although he was expected to do just that.

"Miss Lois" was madder than a hornet at Dave for "breaking" her horse, but she changed her mind when he was about to be lynched for a crime he did not commit.

## BE SURE TO READ

# BLACK DAWN IN THIS PAPER

The island of Madagascar off the coast of Africa is nearly as large as the state of Texas.

The United States army medical library is the largest working medical library in the world.

Tom: "Do you know anything about flirting?"

Dick: "I thought I did, but the girl I tried my system on married me."

## Your BRAIN BUDGET

1. True or false: Cairo, Egypt, is on the Suez canal?
2. The non-commissioned officer who commands a squad is: (1) corporal, (2) private, first class, (3) sergeant, (4) staff sergeant?
3. Ben Jonson and Samuel Johnson are both noted for being: (1) actors, (2) poets, (3) government officials, (4) scientists?
4. "A book of verse, a jug of wine, and thou . . ." was in a poem written by: (1) Shakespeare, (2) Swinburne, (3) Khayyam, (4) Poe?
5. One of these ancient gentlemen was not a Greek: (1) Socrates, (2) Aristotle, (3) Aristophanes, (4) Lucretius?

ANSWERS:  
1—False—on Nile river    2—Corporal  
3—Poets                      4—Omar Khayyam  
5—Lucretius

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