

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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MEMBER OF UNITED PRESS MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Ye Smudge Pot

Naval experts said there were four ways for the trapped German pocket battleship 'Graf Spee' to escape. Two called for the hugging of the Uruguayan coast. The captain and crew found a fifth way—to hug the Uruguayan ocean bottom.

"EDITOR-CATTLEMAN DEVELOPS SIDELINES; BECOMES BUTCHER, NOTARY PUBLIC, GROCER"—(Hdline Newsdom). No school teaching job open.

The first pre-Christmas necktie shrieked on the Main Street yesterday.

COMPLIMENT! (Pendleton East Oregonian) "If the meal the home economic class at the senior high served at the P.F.A. banquet the other night is any criterion, the present crop of Pendleton girls look like mighty fine prospects for a No. 1 housewife. Even the maid was top-notch."

This is the week, when the accident reports read: "The driver of the wrecked car said he could not see the approaching auto, due to the Christmas tree he was carrying on the front fender and hood."

Joseph Stalin, Soviet dictator, threatens a purge of Russian generals, because they failed to crush Finland swiftly. He demands victories, but there is no danger of Josef rushing to the Finnish front to show his generals how to do it.

"Another reason why we might get into the war is because of the peculiar attraction that a fuss has for a fool."—(Omaha World-Herald). Sounds likely!

A noted physician reports "the flu is a mystery ill, with the spirit of the chase, prevailing in its cure." A sort of a Dr. Flu Manchu.

"The Don't Know club is expanding both in number and intelligence."—(Clear Creek Items). Ignorance takes to its heels.

Thomas E. Dewey of New York, Republican presidential aspirant, in the eyes of many critics, still has a number of things the matter, but the main one, is his youth. He owns to only 37 summers. Even so, as time passes he will age properly, and is sound of wind and limb, and mentally frisky. What really ails the gentleman is his ability to talk. When Mr. Dewey starts a radio broadcast, his listening constituents, won't have hysterical fits, for fear he won't finish it. After Landon and Hoover, the Republican party can stand a candidate whose vocal organs are in good trim.

TELLING MR. VALLEE "A few nights ago Ed Jenney of Charleston, W. V., celebrated his birthday, surrounded, he tells us, by a group of supposedly reliable friends. It seems that it became necessary to talk about something. In the ensuing coverage of important topics, someone wondered why Adolf Hitler gave up paper hanging for politics. And that, unfortunately, reminded someone of what the late Calvin Coolidge said to Rudy Vallee. Mr. Vallee was playing for Mr. Coolidge at the White House but it did not become apparent during the evening that Mr. Coolidge was fully aware of it. After Mr. Vallee had finished he was introduced to Mr. Coolidge, explaining that he was the conductor of the orchestra. "Well," said Mr. Coolidge, "everybody has to earn a living."—(Gilliers).

Disease was attributed by the ancient Egyptians to the wrath of one of their Gods.

The Significance of the Spee

THE significant thing about the Graf Spee was, we believe, not the decision to blow it up, but the decision NOT to interne it. For this department can see no justification for the latter action, except the conviction, on the part of Germany, that the allies are pretty sure to win. Certainly Hitler would never have ordered the destruction of the pride of his post-war navy—the latest word in pocket battleships, built at a cost of some \$20,000,000—if he believed there were any REAL chance of the war ending in his favor, and the battleships return to Wilhelmshaven, all ship-shape and its colors flying.

THIS one decision on the part of Der Reichsfuehrer, in fact, speaks louder than all the flash bulletins and daily communiques regarding victories on land, sea and air, which have been pouring out of the Nazi press bureau since the war began. If Hitler really believed what these bulletins in effect have said: that the German planes and U-boats are driving the British navy off the sea, and Germany has John Bull on the run, he would never have passed up the obviously prudent course of the Spee internment.

FOR the First Lord of the British Admiralty can say all he wishes about the "poltroon action" of the Nazi commander; and the naval and military experts can dilate as they like on the gallant heroism of our Lord Nelsons and John Paul Jones in contrast with Commander Langsdorff, but the Twentieth Century isn't the Eighteenth and there is no profit in trying to make it so.

The keynote of Nazi Germany is a fanatical nationalism, to which every time honored, moral, humane, and idealistic consideration is sacrificed. Nazi Germany bows to no traditions, because it has none. It prays to no God, because it believes there is none. In other words it is "Germany Uber Alles" carried to its logical, or rather illogical, conclusion. In its creed, nothing is wrong that helps the fatherland, nothing is right that injures it. Its only religion is nationalism.

TO HAVE sent the Spee out of the Montevideo harbor to its certain destruction, and the destruction of over 1000 trained seamen, therefore might have thrilled posterity, and received a special chapter in the history books, but the Nazis care nothing for posterity and nothing for history, except as they themselves make it, as opportunity offers, by FORCE.

IN SHORT Nazism is sheer opportunism, crossed with a pagan materialism and a fanatical will-to-power. And it is rather foolish therefore, and certainly anachronistic to talk about the story-book heroes of another age, and wax morally indignant that Hitler and his fellow-gangsters refuse to follow them. Dispatching over 1000 able seamen to certain death, and giving the enemy, a Roman holiday, knocking the Graf Spee to bits, might have pleased Lord Nelson and certain conventional historians of the mid-Victorian era, but unless it materially bettered the Fatherland, and aided its immediate cause, such a sacrifice both of trained personnel and prestige would, in the Nazi code of conduct, be romantic folly, justifying immediate court martial.

WE GRANT this is contrary to the British-American tradition, but there is nothing plainer than that the totalitarian governments of the 20th century are not interested in the England-American tradition. On the other hand, if prospects were favorable for eventually defeating the British navy, and forcing England to her knees, the same line of reasoning would have rendered the destruction of the Graf Spee and failure to salvage her for victorious Germany, a blunder of equally futile and treasonable proportions.

SO WE believe this "suicide" of the Nazi battleship off the coast of South America may well mark a decisive epoch in this second World War,—not so much the naval defeat and material loss for Germany per se—as what amounts to official admission on the part of the Nazi regime, that beneath its bluff and bluster, it realizes that it hasn't a Chinaman's chance to win. We can't believe the allies will fail to perceive this fact, and be greatly heartened by it.

Farley Injects Class Issue In Christmas Card Mailing

Washington, Dec. 19.—(AP)—Postmaster General James A. Farley has introduced the social issue into the Christmas card scene. In fact, he's set class against class—first class against third class. In an appeal to postmasters, throughout the nation, the postal boss has urged them to persuade their patrons to send cards first class instead of third. Specifically, this means getting the folks to lick a toney three-cent stamp instead of the plebeian one-and-one-half-center. "Postmasters should urge mailers to send their holiday greetings at the first class rate, explaining that when so sent the greetings may be sealed and contain written messages not otherwise permitted, therefore having a personal appeal, which is, of course, more highly appreciated."

Personal Health Service

By William Brady, M.D. Signed letters pertaining to personal health and hygiene, not to disease diagnosis or treatment, will be answered by Dr. Brady if a stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Letters should be brief and written in ink. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady, 265 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

ANDY NEARLY PULLED A BONER My brother Andy had a pain in the abdomen recently. It worried him because he is now about the age or a bit older than father was when he succumbed to sarcoma of the abdominal wall. Sarcoma is a rapidly fatal form of cancer.



Father's trouble had begun with abdominal pain, too. So Andy decided to say and do nothing at all. Andy's case came to a head one day when the pain grew so severe he could not carry on. They brought him home, summoned a doctor, who requested immediate hospitalization of the patient. You probably have your suspicions as to what that means. Yes, you're right. But for what, would you guess? Appendicitis? Nah. What Andy had been nursing along and worrying about was a hernia, and the immediate operation was decided upon because the doctors feared the hernia was strangulated.

Hernia is a bulging or protrusion, usually a portion of intestine, through the abdominal wall, generally through the inguinal canal. If the internal ring of the canal through which the protrusion occurs becomes swollen or tightens down, the circulation to the portion of intestine in the hernia may be seriously impaired or shut off altogether—strangulation. Unless the constriction is promptly relieved gangrene of the strangulated intestine follows, with peritonitis and death as the outcome.

Andy went through the operation without untoward incident. When I first learned that he had hernia I felt a little chagrined that he had not sought my advice—of course I would have urged him to have ambulant treatment, injection treatment, if the hernia were reducible. Ambulant treatment is not applicable to strangulated hernia or to hernia that cannot be reduced.

But as it turned out Andy was lucky to get that pain. Would I nurse a similar trouble in silence and say nothing about it, in the secret fear or belief that it must be cancer, since father died of cancer? Not for an instant. It is my earnest conviction that I am neither more nor less liable to get cancer because my father died of cancer. To my mind this statement of the answer to the question of inheritance of cancer is fair enough—I copy it by permission from American Society for the Control of Cancer "Answers to the Public's

The Capital Parade

By Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner Released by The North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The biggest and the most disheartening fight of the coming congressional session will rage around renewal of the trade agreements act. The authority to make trade agreements expires next year. Secretary of State Cordell Hull, supported by the president, will seek a three-year extension. Three-quarters of the lobbyists in Washington are hovering by, like vultures circling a sick animal, hungrily expecting to pick a corpse before nightfall.

Hull is determined to make such a fight for his law as Washington has seldom seen. There are rumors, emanating from new deal quarters, that the president's support will be only pro forma. But it may be taken for granted that these rumors are unfounded. The president cannot desert Hull at this time, whatever cheap political strategy may suggest. The issue is fundamental. The trade agreement law is the United States' most notable recent contribution to the economic appeasement of a sorely troubled world. A congressional vote of "no confidence" in the trade agreement policy could have only one meaning

renew will enter in. Manufacturers, long accustomed to tariff-rolling, are joining the farmers. And even certain labor groups are said to be ready to join the grand alliance. The behavior of the lobbyists was to be expected. Most lobbyists get their living by deceiving their customers. The appearance, not the substance, of service is their inoperative stock in trade. The behavior of the Republicans has less excuse, however. Economically literate business men, who form the backbone of the Republican party, are likely to make the Republican leadership feel this. Meanwhile, there are definite indications that the Republican commotion against the trade agreements originates in the Republican National committee, where it is probably considered a good way of killing off Secretary Hull as a presidential candidate. In both house and senate, the fight is expected to be partisan, with the Republicans leading the attack and using whatever Democratic aid the lobbyists can drive into the corral.

Instead of a frontal assault, three ways of hamstringing the trade agreement program are proposed: (1) To require senate confirmation of all future agreements; (2) To make it impossible to lower the duties on manufactured goods; and (3) To make all trade agreements strictly bilateral, or mere barter deals on the German pattern. If any of these amendments succeeds, the United States will virtually have ceased to have a foreign policy.

In The Day's News

By Frank Jenkins THE Graf Spee, German "pocket" battleship, was beaten in a fair fight by lighter-armed ships, a galant which she was supposed to be invincible. Beaten and battered, she RAN FOR COVER in a neutral harbor. Denied the time necessary to heal her wounds and make her ready for battle again, knowing that her usefulness for this war was ended, her commander destroyed her.

THESE plain and simple facts stand out from the most spectacular sea battle of the war to date. Propaganda cannot obscure them. NOTE, please, that in this first major naval battle of the war, no rabbits were pulled out of hats. Seamanship and gunnery decided the issue.

THIS writer, who isn't blood-thirsty, has no criticism for the commander of the Graf Spee who chose to save the lives of his men instead of sacrificing them in a hopeless, suicidal battle against odds. Dead heroes do nobody any good.

A STRAW in the wind: This battle in the south Atlantic indicates that the FIGHTING POWER of the British navy has not deteriorated. That is important, if true, because the fighting power of the British navy has decided every war in Europe in more than a century.

GARNER, whose hat is now definitely in the ring, is the white hope of CONSERVATIVE Democrats—and of a lot of conservatives outside the Democratic party. That raises an old question: WHAT IS A CONSERVATIVE? A lot of them will define conservatism as declining to head OPEN-EYED into national bankruptcy.

THERE will be a lot of side issues in the 1940 political campaign, but in this humble writer's judgment the BIG ISSUE will be getting the United States of America back to solvency. GARNER is 71—which, many people say, is TOO OLD. Age doesn't worry this writer, who believes that a good old man is good and a good young man is good.

Flight O' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10 and 20 years ago. TEN YEARS AGO TODAY December 19, 1929. (It was Wednesday.) Eastern Oregon given five-inch mantle of snow. Albert Burch, president of Fruitgrowers league, at annual meeting urges cooperation among growers. City council adopts milk grade ordinance that complies with federal standards. Curfew law requiring boys and girls to be home at 9 o'clock each night to be rigidly enforced. Valley shipped 4,071 cars of fruit past season, which brought in \$6,127,640, it is estimated. Pauline Plesk, held in the city jail on a robbery charge, makes second jailbreak try. TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY December 19, 1919. (It was Friday.) Attempt made by Irish clique in Dublin to assassinate Lord French, viscount of Ireland, stirs British empire. Shot fired at viscount misses and kills a pedestrian. Bear creek starts to rise as heavy snows of past week start to thaw. Schools of city close for Christmas holidays. Mayor Gates issues proclamation warning citizens ordinance covering the removal of snow from sidewalks will be enforced. Wood famine in city is broken by arrival of two carloads of wood from Glendale. Candy output in city is cut by high price and shortage of sugar. Conviction Upheld Olympia, Wn., Dec. 19.—(AP)—The supreme court affirmed today the bribery conviction of W. Pat Rooney, former Spokane county commissioner. The departmental decision was unanimous. Use Mail Tribune want ads.

CLACKAMAS FACING FORECLOSURE FIGHT

Oregon City, Dec. 19.—(AP)—An effort to quash the mass tax delinquency foreclosure suit in Clackamas county was started yesterday by William Hammond, attorney representing one of the property owners. Hammond contends the suit should be struck because it contains more than one cause of action. The county, attempting to foreclose on 3900 pieces of property, paid nearly \$20,000 to advertise the suit which required 64 pages of newspaper.

Smashup Fatal Lakeview, Ore., Dec. 19.—(AP)—Lamar Brattain, 17, died today of gangrene complications, victim of the car wreck Sunday which took the life of Ray Moore, 22. He died just as a plane rushing gangrene serum from Berkeley, Calif., was set down at the Lakeview airport. There are 370 Smiths in the 1938-39 Who's Who.

4 MORE DAYS TO BUY AND USE CHRISTMAS SEALS PROTECT YOUR HOME TUBERCULOSIS Christmas Seals promote the use of tuberculin tests and X-rays for early discovery of tuberculosis.

For golden hours OF PLEASURE



You couldn't pick a better companion to share your golden hours of pleasure. Barclay's Gold Label Bourbon is mellow as an old friendship, smooth as your familiar, well-worn leather slippers, hearty as children's laughter and as full of flavor as your favorite pipe! Try it and see. PINT 85c. \$1.60 QUART. Full on proof.



BANKRUPTCY SALE Begins 9:30 A. M. Wednesday, December 20, 1939 CLOSING OUT Entire Stock of the Medford Central Market AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES G. W. KELLINGTON, Trustee in Bankruptcy