

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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OREGON PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION. Ye Smudge Pot. By Arthur Perry.

People in these stirring times are urged to cease indulging in the jitters, with or without cause, and tone down their abiding and boundless faith in rumors—the wilder the better.

There is grim business at hand, and gossip and hysterics is apt to make the national trigger-finger nervous. If all the disasters rumor-mongers have reported as befalling the Japanese military set since Sunday came to pass, there would not be enough left of them or the Land of Rising Sun to pack off in horse-trough.

"Washington, Dec. 9. (AP)—The United States government has put special guards in the Japanese Embassy to prevent any suicide attempts among members of the Japanese diplomatic corps."

A citizen complains his off-hand auto headlight, that has not burned since the Fourth of July, suddenly burst into the brilliance of the noon day sun, right in the middle of the Tuesday night black-out.

In the excitement occasioned by the opening of hostilities, no attention has been paid to the weather, by its former prophets. Nevertheless, it continues to prevail, and is doing the best it can.

YOU'VE SAID SOMETHING! (Exchange) "He spoke on different things, but not on the most important to a farming community, that is a reduction of taxation and cutting down the extravagance of the present administration."

The city of San Francisco, for failure to observe completely blackout orders, was given a neat "dressing down" by a general. The next time they won't get off so easy. A top sergeant will do it.

"Remember Pearl Harbor" looms as the American war slogan. There are a lot of things to remember when the day of reckoning comes for Messrs. Hitler and Mussolini and their puppets.

Does the Congresswoman from Montana favor lawlessness, rapine and assault,—non-resistance in the face of unprovoked and criminal attack?

WHAT sort of a world,—what sort of a country,—would we have, if that doctrine were followed out? There would be nothing to do, but hand the country, and the world, over to the international gangsters, perverts and pirates!

LET these fine qualities be devoted to a better cause! In opposing vigorous and immediate defense against Japan's treacherous attack, the Montana congresswoman is in reality not only handing over her country to organized forces, of ruthless force and criminality, but is refusing to carry out her solemn oath of office,—to uphold and DEFEND her country, and the constitution of the United States.

War Declared on Hitler

If any proof were needed this country has been at war with Germany for nearly a year, today's declaration of war supplies it. For the situation is not changed one iota. Germany declares war on us. We declare war on Germany.

But there isn't a single ship added to the U. S. naval forces in the Atlantic, nor a soldier added to the armed forces scattered from Greenland to Trinidad.

The war that has been going on since "the shoot on sight" command from the White House, will continue,—that's all.

It doesn't change the situation. It merely at long last officially recognizes it.

Axis Spy System Out

In one important non-combat particular, however, the declaration of war will handicap the Axis powers. Ever since World War No. 2 started, Germany and Italy have maintained in this country, what has amounted to a lawful espionage system.

Their respective embassies in Washington and consular offices elsewhere have been little more than sanctuaries for spies and secret agents, a source of invaluable information regarding American military and naval preparations, and the exact character of public opinion and the nature of our land and sea defenses.

With the war declaration diplomatic immunity will cease, the hide-outs will be closed, from here out the Axis forces will be compelled to fight pretty much in the dark.

A Bad Start, but --

Kirk L. Simpson, one of the several expert military commentators of the Associated Press, expresses the present situation in the war with Japan, clearly and (we believe) accurately, when he compares it with a baseball game.

We quote: "The Japanese have rolled up a top-sided first inning score in the battle of the Pacific, but it is the score in the last inning that counts."

That is true. There is no point in denying that Nippon got in the first blow, rather like a gangster clouting his enemy in the jaw, before the latter could get his hands up.

BUT it was the element of surprise, that accounted for this advantage, rather than any superior fighting power, or skill in tactics.

As President Roosevelt has pointed out, while the blow below the belt was a painful one, this country, with British aid, still has naval superiority in the Pacific, and it won't be long now before this superiority will tell, in effective, and eventually, in conclusive fashion.

Miss Rankin's Protest

Jeanette Rankin, congresswoman from Montana, will go down in history as the only American to vote against two world wars, in which her country participated.

We admire the woman's courage, but deplore her judgment. Not so much for opposing the first world war.

For there may be a certain moral justification for the sincere and fanatical pacifist, voting against bloodshed, when her,—or his,—own country is NOT attacked.

War is a terrible and criminal madness, seldom settles anything that could not be settled better and more permanently by peaceful mediation, so an argument can be MADE, at least for any nation unmolested, to keep out of it.

BUT the picture completely changes when a nation is ATTACKED. Not only attacked, as was the case on Sunday last, but criminally and treacherously, betrayed.

We can see no more reason or justification for Miss Rankin's negative vote, on Monday, than if she should favor inaction by the police force in the District of Columbia, if Al Capone and his gorillas, should suddenly attack the U. S. Treasury or the White House.

Does the Congresswoman from Montana favor lawlessness, rapine and assault,—non-resistance in the face of unprovoked and criminal attack?

WHAT sort of a world,—what sort of a country,—would we have, if that doctrine were followed out?

There would be nothing to do, but hand the country, and the world, over to the international gangsters, perverts and pirates!

No, we fail to see the point of view of those who express sympathy for Miss Rankin, even though we grant, the woman's consistency and fearlessness.

LET these fine qualities be devoted to a better cause! In opposing vigorous and immediate defense against Japan's treacherous attack, the Montana congresswoman is in reality not only handing over her country to organized forces, of ruthless force and criminality, but is refusing to carry out her solemn oath of office,—to uphold and DEFEND her country, and the constitution of the United States.

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.

THE HEART SPECIALIST

It would please me very much Dr. if you would come to or for a few days when you return home a well man then you would have something interesting to write about (writes a reader whose return envelope is addressed thus: Dr. Richard Roe, M. D.)

From the business card the specialist incloses it is evident he has offices in more than one city, and he calls himself "heart specialist" and purports to give "free consultation," and "treatment for nerves, high and low blood pressure, pains around the heart sugar diabetes, arthritis, neuritis, sleeplessness, and spinal conditions"—or what have you.

The specialist assures me, and for all I know he believes, that he has discovered "how to bring low blood pressure up or high blood pressure down." Incidentally he informs me that "14 out of 15 Nervous People are suffering from Sugar Diabetes" and he has discovered how to cure diabetes without insulin.

So if I will come to one of his offices he will bring my low blood pressure right up to normal and send me home a well man with something interesting to write about. It is true enough that my blood pressure, last I heard of it, was pretty low, as blood pressures go. Whatever it may be now, I enjoy such fine health that sometimes I'm a little ashamed of it and often at a loss for something to say about it when the subject of poor health is featured in conversation.

It is scandalous in the first place that a person who writes such a letter as this quack writes can carry on his wretched business without fear of the law or public opinion. Aside from the utter bombast of the fellow's "discoveries" it is a sad reflection on the lax enforcement of educational qualifications for license to practice medicine. A 10-year-old school child would write a better letter.

I would neither take my own temperature nor measure my own blood pressure of my own volition. Taking the temperature is as a rule a bit of mischief unless it is specifically ordered by the physician in attendance. It doesn't take the curse off from the Saireygamp business and it doesn't indicate that a mother or doting aunt takes meticulous care of her

Communications

Who Was Asleep? To the editor: How could it happen that, with all the knowledge that the high command at our largest and best equipped outpost in the Pacific claims to have had—a week's advance notice or suspicion—that the Japs would go to war, how could it happen that they were caught napping?

If 50 or 150 Jap planes could fly in over the hills and bomb our ships and airfields while the sailors and airmen were off duty or not in their assigned places and on the alert, some one should be made to suffer for it, regardless of the fact that the crime is even greater.

There is some excuse for a tired and weary soldier, but for a man whose days for over 20 years, comparatively speaking, have all been week-ends and days ashore there is no excuse.

Hundreds of planes were massed in hangars; why were they not in the air? Are they or are they not the eyes of the army and navy?

Why were the destroyers not out scouring and scouting the coasts and seas for just such a move?

To my way of thinking this first scrap with the "monkey-men" could have been a clean-cut victory for our boys if some one had not been so sound asleep, at his post.

Upon that man or those men lies the needless sacrifice of the greater part of the 1500 lives lost and the injuries sustained by the 1500 who pay the penalty for the incompetence of some one in Hawaii.

Whoever he was, let him pay the penalty in full. H. WHEELER HUNT Medford, Ore., Dec. 10.

Are Oregonians Mossbacks? To the editor: How often have you heard the following statements? "Oregonians are mossbacks." "Oregon is a backwoods state."

Kelly's Comment

From Washington Jesse H. Jones Ickes' Pet Peeve Private Utilities Given Warning Chloride Plant Northwest Need

By John W. Kelly Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.—The national capital knows that a pet peeve of Harold Ickes, secretary of the interior, is his fellow cabinet member, Jesse H. Jones, secretary of commerce, who also holds the job of federal loan administrator.

Mr. Ickes has been quite vicious on the subject and his denunciations have been echoed by the so-called power bloc in the house. A few months ago Mr. Ickes refused to make a contract permitting Alcoa to have kilowatts at its Vancouver plant, insisting Alcoa is a monopolist in a charge denied by federal court after a trial of three years.

Someone did some plain talking to Mr. Jones, as head of RFC, and the other day he appeared before the house committee on banking and currency and asked for approval of a bill sponsored by the chairman of that committee, Representative Steagall. This measure authorizes RFC to loan \$150,000,000 for the acquisition of private utilities in the Pacific northwest.

Mr. Jones said he favored the measure because Mr. Ickes wants the money to buy up the private companies and meld them into the government-owned system whose keystones are Grand Coulee and Bonneville. Mr. Jones did not tell the committee that within the matter of months—since summer—he has repeatedly refused to make loans to permit various PUDs to acquire the private companies. Under the Steagall bill Mr. Jones will have to make the loans and every private utility from the Pacific ocean to the continental divide, in the Columbia watershed, is put on notice that the government is after them.

The banking and currency committee will, in due time, make a favorable report on the measure and, perhaps (but this is uncertain) the house will pass it and later the senate may pass it. First to be taken over, when RFC furnishes the money, will be Puget Sound Light & Power; later Northwestern and Portland General Electric.

THERE is another angle to the northwest power situation. It was revealed in a speech on the floor by Rep. Thomas D. Winter, Republican, of Girard, Kan. The new deal, said Winter, borrowed the word "yardstick" and "power authority" from an article 14 years ago by a "professing socialist-communist," who outlined the technique later adopted by the new deal as a means of planting socialism on the American economy.

This author is Stephen Raushenbush, last year with the bituminous coal commission and now chief of the planning and research section of the department of the interior, under Ickes. Mr. Winter says that Raushenbush's associates are capitalizing the national defense as a means of socializing the electric power industry, and points to Paul J. Raver, Bonneville administrator, who made a speech on the subject in Seattle last August.

Said Raver, the generating capacities of private power systems could be expanded under federal ownership, but private utilities have neither the credit available nor could they obtain the necessary priorities.

Mr. Winter raised two questions on this statement. Speaking for the administration, does Dr. Raver mean that RFC cannot or will not finance private companies seeking to expand power production in the interest of national defense? If this is the case, let it be known quickly and understood thoroughly with all the implications that the statement involves. Second question: Does Dr. Raver, speaking for the administration, mean

Portland, Dec. 10th. Those Jap Christmas Lights To the editor: We Americans must occupy a paradoxical position in the minds of the puzzled Chinese. We send medicines, food and money to aid their stricken brethren in areas blasted by Japanese bombs and military aggressors.

Then we turn around and buy Japanese Christmas tree lights, paying out good American dollars which Japs turn into more bombs to destroy the medicines, foods and other good works we have sent the Chinese.

Cannot we bar Japanese goods and end this vicious circle on a grand scale. If we cannot, we have little room to mention "the devious Chinaman!" MRS. C. A. ORE. 463 Congress, Bend, Ore.

I will not be responsible for bills contracted by anyone other than myself. Harry F. Overbeck. Closing time for Classified Ads 9 a. m.—Too Late to Classify 12:30 p. m.

SHOPPING DAYS LEFT



With such a lack of chloride that the paper mills have been ordered to reduce the quantity used (resulting in a sickly color instead of white paper), there is a movement to bring a new chloride plant to the Pacific northwest. It may be located at Tacoma or at Portland, according to report. Another aid to the pulp industry is the prospect of a zinc plant in the area, using the sulphur byproduct for the mills. Freighters bringing sulphur from Texas have been mostly diverted by the maritime commission. The chloride plant will require salt in large quantities, available in California and shipped north.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon (Continued From Page One)

after the initial discouraging results of their hopeful campaign. Their slogan is to "give Rommel to Churchill as a Christmas present." As the slogan implies, they hope for decisive action within the next two weeks.

Their new scheme contemplates the full help of the navy, in coordination with land attack. The Mediterranean fleet is being thrown in fully upon Rommel's line of supplies along coastal roads back to Bengazi and even Tripoli.

If the British get Rommel, Hitler will feel decidedly uncomfortable in those French African bases, protected largely by ill-armed natives and the exceptionally speedy Italians.

ONE tax which possibly may not be collected is the levy aimed at more American citizens than any other—the \$5 yearly use tax on autos. It would hit 30,000,000 car owners, three times as many people as pay income taxes.

The treasury has been scratching its head, wondering how to collect such a cumbersome levy. It has turned over to a private statistical organization the onerous duty of mailing out 30,000,000 demands, and announced that certified checks (no others) will be accepted in payment, although income taxes may be paid with any kind of check except a rubber one.

But the house deficiency subcommittee has been deliberately looking the other way, every time the treasury and the budget director has demanded a \$4,500,000 appropriation to pay the cost of collection. The budget request was sent up weeks ago and no action has been taken. Time is short. First payments for 5-12ths of the year are due February 1.

Meanwhile a repeal movement has been started by Rep. Jed Johnson of Oklahoma. In both the treasury and congress, there are apparently a growing number of officials who think this nuisance tax outstrips all other now prevailing nuisances in annoyance value.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads. Check List FOR GRACIOUS LIVING: 600 Outside Rooms, Dining Room, Popular Prices, Banquet Room, Famous Cuisine, Garage Opposite, Coffee Shop, Modern Apartments.

Hotel Multroman PORTLAND, OREGON. CREMOLINUM relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Cremolinum with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREMOLINUM for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

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 11, 1931 (It was Friday) Senate democrats want to lower tariff as means to restore prosperity. President Hoover urges "non-party plan to speed return of confidence." Charge made democratic party plans to "capitalize depression for political ends."

Three Leavenworth convicts escape and barricade selves in Kansas farm house.

Adolf Hitler, nazi leader, writes 8,000 word letter to Chancellor Bruening, taking him to task for recent attack on Nazism.

Delinquent tax list in state grows. Twenty-three high school football players will receive letters.

Winter term at Ashland normal to open January 4. Rain or snow forecast; high 38, low 26 degrees.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY December 11, 1921 Isle of Yap question settled with Japan retaining control in agreement reached with America.

More rain forecast; high 48, low 32 degrees. Election to be held Wednesday to vote bonds for fairground buildings.

Valley is again shrouded in thick mantle of fog. Ament dam in Rogue river to be dynamited this week. It has long been a thorn to fishermen.

Kansas women maul and beat miners on strike. State bonus and loan bill for soldiers declared valid by supreme court.

Christmas vacation of city schools to start next week.

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