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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

It now appears the Japanese fleet prowling around the Midway Islands had the Hon. Hell shot out of it.

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The war touches every community in the land, a commentator observes. For instance: Cow country towns will hold "Victory" rodeos July 4th, and no orator is foolhardy enough in these times to use a local CofC. slogan of another day, viz.: "This Is the Italy of America."

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The cheat weed, despite its name, a farmer avers, is no worse than any other weed. There is no such a thing as an "Honest Harold" dog-fennel.

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One of the Older Girls admires the arrested Portland gardener who whistled while he hoed. She boasts a breadwinner who will neither hoe or whistle.

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SO SAY WE ALL

(Pendleton East Oregonian)

"Judge Patterson, assistant secretary of war, asserts that the tire shortage will stop petting parties; we hope the judge knows more about war than he does about romance."

• • •

The London Herald takes a British diplomat to task for saying in a Commencement day address, "the German people would be treated harshly after the war." It is editorially suggested the diplomat should resign. It's probably the 1918 story all over again: "The German people were misled." They mislead with the greatest of ease, when tempted with a world conquering plan, and are now at the tail-end of their second try. They did all the shooting and the shouting both times, and, when licked pose as erring brothers rushing to the mourners bench to be de-sinned.

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"WANT WOMEN for hoeing. You don't have to belong to a union to work here. Phone 40-F-2." —(Corvallis Gazette-Times.)—Benefits of a democracy.

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Wisecrackers report the Nipponese in "saving their face, lost their pants," in the Pacific naval battle. What they lost was their kimonas.

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The John Wilkinson boy, Don, is commanding officer of a gallant force attacking Fort Backyard. Nothing happened yes, except capturing Hitler again, and Lieut. Jim Murray, 5, getting bucked off a fractious broomhandle he was using as a horse instead of his leg-motored velocipede. A tank charge of bicycles put a Cecil Brunner rosebush out of business. The Co. was awarded a Cross of the Palm with a Dime for distinguished filling of the wood-box without specific orders.

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ORATORICAL NUERITIS

"Last Friday evening the high school commencement was a big success until the imported speaker started in. Then came 45 minutes of dull uninteresting talk that was evidently about something or other, and he was paid $75 for coming up here. Next time I believe it would be advisable to audition the speaker first and see if he is worth the time and the money. Of course, if you do not agree with me you can always say that I would not be expected to be bright enough to understand such a learned man and maybe you are right." —(Bill Minch in Red Bluff (Calif.) News).

Printing, sale or circulation of maps of a scale of 1:250,000 or larger depicting any part of Egypt has been forbidden.

Looks Bad For Jap Fleet

Perhaps the boys at the Army & Navy club were not so far out of the way after all.

It will be recalled that a few weeks before last December 7th, at this club in Washington, D. C., the unanimous sentiment was,—confidence that Uncle Sam's fleet would knock out the Mikado's second rate flotilla in six weeks or less, the one fear being Japan would somehow be appeased.

That attitude looked a bit foolish when the Japs made that devastating sneak raid on Honolulu; and even more silly as week followed week, and month, month; with nothing heard from the highly-touted Asiatic fleet except a reverse at Java and a poor "draw" at Macassar Straits.

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BUT since that Coral Sea victory, and particularly since the beating given the Japs at Midway, the picture has radically altered.

It would still be extremely rash to claim the Japanese fleet has been BEATEN. But it would not be unwarranted,—in fact it is unquestionably TRUE,—that to date, where the U. S. navy has met Japan on anything approaching even terms, the latter has been given a beating—in fact has been pretty generally, outclassed.

Even had American losses exceeded Japan losses the two recent engagements would have been classified as U. S. victories,—for in both cases the Nippon navy quit and beat it.

But certainly at Midway,—and probably in the Coral Sea (the official U. S. account has not yet been released)—Jap losses exceeded American losses by a wide margin, the net score being somewhere in the neighborhood of 9 to 2 or 3,—a nice trimming for the loser in any man's league!

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SO, we repeat, those "wise guys" may not have been so wrong after all, who were so confident Nippon could not stand up against U. S. seapower, and hoped the showdown would not be delayed.

The unexpected jumping of the gun on December 7th, did upset the dope bucket, did delay the TIME of the American fleet really getting into action. But like an opponent who crowned Joe Lewis with the water bucket before the start of the first round, and until Joe's head cleared, had him at a tremendous disadvantage; once the U. S. "champ" regained his equilibrium, and got back to normalcy, it was just too bad for the gun-jumper!

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THE present situation appears to be very much like the above, with the champion U. S. fleet, and the "dirty ball" Jap, in a maritime ring where the latter would like to jump out, but can't.

Sooner or later,—probably the former,—the Jap fleet would have to quit or—hold its ground and fight.

Certainly the last two encounters at least strongly INDICATE, that when this happens, the result will be an overwhelming Japanese defeat.

Looks Good, But---!

The most cheering news from Europe in today's report, is after two years since Dunkerque, Marshal Petain is convinced Germany CAN'T win!

The same dispatch claims Messrs. Laval and Darlan, still cling to their hope that Germany CAN win.

This is a two to one verdict in Hitler's favor, numerically. But the net result of the judgment morally, is to give very strong confirmation to the growing belief in allied circles, that as far as Germany is concerned, the worm at last has turned, and while the Axis may continue to struggle for several years, an allied defeat is just no longer in the cards.

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PLEASE note that "growing belief in allied circles."

The present writer still is from the great state of Missouri, where predictions of CERTAIN victory are concerned.

Not only do we feel there is NOTHING certain in the picture as yet; but we regard the growing disposition of counting chickens before they are hatched an unfortunate one.

With the defeat of Japan at Midway, and the growing destructiveness of the RAF air attacks on Germany's western flank, we do feel the war picture is more encouraging than it has been at any time since its start. The failure of Germany to make any appreciable break-through in either its Russian or North African offensives, gives added support to such optimism.

• • • • •

BUT this is a far cry from ordering fireworks for any victory celebration.

As we see it Germany can be badly crippled by air raids but can't be beaten. And while the blitzkrieg era of German warfare appears to be definitely over there is still no indication that Russia can more than hold her own on the eastern front.

So all this talk of CERTAIN victory we regard as both premature and from the standpoint of sustaining allied morale, undesirable. Far better from every standpoint to overestimate, rather than underestimate the dangers of defeat that still exist.

• • • • •

HOWEVER to return to these war predictions from Vichy,—the fact that Marshal Petain has become convinced Hitler can't win, while Darlan and Laval believe otherwise, does furnish the strongest evidence we have seen to date, that Der Fuehrer really HAS shot his bolt.

For Petain is an authority in such matters and still says what he thinks; while his two associates are not, and must cling to the hope of a German victory, for without such a victory they are both spurlos versenkt!

Shellac is one of imported raw materials for which Germany has not yet been able to develop a satisfactory substitute.

Practically every item of civilian goods sold in Germany is subject to government price control.

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. Owing to the large number of letters received only a few can be answered here. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady, 265 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

SMOTHERED IN ONIONS, EH?

Frankly I wasn't hungry in the first place. If I had been the boss I would have said "Nah, I don't want any dinner." But I am not the boss around here, and now after decades of freedom I wouldn't be the boss again—or yet—not for a black shell briar with a six-inch stem.

Dr. Brady

So I raised no objection when the boss chose the place where we were to dine. It is an excellent place, clean, cheerful, efficient service, wholesome food well cooked (except, of course, French fries, but then, what do you expect for a dollar?), a place where we have enjoyed a great many dinners. I did make a few tentative allusions to this and that special item available at another place, but my heart wasn't in it, for, I say, I wasn't really hungry and could work up no particular enthusiasm for food.

Not being hungry is in itself a rather serious symptom for me to have. I must make a note of it and mention it next time I interview my doctor. Of course I have a doctor—don't make that stereotyped crack. Anyone who tries to diagnose or treat his own ailments or test his own health has a fool for a doctor, and that goes double if he is a doctor himself.

On the menu the boss found something that evidently pleased her. You see, I was dawdling, indifferent, no appetite juice, no outpouring of HCL in my stomach, no tonic contraction of the muscle coat to produce that sensation which says: "Wow! When do we eat?"

The proper treatment for me would have been for the boss to say: "Here, take your marbles and go play on the sidewalk—I'll collect you when I've finished here." As it was I just dawdled while the boss ordered her dinner, and then I added "Ditto."

What had pleased the boss was beefsteak smothered in onions.

Oh, well, I asked for it.

It is a long time since I suffered the wound which left me with a violent aversion for mashed potato. I was an honest little boy and I had waited long for the great Thanksgiving come-all-ye, and I wanted only turkey, but I was sternly informed that I must eat a blob of mashed potato along with it. A crime, as I know now, though the poor benighted folk who perpetrated it believed, of course, that it was good for me.

What the boss found on the menu now joins mashed potato in my anathema, and what's more, I warn all parents, aunts and gran'mas that I'm here to defend the right of any child to refuse to eat anything he or she doesn't like, all on sound physiological ground, too.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Boy Inattentive

Thirteen year old boy gets ten hours sleep at nights but his teachers mark his report card "inattentive." I wonder if he needs vitamins. He doesn't get good grades in school either. (Mrs. J. F. C.)

Answer—Perhaps his hearing is not normal. Better have your physician examine the boy and find what, if anything, he needs.

Vitamin B Complex in Diabetes

Much interested by your articles on vitamin B complex for diabetes. Trouble is the vitamin B complex preparations contain sugar. (R. E. R.)

Answer—Liquid preparations, may, but vitamin B complex capsules or tablets do not contain sugar. Send ten cents and stamped envelope bearing your address for booklet "Training for Diabetes. Vitamin Bcomplex has helped man y diabetics to get along with less insulin.

Driven to Operation

A talk you gave on "Indigestion" some time ago was a Godsend to me. I went to a hospital, had my gallbladder and appendix removed, and have had no "indigestion" since. (Mrs. W. D.)

Answer—Truth is that whenever alleged "indigestion" is severe enough to call for medical relief the chances are that it is something more than mere digestive difficulty, especially if attacks recur or continue. Readers who have "indigestion" will find helpful information in the booklet "So You Have Indigestion?"—for copy send ten cents and stamped envelope bearing your address.

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Ed. Note: Persons wishing to communicate with Dr. Brady should send letter direct to Dr. William Brady, M. D., 265 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

(Continued From Page One)

some of our money. But she never thought enough of her own debt-treaty with us to pay her war debt, thereby showing again even our friends do not keep treaties against their own interests.

Again, she could have stopped Hitler when he made his first belligerent move by marching into the Rhineland. Her military superiority was even then sufficient to have crushed them.

But she thought her treaties guaranteed her security and she did not want to fight. Her treaties engendered pacifism among her statesmen and people, and kept them as easy marks for Hitler's tricks.

Is not the path of history strewn back for 6000 years with scraps of paper?

• • •

"INTERNATIONAL police force?" But who is going to run it? The United States, Britain and Russia?

I rather suspect the British empire is a thing of the past, which would mean that the international police force would be fed mainly by the United States and Russia. How long would that last amicably?

Any realistic consideration of that prospect must lead you straight to the same point of our experience with Japan and Germany.

• • •

IF you choose, make a bigger League of Nations, a greater world court, but don't trust it to keep your own peace any more than an international police force. Fortune said about one-third think this war would not have occurred if we had been members of the League of Nations. I do not believe that.

To accept that conclusion is to assume that our statesmen would have been smarter than the British and French, that they would have stopped Mussolini when he went into Ethiopia and destroyed the last vestiges of confidence in a league of which he had been a member.

Our memory tells us we were not smarter. Nor would we have done anything different about the Japs thumbing their nose at the league and moving into Manchuria.

I don't think any international police force would have done any different, either, because the people of this country and its leaders were of the same opinion as Britain and France and the league at that time—namely that they did not want to fight. They had been lulled into a fake sense of security through treaties.

The fabric of our future world policy, wherever it is to be, must be woven from the thread of these events upon the loom of realism. I hope it is backed by the best possible army, navy and air force.

PIONEER FREIGHTER

Lewiston, Idaho, June 10—(AP) Winston John McKenna, 85, one of the pioneer freighters of the northwest, died at a hospital here last night after a long illness. McKenna was born in Ireland and came to the United States when he was 16 years old.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

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Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.

Alaska Defense Long on Alert

Air Base Chain Links Aleuthians

Latest Navy Bill Northwest Chance

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., June 10—Five months to the day before Pearl Harbor (July 7) the military forces were and have since been on a 24-hour alert at the air bases on the Laska mainland and on the string of islands reaching toward Japan—the Aleutian group. So, when the Japs flew there a few days ago they caught no one napping. The July, 1941, alert was to watch the Nazi army, which was then sweeping into Russia so rapidly that prediction was made it would reach Siberia and head for Alaska. Only a few planes and troops were then in the territory for bases were under construction (some still are), but the air patrol flew across Bering strait and several hundred miles inland over Siberia. For almost a year the patrol has continued while the navy and army built bases and cantonments and filled the territory with thousands of troops and sailors.

A few days before the attack on Dutch Harbor the high command ordered all boats to clear out of all waters except southern Alaska. Commercial planes were restricted. Nothing was permitted to interfere with the listening devices for planes or submarines. There will be a short pack of Alaska salmon this year for the navy has forbidden any fishing operations in Bristol bay. Packers of the Columbia river and Puget sound, who fish in Alaskan waters, asked for a convoy last spring. The navy not only refused to convoy but prohibited fishing.

• • •

THERE are now under construction in Alaska and the Aleutians a chain of air bases, which is no military secret, for the Japanese know as much about Alaska as any sourdough. Until this year the defense plans were discussed by military commanders with the appropriations committee and these hearings were printed in the government printing office and available to anyone. The Japanese embassy had copies of these hearings, so the Japs knew the amount of money appropriated each year for each base and the character and description of the buildings.

The program calls for a great base at Kodiak island, at Anchorage, at Seward, at Dutch Harbor, at Attu and at Kiska. Last month congress appropriated funds for additional airports and landing fields in Alaska. Generally, the Alaska fields are provided with bomb shelters.

Importance of Alaska as a defender of the Pacific northwest against Japan was stressed eight years ago by the late Billy Mitchell. Five years ago the Admiral Helburn commission recommended development; nothing was done until a start was made in 1940. The one thing the navy and army have been praying for was for the Japs to withhold attack until the defenses could be measurably completed.

• • •

IT is the opinion in the national capital that the Japs will raid the Pribiloff islands, the breeding place of the seals. These islands, in Alaskan waters have been managed by the fish and wildlife service of the interior department. Under a compact, Japan received 25 percent of the profits but withdrew from the agreement one month before Pearl Harbor — which may not have been a coincidence.

The Dutch Harbor attack is recognized as the first of other efforts of the enemy to break through into the northwest.

• • •

LATEST navy bill is the opportunity of the northwest to obtain some of the work which is to be scattered around the coastline. This measure will furnish funds for many mine sweepers, patrol boats and escort vessels, many of them to be made of wood. These are to expand the size of the two-ocean navy, and the escort vessels, mine sweepers and patrol boats are planned for the Pacific theater of war as well as the battle of the Atlantic. Navy department has not attempted assembly line production, but with the urgent need for this class of small-fry shipping it may attempt some of the innovations in ship building now being applied by the Kaiser Co. Airplane carriers are also on the list and some of these may come to northwest yards.

• • •

FARMERS are trying to find a solution for warehousing their wheat, and office of defense transportation is in a similar boat. War materials consigned to the United Nations are piling up at ports waiting for ships to take the cargo away. War department is reaching out for warehouse space and ODT is creating warehouse pools in the northwest. War materials — tanks, planes and guns—are being produced faster than ships, notwithstanding some yards can turn out a cargo carrier in 60 days. Despite records made in the shipyards, submarines are sending so many merchantmen to the bottom that the maritime commission is scarcely duplicating the tonnage lost.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10 and 20 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY
June 10, 1932
(It was Friday)

Maid in home of Col. Lindbergh when son was kidnaped commits suicide.

Jackson county Republican central committee endorses work of President Hoover.

Above normal temperature prevails. High 90, low 54 degrees.

Ninety girls and 82 boys to graduate from high school in exercises to be held tonight.

Police comb radicals from ranks of veterans at Washington, D. C., seeking bonus.

School election set for June 20.

National guard company leaves for Camp Clatsop.

Democrats re-elect Frank DeSouza county chairman.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY
June 10, 1922
(It was Saturday)

Sams Valley farmers jubilant over recent rains.

Prosperity week to be celebrated with completion of irrigation system, opening of new sawmill, and Copco expansion at Prospect and Copco plants.

Ashland raises over $2,000 for Fourth of July blowout.

Generally cloudy. High 68, low 42 degrees. Rain, .43 inches.

Fifty-two students receive diplomas at annual graduation exercises of the senior class at the high school. Alta Knips was salutarian, Muriel Schuhard, valedictorian.

Circuit Judge Calkins receives threatening letter from Klan, telling him "to BEWARE."

Oregon State Prexy Selection Delayed

Portland, June 10—(AP)—Delay in selection of a president for Oregon State college is caused by inability of one of the men under consideration to come to Oregon for an interview as yet, but it is hoped that he can come soon and that a selection can be made in time for the new administrator to take over this fall.

President Willard L. Marks of Albany, president of the board, made this explanation following adjournment of the June meeting yesterday which set a near record for brevity, being completed in less than an hour.

NAZIS SHOOT 41 MORE TO AVENGE HEYDRICH

London, June 10—(AP)—The Germans executed 41 more Czechs today, the Prague radio announced, making a total of 275 vengeance killings since the fatal wounding of Gestapo Hangman Reinhard Heydrich.

Store operators can minimize the labor shortage by cooperative effort says a small town manual just issued by the department of commerce. The manual is free.

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