

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Daily Except Saturday

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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

The proposed "Rumor Clinic" for the state, to hush ugly tattle, meets with general approval. At the same time, something should be done about prophets so busy with gloomy war bulletins out of their own heads, they have no time to predict a long, hard winter, as usual.

No candidate, in view of the expectant fuel shortage, has promised a full woodshed for the voters. This would entail cutting it for the men folks and filling the woodbox for the women. The more gracious would also split the kindling and the lazy whack off a thumb to show their heart was in the right place.

The action of the State Game commission is calling off fishing, save in salt waters, has caused cussing in some quarters, taller than their fish stories.

Wendell Wilkie, because of his statement at Moscow, Russia's need for a Second Front was now, not next summer, was raked over the radio coals. It was pointed out Mr. W. is "no military authority." Neither is Harry Hopkins, White House inhabitant by no vote of the people, who also journeyed to the Soviet, as a "special representative" on a war mission.

A Mid-West paragrapher opines if all the iron and steel in bureaucratic swivel chairs was scrapped, a sizeable pile of junk would be collected.

Earthquakes are reported in Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Nature's aim is poor, as they are needed more in Japan, even if they do beat the next bombing expedition to Tokyo.

"Stockman John Buell assisted in preparing the steaks. Guests described them as tender as a mother's kiss and warmer than a blonde's."—(Lakeview Examiner).—So there is a kind not tougher than a politician's hide?

Enforcement of the proclaimed 35-mile per hour speed limit on the highways and byways presents problems. First, the law must catch an autist going 35 miles per hour.

A farmer reports one of his calves was shot. As there are no deer hunters at large the calf was no doubt shot by mistake for a calf.

Since Pearl Harbor, a widely circulated myth detailed no Japanese soldier ever surrendered. He pained himself green (as freshmen used to be at Old Oregon by sophomores), showed all his teeth, and kept shooting and slashing until the Grim Reaper smacked him down. Facing capture, he always sneaked up on himself and committed suicide. News reels and photos from the Southwest Pacific war zones show the Mikado's pride corralled in prison camps. They turn out not as green as painted.

SAND DUNE GETS PAINTED!

"For these creations of nature (sand dunes) caressed by the sun and moon and eternally haunted by capricious winds that first flirt with them, then send them tumbling into ever new shapes, somehow symbolize those who come to the desert for rest and play, but who find true peace of the mind and soul when they first stand upon a sun-ripened knoll to gaze upon a deep mystery of the human checkerboard."—(Palm Springs Calif.) Blurb).

At the outbreak of war there were 1,100,000 Axis nationals in the United States.

See Mail Tribune Want ads.

How About the Solomons?

The Australians have started a counter-attack against the Japs near Port Moresby, and according to General MacArthur are making good progress.

The battle of Port Moresby and the Solomon Islands in general strike this department as similar in importance to the battle of Stalingrad.

In neither case is the geographical objective so supremely vital, but the "morale" factor is.

YES, if the Germans fail to capture Stalingrad, they are through—at least as we see it. That failure will be the straw to break the Nazi camel's back, and while the war might continue a year or two longer, all doubt of the final outcome would be removed.

SIMILARLY, if the Japs fail to capture Port Moresby and drive the American and Australian troops out of the Solomons, THEY will be through.

For that failure will demonstrate once and for all, that the United Nations can not only RETAKE Japanese held territory in the South Pacific when they want to, but can hold the same, against the best Nippon can offer. And if they can stick in the Solomons, they can stick elsewhere—thus driving step by step toward the Japanese mainland.

Here, too, the conflict may last some time, probably longer than the conflict in Europe. But here too, all doubt of the ultimate outcome will be removed.

WE realize it is crawling out on a limb, but what has the "military expert" of this department got to lose—his reputation isn't worth a dime, and even if he lost this job as one, there would be no widespread mourning, either abroad or here at home.

So, as the Solomons go, so goes the war in the Pacific, and as Stalingrad goes so goes the war in the Atlantic.

Put that in your memory book if you wish, and say about next April 1st do what you like with it.

Required Reading

Meanwhile, we commend very highly the leading article in the current "American Mercury" entitled "Ten Ways to Lose the War" by William Bradford Huie.

Here are the ten:

1. Allowing Wilson college to make silk stockings.
2. Allowing the Kraut crop to be canned.
3. Preferring gold to brass cartridge cases.
4. Hesitating to handle a hot potato in the lumber industry.
5. Letting politics dictate the rubber policy.
6. Failure to solve the problem of steel alloys.
7. Retaining a business as usual psychology.
8. Making saxophones and junk jewelry.
9. Allowing the army and navy to waste precious war metals.
10. Refusing to draft 18 year old boys until after election.

Unfortunately we haven't the space to reprint the article, and not being able to borrow any experts from the staff of the "Readers Digest," we fear any attempt at condensation would fall far short of really putting over the idea.

HOWEVER in general, here, as we view it is the greatest single danger confronting this country and the allied war effort in general at the present time.

It is not any question about our soldiers, sailors, marines, and aviators doing their stuff regardless of where they may be called. But considerable question about a similar fighting spirit, and willingness to SACRIFICE, here at home.

And the two chief reasons for the latter:

1. Failure to appreciate the true gravity of the situation.
2. Failure to abandon entirely the belief, that in spite of what has been said, business as usual CAN be carried on, regardless of the war.

THE entire articles piles up evidence upon evidence, that a vast majority of the people still fail to grasp the seriousness of the conflict in which they are engaged, and what must be done, not only by our fighting men, but by themselves, our NON-fighting men and women, to win it.

And in ADDITION to that inability of too many business men, particularly those of authority in high places, to forget what may be profitable and think only of that service they must perform even if it might involve serious financial sacrifice.

THE remedy, in our judgment, for No. 1 is abandonment at once of the adopted censorship policy of persistently OVER-emphasizing good war news and playing down bad.

The remedy for No. 2 requires the same treatment and added to that what might be termed a spiritual awakening, as outlined in this paper recently by the financial adviser, Mr. Roger Babson—a necessary prelude to a genuine revival of religion—in short, a new sense of values entirely and a religion for EVERY day in the week, not merely ONE!

GERMAN HELMET GOING TO SCRAP

In the form of bullets, a steel German helmet of World War I vintage will be returned to the Fatherland with interest and soon, it is hoped by Mrs. K. R. Allan of the South Pacific highway.

Searching the Allan property for scrap metal to turn over to

the government, Mrs. Allan ran across the helmet in a pile of junk in the back yard. The helmet, in excellent condition, is covered with camouflaged paint and has the marking, "77K" on the inside.

Mrs. Allan said she didn't know where the helmet came from, nor how it got in her back yard, but she was certain of one thing, "It's going into the scrap metal stockpile and thence, I hope, back to Germany in the form of bullets," she declared.

Closing time for Classified ads 3 p. m.—To late to classify 12:30 p. m.

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.

A CRICK IN THE BACK

In a spirit of fellowship, for their own good and for the good of the public.

Once upon a time when I was a member of the three-man censorship committee of the country medical society another member and I procured and approved the application of an osteopath for membership. The osteopath had had the same years of schooling and had passed the same state board examination for a license as we had. Furthermore he was a man of unimpeachable ethical principles and indeed many good medical practitioners, members of the medical society, regularly consulted with him in everyday practice. But when the application was submitted to the society for a vote two members voted to accept and all the other members cordially rejected the application. That was a long while ago, but I can see little improvement in the breadth of the prevailing medical vision today.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Meat Inspection

Are you not mistaken when you say that much meat in local markets everywhere is not government inspected? (G. B. B.)

Answer—Considerable meat home grown and sold in the local markets in small communities in many parts of the country is not government inspected. Inspected or not, thoro cooking is the best protection against disease or parasitic infection in meat.

Color Blindness

Can you advise me whether vitamin A has any effect on color blindness? (A. J. C.)

Answer—Not on congenital (inherited, present at birth) color blindness. It might be beneficial in some cases of acquired color blindness. In any case it can do no harm to try it out—that is, try taking say 50,000 units of natural vitamin A daily for at least a month.

Unna's Paste Boot

I have varicose ulcer and my sister tells me you recommended a kind of boot made of unna ointment. (Mrs. M. W.)

Answer—Unna's paste dressing, Use of it described in pamphlet "Varicose Veins and Varicose Ulcer"—for copy send stamped envelope bearing your address. (Copyright 1942, John F. Dille Co.)

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.

Communications

THIS STRANGER LIKES MEDFORD

To the editor:

I have been reading studiously the letters in your communications column concerning the friendliness of Medford and the stranger within her gates.

When I left my home to journey with my husband into strange surroundings I expected to be lonely sometimes, but did not think it would be the fault of the people in whose town I happened to be.

I have been treated well considering the time I have been here.

I have not had the opportunity yet to be in church as much as I would like.

The times I have managed to be there I have been treated nicely.

The place to become acquainted with folks through the church is the Sunday school hour.

There is not much time for folks to be friendly at the close of a Sunday morning service for everyone is anxious to get home for lunch.

I have found the real Christians almost always meet you half way if you go the other half.

The people in commercial establishments have gone out of their way to be nice.

After all, why worry whether Medford people like or dislike us.

I am too busy to think or care whether they like me or not.

Probably that is the reason I have made friends here. I have met them on a friendly basis and been met that way in return.

We should remember we are fighting a war. Petty shortcomings should not disturb us.

Happiness lies within ourselves, not in the folks of Medford or any other town we happen to be in. A town cannot be judged by a few who like to snub others.

So let all the strangers here remember we are all good Americans fighting a war "not Medford" and go onward with that thought.

To be as happy as we can and not be too critical for the duration of our stay here.

H. M. K. (Name on file).

Medford, Sept. 29.

MRS. B. H. IS INVITED TO CHURCH

To the editor:

Dear Mrs. B. H.—I read with interest the article in Friday's Tribune, printed over your initials. Are you still glad you

wrote it? I'd rather feel you were sorry by now. Sometimes when we think we are revealing the other fellow we are verily self-revealing.

You must have gotten into the wrong church. I am sure there are a half dozen churches in this town where you would have received a warm welcome.

I enjoy attending the Full Gospel church, 11 South New-town, and if you would come there you would be made to feel at home. May we see you there soon? I do hope you become happier before you leave Medford.

Very sincerely,
Miss Gertrude J. Sullivan,
619 N. Columbus Ave.,
Medford, Sept. 29.

THE SALE OF SCRAP METAL

To the editor.—The government is broadcasting appeals for scrap metal. Periodicals are applauding the efforts of communities which have organized for collection of waste materials. When we, in our community try to launch such a project we are met by tales such as these:

"You can only get six cents a pound for scrap metal, but the man who buys it gets twenty-five cents a pound from the manufacturer."

"A man from near here hauled a trailer load of junk to Portland but could not sell it. Dealers said 'take it back to Medford and sell it through your junk collector there. He has the contract for that territory.'"

"A 'swing frame' on a big 'cat' broke recently. The owner when buying the replacement part asked if he should bring in the broken one. He was told not to, that they had no use for it. So a half ton of steel was left as junk in the timber."

There are tons of scrap metal in our woods. There are scores of citizens willing to make an effort to round it up. Intelligent leadership is lacking.

Any request made by the government which is not accompanied by clear and definite instructions for its fulfillment is worse than useless! It breeds apathy and cynicism toward all war efforts. It undermines confidence in our government.

You can assist the salvage campaign by answering publicly these questions and others which unanswered, retard our efforts.

1. Is there any authorized agency that will collect scrap metal if it is placed in sizeable piles conveniently near a highway?

2. What price is paid for scrap metal?

3. Does the middleman make an unreasonable profit?

4. Can scrap metal be sold to

any collection agency by anyone?

Yours for victory,
ETHEL M. THOMPSON,
Box 18, Prospect, Sept. 28.

Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.

Shipyards Workers Will Be Checked

Excess Labor Is Suspected

Labor Pirating Agreed Against

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., Sept. 29.—Federal maritime commission has issued an order that every worker in the shipyards of the northwest shall be checked in the forenoon and once in the afternoon to see that they are on the job. The commission has heard whispers that there are more men in the yards than are necessary and that there is much loafing.

Despite this suspicion on the part of the maritime commission, from one end of the Pacific northwest to the other there is a shortage of labor of all kinds and civilian activities are begging people to come to work. The jobs range from waitresses and chambermaids, experienced and inexperienced, to loggers, shipyard workers and aircraft workers. Never in history has there been such an appeal for help in this region.

Stick a pin in the map of any town in Washington and Oregon and there is where jobs are crying to be filled. A town may not have war industries, but it needs men and women to carry on the normal functions of business. Law firms everywhere are losing stenographers. Beauty shops, specialty shops and barber shops are unable to give suitable service and with a diminished staff. An eight-chair barber shop is rocking along with only the proprietor. Every newspaper is carrying help wanted ads.

Shipyards alone can use an additional 100,000 in excess of their present forces, it is claimed. Critical letters were received when this column predicted months ago that agents of shipyards would search the east for workers. Today carloads of workers are being shipped to the northwest from New York city, where some 30,000 are being sought. The labor agents are paying transportation from Manhattan to Washington and Oregon. Incidentally, the men picked up in New York are members of the American Federation of labor. Work scouts are combing Texas and other southern states to contract workers for employment in the northwest.

Labor unions are taking display advertisements for all types of workers, an unusual proceeding for these organizations. These unions are in control of war jobs and naturally are anxious to furnish workers who, in turn, will pay initiation fees and dues. The unions are sitting on top of the world.

LIKE the federal maritime commission, the manpower commission is suspicious that perhaps more labor is employed in shipyards than is necessary. Manpower commission has also ordered a check to discover the facts. Assertions are made that certain yards are employing more men than they can use and are willing to pay wages to this excess labor in the belief that there will be a keen shortage within a few months and this semi-idle labor will then be available. There are reports of men sleeping on the job and instances of bottles of liquor being taken to work and similar laxness which can be found in any organization of thousands of men, many of whom never drew such wages before in their lives.

A percentage of the workers are almost youngsters—kids from 15 to 25 years. These are restless, reckless and impudent. It is the first time that they have earned money and the pay is extravagant. They have an idea that a worker's badge or tin helmet carries extra privileges, such as wasteful use of automobile tires, and they spend their wages as soon as they receive their check. This group causes numerous criticisms of the war industry which unthinking ob-

servers attach to all workers.

ON one point the employers now agree: they will not pirate labor from another war plant. They so declare in their advertising, yet there are rumors that certain employers pay a fee, commission or blood-money to union organizers to induce workers to quit other plants and join the employer's particular outfit. This blood-money is quoted at \$5 to \$10 a head.

Whether or not this practice prevails, it is a fact that there are many transfers from one union to another and from one plant to another. Workers are not yet frozen in their jobs, other than the loggers and lumbermen and miners, who are ordered to stay "put."

AS an army of people flock to war work women are being sought to fill vacancies in civilian occupations. U. S. employment service reports to headquarters in the national capital urgent requests for women to work in stores, offices, restaurants, lumber mills, hotels. One factory producing bombardier doors for the flying fortresses and the big bombers in California factories has applied to this agency for 400 women at once. If a woman is experienced in any kind of work she can find employment; if inexperienced she will be hired and trained.

5 Words Made Price Control Burning Issue

By Robert Humphreys

Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

(Continued from Page One)

"Three hands quit for \$1.50 an-hour jobs in the city. What am I going to do?"

"I tried to get my hired man deferred, but the draft board wouldn't do it. Can't you do something in Washington?"

Jittery congressmen, up for re-election this year, just didn't know the answers, nor was there any proposal pending in congress, any single vehicle to which they could tie, to show the farmer that they were doing their best to solve his problem. Then came Mr. Roosevelt's message on price control.

Inflation and farm labor are not very closely related, but Mr. Roosevelt's message tied them together.

First, the President said that the legal minimum ceiling on farm prices was too high and congress should reduce it.

Second, the President sought to soften the blow by discussing agricultural production costs and added that they should "include the cost of labor."

Congressmen took that to mean farm labor and rushed to get on the bandwagon. Here was the vehicle they had been looking for!

Twenty-four hours later an anti-inflation bill was introduced in the house, which carried a provision requiring that farm labor costs be considered. Twenty-four hours after that Mr. Roosevelt wrote a letter to congress and said he hadn't meant the "cost of farm labor," but the cost of industrial labor.

That was two weeks ago and the repercussions haven't died down yet.

THE best guess in Washington is that Mr. Roosevelt did not have exact knowledge of every word that was in his Labor Day message.

If a war-time president is the actual author of half that goes

into his speeches and state papers, he has a high percentage. He is just too burdened to write them, and that is why more congressmen didn't charge that Mr. Roosevelt had "backed down."

His "out" was admittedly a thin one, but few members tried to take direct advantage of it. On the other hand, however, the letter produced no noticeable descent from the "farm labor" bandwagon.

THE whole question of manpower is the coming issue in Washington. Go to any member of congress, any official of the government, and he will tell you that not only is the labor shortage in the agricultural district serious, but that it is even worse in the industrial centers.

Philadelphia needs 100,000 men; Detroit, 80,000; Baltimore, 40,000, etc.—labor shortages in 35 cities, in fact.

Go to General Hershey, the national draft director, and he will tell you what a headache the draft is proving to him—how difficult it is to measure the needs of the armed forces, how cumbersome is the operation of deferment, how unwieldy is the entire draft machinery.

Add the complaints all up, and you will find a good deal of undercover sentiment for a proposal that has been vaguely advanced by Paul V. McNutt, the social security director, who doubles in brass as chairman of the war manpower commission.

McNutt thinks that congress is going to have to pass a "national service" act—which is a neat way of saying "conscription of labor."

Not much is being said publicly now, but the lid is due to come off this issue once the elections are out of the way. Watch for it.

Flight o' Time

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

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY

September 29, 1932

(It Was Thursday)

Minimum wages for relief road work to be 50c per hour.

Roland Hubbard, Bert Orr, Everett Brayton and A. B. Cunningham leave on hunting trip on Elk Creek.

Soup kitchen at Four Square Gospel church to curb begging.

Indian summer weather prevails. High 84, low 40 degrees.

Farmers complain hunters ignore trespass signs.

Democrats of land predict victory in November.

Gov. Roosevelt, en route to Milwaukee, claims President Hoover "is greatest spender in history."

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY

September 29, 1912

(It Was Friday)

Radio station KYAD at fairgrounds is heard in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Jesse Winburn of Ashland contributes \$5000 to Walter Pierce campaign fund.

England issues ultimatum to Turkey on Near East crisis.

Oregon labor favors beer and wine, opposes income taxes.

Fair and warmer. High 73, low 36 degrees.

Snow falls at Crater Lake, and season will close tomorrow.

High school is overcrowded. Not enough desks.

Phoenix poultry raisers rejoice over two cent rise in price of eggs.



From where I sit...

by Joe Marsh

I MISSED getting my hair cut this morning on account of the scrap collection.

When I climbed into the barber chair, Ray says to me:

"Sorry, Joe. Ain't got time for you today. We're closing up this morning at ten."

And then I remembered. This was the day the town had agreed to drop everything—and I mean everything—and collect scrap for Uncle Sam.

Yes sir, the drugstore, the corner garage, Sam Abernethy's general store—every place in town except the post office—closed up tight today from 10 to 5.

And you ought to see the result piled up in front of the fire house. One hundred and fifty tons of metal that had been lying around in attics, cellars and back yards of our town since Charlie Jenkins' great-grandfather joined up with the Texas Rangers.

That's almost 800 lbs. of metal for every man, woman and child in our town. Just shows you—when American citizens go out to do a job for Uncle Sam they do it right.