

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Published by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
27-29 North Fir St. Phone 1414.
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Don't Forget Christmas

In army posts, canteens and USO centers here and overseas, Christmas will be observed in as gay a manner as wartime conditions will permit. But, for troops on transports headed for some distant front—men who boarded ships with only essential duffle bags and equipment and unable to receive gifts from home on that day—Christmas might be just another day of tedious and uncertain existence.

But they will NOT be the "forgotten men" when Yuletide gifts are passed out, thanks to the "Christmas on the High Seas" program of the American Red Cross. There will be plenty of landing space on storm-tossed decks of convoy ships for Old Santa's sleigh if folks at home catch the full spirit of this commendable movement. What a surprise and thrill this trip of the kindly old man with white flowing whiskers will bring to these men!

It will be up to those at home—you and your neighbors—to make his visit a reality. It must be your gifts which the Red Cross, in the role of St. Nick, will deliver to these lonely, homesick youngsters who will fight, and maybe die, for those cherished things that Christmas represents.

Gifts for these soldiers on troop ships should be carefully chosen at once and turned over to the Jackson County Red Cross chapter. The Camp and Hospital committee will see that they are wrapped and shipped to embarkation ports. The Army and Navy will see that ample space is provided in ship holds, and presents will be distributed on Christmas day.

It is hoped that many people here, in the spirit of approaching Christmastide and with warm and sincere gratitude to these men who will fight our battles, will respond generously. It is a kindly and thoughtful act, this "Christmas on the High Seas" movement, and Jackson County citizens will undoubtedly see that our share of gifts are quickly forthcoming.

A visit to the Red Cross "open house" at the Courthouse on December 7th—Pearl Harbor Day—will provide the opportunity to turn in gifts and, at the same time, see an exhibit of the accomplishments of the Jackson County Chapter since the beginning of the war. Citizens here may well be proud of Red Cross achievements here!

AN added reminder is appropriate, too. The Red Cross urgently needs workers in every branch to meet immediate wartime demands. Pearl Harbor Day should be a fitting time for citizens here to rededicate themselves to service with this vitally necessary and thoroughly humanitarian organization. The current falling off of active Red Cross workers is not justified by the progress of the war. Long and bitter fighting lies ahead. Every ounce of effort will be needed now and during the critical and costly days until victory. — H. G.

The Robot Bomb

The recent issuance of Britain's White Paper is the strongest possible evidence that the war in Europe is near its end.

If it were not England would hardly give the Germans the boost in morale that such a tragic story certainly will provide. Not that peace is actually in sight over there, but the end of effective German resistance must be—or England would say nothing particularly about the destructive effects of the Nazi robot bombs.

AND speaking of these "secret weapons" we doubt if England will again refer to them as terror expedients only, and of no military value.

For the record now shows they are of military value. Modern war is total war, and not only civilian morale but civilian effort are essential factors in the effectiveness of any national war machine.

These robot bombs have not only caused terrible destruction in England, they have kept numbers of men and planes away from the battlefronts as a defense against them.

Had they been perfected a year or two ago, the defeat of Germany might have been materially delayed—as it is in another example of "too little and too late" with what might be termed reverse English!

If any further evidence were needed as to their military value, the recent report from Washington that a rocket plane factory is being built and will soon be in production would supply it. The American High Command is not wasting time or money in experimenting with construction that has no military value whatever!

Some of the U. S. rocket enthusiasts even now are predicting the next war will be fought with the battlefronts at times actively engaged, and yet 500 miles apart!

STARS TO WED

Hollywood, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—A romance begun seven years ago at a Winnipeg, Man., figure-skating contest was culminated with announcement today that Screen Star Michael Kirby, former Canadian national ice-skating champion, and Norah McCarthy, ice follies star, would be married in late December.

FASCINATED FAN

New York, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—Allen Ardenchuck, 25, was so fascinated by a movie actress that he took her home in celluloid—six reels of her. He admitted in court that he stole the film, "Bathing Beauty," from the Empire theater, Brooklyn. The one-man fan club was sent to a hospital for observation.

NORDEN HONORED

New York, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—Carl L. Norden, inventor of the bombsight and automobile pilot which bears his name, was awarded the Holley medal last night for "some great and unique act of genius of engineering nature that has accomplished a great and timely public benefit."

PASS SILVER BILL

Washington, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—The senate has passed and sent to the house a bill to extend the wartime silver purchase act to December 31, 1946. The act authorizes the president to purchase silver and sell or lease it for war purposes on terms set by the secretary of the treasury.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—Today is the Pilgrims' Thanksgiving day (last Thursday in the month) clung to by a few states. The one we had last was a sort of Roosevelt Thanksgiving day, celebrated by most. The president moved the celebration ahead a week in 1939, 1940 and 1941, at the suggestion of retail merchants who thought thus to provide another week of shopping time before Christmas, and three years ago congress thought it settled the arguments by designating the fourth Thursday of the month, which is usually the last, but this year was not.



Paul Mallon

A CONSIDERABLE number of people have been saying Mr. R. again tarnished the religious significance of a great day for a minor commercial reason although he had nothing to do with it this time. On the first one, which I celebrated regardless of the fact that my state observed the second one (I will always celebrate two or more holidays if opportunity allows), you heard such equally illfounded public comments as these:

"This country is so divided it cannot even agree on a day of Thanksgiving."
"Mr. Roosevelt will be giving us two Christmases next."
"What have we to be thankful for this year?"
Since this seemed to constitute the chief discussed news of this day, I decided to look up the facts on it, as is my wont. I found far more than the fact children know, that the Pilgrims kept the last Thursday of November as their own religious feast in thanks for the harvest each year after 1621. The Massachusetts colony took it up nine years later, then Connecticut 20 years after that. The Dutch in New York selected another day for thanks. Then during the revolutionary war, congress chose one or more thanksgiving days each year.

President George Washington officially proclaimed the Puritan day twice, but the idea lapsed until the end of the war of 1812, when Madison proclaimed it. State governors thereafter designated the day without an official system until Abraham Lincoln, in the last year of the civil war, started the custom of annual presidential proclamations, which all presidents followed annually thereafter—until Roosevelt.

This year the crops certainly justified it, even justified two. The bounty of nature was unshared nationally by drought, storm or floods. If you did not get your share, if you had to eat fish instead of turkey, you cannot blame God, but the waste, confusion, disorder, enlarged demand that ride always with the horsemen of war.

WHAT is there to be thankful for in the midst of this cruelest universal war of all time? The facts answer that question just as severely. You, in your hardships, are paying the penalty of living in stirring days. The Roman empire, the French revolution, the wars of England which furnished the top dramas of this aging sphere are puny one-act plays compared with our era.

You should be thankful for being alive to witness such a time, and pray only that you may live to see how things work out. To those who fear or mourn the worst of news concerning someone close to them, let them remember there is nothing unique or exclusive about their troubled state, shared by so many others.

The way to find out what to be thankful for is to look around you and think of others, rather than yourself, of their troubles, their hardships. Measure yourself against your neighbors, not against your hopes, desires or times past.

If this is done, few will find sound ground to ask the question. Of course the country is divided. Democracies always are, in handling great issues. This is how solutions are reached. At least no one has to function under ground for his views.

There will not long be two Thanksgivings days, but if anyone wants to start a movement for two Christmases, two Fourths of July, he should be encouraged. This is the trouble with the world—too few celebrations.

AIR LEADER MISSING
London, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—Wing Commander Guy P. Gibson, who led the daring raids on Germany's Mohne and Eder dams in May, 1943, was officially listed as missing in action today.



RODEO QUEEN—Audrey Dudley, 20, of Los Angeles, shown with her horse "Nugget", a quarter horse stallion, was choice of the Livestock Show and Rodeo, which will be held in Los Angeles Dec. 2-8. Besides being a pip, Audrey is an expert horsewoman.

JACKSON COUNTY FARM NOTES

Compiled by County Office O. S. C. Extension Service

Farmers Asked to Report Promptly
Farmers and ranchers who have not yet reported the conservation practices which they carried out this year are urged to do so as soon as possible.

4-H Club Agent Here December 4, 5, 8
Miss Maryvonne Snarr, 4H club agent at large will be in Jackson county on December 4, 5, and 6, to assist in organizing the home economics club work. A meeting of all home economics leaders and any ladies interested in 4-H club work is planned for Wednesday, December 6, at 10 a. m., courthouse auditorium. This will be an informal meeting with Miss Snarr who will pass along ideas picked up from other parts of the state and answer questions concerning club work.

Monday and Tuesday will be available for personal conferences and club meetings. Club leaders who are interested in having Miss Snarr meet with their clubs should notify the 4H club agent immediately. —EARL JOSSY, County Club Agent.

PIPE-PUFFER PINCHED
New York, Nov. 30—(U.P.)—Red-haired Mrs. Mary Wilson, 25, was arrested for violating fire regulations in a Brooklyn dime store where she lit a corn-cob pipe. Explaining to a magistrate, Mrs. Wilson said she had bought the Missouri merschaum as part of a farmer's get-up for a masquerade party and was testing it. He suspended sentence.

FREIGHT DERAILED
Colfax, Cal., Nov. 30—(U.P.)—Southern Pacific railroad officials today dispatched wrecking crews to Midas, Cal., in the mountains east of here where three stock cars of a freight train were derailed last night tying up mainline freight and passenger traffic.

Daily Weather Report
Forecasts: Cloudy with occasional rain tonight and Friday; little change in temperature.
Oregon: Cloudy with rain tonight; Friday, showers; snow over mountains; little change in temperature.

Local Data
Temperature a year ago today: Highest, 54; lowest, 42.
Total monthly precipitation, 2.94 inches. Excess for the month, .66 inch.
Total precipitation since September 1, 1944, 5.28 inches. Excess for the season, .97 inch.
Relative humidity at 4:30 p. m. yesterday, 78%; 4:30 today, 93%.
Tomorrow
Sunrise 8:20 a. m.; sunset 5:41 p. m.
Past 24 hours: High 49; Low 37.

Boise 43 31
Boston 44 42 1.43
Chicago 32 19 1.19
Denver 48 11
Eureka 63 52 .16
Havre 8 3
Los Angeles 67 40 .74
Medford 69 38 .7
New York 43 21 .19
Omaha 29 10
Phoenix 69 33
Portland 45 41 .46
Reno 48 29
Roseburg 57 51 .53
Salt Lake 40 23
San Francisco 57 50 .71
Seattle 53 44 .20
Spokane 35 23 .16
Washington, D. C. 43 36 .57
Yakima 37 33

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COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although the use of a pen-name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and condensation.

Victory of F. D. R. is Explained

To the Editor: It seems rather late to be writing about election returns, but I have been waiting vainly for somebody to comment on the most logical and obvious reason for the results. So far everybody looks for some obscure far-fetched reason.

The majority vote of 3,000,000 given to the present incumbent in the recent election is the approximate number of persons employed in the numerous government bureaus that infest our country—and there is the majority vote right there. If these three or four million people were employed in some useful constructive work, their vote would have been split up instead of delivered en masse and if the entire personnel were in business for themselves the vote would have been almost 100 per cent for Dewey.

Add to these bureau employes the votes of their families (three votes per family is very conservative) and you have 9,000,000 votes bought and paid for out of taxes paid by a long-suffering public. It is a criminal offense for a civilian to buy a vote, but one has to be good at splitting hairs to see the difference here. It is this vast political machine, built up with a craftiness that has never before been equaled in this country, that makes one wonder what has become of the so-called "free ballot."

I think that Ex-Vice-President Garner (when he couldn't take it any longer and retired to his home in Texas) said the whole thing when he said "You can't argue against checks," and our appalling indebtedness bears witness to the size and number of those checks. A. N. N. (Name on file.)

WEATHER

Northern California—Partly cloudy today except rain on north coast this afternoon, spreading southward to near Fresno tonight. Friday mostly cloudy with occasional showers except rain extreme south portion. Little temperature change.

A large tanker uses up to 2,000 gallons of gasoline on a single mission, while a battleship, on a round trip from Pearl Harbor to Tokyo, would consume a minimum of 15,000 barrels of fuel oil.

Digitalis, an indispensable heart medicine, formerly imported from Europe, can now be furnished from plants naturalized in the coastal sections of northern California.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10, 20, and 34 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY

November 29, 1934 (It was Friday)

Rainfall record for valley of 1.70 inches exceeds normal.

Jackson county state tax less than last year.

Labor head sees hard winter for working people.

Fair. High 47, low 38 degrees.

Democrats plan victory dinner at Portland.

Raiding dogs kill 21 sheep.

Heavy rains hit upstate, with gale on coast.

Twenty years ago today

November 29, 1924 (It was Saturday)

League of Nation to discuss opium traffic.

Crime epidemic hits Portland.

Rain. High 58, low 41 degrees.

Finn communists in revolt try to capture Reval.

Upstate deputy sheriff confesses he helped plan bank robbery.

Federal cow tests to start here December 7.

No conclusion in French war debt refund reached.

Thirty-four years ago today

November 29, 1910 (It was Tuesday)

Chinese in Hong Kong cut off queues.

Germany prevents British grab of Persia.

Winter Nellis pears bring \$6 per box in London.

Patricide free on bond

Sycamore, Ill., Nov. 30—(U.P.) Franklin Kellogg, 13, was freed on \$1,000 bond today after fatally shooting his father, Raymond, 39, through the head when, he said, the elder Kellogg came home intoxicated and threatened the life of the boy's mother.

Fluhrer's Peanut Butter Cake advertisement featuring a cartoon illustration of a child and a woman, with text: 'Fluhrer's Peanut Butter Cake. Something New! Something Different! Tender fluffy layers flavored with golden nut peanut butter. Topped with a creamy chocolate icing. (The children will love it!) Gift Wrapped \$1.10 and \$2.00. We wrap for mailing. BUY A BOND TODAY!