

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Every fog has its day, and the first one of the season here had about a week.

The B. Tornado nailed down the football championship at Portland, and returned home Mon. to be greeted by acclaim and clamor, and four banquets, so far.

Dr. Lemery has an Arabian horse. So far it has not folded its stable and crept into the silent night.

Scientists have come to the rescue again, as the Nazis threaten to bomb New York. They report the blast of fire from starting the bomb in Germany, would do more damage there than the ton of dynamite hitting New York.

Tomorrow is the 25th anniversary of the big snow, December 11, 1919. It snowed six inches, then melted, then froze. The next morning a Rocky Mt. goat could not stand up on the Main Stem, let alone a human being. It was terrible. All these facts are recalled by William Bates, the tonsorial artist, who can't remember where he left his rubbers.

S. Ganton Sherwood of the navy has returned to same after a few days' leave here. He called at the p.o. where for many years he read postcards, and asked for his mail when he knew he had none.

Justin (Up-to-School) Smith and Tod Porter fought a draw in a religious argument Fri. The theological world was not shaken.

The weekly twisting of the torso was held at the Armory Thurs. eve. One of the wrestlers and many of the regular customers failed to show up.

The city is whacking down the old pine tree on the public lawn, where it was rooted for more than 70 years, and before this municipality had a Mayor or Co. It was about 30 feet too far south to ever be hit by a speed-diddo down Oakdale ave. The corner where it stood is prominent enough to have a service station but will not, all rumors to the contrary notwithstanding. The old pine tree added nothing to the beauty of the landscape, but will make about 15 cords of stove wood.

Andrew Jackson Simpson, formerly of the Griffin Creek hills is now a city dweller. He reports it tires him more to walk a block on concrete than two miles up a mt.

Fletch Fish, boom day tenor of Phoenix, reports his boy, David Fletcher, has started to talk, but has not yet burst into song. He's a cute minnow.

Ed Kubli, a cowman of the Applegate, held a marking and branding Fri. The sun shone, steers bawled, dogs barked, kids cried, meadow-larks sang, cowboys whooped, the women-folks visited, Jim O'Brien, 73, sneezed, and Lester Adams, journalist turned dairyman, wrangled bovines beneath a \$17 Stetson. Among those present was Chet Leonard, who showed his bringing up on a Colorado stock ranch by calling a cow, a "critter."

Dewey Hill, the Prospect hired man towed Fri. and underwent a haircut.

Country sausage is the order of the day in the rural regions. Owing to the war, the country sausage will stay in the country. If it came to town it would be a shortage, and consist of 19.9 per cent soy beans and .1 pig.

How About Extermination?

Ever since the second world war started the hope has often been expressed in this country that somehow, somehow the German nation could be exterminated.

That has seemed to many the only solution of European—or world,—peace. For the argument goes, as long as any Germans are left, the seeds of war will be left, and world war No. 2 will no sooner be over than,—after a brief breathing spell,—the "Huns" will start another.

"So if we could only kill them all!" one often has heard when the present war has been discussed and particularly by those fire-eating patriots who have never been nearer the front than their favorite armchair before the living-room fire place!

"BUT how to do it?" that has been the stumbling block. And as far as we are informed even the most violent of the "exterminator group" have pretty much agreed that desirable as such a process would be to them, there are unfortunately insurmountable practical obstacles that prevent it.

BUT are there?

According to our latest information from the western front at least, German girls in their teens are acting as "sharp shooters" and German boys even as young as 6 and 8, are sniping from their nursery windows. Old men and women have been apprehended setting booby-traps.

In short the ENTIRE POPULATION of Germany, outside of babes-in-arms and the bed-ridden, are fighting against the allied invaders,—taking up arms in effect just as much as are the professional soldiers. So there is the answer, isn't it? One answer at least.

We grant there is no practical way in which one nation can be exterminated by another in war, if war is carried on in any normal, civilized (assuming such a term can be applied to war!) fashion. But if in any particular case the entire nation, men, women and children insist upon fighting, and if the opposition insists also, how can extermination,—or virtual extermination of the party of the first part, be avoided?

In other words, while it would be impossible, as a practical matter for the allies to exterminate the German people in this war or any war, perhaps the German people with the enemy in front of them and the Gestapo behind them, will do it for themselves.

THIS department has never been greatly allured by the prospect of the extermination of any race or nation (the extermination of the Hitler gang however would meet with our hearty approval), but if it has to be done, we would much prefer this method of extermination via cooperation on the part of the victim to any that has heretofore been suggested.

Over Optimism in Pacific

We don't know just why it should be, but there is, and always has been, a marked difference between the war-reports from the Far East and from Europe.

Perhaps the sneak attack by Japan and the subsequent tragic period of inadequate allied defense have had something to do with it.

Whatever the reason we don't believe any competent observer of the two fronts from a news angle would deny that the difference is there,—the people of this country have been given a true, realistic picture of the war in Europe, they have not been given such a picture of the war against the Japs.

And that is the case today.

TAKE just two items in recent news reports from Leyte for example and a couple from the Chinese-Burma area, also.

The former maintained, only ten days after the landing by American troops at Leyte, that all "organized resistance on that island had ceased." It was also maintained only a day or two ago, that with the pincers movement started against the Japs at Ormoc, it would "not be long now" before the Philippine Islands are cleaned of the enemy and returned to the United States,—or words to that effect.

Even the ultra-conservative "Nation" has sharply criticized General MacArthur for allowing that "end of organized resistance" report to get out, when obviously organized resistance on Leyte has been continuing week after week and is still very much in evidence.

The claim of the liberation of the Philippines in the near future on the other hand was not in any official war communique, but was a statement by a reputable war correspondent and the same was passed through the official censorship.

During the past week many reports have been received of the glorious victory by Chinese troops over the Japs in Burma, and only a day or two ago, it was claimed the Japanese troops in Kweichow province have been routed and driven out.

No doubt a small group of Japanese troops were driven out, but as was true in the rich rice fields further north, they will come back again in far greater numbers.

HOWEVER that has been the news "line" from China ever since Pearl Harbor so that until very recently when conditions became so bad over there they could no longer be camouflaged or suppressed, the American people as a whole actually believed China was winning the war against Japan without any material assistance from Britain or the United States. The exact reverse is true of course.

As above stated we don't know just WHY this should be,—reliable war reports from one war front, unreliable and overly optimistic ones from another. But there is no doubt of the fact.

CHURCHILL TALK FAILS TO QUIET POLICY CRITICS

Demand Grows for Allied Policy — Urge Negotiator for Greek Uproar.

London, Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—Prime Minister Churchill's speech, it was evident tonight, has failed to satisfy his critics—including the conservative London Times—and there was a growing demand for a full dress conference of Churchill, Marshal Josef Stalin and President Roosevelt to clarify allied policy toward the liberated nations of Europe.

There was no indication, however, that such a conference was likely in the immediate future. Stalin is believed to be unwilling to leave Moscow while busy with plans for the big Russian winter offensive and the earliest likely date for a meeting was thought to be sometime after President Roosevelt's inauguration January 20.

The war cabinet was reported to have under consideration tonight a proposal that Richard K. Law, a minister of state who has been working in the foreign office under Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, go to Athens to negotiate an armistice between Greek factions and clear the way for a general election.

Law, the son of former Premier Bonar Law, has a wide reputation as a skilled negotiator and probably would have the confidence of all parties if he went to Greece. However, there was no tendency in official quarters to assume that an armistice among the Greeks may be reached quickly.

While a portion of the London Press supported Churchill's defense of his policy, there were other influential elements which were dissatisfied. The feeling in these quarters was that Britain is taking upon herself an interventionist attitude in the liberated countries while the United States and Russia adopt a hands-off attitude.

Belief that the United States might retire to a semi-isolationist position after the war persists in Britain and it was believed by many that this tendency would be strengthened by Britain's unilateral actions in Greece and Italy.

The Times took the view that Churchill over-simplified the situation in putting all the blame for Greek events upon leftist extremists when "there exists at least equal justification for fear of the intentions of the right."

The Times said many persons in both Greece and Britain firmly believe that Britain is exerting her influence in order to maintain the Greek monarchy.

GOV. SNELL SIGNS BURKE WINE BILL

Portland, Ore., Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—Oregon's wine dealers were officially informed today that the Burke liquor bill has been put into effect.

The bill was signed by Gov. Earl Snell Thursday night, but many of the dealers did not know it, and as a result were still selling their wine.

Dry wines—up to 14 per cent alcohol—may still be sold by wine dealers. But fortified wines—which run about 20 per cent—can henceforth be sold in Oregon only through the state liquor stores.

ARMY GETS FIRST OREGON POTATOES

Washington, Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—The war food administration announced today that a new order would be effective Monday in certain counties of Oregon, northern California and Idaho requiring the growers of Irish potatoes to offer potatoes to government procurement agencies for shipment overseas before making deliveries elsewhere.

Oregon counties affected are Klamath, Crook, Deschutes and Malheur. California counties affected are Modoc and Siskiyou.

PAPER BRINGS FAGS Chicago, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Two bundles of wastepaper 15 inches high would get you a package of your favorite brand of cigarettes in Chicago today. Designed to boost the wastepaper salvage drive, the offer was made by a school which had about 800 packs of the precious cigarettes in stock.

DR. R. M. HOOD

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Observations

A day or so ago I told you about the turkey which had been given to me and of how I didn't quite see what a matron living in a hotel room was going to do with 22 pounds of raw turkey.

I told my problem to a friend who lives in an apartment. She said we'd entertain the service men I had in mind together. Her husband is a colonel in the Chinese son somewhere in the South Pacific. Since she couldn't have them, some other service men were next best. She left finding them to me, that's how much faith she has in my resourcefulness.

For a while it looked like this faith was misplaced for when I tried to get servicemen guests through the regular channels I failed. At least I could not be told definitely until Thanksgiving Day. I was taking no such risk. In down town Seattle I saw two M.P.'s ahead of me. Soon they were accepting an invitation to eat Thanksgiving dinner with us, too, they'd bring another M.P., three being the number I wanted.

Later, telling my friend of the guests and the rather informal way I'd obtained them, I saw her amusement was slightly tinged with apprehension. Oh, yes, the man in the Bible had gone out in the highways and byways and got people to come to the wedding feast, but that didn't mean it was wise for a matron to go out on the streets of Seattle and collect Thanksgiving guests.

But they turned out to be grand boys. Two of them were married. Charles Rickers' wife and baby are in Latonia, Ky. He showed us the picture of a husky three-year-old boy. Charles has seen this son of his but once since he was born. He has missed only six days since in the army sending his wife an airmail letter.

Harold Pugh of Mansfield, Ohio, was a refrigeration and air conditioning technician before he was inducted. He's a good knife sharpener, too, and sharpened all my friend's butcher knives while there. The other men helped but he's the one I blame that those knives were so sharp I wouldn't touch them.

Woody Hibbs of Benson, Ariz., isn't married. But I have plans. I know a girl. Woody is just back from two years in Panama. He has two brothers and a sister in the service. He—but I've used up all my space.

PRINCETON SUNK BY LUCKY STRIKE

San Francisco, Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—The sinking of the U. S. carrier Princeton off Luzon Oct. 24 was due to a lucky strike by a single Japanese dive bomber which sneaked in to attack after 36 of its mates had been shot down and the rest routed by 20 Hellcat pilots from the carrier's fighting 27, 12th naval district headquarters revealed today.

The Hellcats had downed 36 enemy planes and apparently routed all further opposition off Luzon before they turned to land on the Princeton which they were protecting.

The Hellcats landed safely and the pilots hurried to the ready room to report their kills, when the Japanese dive-bomber screamed down out of a cloud, dropped its explosive and Princeton's flight deck and staid fires which led to the eventual sinking of the medium-sized carrier.

'TOMMY THE CORK' NO INFLUENCE ON HIM SAYS BIDDLE

Income Tax Records of Ex-'Brain Trustee' in Hands of House.

New York, Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—Norman M. Littell, former assistant to Attorney General Francis Biddle who was asked to resign after charging Biddle was influenced by friends, tonight described Biddle's answer as "gross misrepresentation" and said he would amplify details of his charges shortly.

Washington, Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—Attorney General Francis Biddle today denied charges that he was "under the influence" of Thomas G. Corcoran, former New Deal brainbuster and now a private attorney.

Biddle in testimony before the senate immigration committee told his side of the quarrel with his former assistant, Norman M. Littell, which resulted 10 days ago in Littell's dismissal by President Roosevelt for insubordination.

The attorney general also denied Littell's charges that he interfered with the former assistant attorney general's testimony before congressional committees—notably his testimony about the Elk Hills oil case.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that Corcoran has been subpoenaed to testify late next week before the House committee investigating the federal communications commission. Chairman Clarence Lea, D., Calif., said the committee also had obtained Corcoran's income tax records.

The committee is expected to question Corcoran as to what part, if any, he played in the sale of radio station WMCA, New York. WMCA's former owner, Donald Flamm, has charged that Corcoran and others put pressure on him to sell the station for less than its market value to former Undersecretary of Commerce Edward J. Noble.

Accusing Littell of "gross misrepresentation of facts," Biddle said his quarrel with the assistant "had nothing whatever to do with his testimony before congressional committees." It did, however, involve Littell's "complete disloyalty," Biddle said.

In the Elk Hills case, Biddle said the navy entered into a contract with Standard Oil Co. of California to produce oil from the Elk Hills reserve in California. Then Undersecretary of Navy James Forrestal, he said, questioned the legality of the contract and sent a memorandum about it to Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes, who exercised jurisdiction over the reserve.

The memorandum was passed on to the President, who sent it to Biddle, who transmitted it to Littell, head of the justice department's lands division.

But before Biddle had time to prepare an opinion about the contract, he said, Littell appeared before the House Lands committee and said it was "another Teapot Dome."

"I sent for Littell," Biddle testified, "and said to him, 'I think this is a grossly unfair statement. It points corruption to the secretary of the navy (the late Frank Knox) and his associates. Have you any evidence?'"

"Mr. Littell said he had none, but the legal aspect seemed to him similar to Teapot Dome. I told him it was most unfair. The navy was wild about it, and Frank Knox was deeply hurt, and I told him so."

"The president then cancelled the contract."

PORTLAND NAMES MRS. JACKSON AS "FIRST CITIZEN"

Portland, Ore., Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—The selection of Mrs. C. S. Jackson, 82, widow of the founder of the Oregon Journal, as Portland's first citizen for 1944 was announced today by the Portland realty board, which said her outstanding work as a leader in the war effort resulted in her choice.

Mrs. Jackson is chairman of the board of directors of the George A. White servicemen's center here. Her work at the center in behalf of the servicemen led the board to remark in announcing her selection that Mrs. Jackson is "one whose constant and unremitting care for the welfare of servicemen has justly earned for her the honored title of 'mother'."

Mrs. Jackson and her son, Philip L. Jackson, present publisher of the Oregon Journal, donated the tract of land here known as Sam Jackson park as the site for the University of Oregon Medical school. The Veterans' hospital was also built on this location.

Mrs. Jackson will be guest of honor at the annual first-citizen dinner to be held here early in January.

ARIZONA VICTOR NON-SQUIRT TEST

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 9.—(U.P.)—Five western governors today attested: Desert grapefruit does not squirt.

Wearing airplane goggles, Govs. Herbert E. Maw, Utah; John J. Dempsey, N. M.; E. P. Carville, Nev.; Sam C. Ford, Mont.; and Sidney P. Osborn, Ariz., tested California and Arizona desert grapefruit and after the first few squonks showed the glasses up to their foreheads and proceeded—unsquirted.

The test was given because grapefruit growers were irked at jocular references to squirting grapefruit. Meanwhile the western growers have challenged the now-rare Florida and Texas grapefruit growers to a non-squirting, grapefruit match in a senate restaurant in Washington, D. C.

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 December 10, 1934

Move of L. A. Banks through kin to secure pardon from life term for murder brings deluge of protests from all over state to governor. Former local agitator and orchardist has served less than 18 months in prison. City council files objection.

Yugoslavia and Hungary reach agreement in border dispute.

Wood alcohol deaths in Portland mount to 31; drug store operators face serious charges.

Cloudy and slightly warmer. High 51, low 26 degrees.

France again defaults on war debt payments.

Jacksonville grange to see Copco sound film, "Jim Stays on the Farm."

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Spencer-Bagley Agency
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Horace G. Wilson

J. J. Handsaker of the National Council for Prevention of War to speak at Holland hotel.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY December 10, 1924 (It was Wednesday)

King George of England addresses parliament from throne. Singapore navy base and Russian situation handled without gloves.

Reorganization of state game commission is planned after internal row.

Probable rain. High 45, low 37 degrees. Trace of rain.

Salvation army Christmas kettles appear on street corners.

Mourned for dead for five years, world war veteran returns home.

County court issues new Jackson county booklet.

Cabinet of Chancellor Marx of Germany resigns.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY December 10, 1910 (It was Thursday)

Looks like a big year for Santa Claus here, with all stores well supplied with goods. Population of nation 101,000,000.

Notice is hereby given that The Sams Valley Beagle and Meadows Stockmans Association, a voluntary association, has issued from the United States of America for grazing purposes the following described lands in Jackson County, Oregon, and a part of the Camp White Military Reservation, to-wit:

All that portion of the Camp White Military Reservation lying north of the south line Section 1, Township 36 south, Range 2 west of the Willamette Meridian in Jackson County, which contains approximately 21,400 acres. Any person not member of the Association are hereby notified to immediately take or remove any cattle, horses, or sheep belonging to them and now on said leased premises during the term of said lease. Sams Valley Beagle and Meadows Stockmans Association. By C. W. McDonough, Sec.-Treas.

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