

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Medford, Ore.

Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Tokyo reports 78 Japanese have officially bitten the dust in sea combat. They seem to be more plentiful in the "Flower Kingdom," than judges, colonels, and candidates for sheriff in depression years around here.

The charming and gracious First Lady in an interview declares she does not like to live in the White House. This has long been suspected by the people. For a considerable portion of the approximate 12 years she has lived there, due to many trips, catching her home has been mostly luck.

The morale of the Italian people is so low it needs the rejuvenating effect of private donations from America, observers report. Faced by reconstruction toll and yanking themselves loose from the chains tied to them by Mussolini, they are fresh out of gumption. They lack the vociferous enthusiasm they displayed in attacking Ethiopia, or twisting the tail of the British lion in the first days of the war. They even had a vibrant urge to invade France when already flattened by the Nazis.

JUSTICE POPS UP

(Calaveras (Cal.) Herald)

"A car-stealing gang that had led police of Stockton a merry chase, attempted to branch out in its activities at San Andreas Sunday, and as the result of a 'branding' two of their number received from Paul Koffard's shotgun, local and Stockton police were able to solve the case."

Several members of the fair sex have written Santa Claus to bring them some cigarettes, to put in the \$50 engraved, gold lined, two-pack capacity case, he brought the last Christmas. They also report their expensive lighters that use only lavender colored fluid now work perfectly, but have no fogs to light.

So far no citizen who uses the rheumatic pain in his back for an almanac, predicts snow for the Older Girls come Christmas.

There is now a shortage of link sausage. Some say they have run out of sausage, and some say they have run out of links.

"We couldn't wish anything worse to the man who invented the daybed, than to make him sleep on one." (Salem Statesman.)—A bit barbaric, but fit punishment.

The desire of Coos Bay, nee Marshfield, to resume its maiden name of Marshfield by special election, causes the esteemed Ben Bulletin to perily suggest the place be called "Finneegan—and let 'er go at that."

PIONEER LADY CUT-UP

"Saturday evening, Caroline, the stalwart princess of the Wasco tribe, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery committed on another squaw, at the palatial residence of the latter on Mill Creek. It was the old, old case with a woman in it. It might be said that there were 'two women in it,' but one of them the evidence showed was not 'in it' but that one was not Caroline. With a pint of the pale faces whiskey tucked safely beneath her corset, she felt it her bounden duty to reduce the number of the tribe and took an ax to her quondam friend. Caroline will board at the county's expense for 25 days."—(50 Yr. Ago col. The Dalles Chronicle).

Closing time for Classified Ads 5 p. m. Too Late to Classify 12:30 p. m.

Medical WACs Needed!

An urgent appeal has been directed to women of this community who can qualify for immediate training as a WAC with the Army Medical Department. Of 22,000 recruits sought throughout the Nation to meet present critical needs, at least twelve should come from this city.

THERE are, of course, continuous demands for WAC recruits for many important tasks—in jeeps and planes, at switchboards and typewriters and in scores of other specialized jobs. Generals and GIs alike have unflinching praise for these efficient Army helpers, and Jackson County is justly proud of both the quantity and quality of young women here who have "signed up" for Women's Army Corps service.

BUT right now, as the fighting intensifies and the foe becomes increasingly desperate and dangerous, the need for Army hospital personnel grows by leaps and bounds and has top priority at this moment.

Requirements for enlistment are not at all difficult to meet. Those who already have some specialized training will receive direct medical assignments after brief basic training. Recruits without a background of specialized training will receive technical instruction that will be useful not only in this emergency but in years to come.

ALTOGETHER, the WACs offer high opportunity for women who can serve and who have, in other words, been forced to stay at home. It provides opportunities for camaraderie and for patriotic service that those not held by home ties can hardly pass up. Most of all, it affords for those who serve with the Army Medical Department, the gratifying satisfaction of helping heroic young American soldiers to walk again, to talk again, to see or hear again—perhaps to fight again!—H. G.

"Double Talk"

Some things are so easy to say and so hard to do. For example:

It is easy to say the allies should stick together until the Axis is beaten.

They should. If they fail to do so in any serious sense, the results might be disastrous.

But it is hard to do, as the present international situation demonstrates. For sticking together sometimes means compromising a nation's fundamental principles.

FEW nations wish to do that. We have a pious idea that is President Roosevelt's present predicament.

As one of the authors of the Atlantic charter—undoubtedly F.D.R. still believes in it—its first provision, no aggrandizement territorial or otherwise from this war for example, and no territorial changes whatever that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned, are now at stake in the Poland controversy.

For Soviet Russia insists upon territorial aggrandizement, with no regard whatever for the wishes of the people concerned, freely expressed or otherwise.

RUSSIA claims this is not for aggrandizement of course, but for self-protection. Russia under the Czars claimed the same thing when similar action was taken. That is always the claim when nation's grab territory as prizes of war.

WHAT to do? Oppose Russia directly and England indirectly for Churchill officially oked the Stalin program in Poland? Or—

Not oppose the plan directly, nor entirely approve it, but compromise by doing a little of both and not much of either?

Well anyway that is what—as we see it—Secretary of State Stettinius did yesterday in his Polish statement.

ONLY a few days ago in fact, the State Department declared in accordance with established policy, this country would have nothing to say about the boundaries of Poland or any other country in Europe, during the present conflict.

Prime Minister Churchill struck back savagely at that, whereupon the State Department decided to back track and did so to now maintain that statement did not mean what it said—we quote:

That did not mean "certain questions could not be settled by friendly conference and agreement," particularly if same "could make an essential contribution to the prosecution of the war against a common enemy."

WHAT questions?

Oh well so it goes but that is the way of diplomacy—"double talk" is the popular word for it.

WE genuinely sympathize with President Roosevelt and particularly his new and inexperienced Secretary of State in this predicament. They are in a spot and it is not a comfortable one.

Yet what could the poor men do?

WE are in a war, the most terrible war in history. And while there is no doubt of ultimate victory any break in Allied unity might tragically delay the war and result in needless sacrifices of blood and treasure.

Therefore, with Russia insisting upon a violation of the Atlantic Charter and the British government who signed the agreement, backing Russia up, how could the United States do other than yield?

For the only alternative would be to risk Allied unity, at one of the most critical periods of the war, for the sake of well—in the traditional language of diplomats abroad—merely a "scrap of paper!"

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Dec. 19—Journal charge that Russian and British politics in Europe have delayed military victory, investigation will show considerable yes-and-no evidence.

The hinge-point is whether the Russians held back on their march through Poland to Berlin in order to gobble up the Balkans and Baltic states for themselves; whether they deliberately delayed conquest of Germany proper.

Some Polish organizations have claimed the reds did not throw in enough power in their Warsaw drive last August, but the military evidence shows they put 30 divisions into that fray; also Warsaw is easier to defend from attack from the east than the west. The reds appear to have made a real fight and lost in August and then let the matter go in favor of their southern campaign through Romania, Hungary, etc.

The Nazi fortifications 10 to 15 miles inside the East Prussian frontier are old (built before the war), and comparable with those we are facing in the west. Here, also, the red army butted its head against a real wall in September and let the fighting degrade into trapping actions thereafter.

THE Nazis fought the same delaying tactics against the reds in the Baltic states as they used against us in France, holding ports and pockets of resistance, elements of ten German divisions still hold the Riga estuary, nullifying the capture of that port as at Antwerp.

On the other hand the southern drive through the Balkans was a walk up to Budapest. After the Prut river was crossed and Ploesti was captured, Romania dropped like a plum to Stalin as did Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. It is undeniable that this military campaign has worked Russia's way politically, not only as to the Balkans but by keeping Poland on the rough edge until Polish politics and Churchill settled the Russian way. The Russians are further from Berlin at Budapest than they were in Poland at the end of summer.

The facts from Europe seem inwardly and outwardly to be kept in a yes-and-no state. Indeed, there is arising here an attitude like that of the new deal senator whose statements you may have seen. He says it is all British propaganda about the communists wanting the Greek government or being involved in the revolt.

"We hear conservatives yelling communist everywhere a people's movement rears its head," he says. This is the same line familiar since the Spanish revolution of "it is" on one side "it isn't" on the other, with no one getting at acceptable facts of the truth.

FOR myself, I rely mainly on the judgment of the military in such matters, but not on politicians here or abroad. By and large, military men care little about communism or conservatives, but want to win their war. They know more about the facts than senators. Their Army and Navy Journal reflected the viewpoint of a large segment of the defense services, although other army experts are inclined to give Russia the benefit of doubt, at least until they see how a big drive now develops in Poland.

In this kind of a yes-and-no game of news from Europe where skilled propaganda forces are at work in a life-and-death struggle for power, it is necessary that senators, as all citizens, try to ascertain and advise the probable conditions such as the communist connections of European cabinet members, or lack of them, and to be equally alert to the solid evidence of British use of pressure and power. That is the only way to defeat propaganda.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 19—(U.P.)—The cigarette shortage in Indianapolis isn't as acute as the housing shortage. The following classified advertisement was carried in the Indianapolis Star's Sunday edition:

"Three cartons 15-cent cigarettes for information leading to rental of furnished half-double or three-room apartment by quiet couple."

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Rear Adm. Arthur D. Struble (left), commander of Mindoro attack force confers with Rear Adm. R. S. Berkey, commander of Navy support group aboard Admiral Kinkaid's flagship before launching assault on Mindoro U. S. Navy photo.

Letter From Washington

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress From Oregon

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16—(Special Correspondence)—Most everyone thought at mid-week this congress would adjourn not later than tonight. Then the senate began kicking the state department appointments around.

The house has worked rapidly and smoothly this week. Everything previously scheduled has been acted upon. More than a week ago, the rules committee, which determines what measures shall come to the floor for debate, (and when), ended its business for the session. Rules Committee Chairman Sabath announced that the committee would not meet again. This action shut off any possibility of getting the O & C bill onto the floor. As the result of having no new business coming up, it was easy for the house to clear up pending and previously scheduled legislation.

THE journey of a piece of legislation through the house to final passage is usually a long and complicated one. Any member may introduce a bill. The bill is immediately referred to a committee. The choice of the committee is determined by the subject dealt with in the bill. Before a committee considers a bill, it is the general practice to send it down to the administrative department—or sometimes to two or more departments—and get an opinion as to what effect the proposed law will have so far as the administrative departments are concerned.

When the reports from the departments are at hand, the committee may take the bill up for consideration. Minor bills are usually handled rather quickly. But, if a bill is at all controversial or if it involves large and important matters, it is customary to have committee hearings. Hearings sometimes last months. Then the entire record of the hearings generally including the departmental reports on the legislation, is printed.

At long last, the bill is considered in a committee executive session and, if it is approved by a majority of the committee, is "reported out" and placed on the calendar for action. The "report" of the committee is a brief analysis of the bill and an explanation of what it will do when it becomes a law. The committees usually recite in their reports the reasons why they think the bill is good and should pass.

After the "screening" by departments and by the committee, if it is believed there can be no objection to its passage, a bill is generally brought up for passage by unanimous consent. If it cannot be passed by consent, the rules committee must give what is called a rule on the bill which brings it up for debate on the floor. The procedure of the senate is somewhat similar. All bills must be acted upon by both houses and signed by the president before they become law.

THE 79th congress will convene January 3 (constitutional date), or such date immediately thereafter as may be named. The official count of the membership of the new congress by parties is as follows: Democrat, 243; Republican, 190; Progressive, 1; American-Labor, 1.

THIS is my last letter for this year. I wish you all the very best Christmas and holiday season possible under the circumstances. Perhaps next year we can celebrate Christmas in a world at peace and enjoy a truly Merry Christmas.

Klamath Navy Base Hospital Rated As Outstanding Unit

Salem, Ore., Dec. 19—(U.P.)—Rep. James W. Mott, 1st Oregon congressional district, today reported that the Klamath Falls Marine naval base hospital is one of the outstanding institutions of its kind in the country, after his return here from Washington yesterday. He visited the hospital en route.

With Mott was Comdr. L. T. Coggeshall, medical department of the navy, who is to inspect the facilities at Camp Adair, which will be used by the navy as a hospital.

THE congressman is scheduled to tour South Pacific bases early next year, he said, after he returns to Washington for the opening of the new congress.

ACTOR ACTS UP

Hollywood, Dec. 19—(U.P.)—Jack Emmett Carr, stage and screen actor was questioned by police early today after a series of theatrical-like disturbances during which he assertedly struck his estranged wife, Actress Keven McClure and then tangled with a producer, an actor and a musician.

Daily Weather Report

Medford and vicinity: Cloudy with occasional light rain tonight and Wednesday; mild temperature.

Oregon: Intermittent rain west portion and occasional light rain or snow over and east of Cascades tonight and Wednesday; warmer east portion. Stockmen east of Cascades should guard against freezing rains.

Local Data

Temperature a year ago today:	45; lowest 36 degrees.
Total monthly precipitation .15 inches. Deficiency for the month 1.54 inches.	
Total precipitation since September 1, 1944, 5.63 inches. Deficiency for the season 48 inches.	
Relative humidity at 4:30 p. m. yesterday 84%; 4:30 today 98%.	
Sunrise 8:35 a. m.; Sunset 5:42 p. m.	
Boise	27 19 Trace
Boston	37 27
Chicago	15 5 .01
Denver	53 37
Eureka	88 46
Have	17 16
Los Angeles	74 46
Medford	46 41
New York	20 30
Omaha	40 18
Phoenix	39 34
Portland	39 34 .01
Reno	47 27 Trace
Roseburg	43 40
Roseburg	43 40
Salt Lake	42 18
San Francisco	58 41
Seattle	41 34 .03
Spokane	29 22 Trace
Washington, D. C.	27 25
Yakima	27 25

Closing time for Classified Ads 5 a. m. Too Late to Classify 12:30 p. m.

FREE LECTURES—Public and all Denominations welcome at Medford Hotel Auditorium—406 W. Main Street. Each Wed. Eve., 8 P. M. Doors Open 7:30 P. M.

"PROPER INTERPRETATION OF CHRISTMAS"

Dr. Edward C. Le-Vyne, D. D. and Rev. Darlene Le-Vyne, Pastors. The Leading Spiritual Interpreters, on "THE NATURAL LAWS OF GOD" Public Test Demonstrations Follow Auspices (Universal Spiritual Temple) Note—Special Service Sunday Eve. Dec. 31st. Old Year Out. New Year In. 8:30 p. m. 'Til a. m. 7 See "TRANSFIGURATION" in the Light. Consultations at Hotel Wed., 1 p. m. to 5 p. m.

"I Am the Light" Live My Word

PACIFIC AIR ACE SAID SHOT DOWN

Headquarters U. S. 13th Air Force, Dec. 19—(U.P.)—Lt. Col. Robert B. Westbrook, leading ace of the 13th air force with 20 Japanese planes to his credit, was shot down in the Macassar Straits November 22, it was revealed today.

Westbrook's plane was hit when he started strafing a Japanese gunboat whose ack-ack fire was hampering other 13th air force Lightning fighters in an attack on two freighters.

His right engine caught fire but he reported by radio: "I think I'm okay."

Then his plane suddenly plummeted 700 feet and broke up in the water. Other pilots swept low over the spot but found no trace of him.

BUCHANAN PLANS BUSINESS VENTURE

George Buchanan announced today that he has formed a partnership with an experienced Pacific coast textile man, to serve as manufacturers' representative and to do wholesaling in specialized lines. Their place of business will be in the Commercial building, 833 Market street, San Francisco. Mr. Buchanan plans to start the venture the first of the new year. He will leave for New York following a week in San Francisco, to complete manufacturer representation and to purchase for the wholesale department.

Mr. Buchanan has been associated with Mann's Department store for the last four years where he has merchandised various departments for the store. He was formerly with Rumbaugh-MacLain, Inc., of Everett, Wash., and Meier & Frank Co., of Portland, Ore.

Star Perched Atop Moon Causes Furor

Los Angeles, Dec. 19—(U.P.)—The annual conjunction of the moon and Venus caused a lot of excitement last night when dozens of persons called newspapers to find out just what the star perched atop the moon was doing there.

At 6 a. m., PWA, Venus—second smallest planet—by an optical illusion did seem "perched atop" the moon, astronomers explained.

Actually the planet was 24,755,000 miles away from the moon, they said.

BIRTHS

FRANKLIN—To Mr. and Mrs. Dale, route 1, Dec. 12, 1944, a girl, 6½ pounds, at Sacred Heart hospital.

COOPER—To Mr. and Mrs. Robert A., Ashland, Dec. 19, 1944, boy, 9½ lbs., at Sacred Heart.

ANDRESEN—To Mr. and Mrs. Walter, Rt. 1, Dec. 18, 1944, girl, 8½ lbs., at Sacred Heart hospital.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify 5:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember.

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Best working conditions in Medford. Clean shop, well equipped, automatic heat, hot water, high rate of pay with paid vacation. Large parts stock.

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