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OREGON NEWS PAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
Ye Smudge Pot
By Arthur Perry
Orchardists are praying for snow in the high hills to provide irrigation next summer, and having no better luck than Older Girls, in their supplications for a White Christmas.

B. Mussolini, the late Duce, has completed a three-day tour and inspection of Italian troops. In snow up to his pistol pockets, a Swiss report says. For a man reportedly with all the leading malignant diseases, and most of the minor ills, not to mention a few mental screws loose, the Duce is doing all right.

From various coast sections comes word "bad boys" have taken over the management of rural schools, in one instance, a deputy sheriff arriving to quell an uprising. If this keeps up, the school teacher of the future will be a combination Salpan island marine sergeant, and "Masked Marvel" wrestler, with a university degree. In the meantime, the argument: "Should our youth be given military training, at tender ages," continues. If tender enough to employ goon tactics against a pedagogue, they are tender enough to boo the bugler at 5:30 a. m.

BEFUDDLED SOLOON (St. Louis Post-Dispatch)
"Senator Butler hemmed and hawed a good deal in his talk about it. He wouldn't say he was an MVA and he wouldn't say he was against it, except that he did not think it was needed at the moment. His mental perplexity and obfuscation were revealed by his remark that he did not see why Nebraska farmers should start growing cotton just because it is grown in the Tennessee valley."

Major H. (Demon Baker) Flewler, and Col. G. (Cannonball) Jackson, are stationed in the Naples area of the Italian front now, and lunched together on spaghetti cooked in olive oil recently, in the shadow of Mt. Vesuvius. They are stationed 15 miles from each other, and amaze the natives by their speed, afoot and in jeeps.

The legislature is now debating a survey of the tax structure of the state. The governor wants imported tax experts to do the job, and the other wing favors a committee of 15 Oregonians. The tax experts would do a more fearful job, and not worry about what they would run for in the 1946 primary. A native committee would be like naming a jury composed of his grandmothers and aunts, to send a juvenile delinquent to the reform school.

"Keep your hands off the bread. Its not sanitary." (Sign in county store) — Frank and candid.

Some of last spring's babies are now smart enough to wink at company, causing proud Paws to puff and strut.

The Russians are now 58 miles from Berlin, causing Herr Hitler to make a speech, tell the people, "A horrid fate" awaits them. He further urged the people to be confident. Stockholm expects Der Fuehrer to kidnap himself, and wind up in Argentine, with his kidnapers. Never before in all history has the bullheadedness of the Teutons been put to such a test, as they defy common sense and the inevitable.

A steel ball is not a ball bearing. The ball bearing is comprised of two rings between which the balls revolve and a separator which holds the balls in place.

The Mail-Tribune Declines

We have been invited to join the drive to sustain the appointment of Henry Wallace as successor to Mr. Jesse Jones, in the Department of Commerce.

The reason? Mr. Jesse Jones is a Big Business man! And this important cabinet post has been under the control of a representative of Big Business and the Texas banking interests long enough. So kick Jesse out, put Henry in.

We quote: "Let the people control through that great crusader for popular government and that outstanding humanitarian, Henry Agard Wallace. Can we count on your valuable support?"

THE answer is "no" and for the very reasons given to secure our support. What bigger business is there in the country than the business of the Commerce Department and affiliated activities like the R. F. C.?

Then why shouldn't a "Big Business man" and a banker be in control of such a department? Would it be good sense or sound business management, to put a LITTLE business man, or a man with no business or financial experience whatever, in charge of the business and financial activities of this country?

WE HOLD no particular brief for Mr. Jesse Jones. But we do believe a man who has had SOME practical experience in the affairs of business should handle a department of business, and a man who knows something about finance, should handle a department of loans and finance.

MR. WALLACE IS a great crusader for popular government and a sincere idealist of lofty humanitarian impulses. But he knows nothing—and he takes pride in knowing nothing—about practical business big or little. While his grasp of the intricacies and complexities of finance add up to exactly zero.

Then why, in the name of Pete, insist upon putting him in a job about which he knows nothing, for which he is in no way qualified?

IT MAY be true Mr. Jesse Jones has been at the head of this department long enough and should retire. That's ok by us—let him go.

His retirement is not what we oppose but his replacement by a man who is completely and utterly unqualified for the post.

IF THE important thing, as President Roosevelt intimated is to give Henry a job of some sort, then give him one for which he is in some ways qualified—let him take Madam Perkins place as Secretary of Labor for example.

Mrs. Perkins is anxious to resign and in our judgment Henry Wallace, idealist, humanitarian, and sincere friend of the workers, would not only be acceptable to labor but would do a pretty good job in that department.

But head of American business and finance? No. The idea is absurd, contrary to all principles of efficient government, and as before stated the Mail-Tribune is 100% against it.

"Hallelujah Hank"

According to Senator Pepper—who sometimes knows what he is talking about—Henry Wallace has agreed to accept the Department of Commerce post when divorced from the R.F.C.

And the senate—also according to the Florida senator—will then endorse his appointment by a large majority. Well that is better than putting "Hallelujah Hank" in charge of federal loans, as well as American business, but it doesn't change the opposition of this department and shouldn't that of the senate.

FOR the point of this entire affair is not political or personal. This department has a very high regard for Mr. Wallace as a citizen, a true liberal of the crusading radical type—courageous, honest, loyal to the point of fanaticism.

But he ISN'T a business man, has had no experience whatever in practical business affairs, and last, but far from least, he distrusts and dislikes business—especially big and successful business.

THE United States has always been and is today essentially a BUSINESS country. The people of this country as a whole, believe in their business system, believe in the capitalistic profit-system, and while they don't deny the abuses of so-called Big Business, they want Big Business controlled not destroyed, the American form of government adjusted to new social horizons, not overthrown.

If this is true—and we believe it is—then certainly the Roosevelt administration—or any other administration—should never place the business of the country in the hands of a man who dislikes and distrusts and fails to understand business, but a man who not only understands business, but has faith in business; believes the government of this country should not fight business, big or little, except when it is wrong, and should cooperate with business, and in every legitimate way assist it when it is right.

Henry Wallace never would do that. He wouldn't be true to himself or his strongest convictions if he did.

SO THE New Deal feud between government and business, which has already done the country so much harm, would certainly continue, if Mr. Wallace is put in charge of the Department of Commerce, whether the R. F. C. is divorced from it or not. Therefore, only those who WANT such a continuance should favor the Wallace appointment.

NATIONAL GROUP SEEKS SKI UNIT IN MEDFORD AREA

An organizational meeting to form a Medford Ski Patrol for rescue work in cooperation with the army has been scheduled tentatively for 7:30 p. m. tomorrow in the Chamber of Commerce rooms, Arnel P. Butler, 28 N. Barneburg, announced today.

Holding of the meeting, he said, depends upon whether L. B. Menab of Portland, Ore., chairman of the Pacific Northwest division of the National Ski Patrol, is able to attend to explain the needs and processes of organization. A definite announcement will be made tomorrow as to whether the meeting can come off as scheduled, he said.

Ask To Help Butler, a ski enthusiast, has been asked by the National Ski Patrol system to aid in setting up a local patrol, made up of civilians with skiing experience to help in rescue work in event of loss of army or navy planes in inaccessible regions.

Among the local skiers who have been contacted, or are being sought for the patrol, are V. A. Norris, K. G. Denman, John Niedermeyer, Sam Jennings, S. E. Phillips, W. S. Newhall, Fred Fry, Mark Taylor, "Chuck" Taylor, "Kell" Taylor, Ken Grant, John Day, Charley Neal, Bob Stevens, Lewis Conger, Al Goss, Bob Beebe, Leo Hoag, Charles Elmore, Harvey Robertson, Orbin Cooksey, Willie Pruitt, Reg Macro, Jack Saubert and Archie McKillip.

Others invited In addition to the men enumerated, Butler said any others who are interested in becoming a member of the patrol would be welcome at the meeting Thursday night.

According to Macnab, practically all of the state has been covered now in the organization of ski patrols with the exception of the Medford area.

Under the national system, the patrol would receive considerable training and would be transported and equipped by the army to the fullest extent possible for training problems or while on actual missions.

MONTAGUE AIRPORT RELEASED BY ARMY

Yreka, Calif., Jan. 31—The United States army today declared the Montague airport surplus property, Congressman Clair Engle telegraphed from Washington.

Under stipulations entered into when the port was constructed the war department now will cancel its lease on the field and the property will revert to Siskiyou county.

This will mean the county takes over runways and aprons capable of handling almost any type of plane now flying—and a field complete with lighting installations.

First Draftee Back From Chinese Area

Seattle — (U.P.) — The nation's first selectee for World War II—Douglas F. Sheriff of Seattle—now wears sergeant's chevrons, a Distinguished Flying Cross, and is credited with 34 bombing missions over Japanese-held territory in China.

Sheriff recently was awarded a leave, his first from overseas duty in almost four years of service in the army. His draft number—158—was the first fished out of the traditional glass bowl when selective service was inaugurated.

Sams Valley

Sams Valley, Jan. 31 — Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Koger and family of Medford spent Saturday evening, Jan. 20, here. Mr. and Mrs. Koger attended Grace and the children attended the 4-H meeting re-organization and re-warding of badges.

Mrs. Rachael Perry is spending several weeks visiting with friends in Gold Hill and Grants Pass.

Mr. and Mrs. Libolt entertained at their home Jan. 20 with a dancing party.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Duggan and Mrs. Charles Duggan have been spending the week visiting in Portland. They expect to return home the middle of this week.

Mrs. George Lofton was called to Medford Saturday by the illness of her mother, Mrs. Mary Jones. Mrs. Jones is reported better at this writing.

Jack Bennett left last Wednesday for Fort Lewis where he will be inducted.

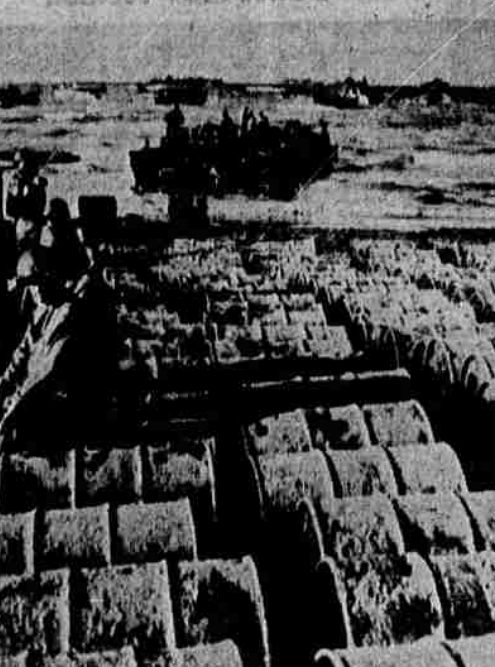
The P.T.A. box social will be February 9th. Proceeds to go toward hot lunches for the school children.

Of Such Stuff Are G. I. Dreams Made of



A U. S. Army Signal Corps photographer took time out from shooting battling G. I.'s and their machinery of war to immortalize this idyllic scene in which enlisted WACS and their guests loll on a white-sand, palm-fringed beach and refresh themselves in the moving waters of a wide bay somewhere in Dutch New Guinea.

Fuel for Luzon Invasion Army



Thousands of barrels of gasoline and oil fill Luzon beaches, destined for the armored units of General MacArthur's armies advancing on Manila. Tanks, planes and mechanized units, employed in quantities never before seen in the Pacific, consume a staggering amount of fuel—all of which must be shipped over the thousands-of-miles-long Pacific supply route.

SIX OF 91ST WIN COMBAT LAURELS

Six officers and enlisted men of the 91st Infantry regiment, 91st "Powder River" division, have been cited by the division and awarded the combat infantryman badge for actual participation in combat against the enemy with the 6th army in Italy according to a news release from the army.

Cited were First Lt. Walter L. Lynch, 721 Aldrich street, Medford; Sgt. Robert Pugh, Gold Hill; Lt. Col. Howard W. Reynolds, 507 Haven street, Medford; Capt. Christian P. Hald, King's highway; Col. R. W. Brodwood, 535 Haven street, Medford; and Capt. John J. Dougherty, 915 West Tenth street, Medford.

Major Is Promoted To Rank Of Major

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. — (U.P.) The army has a Major Major now. He is Milton R. Major of Pittsburg, an air corps supply officer of the A. A. F. personal distribution command, who recently received his gold leaves here. Major, who came here as a second lieutenant in July, 1942, was promoted to first lieutenant in February, 1943, and made captain in November, 1943. A former member of the marine corps, Major was vice-president of the Eastern Freight Line, Inc., before re-entering the service in 1942.

WORK'S A PLEASURE

Midland, Tex. (U.P.) — Army airplane pilot trainees in West Texas know how to combine work and future pleasure successfully. On their training missions the pilots indicate on their flight maps locations of lakes on which there are ducks. Then on their furloughs, the trainees return to the lakes for successful shooting.

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GOLDY WILL HEAD WATER COMMITTEE

Mark Goldy was named chairman of the Rogue River water committee at a meeting of the committee's executive group Tuesday at the Chamber of Commerce. Goldy replaces H. B. Murphy who resigned because of the pressure of business and frequent absence from the city.

The committee, which plans to expand considerably in scope in the next few months in order to cover all phases of agriculture in all districts of the county, will meet again in two weeks. Present at the meeting were Henry Conger, Ben Day and C. C. Hoover, representing agricultural interests; Shelby Tuttle, Harry Holmes and Martin Luther of the traffic association; Paul Rynning, R. G. Fowler and E. H. Judd as representatives of technical interests.

Soldiers Fashion Chapel Features

With American Division, Southwest Pacific (U.P.)—A regimental chapel at this jungle base has a variety of furnishings gleamed by jungle-fighting American soldiers who carved and fashioned the church appointments from any material available. The most unusual feature, according to Capt. Eugene J. Balot, regimental chaplain, is the chimes that summon the men to worship.

"You see," he explains, "the chimes are made from Japanese shell cases."

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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 January 31, 1935 (It was Thursday) Four witnesses called in Bruno Hauptmann kidnaping trial to provide alibi.

Portland bank robbed by pair of \$3200. Unsettled. High 55, low 31 degrees.

Pauline Rogers, high school senior, leads school with five A's in first semester.

Chemawa Indians to play high school here Friday and Saturday evens.

O. O. Alenderer named director of chamber of commerce.

Gold Hill awarded Sera. funds for fire protection.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY January 31, 1925 (It was Saturday) Willow Spring hot house rhubarb harvested for market.

Ashland to vote on bonds to buy Chautauqua site.

Many land sales reported in Talent district.

Charlie Chaplin and girl bride, Lita Grey, negotiates for cash settlement as rift revealed.

Rain. High 60, low 42 degrees.

Crippled high school five defeated by Oregon frosh 34 to 32.

City and county vote \$1400. For new armory.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY January 31, 1911 (It was Tuesday) Panama Exposition is awarded San Francisco.

Fire at Talent, doing \$20,000 damage, blamed on firebug.

Bill before legislature would bar "tips" in restaurants.

'KICKS' SHARK AWAY Dallas, Tex. (U.P.)—This is Lt. William R. McClendon's comment on the 45 hours he spent in the Pacific Ocean after his ship went down: "A shark brushed me once, but I kicked as hard as I could, and he let me be."

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P.-T. A. Activities

PHOENIX P.-T. A. A Founders' Day program will be given at the meeting of the Phoenix Parent-Teacher association scheduled for 2:30 p. m. Friday in the home economics room of the Phoenix school.

DADDY WILL FIX THAT Carlsbad, N. M. (U.P.)—Mrs. Don Johnson can't keep up with army promotion. She had just taught the baby to say "Lieutenant" to Daddy Johnson when he walked in with a captain's insignia.

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