

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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Ye Smudge Pot
By Arthur Perry
Many cartoonists last Friday, in observance of its day, pictured the Ground Hog, with the forelock, mustache, and face of a worried Herr Hitler of Germany.

Winter prevails no end in the East, but violets bloom in the Willamette valley backyards, reports say. Everywhere people are keeping their good eye open for the first lamb-tongue. But take the buttercup and the daisy. They are conservative signs of spring, not addicted to foolhardy blooming head of their season.

"All club members who can sin are invited to attend"—(Exchange). Otherwise, throw the first stone.
A week from Wednesday, the 14th, comes Valentine's Day. On that date, Oregon will be 86 years young, as a state. As a token of the occasion, it looks like Berlin would get the Russians, with the following doggerel:

HOW FOLKS BEHAVE
(Slaktiyou, Cal., News)
"Reason for the fence going up around other land between his ranch and the Yreka Western tracks, though, is mainly to stop that garbage dumping—since people persist in driving out past the city dump ground to foul up clean land."

The society pages reveal the fair sex have a new dieting wrinkle known as the "vanishing salad". The next thing the world knows they will be eating absentee streaks not on the platter.

"Proposed 'work-or-fight' legislation has made many persons almost mad enough to fight, but not nearly mad enough to go to work."—(Oakland, Cal., Tribune). The complete and correct size-up.

The legislature has introduced a total of 485 bills in 26 days, and the end is not yet. None of them regulate or prohibit content.

JUNIOR HAS IDEAS
(Cincinnati Times-Star)
"I have a complaint to make. My father has been making me copy the first editorial every night to help me with my writing. Sometimes your editorials are too long so could you please make the first editorial the shortest one?"

H. Hopkins, the deputy president, now in Europe, favors the "perpetual occupation" of Germany by the allies, to curb all future world conquering notions. This should make "the innocent German people" madder than Secy. Morgenthau's suggestion last summer, they be made an agricultural land, and allowed no weapon more dangerous than a plow. Russia, destined to have the biggest say about the Teutons, makes no announcements on the subject, save from now on, they will do as they are told, and behave themselves, however painful.

A California millionaire has hired a high-powered criminal lawyer to defend the Frisco street car conductor, with a dozen wives. He figures a man brave enough to marry 12 women, is hen-pecked and in need of a good lawyer. Furthermore it is nice to have a man in the picture, who could afford 12 wives.

A Great Victory

The capture of Manila and the rescue of thousands of our prisoners is the greatest American victory of the war.

It is not only a great victory from a military and naval standpoint, for Manila is the heart of the Philippines and strategically essential to any all-out attack on South China; but it is even greater from a purely sentimental viewpoint,—from the viewpoint of raising American morale and impairing the morale of Japan.

And in modern war it is scarcely an exaggeration to state morale is the most important single factor in attaining final victory.

YES, while it is no doubt still a long, long road to Tokio; with the taking of Manila, it should be a road with a DOWN, rather than an UP-hill grade.

For this steady and triumphal march from the first Philippine landing to the capture of the island capital, shows at least this much: the Yanks can go anywhere they WANT to go as far as the tropics and Jap resistance are concerned.

We can in other words beat the Jap any time on his own home grounds and at his own game, for that has repeatedly been done. It isn't easy, it's not cheap, but it CAN be done.

AND when we say we WILL do a thing, as General MacArthur remarked when he left Manila for Australia but declared he would return, the Japs now know it WILL be done.

More than that, the most humiliating defeat the United States in all her history ever suffered, is now wiped out and the blot on the previously glorious national record removed.

For not only were our armies at Bataan and Corregidor beaten they were in a sense deserted,—the aid that, at the start of the war everyone supposed would be given them, by sea and air, was not given them. We were too weak,—we tried but it just couldn't be done!

BUT it HAS been done now, and what a saga of suffering, fortitude and final triumph, the rescue of these prisoners from Cabanatuan and Santo Tomas will be, for all Americans through endless generations, to read with pride and inspiration!

But Easy To Exaggerate

Because of the tremendous sentimental values involved, however, it will be easy to exaggerate the military importance of the fall of Manila.

It merely means we are back where we started from, not actually any nearer to the gates of Tokio and not much nearer the downfall of the empire of Nippon.

Over 40 years ago it took us two years to subjugate the Filipinos after the surrender of Spain. How many Japs are left on the islands and precisely where they are, is not known. But if the technique of the Japanese High Command in other South Pacific islands is followed, in the Philippines, the surrender of Manila will not mean the end of the fighting by any means.

In fact there is reason to believe the Japs have not made any all-out effort to check the American advance since Leyte, and unless the Philippines have been written off by the powers that be in Tokio,—which is hard to believe,—the wily Nipponese must still have something up their sleeve, which won't be particularly pleasant to contemplate when it is finally revealed!

A Private Soldier Speaks

We are told that we need a large standing army and huge trained reserves after this war to protect us from future ones. To get them, so they tell us, we have to resort to compulsory military training. Our unpreparedness at Pearl Harbor is held up to us as the horrible example of what must never happen again.

It MUST not happen again! But to avoid it we have to look to deeper causes than our lack of battleships or trained divisions. We were drawn into this war because in the 20 years following the last one we consistently refused to do anything constructive to prevent aggression. Our policy was the result mainly of a lack of interest in what happened in the world. We weren't interested in the rise of obnoxious threats to our existence as a free people; we weren't interested when Japan attacked Manchuria, when Mussolini attacked Ethiopia, when Hitler reformed the Rhineland, absorbed Austria and Czechoslovakia and finally attacked Poland. Naturally we weren't interested in spending a lot of money on what seemed to us a useless army and navy.

BUT it is clear that the army and navy even if we had possessed them would not have kept us out of war. That could have been accomplished only by stopping the aggressors when they started, through common action with other threatened powers. It could have been done with the small army we then had—but our lack of foresight prevented action. What good is a large force, if we don't use it effectively?

AFTER this war our enemies must be completely disarmed. We tried it once with Germany but then forgot about enforcing it. This time we must have the intelligence to take the poison fangs away from the rattlesnakes of the world community and KEEP THEM AWAY. To do it we only need an armed strength sufficiently larger than our enemies. It is much simpler to keep theirs still and ours small, than to start a race to see which can get biggest.

This is it clear that what we need is a continuous interest in what goes on in the world, a continuous alert against the potential saboteurs of peace. With that attitude small armed forces will be sufficient; without it hundreds of divisions will be of no avail.

Understanding this, realizing that their defense does not demand enormous armed forces the American people will never permit compulsory military training with all its attendant dangers.
WHO do you think wrote the above? Not the editor of this paper, nor any other newspaper editor. It was written by a private soldier in "Deadeye Features", published by the 96th Division Information and Education office "somewhere in the South Pacific,"—the "Deadeyes" by the way were formed at Camp White three years ago. His name is Joseph A. Kahl.

Yanks Mop Up Jap Remnants on Leyte



U. S. 32nd Division infantrymen with aid of medium tank battalion tighten their grip in the Ormoc sector of northeast Leyte Island. Yanks push past smashed tank and artillery as they prepare to take mortar-defended enemy position around road bend. Signal Corps photo.

MARCH OF DIMES DRIVE EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 15

A change in the closing date for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis "March of Dimes" campaign offers Jackson county residents an opportunity to far exceed last year's contribution mark. Mrs. Lewis Ulrich, Medford, this county's women's division chairman, announces. This 12th annual campaign, extended because of inclement weather in various sections of the United States, is giving Oregon women's division chairmen an extra week in which to take last minute donations for the fight against infantile paralysis. "Money raised in this year's 'March of Dimes' drive is a real assurance that Jackson county infantile paralysis victims in 1945 will receive the best treatment that medical science can offer," declared Mrs. Ulrich. The extension brings the closing date on Feb. 15.

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.

Favors Compulsory Service

To the editor: In your last week editorial you don't see why we should have a one-year compulsory service for young men. Please, editor, correct this writing. I do my best in the English language. I'm glad to express myself, but I can't use high words. Anyway, I think I do well for my 17 years being here in the United States.

Not only should each young man, rich or poor, weak or strong, also every young girl, before marriage, should serve one year for their country. Not only for military purposes, but to give them a foundation for life, what they very often don't find at home.

They must learn to obey, discipline, comradeship and respect for others. The men, besides military training, could plant millions of trees in the forest. The girls not only learning cooking and nursery, even baby nursery, would be a great help, so that they can build a happy marriage and home life, and it would do no harm to the young folks to teach them that there is a great leader in heaven, who blessed our country so richly in food and raw material, and we all should give thanks every day that we can sleep in peace, because many of us don't realize in what a wonderful country we are living.

When you go into the big cities, there you see the young people standing on the corners, thinking what to do, smashing windows in empty houses without respect for their teachers. Even their teachers are afraid of them.

Our divorce rate is high; it will be even higher after the war, because our boys will come home with great experience, much older in thinking. Will the girls and wives meet the test of understanding them? That's why all girls should have one year's service, too.

It makes a bad impression when you see soldiers with their hands in their pockets. It is an honor to wear the United States uniforms. Even our representatives in Washington make a bad example. You can see many of them lying back in their chairs with feet on desk. How often do we hear people complaining over high taxes, dictatorship, rationing and red tape. I would like to send all of them for 6 months to Europe. After 4 weeks they would get on their knees, praying to the Lord to

Pilot Really Up a Tree



Falling to clear the tree tops in an attempted jungle landing in Central Burma, this tiny liaison plane wound up locked in the branches of this huge tree. With ropes and ladders, rescuers freed the pilot and three infantrymen passengers who escaped uninjured.

LT. THOS. HENSLER GAINS AIR MEDAL

At a 12th AAF B-25 Base—First Lt. Thomas J. Hensler, 22, of Medford, Ore., has been awarded the air medal "for meritorious achievement while participating in an attack on enemy gun and troop concentrations near Rimini, Italy." It is announced from headquarters of the 12th air force in Italy. Flying as a pilot with his B-25 Mitchell bombardment group in Corsica, Lt. Hensler has flown 33 combat missions against targets in the Mediterranean theater since going overseas in August, 1944.

The Medford pilot's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hensler, reside at 1124 West Main street, Medford, Ore. His wife, Betty, resides at 1380 Umatilla street, Albany, Ore.

Bombing targets in eight countries from the Balkans to central France since it began operations in eastern Tunisia in March, 1943, Lt. Hensler's Mitchell group has been frequently commended by high-ranking staff officers for brilliant close support and pin-point bombing operations. Flying hundreds of successful "bridge-busting" missions in Italy it helped starve the enemy of supplies, enabling ground troops to throw him back from Salerno to the Po valley.

More than 100,000,000 board feet of lumber is grown annually on one large tree farm.

NOTICE TO HARD OF HEARING
Acousticon FREE BETTER HEARING CLINIC
TUESDAY, FEB. 6 from 1 to 3 p. m., Medford Hotel, Medford.
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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 February 5, 1935 (It was Tuesday)

Man accused as ransom collector in Lindbergh kidnaping case seen near Bronx graveyard on payment night, witness testifies.

Roller skating on streets or sidewalks by children banned by police.

President's birthday dance here netted \$342.

Fair, with early fog, High 58, low 42 degrees.

Senate democrats vote to curb president's power over relief spending.

Merchants warned broccoli and cauliflower are now under the NRA. Code, and illegal to have same without stamps.

Jacksonville mining resumed after danger of street cave-ins vanish.

President predicts industrial boom for Northwest.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY February 5, 1925 (It was Thursday)

Floods in Eastern Oregon cause damage. Town of Vale under three feet of water when irrigation dam breaks. Heavy rains cause Willamette to rise.

Thirteen senators pledge support to Gov. Pierce in fish-game commission fight.

Rain. High 58, low 43 degrees.

Many of a religious sect await predicted end of world tomorrow.

Hope of rescuing Floyd Collins, pinioned in Kentucky Cave fade when new cave-ins cut off tunnel.

Work started on new road to Owen-Oregon mill.

Plans completed for Lincoln Day banquet.

Burglars enter home of Charles A. Wing, and steal \$13. One of prowlers left his hat.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY February 5, 1911 (It was Saturday)

San Francisco is awarded Panama exposition in 1915.

Scrap on over Ashland postmaster's race.

New fish bill irks Rogue sportsmen.

Worst storm of year hits east.

HIT ON FLAME THROWERS

Evanville, Ind.—Evanville shipyard workers, faced with the problem of heavy ice on the top decks of the steel LSTs they were building, developed their own ice weapons—in the form of flame throwers. They describe the throwers as "a glorified blow torch," and move happily along with their new weapon, which helps keep their production up to par.

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

LT. STEVENS FLIES TORPEDO PLANE IN ATTACK ON JAPS

United States Third Fleet (Delayed) — Lieutenant (junior grade) Harold H. Stevens, U. S. N. R., of 415 Laurel Street, Medford, Oregon, flew a carrier-based torpedo plane in recent strikes against the Philippines by Admiral William F. Halsey's hard-hitting Third Fleet. Lieutenant (junior grade) Stevens' squadron flew General Motors-built AVENGERS, which can attack with bombs, rockets or .50 calibre machine guns as well as torpedoes.

The squadron attacked enemy ships and swept in over Jap airfields, knocking out parked planes and buildings, and pounded shore installations. Many of the strikes were pressed home at low level despite heavy anti-aircraft fire.

In one attack on Manila Harbor, planes of the Third Fleet sank eight Jap cargo ships. On another occasion, they intercepted a convoy attempting to reinforce the Jap ground forces, and sent six destroyers and four transports to the bottom. This blow also cost the enemy thirteen planes and most of the 8000 troops aboard the transports.

Mighty midget of Army Ordnance artillery is the 81-mm. mortar which, used in an attack against a powerful German 88-mm. gun, knocked out the enemy weapon with only three rounds.

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