

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Published by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
57 1/2 North First St. Phone 3141
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ERNEST H. GILSTRAP, Manager.

Member OREGON NEWS PAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
Ye Smudge Pot
By Arthur Perry

March comes Thurs. In it John Mann, Col. TouVelle of Jville, Lorenzo Dow Fry of Phoenix, and Maj. H. Flewher, the late demon baker, now near Naples, will have birthdays.

The Older-Girl-Next-Door reports J. Tannehill Walker (about 6), can ask more questions, with machine-gun rapidity, than the Quiz Kids can answer.

"German militarists are anxious for the war to end. Every day's delay now inevitably postpones the start of the next one." —(Punch, London). The past record proves it.

Thomas (Hungry) Higgins and Maw Nature are doing a fine job in the city park. Two blades of grass grow where one grew before, and some places where there were none last fall.

The state chairman of the Democratic party complains too many Republicans have political pie and plums in Oregon. They are entitled to them. In four presidential elections, the counts show, they went Democratic for the head of the ticket, and Republican the rest of the way.

The Wrigley company of Chicago announced the past week, it has ceased making chewing gum, even for the armed forces. For a long time, it has been so scarce, pedestrians have been unable to find a discarded wad to step on.

E. Ulrich, the Prospect m-t-w-m, towed Wed. The week Dewey Hill, the ace hired man of the same region was down.

A few of the more ardent Victory gardeners have started making the dirt fly in their backyards.

R. Grey Fowler, the co.agt. who started the commission of a mustache on his upper lip, has removed same.

The balmy days of the past week started the sap racing in trees, and down residential streets.

The B. Tornado, Tigers, Bengals, Pearpickers, or Southern Oregonians eked out a win over K. Falls Fri., but had to work overtime to do it. The victors had a case of the tournament jitters.

The alleged beef shortage is getting worse, with fat steers visible in all the principal directions but up, throughout the nation.

Washington, D. C., reports the public is hazy about peace plans, they being as clear as mud. Millions have never read the Dumbarton Oaks pact, and probably you are one of them.

The legislature still has its nose to the grindstone, and going around like the handle on a brace and bit.

Refurbishing of golf sticks, and re-winding of fishing poles, not to mention waxing of skis, occupy many. The shovel handle needs varnishing, and the hoe lacks balance.

Editorial Correspondence

Los Angeles, Feb. 20.—The most popular hair-do in L. A. and Hollywood is dark molasses brown with a bronzy cast, and many curls and curls. The more same looks like a weather-beaten 17th century wig the better the gals seem to like it.

Our "severest critic" told us not to mention the S.P. or the California climate on this trip,—and we haven't MUCH. However, on the front page of this morning's Times is a picture of the L.A. Hall of Records the tower of which was hit by a lightning bolt yesterday at 5:25 p.m. Your correspondent left the Hall of Records at 5:20, and got slightly wet.

Why the Hall of Records? Because after spending an hour listening to the Follies trial in the Municipal Court building, across the street, we felt in need of a "coke". A fellow scribbler on the "Times" told us the Follies trial would be worth a story, but either our reportorial instinct is far off the beam, or while we were there the witnesses took a day off. At any rate it was pretty dull, confined largely to a group of policemen and policewomen telling the fine points of difference between the can-can, shimmy, rumba, hoochi-koochi and the "bumps".

The Follies gals were there looking very sad and sick, also their "boss", a fat, oleaginous Jew, and his staff of attorneys. When the latter set out to prove this entertainment was solely in the interest of the finer arts and the war effort, there should be good copy in it. But if we have to dodge any more lightning bolts to get there, fear we will have to skip it.

Ran into Jimmy Young, I.N.S. correspondent in Tokio for 16 years who doesn't share Admiral Halsey's contempt for the Jap as not worth two-bits as a fighting man,—just a rat to be holed out and choked with the Admiral's two fists,—or is it one? Jimmy thinks the Admiral a good fighter but talks too much. Jimmy maintains the war against Japan has merely been a curtain-raiser to date compared with what it is to become when we really get on Nippon's "sacred soil,"—Korea, China, Formosa and the Japanese mainland. Two phases of the war are over: jungle and beachhead fighting,—or about over when Iwo Jima is occupied. But in the next phase there won't be any friendly natives or Filipino guerrillas to help us; there will be not only forts but fortified MOUNTAINS to cross and close to 20,000,000 able-bodied Japs will be pressed into this fight, one way or another. "The nearer we get to Tokio the tougher this war is going to get," concludes Jimmy.

Well as time goes on we will see whether the Admiral or the newspaper reporter is right. We hope,—everyone hopes of course,—the former.

Imagine Japan putting on the "Merry Widow" in Tokio to a packed house! Well here at the Biltmore theatre last night the "Mikado" was put on with the S.R.O. sign out, and it was an excellent performance. Of course the "Mikado" is British rather than Japanese, and yet it shows a certain breadth of mind for a mixed audience like that to enthuse about these Gilbert and Sullivan characters from the now detested land of the cherry blossoms.

The "Mikado" always makes us think of George and Ed Andrews, the original "Ko-Ko" and "Pooch-Bah" for many (now) older boys and girls of the U.S. northwest. The chorus in this company looked like a Main Street flop house line-up, but how they could sing! So could all of the stars but Nanki Poo who it seems was understood for the real member of the troupe, laid up with a cold.

Incidentally there are more "colds" to the square inch here in Los Angeles than in Southern Oregon at the present moment and we will wax a box of Christmas Comice against one California grapefruit on the truth of that statement!

Just had a phone call from Maury Spatz who has returned from a few weeks at Palm Springs, he and Mrs. Spatz are at the Chapman-Park up on Wilshire. The weather he declares down there has been perfect and considerable golf was enjoyed,—which only sustains what this department has always contended that in a little over 100 miles between L.A. and Palm Springs there is a complete change of climate. This is the South Temperate zone, THAT is a portion of tropical desert. (Hope to get down there before we return but have to find a place to sleep first.)

We failed to note above that those police matrons,—or police women,—who testified at the Follies trial, were so much more glamorous and attractive in appearance than the chorus girls themselves, we felt really sorry for the latter,—yes more than ever, and we believe they are entitled to considerable sympathy. After all they are merely trying to make a living, have no choice as to what they wear or say,—the "boss" is responsible for the kind of show put on, and he should be the one punished, not they.

K. B. Richardson has sent us a clipping from the Oregon Journal giving David Lawrence's views of the Yalta conference,—a very pessimistic report foreseeing years of bloodshed in Europe as a result of such harsh terms against Nazi Germany.

Mebbe so, mebbe so. No doubt of the severity of the terms but after all what is to be done with a nation like Germany with its criminal record of nearly half a century? Would milder terms make future bloodshed less likely? It is a most complicated and difficult problem, and essentially we believe a problem of penology. Why then not apply modern methods of penology and instead of depriving Germany of ALL HOPE of a future, put her on parole for a generation, and let Germany then DEMONSTRATE by her own actions whether or not she can be trusted to be admitted again to the company of civilized and law-abiding nations? Let her stray a foot from the straight and narrow and BANG,—she could be put in chains overnight!

Such a parole system would have this added virtue. Terms of the settlement could then be altered, as experience proved them to be too severe or not severe enough. Settlements made while the war psychology exists, invariably are extreme,—nothing else can be expected,—they should not be made so hard and fast that they must continue to be imposed when the emotions which induced them have PASSED.—R.W.R.

Editorial Comment

BENJAMIN B. BEEKMAN

The death of Benjamin B. Beekman at 81 removes from among us one of Portland's most notable figures. Tall, very erect he had a distinguished bearing that marked him for the observation of every stranger, and it was a bearing that did not belie his inner attainments. He held the degree of LL.B. from Yale university, was a Phi Beta Kappa, had been a faculty member at the University of Oregon and had practiced law in Portland with such associates as the late Judge Robert G. Morrow, Judge J. F. Watson and Judge E. B. Watson. He had retired from the practice of his profession but retained a valued interest in Masonic lodge work, in Oregon history, in cultural movements, and was a director of the Oregon Historical society. He was the donor to the latter of the Beekman essay fund, made in commemoration of his father.

count and during the civil war carried The Oregonian's telegraphic dispatches from Yreka. For many years he conducted a banking business in Jacksonville in connection with his express company connections, was a regent of the state university and was the republican candidate for governor in 1878, when he was defeated by W. W. Thayer democrat, by only 69 votes. The Beekman bank in Jacksonville was noted in early days for its informality and for the complete and never violated trust the people of that section placed in its proprietor. It is said that prior to the advent of state banking regulations, Jacksonville citizens would bring in their pokes of gold dust or coin, and Mr. Beekman would bat them and put them in his vault. Withdrawals were made by depositors asking for their pokes. The elder Beekman lived to an advanced age with stainless reputation and high popular regard. The last may be said, too, of Benjamin B. Beekman.—The Oregonian.

The Beekman name, moreover, is notable in Oregon annals. Benjamin's father, Cornelius C. Beekman, came to the Pacific coast in 1850 and in 1853 became express messenger between Yreka, Crescent City, Cal., and Jacksonville, Ore. In 1856 he embarked in the pony express business on his own ac-

DR. R. M. HOOD - OPTOMETRIST Sparta Bldg. Medford, Ore. Appointment if Desired

MILITARY DRILL EQUAL PAY BILL FOR WOMEN FAIL

Salem, Ore., Feb. 24.—(U.P.)—The Oregon house of representatives today killed bills which would have guaranteed women equal pay with men for equal work and set up a program of military training for Oregon high schools during the war and six months after.

The bill designed to lift the pay of women to that of men was killed by a vote of 15 to 13 with opponents declaring the measure was a move to drive women out of industry after the war.

The military bill was killed through indefinite postponement after the house education committee reported the bill unfavorably, saying both war and navy secretaries have declared that high school training was unnecessary.

The senate approved and sent to the house a bill to restrict public utility districts from acquiring other existing power districts or equipment without the affected area having a vote.

The senate postponed action on a house bill to create the office of registrar of elections in Multnomah county upon motion of Sen. William Walsh of Coos Bay to place it on the table.

The bill, which was the subject of heated debate in the house, will not come up again until a majority of the senate calls for it and it is doubtful that it will be brought back this session.

Walsh said that he had "grave doubts" about the bill, that it had some "political aspects" and he wanted to check on it further.

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.

Queer Christianity To the editor: May I voice my opinion on "The Reader" who refuses to save tin cans because it results in "making drunks out of our boys and girls." I shan't remind her of the food—tin food—that is sent across—nor of the use those tin cans are put to in a first aid kit. But I would like to remind her that our boys over there go without fresh milk, their coffee is limited, they can't get cakes, and the little—if any beer—they get will never make drunks out of any of them. Does she realize what a "morale builder" some real American beer would be? And if any Christian protests a morale builder, that's queer Christianity.

Forget your prejudice, Reader, and save your tin cans. Enough of your cans will be used in making syrettes to offset the "wicked" morale building can of beer that few of our boys ever see.

A Soldier's Wife, Mrs. S. J. Fagone

Prisoners of war, working on private contract jobs, earned approximately \$4,000,000 for the treasury of the United States during October, 1944.

9 TAXI DRIVERS SOLDIER, LINKED IN VICE CHARGE

Oakland, Cal., Feb. 24.—(U.P.)—Nine Oakland cab drivers and an army private tonight faced charges of exploiting two 16-year-old girls as prostitutes—so the private could make money to finance a 30 day leave from the hospital, it was alleged.

Police today arrested Pfc. Charles Leonard Turner, 26, stationed at DeWitt army hospital, Auburn, Cal., and two cab drivers, John Charles Gage, 34, and John Clifford Bus, 23. A warrant was out for another cab driver and police said at least six more drivers were involved.

The two girls were being held at the Alameda county detention home while officials investigated their stories.

Turner, according to the district attorney's office, induced the girls to become prostitutes and split the income with the drivers. Police said that a naval officer paid \$130 to take one of the girls to San Francisco.

The facts became known, Police said, when Turner and two cab drivers argued about the division of the money and Turner complained to police that the two girls were infected with venereal disease.

PACIFIC COLLEGE GETS CASH GIFT

Forest Grove, Ore., Feb. 24.—(U.P.)—Pacific University has received a gift of \$50,000 from Franklin Warner of Claremont, Calif., it was announced tonight by Dr. W. C. Giersbach, president of the university.

Warner is a retired banker and a member of the board of trustees, the gift was made without limitations. President Giersbach said the money probably would be used for building purposes, to house students and classes.

Dr. Giersbach announced other gifts totaling \$57,000 during 1944.

AUTO DEATH TOLL LOW IN SHERMAN

Salem, Ore., Feb. 24.—(U.P.)—Sherman county was the only county in Oregon not to have a traffic fatality in the last two years, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., reported today.

Seven counties had clear records for 1944, he said. They were Baker, Gilliam, Harney, Morrow, Sherman, Willowa and Wheeler.

Multnomah, Clackamas and Marion counties, most highly populated in Oregon, each had 20 or more traffic deaths.

TASTES GOOD, TOO Fort Warren, Wyo., (U.P.)—The Fort Warren Sentinel has a brand new recipe for an ice cream soda. It's a "MacArthur Soda," made with Manila.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. His tory 'rom the files of the Mail Tribune 10, 20, and 34 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY February 25, 1935 (It was Monday) Legislature passes a law declaring the steelhead a game fish.

Thirteen perish in Middle West blizzard.

No more salaries to be paid legislators, but their toll continues.

Cloudy and warmer. High 51, low 23 degrees. Mercury drops to one degree of coldest day of year.

Coke and John Britte, brothers, now serving life terms in Folsom prison are freed from county jail on condition they depart county. They were sentenced for assault on Jacksonville resident.

Gov. Martin plans to ease relief burden by profits from liquor sales.

DeAutremont suspects held in Mexico.

King George and Premier Lloyd George of England, President Ebert of Germany, and Gloria Swanson, all recovering from recent illness and operations.

Prince of Wales thrills England with his exhibition of American hustle. Thinks nothing of traveling 200 miles a day by auto.

Roseburg high to play Medford here Friday night.

Legislature kills state film censorship bill.

Wallace Woods is granted permit to build lumber yard on South Fir street.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY February 25, 1911 Gov. West vetoes Rogue River fish bill.

Eggs drop to .30 cents per dozen here.

Snow at Prospect three feet deep, with seven feet at Union Creek.

Seat Sale For Red Cross Benefit Opens Ticket sale for the little theater production of "Deadlier Than the Male," to be given in Medford March 9 as a Red Cross benefit, starts tomorrow. Seats will be on sale at Mann's department store and the Chamber of Commerce and may be purchased each afternoon between 12 noon and 5 p. m.

Miss Kay Conroy is chairman

Purse Snatcher Is Snatched From Zoo

Cleveland, (U.P.)—Sammy the Crow, who made quite a record this summer stealing purses and nicknacks from Cleveland Zoo visitors, has been stolen himself.

His owner, Ben Broski, requested that the captor treat the crow kindly and give careful attention to his diet. However, he is not too worried about Sammy's disappearance, as he believes the "crownapper" will tire of his antics soon and be glad to get rid of him.

BRAGGIN' TRIPS HIM Boston, (U.P.)—Unsolicited testimonial received by a Boston firm: "Seven years ago I used your soap. Since then I have used no other."

MACHINIST HELD DEATH OF WOMAN

Portland, Ore., Feb. 24.—(U.P.)—Obera Hampton Justice, 29-year-old Portland machinist, tonight faced charges of first degree murder in connection with the knife slaying of Milton Rose Soan in a shabby four-room apartment this morning.

Deputy Coroner Snook declared Miss Sloan had been "slit ear to ear" in the bloody knife battle.

Near the body of the girl detectives found a crumpled note addressed by Justice to Mrs. Bessie Mae Sloan, the girl's mother.

Police said the note read: "I'm sorry it had to come out this way. Please forgive. I don't like this but it is the only way out. Goodbye, Obie."

Justice was captured by Chester E. Teeter, guard for Bonneville Power administration who lived in the flat below the Sloans.

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TUES. FEB. 27 DANCING STARTS at 8:00 P.M.

Admission \$1.20 Per Person including Tax. Come Early — We will close at Midnight in cooperation with James Byrnes' closing request.