

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Editorial Correspondence

San Francisco, May 8.—Now May 8, 1945 goes down in history with November 11, 1918 marking the end of a terrible war in Europe. But could anything be more different than the two dates, as far as public reaction is concerned?

"The News" explains this strange phenomenon as follows: "The surprising reaction to the long-awaited victory day was, observers believed, a mixture of West Coast belief that Japan is our chief enemy and public apathy to the anti-climatic official announcement, after ten days of false alarms."

Of course all new Presidents,—or practically all,—enjoy a honeymoon. There is a period following accession, during which by common consent, partisanship is forgotten, good-will is maintained.

But we believe there is far more to the increasing respect and esteem in which President Roosevelt's successor is held, than this political tradition. And we believe it is based upon the solid foundation of performance,—almost daily indications that President Truman is a man of good sense, character, ability and understanding.

Well there is no doubt of who is the big attraction at this conference, as far as the press boys are concerned. Molotov is the answer to that one.

The Russian representative had another conference at the St. Francis yesterday, and as usual it was Standing Room Only, with even the narrow gallery of the Crystal Room, jammed.

Again the Russian Commissar talked a good deal and said nothing,—nothing of importance that is. And again the vital questions, those relating to Poland, Japan, Spain,—he evaded or ignored.

It is really too bad! The Russians should hire a top notch American "public relations man." We can imagine nothing that would help them more, and the conference for that matter. (As far as that goes one might even add,—the world!)

For much of the friction here between the Soviet Union delegation and the press could be eliminated if there were a better understanding, and nothing would lead more certainly to a better understanding than a different approach,—a different publicity technique,—on the part of the Russians.

Russia has made tremendous advances in the past couple of decades, and might, in some directions perhaps, be termed ultra-modern; but certainly not in diplomacy,—in its official relations with other nations. In this direction it is the department's conviction, Soviet Russia is far behind the times,—as reactionary as Russia under the Czars perhaps.

LATER: We had to knock off to attend Commander Stassen's press conference up at the Fairmont,—another background conference so the Commander can't be directly quoted.

But we can say that this conference was a PERFECT example of what we are driving at in the paragraph above.

If Molotov had adopted the same line,—or even a similar line,—at his conference yesterday, the impression of the American press would have been entirely different, even though the Russian Foreign Minister had really divulged no more facts than he did. And there would have been a resulting good will and feeling of confidence aroused, instead of the reverse, which unquestionably exists.

Molotov was asked if the surrender of Germany would in any way affect Soviet Russia's policy toward Japan. (Somewhat of a hot potato but a perfectly legitimate question.)

Instead of answering "yes" or "no," Molotov frowned as his interpreter translated the question, then very severely and curtly snapped:

"The Soviet government expressed its view on that question, last April."

"Would the Commissar mind repeating those views, I don't seem to remember them?"

Said Molotov even more sternly: "What do you want me to repeat? I should not want to repeat those things from memory. I will send it to you in writing."

Both what the Soviet envoy said, and the way he said it, was reproving, unpleasant, unfriendly,—

But more than that. Molotov knew, and everyone in the room knew, that what the reporter wanted to know (and what the American people would like to know) was whether or not the defeat of Germany will make it any more likely that Russia will declare war on Japan).

No one could blame Molotov for refusing to answer the question, as Lord Cranborne did at his press conference the other day; or declaring it irrelevant as even Commander Stassen has at times, when a stick of potential dynamite has come his way.

But he CAN be blamed,—and is being blamed,—for not being frank and straightforward, for pretending to answer the question and also reprove the questioner, by maintaining the question had been answered by Russia officially a MONTH ago, when as a matter of fact it had not. And Commissar Molotov and everyone in the room knew it had not.

What Mr. Molotov referred to, of course, was Russia's notice to Japan that her neutrality treaty with that country would not be renewed when it ran out on April 25. But that was according to a definite provision in the treaty that either party could renew, or refuse to renew, on that date. It did not mean Russia intends to declare war on Japan, or even break diplomatic relations, it merely meant—and does mean—that Russia no longer finds it to her interest to pledge herself NOT to declare war for ANOTHER extended period.

The question of the reporter was: "Did the final defeat of Germany change Russia's attitude toward Japan IN ANY WAY?" The head of the Soviet delegation pretended to answer the question but did not. Russia's exact intention was as much an enigma after the answer as before,—whether her policy has changed in the slightest or not, no one knows.

Then there was the question: "What would Russia's attitude be toward the conference extending an invitation to Spain to attend?" (As was extended toward Argentina.)

A silly question, we admit, but why not answer it, instead of saying as Molotov did, and again in a curt, hostile manner:

"The question is so simple it doesn't even call for a reply" and then a few moments later, shutting off any further queries by rising and declaring the meeting adjourned. (Americans and Britishers let the press—the reporters,—adjourn the meetings.)

Bad technique,—very bad! And a method that might well lead to serious difficulties before the conference adjourns,—and needlessly so.

For based upon suspicion it arouses suspicion; based upon lack of confidence, it arouses the same sentiment in others.

And the method is, we repeat, all out of date. In fact it is FUNDAMENTALLY merely the totalitarian method, based upon the assumption that nations, like people, CAN'T BE TRUSTED! They can't be trusted with the plain facts,—can't be given the truth,—it is fatal and naive in any relationships domestic or foreign to be frank, candid, lay all one's cards on the table, where all may view them.

But the latter IS the American and the democratic way,—and Commander Stassen's practice.

Nothing would help this conference more,—or ultimately help Russia more, in our opinion,—than if Comrade Stalin, merely as a matter of enlightened self-interest would see the handwriting on the wall and in his press and public relationships also adopt it!

Major George Fielding Elliott and Walter Lippmann are regular

attendants at these press conferences; the Major has a lot to say, Walter nothing,—at least nothing to date.

Don Sterling, managing editor of the Oregon Journal has arrived to take Marshall Dana's place, the latter having returned to Portland. Phil Parrish of the Oregonian has also departed, we are informed—sorry to have missed Phil.—R.W.R.

News Behind The News By Paul Mallon

San Francisco, May 10.—Mr. Truman started hewing a new path of his own in his first forward action on domestic affairs.



PAUL MALLON

His calling list is large, running about 18 a day, in contrast to the little known office practice of the last year or so of the Roosevelt administration, when there were few callers. Several senators have told me that for a year before Mr. Roosevelt's death it was virtually impossible to see him.

Senatorial callers report Mr. Truman has a slightly different position from Mr. Roosevelt on the "little TVA" watersheds. They reported him favoring the development of the Missouri valley and other projects on a common sense plan, but apparently he is not much for slogans and high pressure political salesmanship.

The depth of real economy involved may therefore have been overestimated, as many of the congressmen up on such details have noted to themselves. But they were content to keep this unexpressed as the effort of the new president toward economy of any kind or scope struck a responsive, popular congressional chord.

Field Marshal von Hindenburg to be inaugurated as president of Germany tomorrow. Expected demonstrations by Berlin radicals fail to materialize.

Supreme Court upholds California anti-Jap law.

New high school site absorbing topic in city.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY May 10, 1911 (It was Wednesday) Heavy rain highly beneficial to valley crops.

City limits are extended to the south, with only one dissenting vote.

County orders seven road graders.

TRUCK STOLEN FROM RANCH AT COLESTEIN

A model A Ford flat-bed truck was stolen yesterday from the ranch of Theodore Averger at Colestein, according to a state police report.

P.-T. A. Activities Last meeting of the year will be held by the Roosevelt Parent-Teacher association Friday, May 11, at the school.

Advertisement From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

The Hoskins are a One-Family USO And do they appreciate it? A touch of home life, hospitality, good food, a pleasant glass of beer or cider—and, afterwards, maybe a sing around the piano, or a chat before the fire.

Saturday night is open house for service men at Dad and Ma Hoskins'. They spread out sliced turkey and chicken, hotbreads and cake, sweet cider and ice-cold beer—and let any service man who wants to, come and help himself.

Some townsfolk thought the fellows might get obstreperous or take advantage of the Hoskins' hospitality. But the men are quick to recognize that here's a real American home, where friendliness and moderation are just naturally observed.

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earliest hour at which congressional committees assemble.

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 May 10, 1935 (It was Friday) Roosevelt given flood of advice on soldier's bonus bill.

Legion Poppy Days designated as May 24-25.

This is National 'Cotton Week.'

Normal student fined for taking flowers from Ashland yard.

President signs order putting government in power business.

Fair, High 66, low 44 degrees.

Oregon Mothers ask abolishment of post of chancellor of higher education.

Mid-West farmers plan march to Washington to boost AAA.

Jury deadlocked in murder trial of David Lanson at San Jose.

HOOD RIVER SUFFERS WORST FIRE IN ITS HISTORY WITH LOSS AT \$200,000.

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Probable rain, High 63, low 40 degrees.

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Jacksonville Court House As Museum For Southern Oregon Has Backing In Grants Pass

(Editorial from Grants Pass Courier)

Southern Oregon's position as a tourist center has long been established. People by the thousands from every state in the Union have flocked to this vacation wonder-land in years past. Many more thousands are expected in the post-war era when new cars are procurable and when gas is plentiful once again.

The Southern Oregon Chapter Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution chapters at Grants Pass, Medford and Ashland, Jacksonville Grange and other Jacksonville organizations, are making a concerted effort to induce the Jackson county court to rehabilitate the courthouse at Jacksonville to be used as a Southern Oregon Historical museum.

The little town of Jacksonville, south of Medford in Jackson county, was the metropolis of Southern Oregon when statehood came and it held its position for many years. Here is the most appropriate setting for a museum for the preservation of Southern Oregon historical relics and a travel point for tourists who seek romantic places of the West in their vacation travels.

It was in December, 1851 or January, 1852 that gold was mined in the town of Jacksonville although sometime earlier gold was discovered on Jackson creek, nearby. In recent years gold has been mined in the back yards.

Jacksonville has had many experiences more or less common to early mining towns—murders, hangings, mob law, gamblers, Indian uprisings, political battles, waves of prosperity and years of sleepy solitude. Early in 1853 justice was on more than one occasion administered by a "judge" selected by the crowd at the scene of a crime.

It is claimed that the first Methodist church west of the Rockies was built at Jacksonville and it is still used for services. Contributions for the erection were made by miners, gamblers and saloon keepers, as well as devout worshippers.

At the close of 1853 Jacksonville was in a prosperous condition, the center of trade and distributing market for a large area. During a winter following a heavy snow, food was scarce and flour sold at \$1 a pound, sugar at unheard of prices and salt was unobtainable at any price.

While Indians were burning the homes of Rogue river settlers and murdering whites a company of 20 resolute Jacksonville men set out to render assistance and joined forces with the regulars.

In 1865 Warren Lodge No. 10, A. F. & A. M. was organized. The United States hotel, a two-

story brick, with a fireplace in every room, was rushed to completion in time to house President Harrison and his party on their western tour. The story is told that when the bill for lodging was presented, the President's secretary remarked that they didn't want to buy the hotel, but just wanted to pay for lodging for some years past the United States hotel has been housing a large number of Southern Oregon relics, but due to the fact that there has not been a permanent caretaker, the rooms have been opened only occasionally and many articles have been withdrawn and lost.

A concerted effort to save for posterity the articles of early pioneer historic value should not be delayed, as they are gradually being dispersed and the burning of every pioneer farm home surely destroys articles of historic value. In private possession should be placed in a safe place, none safer than a regularly endowed public museum.

The courthouse was built in 1833-4 at a cost of approximately \$32,000.

The SAR and DAR chapters are to be commended on their decision to undertake this project and their efforts to carry it through to reality. Every co-operation should be given when and where needed to make the museum one of the largest and best to be found in the West.

Daily Weather Report

Table with columns for location, temperature, precipitation, and other weather data for various cities including Medford, Jacksonville, and Grants Pass.

MARC B. JARMIN, JR. IS WOUNDED IN ITALY

Word was received here from Mr. and Mrs. Marc Jarmin of The Dalles that their son, S-Sgt. Marc B. Jarmin, Jr., was wounded in Italy April 17. The wound, caused by shrapnel, hospitalized S-Sgt. Jarmin for a short period but he has since returned to active duty, a letter to his parents said. They are former Medford residents.

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Ye Smudge Pot By Arthur Perry

With Germany prone, there remains the Jap and inflation to fight. Inflation, like the tariff, is a subject people can discuss at great length, unhampered by the slightest knowledge. Inflation is supposed to increase the money supply. It has been inflicted at various times on several nations, for instance, upon Germany in 1920. It gave the people too much money such as it was. It took a family half a day to pack sufficient money to the grocery store to buy groceries. Then Pap packed the purchased groceries home in his vest pocket.

It is the time of the year again when the horse chestnut trees are in bloom hereabouts, while its country cousin, the dogwood tree, adorns the wooded areas. Both are now snow white, and fancy floral jobs. The red hawthorn bushes are also flowering now. They look like Maw Nature had drenched them in mercurochrome. They are getting scarce, but the humble red cabbage boasts the best and gayest shades of purple and red, besides make the grandest salad.

IT'S GETTING COOLER (Vithven (Ida.) Press) "Although practically unacquainted here, her personality presents a most pleasant atmosphere and we feel that Mrs. ... will count her friends as her acquaintances in a short time."

Americans are daily admonished to "tighten their belts," due to the world food shortage and the need of feeding the hungry of many lands. This they should do within liberal limits. But there is no need of "tightening their belts" until they have to go to Europe to get a square meal.

Mass production of soy bean milk "is now within the reach of mankind," the Henry Ford laboratories of Detroit announce. Mankind, after all it has been through the past five years, is entitled to get its lactical fluid from a Guernsey cow instead of a Japanese vegetable. During the war the soy bean has been a substitute for about everything but a friendly handshake. As a food stretcher, the soy bean has exterminated the hamburger in hamburger and at one time even insidiously sneaked into the coffee pots. If the "tin-lizzie" king seeks revenge because a cow kicked him in his youth, as a reward for soy bean milk, have the cow kick him again.

The President is coming out for "economy in governmental affairs." Eventually common sense will return to the nation's capitol and not be regarded as a malignant plague like beri-beri.

SPOON-FED NEWS (S.F. Chronicle)

In spite of the fact that "V-E-day" is not official, until after the last edition of today's paper goes to press—and not then if Stalin mean-while changes his mind as to just when he will permit King George to address the British Empire, and Churchill and Truman to announce what everybody knows and the newspapers have already printed—there is no question that the story originally sent out by the Associated Press was and is correct."—(Chestor Rowell.)

V. Quisling of Norway, whose treachery enabled the Nazis to conquer Oslo with a brass band, has surrendered. He looked very pale, and was shaking all over," the press report said. His type always does.

The Channel Islands, off the northwest coast of France, are the only portions of the Dukedom of Normandy now belonging to the Crown of England.