

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads the Mail Tribune"

Daily Except Saturday

Published by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. Phone 2141. 27-29 North Fir St.

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An Independent Newspaper.

Entered as second class matter at Medford, Oregon, under Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Mail—In Advance: Daily and Sunday—one year \$7.50. Daily and Sunday—six months \$4.50. Daily and Sunday—three months \$2.50. Daily and Sunday—one month .75.

By Carrier—In Advance: Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Jacksonville, Gold Hill, Phoenix, Talent, and on motor routes: Daily and Sunday—one year \$9.00. Daily and Sunday—one month .75. All terms cash in advance.

Official Paper of the City of Medford. Official Paper of Jackson County.

United Press—Full Leased Wire.

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Advertising Representative WEST-HOLIDAY COMPANY, INC. Offices in New York, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, St. Louis, Atlanta, Vancouver, B. C.

MEMBER OREGON NEWS PAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Discovery of the 'atomic bomb' has caused unfamiliar and horrible appearing and sounding words and phrases to blossom rampant on newspaper pages.

Many reek with villainy. Should any one of them show up on a valley pear, they will get arsenic of lead squirted on them.

The 'atomic bomb' scared the Older Girls, but not enough to cause them to hop on a chair and squeal, as if they saw a mouse.

The Allies have prepared a 'master plan' for the trials of the Nazi badwigs — beg pardon! — bigwigs. They will be transferred to the jail at Nuernberg, where they will lose status as prisoners of war, and become civil criminals.

This legal move prevents the Nazi hoodlums and roughnecks from passing the buck to A. Hitler, for all atrocities and acts of aggression. Furthermore, if acquitted of parking too close to a fire hydrant, or having no visible means of support, they can be transferred to Poland and be tried for mass murder. The law is greased both ways against the defendants.

HOME ON THE RANGE (Canyon City News)

"In fact when the meeting closed conditions did not seem to be changed one iota. We are still sitting on the curb eating crackers, and the fat stock on the hillsides are gaily flicking their tails at their owners as if to say, 'you don't dare kill us or we'll tell the OPA.'"

Japan has made overtures to unconditionally surrender, under the Potsdam plan, but as yet no cease firing orders have been issued. The enemy is anxious to save the face, hide, and Imperial kimono of the Mikado, who believe he is a divinity, and an all-of-a-sudden power for world peace. Everything is settled, but what to do with Hirohito? It was a long and bloody road from Pearl Harbor to the atomic bomb, —only two of them— to convince the war criminals of the Flowery Kingdom, there dream of world domination had faded. The peace terms should be as tough as Nipp generals and admirals thought they were, at the start.

Farmers report four and 20,000 blackbirds, are eating up their roasting ears.

The gasoline situation brightens. Civilian drivers are promised better—but no more gasoline, by a kind-hearted federal agency.

A metropolitan daily editorially inquires, "Will Mankind Vaporize itself?" They will always try to talk themselves, and all others to death, in a political campaign. No way, as yet, has been found to harness the windiness.

LAZINESS OF MAN

"But nothing like that happened, and it would presently appear that this hypothetical shortcut to the solution of mankind's problems is not immediately in our hands. This is uncomfortable, for mankind's problems are so formidable, requiring so much moral courage and plain honesty of purpose and decency of heart to solve, that it would be much simpler to transform them into a gas, and suffer them to float forlornly about in the Great Nebula of Orion, than to buckle down and solve them. No such luck." — (S. F. Chronicle)

The U. S. Department of Agriculture says that camphor basil, a small African herb, can be grown successfully and in commercial quantities in this country.

A Modern Miracle!

Who said the age of miracles had passed? What greater miracle than this,—a warring world transformed to a peaceful world by an ATOM overnight!

Yes, merely an atom, known as 235. That's all. And the world thus transformed from a world of wholesale murder and carnage and destruction to a world of peace and quiet and brotherhood,—well comparatively so! In 80 hours.

And entirely because, that 235 atom, hit with a neutron became atom 236, which being unstable proceeded to explode into two atoms of lighter weight, giving off some 200,000,000 electron volts, reducing all physical matter in a large radius to gas which in turn exploded and reduced, not only organic but inorganic matter to DUST!

Yes, there is the cause of this miracle of peace and nothing else. And it IS a miracle—and what a beneficent one, which in its super blessedness surpasseth all understanding.—R.W.R.

It's All Over But,—

We may be climbing out on a limb, rhetorically and otherwise. For as this is being written the peace report has not been confirmed. Japan, moreover, in her original pronouncement, did name a condition, i.e.: That the surrender must "not prejudice the prerogatives of His Majesty the Japanese Emperor as a sovereign ruler."

HOWEVER, we can't believe the Allies would refuse this request. For the Emperor is, and always has been, merely a symbol. An important one, of course, particularly in a religious sense; but not in secular affairs; nor actually in domestic or foreign politics. The real rulers of Japan have not been in the royal palace but behind it. And they can still be tried and if found guilty of "inhuman crimes" can be punished. But that need not involve the Emperor,—although if "Bull" Halsey is allowed freedom of the city, it might involve his white horse!

BUT, even if the unexpected should happen and the victorious Allies insist upon unconditionally deposing the Emperor, then what?

One more atomic bomb, say on Tokyo itself, and wouldn't the jig be up?

For, as before stated in this department, POWER RULES THE WORLD, and there is a limit to what flesh and blood can stand, be it red, white or yellow. And that 235-bomb exceeds that limit.

THERE is the answer to it all. Japan wants to retain the power and prestige of Hirohito within Japan if that can be done.

But if it can't be done. Don't worry.

The rulers of Japan will give up even their Emperor if that must be done to have no more atomic bombs,—and peace!—R.W.R.

Do We Want Peace?

And speaking of miracles, how about a peaceful world at last?

Here is the opportunity. The sole question is, do the nations,—ALL the nations, of the world care enough for peace to pay the price for it?

That's all. It CAN be done. The invention of this atomic bomb has made it just as simple as that!

YET, this department doubts the people of the world,—or their rulers,—will do it. In the near future, at least.

For, as we have often remarked, in recent months world peace is something EVERYONE is for until they have to sacrifice SOMETHING for it. Then it is different.

Why, only a few weeks ago in San Francisco, one of the great world powers did not care enough for world peace to vote for open discussion in the League Assembly concerning matters that might cause war!

So, what chance is there of this new League of Nations, designed as it is solely to keep world peace, actually being given the exclusive use of this atomic bomb, to be employed only when there is a threat to peace?

Precious little we fear. And yet that would solve the matter absolutely for a hundred years at least,—perhaps forever, as far as any war on a world-wide scale might be concerned.

AND the new invention is perfectly adapted to such an arrangement. For it is very difficult to make, and extremely expensive. Only a few of the larger powers can probably afford to make it. And if used by them in war it is hardly an exaggeration to maintain, the world, as we know it, would be destroyed,—at least with people living and working under the earth's surface instead of on it. And wearing suits made of lead and paraffin!

NO one wants that. No one WANTS war.

Then why not end it once and for all, by simply handing the secret of this bomb and the rights of manufacture over to the United Nations to employ solely to keep world peace?

That would bring world peace. Where is there a nation or group of nations that could, even if they so desired, oppose it?

AND that incidentally, as has been stated in this department innumerable times, is the ONLY WAY world peace can be ever be attained—by creating a FORCE for peace, greater than any existing force for war!—R.W.R.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Aug. 10—Bewildering rumors of Japanese inclinations to quit have brought a somewhat hopeful, if hazy outlook to the inner circle here amid reverberations from the atomic bomb.



The prevailing impression is Japan will get enough within a few weeks (three to six) and anxiety is felt because we have no reconversion program ready. This is the view in the best financial quarters although those in the know have known less and less about more and more matters lately. They anticipated the British election result in complete error, and their record on the Nazi surrender time was little better. No precise report of a worthwhile character is actually yet possible.

With complete assurance it can be reported, however, that published rumors have inspired a preposterous conception of the problem. The stories that Sato, the Jap ambassador, approached Stalin before the Big Three meeting or "made a peace offer" show an absurd misunderstanding of what is plainly afoot on the inside. Sato is a representative of the Japanese government, which is to say the military clique which Mr. Truman says must go before there can be peace. Nothing could come from him to Moscow except a diplomatic Pearl Harbor trick to drive a wedge between Russia and the United States—such as a plan to award Manchukuo to Russia, which Sato mentioned, according to some accounts, but which is known to have been suggested earlier by Japanese government authorities.

SO, also with the radioed "rejection" of the Truman ultimatum by Dornel, the news agency so completely under the control of the Jap government that it is called "semi-official," it presented a rejection by the government, which Truman says must be totally and permanently annihilated as a political force, of its proposed annihilation—that's all. This ludicrous pretense was offered with a straight oriental face.

Behind the diplomatic play is the simple explanation that the Truman administration is reinforcing the atomic bomb by stepping its psychological warfare up intelligently, and the Jap government is having difficulty in offsetting it.

The Tokyo radio, two days earlier (and before the Truman ultimatum was issued) sent us a broadcast saying, "Should America show any sincerity of putting into practice what she preaches, as for instance, in the Atlantic Charter, excepting its punitive clause, the Japanese nation, in fact the Japanese military would... (few words lost in our recording) follow in stopping the conflict." That this was not designed to bring peace, but was simply using the American position for Japanese war propaganda purposes, was made evident when Truman made his sincere recommendations, and the Tokyo radio then "learned authoritatively these would not be considered."

Therefore, I would say most of the peace rumors—in fact all of them I have seen, really have no genuine substance, but are propaganda promotion ventures.

THE whole Jap war propaganda technique in Tokyo carries a heavy scent of Nazi methods, particularly in its strategy of trying to divide Russia from the United States—as if that could possibly permit her to escape her doom. Frankly, my information suggests the Jap government plans further steps toward a treacherous peace—a Pearl Harbor sneak toward peace. Her only chance lies in confusingly breaking down the outside world, and its whole current course, promoting not only discord, but possibly seeking separate peace with China as well as Russia. Her government is capable of any reversal of policy now in its desperation.

The Truman ultimatum was conceived not only to thwart the then current Tokyo propaganda line, but to satisfy strong elements in our own country, critical of the unconditional surrender policy. The ultimatum was in line with the aggressive and imaginative steps taken correspondingly toward a completely new policy preliminary to launching the bombing—beginning with Adm. "Bull" Halsey's calculated impudence, shelling Jap cities the broadcast to Japan by Capt. Zacharias, in the name of the president, offering the alternatives of surrender or complete destruction, and the public announcement by the air force of the next ten cities to hit.

NOT until defeated by military action do war govern-

ments ordinarily lose out. The military here believes none of this stuff. In the midst of all the peace ultimatums and rejections, it announced the transfer of our armies from Europe to the orient would be completed "next spring."

Rev. David Martin, Japanese Prisoner, Will Speak Sunday

Rev. David Martin, who spent seven months evading Japanese capture on Luzon and was later imprisoned in Santo Thomas and Los Banos prisons, will speak at the Sunday morning service in the First Presbyterian church, it was announced today by the Rev. Harry W. Hansen, pastor. Rev. Martin lived as a boy in Ashland and on his father's farm near Rogue River, and was a missionary to Japan for 19 years prior to Pearl Harbor. In 1940, when war appeared inevitable, Martin sent his family to the United States, but he remained in the Philippine islands at the invitation of the government.

At the outbreak of war, Rev. Martin and several companions took refuge in the hills, and for seven months evaded capture. Finally betrayed by two native Filipinos, they were taken prisoners, and like many, suffered undernourishment.

Rev. Martin was returned to this country in April after his liberation by MacArthur's forces, and at present is a guest of Dr. and Mrs. B. R. Elliott on route 2. Mrs. Elliott is a sister of Rev. Martin.

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 August 10, 1935 (It was Saturday)

Hollywood man offers to be refrigerated alive in cake of ice, to aid science and get funds to get married.

Pacific Air mail service to be established.

Income tax boost for small taxpayers loom.

Fair and warm. High 86, Low 59 degrees.

Former President Hoover is 62 years old today.

Hog price jumps to \$2 per cwt.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO August 10, 1911 (It was Thursday)

President Coolidge approves 20 million dollar cut in budget for nation next year.

Salem undergoes hot spell, and it has not rained for 60 days in the Willamette valley.

Fifteen rattlesnakes killed on Sardinia Creek.

Jacksonville water system repaired.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO August 10, 1911 (It was Thursday)

Strike of Espee shopmen looms.

President Taft to visit coast in fall.

Fifty residents of Los Angeles to visit Crater Lake.

Epidemic of yellowjackets reported in county.

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.

Will We Destroy Ourselves?

To the Editor: It is recorded in my scrapbook that Thomas Cochran, tenth Earl of Dundonald, a British admiral, and an inventor of great ability, who, in 1811 devised a method of warfare "so effective that its use would destroy millions of people in a short time."

During British war with Napoleon, Dundonald proclaimed: "We have an infallible means of securing at one blow our military supremacy; of terminating a war by one victory." His invention was labeled, "Dundonald's Death!"

The committee to which it was referred reported it as "effective but inhuman," and refused to use it.

While the Crimean war was on Dundonald revived his "secret war plan" for the total destruction of the enemy's fleet and offered to conduct in person an attack upon Sevastopol and destroy it without loss to the attacking force.

"The offer was rejected because inhuman."

Now that the United States is

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using that terrifying agent, the atomic bomb on Jap enemy cities, and is succeeding in destroying all animal and vegetable life within its scope, even turning iron, steel, in fact all metals, into vapor or gas, the question arises are we as a people more inhuman than the people in the time of Napoleon?

Is man demonstrating the fact that he is unfit to live; will he fulfil the law of evolution and finally eliminate himself as the unfit to exist and blast himself from the planet by scientific destruction?

Can cooperative communism and competitive capitalism exist side by side in harmony and peace; can kingdoms and democracies line up as one for the preservation of human life and freedom; can the poverty of the masses ever hope to cope suc-

cessfully against the power of wealth or on the other hand cooperate with it peacefully and successfully? At the end of war with Japan and return of soldiers to civil life, what will the final harvest be? I wonder.

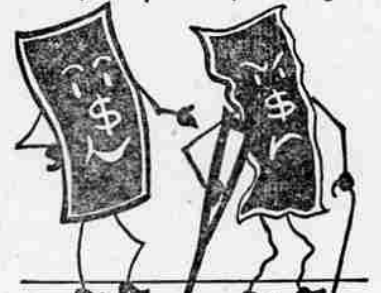
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