

Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS Editor MALCOLM EPLEY Managing Editor

Today's Roundup

By MALCOLM EPLEY
INDemnIFICATION of relatives of victims of the Bly Jap balloon tragedy of May 5, 1945, as proposed in a bill now in congress, is fully justified by what we know about the incident.

Prior to the blast that killed five children and a woman, the war department maintained an airtight censorship on the Jap balloon.

Although the balloons were flying over the Northwest, and many had landed, the newspapers were not permitted to print even the fact that the Japanese were trying to land the fantastic devices on the western coast of America.

The public was kept in the dark on the whole thing, except for word-of-mouth rumor. Our own opinion was that the fact that the Japanese were attempting to balloon-bomb the U. S., with no specific reports of balloons being seen anywhere, would have served to inform and warn the U. S. public, at the same time withholding any valuable information from the Japs.

But the government censors wouldn't see it that way until after the Bly tragedy.

On June 1, 1945, after the whole story was disclosed to the public, I said in this column:

"The censorship was so successful that it can be marked down today as responsible for the deaths of five children and a minister's wife in the woods near Bly. All indications are that none of them knew about Jap balloons and their danger when they discovered the instruments lying in the woods near the Dairy creek road."

Subsequent to the blast, I went to Bly and talked to relatives of the victims. What I learned in those interviews was convincing evidence that the tragedy would never have occurred if the public had been telling the Japs anything they didn't already know.

As a matter of fact, it was the Bly incident that broke the story. After about three weeks, the war department decided to lift censorship enough to let people know that the Bly people had been killed by a balloon bomb. (Previously, it had been reported as a blast of undetermined origin, which most people around here thought was a navy bomb dropped by a plane.)

Again quoting this column on June 1, 1945: "Had the warning come sooner, with hard-hitting but less tragic emphasis, the incident itself might have been averted."

In congress yesterday, the house passed a bill to pay damages of \$20,000 to relatives of the victims. The measure now goes to the senate. It should be passed.

Briefs From The Pocket File

WITHOUT any favorite son or other complications, Dewey and Stassen will fight it out on the open ground for Oregon's republican presidential preference. . . . The way people signed up for voting, apparently a lot of new or usually indifferent Oregonians are anxious to have a part in that decision.

Six girls were kept busy at the county clerk's office Tuesday night taking late registrations. . . . Funny how people will wait until the last minute to take care of things like that. . . . But considering when my income tax returns go in, I haven't a thing to say!

This department agrees with M. H. of Henley that painting foreign letters on school buildings is mighty poor exemplification of school spirit. . . . Or, it might be said, exemplification of mighty poor school spirit. . . . I appreciate M. H.'s letter, which I have before me, but without the name it can't be run. . . . The thought is good and is indicated and supported above.

Wednesday's high wind was not on anybody's weather forecast schedule around here, official or otherwise. . . . Angus cattle are fine looking critters, but they aren't photogenic. . . . Just a blob of black ink on the page, someone around here remarked after pictures were printed from this week's successful Pacific Coast Angus show here.

STATIC

By JOY BIGGS

Tom (Breakfast in Hollywood) Breneman is sending an orchid to Klamath Falls for the Women of the Moose party Saturday night.

The party will follow the theme of the breakfast broadcast even to crazy hats, and the orchids will probably get kissed too. The affair is for Meese or Moones only.

A special Klamath Community concert broadcast will be featured by KFLW Thursday, 9:30 to 10 p. m.

Pay-Less Drug's Man-on-the-Street show will be broadcast from the fairgrounds Thursday, Friday and Saturday—that's where the big county 4-H club spring fair is taking place. Don Neal is the MOT.

Donius Nealus (working toward the honorary title of Outstanding

These Days

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY
GOEBBELS wrote in his diary: ". . . This war was started because of a midget state; but now, when it has reached the decisive culminating point, such states allegedly have no right to exist any more. All fundamental conceptions of how nations are to live together seem upside down in this wild spiritual and political confusion. Therein lies our great chance."

The midget nation to which the Nazi chieftain referred was Poland, a country of 150,470 square miles, with 34,770,000 human beings. Suppose it were smaller; suppose the population were smaller—do those people not have an inalienable right to a government of their own choosing? The United States failed to answer that question affirmatively at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam. And so Poland has gone out of existence, having become a mere province of Soviet Russia.

The principal loser of that error of judgment is not Poland, it is the United States. When the president of the United States is worried by the prospect of war, he faces the specter of unforgivable errors made by his predecessor, his advisers and associates who were guided neither by moral principles nor by international law but by the whims and practicalities that came to them. Therefore, we lost a war and may be forced by circumstances to do it over again.

U. S. Was Eager

HENRY L. STIMSON, in his memoirs, published in the "Ladies Home Journal," says of this: ". . . Much of the policy of the United States toward Russia, from Teheran to Potsdam, was dominated by the eagerness of the Americans to secure a firm Russian commitment to enter the Pacific war. And at Potsdam there were Americans who thought still in terms of securing Russia's help in the Pacific war. Stimson. . . was disturbed to find that a part of the Russian price was a Soviet lease of Port Arthur and Soviet participation with the Chinese in the control of the Manchurian railways. This agreement was accompanied by a Russian promise to leave the Chinese in full control of Manchuria, but in the light of the Polish situation Russian promises of this character no longer seemed reliable. . . ."

In a word, those in charge of our war in the Far East were not capable of appraising our capacity to fight or win. They permitted this country to be blackmailed by an enemy, disguised as an ally, who made such demands as we had rejected from the day of the John Hay open door policy in 1899 to the Hull ultimatum of November 26, 1941. We went to war with Japan over Manchuria, but at Yalta, Roosevelt agreed to authorize Russia to exercise the very rights in Manchuria which had brought on Pearl Harbor.

Therefore, we lost the Far Eastern war, for whereas we pushed the Japanese out of Manchuria, we pushed the Russians into it. They were engaged in the Far Eastern war for six days; yet out of it they received Manchuria, half of Korea, membership in the council which pretends to control General MacArthur, and the stores of the Kwantung army, the best equipped of the Japanese military forces, which they have presented to the Chinese communists for the purpose of conquering the whole China.

Cost Of Errors

BECAUSE of these errors, we may have to do the Far Eastern war over again at huge cost of life and wealth. The responsibility for these errors cannot be shirked either by those who made them or their apologists. For should this American civilization fail, it will be because its representatives at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam were without either moral responsibility or respect for this country's international obligations.

So we are in peril of war and we need to know the truth. Yet Professor Frederick Schuman of Williams college, writing in "Soviet Russia Today," makes the point, with regard to the publication by the state department of the documents relating to the Stalin-Hitler alliance:

"What is entirely without precedent, so far as I can discover, is the publication of documents from the archives of a vanquished enemy for the purpose of defaming a recent ally. . . ."

In a word, the American people may only pay taxes for war; they may only die for their country — but under no circumstances are they to know the truth.

Navy Opens Oil Fields In Arctic

OLYMPIA, April 21 (AP)—One out of every seven oil wells drilled by the navy in the Arctic is bringing in a "zusher," the Washington state adjutant general said last night.

Brig. Gen. Ensley Llewellyn said the development area covers 32,000 square miles within the Arctic Circle, stretching out from Point Barrow, Alaska.

He returned from the Arctic late last year.

Stolen Car Found On Weed Highway

An automobile reported stolen Monday night from a parking lot in the rear of the Acufel Cycle shop, was found abandoned late Tuesday on the Weed highway near the Oregon-California state line.

Police said the car was not damaged. It was a 1935 Ford sedan.

THE SLEEPER

Damn the man who likes to sleep Upon the couch all day He'll pick up a western magazine Then look for a place to lay.

In just a couple of minutes You hear an awful roar A combination of gasps and groans Then a book falls to the floor.

Your eyes stray to the davenport Sure enough he's there With his mouth a gappin' open And his snoring fills the air.

It's then you start to wonder Whatever did you see In that horrible monster lying there For all the world to see.

Oh, if only he could guess The thoughts that's in your head Such as he'd look a lot more peaceful If he were lying dead.

Then all at once you hear a sound It's something like a scream With a jerk, a laugh and a little snort That thing is having a dream.

Well, by and by he opens his eyes He stretches and rubs his nose And starts thinking of his stomach So to the kitchen he goes.

Ye gods, I hear him coming His face I'll hate to see When he looks upon that davenport And finds the likes of me.

Corinne Fields, 201 Sheldon St.

SIDE GLANCES



"Sure, I used to wrestle and fight when I was a boy, but clothes were cheaper!"

Candidates Column

Campaign Statements From Candidates At The May 21 Primary Election

By GEORGE UERLINGS Republican Candidate For Sheriff

I realize that I am asking for one of the most important positions in the county, also, that I have had no experience in the sheriff's office, but, before announcing for the position, I was properly advised by an experienced officer as to the duties of a sheriff.

While the sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer of the county, his office is unable to take care of all law enforcement work, therefore, he must cooperate with all other law enforcement agencies, which I will endeavor to do. He is directly responsible for all county jails and for the care and keep of the prisoners incarcerated therein, which I will personally supervise.

He also is responsible for the collection and distribution of all taxes and state automobile license money in the amount of approximately two and three-quarters million dollars, and I further know that a surety bond is required to be posted by the sheriff as sheriff and tax collector, and this bond has been assured me. I will employ competent help and experienced help, where experience is important for certain responsible positions.

Telling The Editor

Letters printed here must not be longer than 400 words, must be written legibly on ONE SIDE of the paper, and must be signed by the correct NAME AND ADDRESS of the contributor. Contributions following these rules are warmly welcomed.

Youths Face Theft Charge

State police had another session with a juvenile group involved in larceny of tools, batteries and tires, and four will have petitions filed in juvenile court while their 18-year-old companion, Calvin Noble of Henley, faces a charge of petty larceny. He is at liberty under \$200 bail.

All involved are Henley district teen-agers, officers said.

The youngsters were picked up late Tuesday afternoon. Officers said the best recovery was estimated around \$75 and activities of the group was the combination of "devilment and usage." One of the batteries, taken from a state grader working on the Lower Klamath lake road, was found in a tractor. Batteries and tires reported stolen from the Henley garage in February, were also recovered.

New Look Starter Now Baffled

NEW YORK, April 21 (AP)—The man who created the "new look" for women says other dress designers are carrying the thing "too far." Christian Dior, the Paris designer credited with starting the "new look" fashion, said on his arrival from France yesterday he was not in favor of dresses that hang to the ground "for general wear."

A reporter asked Dior if short skirts would make a comeback. He threw up his hands and said: "I hope not, ever!"

The World Today

By DEWITT MACKENZIE AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

Anti-communist forces appear to have won a smashing victory for freedom in the Italian national elections—a victory likely to have a far-reaching influence on the cold-war between Russia and the democracies.

Premier Alcide de Gasperi's Christian Democrats and other right-wing parties have secured a narrow lead so that Vice Premier Saragat has announced "the communists will not be admitted into Italy's new government." If that proves to be true it will represent a serious setback for the numerically greatest communist party outside Russia, Saragat, head of the anti-anti-socialists, interpreted the upset thus:

"The Italian election means a re-birth of democracy in Europe. The victory of democratic forces is a great setback to Russia and communist plans for expansion. Italy is now a part of Western Europe and not of the Balkans."

Caution Needed That's what we like to read, but let's temper our exultation with a bit of caution. Even if final returns bear out the present estimate, we mustn't overlook this:

Until Italy's first full-fledged postwar parliament meets next month and elects a new president there will be danger of a bolshevist revolt. Communist Leader Togliatti has promised that the reds won't use force—but observers aren't making any bets on such assurance. Saragat himself warns that "the election doesn't mean the final defeat of communism in Italy," adds:

"This is more difficult because the communists cannot be fought by police measures, but only through social measures. The communist party will remain strong here as it is today in France."

However, if present returns bear out their promise, bolshevism has been soundly thrashed in the first big showdown outside Russia's Eastern European zone where the reds have imposed their will of force. Communism has been thrust down unwilling throats in the Soviet domain, but Italy has had the strength to resist it despite the chaotic condition in which the war left her. As Premier De Gasperi said, the country just wouldn't be bolshevized."

Courage Shown That's mighty encouraging for the rest of Western Europe—and for the countries of the western hemisphere where the reds are borming in through their fifth columnists. Italy has given a fine exhibition of courage.

Italy is now nearer real freedom than she has been since Mussolini took over and inaugurated police rule in 1922. If she now can consolidate her victory over bolshevism, she will become a vital base for the forces of democracy. She guards the southern flank of Western Europe.

This encourages the belief that communism may be held along its present line through Central Europe.

Fire Damages Ranch Home

The ranch home of Mrs. Fannie Cheyne, 10 miles southeast of Klamath Falls on the Merrill highway was damaged by fire early Tuesday night. An oil furnace caused a fire fire, according to the county fire department which, with the Merrill fire department, responded to the call at 8:30 p. m.

The loss was not great, but the main structure was saved. Loss was covered by insurance.

Lakeview Girl Wins Honors

CORVALLIS, April 21 (AP)—A Heppner girl, Marjorie Helen Sims, today received one of the high awards granted annually at Oregon State college.

Miss Sims, a senior, received the \$50 Clara H. Waldo prize for the student outstanding in scholarship, activities and leadership. Helen Lucille Briscoe, Lakeview, received the \$10 freshman award.

Honorable mention went to two Eugene students—Alice May Kingman, sophomore, and Robert J. Irish, freshman.

The Gallup Poll

France Shows Strongest Red Feeling

The figures considerably in either direction. The highest proportion of communist adherents is indicated in France, the lowest in Norway. The following table gives the date of the survey and the percentage of voters choosing the communists.

Table with 2 columns: Country (Year) and Percentage. Includes France (Feb. 1948) 24%, Finland (Feb. 1948) 20.9%, Sweden (Jan. 1948) 12.7%, Netherlands (Nov. 1947) 11.8%, Norway (Jan. 1948) 8.8%

Postwar elections have been held in each of these five nations and here are the percentages polled by communists:

Table with 2 columns: Country (Year) and Percentage. Includes France (Nov. 1946) 31.9%, Finland (Dec. 1947) 20.3%, Sweden (1947) 11.2%, Netherlands (July, 1946) 10.6%, Norway (1945) 11.9%

Further light is shed on the views of the Dutch toward communism by an up-to-date poll conducted by the Nederlands Instituut voor de Publieke Opinie (Gallup Poll) on attitudes toward the communist coup in Czechoslovakia.

Only seven out of 100 typical voters in Holland had not heard of the overthrow of the government. The overwhelming majority of those familiar with the event took a very serious view of what it meant for their own country.

Their views were expressed several ways: the coup was a terrible event like Hitler's domination of the country; democratic freedoms have been taken away; or the communist seizure of power served as a warning to other countries liberated by the allies.

Only four per cent of the voters sided with the communists who seized power in Czechoslovakia because "the workers should take power" or because it was a step against "U. S. imperialism." Three per cent, while not siding with one side or the other, said the fall of the Czech government was the fault of America and the western powers.

Louisiana Voters Put Long In

NEW ORLEANS, April 21 (AP)—Louisiana voters went through the formality yesterday of electing Earl K. Long as their governor in a statewide general election.

There was no opposition for the younger brother of the late Senator Huey P. Long, and the vote was light. The fight for the governorship was staged in the democratic primaries in January and February.

In the primaries, Long defeated former Gov. Sam Jones, who campaigned on a "reform government" platform.

About 70,000 women are employed in the British civil service, largely in the post office department.

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- * Basin News
* Weather Report
* Temperature Summary
* Oregon News
* A.P. World News

KFLW - ABC

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RADIO PROGRAMS

Table with columns for Day/Time and Program Name. Includes Wednesday Eve, April 21 (KFLW-1450 kc) and Thursday P. M., April 22 (KFLW-1450 kc).

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