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HARRIS ELLSWORTH, Editor

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Conscience and Country

ONCE again the problem of the conscientious objector dramatically forces itself upon America at war. Lew Ayres, popular and accomplished actor, goes to an Oregon camp to cut timber and clear underbrush rather than man a gun in the hour of his country's greatest peril.

Ayres' profession of faith reads as the word of a sincere man who has long pondered what he well realizes may ruin his career. We have no reason to doubt his sincerity, Americans, however, may well doubt his reasoning.

"In my opinion we will never stop wars until we individually cease fighting them and that is what I intend to do," Ayres explained. The first part of that statement may be true, but how apply it to the Japanese alman who bombed Pearl harbor? How apply it to the German panzer troops who overran Poland and made people of that nation a "subject" race?

Would Ayres have retired to his California mountain-top home, lifted not a finger come invasion and cheerfully been assimilated into Nippon's co-prosperity sphere or Hitler's New Order? These ideologies certainly must be as repulsive to Ayres as is war itself.

Some may come to the defense of the actor with Samuel Johnson's "patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel," or George Bernard Shaw's "you'll never have a quiet world until you knock patriotism out of the human race." But in rebuttal, Cato held that "love of country is more potent than reason itself," while Thomas Jefferson said "my affections first are for my own country, and then, generally, for all mankind." Lord Byron felt that "he who loves not his country can love nothing."

Fortunately, few must choose between the dictates of their consciences and love of their native land. Usually the two are entirely compatible. Lew Ayres found it otherwise, and in one respect it must be admitted his decision may have taken as much courage as a soldier needs in the face of enemy fire. But such courage as Ayres' does not win wars and that happens to be the big job.

The answer to conscientious objectors and those who are too lazy or too indifferent to do their part lies in the type of enemy we face. This is no War of the Spanish Succession where armies battled under codes of honor, and the loser knew nothing would be lost but a few acres of territory. Our enemies in this war not only want our resources; they hate and would destroy our way of life.

If that way of life is not worth fighting for, it must certainly be not worth the energy we expend in peace time to keep it functioning. It isn't worth having at all, if it means so little we would see it crushed rather than sacrifice to save it. Most of us say: "It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees."

High Cost of Fires

THE National Board of Fire Underwriters' reports fire losses in the United States during January and February totaled \$86,384,000, or 26 per cent more than in 1941 for the same period. If that doesn't make you burn, maybe this will: the waste of that smoke and flame represents enough cash to outfit almost 300,000 soldiers, or build 1500 fighter planes, and what we couldn't

do with 1500 fighter planes in the Philippines or Australia now! Some of the increase in fires can be attributed to increased production. The more men working, the greater the chance for fire, but all of us must be more careful about tossing matches and cigarettes aside. Let's have lots of smoke and fire, but not at our own stockpiles.

Editorials on News

(Continued from page 1.)

powerful Hindu and Moslem parties rejected today Britain's offer of dominion status on grounds that in practice it would fall short of true independence.

So that's that. What it probably means is that India's factions are more willing to trust the British than EACH OTHER.

MAULANA Abul Kalam Azad, president of the All-India Congress party, says in a letter to Sir Stafford Cripps:

"The largest possible measure of unity in the present crisis for India's defense might be achieved by POSTPONING the troubled issue."

That is the hopeful view. The pessimistic view is that valuable time that might have been used in getting ready to fight has been wasted in talking.

THE spotlight turns today on the General Marshall-Harry Hopkins mission to London.

"Reliable sources" in London say: "Marshall and Hopkins, convinced that Russia is the decisive battlefield, are discussing with the British the most effective way to aid the red armies against the axis."

The New York Times says: "The principal purpose of the Marshall-Hopkins mission is to determine whether the British government is justified in the stand it has taken AGAINST INVASION (of the continent) this summer."

MAXIM LITVINOFF, Russian ambassador to the U. S., says in a speech to the American Academy of Political Science:

"The United Nations can crush Hitler and win the war only on the battlefields of Russia—not by blockade or bombardment of German towns."

He adds SIGNIFICANTLY: "Victory may be long in coming if ONE STATE has to exhaust its major forces in today's military operations while ANOTHER STATE harbors them for possible operations at some indefinite time in the future."

The heat is being turned on the British.

OLD Fabius, in the Punic wars between Rome and Carthage, wore down Hannibal by constant strategic retreats and hit-and-run attacks, but it was 30-year-old Scipio who WON THE WAR by crossing the Mediterranean and attacking Carthage itself.

Litvinoff (speaking, of course, for Stalin) is suggesting that it is time for Britain to find a Scipio.

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(REMAINING HOURS TODAY)

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1942

4:00—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
4:15—Herbie Holmes' Orch.
4:25—Around the Ring
4:30—Lest We Forget
4:45—Music Depreciation
5:00—America Calling
5:05—Musical Interlude
5:15—Orphan Annie, Quaker Oats
5:30—Capt. Midnight, Ovaltine
5:45—Jack Armstrong, Wheaties
6:00—Dinner Concert
6:30—Spotlight Bands, Coca Cola
6:45—Interlude
6:50—News, Cal. Pac. Utilities
6:55—Interlude
7:00—News and Views, Studio-baker
7:15—Neil Jordan
7:45—Reverend Hall
8:00—What's My Name, Stand-and-Brands
8:30—Hold That Feet
9:00—Alka Seltzer News
9:15—Hi Neighbor, McKean and Carstens
9:30—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
9:45—Shep Fields' Orchestra
10:00—Sign off

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1942

6:15—Eye Opener
7:00—News, L. A. Soap Co.
7:15—Stall and Nonsense
7:30—News Bulletin
7:35—News, Boring Optical
7:40—J. M. Judd Says "Good Morning"
7:45—Rhapsody in Wax
8:00—Breakfast Club
8:30—Bargain Fest

OUT OUR WAY



WHY MOTHERS GET GRAY

By J. R. WILLIAMS

Oregon Chambers Of Commerce Top West, Visitor Says

Oregon chambers of commerce have led all states of the western area in organizing for civilian defense, W. E. Hammond, San Francisco, manager of the western division of the United States chamber of commerce said here Monday.

Mr. Hammond visited in Roseburg briefly on a tour throughout the area. He met here with officers of the Roseburg chamber during his short stay.

The entrance of the United States into the war has materially affected chamber of commerce activities and has brought the organization into a direct part in the defense of the nation, Mr. Hammond said.

"Government agencies are learning more and more on chambers of commerce as clearing houses for defense activities," Hammond asserted. "It is only natural that they should do so because we have a nationwide organization fully qualified to function in such emergencies."

Oregon Set-Up Praised
"Here in Oregon I find that you have an excellent set-up. Your business men's organizations have responded thoroughly and efficiently. This work is rapidly advancing in other states, but so far is spotted. The chambers of commerce in all states of the western division, however, are cooperating."

"The day after the attack on Pearl harbor, the national defense council of the United States chamber of commerce met and on Tuesday and Wednesday mailed out to every chamber of commerce a plan whereby business organizations could be readjusted and made a part of the defense effort. The chamber of commerce, both locally and national-

ly, has demonstrated its effectiveness."

The gearing of chambers of commerce to war activities has curtailed numerous other types of program, Hammond said, but he urged that efforts be made to maintain effectiveness of informational department, trade and industrial promotion and other local development work.

Social Security Agent Dates Roseburg Visit

Carl D. Monroe, manager of the Eugene, Ore., field office of the social security board will be at the United States employment service, Roseburg, at 8:30 a. m., Thursday, April 16.

Visit at Kurtz Home—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kurtz, of Salem, and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Kurtz, of Portland, have returned to their homes, following a trip to Dixonville Sunday to visit their father, J. B. Kurtz, who celebrated his eightieth birthday anniversary that day.

War-time Senate Duty to Keep McNary at Capital

SALEM, April 14.—(AP)—Senator Charles L. McNary advised friends yesterday that he would be unable to return to Salem this summer because war conditions would compel him to remain in Washington.

McNary, candidate for reelection, will have opposition both in the May primary and the November general election.

Leave For Funeral—Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Duncan, of this city, have left for Bremerton, Wash., to attend the funeral today of their son-in-law's mother.

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