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THE NATIONAL GUARD

Charles V. Stanton

We are hearing these days a great deal of talk about national defense. The average citizen is bewildered by the sensational charges that we are neglecting airpower, that we are lagging in intercontinental guided missiles, that we are spending too much money for airplanes and not enough for foot soldiers, that we need a bigger navy, that we are falling behind in the race for atomic weapons, and on and on.

All a politician need do, when desiring some scare headlines, is to "view with alarm" the state of the national defense. It makes little difference whether he knows what he is talking about. And, in fact, it seems that even the experts can't find a point of agreement.

As usually happens about the time Congress is getting squared away to prepare a national budget, our magazines, radio, television and newspapers blare opinions of retired generals and admirals, all contending that we are spending too little to uphold our defense arms, while pleading specifically for more recognition of the particular branch of our military forces in which the writer saw service. Seldom do we find two writers or speakers in agreement, except on the one subject of more money for defense.

Under these circumstances the average citizen, who must dig up the taxes for the defense budget, is afraid to open his mouth, fearing that any opposition to military spending might invite disaster.

Because of the secrecy with which the defense budget must be treated, taxpayers have little opportunity to know whether or not their money is being wasted.

One Service Deserving

Listening to all the "expert" opinions, and political headline seeking, the civilian is lost in a maze of words and opinions. He can only hope that Congress makes a good guess. He pays his taxes with only such griping as comes naturally.

There is one branch of the military service, however, on which the taxpayer knows his money is well spent. That service is the National Guard.

The National Guard is our oldest military organization. It traces its history back to the colonial militia. It existed before the Revolutionary War and before we became a nation. From the Revolution on, it has participated in every war in which this country has engaged.

As a nation we have frowned upon a professional military force, except such force as might be required for peacetime pursuits. We have placed our reliance upon a civilian army.

Prior to the creation of our nation, the countries of Europe had big armies. To augment their own forces they employed mercenaries—hired soldiers. These professional soldiers ignored civilian rights. They appropriated private homes to serve as barracks. They seized food supplies without compensation to owners. They abused civilians. The Declaration of Independence cites the crimes of British troops as one of the many grievances leading to that fateful decision. Protection against similar conditions in the future was established by the third article of the Bill of Rights in our Constitution.

Recruitment Drive Set

Our long tradition of volunteer military services is one thing that has contributed to our military strength. Men who serve their country voluntarily, who seek to end the conflict as quickly as possible, that they may return to their civilian pursuits, have demonstrated their effectiveness in all the conflicts of our history.

These troublesome times have forced us to adopt, against our desires, a policy of a large standing Army, a well-manned Navy and Air Force. Compulsory military training currently is essential to our national defense.

But the National Guard still remains as an organization in which we place reliance in time of emergency, as well as depending upon its service in time of disaster.

The National Guard now is engaged in a nationwide recruitment program. It is endeavoring to build its ranks to full strength. Appropriately, the drive reaches its peak on Washington's birthday. Co. D, 186th Inf. will celebrate the recruiting effort Feb. 19 with an Open House at the Roseburg Armory. It is to be hoped that patriotic young men will respond to the appeal, and that our National Guard, organized and maintained in the true American tradition, continues as the powerful foundation of our military structure.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—The war between the sexes reaches a kind of climax on Valentine's Day.

This is the one day of the year that separates the men from the boys when it comes to the matter of dealing with the feminine gender.

Women, generally the stern realist of the human race, seem to come apart at the seams at this season. They appear lost in a cloud of moonbeams. Their usual whims of iron become whims of molasses. They are alternately demanding and placating, wistful and petulant.

What gets into women around Valentine's day? The ordinary man grumbles. "What do they want?"

The part of the problem is simple. A child may believe in Santa Claus all year round, but it is the present, it finds under the tree at Christmas that confirms its belief.

Women are like that about love. Through most of the year a man can talk them into believing he loves them dearly, but at Valentine's they want something more in the way of proof than conversation.

The age or size of the present you give them isn't so important. Often a small sprig of old dill moments will please them as much as a big heavy new mink coat. The main thing is that you remember them in a special way.

Bachelor In Danger
The bachelor, of course, is in a special peril at this time. He may find that the box of candy he buys a girl at Valentine will wind up by June into a honeymoon he has to pay for on the installment plan.

How can the cadgy bachelor please his girl at Valentine and still not commit himself unalterably?

Here is a good sound tip: Present her with an Irish Sweepstakes ticket. If her horse wins, she'll have enough money to set him up in business. If her horse loses, he can then tell her, "So long, kid. It's been nice knowing you, but I gave you your chance. You can't expect an ambitious guy like me to tie himself up for life to a hard luck dame like you."

What about the married man? Well, oddly enough, Valentine's Day is no longer merely a single girl's racket. Wives have muscled into it on a wholesale scale.

Wife Demands Extra
A wife expects something extra from her husband on this day dedicated to love, even if she has a chummy her forgetful mate into presenting her with a black eye.

But such is the understanding nature of most wives, however, that it isn't really difficult to

In The Day's News

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els, indicating that people trade in their cars on new ones every two or three years. Cadillacs and Lincolns and Chrysler Imperials are by no means the rule, but they are by no means the exception. The windows are full of new and modern merchandise.

The school buildings are new, indicating large recent growth in the population, with a consequent need for new schools. There is every possible sign that this desert cotton country is well-to-do and up and coming.

Why is that bad? Well, it is a long story. I can sketch only the rough outlines of it here.

To begin with, this beautiful long-staple desert cotton, perhaps the finest in the world, doesn't depend primarily upon DEMAND FOR USE. It isn't sold basically on open bid and take markets, where users of cotton weave with each other in their offerings.

Its primary customer is the federal government of the United States, which buys it NOT for use in industry but for STORAGE IN GOVERNMENT WAREHOUSES. The government guarantees a price that is attractive enough to keep people growing cotton, regardless of the state of the cotton market.

Let's state it bluntly. This high guaranteed price isn't offered to stimulate the production of more cotton to meet the consumptive demands of the United States and the world for cotton fiber. It is offered to induce cotton farmers to VOTE RIGHT.

That is the long and short of it.

Let's take a look here at two tragic facts:

1. The American cotton industry is a slowly dying industry. That has come about because high parity is slowly pricing American cotton out of the world markets. Foreign cotton growers not only CAN undersell us at a profit to themselves but ARE underselling us. Our cotton exports are shrinking disastrously.

2. This desert cotton is made possible by PUMPED water. The water to grow it is pumped up out of underground basins that took thousands of years to fill. These underground storage basins are being depleted fabulously faster than they are being replenished. If and when they are exhausted, this now lovely and prosperous country will revert to desert. Either that or billions of dollars must be expended to bring water here from the Colorado and the Rio Grande rivers.

Such are the consequences of POLITICAL farming.

Morse Refuses Ellsworth Bid On Partnership Dams

Senator Avoids Debate By Citing Impending Effort In Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Morse (D-Ore.) Monday declined a suggestion by Rep. Ellsworth (R-Ore.) that they debate merits of a bill for partnership construction of Green Peter and Cougar Dams by the federal government and local interests.

Morse is opposed to the Ellsworth bill. He favors construction of the Oregon dams by the federal government under existing legislation.

The senator said he would be debating merits of the bill during his campaign for re-election to the Senate and added:

"While Congress is in session, I feel the best use to which I can put my time is to obtain appropriations for the two dams."

He said he hoped Ellsworth "will also work to get Republican support for increasing the inadequate amounts recommended in the President's budget for these projects this year."

The President asked Congress to appropriate \$15 million dollars for Cougar Dam. He said he would ask money for Green Peter if Congress passes the Ellsworth bill to permit local interests to join with the government in the dam's construction.

Neuberger's Reply Awaited
Ellsworth issued the debate challenge last week. He offered to meet either Morse or Sen. Neuberger.

Neuberger has not yet replied to the Ellsworth counter proposal. Aides said a reply may be made Tuesday.

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