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TWO MILL ROAD LEVY DISAPPEARS

Our readers probably recall that a few years ago south Lane county voters were asked to approve a two mill county road and bridge levy to fix our roads and bridges and to provide employment in the postwar period, which as the general thought ran then, would be needed. The county court went further and asked a recommendation from a group of citizens as to what bridges and what roads needed repairing the worst. As we recall one of the projects recommended was a new bridge over Row river east of town.

Well, the levy was approved and the tax collected by the county, but no new bridges were built and our roads are even in a worse condition than when the levy was voted. As a matter of curiosity we would like to inquire just where this two mill levy went and what it was used for. One good citizen says it was set aside to build Eugene's Ferry Street bridge.

MACARTHUR, THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE?

MacArthur's dramatic and well timed announcement from Japan, that he would run if the people wanted him, fanned the hopeful sparks of isolated supporters into real and burning flames. But before the voters go off the deep end it is only fair that they weigh the general's liabilities against his qualifications. Age is an important consideration for such a strenuous job as president and a drawback in his case. Though he is well equipped to handle the policies of the Pacific and greater Asia, that does not necessarily mean he would be able to cope with the problems of Europe. On domestic questions the public should eye cautiously the stand of the man who has so long been absent from the nation. Heroes surely deserve and should have all the credit due, but blinded enthusiasm stemming from hero worship is to be guarded against when choosing a president in these momentous times.

WHERE ELSE WOULD YOU WANT TO LIVE?

Should anyone feel ashamed at boasting about this country? William Henry Chamberlain, one of our most distinguished historians and foreign correspondents, doesn't think so.

In a recent newspaper column, Mr. Chamberlain wrote: "It's easy to sneer at the slogan, 'against every ism except Americanism' as unsophisticated, uncouth, lacking in proper cosmopolitan spirit and whatnot. But, when due allowance has been made for wisecracks . . . the fact remains that Americanism is something pretty distinctive, and is a pretty good ism to live by . . ."

"Perhaps the most decisive proof that Americanism, with all its faults, is a pretty good ism, lies in the question: Where else would anyone familiar with American and world conditions wish to live, or see his children live? Thirty-five years ago, even fifteen years ago many European countries might have offered attractive alternatives. That this is not the case today is in considerable part the result of the new isms to which Europeans have surrendered part, or all, of their freedom."

The new isms of which Mr. Chamberlain speaks are not milestones in the march of mankind. They mark a desperate and tragic turning back of the clock, and the hands are moving steadily toward another dark age. For two thousand years, peoples fought for freedom, and millions of lives were sacrificed to the ideal. Now freedom is being thrown away as if it were a cheap and useless thing.

Where else but here would you want to live, or want your children to live? That question bears repeating, and every American should answer it.

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Washington Letter

By Harris Ellsworth, Rep. in Congress from Oregon

The House of Representatives this week passed my bill, H. R. 5049, which, when it becomes law, will open all of the reversioned railroad grant lands, which are known as the O and C lands, to mining entry and exploration. Senator Cordon has an identical bill in the Senate. I believe this legislation will shortly be enacted into law.

There are some 2½ million acres of the O and C lands. Most of this area is mountainous, and according to the Oregon Mineral Survey, is rich in minerals. Since the O and C Act was passed in 1937, these lands have not been open for entry. After the bill becomes law, the minerals in them will again become available.

For the fourth consecutive time a high school senior from my district has been one of the forty winners in what is known as the "National Science Talent Search." This year the winner was Roy Norman Peacock from Springfield. Mrs. Ellsworth and I attended two banquets which were given the group of forty and enjoyed a good visit with Norman Peacock.

The Science Talent Search is an annual activity of the Science Clubs of America. This year among some 16,421 high school seniors in the United States, 3,161 completed competitive examinations. Three hundred entrants won special recognition; 260 of them were given honorable mention, and 40 were chosen to attend a four-day Science Talent Institute here in Washington.

Their own Members of Congress accompany the students to the dinners given in their honor. Thanks to the brilliance of the high school students in Oregon's Fourth District, I have been recognized as the Dean of the Congressional group, because I have attended more Science Talent Search banquets than any other member of the House of Representatives. Winners the previous three years came from the Eugene High School.

Two days of hearings were held by the Veterans Affairs Committee of the House on my bill to compel the Veterans Administration to use the hospital at Camp White as a domiciliary home for veterans. Similar hearings were held in the Senate on the identical bill sponsored by Senators Cordon and Morse.

Chairman Kearney of the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Hospitalization told me recently that he intended to have a few more witnesses appear before his subcommittee. He also said that, if it is possible to do so, he will take some members of his committee on a trip to inspect the Camp White Hospital and to look over the situation with respect to veterans' hospitals in the Northwest.

I attended the hearings conducted by the Senate Committee and by the House Committee, and listened to the testimony most carefully. The Veterans Administration opposes the bill, but thus far, has not made any valid arguments in support of its position.

THOUGHTLETS

By Carl B. Balch

Children have no race prejudices. It is a sad reflection upon parenthood that the children have race prejudices when they grow up.

If nations want to work together they can. "The Big Three" has just recently accomplished much in helping to stabilize affairs in western Germany. One man said that more had been accomplished at this gathering in ten days, than had been accomplished in three years with the presence of Russia.

A noted radio commentator says that the communists' greatest ally in western Europe is poverty.

The attitude of Argentina, Chile and Guatemala toward Great Britain, just now, does not show that these nations are ready to sit down and really treat each other as brothers.

General Douglass MacArthur has announced his willingness to accept the nomination of the office of President if it is offered him. This writer regrets this action on the part of the great leader, as a rule military leaders do not make good presidents.

Let us get ourselves in hand. The acts of Russia toward Czechoslovakia and Finland stir us all up. But let us remember that the Stalin Government is no more ready for war than a few months ago. We must not join in the war hysteria.

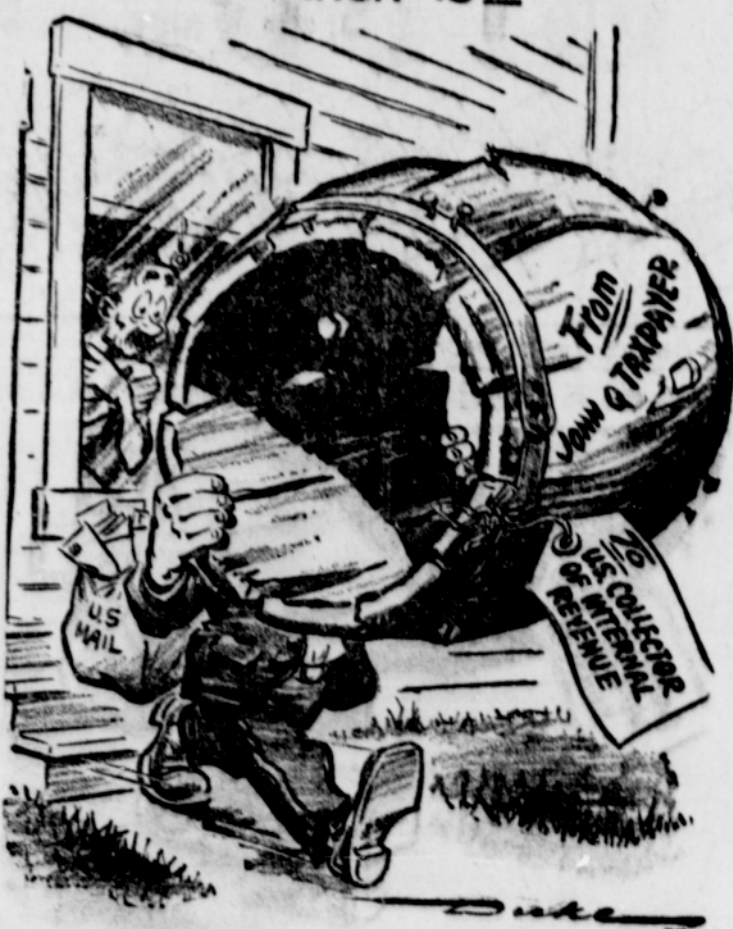
This political campaign promises to be the most vicious in many, many years. Let us hope that political corruption will be at a minimum.

Large aircraft carriers of the Midway class cost about 90 million dollars.

"BILL AND COO"
April 3-4

31-61

MARCH 15th



Letters to Editor

THIS IS AN EYE OPENER

This morning we were handed a letter clipped from the St. Paul Pioneer Press appearing in this paper under date of March 2 and in a column "So What" written by Paul Light. Since the letter concerns a local resident we are reproducing it. Read it and see what you think.

Dear Mr. Light:

I came here from England four weeks ago. I wonder if my story will interest you.

Twelve months ago a small letter of mine appeared in a Canadian newspaper. I was inundated with letters from all over Canada and one, charmingly written, came from an American lady. In it she begged us to come to America to live . . .

Having no such intention at the time, Mr. Light, I nevertheless wrote and thanked her. She immediately started a correspondence—sometimes we had three or four letters weekly—and in each letter she offered to share her home and her all with us if only we would come.

Later on, my husband was offered a partnership and good prospects if he'd leave England.

All these promises were sworn before a judge and sent to the American embassy.

Finally, Mr. Light, after a year's bombardment, the idea came into my head that perhaps we were denying our children the chance for a better life. Accordingly my husband gave up a good job, we sold all our possessions and came here—bringing our three children: a little girl of 4 years, a boy 2 years old and a baby of 12 months.

But when we arrived we had a bitter blow. It was to discover that the writer of those letters was just a fake. She was a totally different person in the flesh. It was made clear to us from the start that we could only stay there until we could find a house and that must be immediately.

The children were of far less importance than domestic animals. They were treated shabbily. The partnership turned out to be a laborer's job in a saw mill. We often went hungry the first fortnight . . .

After two weeks we had to come here to an auto court, where we are paying \$100 monthly. We are some way from town. We have, of course, no car and I have three tiny ones to feed. We cannot buy a house, as it's impossible to save money. We cannot rent one as no one seems to want children—and so the vicious circle.

It has cost us over \$1,000 to get here—practically all we had—and now we are homeless, almost jobless and feeling very bitter about it all.

During the war I entertained many American soldiers and shared our frugal rations with them. I never dreamt I would be thus treated over here. We suffered during the air raids. I lost my first wee baby.

But never have I felt so bitter as I do now.

The present position, Mr. Light, is that we cannot stay here indefinitely. I am frantic. How can I get my children back to England so that my husband, unhampered, may be able to find a little better job and save enough to recuperate us for all we have lost.

You will say, I know: "Yes but you have just been unlucky—all Americans are not like that." I know. But unfortunately, that has been my experience—a costly experience too of American "goodwill" and "hospitality." Seeing my children suffer is agonizing torture. . . .

I am only one Englishwoman, Mr. Light, and I don't suppose my opinion counts for a lot. But if you—or one of your readers—could offer me good advice it might restore my faith in America.

Yours faithfully,
 Mrs. Edward Parry,
 Jerry Dell Court,
 Cottage Grove, Ore.

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UNITED NATIONS IN ACTION



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The sleek black limousines rolled up to the delegates' entrance at United Nations headquarters as usual to discharge their passengers—the now familiar representatives of the eleven nations of the U.N. Security Council. But a great press of people at the public entrances of the long low building at Lake Success, New York, disclosed that unusually important work was facing the Security Council.

The Security Council had before it the grave question of troubled Palestine, the Holy Land of three great religions that is to be partitioned into separate Arab and Jewish states. Before attentive spectators who jammed the modern Council Chamber, the Security Council debated in its careful way what steps it would take to back the Palestine Commission's call for an international force to keep peace in Palestine.

A dramatic moment in the session came when United States representative Warren Austin disclosed the position of his country, a leader in supporting the partition plan in the U.N. General Assembly last fall. Briefly, Mr. Austin said that the United States rejected the idea of an international force to compel partition of Palestine but would support the use of force, if it were necessary, to keep the peace in the Holy Land. Later the United States proposed that the Big Five—China, France, United Kingdom, United States and the U.S.S.R.—be constituted a committee to study whether the Palestine situation is a threat to the peace and to recommend action.

An entirely different view was taken by Colombia which urged a new special session of the General Assembly to reconsider the entire Palestine question.

Meanwhile, the Economic and Social Council was plugging away at its important if often unspectacular work toward easing basic world problems. The 18-nation group has approved the establishment of a new subsidiary organ—the Economic Commission for Latin America, which will take its

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Cottage Grove, Oregon
 March 8, 1948

To the Editor:
 My wife and I are on our vacations, we are 'natives' of Alabama, and in our travels so far have seen no country that can compare as to beautiful scenery, to that of Oregon.

We pulled into your beautiful little city on Friday, 5th, liked it so well, decided to lay over for a much needed rest and repairs.

We happened to purchase one of your papers and the picture of the Negro Minstrel struck a chord in our hearts for a bit of the south. So wife and I decided to go. After getting lost, getting on wrong roads we finally reached the place.

To say we enjoyed it, is to put it mildly. Those people up there really know how to put on a minstrel like the Old South, and if you folks here in Oregon put on many plays like that, I can only say I wish I could be here to see them all.

We shall always remember Cottage Grove, where we spent such an enjoyable weekend.

Sincerely yours,
 A. M. Watson.

TERM NEAR END AT OSC; NEW ONE STARTS MAR. 29
OREGON STATE COLLEGE—Final examinations for the winter term will be in the week of March 15 to 19 with spring vacation extending from March 20 through March 28. Students now here will register before they leave, while those starting spring term will register Saturday, March 27. Classes begin Monday, March 29. Soon after students return for spring term they will have opportunity to see the Freedom Train which will be in Corvallis April 4 in the course of its nationwide tour.