

Could This Have Been Avoided?



Mute testimonial to the need for a warning signal at the Oregon Electric railway crossing with the Tualatin highway at Beaverton and to the need for more precaution on the part of drivers is this twisted mass of junk which once was an automobile. Rev. Alexander Hawthorne of Portland, former Methodist pastor in Hillsboro, driver of the car, luckily escaped with only minor injuries.—Cut courtesy Oregonian

President Calls for
Moratorium on Strife

President Roosevelt's recent message to the national convention of the American Federation of Labor in which he declared that there must be no more strikes or lockouts in defense industries seems to strike a new note of executive determination that stern discipline be maintained in America's labor camps as well as in America's army training camps.

This is as it should be. The defensive "war" which this country is waging today against Hitlerism and the rising tide of axis conquest is not to be won by armies alone. It is a well recognized fact by now that this is a "war of production."

The men who forge castings, build ships and assemble planes and tanks, the army of workers who tend the countless machines engaged in this all-out production effort for defense—yes, even the millions of workers who can only be remotely connected with defense production—in other words, all workers, are in "front line" trenches now, and if ever there was a time for a moratorium on strife, now is the time.

In the nation's army camps there is no place for recalcitrance. Stern discipline prevails . . . and there is not one of us who would have it any other way—despite the fact that men every day are being called from paying jobs to spend a year or more with Uncle Sam with pay at "21 per month."

But these are not ordinary times. We could not countenance such a "strike" in the army. We should not countenance strikes in our industrial army. The president, who has always been a staunch friend of labor, is not asking now that labor give up its right to speak. He has asked only what is fair and right during the period of emergency—that labor desist from using strikes and lockouts until it has made full use of the federal machinery for adjusting labor disputes.

Labor should be able to see the "hand-writing on the wall." The patience of a worried nation is near the point of exhaustion and sterner measures to maintain discipline may come as a natural course of events if self-discipline cannot be found within the ranks of labor itself.

Question One of Beating
The Greatest Menace

The question of helping communist Russia is not one of loving communism more than we have heretofore, but of defeating the greatest menace of the moment—Hitler and his Nazi hordes. A recent speaker before the Oregon State Bar association expressed it very well when he said:

"We may be compelled to help the communist nation but we cannot afford to let our relations with that government become an entering wedge for communism within our borders. The present menace of this system is no less a menace because it is tempered by international necessity."

"To meet such dangers the most effective remedy would be for the administration of the United States, including the judiciary, to put its house in order, bring itself up to date against the development of an aggressive class consciousness. This is the real problem for the future of America."

Undoubtedly there is a real need for price control legislation in congress in order to prevent costs going out of sight under present heavy defense buying. They talk of ceilings on prices, but they balk at stabilization of wages. How it is possible to have one and not the other is a puzzle. The politician thinks too much about votes.

Eleanor Sharpless Stephens, just selected as state librarian, should be well qualified to carry on the outstanding work of the late Harriet C. Long, to whose memory the state is indebted for the great growth and service of the library. Miss Stephens has a splendid background of experience and those who know of the library's work feel that it will be in able hands.

Whenever the opportunity is given turn out for Hihl football games and give the boys your encouragement.

"Cobwebs" More Dangerous

(By Roger W. Babson)

NEW YORK CITY—Next to Truth, the greatest need today is Faith—faith in God, faith in America, and faith in our fellow men. On the other hand, the greatest danger lies with Fear—fear of death, fear of sacrifice, and fear of losses of various kinds. Yet, there are many columnists, authors, and even political leaders who make their livings crying "Wolf, Wolf!" when there is no wolf.

The Latest "Bad Wolf"

Even radicals are now pretty much agreed that our generation has nothing to fear from socialism or communism. They have entirely changed their tune as to this fear. Karl Marx is no longer their idol and they have lost faith in the proletarian. They instead talk of a "Managerial Revolution."

They still pretend to believe that most stocks and bonds will become worthless through state competition—that we are entering an era when the government will become the owner of all income-producing property and will operate it along technocratic lines. They say that the "Managers" thereof will be the aristocracy of the nation, taking the place of bankers and capitalists in general. Managerial Revolutions Have Always Existed

To some extent, these calamity howlers are doing good in causing us to take out "insurance" in the form of vocational education for our children. Wise parents are calling such pessimistic talk to their children's attention so that the young people will not depend upon what they inherit; but will have a profession, trade, or job of their own. So much, so good.

The college professors who are preaching the elimination of the capitalist class are doubtless right in their forecast that the government will gradually take over more and more industries. This, however, is nothing new. It has always been going on. Armies, navies, highways, postal service, etc. all started as private enterprises. This process will doubtless be speeded up to include armament factories, public utilities, railroads, milk distribution, bread bakeries, and certain of the great producers of raw materials.

Keep Your Investments Up-to-Date Here is what the pessimists overlook: For every old industry any government has taken over, two new industries have sprung up in its place. This manager, applies to Russia and Germany as well as to the United States.

Some Illustrations This is one reason why I prefer the chemical companies rather than the "steels," prefer the motor coach companies rather than the "rails," and prefer the peace stocks rather than the "war-babies." I prefer to have the bonds of some almost unknown little town run by good people than the popular bonds of great cities which are run by grafters.

Recognize CHANCE, insist upon GROWTH and align yourself with active people of CHARACTER and you have nothing to fear. The world is constantly getting better; while more opportunities exist today than ever for those who study, pray, work, save, and venture. Beware of "cobwebs" in your home, business, church, or safe deposit box!

Other sections to outline a campaign against having a ceiling placed on farm products, as recommended by the federal control officer. Originally, farm prices and wages were not contemplated in the program, but there is now demand for a lid on farm products although not touching wages. Practically every member from Idaho, Oregon and Washington wants as little restriction on farmers as possible.

Young Wismer graduated from Hillsboro high school and Pacific university, then spent a year as dramatics instructor at P. U. before going to the University of North Carolina, under a Rockefeller scholarship, to earn his master's degree. Already wedded to the theatre, Larry Wismer, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wismer of this city, recently took over his first position in the Little Theatre as assistant director of the Kanawha Players at Charleston, W. Va., it was learned this week from a newspaper clipping sent home by the former Hillsboro youth.

OPM has upped the price of zinc, which will cost the government millions of dollars more a year in brass for shell casings. For a trifle of the added sum the government must pay, OPM must command development of zinc ores in the Oregon area. All efforts to convince OPM consultants that Oregon can produce thousands of tons of zinc and thus materially aid the defense program have failed. There are three districts in western Oregon which are potential large producers and require only \$1,500,000 for a smelter.

Oregon came within an ace of being deprived of the aluminum and fabricating plants and all that saved this new industry was an ultimatum from Senator McNary that they must be located in Oregon. Plans were to give them to Washington.

Spokesmen for western states farmers have come to Washington to meet with representatives from the United States and Canada. Initiative, enterprise, and invention grow best in a free soil apart from government ownership or management. As long as the English race is in economic competition with Europeans or Asians, you may be sure that private enterprise will be encouraged in the United States and Canada.

This means that businessmen and investors who keep ahead of the procession have nothing to fear from the New Deal. Those who recognize that the only thing really "permanent" is change and who wisely shift their investments accordingly, should continue to prosper. The lazy investor, the self-satisfied businessman, and the so-called conservative banker who worship "bond ratings" are the ones who will suffer during the changes ahead of us.

What After the War? Most readers are asking what will happen after World War II. Will there be a great business slump? Will revolutions follow? The current low stock market prices are due—not to present conditions—but to fear of what will happen a few years hence.

Of course, one should know how long the war is to last before answering these questions. The after-effects of a long war would be more serious than if it should end in the winter of 1942-43. But, the real answer depends upon to what extent employers, wage-workers, and investors are willing to adapt themselves voluntarily to the changed conditions. The stagecoach owners and drivers of 100 years ago who fought the railroads, went broke, and these who sold out and re-invested in railroad securities became very prosperous.

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TICKLERS By John Sunley



"Can't you get some really impressive words into these bulletins, major?" Go and read the Hollywood movie ads!

Two-Mill School Levy Cut

(By A. L. Lindbeck)

SALEM—There will be no property tax-levy for state purposes in 1942. Elimination of the state levy will include not only regular and special levies but also the two-mill elementary school tax, which, while levied by the state tax commission, is generally regarded as a county levy. Confirmation of this came in an announcement by Governor Sprague this week after members of the state tax commission had informed the executive department that income tax revenues would be sufficient to finance all state needs without resort to a property levy. Waiver of the elementary school levy, the governor pointed out, will save property owners approximately \$1,950,000 a year in taxes. Regular levies inside the constitutional six per cent limitation for 1942 will approximate \$2,442,000 with special millage levies for higher education and other purposes will amount to approximately \$919,000 all of which will be offset by revenues from income taxes.

Governor Sprague may have been the first of the 1942 crop of candidates to definitely announce his political intentions but it remained for a democrat to make the first formal filing. Howard LaSalette, democratic national committeeman, who was drafted at a rally in Portland two weeks ago threw his hat into the political ring when he filed with Secretary of State Snell his preliminary petition announcing his intention to seek the nomination of his party in the primary election of next May.

Halloween pranksters who were looking forward to a big night under the protection of an experimental blackout the last of this month are doomed to disappointment. State Coordinator Jerrold Owen this week took the joy out of life for these nocturnal merry makers with the announcement that in any event the proposed blackout would not last for more than 15 minutes. Again observance of the experiment is optional with the various cities and preliminary reports indicate that only a few places will undertake the test.

Eleanor Sharpless Stephens the new state librarian, will take over her duties about October 20, she has advised Governor Sprague. Selected by the library board at a meeting last week to succeed the late Harriet Long, Miss Stephens comes to the Oregon post from Los Angeles where she has been chief of the branches division of the Los Angeles county library since 1939. Miss Stephens has held a number of responsible library positions including that of state librarian in Washington in 1924-25.

A total of 305 Oregon men will be called into military service during November, according to instructions received by Lt. Col. Elmer V. Wooten, state director of selective service. The men will be reported for induction into the army at Portland on November 3, 4, 5 and 6.

At last the controversy between the state tax commission and the Multnomah county assessor has found its way into the courts. In taking original jurisdiction in this case the supreme court has recognized its state wide importance. While the issue directly involved in the appeal of the tax commission to the courts is that of enforcement of its orders to the county assessor back of this issue is the legality of the "varied ratio" system of assessment against which the commission has ruled.

Many Oregon school districts are still looking for qualified teachers, according to Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction. Higher pay offers in other lines have lured many away from the teaching profession Putnam points out. Some districts have found it necessary to increase salaries while others are offering bonus pay for those who stay on the job.

Small industries throughout the nation are to share in the defense boom, according to Governor Sprague, who returned Sunday from a civilian defense conference at San Francisco at which he presided.

Public Forum

Editor's Note—Letters for this column must be signed by the writer and should be no longer than 300 words. Such letters are welcomed but should be turned in the week before to insure publication. Expressions of opinion should reflect the opinion of the publishers.

Urges Swimming Pool

Dear Editor—I have been greatly interested in your comments on the subject of a swimming pool for Hillsboro.

Would you review in your paper some time in the future, what if anything has been done toward finding a location for a pool, ascertaining the cost of construction and operation, etc.?

Why not have a contest in the Hillsboro schools for the best letter on the subject, "Why I Think Hillsboro Needs a Swimming Pool" or some similar title? To arouse interest and enthusiasm the prizes should be worthwhile, say, ten dollars first prize, seven dollars second prize, five dollars third prize, and several prizes of one or two dollars.

I believe a sheltered pool suitable for year-around use would be the best to build and since it is so difficult to find a pool open to the use of the public in Portland I think it would prove profitable.

There is an architect in Los Angeles, a Mr. Philip Lively, who has a method of building swimming pools that is quite a bit cheaper than the ordinary way of using forms. For instance, a pool 20 feet by 40 feet can be built for \$1500, a saving over the other method of nearly \$2000.

I sincerely hope and desire to see construction of a swimming pool started in the spring. Other towns can do it. Hillsboro can too. Yours truly, LEANDER R. HARRITT.

Editor's Note—Investigations by a committee several years indicated that a pool to meet local needs and measure up to necessarily rigid board of health standards would cost approximately \$17,000 for an outdoor pool. The pool at The Dalles, very elaborate and 50 feet by 164 feet, cost \$52,000. Proponents here have had much more conservative plans in mind. Letters of this type are appreciated and stimulate the committee's work. A committee has been named by the city council to investigate the project from a municipal angle.

Paper Appreciated

Fort Amador, C. Z., October 9, 1941. HILLSBORO ARGUS—I have been receiving my copy of the Argus for the past few weeks, and would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation for it.

News from home is certainly welcome, when I am so far away from there. Except for the heat, this isn't such a bad place. It is at least something different and interesting. Fort Amador is located right on the canal, and only about two miles from Panama City, so we have some excellent scenery, and fine opportunity to see how the natives of Panama live.

I enlisted in the army August 1, 1940, after graduating from Hillsboro, and left the U. S. December 6, 1940. I made Pfc April 14, 1941, and was promoted to Corporal September 27. At the present time I am casual clerk for the Fourth Coast Artillery.

Again thanking you for the paper, and the hours of enjoyment it has and will afford me, I remain, Charles W. Jackson, Battery A, 4th C. A., Fort Amador, C. Z.

Defense Subject
Quizzes Available

Eight timely quizzes on defense subjects issued by the National League of Women Voters may be secured through Mrs. L. P. Rockwood of Forest Grove, chairman of publications for the Washington county league. Designed to help readers assess the news and orient them to present social, economic and political scene, the quizzes deal with strikes, housing, prices, civil liberties, schools, labor unions and inter-American cooperation.

In an explanatory foreword Miss Margaret M. Wells, National League president, predicts that League action may be undertaken from time to time on one or another of the subjects.

"Strikes and the Citizen," first title off the press, answers such questions as how disputes are settled, how compulsory arbitration has worked, how the citizen can help.

The greatest contribution a citizen can make is to insist that industrial disputes be settled by voluntary agreement and to refrain from making snap judgments as to the right or wrong of a strike," the quiz explains.

"Prices and Inflation" probes why and how much the cost of living is increased by the defense program, what steps the federal government has taken to keep prices down, whether inflation can be prevented by price control, what sacrifices must be made if inflation is to be prevented. "The government is trying to control price rises and to prevent inflation, but the government cannot do it all," the pamphlet states. "Some sacrifices of temporary prosperity on the part of many groups will be necessary if the economic chaos caused by runaway prices and wages is to be avoided."

"Civil Liberty and Democracy" defines civil liberty, examines its significance, measures to current status as cases recently prosecuted and recent Supreme Court attitudes in civil liberty cases. "The citizen can make an important contribution to the protection of the freedom of all by exercising good judgment on the use of his freedom and by practicing tolerance," the quiz states.

A practical man of affairs in New York says that it is in the Pacific Northwest where we may look for man's fullest development in the future.

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