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THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO

Much Ado About Dies.
The Dies committee in the last week has set something of
record for obvious conclusions elaborately arrived at. On Thursday a certain General Walter G. Krivitsky, "who iden-
tified himself as a former high official of the soviet military tified himself as a former high official of the soviet military
intelligence, informed the committee that the Red army
doubtless had agents working in the American armed forces, doubtless had agents working in the American armed forces,
both naval and military. More recently the committee has
made headlines with the astounding bit of information that made headinines with the astounding bit of information that
there are Americans working for the Russian version of the
Gestapo, the OGPU of bloody memory. Gestape, the OGPU of bloody memory.
Whether the newspapers are to be blamed for devoting
considerable amount of space to such "findings," or whetha considerable amount of space to such "findings," or wheth-
er the blame for believing banalities to be new discoveries
lies with the congressmen themselves is not entirely clear. The new whapers are doubtlenss partly at fault; but ulttimately the
Dies committee itself must be responsible for most of the shal ow thinking which marks its ponderous "evidence."
If one examines closely the committee findings reported with so much pomp in the past week, theree is little to be found
which a sixth-grader could not guess at with an excellent poswhich a sixth-grader could not guess at with an excelsent pos
sibility of having his words taken seriously by persons much
more experienced than himself. What is so wounderful about more experienced than himself. What is so wounderful about
knowing that the Russians are trying to find out American
military plans, even if a self-identified ex-Russian general military plans, even if a seif-identified ex-Russian genera
makes the assertion? Why should anyone be surprised to know that Americans are working for a foreign government western civilization, surely no one much out of the cradle has States, adhere closely to the Boy Scout law when it comes to
knowing about other peoples' armies. And certainly only the
most uninstructed in the ways of the wortd expects all the nost uninstructed in the ways of the world expects all the
$130,000,000$ persons who legally call themselves "American citizens" to be paragons of civic virtue. That is a great many
people; and that would be a great deal of civic virtue. cized congressional committees of "investigation," is chiefly
product of its times. A certain variety of rather crude nation alism is now rife in the United States, and a committee
which does almost nothing to further a reasoned interpretaplays games of cops and robbers and through the headlines is
quite in the contemporary spirit of gandy and sentimental patriotism. If one eliminated the Dies committee one woul in no way diminish the

Eugene Expansion Defeated
After all the discussion extending over the last year, the
remnant of Eugene's "territorial expansion" program went
down to defeat in Friday's special election. Previously an-
nexation of Springfield had been abandoned and the issue was
limited to inclusion of the Glenwood community within the
city limits. The proposal was defeated not only in Glenwood
but in Eugene. Too bad the Russians and the nazis don't see but in Eugene.
things that wa
The primary reason for the proposal's defeat appears $t$ porarily both for Glenwood people and for Eugene propert owners in general. Unincorporated Glenwood now escapes
municipal taxation; whereas if it had been taken into the city
the cost of expanding various municipal services such as po lice and fire protection, sewers and street lighting to the new territory would have raised general municipal expenses
the entire city more than the taxing of Glenwood propert
would have offset. the city they border, yet remain outside the city limits, is be
coming a serious one throughout the nation-and it is as seri ous in Salem as in most other cities. At present Salem's sub problem because with the declining birth a more aggravate and the d crease in immigration, the cities are losing population an
taxable property. This condition does not yet obtain in
lem.
But it is a condition that ponder the future and it will be a major topic of discussion
at the realtors' national convention in merger election that is worthy of note. The city recorder wene requred by law to have 20,404 ballots printed, half of then
sample ballots. There were 10,202 eligible voters; exactly 33 went to the polls. It is an extreme example of the lethargy volve no personalities.

## Community Chest Near Goal

Though still several thousand dollars shy, the Commun of the campaign which a entitled the trogram to be labeled
success for another year. The "cleanup" early the bring it up to the desired ameunt, or erery close to
thus the Chest will have survived this "critical" year
But it has been a hard struggle and there were moment
in the past week when leaders in the Chest organizatio were fearful that the program of combining solicitation fo seven welfare agencies was going to be a flop in its thir
year in Salem, as it has in many other cities. And thoug
the fund may "go over the top" this week, it some civic-minded people will have done more than thei
share-an inevitable result in view of the fact that a goo
many Chest solicitors bumped into two major difficulties;
tendency on the part of many who were willing to partion pade, to think in terms of the who were willing to partions they made to ind
vidual agencies in the past and to vidual agencies in the past and to give a dollar or less, rathe
than a day's pay; and a tendency to decline altogether be
cause of objection to one agency, regardless of the merits of The other six. The answer to this letter argument-whe
it was sincere, which was not true in all cases-is that som
other contributor agency the most meritorious of the group, and thus the dona
tions would balance each other and both go for the desire Thê proper viewpoint is that the Community Chest's ex
istence has improved the processes of finaneing and conduct ing the necessary welfare programs in the community, and
that it merits the support which will assure its continued ex
istence.

## Forgotten WPA Purgees

the battles aren't raging. How many readers, for inds where the battles aren't raging. How many readers, for instance the fate of the 703,400 persons dropped from the WPA rolls
ince the "purge"began July 1 For the most part they have
dropped into such obscurity that even the various relief Thanks in part to the increase in private employment,
no great percentage of this group has sought direct refief
-though another explanation is their knowledge that no re though another explanation is their knowledge that no re-
lief is available, according to Survey Midmonthly. Still anoth-
ser explanation, in communities where relief would be forth-


News Behind Today's News by Paul mallon



| the Fort W son's Bay company, where they were treated most royally; thence ally; thence | Washington. He is self-consti- tutionally opposed to third terms. | will come when the debate <br> ceases." | As a state department offictal |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Mr. Roosevelt's चague remarks <br> about a South American gold dea | put it: <br> "The blitzpeace of Herr Hitler |
|  | are |  | Was not sucessfuli now wo will |
| hot |  | of Brazil during the visit last |  |
| seo them finaily dee | ren | summer. It did not get out then, |  |


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On the Record


