

The Oregon Statesman
No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe
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Battle in the Middle Sea

The Mediterranean has seen many naval actions since the Syracusans turned back the galleys of Athens under the command of Alcibiades and the fleet of Octavian destroyed that of Marc Antony and Cleopatra off Alexandria. The sun-tipped waves of the Middle Sea, around which all ancient art and culture, all ancient beauty, indeed, flourished before the night of the barbarians is not foreign to blood, nor to struggle and conquest.

The latest chapter in this age-long epic of rare achievement interlaced with dark veins of tragedy and brutality was played out, as all the world now knows, on last Monday and Tuesday, when the British fleet came momentarily to grips with that of Fascist Italy. The sea dogs of Britain, the present legates of Pepys and Lord Hood and Beatty, insisted on its conclusion that the action was "unsatisfactory," and that "Italy's best is no match for our second best."

Both sides agreed, however, that the decision as to which power shall control the shipping lanes of the Middle Sea is not yet decided, and that only future naval combats, greater and more noteworthy in scope than the one fought early this week, must determine that vital question. That it is vital, however, both will agree.

Winston Churchill himself remarked once, a quarter-century ago, that the only man on either side of the first World war who could win or lose the entire conflict in an afternoon was Admiral Lord Jellicoe, commander of the British fleet. His logic was simple, in that it was clear that Britain's war effort then as now was based primarily on the ability of the British naval forces to maintain a constricting blockade off the coasts of northern Europe and in the Mediterranean. The dictum was true then, and it is even more true now.

If Britain, in the sea fight which is due to develop before many weeks have passed, succeeds in sinking the bulk of the Italian naval force, she will have an entire flank of the axis at her mercy. Even a landing of troops is possible, and a strategic conception based on bombing and attacking Germany from the south.

But if she loses that afternoon's or evening's conflict, it will mean the end of England, and, in Hitler's words, the end of English meddling in world affairs. It will all sink beneath the crystal waters of a Mediterranean, softly, like the wrecked triremes of old, and when the water closes over there will be nothing left but a dull, dark world in which a swastika burns balefully. May that day never come.

Rural-Urban Cleavage

This is a bit unusual, we'll concede. The ordinary procedure is for this column to stick out its neck and then let the Safety Valve writers jump on it, without fear of reprisal. But this time we intend to take mild exception to a Safety Valve writer's remarks.

A. M. Williams whose letter appeared Thursday morning, contends for rural community life and for rural schoolhouses and churches in which it may be carried on, and to this plea there can be no objection nor opposition. His observation that the rural school is passing from the scene is not however borne out by our own nor by the official figures; there still are approximately 100 rural school districts in Marion county and though there have been a few consolidations, these do not mean, as he infers, transporting rural children to urban schools. In nearly every case the consolidation has involved two or more strictly rural districts.

But Mr. Williams goes on to say that though the country schoolhouse has disappeared—which we deny—and the country church has fallen into decay—which probably is true—country people do not "find themselves in the town or city church, regardless of the paved roads and the automobile." And the reason?

"Simply because the townspeople and the country people speak a separate language. They do not have the touch of the common things of life, they do not discuss the same things. . . . Well, where do the country people go on Sunday? We are convinced they don't stay at home, for on a spring Sunday morning in the country our automobile broke an axle and we walked many weary miles and knocked on several farmhouse doors before finding a family at home so that we might telephone for assistance.

Nor are we persuaded that country people and city people speak a different language and have nothing in common. Of course the present writer may be an exception, being only a few years removed from the soil, but certainly we have no difficulty conversing with rural citizens and understanding their problems, nor they with ours. Thousands of people from the farm and countryside visit Salem's downtown streets daily and it is all but impossible to distinguish them from the city dwellers except that the rural people, when they come to town, usually are better dressed. They don't have to wear their best suit every day. Nor is it possible to distinguish them by their manner of speech. The "hayseed" is an extinct species, if indeed he ever existed.

Yes, by all means let the country people have their social gatherings and their community clubs, and places in which they may meet; but the solution is simpler than Mr. Williams makes it appear. And by the same token, let us not endeavor to set up barriers which do not exist, between the rural residents and their urban neighbors. They are exactly the same kind of folks.

What Happened to Municipal Reform?

Of course it would be simpler to pick up the telephone and ask someone who knows the answer. But we're not going to do it, because we sort of hope that a few other citizens will help us wonder. What has happened to the study of municipal government reform?

It started out so bravely last spring, with numerous citizens interested including Mayor Chadwick. The council voted authority and the committee was appointed. We know that for a time it held regular meetings and delved into the matter somewhat deeply.

Then it was explained that it was too late to get the issue upon the May ballot; it would have to be deferred until autumn. And autumn seemed so far away. And then came golf and Centennial preparations and vacations and a hundred and one distractions, and by the time they are all out of the way it will be autumn and too late to get a proposed change in city government drafted in time for the November ballot, so it will have to be put off until 1942.

Perhaps—we hope—we are doing the committee an injustice. Perhaps it has been laboring on through sultry evenings while less dutiful souls attended the ball games. Perhaps the program is all rolled up ready to be unrolled and spread before the voters as soon as the Centennial is out of the way. But we doubt it—and pardon us again, Messrs. Committee, if we are wrong—because a committee of this type is much like a city council of the type we still have in Salem. If we had a city manager and there was a chore of this kind to be done, it would be done and no fooling about it. For in writing to various cities to get information about their forms of city government—material we still have stowed away for use when and if the issue comes to the fore again—in about half of them the only fellow we could get to answer our letters was the city manager.

Over the picture of a citizen who has just acquired an automobile agency, the Oregon City Enterprise runs the caption "New Dealer." We wonder if the fellow is grateful, even if his picture is on the front page.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Reporting on the 7-12-40 the India affairs of Oregon in year 1856: the skookum house at Siletz:

(Continuing from yesterday.) "At the commencement of hostilities in the war of Rogue river, they had, however, yielded and given up their arms and submitted as prisoners of war with a pledge from the military officers of a safe conduct to the reservation.

"Very many of these people were in a very destitute condition, their property and effects being chiefly burned with their village.

"This consideration had, doubtless, its effects in inducing them to submit to terms. Those who had remained friendly and stationed at Fort Orford, owing to the confinement and entire absence of means to obtain clothing, were destitute of essential articles to appear decent, much less comfortable.

"The goods given them at the time they were nearly all disappeared, and very many of the bands were nearly in a state of nudity.

"Upon arriving at Portland I purchased such goods as their necessities required and demanded, directing shipments to Dayton, where they are now being distributed to the individual members of the families.

"The non arrival of a part of their goods will prevent their departure to the coast (from Dayton) before Monday, the 7th (of July). They are generally in good health, and appear well pleased with the trip, but anxious to reach the point of destination to see their future home.

"In coming up the coast the steamer had anchored the beach along the upper line of the reservation, and the appearance of the country appeared to give them great satisfaction and encouragement.

"They viewed the point designated as their home with great interest, and appeared well pleased with the prospects. They obeyed cheerfully every requirement, and if the proper interest is shown we have nothing to fear from these people.

"It is expected that such of those that may come in who are unable to travel by land on foot, will be sent up by steamer, the expense being less than to hire animals to be used for such purpose.

"The first effort to induce the Indians to come up by steamer was met by great opposition, but when told that I would accompany them, and that the trip would be performed in a short time, and this mode was contrasted with the time and hardships attending the trip up the trail, they yielded, and a greater number came than I had at first designed taking.

(The expression "up the trail," used by General Palmer, may have some significance regarding the bringing of old Chief John and his band to the Coast reservation, to be mentioned later on in this series.)

In a letter written to Geo. W. Manypenny, commissioner of Indian affairs at Washington, D. C., dated at Dayton, Oregon Territory, July 18, 1856, General Palmer said, among other things:

"An exact enumeration of the bands which came up in the last steamer gives a total of 729 souls; 183 of whom are warriors, 200 women, 27 boys, 71 girls, and 122 infants, all of whom have been furnished a limited amount of clothing, and have TODAY left this place for the coast, via Grande Ronde.

"I have quite for the last few days been quite indisposed, but will this afternoon, accompanied by Capt. C. C. Augur, United States Army, proceed to the Grande Ronde, and thence to the coast. (Continued on page 7.)

German Bombs Demolish Street in English Town



This heap of rubble was once a quiet street of small homes in an unnamed English town—until German air raiders came over and strafed the inhabitants. Eleven civilians were killed and 14 were injured. The British government announced seven of the attacking planes were brought down.

"The Cairo Garter Murders"

By Van Wyck Mason

Chapter 31 Continued To his last hour North would recall the long hours spent at the Helwan police station on the restoration of the supposed Kilgour cadaver.

He was glancing impatiently toward the deadline of 6 o'clock when Clive reappeared, very angry indeed.

"Look here, Captain, Melborne is not and was not staying at the Grand Hotel Terminus. I hope we've not been deliberately misled. I assure you Sir George is simply raving."

"Any other news?" demanded North.

Chief Inspector Clive passed a weary hand over his deeply lined face. "Yes. Things are growing worse in Palestine, Jaffa and Jerusalem. The French commander in Syria is having fits. Our Intelligence reports border tribes in the Trans-Jordan and Iraq are mobilizing. They've had riots this noon in Hebron. Look help us if they get arms and ammunition—they've not enough now to start anything."

North said, "I'm glad you've come back, Clive. I wanted you here to see what we've been able to do toward identification. Not that I'm promising you much; the body was badly gone."

Clive followed the American into that place where the white enamel pall held its secret. Holding his breath, Hugh North met the supreme moment and turned the head face up.

"Good lord, it's McKensie!" Clive choked. "Poor poor Mac!" Then he turned on North, open-mouthed and very deeply impressed. "Simply can't believe my own eyes. How in the world have you done this?"

But North, wiping perspiration from his brow, only said: "Will you kindly inform Sir George of our discovery? And—er—remind him, please, that we don't want Melborne interferred with."

Arriving at Lawrence college a little after sundown, North received a warm greeting from Hart. Thawing more than he ever had previously, the frail little secretary was hospitably personified while showing North to some very comfortable quarters in the administration building.

Dinner proved very pleasant and the food surprisingly good for college fare. Through the absence of Melborne and Moira prevented North's complete enjoyment of it. Lotta charmingly pre-empted the guest. Save for her amusing chit-chat, the conversation ran on ser-

ious lines—politics and the most recent of Dr. Ladd's archeological researches.

Finally, Zara mentioned the subject which was on North's mind. "Poor Moira phoned to say she could not leave Cairo until quite late—a special article for some stupid newspaper, she said. Her bear aunt, Colonel Melborne, couldn't come at all."

Heartily North blessed Lotta for inquiring, "What can have happened?"

"I had a telegram from him," Zara explained. "He was called unexpectedly down to Port Said."

"A cigar, Captain?" Dr. Ladd tendered a box. "Real Egyptian leaf. Now, if you will come this way, I would enjoy showing you my little museum."

In quick succession he threw a series of switches illuminating lights situated about a small hall filled to overflowing with mummy cases, statuettes, tablets and glass showcases. With them Hart, producing a bunch of keys to unlock some case of treasures. Swiftly, North became enraptured.

Dr. Ladd explained exhibit after exhibit and was warming to his subject when Lotta appeared saying that Mrs. Ladd needed his advice on some detail of administration.

"Oh dear!" sighed the doctor.

"I shall have to turn you over to Lolita for a few minutes."

"Talk about the prophet in her own country," Lolita smiled. "He lectured me yesterday about his Es Shobak finds. Look at this ivory."

"The fourth and seventh characters," she declared, mimicking Dr. Ladd's precise accents, "are the most interesting unique."

Mrs. Ladd appeared in the hall and was smiling a greeting when she stooped suddenly. "Ah, these Egyptian mosquitos—big as buzzards! That, I suppose, is the penalty for going barelegged!"

Lolita with a bright smile said: "Do look at some of Zara's shawls. I think they're perfectly exquisite."

News Behind Today's News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, July 11.—The non-political manner in which the new national defense commission is operating apparently extends also to the labor division.

One of the AFL leaders have had their fingers crossed since the CIO'er, Sidney Hillman, was appointed by Mr. Roosevelt as labor coordinator of the commission. A group from federation headquarters went over to see him about pending number of building trades workers in AFL on the one side and a small new building organization (United Construction Workers) which John Lewis has started in CIO on the other.

Hillman told them straight he considered the CIO group largely a paper organization. He left the impression he had opposed formation of the competitive union as a leader in CIO.

AFL callers went away with what they understood to be assurances there would be no trouble from that quarter.

A vast amount of fantastic tips and legitimate information on fifth columnist machinations and bomb plots—many times more than has been made public—has deluged the federal bureau of investigation. J. Edgar Hoover has been unable to keep an office engagement for a month and will schedule none for the future.

Best war panners on this side of the Atlantic have reached rather general agreement on the tactics Hitler is likely to employ in conquest of England.

British defensive troops are massed in the center of their island on the natural theory that they can be rushed in greatest force to points where the heaviest landings are effected. The coastline is much too long to be defended in force throughout its length, no other course appears to be open to the British.

But this method opens the way for Hitler to use a deceptive strategic technique. By attempting landings at several points simultaneously, and distributing his initial forces so as to draw the bulk of Britain's mobile interior force to certain one of the way points, he could

readily prepare the way for pushing his greatest concealed reserves into at the least guarded portals.

The point may have been overlooked publicly, but not by the politicians, that Mr. Roosevelt could be renominated by acclamation at Chicago before Garner and the other candidates could even be placed in nomination.

When the roll of states is called in alphabetical order for the presentation of candidates, each state chairman, starting with Alabama, could arise and say simply: "I place in nomination the name of Franklin D. Roosevelt."

By the time the call reached the T for a nominating speech on Garner, Mr. Roosevelt could have acquired a sufficient number of votes to have brought the show to a conclusion.

Mr. Roosevelt did not let a word slip edgewise at his last post-convention conference with his big four in congress—Bankhead, Barkley, Rayburn and Garner. They talked politics, mostly republican politics. Willkie was preferred as a subject of conversation, but there seemed no agreement on how strong a candidate he might prove to be. The Farley conference at Hyde Park, in which the hidden ball was passed to the national chairman, was not mentioned.

The republicans in congress (not all sympathetic originally to the Willkie candidacy) are gleeful and encouraged by what they see as the wisdom of the few moves of the district congressman, criticized the administration for "delay in launching an adequate armament program for defense" at a meeting here last night.

"If you had warning that someone was going to break into your house within a night or two, you wouldn't wait three weeks dicker-ing for a gun," Ellis told the county's republican central committee.

Rufus Bean, Freewater, was elected state committeeman and Mrs. Edna Woodworth, Pendleton, state committeewoman. Clarence Penland, Pendleton, was named treasurer.

Triplets Born Early; Parents End Vacation MARSFIELD, July 11.—(P)—These were three reasons—two boys and a girl—why Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pruitt, Los Angeles, hurriedly ended a Lake Tahkenatch vacation.

The triplets, born today at McAuley hospital, were not expected for six weeks.

Inland Empire Swelters SPOKANE, July 11.—(P)—The Inland Empire was thoroughly submerged today by temperatures that ranged from 111 degrees at Lewiston, Idaho, to the 101 that set a new high mark for the year in Spokane.

Today's Garden By LILLIE L. MADSEN G. M.—By all means plant your viola, canterbury bell seed, foxglove and delphinium seed now for next year's bloom. Flats or seed pots make the plants easier to handle.

Pruning the roses is advised, but do not prune as severely now as you say, you have a very good place in the open, then sow your seed there. Be careful of slugs. You will have to keep a constant watch for slugs and cutworms when the small plants begin to appear.

No, it isn't necessary to water your lawn everyday. Soak well when you do irrigate and you will have a better lawn without so continuous watering.

W. J.—Yes summer pruning of the roses is advised, but do not prune as severely now as you say, you have a very good place in the open, then sow your seed there. Be careful of slugs. You will have to keep a constant watch for slugs and cutworms when the small plants begin to appear.

Frequently you will find that fall roses are the best in the Willamette valley.

A. M.—Red spider is likely attacking your juniper. Spray with any of the insecticides used for aphids. Ever get a very strong stream of water from the hose will do much to eradicate the spider, but I prefer a nicotine or rotenone spray.

Silke Is Appointed SPRINGFIELD, July 11.—(P)—P. H. Silke, Canby, has been appointed superintendent of Springfield schools.

Radio Programs KSLM—FRIDAY—1300 Kc. 6:30—Milkman Melodies. 7:00—News. 7:45—Melody Lane. 8:00—Breakfast Club. 8:30—News. 8:40—Bess Bye. 8:45—Carters of Elm Street. 9:00—Musical Interlude. 9:15—Melody Mart. 9:45—Keep Fit to Music. 10:00—News. 10:15—Ma Perkins. 10:30—His of Seasons Past. 10:45—Bachelors' Club. 11:00—Friendly Neighbors. 11:15—Tommy Reynolds Orchestra. 11:30—Melody Lane. 11:45—Moss and Music. 12:00—Value Parade. 12:15—Musical Interlude. 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade. 12:45—Millamete Valley Opinions. 1:00—Hollywood Whispers. 1:15—Interesting Facts. 1:30—Johnson Family. 1:45—Auction Sale. 1:50—Peggy's Music. 2:00—Musical Interlude. 2:15—Melodic Mood. 2:45—Grandma Travels. 3:00—Madison Family and Rose. 3:45—Ozark Leighton, Ballade. 4:00—News. 4:15—Hill Parade of Tomorrow. 4:30—Sinfonista. 4:45—Sports Guide. 5:15—Address: Russell Gages—AAA. 5:30—Shafter Parker. 5:45—News of the Gang Swing. 6:00—Raymond Gang Swing. 6:15—Local News. 6:30—News Hour Melodies. 6:45—News and Views—John B. Hughes. 7:00—His and Hers. 7:15—Ozark Melodians Orchestra. 7:30—Lone Ranger. 7:45—Sports Guide. 8:15—Harry James Orchestra. 8:30—Festival Varieties. 8:45—News of the Air. 9:00—Vocal Varieties. 9:30—Pullover Lewis, Jr. 9:45—News. 10:00—Hollywood Spotlight. 10:30—Musical Memories. 10:45—Hal Howard Orchestra. 11:00—News. 11:15—By Pearl Orchestra. 11:30—Musical Interlude. 11:45—Midnight Melodies. 12:00—News. KEE—FRIDAY—1150 Kc. 6:30—Musical Clock. 7:15—Financial Service. 7:30—Dr. Busch. 8:15—The Vasa Family. 8:30—National Park and Home. 8:45—Between the Bookends. 9:00—Home Institute. 10:00—News. 10:15—Mrs. W. W. W. World. 10:30—Orphan of Desires. 11:15—Annals of Honeycomb Hill. 11:30—John's Other Wife.

KGW—FRIDAY—620 Kc. 6:30—Sunrise Serenade. 7:00—News. 7:15—Home Folks Frolic. 7:30—Wife Savers. 7:45—Sun Bathers. 8:00—Woman in White. 8:15—The O'Neill. 8:30—Stars of Today. 9:00—Modern Meals. 9:15—Henry Walker. 9:30—By Kathleen Norris. 9:45—Dr. Kate. 10:00—Light of the World. 10:15—Lynette Clark's Daughters. 10:30—Valiant Lady. 10:45—Betty Crocker. 11:00—Story of Mrs. Martin. 11:15—Ma Perkins. 11:30—Pepper Young's Family. 11:45—Va and Se. 12:00—Ferdie Blake Faces Life. 12:15—Stella Dallas. 12:30—Lorenzo Jones. 12:45—Your Treat. 1:00—Girl Alone. 1:15—The O'Neill. 1:30—Hollywood News Flash. 1:45—Against the Storm. 2:00—The Singing Light. 2:15—The Romance. 2:30—News. 2:45—Strictly Business. 3:00—Hotel Billows Orchestra. 3:15—Stars of Today. 3:30—Cats Tyme. 3:45—Mrs. W. W. W. Family. 4:00—Don Amadio Show. 4:15—Gull Skins. 4:30—Fred Wang in Pleasure Time. 4:45—Edgewater Bank Orchestra. 5:00—Showtime. 5:15—Lynette Clark's Daughters. 5:30—Archer's Critique. 5:45—Death Valley Days.

KOAS—FRIDAY—550 Kc. 9:00—Today's Program. 9:05—The Home-makers' Hour. 9:15—Weather Forecast. 9:30—Monitor Views the News. 10:00—Story of Food. 10:15—News of the Masters. 10:30—News. 10:45—Farm Hour. 11:00—Farm Hour. 11:15—Music of the Masters. 11:30—Business. 11:45—Oregon on Parade.