

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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The Fifty Destroyers

It remained for the Italian duce, the well-jawed Mussolini, to invent a new stopping place in the shadowy land between complete neutrality and active belligerency with respect to the European war. The word—"non-belligerent"—had little meaning as he used it several months ago, and it still is vague in its outlines and unexplored in its implications. But for better or worse, non-belligerency rather than neutrality expresses the relation of the United States to the European war.

The determining factor has been the sale yesterday of fifty obsolete—but not antiquated, and still highly effective—destroyers to the government of Great Britain. Whether for good or evil, we have taken another step on the road to war by becoming in an active sense the supporter of the British war effort. Hitler, if he is a fool (which he is not) may use the sale as a pretext for declaring war; and if he does, the country can only consider itself to have reaped as it has sown. Yet it can hardly feel that the harvest would be an unjust one.

One's approval of the destroyer deal—and this paper, now that it has been made, is inclined to approve of the fact of the deal, if not the way in which it was made—is based chiefly on the assumption that it was made in response to a need recognized and put forward by naval experts and not by politically-minded laymen lacking in responsibility. We shall trust that the American naval authorities who presumably approved the deal, and above all the president, had American security at heart when they decided that American destroyers would fight now in the English Channel rather than possibly waiting to fight off the coasts of the western hemisphere; and if that trust proves to have been ill-placed in the course of months, the blame will not be difficult to place.

Assuming that the purpose of the administration was national defense and not politics in permitting the deal, and assuming also that reputable American naval advice was sought, obtained and adhered to, the sale is advantageous to America, just as it is to Britain. The Newfoundland, Bermuda and West Indian bases received in exchange are of immense value now, and will continue to be of great value in future years; the promise of the British not to sink their fleet is also of value, though the world is now a trifle cynical with respect to promises from anybody about anything. The fifty American destroyers may not save Britain; but the bases can be of enormous worth to an embattled western hemisphere if ever the hand of Hitler stretches toward South America.

In fine there is only one objection which one is inclined to raise with respect to the exchange. That is the way that it was consummated, i.e., by executive order, and by exchanges of notes between the foreign office and the state department, rather than through congressional action in the form of senatorial approval of a treaty, or formal legislation passed through both houses. The only suspicious thing, indeed, about the whole transaction is the president's light-heartedness in tossing off his decision; and one could wish that the country, and the congress had been better informed in advance. But this is still the administration with "secrets," and ill betide that the mere people should know them in advance.

Municipal Power Elections

Woodburn will vote this coming Friday on a municipal power program; West Salem will vote upon a similar issue just a week later. Since The Statesman pays taxes in neither community we will hold to our past policy of admitting that it is "none of our business." Yet there are points involved which are worthy of discussion.

Woodburn proposes a \$65,000 issue of general obligation bonds, and the municipality's debt is already of such volume that it is necessary to vote at the same time to abrogate the debt limitation. Some of Woodburn's business men are opposing the program because of this feature. The general obligation bond proposal puts all of the risk upon the shoulders of the community's taxpayers although it should make possible a better deal for the bonds.

At the hearings held in Woodburn on the municipal power issue, speakers from nearby Canby have been prominent, telling of the advantages that community has gained from municipal ownership. It should be recalled that Canby has had municipal ownership for many years, but until recently it bought its power from Portland General Electric company. Under that arrangement, Canby was required to charge, or did charge, the same rates as PGE. There was a profit left over, so Canby proceeded to pay for its system and later applied its profit to municipal expenses and improvements.

Now relieved of that arrangement since it is buying Bonneville power, Canby has reduced its rates. What some Woodburn voters may not realize is that, whatever benefits they may realize, they cannot hope to match Canby's rates until the debt they now propose to create, is largely liquidated.

Canby's minimum charge is now \$1 a month, as compared to PGE's 87 cents; beginning at about 50 kilowatt hours Canby's rates are lower, though if taxes returned to the public are subtracted from the PGE rates, the comparison again favors PGE. Since some of these taxes now going to county and state would be eliminated, it is somewhere near a standoff—if Woodburn could match Canby's rates. Woodburn will, on the contrary, be in comparable position to Cascade Locks, whose rates are substantially higher—the penalty for small-volume operation. If Woodburn gains any financial benefits from municipal operation, it will have to manage better than Cascade Locks has done.

There are a couple of other matters that have nothing to do—or not much—with the dollars and cents angle. Discussing the issue with Woodburn people, we find them talking of voting for or against "Bonneville power." Somehow the idea has been put over that this is a matter of getting, or not getting, Bonneville power. They are already using Bonneville power a considerable share of the time, and benefitting somewhat from its low cost.

The other matter concerns the Woodburn Independent. The editor of the Independent consistently resents the existence of privately-owned utilities. It is a sort of religion with him. And consistency is a virtue. But we wonder—if the editor of the Independent should take pencil and paper and figure out that the municipal ownership deal is not in the community's best interests—we wonder if he would tell his readers so?

Lax Prison Methods

In the spectacular escape of 36 convicts from a prison farm in Arkansas there is a stern lesson in penology but one which the management of the Oregon prison obviously does not need.

The news dispatches reveal that ringleaders in the escape were trustees—convicts—armed and placed on guard over their fellow-convicts! In fact it seemed that the more serious a man's offense and the longer his sentence, the better he was armed; for the two trustees armed with rifles were in for murder, the two armed with shotguns were serving shorter terms for burglary and armed robbery.

Up-to-date penology scarcely wastes time frowning upon such a lax system of detention as this; it insists, in fact, that when convicts are made trustees, they be segregated at all times when off duty from the other convicts; for there is a sort of community loyalty among convicts—enforced by them if not voluntarily shared—which makes it practically im-

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Charlie McNary, in his acceptance speech Tuesday, Aug. 27, struck a high note in paying tribute to our pioneers:

(Continuing from yesterday.) Still continuing the part of the McNary acceptance speech which he paid tribute to the pioneers: "The beginnings of Oregon lay in the imagination of Thomas Jefferson the apostle of democracy who served only two terms in the presidency, frowning upon contemplation of a third term. It was Jefferson who, after purchasing the Louisiana country, sent Lewis and Clark to spy out the land beyond the Rockies. Their journals kindled the interest of colonial America in the far west. The explorer, the fur trader and trader broke the trail. Next came the missionary; and close behind, the homeseeker. If we pause today we may realize in the old Oregon trail lessons applicable to the problems besetting us now.

"Most Americans are familiar with the broad outlines of this vast migration. They are not so familiar with the fact that it was a people's movement. The government at Washington, absorbed in the 1840s by the acquisition of Texas and the gathering clouds of secession, virtually ignored the trend toward the northwest. In congress, numerous voices were raised in discouragement. It was said that Oregon lay beyond our proper spiritual horizon; that the Rockies should mark the permanent boundary. . . . In spite of governmental objections, settlers were overrunning the Oregon Country. . . . The settlers, since established, would maintain themselves against the world.

"No, the government did not occupy the Oregon Country. That job, that God was accomplished by the people. Americans had not then been instructed that they must look to Washington for inspiration and sanction for their every act.

"And when the pioneers found they needed to organize their rude society into lawful patterns, they made no appeal to the government. They acted. They formed their own government. . . .

"We can afford to smile at the timidity of the obstructionists who lived a century ago. In their day, they thought America finished. They belonged to the tribe, seemingly numerous in each generation, which holds that the line has been reached. Little Americans they were; the type that advocated impeaching Jefferson for his purchase and derided Sewar for buying Alaska.

"In like manner, the little American of 1940 maintains that our race is run. The throb he hears is not the hum of America's dynamo, but the hardening of the American arteries. It is his despondent outlook that deflates the hopes of youth; insists that our industrial plant is over built and that we must look forward only to a slippared senility.

"We, of the old Oregon Country, reject the hypothesis of the little American. We are optimists. We say that America is not yet half built. The little American in the decline of American enterprise from the frontier to last free land was thrown open to settlement.

"We hold that the theory of the last frontier is only figurative. And, if you had to work it, never say Men paid for it in sweat and blood and loneliness, if not in dollars.

"As long as great rivers run idly to the sea, as long as vast reaches of virgin soil await only life giving water; as long as Americans prefer work to ease, and as long as well being is inequally distributed, then we are not finished. We are not finished.

"Our job is to work for an integrated self confident country, ready to undergo the discipline of the pioneer to the end that we may not only survive in a threatening world but distribute our blessings more abundantly."

(Concluded tomorrow.)

Editorial Comment

From Other Papers

AS McNARY SEES IT
In formally accepting the republican vice presidential nomination United States Senator Charles L. McNary of Oregon delivered a temperate but profound speech. He gave credit where it seemed to him that credit was due and consistently avoided anything that might be described as purely partisan criticism. On the whole the speech constitutes a thorough justification of a progressive's refusal to endorse the new deal.

While accrediting the new deal administration with some good intentions and some constructive achievements, McNary is convinced that its net effect is decidedly on the liability side. From him, one of the best agricultural authorities in politics today, there is tremendous practical force in the statement that the new deal has practically benefited foreign farmers at the expense of Americans.

When he advocated greater emphasis on individual initiative Senator McNary was speaking out of his own experience and observations as a resident and political representative of a section of the nation in which the pioneer spirit is still strongly exemplified. Truly, as he expressed it, "this is not a mere contest between rival political parties; this campaign is a conflict between philosophies."

The new deal has sought to inculcate reliance on the government in place of self-reliance and to supplant hope with fear; and a republican victory this year is necessary for revival of the spirit that will promote national progress.—South Bend, Ind., Tribune.

possible for a trusty to plot with his fellows if he mingles with them.
One can only gasp at the condition in the Arkansas prison farm as disclosed by the details of the Labor day break.

A Situation Redolent With Consequences



"Flying Blinds"

Chapter 20

"Tex can't be serious," said Hugh.
"He packed his clothes and left the apartment."

"Then you must have had a quarrel."

"I swear we didn't."
Hugh tried to persuade Judith to eat something but she refused.

"Now the point is I must have some legal advice. If he wants a divorce, a divorce he shall have."
"You're being hasty. This will blow over!"

Judith looked at Hugh. "Do you believe that? How could I ever forget this?"
Judith finally convinced Hugh that Tex had been quite serious about the whole thing. And so he said, "I'll send you to a friend of mine. I'll go telephone him now."

Hugh was gone five minutes. He found his lawyer friend in a room on the top floor. When he came back to the table he felt better. Attorney Richards had reassured him, "I'm an expert at calming down irate wives, Hugh. Don't worry."

Hugh patted Judith's hand as it lay on the table. Men paid for it in sweat and blood and loneliness, if not in dollars.

"Our job is to work for an integrated self confident country, ready to undergo the discipline of the pioneer to the end that we may not only survive in a threatening world but distribute our blessings more abundantly."

"There's only one thing I can advise if you wish to push the thing through in a hurry. That's Reno. But it costs money." He continued: "You could get a divorce in Michigan in about three months if your residence were established, but I'm afraid the court would rule New Jersey as your home. Reno takes about forty-two days. Have you money enough?"

"I think so."
"But you better wait a few days before you decide anything. Then I'll write a friend of mine out there and he can look after you."
The lawyer found Judith hard to handle. She was horribly hurt and shaken. No use talking to her in that frame of mind. He refused to take any money for his advice.

"You're Lanning's friend. That makes it all right with me."
Judith went on back to the apartment. She had to think about packing. Mechanically she went on about her preparations. The telephone rang and she rushed to it with a desperate hope it might be Tex.

It was Roy Trendel looking for Tex. Judith had known Roy for a long time. He was factory pilot for the Mercury ships which Tex flew.

"Where's the big shot?" Roy asked.
"He's supposed to be at the airport," Judith answered.
"Well, he isn't, for that's where I am. Ferrying a ship back to the coast tonight. I'd like to see him before I leave. Ellen is with me."

Ellen was Roy's most recent romantic interest.
There was more conversation. Judith answered mechanically. Then she got an idea: "When are you leaving?"
"About five. I'm waiting here for a wire from the coast before I start."

"Could I go with you?"
"Sure, if you want. It's against the rules but I'm a long way from home."

"Then I'll be there at five," Judith had made up her mind.
"What route are you taking?"
"Where I'm going, I think. Where are you going?"
"The coast," Judith could not bring herself to tell him her destination. She could fly back to Reno from Los Angeles, or take a train. It wasn't far. How queer it was she was going to see the west now! For a divorce which she detested!
"You're welcome to come if you want to. Better ask Tex. He might not want you flying in this new crate on a trial trip."
Judith went back to her packing. She filled a small trunk, left it to be sent on later. Then she packed an airplane suitcase case. She had enough time. There were some small bills to be paid. Milk man, the laundry. She left the money for them with the caretaker.
Tex could do what he wanted with the apartment. She never wanted to see anything in it again!

At a quarter to five, Judith arrived at Newark airport in a taxi. The porter knew her.
"For Mr. Trendel's ship," she said. He headed for a large red airplane which was already on the line. In the waiting room she found Ellen Stark, Roy's fiancée.
"I'm glad you're going. It's a long trip."
Judith was so nervous that Ellen asked, "What's wrong, Judith?"
"Nothing."
"Roy's with some of the big shots. They're arguing about carburetors. What's a carburetor?"

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Today's Garden
By LILLIE L. MADSEN
B.F.—Yes, there is a tree wood dressing made from Bordeaux. You simply stir raw linseed oil into dry Bordeaux powder until a paintable mixture is obtained. Then put it on the wood.

Botrytis is a genus name for a widespread fungus and that is why you find it a peony blight, fire disease of tulips, on lilacs and many other plants. It will also be found on sinlins and marigolds. Pick off all diseased leaves and flowers and then spray with Bordeaux. The disease spores live over winter in the garden and clean gardening is essential to its riddance.

Tri-ogen is a spray; Kolotex is used as a dust. Both are good control measures for the rose garden. It is important that you go over your rose bed thoroughly now if you want good October roses. Almost every mail brings questions about the rose garden at this time of the year. We are coming into one of Oregon's finest rose-times, I think. A contact spray is necessary to control the leafhopper which does so much damage in the rose garden in September.



Pictured is artist's conception of the new low wing all-metal Curtiss dive bomber which the Curtiss-Wright corporation revealed it has developed with the US navy and which is almost ready for test flights. The new craft is powered with a 1700-horsepower 14-cylinder engine, establishes new standards for aircraft of this type by having unusually heavy fire, increased bomb carrying capacity and general performance.—IIN Service.

News Behind Today's News

By PAUL MALLON

ABOARD PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S SPECIAL TRAIN, Sept. 3 — Mr. Roosevelt can still give them all the cards and spades in a m p a i g n
The speech, only subtle contrasting pledges for cheap electricity, sorrow that "some people" misunderstood the great purposes of TVA, personal recollections showing FDR had always been against private power, how "practical" the president has been instead of wasteful, (mentioning his Dutch and Scotch ancestors), how unlike a dictator he had been in letting state and local governments, farmers, laborers, "cooperate" in building the dam . . . not a word about reelection or third term, only: "These dams (Willkie said this, too) but to improve and extend them." . . . "The progress that we propose to continue to make" . . . "We must have continuance of your labor." . . . "How better" could you say, "Re-elect me?"

Then in the Great Smoky National park which has been ready for dedicating for a job year (it was finished in June, 1935) Mr. Roosevelt chose the occasion to out-pioneer the Willkie acceptance speech, again without conceding there is such a person.

Our ancestors were paraded in this speech, keeping their rifles near their axes to save themselves from the Indian scalping knives, arrows and tomahawks which have been replaced, my friends, today by "the airplane, tank and machine gun." . . . No Hitler attack "this fall" appeared in this one, but "the greatest" attack on us has even been launched against freedom of the individual is nearer the Americas than ever before. . . . Nothing about re-election, but "we need not swap the gain of better living for the gain of better defense. I propose to retain the one and gain the other." . . . The president even borrowed without credit, the Willkie acceptance line (Willkie borrowed it from Churchill) that all of this defense is going to "require sacrifices from us all." . . . Nothing about anyone else standing for fascism, but plenty about how free Mr. Roosevelt has kept our liberty with the implied question of who could do it better. . . .

Thus does Mr. Roosevelt's re-election, from his own words, become imperative—although you must admit he did not exactly say so.

This, then, is to be the Roosevelt type of campaign for the third term, except for a job as a statesman ever set his mind to, and clearly now one behind the capacity of his subordinates to attempt.

Only he can say with a face that is straight, except for a minor wrinkle in the eye, "I am too busy for politics."

This is to be the classic counterattack of the campaign. (Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc. reprinted in whole or in part strictly prohibited.)

Radio Programs

- These schedules are supplied by the respective stations. Any variations noted by listeners are due to changes made by the stations without notice to this newspaper.
- 10:00—Ferry Star Final.
- 10:30—Henry King Orchestra.
- 11:00—Manny Strand Orchestra.
- 11:35—News.
- 11:00—News.
- 11:15—Morton Gould Orchestra.
- 7:00—News.
- 7:15—Home Folks Frolis.
- 7:30—Wife Saver.
- 7:45—Sam Hayes.
- 8:00—Carmen Whita.
- 8:15—Tus O'Neill.
- 8:30—Stars of Today.
- 8:45—Betty Crocker.
- 9:00—By Kathleen Norris.
- 9:15—Light of the World.
- 10:00—Arnold Grimm's Daughter.
- 10:15—Light of the World.
- 10:30—Betty Crocker.
- 11:00—Story of Mary Marilla.
- 11:15—Parade.
- 11:30—Pepper Young's Family.
- 11:45—Vic and Sada.
- 12:00—Stella Dallas.
- 12:15—Stella Dallas.
- 12:30—Lorenza Jones.
- 1:00—Girl Alone.
- 1:15—Midnight Today.
- 1:30—The O'Neill.
- 1:45—Hollywood Playhouse.
- 2:00—Midnight Today.
- 2:15—Mine to Cherish.
- 2:30—Against the Storm.
- 2:45—The Bright Light.
- 3:00—Fred Warren's Pleasure Time.
- 3:15—News.
- 3:30—Kaltenbach.
- 4:00—Speaking of Glamour.
- 4:30—Giennies Relax.
- 5:00—Paul Carson Organist.
- 5:30—Stars of Today.
- 5:45—Cocktail Hour.
- 6:00—Hollywood Playhouse.
- 6:15—Flanigan Party.
- 6:30—Carmen Whita.
- 6:45—Paul Carson Organist.
- 7:00—Stanford University.
- 7:15—The Bright Light.
- 7:30—News Flash.
- 7:45—Hollywood Playhouse.
- 8:00—Florentine Gardens Orchestra.
- 8:15—Bal Tabarin Orchestra.
- 8:30—Florentine Gardens Orchestra.
- 8:45—Musical Clock.
- 9:00—Dr. Brook.
- 9:15—Breakfast Club.
- 9:30—Nations Farm and Home.
- 9:45—Between the Bookends.
- 10:00—News.
- 10:15—Ladies in the Headlines.
- 10:30—Orpheus of Divorce.
- 10:45—Amadeus of Honeymoon Hill.
- 11:00—John's Other Wife.
- 11:15—US Department Agriculture.
- 11:30—News.
- 11:45—Market Report.
- 12:00—The Quiet Hour.
- 12:15—Masters of Melody.
- 12:30—Associated Press News.
- 12:45—European News.
- 1:00—Easy Does It.
- 1:15—Easy Does It.
- 1:30—Portland on Review.
- 1:45—Irene Wickes.
- 2:00—The Song of Your Life.
- 2:15—European News.
- 2:30—Easy Aces.
- 2:45—Kiss, Tracer.
- 3:00—Quiz Quiz Whiz.
- 3:15—Manhattan at Midnight.
- 3:30—Diamond Dust.
- 3:45—Baseball.
- 4:00—Francis Orchestra.
- 4:15—Ambassador Orchestra.
- 4:30—The Moving World.
- 4:45—Paul Carson Organist.
- 5:00—Midnight News Roundup.
- 5:00—Today's Programs.
- 5:15—Hummabers Hour.
- 5:30—Weather Forecast.
- 5:45—Monitor Views the News.
- 6:00—Little Red School House.
- 6:15—Music of the Masters.
- 6:30—Farm Hour.
- 6:45—Farm Hour.
- 7:00—Farm Hour.
- 7:15—Farm Hour.
- 7:30—Farm Hour.
- 7:45—Farm Hour.
- 8:00—Oregon on Parade.