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## Encirclement

No one can deny, as the Tokyo papers said,
that Japan is hemmed in, encircled, stifled by the thratening states of Britain, America,
Australia and Holland as represented by her
Eastarn Indian possessions Similiarly, no one can deny that the United
States is hemmed in, encircled and stifled by
Canada, Meximo, Japan and Russia. All have Canada, Mexieo, Japan and Russia. All have
somewhat different national interests from our-
selves, are motived by a somewhat different
mode of thinking, and would undeniably like
to ene mode of thinking, and would undeniably like
to have the resources which we as Americans
 ity sphere," and that this policy is a national sphere "firmly at any cont," but nonetheles
would like to see it created.
Encirclement, and the will to build new do Encirclement, and the will to build new do-
mations for "mutual prosperity" are hardy new
batle cries, either for America or for Japan,
however, and it is to however, and it is to be doubted that such
decerepit arguments, reeated out of such fustian
and cast loose on the winds of the world in the
haranguing of Japanese newsther scribes can haranguing of Japanese newspaper scribes can
have very much effect on the future of East have very much effect on the future
Asia, the United States or the worl.
The intention of producing them, is to make them the heralds of fear among
those who would deny Japan hee conquests;
hnd for all their ludicrous wiscom they will
have effect if they have effect if they tighten for a moment the
nerves of the waiting people in the Indies,
Australia and what was once French IndoChina. Words such as these are the white ance until a riper hour.
All one can add by way of postscript is that
nobody's taken in, and that if Japan still wants nobody's taken in, and that if Japan still wants
to go south for fame and fortune, the risks are
oxactly the same as they were day before yesfound thefore were encircledinal In little Nome ways evesen
that's better than being conquered.

## Bridges

The Oregon state highway commission
hereby granted and vested with authority and
power in the name of the state of Oregon power ind the name of the state of Oregon
make and enter into agreement or agreemen
with with the governmen of the United States or
any of its agencies, with the state of Washing-
tonituy
poitical suinty, municipality, port or othe
 purpose of carrying out or putting into effect
the right, power and authoritt granted by the

$\qquad$ ease bill-occurs in several places in the bill way commission to build or buy ority granted in the section quoted abo
ould appear ample, to say the least. y Rep. Heisler of The Dalles and Rep. Lage of
Hood River. Heisler's canstitutents, one might Dalles or between there and the Deschutes rive

## on the other hand, be interested in persuading the state to take over the two privately-fi- nanced toll bridges the Bridge of the Gol nanced toll bridges; the Bridge of the Gods and the one at Hood River. Now it may be that the distressed entrepeneurs of these bridges and the Rainier-Longview span are entitled to relief. But a more urgent circumstance is that from. Hood River eartwert and then northward, there is no bridge across there is no bridge until one crosses into Wash- ington and reaches Pasco ties. is true that the bill in the legislature would It empower the highway commission either to heaven knows what else. But in viidew of the greater urgency of new bridges, it might have been better to grant that authority if it is is lacking now-than to open the gate as widely as <br> In the hurly-burly of the legislative session, it is sometimes difficult to give proper due to right decisions made in other, more local branches of government. The legislature, however, should not steal public attention and approval from the im- portant decision of the Marion county court, and particularly of County Judge Hewlett, to de- mand that the county surveyor sumpit his fi- nancial records and those of his deputies to the 

## News Behind

 The News
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## Prstse public peep indicating extent to which the direttors haxe expanded their vision lies in the statements of E . P. Stetunius, jr.s. head of

 in the statements of E. R. Stettinius, jr., head ofthe priorities division. He announced last October
11t ther would be plenty of aluminum to meet
the demands of the defense program. He double-
vowed the statement on Noyember 28, saying the production of aluminum during the next two
years appears adequate uo take care of miltary
requirements as now estimated and present civil-
ton ian requirements with a sufficient surplus to per-
mit some increase in civilian requirements." Then
he got sore about it on December 29 . He said: "It is unfortunate that public anxiety over our
national defense program should be based oon
shortages (aluminum) which do not exist. Creation
 of aluminum "to give immediate attention to the
use of substitues including plastics, because of
the impact of the defense program which may make it imporsibe derense program which may
eral pubic wourne thith the usual supply of the genThe appeal was reiterated February 14, and on
the 1 Thrs. Roosevelt publicy foresuw a curb
mn aluminum pans, among other things.



Just so It's not Plunged to the Hilt in the World
Bits for Breakfast


Radio Programs



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## Wotan's Wedge

