

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, President

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## Jobless Fund "Grab"

That the world is going to pot, has been the firm belief of persons predisposed so to believe in all times and under all conditions. Right now, perhaps there is more evidence to support that proposition than at any time in the last century—and still we don't believe it. Yet we'll grant that real, substantial causes for worry are so plentiful just now that no one needs to go around manufacturing ghost worries.

Some Oregonians have been perturbed recently over the bill which made its appearance in the lower house of congress, the effect of which would be to federalize, in a measure, the unemployment compensation funds which belong to the states.

To avoid any misunderstanding, we had better say before going any further that this was a vicious measure. But you will note that we use the past tense. The bill has been withdrawn. It has been replaced by one which appears to be decidedly less objectionable; one which plainly states, at any rate, that it is not intended in any sense to federalize the unemployment compensation systems of the various states, nor their funds.

The most up-to-date information is however that even this bill will get nowhere. Of the original bill, we had been advised that even if it passed in the house it would have been buried in senate committee. Of course despite these assurances, like Pearl Harbor and the self-pensioning act which got through congress without even the members knowing it—if you believe them now—"it can happen here." Continued alertness is recommended. Alertness of state officials, for that matter, heretofore translated into action, may be the only reason this bill is not a real peril even now.

Though discussion in the past tense robs the subject of some of its pertinency, it may still be worthwhile to explain with a degree of preciseness the nature of this infiltrating attack. The proposal was not, as some may have inferred from the tone of objections raised, that of taking over the unemployment compensation business in one sweep as was done with its first cousin, the employment service.

Instead it came up under the guise of relief for persons unemployed due to the industrial dislocations of the war effort—"priorities unemployment" and temporary idleness due to plant change-over for war production. Liberalizing benefits for such persons was the ostensible purpose and to some extent this was to be accomplished through the use of federal funds appropriated for the purpose. But the measure included some provisions which would have authorized interference in the disbursement of state benefits; as for example, the right of appeal from the state authorities to the federal social security board, on such issues as eligibility for benefits, or their amount.

That is a sample of the camel's efforts to get his nose into the tent. It is quite probable as some newspapers have charged, that the bill was inspired by new dealers who have no patience with states' rights and who want to melt the three billion dollars which the states now have on deposit in this fund, temporarily into the war kettle and later when it is recreated, administer it as a federal fund and a unified federal program.

As for merely getting this fund into federal hands, that is not a factor for Uncle Sam has always been its custodian, and never fear, the fund doesn't exist in actuality but only as an IOU, having heretofore been borrowed and spent for this and that. All this was mandatory under the original social security law.

The real objection to federalization is the non-predictability, heretofore thoroughly demonstrated, of federal administration in such matters. Since employed persons began paying fractions of their wages into a fund for old-age retirement, the government has already once broken faith by changing the terms of repayment, to the advantage of older workers and the disadvantage of younger ones. State governments too might break faith, but with less impunity. State governments are close enough to the people that retribution is more certain. The futility of protesting federal government's foibles, we have seen demonstrated these nine years.

## Prophecy

"War with Japan is inevitable," a Californian has reported to the White House. As to the ultimate end of the war... an American observer for five months in Manchuria writes from Manila: "I hope we will get at it soon. Japan will undoubtedly make a good showing at the start, but the end will be a great disaster for her."

Those sound like last year's predictions. Actually they were made in February, 1907, and we extract them from the "35 years ago" column of the Bend Bulletin. Anyway the Californian was right though he had a long while to wait before his predictions came true. Now for the "American observer." We trust he will not have to wait another 35 years. The fellows who said our navy would wipe the Nips off the face of the earth in two weeks are already in the doghouse though Pearl Harbor gave them an alibi.

## Lack of Confidence

After a hectic battle the California assembly approved an eight million dollar appropriation for a state guard, but hedged the measure about with a number of restrictions as to the number of men to be in service at any time, and the nature of their service.

Governor Culbert Olson has attacked the law in the state supreme court, insisting that all of it—except the eight million dollars—is unconstitutional because it proposes to limit constitutional powers as commander-in-chief of the guard. He may have a case.

No matter how it turns out, all this is a sorry spectacle growing out of sorry state of affairs—extreme lack of confidence in the governor, without relation to partisan politics, on the part of the legislature.

## Worth It

The mathematics are a bit out of our reach but the reliable Associated Press asserts that the war effort to date since Pearl Harbor has cost—in sums appropriated, not all yet actually spent—each individual in the United States \$369. Appropriations voted by the house on Tuesday add about \$246 more, making the total \$615.

Well, who wouldn't be glad to pay off a debt like that in installment—rather than accept the alternative, the thing that would happen if we hadn't made the effort?

To some extent—indeed to a great extent since purchases have already gone well over the billion dollar figure—we can "pay as we go" by buying defense bonds and stamps.

## News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Answers of the average citizen to government officials who have called him apathetic continue coming to this desk in unprecedented volume suggesting all is not straightened out yet.

Promised clean-up of civilian defense and repeal of congressional pensions will do much toward reestablishing that mutual confidence between citizen and government which is essential to success in our war effort, but according to my mail it leaves the chief popular plaint untouched.

The main demand is that the taxpayers and bond buyers, straining to give every possible cent to the war effort, receive some convincing assurances their money is being wisely and economically spent.

This should be easier to meet than the other two. Mr. Roosevelt could appoint some economy-minded authority whose name would inspire confidence (such a man, say, as Senator Byrd) and let him chase and eradicate waste. Or perhaps the job could be done by the Truman committee, which is now trailing the same subject, but too far behind.

A second step toward inspiring the men in the street, factory and barnyard might well be the search hereafter by Mr. Roosevelt for appointees not identified with his old new deal socializing groups.

It is a surprising fact that only one of my growing list of complainants is dissatisfied with production. Public dissatisfaction on this score seems relaxed since the reorganization of OPM and the designation of Donald Nelson to do the job, although this was the sorest spot until the change was made.

But a number of people apparently still believe the greater half of the war effort is in the hands of familiar reform faces like those of Henderson, Landis, MacLeish, Hopkins.

Columning is a two-day reporting duty. Having reported what the government officials fear concerning public apathy, I believe it is my duty to continue reporting the responses of the people who continue writing me in greater earnestness and volume than upon any subject in my previous 12 years of columning.

Only along this line can democracy function efficiently, drawing out into the open every well founded grievance, laying all dark suspicions out on the table for debate and clarification. Only thus can harmful atmospheres be cleared.

In furtherance of that duty, here are excerpts from the last tabulated batches of mail (supplementing those reported in the column published February 16):

"Cut out hundreds of new deal bureaus, and put the bureaucrats to work in industry or in the armed forces." "Outlaw labor politics." "We need less propaganda, fewer publicity schemes to build morale and less extravagance in government." "We don't need hands and minute speakers. What we want is sincerity and the absence of deceptions." "Let our officials try to give us wise, efficient leadership and see how apathy disappears." "Our boys have been taken away, but welders and men essential to the war effort are allowed to strike at will and slow up production. They should be put under the same discipline as soldiers."

"Every newspaper is to blame for the attitude each and every one of us has toward the war. Let's hear the bad news. Don't stress just the good." "There isn't anything about the people's morale that calls for their being treated like a nation of sub-normal juveniles." "It is possible that the American people have been under the impression that part of this tax that we pay was being used for our protection."

"Imagine the sale of war material to a potential enemy six months before they declare war on us." "Not enough letters in the alphabet now for identification of boards in Washington." "Let the politicians show their willingness to sacrifice."

"It seems the word 'alert' and 'careful' are not to be found in the lexicon of our navy." "The man next door gets relief, why should not I? (apparently serious)." "Labor has been petted and pampered. Why?" "A housecleaning in the army and navy departments." "The Japanese have not been removed from areas on the Pacific coast where they endanger the safety of the country."

"Farmers are worried about where they are going to get help to keep their farms going." "If soldiers can be sent to Ireland, why cannot MacArthur get reinforcements?" "Could we, via the Aleutians, slam into one of the islands just north of Japan proper, and use them as bombing bases for a week to destroy Japan and then get out?"

But perhaps the whole thought of these people is wrapped up in an editorial, sent by a reader, from the Glen Falls, NY, Post Star, which concluded:

"Mr. President and associated leaders, we the people are not being 'loyal, disunited, unpatriotic in throwing back the ball of criticism to you in this way. We are in a complaining mood, yes. But we are not complaining about the work and sacrifice which has come to us. The evolution of the war is not up to us, it is up to you. We cannot lead. We can only follow. We are eager to follow."

"Lead us bravely and we will show you an insurmountable wall of fighting people."



"Millions for Pensions, but Not One Cent for Donald Duck!"

## Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Calling all our 2-18-42 congressmen for work on a proper, fair flax tariff to protect Oregon:

(Continuing from yesterday.) A series in this column, running from November 18 to 23, 1933, inclusive, was headed: "Double Salem's Population Within Five Years or Less." The series started with the statement: "There is a way to double the population of Salem within five years or less. And this would more than double the actual worth of property within the city limits and the metropolitan district, including the suburbs that ought to be under the municipal government. And it would more than double the actual worth of farming lands in the trade territory of the capital city and put all the surrounding small cities, towns and villages back on the map. It would make Salem the most outstandingly prosperous and solidly growing city of its class in the United States."

"That way is the development of the flax and linen industries; putting them on the road toward the greater destiny that is certain to come to them in due time. Look over the picture to date. Get it in the outline portrayed in the paragraphs that follow:

"Flax fiber was grown in the Willamette valley, Oregon, as early as 1837, in the Keil colony at Aurora, 25 miles north of Salem, and it was retted, scutched, spun into yarn and woven into cloth there. Samples of the cloth are in use to this day. In 1876, at the Centennial fair at Philadelphia, flax fiber (produced in Parrish Gap near Jefferson some 15 miles south of Salem) was exhibited in competition with all the world—and was awarded first place on every one of the nine points considered by the judges, who did not know the country or section of origin of any samples in the showing. There have been many experiments in the industry here, all successful, as regards the growing of a superior quality of flax fiber."

"The state of Oregon has had a flax industry at its penitentiary since 1915, and flax has been grown to supply it each year up to date, in the counties of the central Willamette valley, mostly within hauling distances with the farmers with their wagons and trucks. There has been developed in these years a flax growing cult, so that now the primary industry on the land is carried on as well as in any section of the world; perhaps with greater knowledge of the proper requirements than, on the average, can be found elsewhere; anywhere."

"It employs warm water retting, discovered by the English during the World War (One), vastly shortening and cheapening this process. Within the 18 years since 1915, modern invention has made it possible to turn out flax fiber at a profit in the Willamette valley at prices as low as the average for cotton fiber in the United States prior to 1929."

"Thus, with up to date machinery and practices in manufacturing, from the fiber stage, linens may be put on the market in the Willamette valley to sell at as low prices as cottons in the New England and southern states, or very near thereto. This means a possibility of linen goods on an even keel with cotton goods—with linens six to 12 times as valuable in wearability, and 100 times, yes several hundred times as valuable in durability. Or almost on even keel."

"There is no boll weevil in flax, no disease to hamper flax growing in the Willamette valley where rotation is employed. And, here, flax is an excellent rotation crop; that is, fiber flax. Flax is a miracle growth. It produces the strongest of all vegetable fibers. In 70 to 90 days it develops a fiber to stand in the sails of the ships of the sea and the wings of ships of the air against the hurricane. And to outlast the mummies of the pharaohs of Egypt in point of time. Linen is found in the tombs of the Valley of the Kings with an intricacy of weave

## Today's Garden

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

Mrs. J. S. asks when to prune her butterfly bush, also the lilac and spirea. She also asks if the spirea will do well on the southeast side of the house.

Answer: The butterfly bush should be pruned to the ground this spring. The last of this month will be about right. If the plant lacks symmetry during the summer, you can pinch it back from time to time. As soon as the blooms wither, cut them off and you will have another bloom.

She does not state what type of spirea she has. If hers is a spring blooming spirea the bloom will be sacrificed if it is cut now. Wait until the plant is through blooming. Most of the spirea will do all right on the southeast side of the house. They do not seem particular as to location.

Lilacs should not be pruned more than necessary to keep them in shape. Cut off the blooms as soon as they are dead. If the lilac is scraggy, it can be headed back, but pruning now will mean a sacrifice of bloom.

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## The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

### BIRTH RECORDS

To the Editor: Your editorial in today's paper, entitled: "Were You Ever Born?" surely hit the spot! Ever since Pearl Harbor I have been trying to get my birth certificate so that I could answer the call for skilled labor in the defense program. Therefore, I heartily endorse your editorial. Keep the good work going! Perhaps you can prod the state board of health into action!

HARRY J. AEBI, Dallas, Ore.



Capt. Arthur W. Wermuth (above) of Chicago, was reported by AP Correspondent Clark Lee to have killed 114 Japanese and captured many more on Bataan peninsula, Philippines. His fellow Filipino scout officers call him America's No. 1 one-man-army. This photo was made about the time of his graduation from Northwestern Military Academy near Lake Geneva, Wis., in 1932. Wermuth has won the silver star for gallantry, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart award with two clasps.

# 'Hutch' of the R.A.F.

By PETER MUIR

Chapter 12 Continued.

Wendy pulled herself back in the seat where she was out of sight, and counted the stretchers as they were loaded. One, two, three, four, five. The door clicked shut and an orderly came forward to report that all was well, and to respectfully wish her a good trip.

It would be quicker to go around London than through it, Wendy decided. Besides, she had to pass Windsor, well to the west of the capital, to drop the civilian case.

Her car was running smoothly and the road, which she knew well, was good, so she was able to make fast time. By a hurried calculation she figured that she could be at home for luncheon. She would have

modern men cannot yet duplicate.

"Salem, Oregon, is the only place on earth that is surrounded by 500,000 acres of land suitable for producing fiber flax equal in fineness to the best ever grown, even as good as Courtrai's highest quality, almost within eyeshot of the plants for its manufacture—for making it into more than 100 commercial articles for which it is the raw material."

(Continued tomorrow.)

the much needed wash, eat a bite, and return to Watford well before sundown.

It was a bright September day and the trees were beginning to turn a russet brown. Autumn was in the air and a stiff breeze had blown away the clouds, leaving a perfect blue sky overhead. Good day for raids, she thought. These kind of days had been the joy of her life before. She had loved to ride with her father through the open fields at a brisk trot and feel the sharp, invigorating air on her face, breathe it deep into her lungs. Now, without knowing it, she preferred dull days with thick, low lying clouds, and if there was a rain all the better. Heavy rain if possible—it kept the enemy planes on the ground.

As the ambulance rolled along, its engine purring evenly, Wendy's thoughts turned back to the raid she had been through that morning. It had been pretty dreadful, she admitted to herself, and she had jolly well had the wind up, in other words, was scared. She never pretended not to be frightened. No one did who was not a liar or an imbecile. You simply didn't have high explosive bombs dropping all around you and like it if you were at all normal.

(To Be Continued)

## Radio Programs

KSLM—WEDNESDAY—1230 Kc.

- 6:30—Rise 'N' Shine.
- 7:00—News in Brief.
- 7:30—Rise 'N' Shine.
- 7:30—News.
- 7:45—Sunrise Salute.
- 8:00—County Agent.
- 8:05—Tune Tabloid.
- 8:30—News Broadcast.
- 8:35—Just Quote Me.
- 9:00—Pastor's Call.
- 9:15—Four Notes.
- 9:45—Martha Tilton.
- 10:00—World in Review.
- 10:05—Musical College.
- 10:30—Women in the News.
- 10:35—Melodic Moods.
- 10:45—Dr. R. P. Thompson.
- 11:00—Some Like It Sweet.
- 11:30—WU Chapel.
- 11:45—Hullion Trio.
- 12:00—Ivan Dittmar.
- 12:15—United Press News.
- 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
- 12:35—Willamette Valley Opinions.
- 12:55—Interlude.
- 1:00—Market Reports.
- 1:10—Interlude.
- 1:15—Mildred Melody.
- 1:30—Isle of Paradise.
- 1:45—Sing Song Time.
- 2:00—Westerners.
- 2:05—Dr. Martin.
- 2:30—Musical Pickup.
- 2:45—Old Oregon News.
- 3:15—International Christian Mission.
- 4:00—Freddie Nagle Orchestra.
- 4:15—News.
- 4:30—Teatime Tunes.
- 5:00—Value Parade.
- 5:30—To the Point.
- 5:35—Dinner Hour Music.
- 6:00—Tonight's Headlines.
- 6:15—News Roundup.
- 6:30—String Serenade.
- 7:00—News in Brief.
- 7:05—Interesting Facts.
- 7:15—The Roundup.
- 7:45—Sky Over Britain.
- 8:00—Cur Gal in Review.
- 8:10—Listen & Answer.
- 8:30—McWain's Melange.
- 8:45—Sincerely Yours.
- 9:00—News Tabloid.
- 9:15—Salem Restaurant Ass'n. Talk.
- 9:30—Singing Sophomores.
- 9:30—Pied Piper.
- 10:00—The Dance.
- 10:30—New.
- 10:45—Sunset Trio.
- 11:00—They Too Liked Music.
- 11:30—Last Minute News.

KEK—WEDNESDAY—1190 Kc.

- 6:00—Sunrise Serenade.
- 6:15—National Farm & Home.
- 6:45—Western Agriculture.
- 7:00—Clark Dennis, Singer.
- 7:15—Breakfast Club.
- 7:30—Haven Camp Rest.
- 7:35—Precinct Presents.
- 8:30—Keep It Club With Patty Jean.
- 9:00—Southernaires.
- 9:15—Gwen Williams.
- 9:30—Helen Kitch.
- 9:45—Charmaine & My Live.
- 10:00—New Show a Day.
- 10:15—Breakfast at Sardi's.
- 11:00—Hotel Taft Orchestra.
- 11:15—Nature Trails.
- 11:30—Stars of Today.
- 11:45—Keep Fit Club.
- 12:00—Orphans of Divorce.
- 12:05—Amanda of Honeymoon Hill.
- 12:30—John's Other Wife.
- 12:45—Star Flashes.
- 1:00—Your Livestock Reporter.
- 1:15—News Headlines and Highlights.
- 1:30—Market Reports.
- 1:35—Rose City Calendar.
- 1:55—News.
- 2:00—The Quiet Hour.
- 2:30—A House in the Country.
- 2:45—Wayne Van Dine.
- 3:00—Between the Bookends.
- 3:15—News.
- 3:30—Stringtime.
- 3:45—Ask Eileen Nash.
- 4:00—Arthur Tracy.
- 4:15—Mr. Keen, Tracer.
- 4:30—Stars of Today.
- 4:45—Upton Close, Commentator.
- 5:00—Adventure Stories.
- 5:15—Flying Patrol.
- 5:30—News.
- 5:45—Tom Mix Straight Shooter.
- 6:00—Secret City.
- 6:15—Rollie Truxt Elm.
- 7:00—American Music Hour.
- 7:30—Modern Music Box.
- 7:40—Miracles of Faith.
- 7:45—News Headlines and Highlights.
- 8:00—Quiz Kids.
- 8:30—Mannhattan at Midnight.
- 8:45—Easy Aces.
- 9:00—Army Camp News.
- 9:30—Moonlight Sonata.
- 10:00—Basin St. Chamber Music.
- 10:30—Broadway Bandwagon.
- 10:45—St. Francis Drake Hotel.
- 11:00—This Moving World.
- 11:30—War News Round-Up.

KGW—NBC—WEDNESDAY—620 Kc.

- 6:00—News.
- 6:05—Quack of Dawn.
- 6:30—Early Birds.
- 7:00—News Headlines and Highlights.
- 7:15—Music of Vienna.
- 7:30—Reveille Roundup.
- 7:45—Sam Hayes.
- 8:00—Stars of Today.
- 8:15—Symphonic Swing.
- 8:30—Modern Music Hour.
- 9:00—Women's World.
- 9:15—News.
- 9:30—Woman's Neighbor.
- 10:15—Boss Johnson.
- 10:30—Famous Children.
- 10:45—Dr. Kate.
- 11:00—Light of the World.
- 11:15—The Mystery Man.
- 11:30—Rocky Road.
- 11:45—Arnold Grimm's Daughter.
- 12:00—The Big Storm.
- 12:15—Ma Perkins.
- 12:30—Pepper Young's Family.
- 12:45—Vic and Sade.
- 1:30—Belle and Sade.
- 1:45—Stella Dallas.
- 1:50—Jorjano Jones.
- 1:55—When a Girl Marries.
- 2:15—Fortia Faces Life.
- 2:30—We Be About It.
- 2:45—Story of Mary Marita.
- 3:00—Right to Happiness.
- 3:15—One Journey.
- 3:30—Phil Irwin.
- 3:45—Bill Stern's Sports.
- 4:00—Hollywood New Flashes.
- 4:15—Diminutive Classics.
- 4:30—Caribbean Nights.
- 4:45—News.
- 5:00—Stars of Today.
- 5:15—Children's Playhouse.
- 5:30—Review of the Day.
- 5:45—Janet Jordan.
- 6:00—Fred Waring in Pleasure Time.
- 6:15—Candlelight Concerto.
- 6:45—Your Mayor Speaks.
- 7:00—Ray Kyan's College.
- 8:00—Point Sublime.
- 8:30—Plantation Party.
- 9:00—Media Cantos.
- 9:30—Mr. District Attorney.
- 10:00—News Flashes.
- 10:15—Your Home Town News.
- 10:30—Palace Hotel Orchestra.
- 11:00—Dal Tabarin Cafe Orchestra.
- 11:30—War News.

KOAC—WEDNESDAY—300 Kc.

- 10:00—Review of the Day.
- 10:05—News.
- 10:15—The Homemakers Hour.
- 11:00—School of the Air.
- 11:30—Artist and Orchestra.
- 12:00—News.
- 12:15—Farm Hour.
- 1:00—Favorite Classics.
- 1:15—Variety Time.
- 1:45—Visiting Missionary.
- 2:00—Musical Appreciation.
- 2:30—Living Literature.
- 2:45—Singing Ensemble.
- 3:15—Youth Tells Its Story.
- 3:30—Modern Moods.
- 3:45—News.
- 4:00—Choral Music.
- 4:30—Stories for Boys and Girls.
- 5:00—Campus Swing.
- 5:30—Melodies for Strings.
- 5:45—Evening Dinner Service.
- 6:00—Vinner Concert.
- 6:15—News.
- 6:30—Farm Hour.
- 7:00—Shortland Contest.
- 7:30—Business Hour.
- 8:00—Elmer Education Speaks.
- 8:30—Pacific College.
- 9:00—Music of the Masters.
- 9:45—10:00—News.

## Your Federal Income Tax

### DEDUCTION FOR DEPRECIATION

The internal revenue code provides for "a reasonable allowance for the exhaustion, wear and tear of property used in the trade or business, including a reasonable allowance for obsolescence." For convenience, such allowance usually is referred to as depreciation.

In claiming a deduction for depreciation several fundamental principles must be observed. The deduction must be confined to property actually used in a trade, business, or profession, and to improvements on real property, other than property used by the taxpayer as his personal residence. In general, it applies to the taxpayer's capital assets—buildings, machinery, etc.—the cost of which cannot be deducted as a business expense.

A lawyer, doctor, or other professional man may not charge off as a current expense the cost of a library used wholly in his profession, this being a capital expenditure and the library a capital asset; but he may deduct an allowance for depreciation based upon the useful life of the library. If part of a professional man's residence is used by him exclusively for office purposes, a proportionate amount of the depreciation sustained may be deducted, based generally on the ratio of the number of rooms used for such purposes to the total number of rooms in the building. The same principle applies if a taxpayer rents to others a portion of his residence. Under such conditions, however, the taxpayer must include in his gross income the rentals received.