

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, President

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## Ugly Ducklings

News that one—just one—munitions-laden American freighter of the "ugly duckling" type had reached Alexandria, Egypt, was deemed of such importance the other day that it competed successfully with more superficially exciting tidings of the war. It was important; both in the positive and in the negative sense.

We are fighting far from home; a pleasing circumstance when considered in the light of civilian safety, an unfavorable one in its relation to the difficulty of the war task. If the enemy were forced by circumstances to attack us here at home, more of us would be hurt, our property losses would be high—but the task of defeating him would be infinitely simplified.

But we—the United Nations—are fighting him halfway around the world. Eighty degrees west longitude; that's Pittsburgh, center of the most basic of war industries, steel. One hundred degrees east longitude, the line exactly opposite on the other side of the world, runs through Sumatra, Malaya, Thailand, Burma. The Burma road crosses it. Australia isn't far to the east of that line; Egypt and the Russian front are not far to the west.

And the routes are not as the crow flies. Successfully to fight Germany's army of eight million men, the United States must contribute, it is estimated, supplies and munitions for five million of somebody's soldiers. If we could just ship those supplies to England it would require 10 million tons of shipping; if we could drop them at Archangel, 18 million; if we had to ship them to Egypt or to Russia via the Persian gulf, 42 million. Thus do distance and circuitous routes multiply our need for ocean transport. If one-third of these supplies went to each of the points enumerated, 23 million tons of shipping would be required.

Successfully to fight the army of more than a million which Japan has available for service on the continent of Asia alone, the United States must supply an equal number of troops there, through India and China. That will require nearly eight million tons of shipping—though it would be only half that if we could route the supplies via Kamchatka on the north. And to oppose Japan's 600,000 men available for war in the western Pacific we need to supply an equal number through Australia. That will require more than two and one-half million tons of shipping.

Say we could successfully prosecute this war with 30 million tons. What did we have to start with? Nothing. A year ago, to quote one official, we couldn't have supplied an army of 250,000 in Brazil. The pre-war merchant fleet is hard-pressed to carry out its industrial and garrison commitments.

So we ought to be building 30 million tons—3000 "ugly ducklings." If we launched four of them every day it would take two years. Right now we are launching one a day; by mid-summer it will be two; by the end of the year it will be three.

President Roosevelt originally set the goals too low, the maritime commission's effort didn't come up to these goals and contractors weren't meeting the commission's schedule. Now everybody is catching up with reality—but you can't build ships with a typewriter. It takes a lot of steel, a lot of equipment, a lot of labor.

Oregonians owe themselves the thrill of realizing the major role this state is playing in this outstanding important feature of the war effort. Not only are Oregon shipyards and Oregon labor—some of it Salem and Willamette valley labor—contributing to the accomplishment; there are two other notable facts that need to be assimilated. First, Oregon shipyard workers led the way in voluntarily relinquishing extra pay for Sundays and holidays. Second, revolutionary time-saving methods have been pioneered here under the direction of Henry J. Kaiser, builder of Bonneville dam and other large projects in the west. Ignorant of shipbuilding and its traditional limitations, Kaiser and his engineers have to a degree adapted the assembly-line method to ship production; have, according to an article in the current Reader's Digest, reduced building time from 197 days to 125 and hope to cut it further to 105. Veteran shipbuilders who scoffed at first have been converted to the Kaiser methods and a general speeding-up of ship completions has resulted. Oregon is playing a major role in one of the toughest and most decisive of war tasks; one which will largely determine the date upon which the United Nations may seriously launch offensive warfare—the drive to victory.

When Paul Hauser's "In One Ear" column was running regularly in The Statesman, something or other there contained impelled Tommy Hoxie, well known man-about-town, to request that his name be in future omitted and it was by various subterfuges that Hauser managed subsequently to refer to him. Now Tommy Hoxie, who has since become advertising manager of the Oregon City Enterprise, has just blossomed forth with a column of his own on the front page of that newspaper. Wonder what he will do when citizens ask him please not to mention their names?

In the weekly bulletin of the state board of health under the heading "per cent physicians reporting" the Marion county figure is 50, somewhat below the average. Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Morrow, Wheeler and Yamhill counties are credited with 100 per cent. Citizens of Marion county are entitled to inquire whether or not the low percentage shown for Marion county reflects a lack of cooperation in public health efforts, and if it does, why.

Way down in Miami a fellow has been arrested on a charge of "willfully making and conveying false reports or statements with intent to interfere with the operation or success of the military and naval forces." His alleged offense consisted of reporting falsely the sinking of a tanker. We fear there are not enough jails to hold all persons who have committed like offenses—but that does not mean they are to be condoned.

Keeping track of a war sure is educational. And if you get your fill of geography, the most obvious species of information to be acquired, there are other fertile fields. We suggest, merely as an example, delving into the RFC's purchases of critical and strategic material. After noting that almost \$42,000,000 has been spent or allocated for burlap and, with gratification on behalf of local industry, that more than \$9,000,000 is listed for flax fibre, your education may start with the item of henbane, kapok and sisal, for which modest sums are provided. Of if you already know what those commodities are, and their purposes, we'll almost guarantee the access of knowledge when you discover that \$30,000,000 is to be spent in acquiring osnaburg and \$3,600,000 for purchase of quebracho. Of course, you have to follow through and find out what they are. Three times as much for an obscure item like osnaburg than is required for flax fibre? No, don't get indignant until you know all. Maybe osnaburg is, or can be, produced in the Willamette valley.

The Indian who died at age 134 the other day had been deaf all his life. Inability to hear the inane chatter of his fellow-humans may have had something to do with his longevity.

## News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, March 26—The precise nature of this coming 45 to 64 draft registration of manpower for civil duties outside the army will probably remain unexplained until after it is concluded.

Draft Brigadier General Hershey has been making a speech a day about this phase and others for nearly two weeks. But he always speaks off his cuff, never from a prepared manuscript and no stenographic notes are kept, at least not at his headquarters.

There the piecemeal news accounts are pasted in a scrap book as a record. All these clippings show is that General Hershey expects a full mobilization of manpower (quantity and quality unspecified) for all kinds of industrial jobs (likewise unspecified).

Industry, reading these accounts in the papers, has become somewhat apprehensive lest the government turn itself into a gigantic transfer agency to shift most people from the work they are doing into something else, with all the implications of socializing, salary-changing, business destroying (in some lines), business building (in some lines) that might be conjured from such an apprehension. I do not believe this is justified.

What the officials behind the draft seem to have in mind is based on need for the long range future. They cannot say what they will do until the returns show them what they can do. At present there is no need for this type of draft.

But about 9 months from now, they foresee the possibility that there will be a shortage of soldiers of production, mainly mechanics, electricians, draftsmen, machine operators of various types. They want to find out now what they have available to meet such a need when it arises.

A fair idea of the needs they expect is furnished by the questionnaire to be distributed to the current batch of draft registrants (36 to 44 and 20-21). On that published list, the citizen is asked to designate what previous experience he has had along a couple of hundred (mostly mechanical) lines. The upper age brackets in this class too, face a call for non-military duty, and eventually all who are not in military service.

You will not escape just because you are not mechanically minded. They plan to invite you to run a bus or truck or give you some simple occupation like night watchman in a tank factory, if you are not otherwise fitted, and the need develops.

Certainly, however, they will be limited by the number of empty jobs and in a general way by aptitudes of the draftees. Above all, an act of congress will be required to enable anyone to be drafted for other duty than in the army. The law now is restricted to that purpose.

My personal impression is these obvious limitations will prevent the effects of industrial drafting from falling upon a great number of people, certainly upon far fewer than the draft for military service, although any opinion about this requires longer distanced vision than anyone enjoys these days.

A new agency of government will probably be established for this man-power mobilization. It is not likely to be in charge of any of those so far mentioned, Madame Perkins, Sidney Hillman, General Hershey or Paul McNutt.

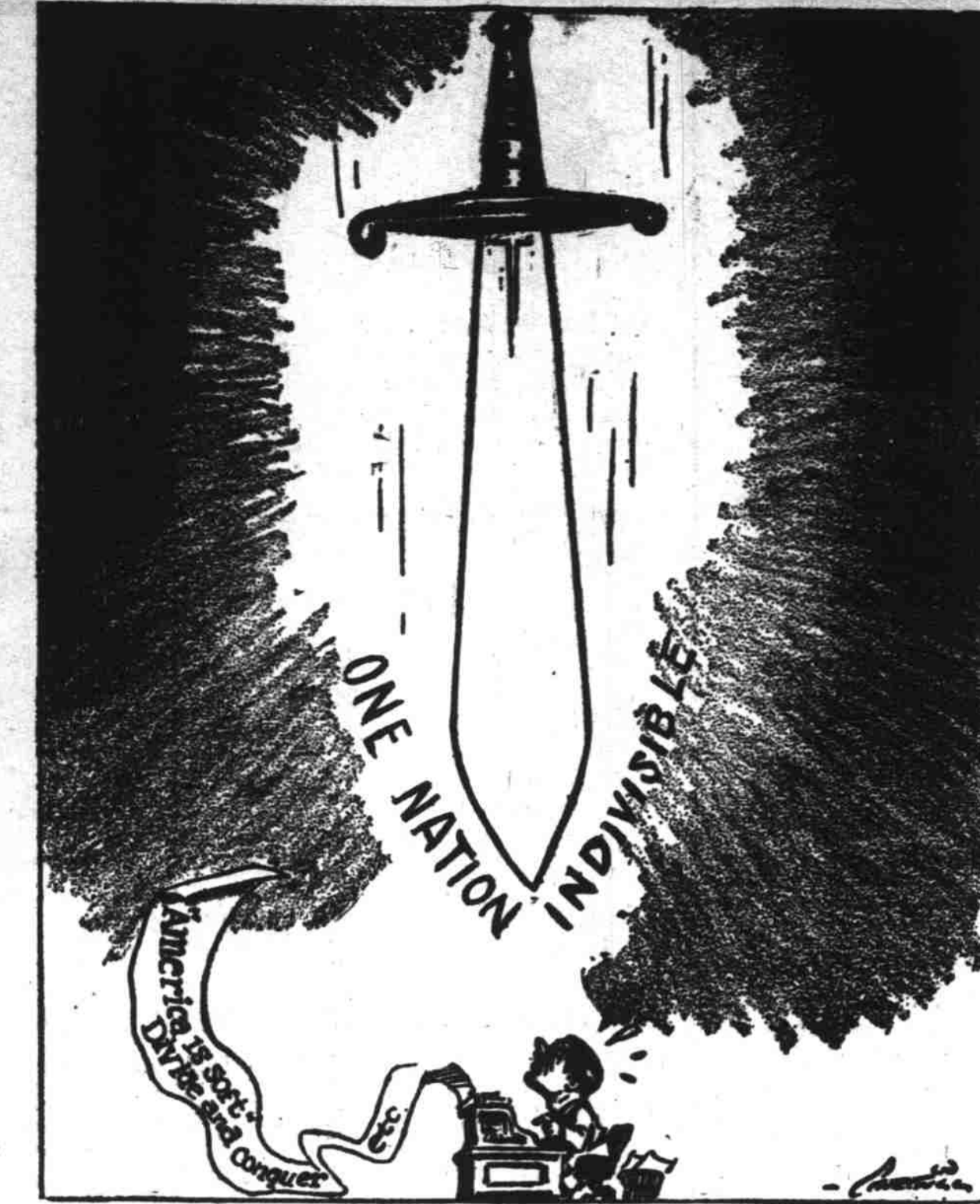
Miss Perkins naturally thinks it should be in the labor department and McNutt has been working on the assumption it is a question of public welfare. Varying degrees of conflict have arisen between these four, which precludes the possibility that any of them will handle it.

Mr. Roosevelt is looking daggers at the press again, the sharpest of them being off the record. An erroneous report in one paper that Ambassador Winant might head the man-power mobilization setup is the only apparent thing that roused his interest the wrong way.

But his displeasure became known at a time when the labor issue was rising in congress and the press. He leveled off the congressional upswing somewhat by having his leaders (except Thurman Arnold) testify there against labor legislation, but many sections of the press kept rising. The president appeared to contradict himself somewhat when he concluded the press has not as much power over public as it formerly enjoyed. This is probably true. People today are better educated to the issues of the day and seem increasingly inclined to do their thinking independently.

Yet if this is correct, Mr. Roosevelt may have misjudged the labor objectives he has heard from congress or read in the press. If these were superficial criticisms limited to these two authorities, then they can easily be dissipated by counter-pressure.

But if congress and the press are reflecting and reporting the sentiments of a great number of people, the criticism cannot be stopped even if congress and the press were subdued.



"Stainless Steel"—Damocles Style

## Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Pioneer life in the Oregon Country as seen on Fourth Plain near Vancouver, Washington:

(Continuing from yesterday.) "The women talked house-wifery, exchanging recipes for the cakes they had brought and sharing new tricks they had found to lighten the chores of housework. The presence of the entire community eliminated any possibility for gossip, but folks were in much too high spirits to be malicious anyway.

"The youngsters, through some kind of instinct, always managed to waken for supper. Then sleepy and full, they tumbled back to their makeshift beds.

"After an hour's respite, the party would continue with renewed vigor. The fiddler tipped his jug a little oftener and the dance got a little faster. By dawn the dancers were tucked out and ready for breakfast—eggs, hotcakes, side pork, and coffee—a hearty meal, but since it was getting on toward time for chores, a man would have no time to eat again until the cows were milked and the chickens fed. Many a youngster awoke at the word 'cakes' and came sleepily downstairs, only to find that it was morning and the grown-ups were talking about hot-cakes. Then the father roused the rest of the children, lifting the youngest carefully so that he would not waken. Meanwhile the womenfolk gathered in the kitchen to sort out the dishes, each family having brought its own so that the hostess need not spend her Sunday morning washing dishes.

"Then they would climb into the wagon, and with such shouts as 'It was a fine party' and such deprecating replies as 'Pshaw, that's you folks' doin's,' the guests started their horses and were off to get at the early morning's work.

"And not one of them but would say that the evening's fun was worth all the tired bones that resulted from it.

"2. Gardens — Everyone on the Plain farmed for a living. In the earlier days of the territory, the farms surrounding Fort Vancouver had been of almost legendary excellence. Visitors to the Fort described in letters and journals the achievements of Dr. McLoughlin's farm policy. Following the Company's departure and the settlement of the Plain by small farmers, the land was found to be considerably less than perfect, with 'stone patches' breaking the areas of good black dirt. In these it was sometimes said with grim humor that the stones hatched, and under favorable climatic conditions many would grow where one appeared before.

"Every family on the Plain had at least one garden and frequently two. Where there were two, the man of the family raised large crops of potatoes, corn, carrots, and beans ready for winter—the potatoes and carrots to be stored, safe from frost, in root cellars; the beans shelled and sacked; and the corn dried and hung from the rafters.

"The smaller one would be 'Maw's garden,' and here Maw raised the few green vegetables

she had for the table. She planted to flowers as much of the plot as she chose, usually taking, year by year, a slightly larger piece. Finally she had it all planted to flowers and the man of the family, much to his disgust, had to grub out the hazel bushes and spade up another patch for the tomatoes and 'cowcubers' Maw insisting on having.

"Farming was done to a considerable degree by proverbs, most of which were backed by good horse sense. Thus the principle of "Clay on sand makes good land, But sand on clay is thrown away"

proved sound enough, as those who put it to the test learned to their grief. Particularly blessed were they who found on their farms patches of beaver dam land, for here was the last word in agricultural excellence.

"Times of planting were based to a large extent on 'sayings,' misnamed superstitions, which in their devious fashion were wholly justified. 'Sow in the sop, 'twill be heavy stop' might entail some discomfort, but in July when the hay was ready for harvest its truth was proved.

"There were two ways of telling when the frosts were over and it was time to plant corn and beans. The first and easiest was to watch the snow on Silver Star mountain. When the snow had totally receded, a man might plant his tender crops, confident that they might grow thrifty and safe from frost until the first of September.

"The other method was more technical, but there were those who pinned their faith on it and were scornful of the slipshod snow-watchin' system. Advocates of this method watched the hazel nut bushes, and when the early hazel nuts were the size of a squirrel's ear, danger from frost was over for the summer.

"Good Friday was the day of days for planting garden of any kind. Early potatoes in particular must be planted no later than that holy day. After Good Friday no amount of fertilizer, no amount of hoeing, could produce good early potatoes. Late potatoes, a precarious crop but occasionally highly successful, must be in before the Fourth of July. There, too, was more common sense than superstition, since there was little chance of a potato sprouting in a rainless August.

"Most of the pioneers planted their crops according to the moon. They kept a careful record of its phases so they would be sure the sky would continue cloudy during the planting months. When the new moon was growing, they planted all the crops that were to grow above ground—peas, beans, squash. When the moon was on the wane, they planted carrots, potatoes, turnips, and the other root vegetables. Planted at the wrong time of the moon, the potatoes would all go to 'tops,' or the peas to roots. The theory was that as the moon ascended the plants ascended, and as the moon went down anything newly planted would go down too. Some, trusting more

in their own hard work for garden success, might say drily, 'They can plant their gardens in the moon if they want to, but I'll plant mine in the ground,' but a good many old timers on the Plain, and some less old-time, planted and still plant 'in the moon.' And whether for that reason or another, they get crops.

"3. Superstitions — It was not alone in their farming that the pioneers depended upon superstitions. These were a part of everyday life, whether believed or not, and they added novelty and a touch of make-believe to unexciting days."

(Continued tomorrow.)

## 'Crime at Castaway'

By EDITH BRISTOL

Chapter 1 Continued

"This position pays very well," she hesitated, and when she went on there was a note of warning in her voice. "You could handle the work well enough—but I'm not sure—"

"What kind of work?" I faced her eagerly across her desk. Whatever it was, I was for it.

"Secretarial work for a big contractor. He builds bridges and roads and dams, and he's recovering now at his country home after months in the hospital. His machine went over a cliff."

"What's wrong with the place?" I knew there was something the matter, the way she hesitated.

"His ranch is rather—remote. Quite a ways down the coast. Two of our girls, both experienced, tried it out. They came back after a few days. I don't want to discourage you, Miss Lane, for I know you need the work. But Miss Baldwin—one of the girls—found it was so lonesome at Castaway—that's the name of the ranch—that she simply couldn't take it."

I stood up. All of a sudden I was so dizzy the room whirled around me.

"I can take it," I said. "When do I start?"

"But you might find you wouldn't like it. Working for a sick man, so far from town. Though there are plenty of other people on the ranch," she added.

I gripped my bag so hard the bill squashed in my fingers. The resolution in my voice surprised me. It sounded like someone else speaking.

"With the salary this job pays I'd take it even if it was out on the Farallones with only the seals and seagulls for company. Please tell the contractor I'll be there tomorrow."

The agency—it was in one of those flat-iron buildings nosing into Market street—was on the top floor and all the way down as the elevator dropped I couldn't really tell whether it was the speed or my own insides that gave me that queer, sinking feeling.

Now I was committed to working in a place I'd never seen and for a man I hadn't met—and in a setting so questionable that even the manager of the agency had qualms about sending me!

Maybe I'd better go back and tell her I'd changed my mind. Something better might turn up. I'd wait one more day. . . . I walked home against the western breeze, up the slope of Telegraph Hill.

The great bridges spun their iron webs across my view. The

scene always thrilled me. . . . Maybe if I'd wait a little longer. . . . Then I pulled off my hat and let the wind blow my hair loose and throw my head back. . . . Gerry Lane, you idiot! Things don't turn up by themselves. . . . If you want anything to happen you have to make it happen!

Impulsive as I am, I did one cautious thing. That night I telephoned Miss Baldwin—the agency manager gave me her number.

"I'm Gerry Lane," I explained. "I'm going to Castaway tomorrow and I'd be ever so grateful for anything you could tell me that would help me to get the right start. For one thing what clothes will I need?"

(To be continued.)

## Today's Garden

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

E.S. says she has so many birds around the yard that she hesitates to put out poison baits or the slugs but she also has a number of slugs eating the foliage and blossoms off her little plants. She wants to know if there is any way other than poison to kill them.

Answer: She might go hunting. Take a flashlight and a small can of lime. Dump them into the lime. They are easily found at night with a flashlight. Some gardeners who hunt them at night use a salt water solution for the final rites.

Poisoning can be done if the poison is placed beneath the cover of a box or some other container where the birds cannot reach it. If one of the metaldehyde baits are used the slugs will be attracted to it. They crawl beneath pieces of board or paper to get at the bait. The pellets are most easily used. I have had some complaint that the brand metaldehyde baits have lost their effectiveness during the winter.

The answer is, I am told, not that they have lost their value as a poison but that the metaldehyde has evaporated and that the poison does not attract the slugs, as it did before. However, if they come in contact with the bran and feed upon it they still die as they did formerly. We are accustomed to see huge quantities of them crawl up to the metaldehyde baits and die there.

## Radio Programs

KLM-FRIDAY-1390 Kc.

- 7:30—W N Shine.
- 7:30—News in Brief.
- 7:30—Sunrise 'N' Shine.
- 7:45—Rise 'N' Shine.
- 8:00—Musical College.
- 8:30—News Briefings.
- 8:35—Surt Riders.
- 8:35—Pastor's Call.
- 9:15—Some Like It Sweet.
- 9:45—Fats Waller.
- 10:00—World in Review.
- 10:05—Hittin' the High Spots.
- 10:30—Women in the News.
- 10:35—News Briefings.
- 10:45—Dr. R. F. Thompson.
- 11:00—Maxine Buren.
- 11:05—Clayton Carter.
- 11:30—Herb Jeffrey, Vocalist.
- 11:45—Lum and Abner.
- 11:55—Dumas.
- 12:15—News.
- 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
- 12:30—Pulsating Valley Opinions.
- 12:45—Tune Tabloid.
- 1:15—Four Notes.
- 1:30—The Gladies.
- 1:45—Sing Song Times.
- 2:00—News in Brief.
- 2:15—US Navy.
- 2:30—State Safety.
- 2:45—Meady's Melody.
- 3:00—Old Opera House.
- 4:00—Sings of the Week.
- 4:15—Jerry Seaton.
- 4:30—Concert Gems.
- 4:45—Luncheon Concert.
- 5:00—News.
- 5:45—The Twig Is Bent.
- 6:00—John B. Hughes.
- 6:15—Woman's Side of the News.
- 6:30—This and That.
- 10:00—News.
- 10:15—Helen Holden.
- 10:30—Boy on Parade.
- 10:45—It's Dance Time.
- 11:00—Codic Foster.
- 11:15—Jerry Seaton Presents.
- 11:30—Concert Gems.
- 11:45—Luncheon Concert.
- 12:00—News.
- 12:45—They Too Like Music.
- 1:15—Augustura College Choir.
- 1:30—Johnson's News.
- 1:45—Boake Carter.
- 2:15—EPA.
- 2:30—News.
- 2:45—Take It Easy.
- 3:00—News.
- 3:15—The Bookworm.
- 3:30—John Richards Orchestra.
- 3:45—Hello Again.
- 4:00—News.
- 4:15—Mrs. Morgan.
- 4:30—News.
- 4:45—Salvation Army Program.
- 5:00—Jimmy Allen.
- 5:15—Orpheus Quartet.
- 5:30—Captain Midnight.
- 5:45—Jack Armstrong.
- 6:00—Gabriel Heatter.
- 6:15—News.
- 6:30—Spotlight Bands.
- 6:45—"The Road's In."
- 7:00—Lone Ranger.
- 7:30—Joe Louis vs. Abe Simon.
- 8:00—News.
- 8:15—Your Songs.
- 8:30—News.
- 8:45—Speaking of Sports.
- 9:00—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
- 9:15—Shumbar Boat.
- 9:30—Woody Herman Orchestra.
- 10:00—News.
- 10:15—Sunny Knis Orchestra.
- 10:30—Jack T. Straight Orchestra.
- 11:30—Bob Crosby.

KALE-NEWS-FRIDAY-1330 Kc.

- 7:30—News.
- 7:45—Rise 'N' Shine.
- 8:00—Memory Timekeeper.
- 8:30—News.
- 8:45—Breakfast Club.
- 9:00—News.
- 9:15—John B. Hughes.
- 9:30—Woman's Side of the News.
- 9:45—This and That.
- 10:00—News.
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- 4:30—News.
- 4:45—Salvation Army Program.
- 5:00—Jimmy Allen.
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- 5:30—Captain Midnight.
- 5:45—Jack Armstrong.
- 6:00—Gabriel Heatter.
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- 11:30—Bob Crosby.

KOIN-CBS-FRIDAY-850 Kc.

- 8:00—Northwest Farm Reporter.
- 8:30—World in Brief.
- 8:45—Koin Klock.
- 9:00—Headlines.
- 9:15—Koin Reporting.
- 9:30—Nelson Fringie, News.
- 9:45—Victory Begins Home.
- 10:00—Continental News.
- 10:30—Valiant Lady.
- 10:45—Stories America Loves.
- 11:00—Jack T. Straight Orchestra.
- 11:30—Bob Crosby.
- 11:45—Romance of Helen Trent.
- 12:00—Our Gal Sunday.
- 12:15—Woman Can Be Beautiful.
- 12:30—Woman in White.
- 12:45—Heddy Huppert's Hollywood.
- 1:00—Songs of a Dreamer.
- 1:15—Floyd Harizon.
- 1:30—Breakfast Club.
- 1:45—Fletcher Wiley.
- 1:55—Kate Hopkins.
- 2:10—Musical Entertainment.
- 2:15—Knox Manning, News.
- 2:30—Joyce Jordan.
- 2:45—Our Courage.
- 3:00—Stepmother.
- 3:15—Myrt and Marge.
- 3:30—Heddy Huppert's Hollywood.
- 3:45—News. School of the Air.
- 4:00—William Winter.
- 4:15—The Gladies.
- 4:30—Scattergood Bananas.
- 4:45—Wilson Ames, Organ.
- 5:00—Heddy Huppert's Hollywood.
- 5:15—Golden Treasury of Song.
- 5:30—News.
- 5:45—Mrs. Burton.
- 6:00—Young Dr. Malone.
- 6:15—Newspaper of the Air.
- 6:30—Less F. Drews.
- 6:45—Bob Garrod, News.
- 7:00—Heddy Huppert's Hollywood.
- 7:15—What's on Your Mind.
- 7:30—Fryt Highlight.
- 7:45—Glimpse Summa.
- 8:00—Glenn Miller.
- 8:15—State of Oregon Reports.
- 8:30—How Am I Doing.
- 8:45—Mrs. Andy.
- 9:00—Lanny Bass.
- 9:15—Heddy Huppert's Hollywood.
- 9:30—Kate Smith.
- 9:45—Find the Women.
- 10:00—Five Star Final.

These schedules are supplied by the respective stations. Any variations noted by listeners are due to changes made by the stations with the air at any time in the interests out notice to this newspaper. All radio stations may be cut from national defense.

- 10:15—World Today.
- 10:30—War Time Women.
- 10:35—Air Fly.
- 10:45—Defense Today.
- 11:00—Lad Gladys Orchestra.
- 11:30—Merry Strand Orch.
- 11:35—News.
- 12:00 to 5:00 a.m.—Music & news.

KALE-NEWS-FRIDAY-1330 Kc.

- 7:30—News.
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- 7:00—Lone Ranger.
- 7:30—Joe Louis vs. Abe Simon.
- 8:00—News.
- 8:15—Your Songs.
- 8:30—News.
- 8:45—Speaking of Sports.
- 9:00—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
- 9:15—Shumbar Boat.
- 9:30—Woody Herman Orchestra.
- 10:00—News.
- 10:15—Sunny Knis Orchestra.
- 10:30—Jack T. Straight Orchestra.
- 11:30—Bob Crosby.

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