

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, President

Member of The Associated Press

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Politics and the Future

Soothsayers, fortune tellers, astrologers and their ilk are in disrepute. The more noted prognosticators of world events are, as we had occasion to note some months ago, in the doghouse. Only one in a dozen foresaw the shape of things in 1942.

Yet—to deny the validity of all prediction is to deny all science. For as Oswald Spengler has pointed out, the sole utility of science is accurate prediction.

For this man Spengler we hold no brief. He painted a dismal picture of this western civilization and its future, even though the translation of his title, "Decline of the West," is by some counts inaccurate. The disconcerting thing about it is that Spengler penned his predictions, most of them, prior to 1918—and some of the major ones have been coming true.

Spengler did not predict the utter collapse of what he called the western culture. His major premise is that a culture, such as those of China, India, Egypt, the classical culture of Greece and Rome, and finally this western "Faustian" culture, goes through a life span comparable to that of an animal, or better, that of a plant. There is a "spring" season of germination and slow growth, a "summer" of rapid growth, an "autumn" for maturing, and then—maturity, stagnation, organic death if not structural decay. Is he right? There aren't many men living today who have sufficient grasp of all world history to answer authoritatively one way or the other.

But the indigestible part of his thesis is his contention that past cultures when they matured into civilizations had—and therefore this one will have—certain general characteristics which are repugnant to sincere believers in democracy. Spengler didn't have much use for democracy. He saw it merely as a temporary, abortive substitution of money power for political power. He foresaw the drying up of this money power when such "money makers" as Henry Ford and the first Rockefeller had "thought their way through" and ceased literally to create money by thinking it.

That, you see, is where it all begins to be disconcerting. There is no way of proving that he wasn't describing accurately, in advance, the recent world depression.

But when, in this mature civilization, political power—nobility in Spengler's vocabulary—takes over, political forms and constitutions will be tossed into the ashcan. The state will be "formless." That means sheer, unencumbered leadership—totalitarianism in our vocabulary. Early in this period of maturity there will be repeated major wars—that's where we are now—and eventually as we mentioned here a few weeks ago, the one nation which is "in form" will dominate the world.

That's Spengler in a nutshell. Take him or leave him. Personally we'll leave him. He hasn't proved to our satisfaction that a culture necessarily has the life span of a cornstalk nor, if so, that the tassels are all alike.

Yet the trends he outlines are visible. What are we going to do about it?

Certainly there is a trend toward the exaltation of politics at the expense of private enterprise. We don't like it. We'll fight it. In war-time, in this kind of war, it is inevitable as a temporary trend. But we'll fight anything that tends toward its continuation after the war.

Meanwhile we can see to it that politics, government, is in the best possible hands. Not necessarily in liberal hands, or conservative hands, but in the most dependable hands. In hands that will not grasp for unnecessary power, nor seek to retain powers when they are no longer necessary.

By the way, there's an election coming up Friday.

War Workers' Wages

The stories you hear about individual workers receiving fabulous wages in war industries—in the aircraft factories and in the shipyards and in cantonment construction—may all be true. But the over-all picture is different.

It is true that members of some of the building trades receive such hourly wages as these: Bricklayers \$1.73, plasterers \$1.72, structural iron workers \$1.65, plumbers \$1.59, steamfitters \$1.57, carpenters \$1.43. With overtime pay above 40 hours and a lot of overtime worked, many of them receive more than \$100 a week.

But in the various broad classifications of war work the weekly earnings including overtime, according to the bureau of labor statistics, have been running like this: Building construction \$37.17, aluminum manufacture \$39.39, blast furnaces and steel works \$40.20, electrical machinery and supplies \$41.10, foundry and machine shop \$41.98, brass and copper products \$43.57, explosives \$44.26, aircraft \$44.80, machine tools \$50.87, engines and turbines \$52.89, shipbuilding \$53.48.

These are the most recently available national figures but they are not quite up to date; no doubt increased overtime as the program is speeded up has raised the average and will raise it more. A stronger trend to overtime because of the task's urgency, no doubt accounts for shipbuilding's high average.

These wages are, we concede, a far cry from the day when a candidate for public office dared to say "a dollar a day is enough for any working man." But they aren't so high as to warrant all the griping now being heard in some quarters—nor the haste with which unskilled workers are moving to war work centers where living costs are comparatively as high as the wages, or higher.

"If you have two cows they'll set your table for you," a dairy-wise friend told us when we moved to the farm. Now that we have two cows, the younger members of the family who have always taken turns setting the table, are planning to take a vacation.

We're Wiser Now

Party Member Rudolph Hess, who, owing to a progressive disease has been strictly forbidden for years by the Fuehrer to fly, has contrary to this order recently succeeded in gaining possession of an aircraft. On Saturday, May 10, about 6 p.m. Party Member Hess took off from Augsburg on a flight from which he has not yet returned. A letter left behind unfortunately shows in its confusion symptoms of a mental disorder which caused it to be feared that Hess has fallen victim to hallucinations.—Nazi official statement May 12, 1941.

That was just a year ago. It was a two-weeks' sensation, quite the most bizarre occurrence of the war up to that time. It would take a great deal more than the flight of a high-ranking Nazi to Scotland to create an equal sensation now. We're much better prepared for just anything in the way of a peace offensive.

There's a lot of beefing, principally about what the other fellow isn't doing to win the war, or what he is getting for his part in winning the war. Much of it, we suspect, comes from people who would like to do something to win the war but haven't found the opportunity.

"War duties in congress demand able young men," says the heading over an article in the Oregon Democrat. Is that supposed to be a plug for Walt Pierce?

News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, May 12.—Mr. Churchill could also have said, if the Nazis start gas warfare, they will find the reds better equipped than they to handle that vicious method of scattering death in all directions.

The Russians have been working on this unused phase of war for 15 years. That far back they organized a group known as the "Asovskikh," consolidating their civilian chemical warfare division and a civilian aviation corps. They had 4,000,000 members in 1928, perhaps 20,000,000 today.

The primary duty of this organization was to popularize military methods among the people. Both offensive and defensive gas drills were regularly held. Parades of thousands of Asovskikh members were staged in Moscow streets regularly.

Furthermore, the Russians are well stocked, as is practically everyone else. Little metal is needed for manufacture of the gas. It can be, and has been, stored, for long periods.

Churchill's warning will probably be effective on the Nazis, for the above reasons and others. Doubt is held here that this crudest method of fighting will be taken up by any nation except as a last desperate—and no doubt useless—resort.

Gas is not generally recognized as an efficient military weapon. It is hard to handle. Troops at the front can use it only when conditions are ideal, when the wind is right and can be guaranteed to stay right. Advancing troops shun its use because it would be a hindrance to their forward movement. Retreating troops can use it effectively only in the form of mines, left behind after withdrawal. (The Russians are adept at mine warfare.)

It can be dropped from airplanes, but it will be effective only when ground conditions (which the bombers can hardly know) are suitable.

All known types rise only 30 feet from the ground so all persons who can get above the second story of city buildings can count themselves secure.

Furthermore, a gas mask is almost a complete defense.

Popular tension over the war is strangely not extending into the primary elections. Involved congressmen here see signs of less than usual interest in politics back home this year.

One senator whose renomination primary is only three weeks off says he cannot tell whether he will win, because the prospect is for the lightest vote in years. Others say they find it hard to get people to listen to politics.

The South Dakota primary last week registered only about two-thirds of the normal vote, although sitting Senator Bulow was defeated. Two years ago in the gubernatorial race 159,000 votes were cast; this year only 107,000 (with a few precincts still missing).

A storm occurred in one of the districts which may have kept some people away from the polls, but sugar registration was held the same day throughout the state and was counted upon to get the people out for a record vote.

When voting is light and issues dim, it is easier for well-organized groups to win. This acknowledged condition has caused many an old antagonist of the administration to look more carefully at his fences.

Senator Wheeler, furthermore, is saying he detects a concerted effort by someone to destroy isolationists, either through politics or other means. He says he looks for mean campaigns where isolationists are involved.

The great fleet victory off Australia was too sparingly reported at first to cause authorities here to accept the popular deductions—such interpretations as one indicating the Japs were then bent on invasion of Australia or were moving down to the New Hebrides islands, New Caledonia or New Zealand to cut our lines of communications.

Most official sources decided to wait until details were available before reaching definite conclusions. What puzzled them most was the fact that only a few Jap transports were sunk. If an invasion movement anywhere had been broken up, they figured there would have been more.

The Japs are already reported shying away from the Burma road as a line of advance into China. Its tortuous mountain winding way will enable the Chinese demolition squads to take heavy toll with dynamite and mines if the Jap drive toward Kunming is pursued in that direction.

A direct assault through Yunnan province from Indo-China will probably be started by the Japs instead. While there are no good roads in that area, the possibilities of concentrated Chinese defense are not as threatening.



Volume 1942

Radio Programs

KSLM—WEDNESDAY—1300 Kc.

6:30—Rise 'N' Shine.
7:00—News in Brief.
7:05—Rise 'N' Shine.
7:30—News.
7:45—Your Gospel Program.
8:00—County Agent.
8:15—Hittin' the Hi Spots.
8:30—News Briefing.
8:35—Low White Organist.
9:00—Pastor's Call.
9:15—Sing Riders.
9:30—Castles in the Air.
10:00—World in Review.
10:05—Morning Pick Up.
10:30—Women in the News.
10:35—Melody in Miniature.
10:40—Radio Music.
10:45—Dr. R. F. Thompson.
11:00—Rust Morgan Orchestra.
11:30—Chapel.
12:00—Ivan Dittmar.
12:15—News.
12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
12:35—Willamette Valley Opinions.
12:45—Interlude.
1:00—Musical Trio.
1:15—Tune Tabloid.
1:30—Four Notes.
1:45—Country Time.
2:00—Melody Mart.
2:15—Novellette.
2:30—Hilary's Melodies.
2:45—Isle of Paradise.
3:00—Sheridan School.
3:15—Radiating Rhythms.
4:15—News.
4:30—Teatime Tunes.
4:45—Here Comes the Band.
5:00—To the Ladies.
5:30—Dinner Hour Music.
5:35—Tonight's Headlines.
6:15—News Analysis.
6:20—Evening Serenade.
6:30—Willamette Valley Opinions.
7:15—Lud Gluskin.
7:30—Alpine Troubadors.
7:35—Geary for Senator.
8:00—War Fronts on Review.
8:15—Hymns of All Churches.
8:30—McWain's Melange.
8:45—Sincerely Yours.
9:00—Pepper to handle.
9:15—Re-elect Gov. Sprague.
9:20—Popcorn.
9:30—The Round Up.
9:45—Citizen's Alert.
10:00—Let's Dance.
10:20—News.
11:00—Bert Hirsch Presents.
11:30—News.

KALE—MRS.—WEDNESDAY—1330 Kc.

6:30—Memory Timekeeper.
7:00—News.
7:15—Memory Timekeeper.
8:00—Breakfast Club.
8:30—News.
8:45—What's New.
9:00—John B. Hughes.
9:15—Woman's Side of the News.
9:30—This & That.
10:00—News.
10:15—I'll Find My Way.
10:30—News.
10:45—Women Today.
11:00—Buyer's Parade.
11:30—Hits and Tunes.
11:45—Symphony Concert.
12:30—News.
12:45—Lowry Kohler.
1:00—Bill's War Shop.
1:15—New York Racing Season.
1:30—Mistral Goes Calling.
1:45—Gems of Melody.
2:15—Take It Easy.
2:30—News.
2:45—Bookworm.
3:00—B. S. Cervocini, Commentator.
3:15—Baseball Round Up.
3:30—John Agnew, Organist.
3:45—Hello Again.
4:15—Johnson Family.
4:30—Music Depreciation.
4:45—Captain Danger.
5:15—Jimmy Allen.
5:30—Captain Midnight.
5:45—Jack Armstrong.
6:00—Gabriel Heatter.
6:15—News.
6:30—Pass in Review.
6:45—Movie Parade.
7:00—News & Views.

KOIN—CBS—WEDNESDAY—970 Kc.

6:30—Northwest Farm Reporter.
6:45—Breakfast Bulletin.
7:00—Wake Up News.
7:15—Bob Garred Reporting.
7:45—Nelson Pringle, News.
8:00—Victory Begins at Home.
8:15—Consumer News.
8:30—Valiant Lady.
8:45—Stories America Loves.
9:00—Kate Smith Speaks.
9:15—Big Sister.
9:30—Romance of Helen Trent.
9:45—Our Gal Sunday.
10:00—Life Can Be Beautiful.

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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. All radio stations may be cut from the air at any time in the interest of national defense.

7:15—Music for Moderns.
7:30—Lone Ranger.
8:00—E. J. Griffith, Political.
8:15—Joe Reichman Orchestra.
8:30—Tune Up America.
9:00—News.
9:15—Today's Top Tunes.
9:30—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
9:45—Hank Keene in Town.
10:00—Jan Savitt Orchestra.
10:30—News.
10:45—Carl Ravizza Orchestra.
11:00—Lee Young Orchestra.
11:15—Duke Ellington Orchestra.
11:30—Jan Savitt Orchestra.

KGW—NBC—WEDNESDAY—420 Kc.

4:00—Music.
4:30—War News Roundup.
5:00—Sunrise Serenade.
5:30—Early Birds.
6:00—News Headlines and Highlights.
6:15—Music of Vienna.
6:30—Reveille Roundup.
6:45—Sam Hayes.
7:00—Stars of Today.
7:15—James Abbe, News.
7:30—Women's World.
7:45—Lotta Noyes.
8:00—Uncle Harum.
8:15—Bachelors' Children.
8:30—Welcome, Neighbor.
8:45—Organ Concert.
9:00—House Next Door.
9:15—Kneads With the News.
9:30—Homekeeper's Calendar.
9:45—Dr. Kate.
10:00—Light of the World.
10:15—Arnold Grimm's Daughter.
10:30—The Guiding Light.
10:45—Hymns of All Churches.
11:00—Against the Storm.
11:15—Ma Perkins.
11:30—Pepper to handle.
11:45—Right to Happiness.
12:00—Backstage Wife.
12:15—Stella Dallas.
12:30—Citizen's Alert.
12:45—Young Jones Brown.
1:00—When a Girl Marries.
1:15—Portia Falls Life.
1:30—The Andersons.
1:45—Vic & Sade.
2:00—The Bartons.
2:15—US Navy Band.
2:30—News.
2:45—Hollywood News Flash.
3:00—Personality Hour.
3:15—Weekly Spectator.
3:30—Stars of Today.
3:45—Cocktail Hour.
4:00—It Happened in the Service.
4:15—Bill Henry.
4:30—Eddie Cantor.
4:45—Mr. District Attorney.
5:00—Kay Kyser's Kollege.
5:15—Point Sublime.
5:30—Uncle Walter's Doghouse.
5:45—World's Most Honored Man.
6:00—Fred Waring.
6:15—Citizens Alert.
6:30—Home Town News.
6:45—News Flash.
7:00—Time to Relax.
7:15—Moonlight Sonata.
7:30—Organ.
7:45—Hotel Baltimore Orchestra.
8:00—War News.
8:15—2:00 a. m. Music.
8:30—News.

KEX—WEDNESDAY—1190 Kc.

6:30—News.
6:45—Moments of Melody.
7:00—National Farm & Home.
7:15—Western Agriculture.
7:30—Clark Dennis, Singer.
7:45—Clete Roberts Reports.
8:00—Breakfast Club.
8:15—Keep Fit Club with Patty Jean.
8:30—Meet Your Neighbors.
8:45—Sharon Sing.
9:00—Breakfast - Sardi's.
9:15—Bauhaug Talking.
9:30—Second Husband.
9:45—Amanda of Honeymoon Hill.
10:00—John's Other Wife.
10:15—Just Plain Bill.
10:30—Nature Trails.
10:45—Stars of Today.
11:00—Keep Fit Club with Patty Jean.
11:15—News Headlines and Highlights.
11:30—Market Reporter.
11:45—Musical Interlude.
12:00—Stella Dallas.
12:15—News Headlines & Highlights.
12:30—Arthur Tracy, Street Singer.
12:45—Club Matinee.
1:00—News.
1:15—The Quiet Hour.
1:30—A House in the Country.
1:45—Chaplain Jim, USA.
2:00—Stars of Today.
2:15—News.
2:30—Four Polka Dots.
2:45—Fortune Periscope.
3:00—Easy Aces.
3:15—Mr. Keen, Tracer.
3:30—News.
3:45—Song Clinic.
4:00—Flying Patrol.
4:15—Secret City.
4:30—News.
4:45—Jack Owens, Singer.
5:00—Basin St. Chamber Music.
5:15—James Abbe, News.
5:30—News Time.
5:45—Ramona and Tune Twisters.
6:00—News Analysis.
6:15—Patterns in Blue.
6:30—Quit Kids.
6:45—Manhattan at Midnight.
7:00—Down Memory Lane.
7:15—News Headlines and Highlights.
7:30—Edgewater Beach Hotel.
7:45—News.

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2:45—Fortune Periscope.
3:00—Easy Aces.
3:15—Mr. Keen, Tracer.
3:30—News.
3:45—Song Clinic.
4:00—Flying Patrol.
4:15—Secret City.
4:30—News.
4:45—Jack Owens, Singer.
5:00—Basin St. Chamber Music.
5:15—James Abbe, News.
5:30—News Time.
5:45—Ramona and Tune Twisters.
6:00—News Analysis.
6:15—Patterns in Blue.
6:30—Quit Kids.
6:45—Manhattan at Midnight.
7:00—Down Memory Lane.
7:15—News Headlines and Highlights.
7:30—Edgewater Beach Hotel.
7:45—News.

ON THE INSIDE— in Washington!

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Wide World War Analyst for
The Statesman

A Churchill prediction that a new "hurricane" of Nazi attack must soon end the "stormy lull" in Russia seems verified within 48 hours of its utterance.

On the slender, blood-drenched finger of the Kerch peninsula, the Crimean backdoor to the Caucasus, the first German blows have fallen. That vindicates also the judgment of many allied observers that it is falling oil reserves which must dominate Hitler strategy and hold out the brightest hope to shorten the war.

Whether the fight for the Kerch bridgehead to the Caucasus proves a feint of the actual beginning of a new German attempt to sweep around the Rostov corner, there seems no question that the most powerful concentration of red armies on the whole 2000-mile front is posted to defend that vital southern flank. Berlin radio commentators hint at a vast Nazi turning movement impending on the "Karkov-Kerch front." Military onlookers in Bern estimate that Hitler has mustered 2,000,000 men for a supreme effort to break through into the Caucasus.

London discounts that report. Churchill himself indicated, however, that Russian and allied staffs still lacked two days ago any positive information as to where and when the test would come.

"We have not so far seen any evidence of those great concentra-

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