

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Stays Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## What Price Freedom?

In the days of the Caesars only the precious metals were money, and only money and slaves were wealthy. That is, negotiable wealth. Emperors fought and conquered for gold and slaves. Masterpieces of statuary were melted down without compunction for their gold. Men of substance owned thousands of unneeded slaves, keeping them for their trade-in value. It wasn't until the fourteenth century that the invention of double entry bookkeeping translated land, buildings, machinery, warehouse receipts—in other words stored food—and accounts receivable into values expressed in money.

From that moment the character of money became increasingly vague and elusive. Money became a relative thing, subject to violent fluctuation in relative value. Right today it has less relative value than ever before. We are afraid this discussion of billions for war is going to bore you.

For, though the invention of bookkeeping caused an immediate decline in the negotiable value of slaves, there has been a steady increase in the relative value of freedom.

Congress is going to consider seriously the general sales tax as a means of financing the war effort. Though the sales tax may finally be rejected, it will play an effective role in the development of the new tax law. To avoid congress' threat of a sales tax the treasury will be receptive to an alternative which tends toward the same result; a lower income tax base than it otherwise would accept.

What is freedom going to cost in money? A Wall Street Journal writer estimates that if the war lasts as long as President Roosevelt guesses it will, four and one-half years, the cost will be 225 billion dollars and that total cost of federal government will be 260 billion.

Since John Q. Public will get only one bill, we'll trace the total cost: For the 1940-41 fiscal year it was 13 billion; for the 41-42 year now closing, it will be 45 billion; next year 77 billion; '43-44, 87 billion; for the last half of 1944, 44 billion.

Government squeezed out in taxes the first year 8 billion, the next 13 billion; plans to collect next year 27 billion, the following year 30 billion, the last (we hope) half year 15 billion. Total, 83 billion. Sales of war bonds will bring in another 38 billion so that in a sense—though government must later pay off these bonds—the nation will pay 132 billion of the war cost in cash; approximately half.

That means that the government debt will exceed 160 billion when the war ends—but that's the part that may bore you. It is more interesting to note that the price of freedom will be about \$2000 for every man, woman and child in the United States. And cheap at that. Do you have a relative on Bataan? Wouldn't you pay \$2000 for his ransom?

But the taxpayer isn't going to get off quite so easily. The cost of freedom for each gainfully employed American is going to be \$5100, if all these "ifs" and estimates are correct. Of course he'll pay only half that in cash while the war is on.

Next year, according to the schedule favored by the house ways and means committee, a married couple without children and with a \$2500 income will pay \$219 income tax, buy \$208 worth of war bonds and pay \$90 in the proposed higher payroll tax so that their income will dwindle to \$2292 before they pay a lot of hidden excise taxes and their state and local taxes. The childless couple with \$10,000 income would in like manner see it shrink to barely over \$6000. And besides, there's the HC of L.

So you see, freedom comes high. Having seen the price tag, are you interested in the alternative?

## Laughs

Fields (the tall one): You look like a furnished room.  
Weber (the fat one): Why do you go with me, then?

Fields: Why? Why? Because I like you, Mike, when I look at you I have such a—  
00-00-00-00! (Chokes him, then turns to audience) Why do I go with him? When I look at him by heart goes out to him. (To Weber). When you are away from me, I can't keep my mind off you. When you are with me I can't keep my hands off you. (Chokes him again.) But sometimes I think you do not return my affection. You do not feel that something—  
00-00-00-00-00! (Chokes him some more.)

They were cradled in the unspeakable Bower of post-Civil war days—and in more than half a century of entertaining they never spoke a "smutty" line nor figured in a suggestive scene. They started their joint career as professionals at age nine in the Bower's dime museums. Seventeen years later they reached Broadway, an hour's walk from their starting point.

Their formal education stopped at about the third grade, but they wrote in their early "teens the skits and scenes which caused audiences on both coasts to howl with glee. Movie fans within the last decade were favored with a sample of their comedy and save for those who sensed it through a nostalgic haze, turned up their noses at it. But this pair as much as any other two human beings had helped to create a distinctly American theatre to replace the exclusively imported entertainment of the previous century.

Their comedy consisted of slapstick antics and pointless mutilation of Noah Webster's English and when you read their scripts today, like the sample above, there doesn't seem to be a laugh in a carload. But, Weber and Fields fans insist, you had to see and hear them to appreciate it. Besides, theirs was the era on the legitimate stage of long, flowery monologues and the stupid "asides" which now are forbidden. Today comedy isn't funny, nor drama impressive, unless you can manage somehow to believe in it. Well, there are exceptions. You can laugh at Abbott and Costello if you're in

the mood—and they are no more credible than Weber and Fields, though they employ a different tempo.

So we pay our respects to America's all-time all-American comedy pair, Weber and Fields, the second of whom has recently departed from among the living. They were funny in their day—and whoever can coax a laugh from America's millions has accomplished something. Besides, a few of their laughs are funny even now. Witness the preliminary exchange of their famous pool game scene:

Weber: I don't know dis pool business.  
Fields: Votefier I don't know, I teach you.

A headline in an eastern paper says "gas rationing to take in northwest." We suspect most headline readers, unless they read on, assume reference was to Michigan and Minnesota.

## News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, May 28—A female Scotch laborite made the best speech at the trades union convention in London the other day (so the radio says) advocating nationalization of everything—mines, factories, property.

She wanted the government to own and run everything. To none of her audience, including the radio reporters, did it occur that what she advocated was a union form of nazism.

Her speech was only an open declaration of the popular murmurings that have been welling up from the Cripps groups, assuming that "our system has broken down," that "we must provide a better one after the war."

In all their proposals they seem to want to out-Hitler Hitler by adopting national socialism in one form or another, although they do not seem to be conscious of it.

Maybe the British system is a failure. I doubt it. I know ours is not.

The news of this trend rising in Britain comes simultaneously with official reports that our productive system has just won the greatest success in all its 166 years of trial.

After five months of war, it is producing in every phase beyond the colossal and unbelievable goals that Mr. Roosevelt set for it (that is every line except ship building). It has met the test of war and won. It has surpassed its feats of nazism, communism and every other ism.

This was done by effective unity between industry and labor, not the way Hitler did it, with a bayonet, but by the democratic appeal to reason, with a little pressure here and there.

If this unity can be maintained the same way in a post-war peace era, what a country this will be! Real wealth these days as well as real security, is the ability to produce. Money is worth only what the government says. Prices likewise.

Taxes are destroying old wealth and will prevent any new wealth from accumulating. The only thing you can really count on as an individual is your ability to produce. So also with a nation, which is only a collection of individuals.

The British trend, as manifest again in this lady's speech, is the opposite. She thinks security lies in supplanting individual initiative in ownership and work with the unambitious, static, negative, reactionary force of government ownership, out of which no one has ever made money except politicians.

Through socialism, labor in this country would only acquire an interest in bankruptcy. Certainly labor is not making any money out of the little government ownership we have today (public utilities, etc.)

Its organization advances have been less marked in government than in any other line of national activity (only about 50,000 government workers have been organized out of the millions employed). That is not the way toward labor advances or any other advances.

Our post-war economy should be founded primarily on the interests of our 50,000,000 or more good workers, not directed entirely toward the interest of a few million unemployed or unemployable. It must be aimed at keeping good jobs for good workers, not at an unattainable security through bankruptcy.

Peculiar wartime cross-currents are not confined to Britain. Someone started lambasting congressmen a few weeks ago and since then the popular movement has reached th proportions of a campaign against congress.

Apparently it started out as a campaign against the former isolationists, although God knows why, because they have been as docile as if they were in a concentration camp since the war started. They have voted for every war appropriation, have made few speeches.

However, a liberal magazine started off with a purge list for the coming elections, and other magazines got busy along the same line. Soon some of my columnist colleagues were calling for the scalps of congressmen in general, not just a few in particular.

Congress is in disuse. If it also comes into discredit, the main constitutional bulwark of the democratic way of life and the four freedoms, will be lost.

There are both good and bad individuals in congress, but congress as a constitutional force, is not functioning during this war. It has wisely ceased to be a restraint on the executive. It has, like its isolationists, kept quiet and permitted the swifter functioning of one-man government.

Some minor officials (not many) in this government think this would be a good idea to continue into the future. They think congress is a failure.

It is all right with me if you want to throw anything you like at a congressman as an individual, but when you start throwing at congress, you are most apt to hit yourself.



'Lost Horizon'

## Radio Programs

KSLM—FRIDAY—1200 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—Shep Fields Orchestra.
- 8:05—News Briefs.
- 8:30—Lew White, Organist.
- 9:00—Pastor's Call.
- 9:15—The Quintones.
- 9:30—Musical Horoscope.
- 10:00—World in Review.
- 10:05—Silver Strings.
- 10:30—Women in the News.
- 10:35—Melody in Miniature.
- 10:40—Homespun Trio.
- 11:00—Maxine Buren.
- 11:30—Harry Owens Orchestra.
- 11:35—A Song Is Born.
- 12:00—Ivan Ditmars.
- 12:15—News.
- 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
- 12:35—Old Opera House.
- 12:40—Willamette Valley Opinions.
- 12:45—Lum and Abner.
- 1:00—Milady's Melody.
- 1:30—Four Notes.
- 1:35—Life of Paradise.
- 2:00—Tune Tabloids.
- 2:05—US Navy Song Time.
- 2:30—State Safety.
- 2:45—Novalette.
- 3:00—Old Opera House.
- 3:05—Sims Song Time.
- 4:15—News.
- 4:30—Dinner Hour Music.
- 5:00—Here Comes the Band.
- 5:30—To the Ladies.
- 6:00—The Roundup.
- 6:05—Tonight's Headlines.
- 6:15—News Analysis.
- 6:30—Old Opera House.
- 6:45—Religious News.
- 6:50—News in Brief.
- 7:00—The Roundup.
- 7:15—Swath Myrl.
- 7:30—Willamette Valley Opinions.
- 7:35—War Front on Review.
- 8:00—Burns and Allen.
- 8:30—McWain's Melange.
- 8:45—The Noble Orchestra.
- 9:00—News.
- 9:15—Hollo Hudson.
- 9:30—The Roundup.
- 10:00—Larry Clinton's Orchestra.
- 10:45—Mexican Marimba.
- 11:00—Bert Hirsch Presents.
- 11:30—Last Minute News.

KALE—MBS—FRIDAY—1330 Kc.

- 6:30—Memory Timekeeper.
- 7:00—News.
- 7:15—Memory Timekeeper.
- 8:00—News.
- 8:30—Frank Parker.
- 9:00—John B. Hughes.
- 9:15—Woman's Side of the News.
- 9:30—This and That.
- 10:00—News.
- 10:15—Til Find My Way.
- 10:30—Women Today.
- 10:45—Buyer's Parade.
- 11:00—Cedric Foster.
- 11:15—Dance Time.
- 11:30—Concert Gems.
- 11:45—Luncheon Concert.
- 12:30—News.
- 12:45—Civilian Defense Prote. School.
- 1:00—Bill's Wax Shop.
- 1:15—New York Racing Season.
- 1:30—Mutual Goss Calling.
- 2:00—P.T.A.
- 2:15—Sweet and Sentimental.
- 2:30—News.
- 2:45—The Bookworm.
- 3:00—B. S. Berovicki, Commentator.
- 3:15—Baseball Roundup.
- 3:30—Johnny Richards Orchestra.
- 3:45—Hello Again.
- 4:00—News.
- 4:15—Johnson Family.
- 4:30—Salvation Army Program.
- 4:45—Music Depreciation.
- 5:00—Captain Danger.
- 5:15—Jimmie Allen.
- 5:30—Captain Midnight.
- 5:45—Jack Armstrong.
- 6:00—Gabriel Heatter.
- 6:15—News.

KEK—NBC—FRIDAY—1190 Kc.

- 6:30—News.
- 6:45—National Farm and Home.
- 6:55—Western Agriculture.
- 7:00—Frank Castle.
- 7:30—Breakfast Club.
- 8:00—Haven of Rest.
- 8:30—Don Young, Organist.
- 8:45—Keep Fit Club With Patty Jean.
- 9:00—Meet Your Neighbor.
- 9:15—Vicki Vickie, Singer.
- 9:30—Breakfast at Sardi's.
- 10:00—Bauknage Talking.
- 10:15—Second Husband.
- 10:30—Amanda of Honeymoon Hill.
- 10:45—John's Other Wife.
- 11:00—Just Plain Bill.
- 11:15—Excursion in Science.
- 11:30—Stars of Today.
- 11:45—Keep Fit Club With Patty Jean.
- 12:00—News Headlines and Highlights.
- 12:15—Your Livestock Reporter.
- 12:30—Market Reports.
- 12:35—Musical Interlude.
- 12:40—Stella Under.
- 12:45—News Headlines and Highlights.
- 1:00—Arthur Tracy, Street Singer.
- 1:15—Club Matinee.
- 1:35—News.
- 2:00—The Quiet Hour.
- 2:30—A House in the Country.
- 2:45—Chaplin Jim, USA.
- 3:00—Stars of Today.
- 3:15—Kneads With the News.
- 3:30—Sketch Henderson, Pianist.
- 3:45—Beating the Budget.
- 3:50—War-time Periscope.
- 4:00—Clambake by Clancy.
- 4:30—Tea for Two.
- 4:45—Diminutive Classics.
- 5:00—Flying Patrol.
- 5:15—Secret City.
- 5:30—Jack Owens, Singer.
- 5:45—News of the World.
- 6:00—March of Time.
- 6:05—Songs by Dinah Shore.
- 6:15—Four Polka Dots.
- 6:25—Ramona & Tune Twisters.
- 6:30—Elsa Maxwell's Party Line.
- 6:45—Mary Bullock, Pianist.
- 7:00—Lightning Jim.
- 7:30—Meet Your Navy.
- 8:00—Gang Busters.
- 9:00—Down Memory Lane.
- 9:30—News Headlines and Highlights.
- 10:00—Glenn Shelley, Organist.
- 10:00—Studio Party.
- 10:30—Broadway Bandwagon.
- 10:45—Dance Hour.
- 11:00—This Moving World.
- 11:15—Organ Concert.
- 11:30—War News Roundup.

KGW—NBC—FRIDAY—620 Kc.

- 4:00—Music.
- 5:30—War News.
- 6:00—Sunrise Serenade.
- 6:30—Early Bards.
- 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—James Abbe, News.
- 8:30—Symphonic Swing.
- 8:40—Lotta Noyes.
- 8:45—David Harum.
- 9:00—Johnston Family.
- 9:15—Bachelor's Children.
- 9:30—Collins Calling.
- 9:45—Organ Concert.
- 10:00—Benny Walker's Kitchen.
- 10:15—News.
- 10:30—Homekeeper's Calendar.
- 10:45—Dr. Kate.
- 11:00—Light of the World.
- 11:15—Arnold Grimm's Daughter.
- 11:30—The Guiding Light.
- 11:45—Berty Crocker.
- 12:00—Against the Storm.
- 12:15—Ma Perkins.
- 12:30—Pepper Young's Family.
- 12:45—Right to Happiness.
- 1:00—Backstage Wife.
- 1:15—Stella Dallas.
- 1:30—Lorena Jones.
- 1:45—Younger Brother.
- 2:00—When a Girl Marries.
- 2:15—Portia Faces Life.
- 2:30—The Andersons.
- 2:45—Vic and Sade.
- 3:00—The Bartons.
- 3:15—Hollywood News Flash.
- 3:30—Personality Hour.
- 3:45—Funny Honey Man.
- 4:00—Stars of Today.
- 4:15—News.
- 4:30—Cocktail Hour.
- 5:00—Keep America Singing.
- 5:15—Bill Henry.
- 5:30—Waltz Time.
- 6:00—Plantation Party.
- 6:30—People Are Funny.
- 7:00—Grand Central Station.
- 7:30—Fred Waring Pleasure Time.
- 8:15—Lum and Abner.
- 8:30—Whodunit.
- 9:00—Musical Interlude.
- 9:00—Dark Fantasy.
- 9:30—Log Cabin Orchestra.
- 9:35—Musical Interlude.
- 10:00—News Flashing.
- 10:15—Your Home Town News.
- 10:25—Citizens Alert.
- 10:30—Moonlight Sonata.
- 11:00—St. Francis Hotel Orchestra.
- 11:15—Hotel Baltimore Orchestra.
- 11:30—War News Roundup.
- 12:00-12:30 a.m.—Music.

KOAC—FRIDAY—800 Kc.

- 10:00—Review of the Day.
- 10:30—News.
- 10:45—The Homemaker's Hour.
- 11:00—Beethoven.
- 11:30—News.
- 12:15—Farm Hour.
- 1:00—Favorite Classics.
- 1:15—Variety Time.
- 1:45—Concert Hall.
- 2:00—Clubwomen's Half Hour.
- 2:30—Memory Book of Music.
- 2:45—Monitor News the News.
- 3:00—Plantation Revival.
- 3:30—Orchestra Gems.
- 3:45—News.
- 4:00—Keyboard Classics.
- 4:30—Stories for Boys and Girls.
- 5:00—On the Campus.
- 5:30—Personality Hour.
- 5:45—Evening Vesper Service.
- 6:00—Dinner Concert.
- 6:30—Farm Hour.
- 7:00—Consumer's Forum.
- 7:30—OSU Baccalaureate Service.
- 8:15—Music of the Masters.
- 9:45-10:00—UP News.



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

Whatever else as to Hitler's strategy can be read into the renewed axis attack in Libya on British outposts for defense of Egypt, it is clear that the Tobruk bastion is Marshal Edwin Rommel's immediate objective.

Military opinion on both sides of the Atlantic seems agreed that the war-wrecked Libyan port, scene of an unforgettable stand by British imperials for many months although completely cut off except by sea, is the key point of the fifth Libyan campaign. However, even if the nazis capture Tobruk, they probably would not try to invade Egypt immediately.

Word that one of four armored nazi spearheads launched eastward had knifed to within 15 miles of Tobruk's inner defense in the first rush strengthens the belief that Rommel has strictly limited objectives.

This belief is based partially on difficulties of hot season offensive operations in the Libyan desert; but even more on the fact that within a month or so the sand storm period which makes an inferno of the trackless battle ground will be at hand.

Nobody who has experienced Libyan sand storms has a good word for them. They not only make desert life all but unbearable but render war a blind-man's-buff affair. Sand-laden

## ON THE INSIDE— in Washington!

air obscures the vision both of troops on the ground and of air observers soaring above the gritty clouds. Even the desert landmarks by which tank pilots and airmen check their positions are subject to the whim of the winds. Great sand dunes disappear at one point to rise at another as if by magic.

That Rommel can hope to break through British defenses and into Egypt deep enough within the next few weeks to get beyond range of the sand devils is wholly improbable. The truth appears to be that he is now seeking only to seize the Tobruk outpost—which jammed like a poisoned thorn into the sea flank of his last abortive offensive—in order to prepare the ground for later major operations.

Nazi possession of Tobruk is essential to an invasion attempt on Egypt. It would require something more than mere holding of the port, however, to implement a drive far beyond it into Egypt effectively.

The previous Libyan campaigns have demonstrated that aggressive mechanized action in the desert has a strict limit. It is fixed by communications with the rear. It has worked out each time at about 400 miles.

The fact that made the heroic British stand at Tobruk possible was British sea control. The Tobruk garrison was supplied by sea at night when darkness rendered nazi planes all but sightless.

## 'Crime at Castaway'

By EDITH BRISTOL

CHAPTER 27

Two significant things happened next day. Both are recorded briefly in my diary.

In the first place, after the long delay, the Durfee inquest was held—and what an anticlimax that turned out to be!

With his face still puffed and purple from his recent disadventure with the hornets' nest, the Gallina coroner tried to impart to the hearing a feeling of drama and mystery. But the public interest in a mystery will hold suspense for just so long. An unsolved crime goes stale. After a time another, more mysterious, supersedes it. And that's what happened in the case of Worth Durfee.

Estelle's death, following so closely on the killing of her husband, had stolen the show. It had more class, anyhow, as I heard one of the reporters whisper to another while we waited for the arrival of the coroner.

The finding of the body of a middle-aged eccentric, not too popular in his community, whether by bullet wound or by accidental automobile crash, had no thrills to compete with the mystery of Estelle's murder—if it was a murder. So the Durfee investigation became routine question and answer—routine verdict—"death at the hands of person or persons unknown."

I was fed up with courts and coroners. I was weary of questions and answers. I wanted to get out into the brilliant October sunshine and walk over the hills to forget this atmosphere of plot and counter-plot. I was not destined to be free from it—not yet, anyhow.

Something was brewing in the Gallina court house—trouble was in the air. You could feel it in the tension of the court room. It was written on the faces of the court attaches. Whispers and buzzings in the corridors—I was aware of it the minute I stepped inside the building.

And as we drove home from the inquest, Lance told me what it was. He had managed, somehow, so that I rode in his car and Sydney took Martha in his roadster.

"Somebody's going to be put on the spot by District Attorney Stevens," Lance said, swinging his machine out of the town traffic and into the broad ribbon of the highway that led toward Castaway.

"How?"

"Well, there's a first rate feud on between the district attorney's office and the sheriff's office. It's been going on for some time and it's coming to a crisis now. This case—or rather these cases—are going to make it a knockdown, drag-out scrap between Stevens and Nathan Allen."

"Tell me about it," I said. "I haven't heard anything about such a feud between officials."

ahead and ambitious. A good official, too. But you know how it is with district attorneys—

"Not very much," I said. "You forget that my only experience with courts of any kind has been since I came to Castaway."

Lance explained. "When a district attorney comes up for reelection—and Stevens will next year—he makes his campaign on the number of convictions. He asks people to vote for him on the grounds of the number of people he has convicted."

"That doesn't sound quite fair to me," I said. "Suppose some of them shouldn't have been convicted—"

"That's the way it's done, fair or unfair. He's supposed to convict. That's his duty. And Stevens is after Allen's scalp for being too easy on the criminals in these parts."

"Would Stevens rather have Allen arrest a man who was innocent than not to arrest anyone at all?" To me, it sounded infamous, this system.

"I wouldn't say it quite as strong as that. But Stevens is determined to have somebody arrested and prosecuted for the killings of my uncle and of Durfee. About Estelle he's not so much concerned—"

"Why not?"

"Because that, my sweet child, took place outside of his jurisdiction. And I must state, in my opinion—which may not be worth much in law—that Stevens is more concerned with getting somebody convicted in Gallina county than he is with finding a murderer. Or two murderers."

"Wasn't that what the city detectives tried to do? They tried to hang something on you whether you were guilty or not."

(To be continued)

## Today's Garden

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

G. W. reports that her flowering almond is wilting at the ends of all the branches.

Answer: This shrub seems to be given to dying back in this community. Other communities report that it is not so affected there. Best thing seems to be to cut it back severely each season as soon as it is finished blooming. Spray the shrub with bordeaux after it has been cut back. In autumn, just before the leaves fall, spray with lime sulphur and again before the plant starts growth in the spring use a lime sulphur dormant strength spray.

H. S. reports that she planted lilac shrubs two years ago but they have not bloomed. Says she bought them from a reliable grower.

Answer: Rholin Cooley of the Cooley gardens at Silverton reports that lilacs are slow to establish after transplanting and may not bloom for two or three years. Lilacs should be grown in the sun in a well-drained soil. Fertilize them with a complete or a balanced fertilizer at once. The old established bushes seem to thrive best if given a good feeding of bonemeal each autumn. Lilacs do not want an acid soil.

## Spring Offensive on Home Front



Courtesy Buffalo Courier-Express