

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Lame Duck

Extinction of the "lame duck" species of congressmen was the purpose, or one purpose, of the twentieth amendment to the United States constitution. That a number of lame ducks sat in congress late in 1940 and a much greater number in the closing weeks of 1942 was not a violation of the constitution but rather, the result of quite unusual conditions. It had not been foreseen that congress might ever remain in session beyond the general election date.

However, a new use for the "lame duck" phrase has been developing and is likely to become firmly entrenched in the vernacular—just as those it is to designate become firmly entrenched on the public payroll—in coming weeks and months.

Apology may be in order for mentioning the 77th congress' windup two days in succession. But the intimation that Prentiss M. Brown, defeated democratic senator from Michigan, apparently is due for appointment as Office of Price Administration chairman, has so many earmarks of the "shadow of coming events" that it challenges attention.

Leon Henderson is on the way out—and whether it's his health or the political heat, or whether he was a first-class bungler or merely the victim of an inevitably unpopular situation, doesn't make a great deal of difference. Price control and rationing have been bungled; up to that point there is no argument. On the other hand, one has to admire Henderson for his courage; and it's true that in these damnable bureaucracies, even the head bureaucrat can't always control every situation. He is a victim along with everyone else.

But now it's reported that Prentiss Brown is due for the appointment—heaven help him. It's logical enough, inasmuch as he was the chief sponsor of the price control bill which created the agency. But the bill was an administration bill, not his own brainchild, and Brown is just a faithful democratic politician who served one term in the senate. Previously his chief distinction was serving as chairman of the Michigan democratic convention at rather regular intervals since 1924.

However, we are discussing Prentiss Brown as a symptom and not as an individual. Well over one hundred members of congress, most of them democrats and new dealers at that, are ostensibly "out on their ears." Now there is a promising collection of future bureaucrats. It will be no surprise to us if at least half of those defeated new dealers fail to return to whatever "Grigsby Station" they hailed from originally. A lot of them will just stay in Washington and bob up here and there in the executive department.

After all, the executive department owes them a debt—may indeed be chiefly responsible for their loss of those \$40,000 jobs. Debt or no debt, if you've had any contact with new deal agencies you will have observed that the same old familiar faces keep forever bobbing up in new jobs. Once a new deal straw boss, always a new deal something-or-other.

Well, "always" is a long time. There may be, as we have been suggesting, an end to it sometime.

## Manzanar: Object Lesson

On Pearl Harbor day Japan-born and Japan-educated residents of the Manzanar relocation center rioted in celebration of the Tokyo war machine's treacherous attack upon the United States just a year earlier; they also assaulted leaders among the loyal Americans of Japanese descent in the camp, and pitched battle was averted only by the arrival of army contingents. Immediately it was apparent that the incident would serve to clear up in part, an enigma which has been puzzling and worrying a great many Americans who conscientiously desire to be fair and to avoid race prejudice—yet who don't want to be the victims of misplaced idealism.

The Manzanar incident occurred almost two weeks ago; The Statesman has withheld comment awaiting further enlightenment as to its details, and these are slow in coming because a censorship shop has been clamped down on events within the camp—for an excellent reason as we shall see.

However, further enlightenment has come in the form of a background article by Rodney L. Brink of Christian Science Monitor; the source is excellent for our purpose, for the Monitor is a consistent foe of race prejudice and Brink in previous writings has shown sympathy with the American-born Japanese. What does he think now?

Two points are obvious: 1. The rioting removes all doubt as to the necessity for evacuating the Japanese from coast cities.

2. Since it is now apparent that there is a loyal group and a disloyal group, their concentration together in these camps is undesirable. Beyond that, Brink has an explanation for the rioting. Trouble was courted deliberately—for propaganda effect in Japan. The Japanese people will be told that people of their race have been shot in America—that fact will be dressed up to the limit, but the justifying circumstances will not be mentioned.

What percentage of the Manzanar colonists joined in the rioting has not been made clear; one source said it was a majority. But now that it is patent that a division exists, that all persons of the Japanese race are not after all alike, their post-war fate in our opinion is much nearer solution. No doubt behind the censorship at Manzanar, the sheep and goats are already being separated; the same process may be going on at the other centers.

Some Americans will still insist that all of the Japanese race must be deported after the war. But the fair-minded among us dislike, we feel sure, the idea of deporting those fourteen little Japanese-American Boy Scouts who grimly defied the mob while guarding the United States flag that floated over the camp.

## Wool Rationing Delayed

The skimpy "victory suit" we have been expecting to wear early next year or when this year's suit falls off, is now reported to be a little farther in the future.

There's occasion for a bit of levity in one of the formally-announced reasons: "For tactical reasons, military demand has not been as high as it might have been." Why not just say: "Most of our soldiers have been sent to fight in the tropics and are not wearing wool."

Other reasons are encouraging. One is that imports have not been reduced as much as had been anticipated. Another is that the conservation measures heretofore adopted have been more successful than was expected. In other words, another phase of the home front war effort has been a notable success.

Most every editorial page in America, at some time since entry into the war, has deplored the lack or at any rate the dearth of good war songs. But if you want to invoke comparisons, those we have are much better than what the nazi soldiers are singing. They were all turned out by the nazi propaganda machine.

This newspaper has taken no hand in the promotion of candidates for appointment to the state senator pro-tem positions. It is intriguing to note however that on the second appointment may hinge the outcome of the contest for the senate presidency—and that involves also what passes for a lieutenant-governorship in Oregon; and so the Marion county court has a weighty decision on its hands. By the way—if Dorothy Lee gets it, we'll have a woman acting governor some day for the first time in history.

## Editorial Comment

From Other Papers

### AN EXAMPLE

A motorist lost his life Tuesday night in an accident near Maupin, possibly because he was carrying extra five-gallon cans of gasoline in the back of his car. The automobile went off a high embankment, overturned and driver and car almost immediately were enveloped in flames.

This affords a close-to-home example of the great danger involved in unorthodox handling of gasoline—more destructive than dynamite under certain circumstances. The car might not have caught on fire if gasoline in these containers had not spilled, possibly onto a hot exhaust pipe. Normally gasoline in regular or even properly installed auxiliary auto tanks is well protected. Rare indeed is there a passenger car wreck that is followed by such an all-consuming fire.

A great many motorists hoarded gasoline, in anticipation of rationing. Despite the warnings of fire chiefs, insurance underwriters and the police, millions of gallons of motor fuel were purchased and set aside, prior to the rationing deadline. Many motorists contemplated long trips, which would not be possible under rationing quotas. Others sought pleasure use of their cars in excess of mileage allowances.

Attempts to beat gasoline rationing by hoarding definitely are dangerous. The public should realize this fact, before further tragedies occur. In this case it might be a home.

For, again despite repeated warnings, thousands of motorists have put away "extra gasoline" to supplement their normal ration quotas. It is stored in basements, closets, garages—almost every conceivable place, in fact. And nine times out of ten, unless storage is outdoors or underground, a definite explosion and fire hazard is involved. For gasoline is very volatile, and even a static electricity spark can cause it to "let go."

Of course one may be "lucky" and get away with gasoline hoarding for a while. Yet the danger is very real and very evident. And one should not overlook the fact that insurance protection is "null and void" if fire occurs as a result of this illegal storage.

After all, isn't it better to take this gasoline rationing "in stride" and get along with the maximum amount of motor fuel allowed by the government? It so often happens that the person who tries to "get the best of it" actually "gets it in the neck."—The Dallas Chronicle.

## TOWARD A FREE WORLD

Kent Cooper, long-time general manager of The Associated Press, has written a book, "Barriers Down," just released. This document is not limited in interest to the members of an activity of 20 years which served to crack the old world monopoly on news dissemination. By several bold steps and persistency on Cooper's part, the No. 1 news gathering association of this continent has managed to make a contribution toward a free press for the civilized world, which, any observer can see, is one of the essentials to the guarantee of other freedoms to peoples around the globe.

The Cooper book reveals the kind of reporting that came out of principal European capitals before The Associated Press went to work to break down the monopoly of the British, French and German news agencies. Cooper also reveals that these news agencies were systematically giving to their European clients a distorted view of the United States of America, in that they featured news of crime, violence, lynchings, corrupt politics, floods, fires and other disaster, while minimizing representative doings of a great nation.

The ideals for which this nation is now at war will have a far better chance of being carried to the rest of the world when whole peoples understand each other, their aspirations and their problems, more accurately. The free interchange of information, as The Associated Press started out 28 years ago to make more certain, is one of the essential tools in achieving a world order of the type the allied nations espouse.

Cooper's preface note sums up, better than any other person could state it, the opportunity ahead of this nation's press in insuring a better world for our tomorrows. He says: "In this story I have revealed the hitherto unrecorded past; also I have tried to make clear that the accomplishments unenvied avenues of opportunity to the American press through which, by militant action, it can fulfill a mission that will do more than any other one thing can possibly do to prevent future wars. No one person can do it. It will take the earnest interest of the entire press. I may be wrong, but I know of no comparable opportunity. If I am right, it will be interesting to see what the American press does in the matter of furthering a destiny which it can dictate."—Walla Walla Bulletin.



He Seems to Mean It This Time!

## Radio Programs

These schedules are supplied by the respective stations. Any variations noted by listeners are due to changes made by the stations without notice in this newspaper.

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