# The Oregon Statesman

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

### THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, President

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#### State of the Union'

"He (the president) shall from time to time give to the congress information of the state of the union . . ." These are the precise words of the constitution, in compliance with which President Roosevelt on Thursday addressed the new congress in joint session. Master of vocal expression that he is, the president always has reason for the choice of every word. Though the constitution says "state of the union" the president said "state of the nation." Why? Perhaps for the casual reason that "nation" is a commonly-used word whereas "union" in that ense no longer is; but perhaps on the contrary, for a deeper reason. For our part, we deem the distinction to be of such significance that we shall, except in direct quotation, stick to "union."

The president's message was a report, not exclusively to the congress but over its head to the people; and it is our conviction that on no comparable past occasion have the people listened more intently nor with keener realization of their identification with "the union" and its state-or probable fate.

The state of the union-the president told them in so many words, saving the aforementioned variation—is good.

In advance support of that appraisal, he cited these creditable achievements and favorable

On the war fronts, we have stopped the enemy's advance; we have shifted to the attack. On the home front, we are producing more armament, munitions and war supplies than the entire axis.

We have kept faith with our allies, both as to supply and as to our active share in the fighting.

There is reasonable assurance that by the end of 1943 we shall be nearer to Berlin, Rome and Tokyo than we were at its beginning.

The inventory included much more, and presented it in greater detail. There was the definite promise that we shall strike again-though the president said "next"-by land in Europe, and that despite the strengthened resistance. the enemy will be driven from his last beachhead in Africa.

But there were three other matters upon which the people expected, and received, a report. One had to do with government efficiency: specifically with rationing and questionnaires and red tape. Justifiably we think, the president pointed to the difficulty of "doing big things for the first time" and affirmed that in the circumstances, mistakes were inevitable. Yet it was our impression that in this phase of his address the president was more than a little apologetic-more apologetic than the volume of criticism warranted, unless he was thinking of the election returns rather than direct criticism of his administration.

For a second point, the people were waiting to hear what he might say about "social gains" -the more eagerly since it was known he had been advised against advocacy of further "liberal" reforms. Well, you know Mr. Roosevelt and his Dutch antecedents. He just had to take the dare-but he didn't take it any farther than necessary.

Third point was his attitude toward a political independent congress. In the address there was not the slightest hint, either that he intended to bend congress to his will or that he expected trouble from it. Encouraging was his declaration that in wartime the various blocs" should forego their political and economic differences"-assuming he meant all of them, including his own. For the rest, his attitude was one of confidence that in the face of a task requiring the best efforts of all, there must be and will be harmony and cooperation. In matters directly affecting progress toward

### **Drinking Water and Floods**

victory, there had better be.

"Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink." If the paradox of the thirsty shipwrecked sailor's plight were not so familiar, the similar current misfortune of numerous Willamette valley communities would seem more remarkable.

Water in the basement, water ruining the dining room furniture—but not a drop fit to drink. Water systems out of commission, whether the source is the river, or a tributary, or even springs or wells. Turbid and unsafe river water in the mains; pumping systems ruined or dismantled to avoid ruin.

Salem-though we knock gently on woodis an exception. No pumping system, except a small one serving one elevated area, to get out of commission. And the source free from contamination under any probable set of circumstances. A flood which might wash away too great a portion of that island in the North Santiam is conceivable but it would have to be a most exceptional flood. And considering the misfortunes of those neighbor cities, which attest that it seldom is possible to forestall every possible calamity, such an occurrence would reflect no discredit upon the judgment of the engineers and city officials who recommended and approved this Stayton island

As it is, we have a water supply not only satisfactory as to quality but, as the past week's events demonstrate, safe from flood damage when nearly all others fait. Salem will long owe a debt of gratitude to those who devised its water system and occasionally, as at this ment, remember to be grateful—partly compensating them for the abuse they endured at the time the choice was made.

East's Oil Supply

James F. Byrnes, the economic stabilizer, re-cently offered eastern oil and gasoline users the-literally-cold comfort of a prediction that "the best that can be hoped for is maintenance

of the present supply" to the eastern seaboard. The difficulty is purely one of transportation.

been devised and if they hadn't, Americans in due course would devise them.

But it causes us to wonder-couldn't this temporary shortage due to transportation difficulties be solved at least in part by developing some of those substitutes? Perhaps it couldn't be done quickly enough, and without prohibitive expenditure of critical materials. On the other hand, a suspicious soul could envisage resistance from the oil companies.

### **News Behind** the News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6-The outgoing Mr. Leon Henderson and the remaining fuel oil rationers h ve not the slightest idea what they have done to the average individual home owner. Their statements before the senate oil-gas com-

mittee rang the same old notes about "not being tough enough," "people not cooperating," and "stronger rationing to come."

They are all good, genial, conscientious men, but they are thinking in terms of national supplies, area quotas, and soulless statistics. They simply do not understand the human problems they have put on the average man. Personal case histories are

scarce. No one furnishes them Paul Mallon in the debate. But I will tell mine and prove it with documentary evidence, if it will bring these officials any nearer a realization of the human problem in which they have

involved the nation. It is an average case, not nearly as bad as many but it shows such a condition of confusion and misunderstanding as almost to defy solution.

I spent some hours filling out their long blanks and measuring the square footage of each room of my house last fall. OPA announcements said they intended to allot two-thirds as much oil this

Their publicity men gave out fancy stories about how Mr. Henderson's smart young men had worked out a complex formula based on weather for the last ten years so everyone would get his proper

But when my coupons came back, the cut was 50 per cent. My last year's bills showed consumption of 4325 gallons in the mildest Washington ter of a decade, but my allocation was gallons for what is proving to be the worst winter in the same period.

Right there, I found Mr. Henderson's smart young men were not smart for me. Instead of measuring cubic footage of rooms, as every heating man does when installing a furnace, they measure floor space only.

The people in our neighborhood with low ceilings, in some cases, got more oil than they needed. whereas the man with high ceilings did not get enough to run the winter at any temperature. Studio living rooms, with two story ceilings, left some dwellers with a pittance.

My oil dealer informed me there was no use going to the rationing board even today. It was a madhouse. As late as this, it had not been able to allocate coupons to all the people, so there was no need to seek reconsideration. Clerks had largely volunteered, were untrained and the average mistakes was high,

Luckily, I had a vacation in December, so I closed the house for a month and went away to use the heat of others. Coming back, I felt comforted by announcements from OPA that all Washington dealers had enough oil, although I could hardly reconcile this with the news in the same paper that the British embassy had no heat for

My dealer thereupon informed me the value of my coupons had been cut 10 per cent and anyway he would have no oil for "three or four days," although there were only ten gallons in my tank. The only other oil dealer in town had plenty, but OPA had issued a regulation preventing him from serving any except his old customers. The government had prevented him from serving me.

There I learned the problem of the oil dealer was worse than mine. Less than one-fifth of his drivers generally showed up on Monday, because increased pay allowed them to take more time off without losing salary.

OPA had descended upon them with new regulations requiring detailed daily reports of mileage, gasoline, tire life, hours driven, concerning each truck, and it was almost impossible for the dealer to answer the telephone, much less to maintain an orderly business.

So I closed off all except a couple of rooms in the house, waiting until I reach the last gallon of oil before seeking other shelter, although all hotels, apartments, and boarding houses in this locality are filled to overflowing.

Even then, as I waited, the afternoon editions carried government warnings urging more conversion to coal and threatened dire consequences unless apartment houses did so. I became acquainted with the "conversion to coal" song of Mr. Ickes last year when I tried to convert my furnace. My furnace dealer informed me:

"Oh, that's just bunk the government is handing out. You would have to get a whole new furnace and no furnaces have been manufactured. We simply cannot get them, or even get conversion grates."

His desk now is stacked two feet high with emergency orders for heating repair in homes where furnaces consumed the last drop of oil and blew out. A radiator in the home of one of his customers blew out the wall under such circum-

Said customer went to the rationing board and raised hell, threatened to sue the government, but he got no more oil and the government apparently This is the story of my community, and this is

my personal experience, briefly told, but dramatizing a situation of greater seriousness in every community in the land. I do not mind particularly, but the next time I see an announcement by a government official telling me not to use too much fuel oil, I am going to take the newspaper that carries it right down to his office and make him eat it. PS-The late afternoon editions have just arrived with an announcement from the local fuel rector, Mr. Whitney Leary, stating fuel dealers here have plenty of oil and warning people not to Yet we can foresee, and Honest Harold Ickes order more until their tanks get down to onealready has foreseen and warned of, an actual fourth full—and me with two gallons and no prosshortage of petroleum some years hence. That doesn't really stump us, for substitutes have for Mr. Leary's office with a copy of the paper.

A followup bombardment of Japanese to right," he added.

Shortage of petroleum some years hence. That pects of oil "for three or four days." I am leaving he described by units of an AmThis year we intend to added.

The enemy's Munda airfield on "Last year, we stopped them.

The pects of oil "for three or four days." I am leaving he decorpies by units of an AmThis year we intend to added.

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This year we intend to added.

## Radio Programs

:45—Rise 's Shine. :00—News in Brief. :65—Rise 'n' Shine. :15—On the Farm Front. 130 News.
130 News.
135 Your Gospei Program.
130 Rhythm Five.
130 News Brevities.
130 Goiden Melodies.
130 Pastor's Call.
130 Pastor's Call.
130 Pastor's Call. 1.00—Pastor's Call.
1.15—Hawanan Serenaders.
1.20—Popular Music.
1.45—John Kirby's Orchestra.
1.00—World in Review.
1.05—Gale Guillermo.
1.25—Pat Friday and Evelyn Trent.
1.00—Maxine Buren, Women's Editor for The Statesman.
1.15—Four Notes.
1.20—Hits of Yesteryaar.
1.20—Organalities.

15—News.
20—Hillybilly Serenade.
28—Willamette Valley Optnions.
20—Lum and Abner.
25—Rollo Rudson's Orchestra.
20—Milady's Melodies.
2:15—Spotlight on Rhythm.
2:00—Isle of Paradiss.
2:15—US Navy.
2:20—State Safety Program.
2:45—Broadway Band Wagon.
3:00—Old Opera House.
4:20—Singing Saxophones.
4:15—News.
4:20—Teatime Tunes.
5:00—Madison Singers.
5:15—Let's Reminisce. 5:15—Let's Reminisce. 5:30—Golden Melodies

6:00—News. 6:15—War Comm 3:15—War Commentary,
1:20—Symphonic Swing,
7:00—News in Brief,
1:05—Clyde Lucas Orchestra,
7:30—Willamette Valley Opini
1:50—Gaylord Carter,
8:00—War Fronts in Review,
8:10—Teddy Powell,
8:30—Treasury Star Parade,
8:45—Modern Choir,
8:00—News, Without Words, Night, Dance. 9:30—Guest Night. 0:30—Let's Dance. 0:30—News. 0:45—Chuck Foster's Orchestra. 1:30—Islanders. 1:30—News.

WALE-MRS-PRIDAY-1330Ke. KALE-MBS-FRIDAY-1330 6:30-Good Morning Club. 7:00-News. 7:15-Happy Johnny. 7:30-Memory Timekeeper. 8:00-Breakfast Club 8:30-News. 8:45-What's New. 9:00-Boake Carter. 8:45—What's New.
9:00—Boake Carter.
9:15—Woman's Side of the News.
9:30—This and That.
10:00—News.
10:15—TBA.
10:30—News.
10:35—Strictly Personal.
10:45—Buyer's Parade.
11:00—Cedric Fostor.
11:15—Baron Elliott Orchestra.

1:30—Concert Gems. 1:45—Luncheon Concert. 2:25—On the Farm Front. 2:30—News. 12:25—On the Farm Front.
12:30—News.
12:45—Philadelphia Symphony.
1:15—PTA.
1:45—East-West Football Game.
1:30—A Man With A Band.
2:00—Sheila Carter.
2:15—Newsreel Theatre.
2:45—Northwest News.
3:00—Phillip Keyne-Gordon.
3:20—Hello Again.
3:45—Bill Hay, Bible.
4:00—Fulton Lewis.
4:15—Johnson Family.
4:30—News.
4:45—Echoes.
5:15—They're the Barrys.
5:30—The Cisco Kid.
6:00—Gabriel Heatler.
6:15—Movie Parade.

6:00—Gabriel Heatter.
6:15—Movie Parade.
6:30—Candle Light and Silver.
7:00—Harrison Wood.
7:15—Art Kassel Orchestra.
7:30—Lone Ranger.
8:00—Memory Lane.
8:30—Music Without Words.
8:45—You Can't Do Business With
Hitler.
9:00—News.
9:15—Speaking of Sports.
9:30—John B, Hughes.
9:45—Fulton Lewis, jr.

9:45—Fulton Lewis, jr.
10:00—Soldiers of the Press.
10:15—TBA.
10:30—News.
10:45—Hal Grayson Orchestra.
11:00—Herbie Holmes Orchestra.
11:30—Jan Garber Orchestra.

KEX-NBC-FRIDAY-1190 Ke. 6:00 Moments of Melody. 6:15 National Farm and Home 8:45 Western 7:05—Home Demonstration 7:15—Music of Vienna. 8:00—Breakfast Club. 8:45—Keep Fit Club With Patty Jean 9:00—Meet Your Neighbor. 9:15-Woman's World. 9:30-Breakfast at Sardi's. 10:00-Baukhage Talking. 10:15—Souvenirs 10:20—Andy and Virginia. 10:30—The Great Melody. :00-Breakfast Club. :15—Current Events. :30—James G. MacDonald. 11:45—Keep Fit Club With Patty Jean. 12:00—News Headlines and Highlighta 12:15—The Three Rs. 12:30—Between the Bookends. :55—News. :00—Hollywood Newsgirl.

2:15—Clancy Calling. 2:45—Little Jack Little. 55-News Charles Runyan. 3:15—Kneass With the News. 3:30—Earl Wrightson. 3:45—Pages of Melody. 3:00—Scramble :00—Scrambje :30—Excursions in Science 4:45—News. 6:00—Don Winslow. 5:15—Sea Hound. 5:30—Jack Armstrong. 5:45—Captain Midnight. 6:00—Hop Harrigan.

6:15—News, 6:30—Spotlight Bands, 6:55—Gracie Fields. 7:30—Meet Your Navy. 7:30—Your Income Tax. 7:45—Men Machines and 8:00—Earl Godwin, News. 8:00—Earl Godwin. News.
8:15—Dinah Shore.
8:30—Gang Busters
9:00—Your Mayor Speaks.
9:15—Sherman's Ballroom Orch.
9:30—News Headlines and Highlights
9:45—Down Memory Lane.
10:15—Deep River Boys.
10:30—Broadway Bandwagon.
10:45—Dance Hour.
11:00—This Moving World.
11:15—Organ Concert.

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 out from the air at any time in the interests of national defence.

11:30-War News Roundup. KOIN-CBS-FRIDAY-950 Re. KOIN—CBS—FRIDAY—358 & 6.00—Northwest Farm Repo 6.15—Breekfast Sulletin.
6.20—Texas Rangers.
6.45—Victory Front.
7.00—Koin Rlock.
7.15—Wake Up News.
7.30—Dick Joy, News.
7.45—Nelson Pringle, News.
8.00—Consumer News.
8.15—Valiant Lady.
8.30—Stories America Loves.
8.45—Aunty Jenny.
9.00—Kate Smith Speaks.
9.15—Big Sister.
9.30—Romance of Heiem Tree

9:15—Big Sister.
9:25—Romance of Helem Trent.
9:35—Rour Gal Sunday.
10:00—Life Can Be Beautiful.
10:15—Ma Perkins.
10:30—Vic and Sade.
10:45—The Goldbergs
11:00—Young Dr Malone.
11:15—Lovee Jordan. -We Love and Learn,

1:30—We Love and Learn,
1:45—News,
2:90—Columbia Ensemble,
2:15—Bob Andersen,
2:30—William Winter, News,
2:45—Bachelor's Children,
1:00—Galen Drake,
1:15—Old Chisholm Trail,
1:30—American School of the Air,
2:00—Newspaper of the Air,
2:30—St. Louis Matinee,
2:45—Ban Bernie, 2:00—Newspan 2:30—St. Louis Man 2:45—Ben Bernie. 3:00—Meet Mr. Emmel. 3:15—Today at the Duncans. 3:30—Keep Workins, Keep Singing. 3:45—News.

15—Sam Hayes. 30—Easy Aces. 45—Mr. Keen, Tracer. 30—Martha Mears. :30—Harry Flannery, News. -Cecii Brown, News.
-Leon F. Drews.
-Dance Band.
-That Brewster Boy. 6:30—That Brewster Boy.
7:90—Camel Caravan.
7:45—Bobby Tucker.
8:00—Amos n Andy.
8:15—Secret Weapon.
8:30—Playhouse.
9:00—Kate Smith.
9:55—Adventures of the Thin Man.
10:00—Five Star Final.

10:15—Wartime Women.
10:20—Air-flo.
10:30—World Today.
10:45—The Marines Have Landed.
11:30—Les Hite Orchestra.
11:30—Manny Strand Orch.
11:55—News. 12:00 to 6:00 a.m.-Music and News. KGW-NBC-FRIDAY-620 Kc.

4:00—Dawn Patrol. 6:00—Everything Goes. 6:30—News Parade. 6:55—Labor News. 6:55—Labor News. 7:00—News Headlines and Highlights 7:15—Aunt Jemima. 7:15—Aunt Jemima.
7:20—News Parade.
7:30—Reveille Roundup.
7:45—Sam Hayes.
8:00—Stars of Today.
8:15—James Abbe. News.
8:30—House Dividid.
8:45—David Harum.
9:00—The O'Neills.
9:15—Everything Goes.
9:45—Kneass with the News.
10:00—Benny Walker's Kitchen.
10:15—US Marine Band.
10:30—Homekeeper's Calendar.
10:45—Dr. Kate.

10:30—Homekeeper's Calendar.
10:45—Dr, Kate.
11:00—Light of the World.
11:15—Lonely Women.
11:30—The Guiding Light.
11:45—Betty Crocker.
12:00—Story of Mary Marlin,
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—Lorenzo Jones. 1:30—Lorenzo Jones. 1:45—Young Widder Brown. 2:00—When A Girl Marries. 2:15—Portia Facea Life. 2:30—Just Plain Bill. 2:45—Front Page Farrell. 3:00—Road of Life.

#### Todav's Garden By LILLIE L. MADSEN

Mrs. L. T. R. writes that she and her husband have taken a small new place for the duration. The lawn has been planted but there are no shrubs or flowers around it. She writes that she doesn't want to put in permanent expensive plantings but would like some color next summer as she has always had a nice garden around her old home. She wants to know what to do without too much expense.

Answer: Annuals would probably be the best solution. Of course she could purchase some of the smaller, cheaper shrubs, many of which give good results the first year. Or perhaps the owner would be willing to add a few to improve the home.

But annuals will give color, can be had cheaply and produce at once. As soon as the ground is warm enough purchase plants of nicitiana, marigolds, petunias, snapdragons, calendulas, zinnias -all the well known varieties. If seeds are to be used, plant them in flats this month. In setting them out, remember better results are had by mass colors, rather than by planting singly. For instance a bed of the canary bird or the Indian summer snapdragons - or if planted in borders, group the same varieties together.

### Interpreting the War News By KIRKE L. SIMPSON

Wide World War Analyst for The Statesma

If a monster Japanese amphibious exhibition against New Guinea, Guadalcanal or some other point is assembling, as Australian reports have it, it is doing so under trying condi-

Rabaul, in New Britain, is said to be the nerve center of the enemy mobilization, although shipping for the expedition is reported widely dispersed to avoid air detection. Within a few hours after publication of the report in Australia, MacArthur's bombers were on the job over Rabaul for the sixth time in 30 days. They bagged an estimated 50,000 tons of Nipponese troop and cargo space and brought to 21 the number of ships sunk or wrecked in that area in the half dozen bomber

That does not necessarily forbid a new Japanese effort to retrieve lost ground or strengthen defensive outposts on the Solo-mons-New Guinea-Timor perimeter. However, it stoutly supports Secretary Knox's statement that Japanese doings in the Rabaul area are being scoutgularly by the Ame

to show that American sea as well as air patrols are widely and aggressively on the alert. If a mass Japanese sailing from the Rabaul region is impending, it is confronted with the grim menace of American air and surface attack along the way. It could bring a sea-air fight even more decisive than the Midway hattle which changed the face of the war in the Pacific.

The logic of the situation for the Japanese points primarily toward defensive rather than offensive maneuvering in the southwest Pacific. The allied threat against that vulnerable corner of the Nipponese conquest sphere is real and grow-

It is written in the Pacific attrition figures which President Roosevelt so sharphly emphasized to the new congress in his opeful review of the war on all fronts. Naval, cargo and, above all, air losses of the Japanese since Pearl Harbor warrant Mr. Roosevelt's dictum that "the period of our defensive attrition in the Pacific is passing."

"Now our aim is to force the A followup bombardment of Japanese to fight," he added. 5-News of the World.

:10—Musical Interlude. :15—Hotel Bilitmore Ord :30—War News Roundu KOAC-PRIDAY-550 He.

1:00 Private Pets Press.
1:15 On the Campuses.
1:20 Evening Vesper Service.
1:30 Evening Vesper Service.
1:30 Farm Hour.
1:30 Eyes Aloft.
1:30 Eyes Aloft.
1:30 The Timber Wolves.
1:35 Concert Rall.
1:30 Our Hidden Enemy.
1:35 Music of the Masters.
1:35 News.
1:30:00-12.00 Music.

### **Your Federal Income Tax**

No. 2 THE VICTORY TAX

The victory tax is a temporary in come tax, additional to the revenue act of 1942. It is payable upon income for the year 1943; consequently tax-payers will find no reference to it in the income tax returns for the year 1942 which are now being sent out by collectors of internal revenue. However, payments on account of victory tax will be made currently, by deductions, or "withholding" from wage

payments made after December 31, 1942. The amounts of the payments are required to be deducted by the employer, and remitted quarterly to the collector of internal revenue. When the tax-payer makes his income and victory tax return for the year 1943 (due in 1944) he will show in his return the amount that has been withheld by his employer and claim credit for this amount in his return. The amount withheld by the

employer is 5 per cent of each wage payment in excess of the "withholding deduction" is an exemption from tax on the first \$624 of "victory tax net income" for the year, or the proportionate amount corresponding to the pay - roll period. Thus, for an employee paid weekly, the amount withheld on account of victory tax is 5 per cent of the amount of the wage payment in excess of \$12. A table of approximate amounts may be used by employers for computing this deduction. For example, the table provides that on weekly wage payments over \$12 and not over \$16, the amount withheld is 10 cents, and on weekly wage payments over \$16 and not over \$20 the amount withheld is 30 cents. Corresponding amounts are withheld for wage payments of other amounts and for other pay-roll periods.

The amount withheld is computed upon the total remuneration of the employee for the period (in excess of the withholding deduction), including remuneration in form other than cash. Thus, if board and lodging are part of the employee's remuneration, the cash value of the board and lodging must be included in computing the amount to be withheld.

Employers are required to furnish employees a statement of victory tax withheld. These statements are not furnished with each wage payment but are made for the calendar year, or for the period of employment during the calendar year. If an employee is employed until the end of the year, the statement must be furnished by January 31, 1944; if the employment ceases during the year, then the statement must be furnished within 30 days from the time of the last payment of wages. As the statements will be evi-

dence in substantiation of an employee's claim for credit for victory tax withheld, they should be carefully preserved by the

BROWNS

Optometrists - Opticians Court and Liberty Streets

"Golden Lady" By CLARENCE BUDINGTON KELLAND

Chapter 33 continued

purposefully toward the en-

She considered very briefly

the expedient of going back to face the fact, but discarded the

idea at once . . . Nothing must prevent her from appearing in

the Golden Blend Girl contest.

at home, but they would know

where to look for her. It was a

matter of public knowledge that

she would be among the models

competing at the Chamberlain-

Towers. The police would come.

The taxi left Darnley at the

entrance to the great hotel and

she was not unconscious of the glances that followed her as she

walked to the elevators leading

to the ballroom. She was early,

Approaching the ballroom, Darnley heard her name spoken,

and, turning, saw Chico Sanson

She paused and smiled. "Will

"You know you have my best

He was staring at her, not with

admiration, but with something

like horror. "Good Lord!" he

"Confidentially," she said.

"This coat was stolen. And the

"No, Chico, I didn't steal it."

"I don't understand, How

"I don't understand fully eith-

er. But I had to wear it. It was

the only way I could be here to-

night to compete. I am turning

it over to the police as soon as I

They are coming here?"

"Probably."

to go away."

The

"But they know you have it?

"Have you thought," Sanson

asked gravely, "of what that

means to me and to this contest?

A competitor for the Golden

Blend Girl award arrested for

theft! Perhaps the winner of it

involved in a scandal!" He com-

pressed his lips. "I'm afraid,

Darnley, I can't let you com-

pete. I'm afraid I must ask you

"I thought this was a land,"

she said bitterly, "where every-

until guilt was proven. Grand-

pa Carfax told me so. Have you

thought of the results to me if

"Darnley, Darnley-can't you

"Is business the highest law?

What about the finer law, Chico,

that commands us all to protect

the innocent? I assure you I

will be able to prove I did not

Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman

POST-WAR DO'S AND DON'TS

years, the United Nations should

hold and treat Italy, Germany

and Japan as outlaw nations of

the lowest type of gorillas, bar-

barians and most barbarous imps

of hell of all types and times.

All three are no less venomous

at least 100 years.

polite shame fronts.

≤ START 1943

With Better Vision.

Members of Better Vision Institute

A. L. CLARK.

BROWNS

Eye health is important! Start this year right with better vision . . . let our registered optometrist prescribe the correct glasses for you. Buy on convenient credit

To the Editor: For at least ten

I am refused the right to appear

see? I must protect-"

you wish me good luck, Chico?"

Well, let them come.

but that did not matter.

on the stairs.

wishes, Darnley."

"That coat!"

"Darnley!"

"I know," she said.

said in a choked voice.

"What is it, Chico?"

police are looking for it."

come you are wearing it?"

The police would not find her

trance of the apartment house.

steal this coat or anything else As the taxi got under way she saw her acquaintance, the lieu-tenant of detectives, striding

Sanson seemed lost in deep, worried thought. Suddenly he declared, "Well, Darnley, despite cops or robbers, you compete tonight. That's that!"

"Thank you, Chico," she said simply, and passed into her dressing room.

She hung the sable coat on the rack and sat before a dressing table. Other girls arrived, and the room became noisy with conversation. Several of her rivals seemed dangerously beautiful. They made her conscious that to be declared the most beautiful model in New York required something more than ordinary good looks.

A man in evening dress rapped and entered. He held a list in his hand. "There are forty girls in this competition," he said.
"You are to appear in groups
of ten for the preliminary judging. From each group of ten, two will be selected. In the semifinals there will be two groups of four, from each of which one will be picked by the judges to appear in the finals." He read a list of names. "These young ladies will appear in the first group. Please be ready to step upon the stage at 8:30 promptly.

Darnley's name was in the third group. At last she stood ready, off-stage, to make her entrance with her section, and could hear the applause from the audience as it greeted the winners of the preceding section. An attendant motioned them on, and Darnley followed the girl before her out upon the stage and before the footlights. She looked down upon an area of white faces, vaguely visible through the glare of light. In line the group walked slowly before the judges; then each girl was required to step from line and to walk back and forth across the stage, exhibiting herself to audience and judges.

Some contestants chose to make use of the artificial, undulating slink of the trained mannequin. Darnley, when her turn came, did not do so. She walked as she believed an intelligent girl of good taste would carry herself, not proudly, not with exaggerated movement, but with an effort to be natural, unself-conscious. She reassumed her place in formation, and the ten stood while the judges conferred. One of these stepped forward and took a dark-haired girl from the other end of the line and led her forward. He turned and walked to Darnley, taking her hand and leading her to stand beside the first selection. The room roared its applause.

It was not with a feeling of elation but of relief that Darnley realized she had surmounted the first barrier. She could look, now, down into the audience with greater serenity. Faces ceased to be blurs and became human. It was not pleasant to recognize Lacey Gorse in the fifth row. It was with distinct distaste that she was Elaine Sanson. But, and she felt a pang of disappointment, she could not make out the untidy hair or boyish face of Clyde Farrish.

(To Be Continued)

