

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

Member of The Associated Press

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this newspaper.

Free Enterprise

Wasco county composes a port district, Port of The Dalles, which has built a large dock with warehouses, now leased to the navy, and a grain elevator leased to a grain company. Tuesday its voters will decide whether to authorize another \$150,000 in bonds for construction of an annex to the grain elevator. The Chronicle of The Dalles, in an editorial favoring the issue, explains the deal thus:

"The grain elevator annex, if approved, will be constructed exactly on the same basis as was followed when the present elevator was built. That is, the port district will build the elevator, then lease it to the Continental Grain company for operation. The rentals will be at a rate sufficient to retire the bonds, pay all operating costs and depreciation. The cost to the taxpayers will be absolutely nothing!

As explained when the original elevator was built, such an arrangement is made possible by the fact that the port district retains title to the property. That means the lessee has no taxes to pay."

The item which commands attention is the tax shelter provided the private company, which is lessee of the elevator. Rather than buy or lease ground, erect an elevator and then operate it without rentals but with taxes, the company prefers to be a tenant and pay rentals sufficiently high to amortize the cost of the building in 17 1/2 years.

It is obvious that the more property is tax exempt the higher taxes are on remaining property. The growing demands of government for revenues means property on taxrolls should increase. Theoretically this new facility at The Dalles will be tax-free. Actually the share it would have borne will have to be carried by other property. We know this is standard practice, chamber-of-commerce approved, inspired by community ambitions. Portland has extensive public docks. Vancouver has attracted numerous industries on port-owned, tax-free lands. But such development adds to tax distortions. It is forcing basing of taxes on incomes and turnover rather than property.

Another item worthy of comment is the willingness of the private company to participate in a "socialistic" enterprise when it serves its interest to do so. Here one obvious advantage to the lessee company is to have the financing done at the extremely low rates of municipal bonds (in their turn tax-exempt). The saving is a very substantial subsidy to the private company. Thus we get socialism (public ownership) in moderate doses. Private business resists as socialism the invasion of government in the fields of business; but it is forever encouraging government subsidies, grants, tax exemptions, controls, investments where the flow of benefits is to private business. With all its loud talk about free enterprise, private business progressively commits suicide, as in this instance where it prefers to become a tenant of a municipal corporation rather than a proprietor in what would appear to be a sound private investment.

There is one more comment, and that is the preference of investment capital itself to low yield, tax exempt securities to the old-style investment in lands, mortgages, corporate bonds or stocks. Investors, too many of them, are living in the cyclone cellars of the 1930s. Despite the starvation diet of triple A securities they refuse to send out a pigeon to see if the storm has passed. Banks will load up with low-rate governments, but still are skittish on direct loans to farmers and business men. That's another reason why government is going more and more into business—the refusal of investors to back their faith in free enterprise with their money.

(See how long a Sunday sermon on economics we have drawn from this proposed bond issue at The Dalles).

Post-War Cooperation

A rather temperate resolution, signed by four senators, two democrats and two republicans, expressing a purpose on the part of the United States to cooperate in preserving peace, once it is restored, through some form of international policing has drawn support and opposition. Roane Waring, national commander of the American legion, is quoted as saying that a world police to enforce the peace would be "crazy." Senator Smith of South Carolina "Cotton Ed" Smith, who voted to confirm the Wilson treaty in 1919, says of this proposal: "I'm not in favor of it at all. I think we should attend to our own business, take care of America, first."

It is timely that the subject of America's place in the world is discussed frankly, and, though this is less probable, intelligently. The war will end. There will be some sort of peace. The United States will not be able to secede from the globe. In some way or other this country will have to participate with other countries. Russia, the old Ishmael among the nations, did have at least a minimum of intercourse with others.

Whatever peace that is set up will not be automatic. Germany may be whipped, but the Prussian instinct for military power will survive. Japan may have her cities blasted, her emperor dethroned, her war lords incarcerated. But the ambition for domination will again fire Japanese leaders. There will need to be continuing control to repress the gangster powers. Does the United States want to undertake this alone? Secretary Knox, it is recalled, said soon we would have a five-ocean navy. We supported too niggardly a one-ocean navy before; how ready will we be to bear the continuous cost of a five-ocean navy? The other possibility is joining with others of the United Nations to do the job.

We are not so much concerned about the exact text of resolutions and charters that may be proposed. They must be couched in general terms or controversy is immediately provoked. It is important that this country indicate an at-

titude of cooperation with others of the United Nations for meeting and tackling the problems of post-war adjustment. We believe the people, if not the politicians, favor this. The March number of the Woman's Home Companion reports its own poll of the attitude of women showed 92 per cent favoring a permanent world congress and 95 per cent giving this congress power to enforce its decisions.

Our own view is that this cooperation of the nations will grow through practice, that there be no haste to write formulas and frame charters and covenants. Experience has proved them too fragile. Eventually there will need to be some constitution serving as a binder for the powers, just as our own constitution was written five years after the close of the Revolutionary war. The essential is the spirit of cooperation with the purpose of promoting good international relations, preventing the seeds of war from sprouting, building a structure of peace which will endure because it is securely constructed.

It is all right now to be studying the problem of America's part in the post-war world; but the immediate task is to win the war, and we must not let antagonisms over post-war organizations divide the present consuming effort required to win the war.

Civilian Defense, 1943

West coast civilian defense authorities are whipping up interest in local defense by renewed warnings of the threat of bombings. It is very important to maintain the civilian defense organization in major and minor target areas, against the possibility of such enemy action. But the probability faded with the Japanese defeat at Midway. True, there may be sporadic bombings, like the ones in Curry county last fall. But the prospect of large-scale bombings which could come only from aircraft carriers in a strong task force is very slim. Since Midway and other battles Japan cannot spare the naval force, especially carriers, which would be required for such an adventure. It would be virtually a suicidal one-way venture, and the Japs are neither that reckless nor that extravagant.

It is a just criticism of civilian defense that it has aped Great Britain too closely, and that it has not weighed accurately the risks of various types of communities. The problems of Great Britain, with densely populated cities, with towns close together and all exposed to short range bombing from continental bases are vastly different from our own, with only a few cities of size on this coast, communities rather widely separated, and comparatively few major target areas. Yet we have had the intricate paraphernalia of bomb defense, decontamination, evacuation, medical care set up even in the villages far removed from the coast, whose risk is negligible. It has been expensive in cost and more expensive in time of civilians that might better now be devoted to more essential duties.

There are some very necessary things for this summer. First is to maintain the aircraft warning service, which is the very heart of the whole defense system, both military and civilian. Second, to renew the effort for forest protection under the banner of "Keep Oregon Green." Third, keep the civilian defense well organized and vigilant in the major and minor target areas. That would mean the coastal and Columbia river towns, the centers of war industry, Salem as the state capital, areas around military camps. The rest of the state could be given the instruction "at ease" until there is a definite and adverse change in the naval situation in the Pacific, which is wholly improbable.

If the Japs come on big-scale bombing raids they will strike where they can cripple our war production. Prime targets would be first, Puget Sound, with the naval base at Bremerton and the aircraft factories and shipyards there; second, California at San Francisco and at Los Angeles-San Diego; third, the Columbia river area, aluminum plants, Bonneville dam, shipyards. They certainly wouldn't waste high explosives on berry fields and hopyards and residence sections of villages.

The big job of civilian defense this year is to deal with domestic problems: rationing, food production, labor supply, salvage collection.

When the war is over the post-war audit will probably show that the national office of civilian defense has been the biggest flop of all. It has overrated its importance from the beginning. It has been costly, often impractical and conflicting. One of the hard tasks the states have had has been to throttle down the fool ideas from national or regional offices which were both silly and costly.

It is always well to be prepared; but it isn't necessary to wear woolen underwear in summer because it will be cold next winter.

Russian pilots have brought ramming to a fine art. When they are going to ram an aircraft, first they shoot the tail gunner. Then they close in. They cut off the tail of the enemy aircraft with their own propeller. This might appear to be a form of suicide, but losses are reported small, and pilots have been known to do it twice in one air battle with the same plane.—British Information Services press note dated March 16.

Yes, Lusya, current feminine interest in our new Scorchy Smith comic strip, pulled that trick on a Nazi plane way back in January—the 19th, to be specific.

"Real income" of farmers increased 77 per cent between 1939 and 1942, whereas city folk's "real income" rose only 32 per cent. Another of our suspicions confirmed.

Alarm clocks are going back in production. They will do more good for production than the slogan "Wake up, America!"

hours of production lost by attending the innumerable conferences called to expedite the war effort?



He May Not Be as Crazy as We Think

Today's Radio Programs

- KSLM—SUNDAY—1390 Kc.
 - 8:30—Langworth Fourtunes.
 - 9:30—Gospel Broadcast.
 - 9:30—News in Brief.
 - 9:30—Spiritual Interlude.
 - 9:30—Oryan, Harp, Violin Trio.
 - 9:30—Popular Salute.
 - 9:30—Work in Review.
 - 10:15—Moonbeam Trip.
 - 10:30—Hit Times of Tomorrow.
 - 11:30—American Lutheran Church.
 - 12:30—Langworth String Quartette.
 - 12:30—Commemorative.
 - 12:30—Golden Moments.
 - 1:30—Young People's Church.
 - 1:30—Remond's String Ensemble.
 - 2:15—Voice of Restoration.
 - 2:15—The Golden Hour.
 - 3:30—KSLM Sunday Symphony.
 - 3:30—"Boys' Town."
 - 4:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 4:30—Modern Melody Trio.
 - 4:30—Alex. Krill's Russian Orch.
 - 4:30—Old Fashioned Revival Hour.
 - 6:30—Langworth Organ Orchestra.
 - 7:30—Bob Hamilton's Quintet.
 - 7:30—Langworth Novelty and Balala Group.
 - 8:30—First Presbyterian Church.
 - 8:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 9:30—News Summary.
 - 9:30—Organist.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 10:30—News.
 - 10:30—Dream Time.

- KALE—MBS—SUNDAY—1330 Kc.
 - 8:30—Wesley Radio League.
 - 9:30—Central Church of Christ.
 - 9:30—Detroit Bible Class.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 10:30—News.
 - 10:30—Romance of the Hi-Ways.
 - 10:30—Canary Chorus.
 - 10:30—Plymouth House.
 - 10:30—Floyd Johnson.
 - 12:30—News.
 - 1:30—Lutheran Hour.
 - 1:30—Temple Baptist Church.
 - 1:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 1:30—First Nighter.
 - 2:30—Upton Close.
 - 4:15—Remember When.
 - 4:30—Stars and Stripes in Britain.
 - 5:30—Gabriel Heister.
 - 6:30—Old Fashioned Revival Hour.
 - 7:15—John Emmel.
 - 7:30—Hinson Memorial Church.
 - 7:30—Voice of Prophecy.
 - 7:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 10:30—Old Fashioned Revival Hour.
 - 11:30—Louis Armstrong Orchestra.
 - 11:30—Music.

- KEK—BN—SUNDAY—1190 Kc.
 - 8:30—Soldiers of Production.
 - 8:30—Josef Marais African Trek.
 - 9:30—The Quiet Hour.
 - 9:30—Stars from the Blue.
 - 10:30—Horace Heidt Review.
 - 11:00—Coast to Coast on a Bus.
 - 11:45—Speaking of Glamour.
 - 12:15—Wake Up America.
 - 1:30—National Vespers.
 - 1:45—Voice of the Farmer.
 - 2:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 2:30—Musical Steelmakers.
 - 3:30—Free World Theatre.
 - 4:30—Changela Jim, U.S.A.
 - 4:30—The Golden Hour and Today.
 - 5:30—Christian Science Program.
 - 5:30—Melodrama.
 - 6:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 6:30—Draw Pearson.
 - 6:30—The Green Hornet.
 - 6:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 7:30—Good Will Hour.
 - 7:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 7:30—Jimmie's Favorites.
 - 8:30—Quiz Kids.
 - 8:30—Ambassador Hotel Orchestra.
 - 8:30—News Headlines.
 - 8:30—Dorothy Thompson.
 - 8:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 8:30—Organ Revival.
 - 8:30—The Quiet Hour.
 - 8:30—Symphony of Melody.
 - 11:30—War News Roundup.

- KOIN—CBS—SUNDAY—850 Kc.
 - 6:30—News of the World.
 - 6:30—The Biggs.
 - 6:30—English Melodrama.
 - 7:30—Church of the Air.
 - 7:30—News Roundup.
 - 8:30—Warren Sweeney News.
 - 8:30—West Coast Church.
 - 8:30—Cedric's Evening.
 - 8:30—News.
 - 8:30—Lake Tabernacle.
 - 8:30—Church of the Air.
 - 8:30—Trans-Alantic Call.
 - 8:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:30—World News Today.
 - 11:30—Aunt Jennie.
 - 11:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:30—The Pause that Refreshes.
 - 11:30—The Air.
 - 11:30—Family Hour.
 - 11:30—William Shirer News.
 - 11:30—Dorothy Thompson.
 - 11:30—Sgt. Gene Autry.
 - 11:30—Commandos.
 - 11:30—News.
 - 11:30—Only Yesterday.
 - 11:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:30—Phyllis Stearns News.
 - 11:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:30—Radio Readers' Digest.
 - 11:30—Fred Allen.
 - 11:30—Man Behind the Gun.
 - 11:30—Crisis Doctor.
 - 11:30—Quiz Variety Show.
 - 11:30—William Winter News.
 - 11:30—Million Dollar Club.
 - 11:30—Five Star Final.
 - 11:30—War-time Women.
 - 11:30—Air-File of the Air.
 - 11:30—The Whistler.
 - 11:30—News.
 - 11:30—Music.
 - Midnight to 5 a.m.—Music and News.

- KOW—NBC—SUNDAY—530 Kc.
 - 8:30—Dawn Patrol.
 - 8:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 8:30—Sunrise Serenade.
 - 7:30—National Radio Pageant.

- Here are extra radio programs, for the benefit of mail subscribers to The Statesman. Each day the current day's programs will be published as usual and, in addition, the first half of the next day's schedule will appear on the comics page.
- 7:30—Words and Music.
- 8:00—The Church in Your Home.
- 8:30—News.
- 8:45—The Dining Sisters.
- 9:00—Emma Ours, Singer.
- 9:30—That They Might Live.
- 10:00—War Telescope.
- 10:15—Labor for Victory.
- 10:30—The Golden Hour.
- 10:45—News.
- 11:30—John Charles Thomas.
- 12:00—Washington Reports on Re-Unioning Round Table.
- 12:15—Upton Close, Commentator.
- 12:30—The Army Hour.
- 12:30—The Golden Hour.
- 1:45—Here is Tomorrow.
- 2:00—NBC Symphony Orchestra.
- 2:30—Headlines and Highlights.
- 3:15—Catholic Hour.
- 4:30—Newsmakers.
- 4:30—The Golden Hour.
- 4:30—Bad Wagon.
- 4:30—Olan Miller.
- 4:30—The Golden Hour.
- 6:30—Manhattan Merry-Go-Round.
- 6:30—National Album Familiar Music.
- 7:00—Hour of Charm.
- 7:30—The Golden Hour.
- 7:30—The Parker Family.
- 8:30—The Great Gildersleeve.
- 9:30—The Golden Hour.
- 9:30—Talent Time.
- 9:30—The Golden Hour.
- 10:15—Betty Martin, Singer.
- 10:30—Unlimited Horizons.
- 11:30—St. Francis Hotel Orchestra.
- 11:30—The Golden Hour.
- 11:30—3 a.m.—Swing Shift.

- KSLM—MONDAY—1390 Kc.
 - 6:30—News in Brief.
 - 7:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 7:30—Morning Mood.
 - 8:30—Fred's Naps's Orchestra.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 9:30—Tango Time.
 - 9:30—Patrol's Call.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 9:30—Popular Music.
 - 9:30—Uncle Sam.
 - 10:30—News.
 - 10:30—A Song and a Dance.
 - 11:30—Ace Trio.
 - 11:30—Tommy Reynolds, Mal Hallett and Orchestra.
 - 11:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 12:30—Organist.
 - 12:30—Hilbilly Serenade.
 - 12:30—Willamette Valley Opinions.
 - 1:30—Lum and Abner.
 - 1:30—Victory Gardens.
 - 1:45—Spotlight on Rhythm.
 - 2:30—Isle of Paradise.
 - 2:30—Bill Roberts.
 - 2:30—Langworth String Quartet.
 - 2:30—Broadway Band Wagon.
 - 4:15—Guadalajara Trio.
 - 4:15—News.
 - 4:15—Trotting Times.
 - 5:00—Jack Feeney.
 - 5:15—Records of Reminiscence.
 - 5:30—Victory Gardens.
 - 5:30—Tonight's Headlines.
 - 6:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 6:30—Evening Serenade.
 - 6:30—Popular Music.
 - 6:30—News in Brief.
 - 7:30—Willamette Valley Opinions.
 - 7:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 8:30—Treasury Star Parade.
 - 8:45—This My Story.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 9:30—Neighborhood Call.
 - 9:30—Suzie Myrt Presents.
 - 10:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 10:30—News.

- KALE—MBS—MONDAY—1330 Kc.
 - 6:45—Uncle Sam.
 - 7:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 7:30—Texas Rangers.
 - 7:30—Benny Carter.
 - 8:15—Breakfast Club.
 - 8:30—News.
 - 8:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 8:30—Boake's Side.
 - 8:30—Woman's Side of the News.
 - 8:30—Buyer's Parade.
 - 9:45—US Naval Academy Band.
 - 10:30—News.
 - 10:30—Curtain Call.
 - 10:30—This and That.
 - 10:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:15—Bill Hay Reads the Bible.
 - 11:30—Concert Gems.
 - 11:30—On the Farm Front.
 - 12:30—News.
 - 1:30—News.
 - 1:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 1:30—Yessie Rogers.
 - 1:30—Phyllis Stearns-Gordon.
 - 1:30—Wardrobe Women.
 - 1:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 3:45—Stars of Today.
 - 4:00—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
 - 4:00—Johnson Family.
 - 4:30—News.
 - 4:30—Wings Over the West Coast.
 - 5:00—News.
 - 5:00—Norman Heath.
 - 5:00—The Golden Hour.
 - 5:00—Gabriel Heister.
 - 5:00—Movie Parade.
 - 5:00—The Golden Hour.
 - 7:00—Raymond Clapper.
 - 7:15—Accorion and Guitars.
 - 7:15—The Golden Hour.
 - 8:00—San Quentin on the Air.
 - 8:30—Double or Nothing.
 - 8:30—News.
 - 9:15—Salute to Heroes.
 - 9:30—General Barrows.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 10:00—Wings Over the West Coast.
 - 10:30—News.
 - 10:30—Learn to Dance.
 - 11:00—Law Diamond Orchestra.

- KEK—BN—MONDAY—1190 Kc.
 - 6:30—Moments of Melody.
 - 6:30—National Farm and Home.
 - 6:30—Carnegie of America.
 - 7:30—Suffler Ed McConnell.
 - 7:30—Home Demonstration Agent.

- KOIN—CBS—MONDAY—850 Kc.
 - 6:30—Northwest Farm Reporter.
 - 6:30—Texas Rangers.
 - 6:30—KODI Election News.
 - 7:15—Wake Up News.
 - 7:30—Dick Jay News.
 - 7:30—Nelson's People News.
 - 8:30—Concert News.
 - 8:30—Valiant Lady.
 - 8:30—Stories America Loves.
 - 8:30—Aunt Jenny.
 - 9:30—Kale Serenade & Highlights.
 - 9:30—Down Memory Lane.
 - 9:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 11:30—Organ Concert.
 - 11:30—War News Roundup.

- KOAC—MONDAY—530 Kc.
 - 10:30—News.
 - 10:30—The Homeowner's Hour.
 - 11:30—School of the Air.
 - 11:30—Music of Gilbert and Sullivan.
 - 12:30—News.
 - 12:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 1:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 1:30—Artist in Recital.
 - 1:30—War Commentary.
 - 1:30—Variety Front.
 - 1:45—Victory Front.
 - 2:30—The Golden Hour.
 - 2:30—Memory Book of Music.
 - 3:30—News.
 - 3:30—Treasury Star Parade.
 - 3:30—The Concert Hall.
 - 4:30—Monitor News Roundup.
 - 4:30—Waltz Time.
 - 4:30—Stories for Boys and Girls.
 - 5:30—On the Spot.
 - 5:30—On the Campus.
 - 5:30—Vespers.
 - 6:45—The Golden Hour.
 - 6:45—Oregon's War.
 - 6:45—News.
 - 6:45—Evening Farm Hour.
 - 6:45—The Golden Hour.
 - 6:45—Education.
 - 6:45—Foresters in Action.
 - 6:45—Calling all Teachers.
 - 6:45—News.
 - 6:45—Uncle Sam.
 - 6:45—The Golden Hour.
 - 6:45—Favorite Melodies.
 - 6:45—Swing Goes High Hat.

'Curiosity Killed a Cat'

By ANNE ROWE

Chapter 34 (continued)

She turned around to the open safe in answer to her gesture toward it and said: "Oh!" and "Thank you," as she pulled the poor, futile letter from its hiding place. And then she asked: "Shall I close the safe?"

It was such a ridiculous thing to say, under the circumstances, I couldn't help smiling. "If it makes you feel better," I told her. "Only, if your time is so short: don't you think you ought to use it for reading the letter, so that you know—what's in it?"

"I don't care what's in it. All I want is, to get rid of it—be free—live," she burst out passionately. "And, thanks again, I didn't believe you'd be so nice about it, so—"

She broke off and shrank against the wall, listening.

I listened too. Someone was coming up the stairs. I couldn't hear the footsteps on the thick carpet, but—someone was breathing loudly.

Presently a deep voice boomed: "Kay? Kay Burton? Are you there? Are you safe?" adding, only a shade less sonorously: "Brace yourself, Stella! Walk! You're too heavy to drag all the way up!" And the next instant Mrs. Libby appeared in the door, firmly holding on to Stella Avery—livid, disheveled, whimpering, and pulling in reverse like an obstetrical child.

For a long moment the picture held. The four of us remained motionless: Mrs. Libby small, aristocratic and determined; Stella on the verge of hysterics;

Amy trying to shrink into the wall with fear, and I turned to stone behind the desk, staring at the other three. Very stupidly, no doubt.

Then Stella saw Amy, and the next moment all was turmoil and violence.

Her whimperings rose to one of her famous shrieks. She jerked free of Mrs. Libby and in the same furious motion flung herself across the intervening space, straight at Amy. Her hands lashed out, fingers curved like talons, and grasped the unfortunate girl's throat. Shaking her, trying to strangle her.

A torrent of abuse—unrepeatable invectives and curses—rained on Amy, who was defending herself with all her strength against the lethal attack. Half-incoherent gibberish, interspersed with "I'll kill you for it, I'll kill you!"

Mrs. Libby had plunged after Stella, was pulling at her raving niece with all her puny might, roaring at the same time: "Stop it! Stop it, I say! I won't have any more murders!"

The din was ear-splitting. I kept thinking: "I must go and help Mrs. Libby. Stella is killing Amy," and couldn't get up, seemed glued to my chair.

Then, miraculously, Roberts was in the room. His gloved hands tore the struggling and squirming Stella away from her victim, holding her without noticeable effort.

(To be continued)

Interpreting The War News

By GLENN BABB

World War Analyst for The Statesman

The last week of winter has seen allied fortunes definitely improved on one front, certainly no worse on others. It has been a week of rising tension, of tightening worldwide expectancy of great events about to come.

Although in this global war the seasons have meant less than in any war of the past, humanity naturally looks to spring to bring a new turn of its affairs, hopeful or terrible. This year it probably will be both. At any rate it is the first spring of World War two which has found the United Nations holding the overall initiative, choosing the main battlefields instead of awaiting with dread the enemy's next blow.

It was just a quarter century ago Sunday morning that Von Hindenburg launched the first of the great offensives in the west that represented Germany's last effort to win that war. Even with the end only eight months away Germany still was able to deliver attacks that kept the allied lands in black anxiety for four months more. Hitler's Germany still has the resources for

some terrible blows; Russia may be facing another summer of peril, but the over all picture is one which justifies confidence.

The most decided improvement of the United Nations' position during the week was achieved in Tunisia. These also were noted the most convincing signs of big events impending.

American forces, their losses of last month replaced, burning with the offensive spirit and a desire for revenge, struck back against Marshal Rommel's flank. They had a new commander, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., famed believer in the gospel of American attack.

The Americans recaptured Gafsa and continued eastward on at least two of the roads leading toward the enemy's Gabs bottleneck along the coast only about 70 miles away.

Gen. Henri Honoré Giraud, the French leader in north Africa was present at the seizure of Gafsa and declared that it "marks the beginning of an offensive which will go as far as Berlin."

There was a revival of activity in the north Pacific, where United States air forces blasted again at Japan's base on Kiska in the Aleutians, perhaps heralding something still more substantial in the way of action to clear this segment of American territory of the enemy. The Japanese are looking with growing anxiety toward the northeast, apparently believing that America's first blow against their homeland may come from that direction.

Another flareup came in Burma, where the Japanese continued pressure which compelled two withdrawals by British forces above Akyab, in the northwest, but at the weekend the British were advancing again above Donbaik and holding firm elsewhere.

The China war continued to seewaw indecisively along the middle Yangtze. If Japan is preparing a major offensive in China or anywhere else in the Pacific theatre it is still under wraps.

The Youth of Our Nation Demand Good Vision

We have always prided ourselves on giving our children the best of everything, and yet we often neglect an important check-up of their eyesight.

Free Examination

Low Weekly or Monthly Terms

MORRIS OPTICAL

444 State Street
Phone 5253
Salem - Silverton - Eugene