

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us; No Fear Shall Ave"  
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## Bombers and Peace

The Oregonian in a very thoughtful editorial on "The Bomber and Tomorrow" develops the idea that the modern airplane, particularly the bomber has made obsolete the old type of armed revolution. "To the barricades" becomes an empty challenge when a few well-dropped bombs will blow barricades and revolutionaries to bits. As the Oregonian remarks, revolutions of the future probably will have to be of the castle variety, in which changes at the top shift control of the weapons. Most certainly the day of the revolt of peasants armed with scythes, pitchforks and hunting rifles is a thing of the past.

Truth is, it has been, in modern countries, ever since Napoleon's "whiff of grapeshot" as Carlyle called it, terminated an incipient revolt against the French directory,—an action which set the corporal on Corsica on his road to become general and emperor of France. And the machine gun anticipated the bomber in giving to the authority controlling the army (with its machine guns) control of the state.

The projection of the idea, which the Oregonian does not make, is that control of a fleet of several thousand bombers may be effective in the post-war world in quelling in their incipency wars started by aggressors and gangsters like Hitler and Mussolini. In fact that is the basis of the claim that an international police force so equipped could preserve the peace of the world without an elaborate and vast military establishment. It would not work if directed against a powerful nation already armed with an equivalent number of bombers; but it would against Germany and Italy and Japan if they were disarmed and policed against rearming.

There is a great deal more to world peace than merely a large force of planes parked at Geneva; but swift, far-ranging, powerful planes do provide a weapon, which as the Oregonian concludes, must be kept "in the right hands." Used intelligently they can become powerful instruments for peace and security.

## "Special on Rum"

Only a cut-price was needed to make the "special on rum" a real bargain sale, as offered by the state liquor stores the first three days of the week. The offer was a "special" all right, and reports indicate that sales were stepped up considerably. Just what the purpose of the special sale was, we do not know. It may have been prompted by the desire to sell more liquor to raise more money for old age assistance; or to get rid of quantities of the rum before OPA price roll-backs force a reduction in the selling price; or to amplify supplies to cut down illicit sales.

The method smacks though of offerings to induce buying, which is contrary to the purpose of the liquor control act. Unfortunately control does not get the emphasis it ought to. Per capita consumption of hard liquors increases unduly, with the inevitable evil result of increasing the number of victims of alcoholism.

The present ration system imposed because of lack of supplies points a possible way to social reform. The Bratt passbook system introduced in Sweden in 1913 rations the amount of liquor which one person can buy. Ohio, we understand, has made this plan part of its regular control. It is subject to abuses—persons may turn over their allotted purchases to others for consumption—but it offers one way of limiting consumption, which prevailing conditions show is badly needed.

Surely nothing should be done by the state commission to stimulate and encourage consumption of hard liquors. The "rum specials" ought not to be revived.

## "As You Were"

Sunday came the statement from Paul V. McNutt, manpower commissioner and head of the selective service system, covering the drafting of fathers unless they get into essential industry. Tuesday, L. C. Stoll, Oregon manpower director, came out with a statement telling fathers engaged in non-deferable employment to "sit tight" pending further advices. It is just this command followed by counter-command which creates confusion in the public mind. No wonder the men in these special categories are worried and uncertain as to their futures. Meantime congressmen are making statements urging deferment of all fathers.

McNutt's statement probably was prompted to some extent by the immediate necessity he is under of digging up more labor for war industries—some of which are right here in Oregon. It helps his cause not a whit for Oregon Director Stoll to reassure fathers in their present occupations, even if it will stop the flood of telephone inquiries into his office.

Do we need more men in war industry, or don't we? If we do, then the only way to get them is from other occupations, for there are no unemployed. We make no progress with "As you were" orders.

## Unwanted Prisoners

The California state grange adopted a resolution, which after several preliminary "credentials" berating Germany and Italy with cruelty and butchery, denounces the transfer of any Germans or Italians held prisoner "to any of the Americas, at any time for any purpose." The grange doesn't even want them for fruit pickers or dairy hands.

If the grange logic prevailed the same reasoning would keep these prisoners out of England and North Africa too, which have livelier experience with nazi-fascist cruelty than our country. Then the only thing left would be to turn the prisoners loose or kill them off. Just which would the California grange prefer?

A New York mayor refused to marry Tommy Manville. What man—or woman—would want to?

## Mexican Labor

The Mexicans imported to supply needed farm labor in Oregon and other coast states have done such a good job that counties with harvest problems ahead are reaching out to get them. We understand that is true in Marion county and perhaps some of the other counties where growers are worrying over labor supply for the harvest peak. If these workers are brought in, they will be only to supplement the local force of workers. All hands will be needed when picking of prunes and hops gets under way.

There is special need for able-bodied men in field work—for instance as prune tree-shakers, or in the heavier work of the hop harvest. The Mexicans are physically fit and can help out greatly in this regard.

Having checked the localities where the Mexican laborers have been placed we can report that uniformly there is praise for their work, for their conduct and for their friendly attitude. So we feel their coming should occasion no fears, but rather they should be welcomed as providing timely aid in the farm harvesting.

Albany has emerged from its long period of somnolence in more ways than one. Besides new industry, a bureau of mines laboratory, an army camp nearby, it is gaining fame as a crime center; first with the "Lower 13" murder case, and next with a rare case of baby kidnaping not for ransom. Salem and Corvallis just go along in orderly quietude.

The town should be pleased that the Southern Pacific decided to spend some of its war profits in painting the depot. And the paint isn't a box car red either. In fact a fine job of redecorating, inside and out, has just been completed. Offices were remodeled too, so Agent C. A. Larson and his staff have more commodious quarters.

## News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, August 19—Returning congressmen say the folks back home approve Mr. Roosevelt's war direction, but are wild and wrathful about the inefficient handling of domestic problems—particularly food. They might well be.

A restaurant man here tried to get some cabbages from his wholesaler for several days without results. The dealer finally told him the OPA had fixed such a low price on cabbages that the farmer could get no profit out of selling them, and that he could get no profit by handling them.

The same situation seems true nationally. In the Denver area, cabbages recently were being sold at too high a price, sometimes as high as \$70 a ton, nearly twice last year's price of \$42 a ton. The OPA stepped in, and instead of fixing a lower price which would give a reasonable profit and keep the flow of cabbages coming to American tables, dropped it to \$25. The farmers plowed their cabbages under, or fed them to the hogs.

What some newspapers have been reporting about the similar loss of the North Carolina potato crop through similar foolishness is substantially correct. The government first guaranteed a price to the growers in the Carolinas and southeastern states, which was too low. They came up here and protested, finally succeeding in getting a profitable price ceiling.

But another branch of the government, ODT, refused to let railroad cars, so the potatoes were loaded in hot weather under conditions which caused much spoilage. The crop was late and ran into northern competition.

Therefore, the government had to buy it at the lowest fixed price, and has been giving it away to national institutions and starch factories for one-tenth of its cost or less. Little of it ever reached American tables in this time of dire food shortage. About 8000 carloads were involved, most of which were lost to the market.

The cherry growers in the Denver area could not get their cherries for their crop. Then they wanted to put it in storage but all available space was filled with meats and butter. So they advertised in the newspapers inviting citizens to come out to pick the cherries off the trees free. The people replied that they could not get gas. The crop fell on the ground and rotted.

Similar situations have developed in beans, meats and other products at a time when we cannot spare an ounce of food-waste either for ourselves or our allies. The regulated economy has run into open switches of inefficient pricing, regulations, icing, and gas shortages, which complicate the always prevailing farm problems of labor and machinery.

Food Administrator Marvin Jones has sought to mend the broken production line with ringing patriotic speeches telling the farmer and consumer their duties and offering great promises for next year. The wise men here say Mr. Jones will come along with some really helpful statements and actions later, but it is evident the nation is running into ever increasing serious food dangers.

By mid-winter, Mr. Jones will need a miracle to preserve a balanced American diet. From the recent famine in meats, the government regulations are plunging us into a period of over-marketed abundance for the fall. Beef, cattle and hogs will have to be thrown on the market when the grass dies and feeding supplies (already deficient) dwindle further. But, by mid-winter, we are likely to have a meat famine again.

Current canning of fruits and vegetables is spotty. Some local canneries are reaching normal production, but the total supply will not be enough for the army and civilian consumption. Apple and peach production, especially peach, is far below normal due to spring freezes.

Nature, however, has lavished weather favors upon the nation's food production as a whole. The eastern drought is confined mainly to Maryland and Virginia, and in no case, goes west of the Alleghenies. The corn and grass is still green in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

If we could eat all we have grown, we would be well off, but all the obstructions and wastes of a managed economy are side tracking much that nature has given us.



Tough Going for the Old Banyan Tree

## Today's Radio Programs

KSLS—FRIDAY—1290 Kc.	Next day's programs appear on comics page.	7:15—Movie Parade.
7:00—Cherry City News.	10:00—Serenade in Swingtime.	7:30—Lone Ranger.
7:30—News.	10:20—News.	8:30—Music.
7:45—Morning Moods.	10:45—Sign Off.	9:30—News.
8:00—Cherry City News.		9:15—Speaking of Sports.
8:30—Program Parade.		9:30—General Barrows.
8:45—Rhythm Five.		9:45—Fulton Lewis.
8:50—Tango Time.		10:15—Treasury Star Parade.
9:00—Pastor's Call.		10:30—News.
9:15—Johnny Marvin.		10:45—Music.
9:20—Popular Music.		11:00—For Victory.
9:30—Cherry City News.		11:30—Music.
9:45—Song and A Dance.		
10:00—News.		
10:15—Cherry City News.		
10:30—Sentimental Songs.		
10:45—Maxine Baran.		
11:00—Hits of Yesteryear.		
11:15—Spirit of Vikings.		
11:30—Tango Time.		
11:45—Pastor's Call.		
12:00—Cherry City News.		
12:15—Mid-Day Matinee.		
12:30—Program Parade.		
12:45—Rhythm Five.		
1:00—Tango Time.		
1:15—Pastor's Call.		
1:30—Cherry City News.		
1:45—Johnny Marvin.		
2:00—Popular Music.		
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