

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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What Percentage Delinquency?

No one said a word for a full minute. Older folks ought not attend the "young people's meeting" anyway—except the pastor and his wife, who know when to talk and when to let the youngsters proceed on their own, and what not to say under any circumstances. But in some churches the oldsters do attend and air their views, which has a stifling effect on youth. On this occasion there was a serious discussion of morals, and the woman well past middle age had turned loose this bombshell: "I've heard it said that 80 per cent of the married women in this town are prostitutes."

That wasn't Salem, nor did it occur recently. But now there is a lot of discussion, nationally and locally, of juvenile delinquency. Some extremely dark pictures have been painted, no doubt to good purpose. Delinquency has increased; in some localities multiplied. The public needs to know what goes on. This sort of publicity serves two purposes. Individual sets of parents may be warned to look after their own; and collectively, the public will be better disposed to support the programs devised to combat delinquency.

Yet if the picture is distorted, serious damage may result. The well-intentioned woman's remark quoted above, had it gone unchallenged, would have done harm. It would have suggested to the young people that the moral code to which they subscribed was not, after all, the code of society in general; that outside of their own group—and even perhaps within it, for all they knew—there existed no moral code whatever!

From all the publicity concerning juvenile delinquency, young folk who read the papers and magazines may get a similar impression. They may conclude that morality is something that had meaning for past generations but that today "anything goes."

What are the facts about the incidence of juvenile delinquency? There actually are no complete statistics; agencies gathering such figures have them only from certain juvenile courts, chiefly in larger cities, covering only about 40 per cent of the nation's population. And the 1943 figures are not yet available.

For 1940 there were some 64,000 cases, for 1942 74,000, a gain of 16 per cent; cases involving boys increased 11 per cent, girls 38 per cent. In normal times, there are about five times as many boys as girls coming into juvenile courts. It should be understood that "juveniles" are ages 7 to 15.

Supposing there were 100,000 cases in 1943. There are more than 20,000,000 "juveniles" in the United States. What's the percentage? One-half of one per cent. But that's probably high, for it happens that there are accurate and up-to-date statistics for New York city, which isn't supposed to be an outstandingly good environment for children. There are 916,000 "juveniles" in greater New York, and recent figures indicated 3560 delinquents, which figures out less than .4 of one per cent.

Furthermore "delinquency" covers a multitude of sins; some of them quite minor. A high percentage involve "disobeying parents" or "running away." The percentage of serious offenses is much lower. Figures recently released mentioned, for the entire nation, the arrests of 9000 girls in a 12-months period. Those figures apparently run up to age 19, and indicate a sharp increase from normal times; there were 3864 such arrests in 1933. But, though the figure of 9000 arrests looks big, out of twelve million girls what's the percentage? Less than .08 of one per cent, or one out of 133,333.

The kids, we suspect, in spite of a certain amount of neglect and the shattering of ancient taboos, still stack up somewhat better than their elders in the matter of behavior!

Breaking a Record

If the molders and foundrymen in Portland go on strike it will be the first real wartime strike in Oregon. In this state labor has kept the no-strike pledge with remarkable fidelity. This strike, announced for this morning, follows the pattern laid down in the Smith-Connelly law; but it can hardly be said whether without the law the strike would or would not have occurred. Portland foundrymen voted against striking, but were outvoted by the Seattle union.

The strike is in protest against a declaration of the war labor board refusing to grant a wage increase to journeymen molders. A three-man panel heard the case and granted an increase to foundry workers but denied one to molders who now get \$1.20 an hour. The panel decision was upheld by the war labor board.

This strike is not alone against the company but against the lawful agencies created to adjudicate wage disputes. It becomes truly a strike against government, in a key industry, and so is absolutely intolerable in wartime.

It may be that the molders' wage of \$1.20 an hour is not as high as in other crafts; but it is a good living wage, and with the overtime must provide a very substantial paycheck for the workers. In striking they cannot say their wage is inadequate to provide a decent standard of living; nor can they say their case has not been fairly heard. It would be a serious handicap to war production in the northwest to have these foundries shut down, supplying as they do thousands of pounds of casting for ships and other war equipment. But we can't see how the war labor board can yield its ground under strike pressure. The strike, if it comes, will have to be broken, and that without much delay.

Pin-ups for Barracks

Females may have the "form divine," but they can't break into army newspapers in pictures any more. That is the order out of Washington, and it applies to post papers in continental USA. The war department evidently doesn't want to invite the wrath of Postmaster General Walker which was vented on the magazine Esquire. While the army may not be able

to produce Varga's pictures, it has some very clever men with the artist's pencil and brush, so without the rule there was always the temptation to sketch pin-up girls for barracks boys.

The author of the rule, which appears in a war department guide, was not without a sense of humor, because he justified the rule by saying that the "general subject is already so handsomely exploited by civilian periodicals that for the army to enter the competition would be like carrying coals to Newcastle."

But if Esquire's lights go out as ordered the last of February would the army papers run into the civilian competition? Even Life may have to lower the angle of its can-can dancers legs and put ruffles on its pictures of statues.

One thing is true about this Anthony Comstock business: once it starts there's no telling where it will stop. Pictorial reform has reached the army.

Picking the Team

The naming of Gen. Omar N. Bradley as commander of American ground forces for the opening of the second front just about completes the organization of high command for this assault. Gen. Bradley served under Gen. Eisenhower in Tunisia, so he has had combat experience against the Germans in this war. The two have worked together which is a definite advantage to both men. In fact, General "Ike" has drawn heavily on his former associates in North Africa in picking the team of officers for the invasion.

Another item of war news yesterday was the statement of Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, who has taken over the Mediterranean command to succeed Eisenhower. He hinted at an attack on southern France simultaneously with the frontal attack on the continent and referred to Balkan countries as the "weakest link." Clearly he was just rapping the nerves of the Germans. Hitler was a past master at this in pre-war days, keeping the little and big countries of Europe dancing on a hot plate every time he made a speech. The war of nerves is not decisive, though. Eventually the shooting has to start; and evidently "it won't be long now" until it does, in France.

News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, January 17—Only people freely speaking their minds these days on the issues of the day are the men at the front, or just back. Although they are millions strong, and will be the prevailing influence on the country in postwar, their views are seldom publicly reported. You can find out what they think only by talking with those who have on leave or reading their letters to their families.

Their common line of thought (as far as I have been able to judge in conversations) is fairly accurately presented in a letter from an army captain, received by his father, a newspaper editor. His views seem an average of men who have rubbed shoulders with allies and matched fists with enemies to achieve a better, realistic understanding of both, as follows:

"Things look different out here (southwest Pacific) and there is plenty of time to reflect on past life because life out here is so primitive, so basic, stripped of all luxuries and niceties that as American kids we took for granted as part of our country. But now that we are giving, we have gained a much finer perspective—a finer appreciation.

"And I for one do not desire to quit until we've wiped out—not just beat down to an unconditional surrender—but wiped out the youth of Japan and Germany and Italy. For if we do not, we shall have children who will, in 25 years, have to fight the children growing up in those countries now—with warped minds."

"But will America get soft? I believe she is yet, and will go easy on them. I suppose the American people still refuse to face imperialism. But they damn right better learn quick."

"English mandates are being handed back on a silver platter out here to the English governor as he moves in again—Islands practically bathed in marines' blood. There is one I can think of at present, and back to dear old England it goes."

"This all may sound pretty blood-thirsty to the average civilian very comfortable and safe in an easy chair in a carpeted home. Changed? No, I haven't changed at all. I always thought thus. I just acquainted with primitive instincts that I figured I now never have to know. But I must rely on them now to preserve the civilization I learned at Amherst."

"It seems strange in a way to get acquainted with the ways our old pioneer ancestors did things. We, like they, hew our homes out of the forest, live simply and plainly."

"Strange how habits stick to a fellow—good and bad. The desire to keep clean, for instance. Under the most difficult of conditions. They tell me marines would bathe and wash clothes in rivers and streams almost under fire—so strong was the habit from earlier training to keep clean."

"Even now, washing clothes is pretty primitive. I usually do mine on the hood of a jeep with the front end half way into the stream. Makes a good wash board, and a fast running river furnishes plenty of water."

"Don't think just because we are in the service, we don't have opinions." Yes, and they will be bringing them back—a strengthened respect for the American way of life, a first hand knowledge of the inferiority and competition of other systems, a hatred of political deceptions, or small talk propaganda, in short, a new realistic knowledge of the world.

Any politician, ambitious for future office, could well go after the soldier vote, by casting aside the old-time methods of promising pensions or making laudatory speeches about the brave boys, and by sitting down and talking with them straight.

If this war merely frees this country of the old political double talk, hogwashing and whitewashing vote buying with public funds, of the old tricks of deception, and bring politics out into the open, it may save millions of lives in future political wars.



Congress Is Back

Today's Radio Programs

KSLM—TUESDAY—1290 Kc.

1:00—News.
1:30—Marion Farm & Home.
1:45—Stella Dine.
2:00—News.
2:15—Morning Moods.
2:30—Cherry City News.
2:45—Program Parade.
3:00—Music.
3:15—Tango Time.
3:30—Pastor's Call.
3:45—It's the Truth.
4:00—Chit Edwards.
4:15—Orchestra.
4:30—News.
4:45—Song and Dance.
5:00—Music.
5:15—News.
5:30—KSLM Presents.
5:45—Music.
6:00—Organizational.
6:15—News.
6:30—Musical Serenade.
6:45—Matinee.
7:00—Lum & Abner.
7:15—Music.
7:30—Millies Melodies.
7:45—Spotlight on Rhythm.
8:00—Sole of Paradise.
8:15—U.S. Navy.
8:30—Four Novelties.
8:45—Broadway Band Wagon.
9:00—KSLM Concert Hour.
9:15—News.
9:30—Russian Melodies.
9:45—News.
10:00—Music.
10:15—News.
10:30—Jim Lewis.
10:45—Keynote.
11:00—War Fronts in Review.
11:15—Mustangs.
11:30—Excursions in Science.
11:45—Castles in Air.
12:00—Between the Lines.
12:15—Serenade.
12:30—News.

KGW—NBC—TUESDAY—630 Kc.

5:30—Labor News.
5:45—Mirth and Madness.
6:00—Song.
6:15—Labor News.
6:30—Journal of Living.
6:45—News Headlines & Highlights.
7:00—Music.
7:15—Sam Hayes.
7:30—That's Today.
7:45—James Abbe Covers the News.
8:00—Robert St. John.
8:15—David Harum.
8:30—Words and Music.
8:45—Country Hour.
9:00—Blue Frolics.
9:15—Glenn Howard.
9:30—The Guiding Light.
9:45—Today's Children.
10:00—Terry and the World.
10:15—Hymns of All Churches.
10:30—Women of America.
10:45—Ma Perkins.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON

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A new Russian break-through to the Leningrad-Odesa railroad north of Novosokolniki shapes up as the opening of the battle of the Baltic flank in the east even before the crisis is reached on the Black Sea wing of the front.

Russian forces astride the Novosokolniki-Dno link of the railroad stand within less than 100 miles of Pskov. That is the vital supply and escape corridor south of Lake Peipus for all German forces on the Leningrad-Lake Ilmen-Lovat river front.

The site of the new operation, which Berlin estimates is backed by at least 1,000,000 fresh Russian troops, suggests that an attempt to roll up the Nazi Baltic wing from the south has started. The new break-through came south of the tremendous marshes of the Lovat which have guarded the Nazi defense line for 135 miles from Velikie Luki to Staraya Russa.

The Pskov gateway seems the logical main objective of the Russian drive. Through it run all transportation feeders for the whole Nazi Baltic flank, except the round-about Revel-Leningrad railroad and a highway via Narva.

A serious Russian threat to Pskov must force hasty Nazi retirement from Leningrad, the Volkov front below it, and from the Lake Ilmen-Staraya Russa

sector. German evacuation of all northwestern Russia to match the retreat from the Ukraine and White Russia to the south may be impending.

While the scope and direction of the Russian attack has not yet fully developed, there are indications that mark it as the start of the long expected major winter offensive in the north for which the Russians are known to have been preparing for months.

The Nazis in the Baltic theater have relied heavily on the marshes of the Lovat to protect their south wing. In the Russian break-through to cut the Novosokolniki-Leningrad railroad, a beginning has been made on the job of turning the Lovat marshes from the south. A further Russian penetration westward at that point to cut the Nevel-Ustrov-Pskov railroad also would double the threat, and it lies less than 35 miles away.

Moscow dispatches indicate that unusually mild weather has delayed Russian plans to strike the main winter blow in the north. Until the many marshlands and lakes are heavily frozen they are obstacles to tank attacks. The section between Novosokolniki and the south end of the Lovat swamps is the most vulnerable point in the outer defense for the Pskov gateway.

KEL—SN—TUESDAY—1290 Kc.

1:00—Musical Clock.
1:15—National Farm and Home.
1:30—Western Agriculture.
1:45—Music.
2:00—Top of the Morning.
2:15—News.
2:30—The Humbird Family.
2:45—Breakfast Club.
3:00—My True Story.
3:15—Breakfast at Sara's.
3:30—Sweet River.
3:45—Ed Jorgenson.
4:00—Baby Institute.
4:15—Ladies Be Seated.
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State, Commercial Busy Corner Even When Early Democratic Leaders Held 'Bull Sessions'

By CAREY F. MARTIN

The intersection of State and Commercial streets is, perhaps, entitled to first place among historic spots in Salem. In early territorial days there was, on the northwest corner now occupied by the modern, five-story Pioneer Trust company building, a store; and, as was common in those days, in the back room was kept a barrel of whiskey with a spigot and glass for the use of

good customers, as whiskey was cheap and untaxed or licensed in those days in quantities over one gallon. This back room is said to have been the meeting place of the democratic party leaders, then controlling Oregon politics.

This back room and its furnishings is the locale of the most important scenes in Oregon's most famous early day satire, aimed to ridicule those powerful political bosses who in fact did largely control early Oregon.

Over in "Yam Hill" county, as it was then written, and especially in the vicinity of Lafayette, there was a settlement of especially able republican (whig) party leaders. These republican leaders are accused of writing and publishing the satire entitled "Breakpear," making fun of the Salem politicians and their party workers, in which the back-room whiskey barrel plays a prominent part, particularly act II, scene I where the store is referred to as a "grocery."

The particular characters subjected to ridicule are, "Judge," for Hon. Matthew P. Deady; "Chicopee" for Hon. Asahel Bush, publisher of early day (democratic) Oregon Statesman, and territorial printer; "Grob," listed as town proprietor, believed to be W. H. Wilson, who owned and laid out the original town of Salem; also numerous other minor characters.

This famous 40-page pamphlet was intended also to expose particularly the methods used by the democratic leaders in trying to force Hon. John P. Gaines, territorial governor, to resign. Gaines had been appointed by President Zachary Taylor, and was not able to change his eastern ways, and was severely criticized in the then

Fourth War Loan Thought For Today

Day of Resolution

This is a day of resolution for you and your family. It is "grand assault day" for the home front. However, there will be no anxious moments in a landing boat, no cry of anguish as an enemy bullet sears your flesh, no sight and smell of scream to God for swift, never-ending sleep. It for other Americans to undergo these trials.

These "other Americans" happen to be your sons and brothers and fathers and husbands and uncles and cousins and dear friends.

Today you measure your sacrifices against theirs, whether you will forget what is yours by right in ordinary times, to place your resources—little or big—back of your fighting boys. Buying extra war bonds may mean temporary hardship to some individual in this community. You can be certain of one thing—that if your purchase of extra war bonds does not entail a true sacrifice on the part of you and your family, you have not fully met the challenge of the fourth war loan.

Battle dress for your home, beginning today, will include a red, white and blue emblem—the treasury fourth war loan shield which proudly proclaims: "We bought extra war bonds." "Let's all Back the Attack" with extra war bonds.

11:00—School of Air.
11:15—Waltz Time.
11:30—Concert Hall.
11:45—News.
12:00—Noon Farm Hour.
12:15—Victory Time.
12:30—Whose World?
12:45—Memory Book of Month.
1:00—Music of the Masters.
1:15—Southern Singing.
1:30—Victory of the Army.
1:45—Nowadays.
2:00—Adventures in Research.
2:15—On the Upbeat.
2:30—Story Time.
2:45—It's Oregon's War.
3:00—News.
3:15—Evening Farm Hour.
3:30—Neighborhood News.
3:45—Campus Recital.
4:00—Business Hour.
4:15—Music That Endures.
4:30—News.
4:45—Evening Meditations.
5:00—Sign Off.

Around Oregon

By the Associated Press

Irvin J. Lavier assumed the presidency of the Clackamas central labor council . . . Gladys Roland, 15, was seriously injured when a streetcar struck a group of seven people waiting to board it at a crowded Portland intersection . . .

Camp White soldiers promised to raise \$2500 in the "March of Dimes" drive against infantile paralysis . . . Bakeries in Oregon, ordered to begin enriching pastry on January 16, were told by the war food administration to postpone the plan until May 1 because of a shortage of the vitamin niacin.

Melissa Parr, Indian girl who resigned as queen of the Pendleton Round-up and won an American beauty contest at the wild west show there, was chosen to christen the tanker Pendleton at its launching in Portland January 21 . . . A Culp creek sawmill burned to the ground Friday after an explosion of undetermined origin sent flames roaring through the 75,000-foot capacity plant . . .

Mrs. Gertrude D'Lilah Miller, 50, housekeeper for George Harr, 70-year-old crippled veteran who was fatally shot last month, was indicted in Portland on a second degree murder charge . . .

Ice which tangled traffic on the Columbia River highway since early this week had thawed—except for brief stretches—by Friday night . . . Redmond hunters came home with two dead cougars, each worth a \$50 state bounty, after following the animals' tracks through snow-packed mountains for four days . . .

Wallace to Be Welcomed

SEATTLE, Jan. 17—(P)—Allied sponsoring groups have announced completion of plans for Seattle's welcome to Vice President Henry A. Wallace who will deliver one of three Pacific coast speeches here February 9. The vice president, who also will deliver addresses in San Francisco and Los Angeles, is expected to predict the Pacific northwest's course in the postwar era, they said.

ALL JEWELRY WORK DONE ON THE PREMISES

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Manufacturers of Jewels