

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
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.

Reporting at Cassino

Two weeks or so ago the military authorities in Italy, tired of the Cassino stalemate, ordered Allied troops out of its ruined alleys by nightfall, and next day gave the shattered city a complete "Doolittle" treatment, using the B-17 and B-25 clippers all over and behind too.

The newspaper reports were uniformly encouraging, after weeks of indecisive announcements of brief advances and retreats. From the tenor of the news stories, which seemed to come from the highest military authorities on the Italian peninsula, the immediate occupation of the town of Cassino and an advance up Monastery Hill behind it—which promises to stand with Missionary Ridge and Cemetery Ridge in American military annals—seemed only a matter of time. There was talk of the "heaviest" raid of the war on a single area (later revised), and of an "irresistible" weight of explosives dropped by airplanes and from the muzzles of heavy cannon.

Yet the German was unaccountably there the next afternoon when the infantry went back in. Although pushed into a corner of the town, and suffering from important casualties and the loss of prisoners, he still managed to fight, and by last week had even won back a few buildings, and restored his tanks at least temporarily in the peculiarly unimpaired lobby of the Continental Hotel. This time the announcements were remarkably sober; one went so far as to say that the bombing of Cassino had hardly altered the American position, and that the fall of the city was still undecided.

The incident proved pretty clearly that bombs alone are not enough to smash a modern enemy, strongly entrenched in a city constructed of stone. This lesson was taught a year ago at Stalingrad.

It showed, unfortunately, one more thing: that news reports of purely tactical operations of the armies in the field can be gravely mistaken even when originating among military authorities who ought to know. Part of the blame should fall on these military authorities themselves, since it is certainly their job to know—if anyone does—that military results actually do occur from a given operation. The rest, and perhaps not the lesser part, should fall on the newsmen themselves, who permit themselves to be swept off their world-travelled feet at the first announcement of long-awaited success, and who later, when the early promises of success are not fulfilled, then lean the other way in pessimism.

This is a small matter, indeed, and the public can never expect perfect reporting, just as it can never expect absolutely impeccable generalship. Yet considering the number of experienced reporters on the scene, and the wealth of their facilities, the public should receive better service. If things are distorted in Italy, what will they be during the invasion?

The real question that arises over the new Russo-Japanese agreement cancelling Japanese oil concessions on the northern half of Sakhalin Island is whether there is any understanding that Russia will stay out of the Pacific war. Russia's occupation with Hitler on the west makes understandable its neutrality in the war with Japan. But the allies have been hopeful that when Hitler was polished off Stalin would join to crush Japan. Use of Siberian bases would be invaluable, accessible as they are from Alaska. Stalin has probably made no commitment with the western powers, and it is doubtful if this oil deal is bought at the price of Russian neutrality indefinitely. Stalin will reserve the privilege of changing his direction as often and as rapidly as suits his policy.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Copyright 1944 by the Associated Press

There are stirring and significant happenings in the Pacific and Burma theaters, but it still is on Europe that world attention is concentrated. Expectation of impending war developments of major import heighten every hour as Russian and allied forces set themselves for the final two-way victory drive against Germany mapped at Teheran. The plight of the only Nazi willing war partner, Japan, as powerful American naval forces drove deep through her punctured south Pacific atoll defense ring is obvious. It forced Tokyo into an abject diplomatic surrender to Russia, yielding oil and other mineral concessions on Sakhalin Island rather than risk friction with Moscow.

But it is on the other side of the world that April weather seems destined to see the attack on the axis rage to a new high. Nowhere from the French Mediterranean coast to the Balkan peninsula in the south, from the Black sea to the Baltic in the east and from Norway to the Franco-Spanish border in the west can Nazi defenses of the European continent rest easy.

Brighter April skies mean new blistering air attacks for Germany and already shaken Balkan satellites. There are intimations from high allied sources that Anglo-American air power from Russian bases is linked definitely now with the Russian thrust toward the Balkans. The vital Budapest communications hub in Hungary, key to the whole Nazi defense front in southeastern Europe, is in easy reach for Foggia-based American and British air bases. That fact lends grim significance to Moscow's warning to Hungary as well as Bulgaria and Rumania to get out of the war while yet there is time.

The Nazi retreat under sustained and relentless red army pressure in the south symbolizes desperate German need of husbanding manpower and shortening the eastern defense front in expectation of allied invasion from the west. While the allied attack in Italy aimed at Rome, is presently bogged down through disappointing failure to clear the Cassino road block, it is definitely pinning 40 to 50 German divisions in Italy and the Balkans. They are unavailing to help halt the Russian steam-roller attack or to meet all incursions from the west when the hour for that strikes.

Fires in Valley Towns

Molalla and Dayton are neat towns in the valley. Both have been hard hit recently with fires in their business sections. The experience points to the necessity for higher standards of building construction in these towns as well as for well-equipped fire departments. It is impossible to maintain paid departments in the smaller cities, so the need for fire-safe construction is greater rather than less in such communities.

Rebuilding will go forward in both cities, and it is to be hoped that factors of fire security will be studied in both these fine little cities.

Earl K. Nixon will be hard to replace as director of the state department of geology and mineral industries. He was a rare combination of a man with both theoretical knowledge and practical experience. He was untiring in his efforts to develop Oregon's mineral wealth, but conscientious in not lending encouragement to fly-by-night promotions or dubious prospects.

Add manpower shortage solutions: The stage play shown recently in Portland, "Blithe Spirit," had only two men in the cast. But "The Voice of the Turtle," another current hit, has only three characters.

News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

(Distribution by King Features Syndicate, Inc. Reproduction in whole or in part strictly prohibited.)

WASHINGTON, April 2 — Often the charge is made that communists have done such and such whereas the culprits are really only bewildered radicals, lunatic fringe or even socialists who hate the communists, worse than true democrats.

But of the American Labor party results in New York, the charge is juridically accurate.

You can get through the returns precinct by precinct and prove the wall of defeated elements that their party was captured by communists. Certain city areas are known to have long been communist-controlled, and those undeniably furnished the complete victory of the Hillman faction.

Also the Hillman communist faction has long been credited with 85,000 to 100,000 votes, and these they got.

The communists won because they have better discipline. Less than half the registered voters of ALP went to their party polls in New York City. The communists were a minority of a minority, but they got out their vote and seized control.

This being the incontestable result, the most authoritative sources have concluded that Mr. Roosevelt and particularly Mayor LaGuardia, will be the main sufferers—and that ALP will now rapidly lose its importance and become inconsequential.

Labor already has moved out in bulk and returned to the democratic and republican parties. AFL and John Lewis are now definitely anti-communist, and CIO must now follow this trend.

David Dubinsky (Garment Workers) was Hillman's opponent in the primary, and already has left Hillman holding the communist sack.

To control any movement, communists must keep their leadership secret or confused. Once they identify themselves with controls in this country, they become an ineffective minority.

But meanwhile the republicans will capitalize on these events for the coming fourth term campaign and charge that the communists promoted it as they initially fostered petitions to the White House, etc. They can cause considerable embarrassment at least, because of Hillman's White House connections and his assertions of fourth term leadership.

The result, however, practically wrecked the Little Flower. Unlike the bulk of labor, Mayor LaGuardia compromised. He did not withdraw as he did, but pronounced himself neutral. He might as well have proclaimed himself neutral between God and the devil—or between right and wrong.

On the face of these facts, it is not too much to conclude that the most formidable third party labor movement yet presented in this country—one which wielded a balance of power in the election of state and national officials in the nation's largest state—is now dead.

True meaning of the somewhat surprising Oklahoma special election result was lost in democratic jubilation and republican silence. It simply suggested the democrats can win if they offer the best man.

Their candidate for the congressional seat (which they have held for years by generally top-heavy majorities) was a former state commander of the American Legion, and the more popular man. The republican candidate had been sent to the same well before, and ran close to victory then solely because the democrat who then held the seat had become personally unpopular, even subsequently giving up his congressional career rather than trying to run again.

Some have attributed the outcome to the democrats pouring in Senator Barkley and promises of some war plants (the district had received few) while others conversely claim the closer-than-normal republican race was due to the republicans pouring in some money.

Far more important was the fact that the democrats had the assistance of a state machine and county machines, which nearly always can wield dominant power in special elections where the general run of people do not go to the trouble of voting. (Again witness ALP in New York.)

The O'Connell brothers (Albany machine), who publicly threatened to climb up Jim Farley's back, soon climbed down again. The stories that they were inspired by Mr. Roosevelt's inside political manager, David K. Niles, may have gone a little too far. Apparently, there had been some inside talk from Niles about getting Farley out, but no demand for action.

Most accurate explanation is that some Albany boys had been imbibing some cough medicine, now rare, the day they gave out that story and were slightly tipsy.

The administration cannot afford to anger Farley's friends around the country in a fourth term year.

Today's Radio Programs

- 8:30—Sunday—1230 Ks.
- 7:30—Sunday Prelude.
- 7:30—Voice of Prophecy.
- 7:30—Radio Bible Class.
- 7:30—Lutheran Laymen's League.
- 10:30—Glen Hardy, News.
- 10:30—Voices from Southland.
- 10:30—Bobby Hattaway.
- 11:30—American Lutheran Church.
- 12:30—War Commentary.
- 12:30—Voice of the Farmer.
- 1:30—The Carol Sisters.
- 1:30—Symphonic Swing.
- 1:30—Rhythm Five.
- 2:30—Voice Interpretation.
- 2:30—Young People's Church.
- 3:30—Wings of Healing.
- 3:30—Forsyth Church.
- 3:30—Old Fashioned Revival.
- 5:00—Ross Morgan.
- 5:00—World News.
- 5:45—Gabriel Heatter.
- 6:30—News.
- 6:30—The Four Polka Dots.
- 6:30—Brook of Melody.
- 7:00—Cedric Foster.
- 7:15—Tommy Tucker Time.
- 7:30—Cincinnati Gypsy Orchestra.
- 8:00—First Presbyterian Church.
- 8:30—Jack Benny.
- 8:30—News.
- 9:15—Anson Wicks and His Orch.
- 8:30—News.
- 8:30—Back Home Hour.
- 10:30—The Florida Revival.
- 11:30—Young People's Church.
- 11:30—Sign Off.

- 9:30—News.
- 9:35—Bex Miller.
- 9:55—Human Adventure.
- 10:00—Old Fashioned Revival Hour.
- 11:30—Young People's Church.
- 11:30—California Melodies.

Bull Session of US Fliers Gets Down to Fundamentals

By KENNETH L. DIXON
WITH THE AEF IN SARDINIA, March 23 - (Delayed) - (P)
There was a sudden silence in the little room where the airman sat. For a moment no one looked at the tall, fair haired captain who had spoken. Finally someone cleared his throat.

"How is that again?" he said.
"I said that as long as we live under our present code of ethics and virtues that there'll always be war, and I said that I am not convinced that that war is a pretty good thing."

Again the pilots and bombardiers sat still for a moment. It was hard to believe their ears. Having been shocked into stunned speechlessness for that long, they were obviously deciding to hear the guy out before unleashing their wrath. Besides, he was one of them, had been through the mill with them. You could almost hear the wheels of their minds turning as the fire crackled in the stillness.

"Just how do you mean that?" one of them asked. "I know places where you'd be lynched for a crack like that."
"Probably so," the captain shrugged. "But I'm tired of all this pointless stuff of how hellish war is while a war is going on, and how we're going to prevent another war and so on, when all the time the war brings out all the characteristics we are taught from childhood are virtues. Without war those virtues would die out, so it must follow that either those virtues are wrong or else war is a pretty good thing after all."

"What virtues does war have?" someone asked.
"Courage is one," the blond captain replied. "At home in school, in church, we're taught from kids that courage is a virtue, a wonderful thing. Discounting all the substitutes for war you find in sports and in a daily competitive struggle for existence, war is a final mass test of courage, the only one that gives great numbers of men a chance to prove their physical courage at least."

He stared in the fire for a minute then continued:
"Unselfishness, or rather selflessness, is another; the willingness to lay down one's life for a friend or for a cause. Patriotism is another; willingness in the final analysis to lay down one's life for one's country. Leadership and faith in leadership.
"War tests those virtues out. It marks the difference between the men who have them and the men who don't. Without war or something similar those virtues would rot from disuse."

Once again silence hung over the room. It was broken by an obviously bitter youth who had spent considerable time on the front.
"I think I could make you change your mind about war being a good thing," he said harshly.

Looking Ahead in Washington

By the Washington Staff of the Associated Press
WASHINGTON, April 1. - (P)
There's a possibility that the age limit for induction of men for general military service may be lowered from the present 38 to 31.
This will depend, in large part, on how many men are made available by the new restrictions on occupational deferment for men under 26. The more of these men called, the fewer older fathers will be needed.
Considered logical: Members of a house military subcommittee feel that lowering of the draft age would be a logical step in view of testimony, during its recent hearings on deferments, on the armed forces' need for men under 31.
Undersecretary of War Patterson told the committee the prime need is for men under 26, "And it may be," he said, "28 or 30 later."
Said Monpower Commissioner Paul McNutt: "The selective service system will not be drafting any more men than we originally anticipated, but it will be drafting different men." He emphasized "different."
Said Rep. Sparkman (D-Ala.) of the committee: "The older men must take the essential jobs now held by the younger men needed for fighting duty."

Only THE MOST SKILLED HANDS ... dare touch your watch

Hands you can trust... hands that are reliable... hands with years of experience on the finest watches... such hands alone are entrusted with your watch, and whether it's a simple adjustment or a complete overhauling, you pay no more for this "dare" value!

Highly Skilled Watch Repair Service

Stevens
Salem, Oregon
Manufacturing Watch

Monday's Radio Programs

- 8:30—Monday—1230 Ks.
- 7:30—Rise 'n' Shine.
- 7:30—News.
- 7:30—Rise 'n' Shine.
- 7:30—Shady Valley Folks.
- 7:45—Morn'g Moods.
- 8:00—Dorothy Talbot.
- 8:30—Woman's Way.
- 8:45—Wax Shop.
- 9:00—Religious Call.
- 9:15—It's the Truth.
- 9:30—Harry Brewer's Nov. Orch.
- 10:30—Glen Hardy, News.
- 10:30—Jack Benny.
- 10:30—Luncheon with Lopez.
- 10:45—Bartol Orchestra.
- 11:00—Cedric Foster.
- 11:15—TBA.
- 11:30—Skyline Serenade.
- 11:30—Around the Range.
- 11:30—Organizations.
- 12:15—News.
- 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
- 12:30—Mid Day Matinee.
- 1:00—Lum 'n' Abner.
- 1:15—Spotlight on Rhythm.
- 1:30—TBA.
- 2:00—Broadway Band Wagon.
- 2:15—Don Lee News Reel.
- 2:30—Concert Hour.
- 3:45—Johnston Family.
- 4:15—News.
- 4:30—Lullaby in Rhythm.
- 4:45—Round Up Revelers.
- 5:00—Mile High Mairie.
- 5:15—Superman.
- 5:30—Bertrand Hirsch and Violin.
- 5:30—Bert Parks.
- 6:00—Gabriel Heatter.
- 6:15—Believe It or Not.
- 6:30—Cote Girls Club.
- 7:00—News.
- 7:15—War Commentary.
- 7:30—Interlude.
- 7:30—One Ranger.
- 8:00—Orchestra.
- 8:30—Point Sublime.
- 8:30—News.
- 9:15—Cecil Brown.
- 9:30—Fulton Lewis.
- 9:30—Popular American Music.
- 10:30—Sherlock Holmes.
- 10:30—News.
- 10:30—Glen Gray.
- 11:00—Soft and Sweet.
- 11:30—Sign Off.

(Continued from page 1)

free country" is deeply imbedded in the minds as well as the hearts of citizens of all classes.
Other basic rights which the citizen knows he has are the right of trial by jury and security in one's person, property and papers saved on a warrant of search or seizure. He may not know they are embraced in the bill of rights; but he knows what they are and doesn't hesitate to claim those rights if molested.
One of the disturbing things of the new scheme of government is the overthrow of rights that once were deemed elemental, like the right of a farmer to grow and use or sell crops as he wanted to, interference with prices, either against "chiselers" as under NRA, or "profters" as under OPA. The individual is left a bit uncertain as to just what his basic "rights" are, and much too acquiescent over the loss of those rights.
The bill of rights, as students of civics know, is the term applied to the first ten amendments to the national constitution, adopted within a few years after the original constitution was framed and adopted. The bill however is merely the enumeration of rights long enjoyed or asserted by the colonists and are the product of centuries of struggle against powers claimed or exercised by arbitrary government. The important thing is not that the people are so ignorant of the bill of rights but that they know and claim and fight for the elemental rights which are the legacy of many generations of fighters in behalf of human freedom, on fields of battle and of political contest.

Practical Religion

—By Rev. John L. Knight, Jr.,
Counselor on Religious Life,
Wilkesville University.
There is an old riddle which asks: What grows larger the more you take from it? The obvious answer: a hole.
Did you ever stop to think that life is very much like that? The more we give ourselves the more richly abundant life becomes. The key to the happy life is giving, not getting. Jesus put it this way: "Whoever will save his life shall lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake shall save it."

- 12:30—Pepper Young's Family.
- 12:45—Right to Happiness.
- 1:30—Backstage Wife.
- 1:35—Stella Dallas.
- 2:00—Lawrence Jones.
- 2:30—Young Widder Brown.
- 2:30—When a Girl Marries.
- 2:30—Hop Harrigan Face Life.
- 2:30—Just Plain Bill.
- 2:45—Front Page Farrell.
- 3:00—Road of Life.
- 3:15—Vic and Sade.
- 3:30—B. Boynton.
- 3:45—Smiling Lady.
- 4:00—Dr. Katz.
- 4:15—News.
- 4:30—The Carol Sisters.
- 4:45—Golden Gate Quartet.
- 4:45—E. V. Kaltenborn.
- 5:00—OK for Release.
- 5:15—Barbacoed Program.
- 5:30—Richard Crooks.
- 5:30—A Song Is Born.
- 5:45—Dr. L. G.
- 7:30—Centennial Hour.
- 7:30—Information Please.
- 8:00—Fred Waring in Pleasure Time.
- 8:15—Fleetwood Pavilion, Comments for
- 8:30—Cavalcade of America.
- 9:00—The Telephone Hour.
- 9:30—Newspaper House.
- 9:30—News.
- 10:15—Your Home Town News.
- 10:30—Labor News.
- 10:30—Design for Dancing.
- 10:45—Voice of a Nation.
- 11:30—Hotel Baltimore Orchestra.
- 11:30—War News.
- 11:45—L. G.
- 11:45—Spring Shift.

SHEBOYGAN - (P) Gas is gas - bottled, tanked or piped - a Sheboyan raton board held today in ruling that Salesman Richard Imig must do without his gas rations until September 30.