# ape Cregon (i) gtatesman 

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## 'X' Marks the Spot

The choice of Normandy as the point for the the judgment of the armchair strategists who argued for a frontal attack across the English
channel. The Norman peninsula has many ad vantages besides its nearness. It offers a continental base, once it is secured, with admir-
able harbors, and a direct and comparatively easy approach to Paris and the old line of But the final choice which was made by the facts of geography. It was based also on reports of their intelligence service. Without
doubt the allied intelligence had pretty good knew where the strong and relatively weak
points were. The French underground could supply the allies with considerable information
and air reconnaissance could pick up additionand air reconnaissance could pick up addition-
al information from pictures. The intelligence
serviec must have reported that the north coast
of Normandy did not have the high degree of fortification of other points on the coast.
That the defenses in this area were weak is attested by the report of Richard D. McMillan said in his dispatch from France:
What surprised me most was the weakness
of the German defense line. I examined with great care the so-called Atlantic wall along
this coast. It eonstitutes the bigtest bluff of the
whole war for it simply does not exist whole war for it simply does not exist. Some
prisoners told me that the Germans had been
frantically trying to complete defenses butt frantically trying to compete defensem.
that the task had been too vast for them. McMillan lets the secret out when he says
the task of building the westwall in the style displayed in German pictures "had been too
vast" for the Germans and their slave labor In giving credit for fine judgment in picking
the point of attack do not fail to include the in telligence service which for months has been the selection. half a century to get boxes on wheels that they
can use for passenger trafti.. We heard of one
train on the Union Pacific where the brakeman went through one car lighting the old gas-lights commented on the antiquity of the coach the
brakeman remarked: "This is not old; thre's one coach up ahead with this sign 'Shooting buffa-
loes from this car is forbidden'." The Pendleton East Oregonion has a boostCullen Bryant's "Thanatopsis"-"take the wing be realized via airplane. The E-O mustn't "where rolls the Oregon ... Yet the dead ar when it comes to progress. Commenting on inflation in China the Ore
gon City Enterprise says' it has "reduced the

Interpreting The War News

yyight 1944 by the Assoelated Press



Lloyd R. Smith
Lloyd R. Smith was one of those men of con-
stant faith in whatever relationship in life he was tested. He was always the honorable gentleman whether in business, in politics, in social relations. He was true in his philosophy of living, in his views on public questions and in his atfiliations. He was to his family. As a public official, serving as state corporation commissionor for nearvily five rears he was conscientious, practical and conderate, administering the affairs of his office
ith firmness and equity. His death removes Wne of Oreson's moqt competent citizens, one
long identified with its business and political ife, and robs this writer as well as many other of an intimate friend and wise counsellor.

The city of Astoria whittled its bonds down a point where it could refund them in the ers per cent interest. This gets the city out of ters per cent interest. This gets the city out of
hock, though its debt is still large. The Astor-
ian-Budget pats on the back the city exatives an-Budget pats on the back the city executives who had a hand in getting the city back into default wird linger while the memory of the memory, Astoria
def does deserve credit for finally working out of
its financial difficulties. Bond men have esvornness of the city and port district in in-
vesting cash in their own bonds. when they were selling far below par the community los
about half a million dollars. The bonds in deemed at that figure. The city and port "hired the money" though, so they
hundred cents on the dollar.

Thus far the Italians are not marching down
the main street of Rome shouting "Nice", "Tuisia" as they did when Mussolini thought he

## News Behind

 The News
##  WASHINGTON, June 8 - The administration in having a difficult time putting down overly-en having a difficult time putting down overly-en- thusiastic interpretations of the grand assault on Europe, not only by the public but in its own ranks. D-day was hardly over before business firms Dtarted calling the men they had loaned to the <br>  government for war work say- ing the war was almost over and they had better come back The treasury seemed skittiss that the public also might fum that the public also might jump to the same conclusion in con- nection with the $\$ 16,000,000$, 000 war bond drive opening

 ither of thesehore men will or the bond drive are bright.
Whbs, and auspice Whie the amount is $\$ 16,000,000,000$ (two bil
Hons above last time), the people have more cash
that ever betore piling up in banks, and their en thusiasm should be litted by the invasion to the
point where the amount again will be oversub-
scribed. Bonds are the same as cash these days, and there
is no reason why $\$ 110,000,0000000$ should have ac-
cumulated in bank deposits and $\$ 20,000,000,000$ more in cash outside of banks as casrried in this col-
umn May 31) when these amounts can draw great But the administration itself inwardly is far
Brom prepared to meet the end of the war, or even regin to meet it.
The popular Baruch scheme to transter industry
smoothly and efficiently back to peacetime oper ations was drawn up last December, made pub-
lie February 13, but not until May 23 were the beginnings of action on it even faintly vere tisible
Then Charles $\mathbf{E}$. Wilson, executive vice chairman of the war production board was appointed by
over-all Stabilizer Byrnes to start work. has been pasted by congress, but surrplus-Georg propert
legislation is just now being devised for con legislation is just now belng devised for congre The matter had reached such a pitiful state
that Mr. Baruch, who would stand practically any press to have presented his resignation, along wit press of hove presented Mis resignation, along wi
the oncock, as the top two men a
the head of what was supposed to be the posit the head of what was supposed to be the post-
war policy-making committee, but which apparent-
has not turned out to be as powertul as its paper authority.
The administration has sought to keep the resig-
nation story from the prest, possibly to get Mesel nation story from the press, possibly to geet Mess
Baruch and Hancok to change their minds,
The prospect now is that the new willson lead The prospect now is that the new wilson lead
ership may furnish the necessary impetus, to work the matter out but the prospect is not as bright as
it was last February 15 when the Baruch report
was announced, and everyone was led to believe Clashing personalites seem solely responsible
for the otherwise inexplainable delay. At the to for the otherwise inexplainable delay. At the top
of the clash was MM. Wilson himself. He had the substantial backing among government ofticiaid
from the beginning as the man to lead the job.
His supporters ircluded Secretary of the Navy
 But Mr. Wilson was only , WPB executive vice
chairman to Donald Nelson, whose triendt thought he should have the job, Several Umen Mr. Wiloon
threntened to resign like Merars Baruch and HinApparently, the areatest power of the suppoisaslignation threat, Hancock and wilson milght hav
Mesme. Baruch,
done better it hey had belonged to the Clo as
was not until the cio wilionista of the Brewrite was not untir the cio uiflonikts of the Breawte
aeroniutteol plant ruihed down here with irot zomplatots after their compluwh's contract his


## Proving Ground

## Today's Radio Programs

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## Thousands of Paratrooopers Landing Makes Colorful Sight

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