

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Schedules in Europe's Fighting

In the interval since D-day the American and British armies have cut through the Cotentin peninsula, captured Cherbourg and Caen and begun to break out of the Normandy pocket. They have disposed of some 156,000 German troops. Since the Russians began their offensive on June 23 they have ripped the German lines, accounted for 200,000 Germans as prisoners or casualties, advanced along a 300 mile front varying distances up to 150 miles, and captured numerous important cities.

Does this mean that the Russian armies are better fighters or have better leadership? No. The situations are far different. First, the Russians operate from their own country, with numerous land lines of communication. Their armies were all in place and ready to resume the advance when supplies caught up with them. The eastern line was too long for the Germans to defend, so it was easily pierced.

In Normandy on the other hand the allied supplies were water-borne and dropped on the beaches. Our forces had first to secure their beachhead, and then to develop strength for attack. The Germans have been able to concentrate forces in an effort to pin the allies in the narrow peninsula. Evidently the German high command threw more into the western battle, though it meant giving ground in Poland and the Baltic states.

Our forces will fight at much disadvantage until they can build up huge armies and can stock enormous bases on the continent. When that is accomplished the allies will shred the Germans and roll them back, though the Germans themselves can determine which enemy they want to resist the more. The Germans in other words by the way they throw their weight inside the iron ring may decide which army wins the race to Berlin.

While it is admitted that our operations in Normandy are not quite up to the timetable, the difficulties have been tremendous. Our progress has been steady, and gives promise of early acceleration. The Russians too may find the Germans consolidating their defense when they reach the German border. Meantime we shouldn't feel discouraged if the Russians are making faster headway. The job is to destroy the German armies; the more the Russians accomplish in that line, the better for all of the United Nations.

Waste Paper Drive

Under Gardner Knapp's able direction new life is being sparked in Salem's salvage program, with particular emphasis now on collection of waste paper. The Statesman didn't bear down on this end of the salvage campaign for awhile because there had been an early glut in paper collections, and we didn't want to urge people to assemble their waste paper until proper arrangements had been made for handling it. These arrangements have been made, and are on a continuing basis. What is wanted is a steady flow of paper and cardboard to meet the very genuine need.

That this need is acute is proven by a recent statement from Donald M. Nelson, head of WPB, who said the situation is "so critical that the army is now preparing to salvage waste paper in the North African and South Pacific combat zones to ship back home for re-use." Actually there is a sufficient quantity of waste paper here at home to keep our mills using such materials busy without shipping it back from overseas. But the public must wake up to the need and then run their households so that paper is saved and turned in as salvage.

Every Saturday is set as a day for collection of waste paper by the Boy Scouts. If you have 200 pounds or more the boys will call for it if you will phone 3349. If you have less than that quantity take it to one of the several depots over town which have been designated. The Boy Scouts will make a little out of their work from sale of the paper; but best of all, the stuff will go for remanufacture into cartons, paper boxes, bags, etc. Don't make just one effort and then let down. Keep up the flow from your home as waste paper accumulates.

Another way of measuring the damage of war is to count the nurses. The army and navy now have 50,000 nurses and are proceeding to recruit 8500 more through the Red Cross. There are only 170,000 nurses active in civilian service, so the proportion in military service is much higher. However our people want soldiers and sailors to have the best nursing possible, and that is what they are getting. If ever there was an angel of mercy it is an army nurse to a wounded soldier or sailor.

Editorial Comment

From Other Papers

MASSACHUSETTS PRIMARY

Massachusetts primary results constitute a distinct setback for the CIO Political Action Committee but, at the same time provide real encouragement for backers of the Roosevelt administration. This may seem paradoxical, but it really isn't.

The PAC had participated in four major democratic primary contests and went down to defeat in three of them. Only in the democratic race for governor did it back a winner—Boston's Mayor Tobin, against the anti-administration state treasurer, Francis X. Hurley.

Number 1 target of the PAC was Representative Philip J. Philbin, democratic incumbent from the third congressional district, but he won in a contest which was the clearest Massachusetts test of PAC strength.

In the 10th and 11th congressional districts the PAC actively backed Edward O'Hearn Muldowney, former state senator, and former Representative Thomas H. Eliot, respectively, and lost, the latter to James M. Curley.

Mayor Tobin's victory was both a personal triumph and an indication of the Roosevelt administration's continuing strength among Massachusetts democrats. The Boston mayor carried Boston even though anti-Roosevelt feeling in Boston is considered strong. —Christian Science Monitor.

Milk "Reconversion"

The city council news Tuesday morning contained a few lines to the effect that an ordinance which would disqualify so-called market milk from the bottle and can trade in Salem had received first and second reading and been referred to a committee for a public hearing. It will not be at all surprising if this does not touch off a resumption of old controversies regarding the sale of fresh milk. During the war the increased demand in part due to the presence of so many troops at Camp Adair forced the relaxing of sanitary standards so that grade C milk was admitted for sale.

It must be that a surplus is piling up now so that A and B producers want the market again limited to their grades. However the C producers will not want to relinquish their share of the Salem market, and so may raise a protest. They may claim that the experience of the war years proves that market milk is safe when pasteurized, since no cases of illness due to milk have been reported. Why then, they may ask, should they be barred from the local market, particularly when they came to the rescue when the situation was tight.

Another complication will arise over milk quotas. They were pretty well scrambled as bars were let down and shippers urged to supply the local market. There was considerable desertion of the Salem market by quota holders for the Camp Adair market which was higher. Will these producers get their quotas back and can they shut out the grade C producers who came in to supply the local market in their stead?

For years the milk question has been highly explosive, but for some months now little contention has been heard over matters of price, supply, sanitary standards, quotas, etc. The notice of this hearing is a sign though that war conditions are moderating. Milk may be the first local example of the problem of "reconversion." Here it is a problem over reconversion of the market rather than the plant.

The south may call them "niggers," but northern democrats want their votes, realizing the negro vote in certain northern states may swing the election. That is why, in spite of Texts' demands for a declaration against the court decision giving negroes the right to vote in democratic primaries in the south, the platform committee of the democratic convention is giving a hearing to negroes who are insisting on realizing the rights that are being denied them. It's going to be hard for the platform to satisfy both demands, but the framers will do their best to do so. It's part of the art of politics.

There was sufficient difference of opinion on the city council respecting the wisdom of vacating a street which has been occupied by a gravel company for many years that the mayor is justified in making a personal examination of the tract before passing on the ordinance. It is very easy to give city property away, and not so easy to reacquire it if needed. The mayor should make sure in his own mind what is the right course, because of the positive views of the minority in opposition, and because the decision now rests with him.

Bastille day on July 14th brought a ray of hope for France. Frenchmen at Cherbourg could sing "La Marseillaise" without getting sent to slave labor in Germany.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

The Bug river sector of the nazis' "east wall" in Poland, from which the disastrous attack on Russia was launched, is fast disintegrating between the jaws of the vast red army vice clamped upon it from north of Brest Litovsk to south of Lwow. That north-south war hazard, cutting through central Poland for nearly 200 miles from the Carpathian foothills to the western extremity of the Pinsk marshes, is in deadly danger by Berlin's somber admission. Behind it lies no strong river barrier along which tottering German armies can rally until the Vistula is reached. Add it, too, is vulnerable.

Linked with broadening and deepening allied footholds in Normandy and new allied advances in Italy, the new Russian blow on the Bug lends credence to a Moscow-published cry from a captured German general that Hitler recently had told his commanders "the way to victory is through faith in nazism."

"We knew his words could not remedy conditions at the front where soldiers, tanks and planes are needed," the crestfallen officer said.

That was being demonstrated anew in Italy, Normandy and most of all in Poland. Ukrainian armies already had turned the Bug line to the south and closed in on the Lwow bastion, matching the swift sweep of White Russian forces around the lines northern anchorage at Brest Litovsk. In between, on that 180 mile front, the Russians had crossed the Bug above and below Sokal and were menacing it east of Chelm along the direct road and rail route to Warsaw via Lublin.

The power and speed of the advance of Ukrainian forces south of Brest Litovsk surpassed even the rapidity with which the Russians in the north had lunged beyond Brest Litovsk to cut the rail connection with Bialystok. The first break-through drove into the high ground gap between the headwaters of the Polish Bug and that of the Dnestr, a sector guarded by the Lwow bastion. Fall of Lwow would invalidate the whole Bug line and compel a fast nazi flight to the Vistula.

Meanwhile in Italy there are indications of a German lack of strength to hold off allied investment of the Gothic line itself, keyed to the hills north of the Arno. With the big deep water ports, Livorno and Ancona, now in allied hands at both ends of the line, supply problems for allied commanders will be simplified, while for the foe, particularly on the Adriatic flank, communications are becoming a desperate matter.

The fall of Ancona to Polish elements of the allied eighth army almost certainly foreshadows a general German retreat on that flank.



Washington Limited

Inside Washington

China Perturbing Spot

Japan Still Hopeful

WASHINGTON — Despite America's recent successes in the far Pacific, military and naval observers are perturbed over the Japanese drive designed to split unoccupied China in two. The recent heavy fighting and stiff casualties suffered by American forces in the Saipan invasion indicates what is in store for the allies as they drive closer and closer to the Philippines and China.

Once American forces get within striking distance of Formosa or China proper, violent counter-action is expected from the Japanese to prevent the United States from getting a foothold through which she can pour in supplies to poorly-equipped Chinese fighting men.

The Jap high command apparently is banking on the possibility that the United States will become weary of a war so far from home and will be ripe for a peace which still would leave Japan many of the gains made since she launched the Far Eastern invasion.

Even when the systematic bombing of the Jap mainland begins, American military and naval leaders do not expect Japan to collapse quickly, partly because she now is getting some of her war supplies from factories in the interior of Manchukuo.

Japan's naval and air forces have been beaten everywhere in the Pacific, but her huge land armies are intact on the Asiatic mainland and in Japan.

One of the problems of the navy medical department is the rehabilitation of men who lose their hearing in action. Delicate eardrums cannot stand up without some injury under the terrific blasts aboard a man-of-war when all guns are going to repel an air attack.

Vice Adm. Ross T. McIntire, surgeon general of the navy, says men deafened by the guns are difficult to rehabilitate because they are suspicious of everything around them, since they live in a world that has no sound.

Naval medical men, however, believe they can do something for these cases provided they are treated quickly and made to understand that their cases are not hopeless.

Curiously enough, McIntire believes men blinded in battle are easier to rehabilitate. He says they are more optimistic.

about the future, although they live in a world of darkness.

There are comparatively few cases of blindness in the navy.

The question of converting the automobile industry to peacetime production will receive another thrusting out when the nation's automobile makers meet with the war production board in Washington to discuss plans. The meeting will consider reports sent in to WPB by each company on the particular difficulties which will be encountered in switching over from war work to car making when the time comes.

WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson previously has announced that he sees no chance of making passenger automobiles this year and that only a let-down of war manufacturing will permit such manufacture next year. Nevertheless, WPB and the industry are getting plans into shape.

When President Roosevelt signed a bill permitting American-born Japanese to renounce their United States citizenship, there was enacted a law much toned down from the original desire of the west coast.

For the law merely facilitates citizenship renunciation in time of war, thus allowing the Japanese-American to make the statement and get expatriation to Japan in the future.

But what the west coast had wanted was a law that could be used as a basis for deportation of the 20,000 Japanese who told the army and relocation authorities they would not forswear allegiance to the emperor of Japan.

Rep. LeRoy Johnson (R) of

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

has played a vital role in army training, though its divisions have not yet been reported in action. When they do arrive they will give a good account of themselves.

Just what will happen to the 10,000 acres centering around the old station of Wells is not certain; or perhaps the time is the uncertain part. The buildings are all of temporary construction, so presumably they will come down when the war is over and the land go back to private owners. Meantime the plant may be used for continued training, as a staging area for debarkation of troops to the Pacific, as a rest center for returning soldiers. Certainly it will be retained throughout the war and perhaps for some time thereafter.

The closing of Camp Abbot and the order to sell the acreage at Camp Adair have the significance of tearing a leaf off the war calendar. The preparation period has come to an end; we are now in the grips of combat; ahead at some indefinite date is the order to "cease firing." We should derive deep satisfaction from this fact.

California, voicing the far western view, introduced an amendment that would permit the use of the earlier statement of the Japanese in the expatriation procedure.

However, this amendment was defeated by a narrow margin. Now officials doubt if many will declare their allegiance to Nippon, knowing it means certain deportation.

The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SKELEY

"State of the Nation" by John Dos Passos (Houghton, Mifflin; \$3).

A year or so back I sat in a Rockefeller Center restaurant trying to extract material for a story from John Dos Passos. It would be hard to imagine a more pleasant man than Dos Passos, or one more difficult to "interview." The more he tried to "give," the less came out. And he had a lot to give, for then he was in the midst of a long trip,

writing a set of magazine pieces on the United States as he found it. At least he confessed that after a proper interval, his articles would be turned into a book.

Now the book is published as "State of the Nation." It is a good title, even though the nation referred to exists in Mr. Dos Passos' mind, and is a curious mélange of ideas and thought habits inherited from his "Mannhattan Transfer" days, of philosophic and ideological ideas picked up in the years of flux, and of clever observation in the course of the trip aforementioned. Perhaps there is a fixation or two, as well. Listen to this:

"With each new advance in technology the possibilities of our lives expand at a terrifying rate. The most casual trip through any six of the 48 states will show you that the country has been barely settled yet. Our people are still frontiersmen. . . . Ninety out of a 100 people might disagree with Mr. Dos Passos, who appears to confuse population density with the frontier. It is fairly obvious, it appears to me, that it is the state of life that delimits the nation and its frontiers, not the number of people.

But as a job of astute reporting "State of the Nation" is quite another matter. Mr. Dos Passos has a wonderful warmth inside him, and appears to be able to talk with people about almost any subject except himself. He can manipulate the ma-

Kenneth L. Dixon AT THE FRONT!

This Is The Story Of 3 Men Who Didn't Come Back

WITH THE AEF IN ITALY, July 9 (Delayed) —(P)— This is the story of three expendables—three guys who didn't come back but were awarded Silver Stars for what they did.

Their comrades have been officially notified now but perhaps they'd like to know the details: "It all happened long ago. . . .

Pfc. Charles T. Miller of Philadelphia was a rifleman in an infantry platoon but he built his reputation on guts and hand grenades.

The Germans were stubbornly clinging to their position in a house. So Charley crouched and crowded 65 yards in front of his platoon and started heaving hand grenades.

The Germans were shooting everything they had at him—

machineguns, machine pistols and rifles—but Charley kept on going, and the pineapples he kept pitching somehow kept their aim.

Between the streams of lead he moved and finally reached the house and hurled strike after strike right through an open window. All 26 Germans who still were alive inside surrendered.

But the next time Charley went out Charley didn't come back. . . .

Pvt. Himeo Hiratani of Oahu, Hawaii, was a wire man who believed that battles are won and lost on communications and he took great pride in helping to win.

He and a buddy were stringing wire to a forward observation post when the Germans opened up on them with rifles and two machineguns from a strong point nearby.

They couldn't by-pass the stretcher where they were subjected to fire. Without the lines for communications to O. P. ahead was useless. There was no one around to give him orders, but Himeo had a job to do.

—And he almost had it done before they got him.

Himeo was not the kind of a guy who would have claimed to be a hero. Back home in the sunny Hawaii he'll never see, his folks can underscore three words in the posthumous award, but you know that Himeo would agree. They credit him with "devotion to duty. . . .

In Washington, the war department file on Pfc. Fred T. Gentry, Dunbar, Okla., machine-gunner, reads "M. I. A."—missing in action—and those who fought with Fred say the phrase was never better used.

The German concentrated infantry counterattack was bearing through. And the ninth rifle company was ordered to withdraw a short distance. Fred's heavy weapons squad was left behind to cover their withdrawal.

They covered it, cutting down wave after wave of attacking Germans. When the rifle company was safely back to the new defense line, Fred settled himself more solidly behind his machine-gun and elected himself expendable. He told the rest of his squad to get going, he'd cover them. He did.

The last time they saw Fred he had earned the appellation experienced in action—still up there firing his chattering machine-gun in short effective bursts as the Germans moved in to close range.

Marriage Celebration Costs Seattle Man \$60

OREGON CITY, July 19 —(P)— Celebration of his impending marriage in Seattle cost Arthur William Bench, 44, Seattle, \$60 and a beating, he told sheriff's officers early today after he was found, dazed and battered, in a gravel pit near here. He said he had a few drinks with two men and a woman in a Portland tavern, and the next thing he knew he woke up, bruised and lacking \$60.

Farmers Urged Not To Waste Scarce Dust

CORVALLIS, Ore., July 19 —(P)— Oregon State college urged farmers today not to lose any of the war-scarce nicotine dust on a puff of wind. The insecticide should be dusted on plants at night, or in the early morning—hours when the air is most quiet, entomologists said. They warned that even a gentle breeze would blow away most of the rare dust.

Too Lovely for Words



International Sterling



The Safety Valve

Letter from Statesman Readers

WOULD USE BUILDING AT FALLS

To the Editor:

"It seems to me" that the people of the state could be using to good advantage the large new unoccupied concession building in the park at Silver Creek Falls for a chapel on Sunday afternoons by different churches in the surrounding communities. It is cool and large enough for a big crowd by using lobby and porches. A wonderful place to worship and rest on Sunday afternoons.

Mrs. R. T. Wicklander, Salem.

terial he gathers with great skill, too, particularly when it comes to casual contacts such as those in Pullman smoking rooms, in restaurants, in airport waiting rooms, in hotel lobbies, in the plants between shifts. "State of the Nation" is a set of vignettes not unlike those which some years back used to make up Mr. Dos Passos' novels.