

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Roosevelt's Double-Talk

In his address before the teamsters' union President Roosevelt said he couldn't engage in "double-talk" and added that he had never learned to "talk out of both sides of my mouth at the same time." The phrase was smart; yet we know of no one in the long history of this country who has been more inconsistent in his public utterances, or one whose practice has so frequently run counter to his pronouncements.

Back in 1932 he assured Senator Glass that he would adhere to "sound currency" only to abandon the gold standard and repudiate the covenant in government bonds. He denounced centralization of power, only to build up the greatest centralized bureaucracy in our history, and one of the greatest in the world. He denounced the Hoover administration for its deficits and promised to balance the budget, but as president he indulged in the greatest spending spree in history.

Frank Kent, political writer for the Baltimore Sun, noting the president's inconsistencies on issues, cites the record also on individuals, and points out how Roosevelt indulged in double-talk with Jimmy Byrnes on the vice presidency, and in the letters he wrote to Bob Hannegan on Wallace and Truman, and the sort of deal he gave to Senator Barkley. Kent concludes:

Certainly it is permissible to show from the record that, coming from him, this charge of double talk is both ridiculous and hypocritical. And it should be shown, too, because it is as phony a pose as can be imagined. If the American people accept it, then there really is nothing they cannot be given—no limit to their gullibility.

Nor has the president been single in his thoughts on preparedness for war. The Corvallis Gazette-Times has compiled extracts from Roosevelt's addresses and messages which reveal that he was either ignorant of the rising storm of war or that he deceived the people in his assurance of peace or failed to give warnings in ample time. While it is true that he was opposed by the isolationists in congress and so is by no means solely responsible for the nation's unpreparedness, and while it is true that he was consistent in his opposition to Hitler, still the record shows the typical Roosevelt vice of over-optimism, of lulling the people with words they like to hear.

The Statesman reprints on this page the compilation of the Gazette-Times, which effectively demolishes the Roosevelt claim not to be able to talk out of both sides of his mouth.

Now the women of France will be allowed to vote. That's the country in which to run for office. The candidate can kiss the girls (who seem to like it) instead of the babies.

Editorial Comment

ERADICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS

Information that the newly constructed mobile unit of the Oregon Tuberculosis association with its portable X-ray equipment is slated for an early visit to Washington county ought to be welcomed as a great step forward in the matter of the public health battle against tuberculosis.

The use of the mobile X-ray truck with its method of quick use of X-ray films offers an opportunity for a change in tactics in the fight against tuberculosis. It is no wonder that public health leaders are shifting their emphasis in tuberculosis attack from control to virtual elimination of the disease.

Early diagnosis is the battle strategy with the mass X-ray as an important part of the tactics. When tuberculosis begins people usually do not feel sick, hence they do not consult a physician. After tuberculosis has advanced, sickness becomes apparent, but too often the diagnosis is advanced tuberculosis. Therefore, the mobile unit offers the opportunity for systematic examination of those who are not sick and the best means available at the present time of finding early tuberculosis. X-ray has been found to reveal 85 per cent of early cases of tuberculosis. In contrast the use of other methods has shown that when X-ray was not used and persons were later known to have tuberculosis, physicians failed to detect half of the cases in their early stages.

Much progress has been realized in the combat of tuberculosis. Since 1900 there has been a steady decrease of all deaths, but tuberculosis deaths have decreased even more rapidly. In 1900 every ninth death was due to tuberculosis. In 1910 tuberculosis had been reduced to the cause of every tenth death. In 1920 it had dropped to the cause of every 12th death and in 1934 it was ranked as a factor in every 19th death.

Tuberculosis is not something so much to be feared as to be understood intelligently. It is therefore wise that the local county public health association is trying to organize a program of public education to prepare the way for the visit of the mobile unit as well as to follow its work in the county. —Forest Grove News-Times

CITATION FOR SCHICKELGRUBER

In his speech to the House of Commons on Sept. 28th, Prime Minister Churchill had this to say on Hitler's progress:

I have always hated comparing Napoleon with Hitler, as it seems an insult to the great Emperor and warrior to connect him in any way with the squelched caucas boss and butcher, but there is one respect in which I must draw a parallel. Both of these men were temperamentally unable to give up the tiniest scrap of any territory to which the high-water mark of their hectic fortunes carried them.

Thus, after Leipzig in 1813, Napoleon left all his garrisons on the Rhine and 40,000 men in Hamburg. He refused to withdraw many other vitally important elements of his armies and had to begin his 1814 campaign with raw levies and a few seasoned troops brought in a hurry from Spain. Similarly Hitler had successfully scattered German armies all over Europe and by obstinately at every point from Stalingrad to Tunis down to the present moment has stripped himself of the power to concentrate his main strength for the final struggle.

When I hear that after Hitler escaped his bomb on July 20 he described his survival as providential, I think from a purely military point of view we can agree with him; but certainly it would be most unfortunate if the allies were to be deprived in the closing phases of the struggle of that form of warlike genius by which Corporal Schickelgruber has so notably contributed to our victory.

Bridges and Oregon Politics

Comes now Harry Bridges to dip into Oregon politics. First, he turned thumbs down on the selection of a man for director of the CIO-PAC for this state. It seems that the man the Oregon CIOs wanted, Robert Baker, had run against Bridges for president of the longshoremen's union, so Bridges vetoed his choice for the political action job. Now Bridges is dipping in again, trying to put the bee on Wayne Morse. According to the report a Bridges representative endeavored to pressure Morse into support of Roosevelt on the threat of drawing off CIO support. Morse told the Bridges man to go jump in the lake, that he was a republican and would stand by the republican nominee.

The Bridges intervention will do his own cause no good. Oregon CIOs are by no means sold on Bridges, and at different times leaders here have fought Bridges. They will not turn down Morse because of the Bridges opposition. On the other hand the blunt refusal of Morse to accept dictation from Bridges should go a long way to remove the "Bridges curse" which he has labored under through his campaign, because once in response to a subpoena he testified that Bridges' reputation for veracity was good.

Morse's present defiance of Bridges should convince republican doubters that he is no satellite of the Australian-born longshore head who, though an alien who is resisting efforts at expulsion, finds time to dip into American and into Oregon politics.

Al Smith and the Language

As footnote to the obituaries of Al Smith might be added his contributions to the vernacular. He was a great phrase-maker, and the freshness of his speech spiced the language of our time. As Al himself said: "Let's look at the record." Wasn't it Al himself who first used the word "crackpot" with reference to the adled remakers of our destiny? Then there was his use of the term "alphabet soup" to describe the great multiplication of agencies.

Who can forget his Newark speech in the 1932 campaign, with its "up in Mabel's room" allusion? The Mabel was Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt, one-time assistant attorney general in charge of prohibition enforcement and active in republican politics. When the new deal got too much for him, Al withheld support of Roosevelt, and as he said, "took a walk." The public might jibe him for mispronouncing the word "radio," but when it came to moulding the common tongue, Al Smith gave it twists as have few others of our time. His pronunciation may have been east side, but his originality in expression was native to himself.

Carey F. Martin

A modest man was Carey F. Martin, but so long had he been part of the Salem scene that the streets will seem empty for awhile with his passing. His roots went deep into Oregon; and out of the springs of his well-ordered memory he drew tales of local history or of local character, many of which it was The Statesman's privilege to print. Carey Martin was not one to magnify his presence with loudness of speech, but his absence will be noted with many twinges of recollection of his courtesy, his professional integrity, his generous impulses and of the whimsy which etched kindly wrinkles about his eyes.

President Roosevelt has written a nice letter to James Caesar Petrillo, the little Caesar of the musician's union, beseeching him to obey the mandate of the war labor board. FDR hasn't called out the army to pick Petrillo up, a la Sewell Avery, and set him on the curbing.

Interpreting The War News

KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

Fresh evidence shows that despite temporary local rebuffs in the center, the American first army drive into the Nazi Siegfried line fortified zone in the Aachen area is only now beginning to attain its full scope.

At the moment when withdrawal under German counter attack from Beggendorf and the pill-box dotted ridge to the south—both later regained—was announced there came word of expansion of the allied assault both to the north and the south. It widened the pincer threat to Aachen to nearly 15 miles from Gellenkirchen to west of Duren.

Under clearing skies that spelled concentrated air bombardment of the foe's improvised defenses, the allied command bored in again east of Stolberg, southeast of Aachen, stabbing to the eastern fringe of Hurligen forest six miles west of Duren in the initial jump off.

Front line dispatches draw a discouraging picture for the Nazis of the enemy's extemporized defenses all the way to the Rhine that still confront American ground troops. That type of field works, keyed to trenches and incidental stone buildings housing machine gun and mortar nests, is a roofless system, open to attack by hedge-hopping light bombers and fighter-bombers. Only adequate air power could fend off those attacks. That the Germans lack.

Good weather also must intensify the plight of Nazi garrisons troops still clinging to the ruins of Aachen between the two American attack prongs to the north and south. Berlin reports say the last non-combatants in Aachen were evacuated at night, leaving only a suicide force to hold the shattered town to the bitter end.

Aachen, or what is left of it, is obviously earmarked in allied books to be the first German community of any size or strategic value to be overrun.

Its fall or complete isolation will redouble the strain on Nazi defenses behind it, and open three or four hard surfaced roads to the Rhine for allied use. Enemy mining and demolition efforts can delay but cannot halt the attack where deep and wide permanent roadbeds give engineer units opportunity for quick repairs. That triple highway system and railroad right-of-way that leads from Aachen to Cologne or to Rhine crossings above it may prove fatal to German hopes of halting the first army drive short of the river itself.



Dragon's Teeth - 1944

"Let's Look at the Record"

Compilation by Corvallis Gazette-Times from Roosevelt's Speeches dealing with Peace and War

Mr. Roosevelt, along with the rest of the Nudal strategists, continues to try to place the blame for our lack of preparedness onto the Republicans regardless of the fact that the president controlled both houses of congress. Before he shouts "falsehood and fraud" at Mr. Dewey, he should have taken care to have destroyed the evidence against himself. Here are some extracts from his messages and speeches that we have culled from the Congressional Record. Read them and weep!

The 1932 platform of the democratic party condemned the republican party for spending money for increased naval armament. But let us review briefly the president's policy prior to 1933. On May 7, 1933, Mr. Roosevelt said:

"We are seeking a general reduction of armaments and through this the removal of the fear of invasion and armed attack."

On December 28, 1933, the president said:

"The definite policy of the United States from now on is one opposed to armed intervention. We are not members of the League of Nations and we do not contemplate membership."

On January 3, 1934, the president said:

"I have made it clear that the United States cannot take part in political arrangements in Europe."

On March 27, 1934, he said:

"It has been and will be the policy of the administration to favor continued limitation of naval armaments. It is my personal hope that the Naval Conference to be held in 1934 will extend existing limitations and agree to further reductions."

On October 7, 1935, he said:

"It is not surprising that many of our citizens feel a deep sense of apprehension lest some of the nations of the world repeat the folly of 30 years ago and drag civilization to a level from which world-wide recovery may be all but impossible."

"In the face of this apprehen-

sion the American people can have but one concern—despite what happens in continents overseas, the United States of America shall and must remain unentangled and free."

On October 17, 1935, the president said:

"I have pledged my self to do my part in keeping America free of those entanglements that move us along the road to war."

In a letter written to Hon. Norman Davis, dated October 5, 1934, the president said:

"I cannot approve, nor would I be willing to submit to the Senate of the United States, any new treaty calling for larger navies."

On January 3, 1936, the president said:

"We decline to encourage the prosecution of war by permitting belligerents to obtain arms, ammunition, or implements of war from the United States."

Shipment of steel, scrap iron, and gasoline to Japan was not prohibited until August, 1940. Continuing, the president said:

"As I have said, we seem to understand very well what the problems of the world are. We have, perhaps, a kind of sympathy for their problems. We want to help them all we can; but they have understood very well in these latter years that the help is going to be confined to moral help, and that we are not going to get tangled up with their troubles in days to come."

On August 14, 1936, the president said:

"We shun political commitments which might entangle us in foreign war; we avoid connection with the political activities of the League of Nations."

"We are not isolationists except insofar as we seek to isolate ourselves completely from war."

On August 31, 1935, when he signed the Neutrality Act, the president said:

"The policy of the government is definitely committed to the maintenance of peace and the avoidance of any entanglements which would lead us into conflict."

"Nevertheless, if war should break out again in another continent, let us not blink the fact

that we would find thousands of Americans who, seeking immediate riches—fool's gold—would attempt to break down or evade our neutrality."

On April 2, 1937, when his attention was called to the fact that we were sending \$50,000,000 worth of steel a month to Great Britain, the president said:

"It is an amazing thing for us to be sending forty or fifty million dollars' worth of steel per month to Europe."

By the fall of that year we saw a change in his thinking. October 5, 1937, in Chicago he said:

"How happy we are that the circumstances of the moment permit us to put our money in bridges, boulevards, dams, and reforestation, the conservation of soil and many other kinds of useful works rather than into huge standing armies and vast supplies of implements of war."

In a press conference following the Chicago speech the president was interviewed. He was asked this question:

Question: "Wouldn't it be almost inevitable if any program is reached that our present neutrality act will have to be overhauled?"

The president: "Not in any way."

On July 14, 1938, almost a year after the quarantine speech at Chicago, he had this to say about armaments:

"Money spent on armaments does not create permanent income-producing wealth, and about the only satisfaction we can take out of the present world situation is that the proportion of our national income that we spend on armaments is only a quarter or a third of the proportion that most of the other great nations of the world are spending."

November 5, 1938, the president was asked this question in regard to arming this country:

"Mr. President, are you considering the possibility of it being necessary to build a fleet large enough to defend both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts at the same time?"

The president: "No."

In his annual message January 12, 1939, the president said:

"It is equally sensational and untrue to take the position that we must at once spend billions of additional money for building up our land, sea, and air forces on the one hand, or to insist that no further additions are necessary on the other."

"Calling attention to these facts does not remotely intimate that the Congress or the president have any thought of taking part in another war on European soil."

In a press conference on February 3, 1939, he summed up his foreign policy in this way:

"The foreign policy has not been changed and it is not going to change. If you want a comparatively simple statement of the policy, I will give it to you."

"We are against any entangling alliances, obviously." September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland. Two days thereafter the president, in a public speech by radio, said:

"Let no man or woman thoughtlessly or falsely talk of America sending its armies to European fields. This Nation will remain a neutral nation."

But on September 21 he urged the repeal of the Neutrality Act. At that time he said:

"I ask that the Neutrality Act be repealed. I regret that (Continued on Page 7)

WITH THE AEF IN FRANCE, Sept. 30—(Delayed)—(P)—"Your letters say so little anymore," wrote a soldier's sweetheart. "I wish you would tell me more so I would feel as though I were living at least a little part of it with you. You used to write so much."

So the soldier sat down to Kenneth L. Dixon write by the light of one sputtering candle.

"The landing wasn't so bad this time," he wrote. "It was nothing like Salerno. You know how—"

"No, she didn't know. She wasn't at Salerno and he hadn't been able to describe it to her until so long afterward that it didn't matter. He took a fresh piece of paper and started again. "France is beautiful," he wrote. "The main thing is that it's clean. After Africa, Sicily and Italy, you can imagine how nice it is to—"

How can she imagine, he thought. She wasn't there. "I guess you have seen in the papers that we have been moving pretty fast," he started again. "In a way, I've been harder on us, what with moving in the rain every day, eating K-rations and C-rations all the time—"

He scratched that out because she believed that since the army rations were nutritious they couldn't be so bad. Besides, it probably would seem a small thing to gripe about when talking in terms of a victorious campaign.

"We still are losing men every time we catch up with the Germans," he wrote. He started to tell about Bill getting it the other day, but he remembered that he'd never mentioned Bill and it would take too much space now to tell who he was. Besides, it probably would just worry her if she knew one of his pals was killed.

"But at least it's better to lose them when we seem to be making good progress than losing them the way did at Anzio, just sitting there and taking it." He wondered if she ever would be able to understand how it felt at Anzio. Probably not. Besides, he hadn't been able even to tell her he was there until after his outfit broke out of the beachhead.

"You would like Lyon," he started to write and then stopped realizing that he was about to tell her should would like Lyon because it had streetcars, department stores, factories and a big railroad station. She would think he was going nuts. He tried again.

"You would like Lyon because it has little sidewalk cafes."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

phrase it differently, like this: "Is the city council going to permit duplication of plant and investment in an electric distributing system for Salem which experience has shown is uneconomical?" That is a different side of the shield.

It is plain to see that the city council is right in the line of fire. The question will come before it on whether it will grant a general franchise to the Salem Electric. Meantime lawyers have been hunting through the books to see if PGE has a franchise. Some say it has and some say it hasn't. If it has, its franchise is probably one granted many years ago to a predecessor corporation. If it hasn't then it is in the same boat as Salem Electric, operating without a franchise.

The city controls its own streets and the city can decide how many utilities it will permit to use those streets. The city council has the authority to grant or to withhold a franchise to any utility. Or the council can refer the question to the voters for decision. Perhaps that is where the controversy will land: squarely in the laps of the voters for decision. If it does, then the issue can be fought out before the people.

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Soldier Doesn't Know What to Say When Writing Sweetheart

He let that stand, although he suddenly remembered he had written her the same thing about Algiers, about Rome, about San Maxime and about Grenoble. By now, she probably thought he was fighting the war from one sidewalk cafe to another.

He started to describe the other French towns, but realized he was thinking only in terms of comparison with Italy and Africa. Besides, he thought bitterly, he hadn't been allowed to stay in them long enough really to look around.

"No, it doesn't look like I'll be home for Christmas this year either," he wrote, wondering if the censor would cut that out. The third Christmas, he thought. Last year in San Pietro and the year before in Tunisia. And every fall she wrote that she guessed he'd be home this Christmas.

For a long while he sat there crosslegged on his bedroll listening to the artillery thunder through the sound of heavy rain. The candle burned low, but he couldn't think what else to say. "I finally got rid of my cold," he wrote at last. "They say we will be issued winter clothes pretty soon. We are going to need them. I swapped Joe out of his sweater yesterday. He doesn't need it back at the C.P."

He scratched out the initials "C.P." and wrote "command post" and then wondered if she understood the difference between where he was and the command post.

Suddenly he wrote quickly, "I love you," and signed his name.

The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY

"THE ILIAD OF HOMER," a new translation by the late William Benjamen Smith and Walter Miller (Macmillan; \$2.75).

So far as the record shows, no one has up to now published a translation of Homer's "Iliad" in which the Greek has been rendered line for line in the original meter—what we know as dactylic hexameter. The trick of it all lies in the "line for line" phrase, since dactylic hexameter itself is the most flowing, and therefore easiest of all rhythms in English poetry. It is fearfully difficult to translate any poetry line for line, and this difficulty, in Homer, has up to now proved also an impossibility.

But out of a friendship of half a century between two scholars just such a translation has come. The man who did the spade work was William Benjamin Smith, Kentucky born, who received his doctorate at Gottingen in 1879. Dr. Smith began teaching at Central college in Missouri, and later moved a few miles to Columbia and the state university. There he met Dr. Miller.

And Walter Miller, 14 years younger and an Ohioan, was a Leipzig man and a former student at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. Dr. Smith went on to Tulane, where he died ten years ago as emeritus professor of philosophy, and designated Dr. Miller as his literary executor. When, as emeritus professor of classical languages and archaeology at the University of Missouri, he had time, Dr. Miller gave years of it to shaping his great friend's fine translation of the "Iliad." Although both men have written much both in and out of their "fields," it is very likely that this translation will serve as memorial to a friendship that endured half a century. And it is unquestionably an important memorial.

Once the scholarship of a translator is established, two matters become paramount. He must have direct feeling for the period and the background, and he must have a good ear. His poetry must "sound" like the original, and like good poetry too. Drs. Smith and Miller restricted themselves still farther, as mentioned above. They have done a job of which the blind poet would be proud.

Natural Gas Found In San Francisco Bay

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 6—(AP)—Standard Oil Company of California announced today it had discovered a "considerable quantity" of natural gas at Suisun, just off the northeast lobe of San Francisco bay.

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