

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Chinese Politics?

While the world has known that all was going well in China, the news of the recall of Gen. Joe Stilwell comes as a distinct surprise. "Vinegar Joe", the tough general who led his band in retreat on foot from the battle for Burma and admitted the humiliation of a crushing defeat, has been a popular favorite for his determination to carry on the war in Burma and China, to construct the Ledo road for opening a route by which trucks could supply China, and by and for his efforts to train and equip an army of Chinese to drive out the Japs. No previous word had seeped out of his clash with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, which seems to have culminated in the latter's demand for Stilwell's recall.

Certainly Stilwell was devoted to his task and to the cause of China. He forged ahead through monsoon rains to connect up the Ledo road with the old Burma road. He sweated over the delay but was not content to sit down like Mountbatten in India till the Japs came nosing into that country. While the United States could hardly keep him there in view of the antagonism of the Chinese head of government, the question naturally arises whether Chiang's obduracy may be one thing at fault in his country. He will not compromise with the communists who muster a large force eager to join him in driving out the Japs; he delays the constitutional reforms which his party has promised.

Americans should not come to the conclusion that Stilwell is being dismissed for lack of competence—he and General Chennault are about the only ones who have been doing anything at all on the Asian continent. His recall looks more like Chinese politics than anything.

"Oriental Power"

The United Press quotes the following from a Tokyo broadcast:

All the Japanese have to do in future operations is to project their indomitable spirits at the enemy and they will suffer internal fear that will defeat them before they can get into the fight.

The accidental mind, of course, will not understand this great Oriental power.

We wonder if this "great Oriental power" was what brought about the great Jap victory in Philippine waters last week. If so, indeed the accidental mind cannot understand it. Presently though a good many thousands of Jap sailors and soldiers are projecting their own spirits into the real spirit world.

"Jobs for all" is what the political candidates are advocating. We don't want to underwrite the promise however, for either party.

Editorial Comment

THE OLD STORY

We wish to say something about entrenched political power this morning.

The president's foreign policy speech was a good one, even if proved vulnerable at numerous points a couple of days later. We have never held with some republican spokesmen—not Governor Dewey—who charge the president swindled us into war, or could have kept us out of it. The Chronicle long applauded the president's aversion to Hitlerism and Japanese aggression, as every reader of it knows.

All the more reason, then, why we should note in the president's speech a vague but inescapable overtone of complacency which attributes to his administration the sole wisdom and skill in steering us through pre-war danger to the present, where we are strong and mauling our enemies about.

This is the complacency of entrenched political power.

In other words, we are where we are because "my" hand was at the helm. Keep "my" hand at the helm if you don't want everything to fall apart. This is always the bogymen of entrenched political power.

This is one phase of it, highlighted by war, but perhaps it is more tangible at home.

Our government was devised with the express purpose of not entrenching political power. The whole turmoil of the eighteenth century was devoted to rooting out and beating down entrenched political power, which was outworn and intolerable. The very wise men who conceived our system saw it could only be held in check by periodic changes. The electoral rotation plan had no other purpose. It was built not to unseat a power which might be good or bad, but to unseat all power after a time, because all power after a time, however well-intentioned, degenerates.

This is the overwhelming experience of history, which is but the collective experience of human nature. Political power, too long continued, inevitably finds its paramount ideal in perpetuating itself.

This is crystal clear in Mr. Roosevelt's case. We have room here for but one aspect of it. Mr. Roosevelt entered public life as an idealist, a man with a social conscience and certain vague but worthy goals. You might not believe the goals wise. You might oppose his method of striving for them. But his motive could not be impugned.

Mr. Roosevelt then by a combination of luck and shrewdness was enabled to achieve many of his goals and accumulate political power. But as the years of struggle passed, the early primitive vigor and purity of his ideals waned, and he began taking cynical short-cuts to keep his political organization intact and himself in power.

You have only to read the hurt and puzzled left list complaints of him from the Spanish Civil war on, to be aware of his many hedgings to entrench himself and his people in office.

And today, in its late period, his regime is so cynical, so grasping for any and all supports, that it swallows without a murmur such as the Hague machine in Jersey City, one of the most sinister ever to appear in American politics.

Nobody denies that all political parties in our history have been afflicted with sinister machines in spots. But few American political parties, like Mr. Roosevelt's new deal, have so nobly gestured toward ideals with one hand, and with the other so mockingly grasped toward the mocking votes to be in cast in Jersey City ten days hence.

Yet all this is but a symptom. It is a symptom of entrenched political power. It is the new deal become the old deal by hardening of the political arteries. It is the now-old deal intent on nothing but survival, on nothing but that it shall not be deprived of life and glory.

This is the human story and the story of history, and it is being told before your eyes. —San Francisco Chronicle.

Mott for Relection

The reelection of Congressman James W. Mott is as certain as most anything can be in the jungle of politics. Nevertheless The Statesman wants to call attention to the fact that he does have opposition so his friends may vote for him and not take his reelection for granted. The democratic candidate, O. Henry Oleen, served a term or two in the legislature where he was an industrious but completely futile member. We cannot conceive that the voters of the old first district would replace Mott with Oleen.

Having served in the congress since 1933 Mott is now one of the veterans in that body, enjoys positions of importance not only on committees but in the leadership of the house. He has always been active in looking after the interests of communities in his district and his standing makes that work more effective. While we do not always agree with Mott's stand on issues, we recognize the quality of his representation and recommend his reelection.

Tools for All

When we read that the armada descending on the Philippines carried as many troops as landed in Normandy on D-day it is apparent that General MacArthur has gotten his full portion of men and supplies. Already the major portion of the US fleet is operating in the Pacific. Now it seems that the quantity of landing barges and supply vessels is also enormous. The movement of troops from Morotai to Leyte was a distance of several hundred miles, not just a short cross-channel run.

It is true that MacArthur had a long wait, but so did Russia and the European front. The fact that we have in so short a time been able to turn out boats and military equipment in such quantities and at the same time train an army and navy of around 10 million men is certainly proof of the virtue of the "American system." No one can charge it with being decadent in the face of such a record. We are plain fools to be as critical of our own institutions as we are.

Ralph E. Carr of Denver, who is to speak at a republican rally Tuesday night at the high school auditorium, is a former governor of Colorado and a practicing attorney of Denver. He is noted as an authority on irrigation law and as governor fought to preserve the water rights of Colorado farmers against federal encroachment. He gave the principal address at a meeting of the Oregon Bar association in Portland in 1943. As one of the leaders in the professional and political life of the mountain country Carr is very favorably known, and Salem is fortunate to have him appear here during his tour of the west, which he is making by private plane.

Premier Bonomi of Italy protests against the terms of the armistice and says that under it Italy "cannot have a say in world problems." Precisely. Mussolini tried to have a say on problems of the Mediterranean but ended up as a squeak voice for Hitler. Italy will have to work its passage back to respectability among nations before it has any say in affairs.

We have reached the point in the campaign where the managers are worrying about the silent vote. This is what often speaks out with the voice of authority on election day.

Interpreting The War News

KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

A news budget bulging with disasters, present and impending for the cynical German-Japanese war fellowship marked this last of October weekend. The battle left no doubt that the drums of doom were throbbing in quickening tempo for Hitler and Hirohito.

Long, hard and bloody as the road to total victory still may be, United Nations forces have set foot upon the last lap both in Europe and Asia. On both sides of the world they are inexorably ringing the foe with steel and flame, blasting their way town by town, island by island, ridge by ridge, foot by foot through his inner defenses.

Outstanding among the war happenings of this portentous October week was the paralyzing blow struck Japan's imperial fleet by American sea power. It changed imperceptibly the whole nature of the war in the Pacific even before the full scope of enemy losses could be tabulated.

Insistent and credible reports poured in that at one stroke the Nipponese grip on all the South China sea and its incalculable natural resources had been loosened if not broken.

Nipponese retreat from South China waters would carry with it callous abandonment of Japanese garrisons in the Philippines, the Dutch Indies, the Malay peninsula and war scorched Burma, to their fate, just as those in American by-passed islands of the Pacific have been left to surrender or die. On his return to the Philippines, General MacArthur said this was the broad ultimate strategic objective beyond recapture of the islands themselves. Success would cut off an estimated half million Japanese troops to the southward, he said.

Retreat of Japanese fleet remnants from the South China sea also would mean early British incursion into that sea from the west to effect a junction with American allies and insure China's rescue far sooner than most optimistic allied military calculations could have foreshadowed.

It was not across the Pacific alone, however, that this weekend saw battle front developments of transcendent importance recorded. It witnessed full scale Russian invasion of East Prussia and a broad red army sweep through the southern Carpathian passes and across the plains of Hungary and Yugoslavia to reach the Danube on a front reaching substantially from below Budapest to recaptured Belgrade. It saw Nazi flight from Greece and the Aegean islands under allied pursuit and partisan harassment approaching the rout stage. German abandonment of the whole Balkan peninsula was an all but accomplished fact.

In Holland British and Canadian troops were close to clearing the Schelde estuaries and the south bank of the Maas of Nazi troops hampering communications and the development of the breakthrough Anglo-American offensive toward the lower Rhine.



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The American Way

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Oats and thistles from the political feedboxes:

Elder financial-philosopher of the administration, Bernard Baruch, told senators he, too, is worried about the election. Not that he deeply doubts Mr. R. will pull through somehow. But he does not know, is not sure of the precise condition of the electorate.

For the first time in history, the top men know little more than the bottom. How could they—with 5,000,000 unpollable votes in the army, the threat of secret negative balloting, the tremendous shifts of war worker populations, and the polls showing the critical states of New York and Pennsylvania divided almost 50-50.

All my inner lines hint Pennsylvania will go surprisingly for Dewey, despite the polls and the CIO, which together are giving the edge conclusively to Mr. Roosevelt. An unusual job of organizing has been done there by Governor Edward Martin, a DSC, Purple Heart major general of Spanish, World wars I and II service. The CIO's organizing has been flashy. The Martin work apparently has been effective.

Incomplete published registration figures show 762,842 majority for the republicans. While the state has voted for Roosevelt with a majority registered republican in the past, such a heavy reversal of registered sentiment is not indicated by any noticeable development this time.

Both the republicans and democrats offer apparently genuine claims for New York. Any objective analysis would leave it close.

In the last few days, the new deal democrats have developed an idea they will get a majority up-state, but this is opium smoke. There is inner talk, furthermore, about the ardor of Tammany.

What is left of that local democratic machine got together with the communist-led American labor party on some congressional candidates, but with

how much remaining tongue-in-cheek no one knows.

If Roosevelt wins, the CIO's Hillman can become boss of New York. Quite a few Tammanyites will hardly wish to clear anything with Sidney.

The best democratic authority here on doubtful Massachusetts (democratic, mind you) says Dewey will carry it, as will Saltonstall (running for the senate) although the gubernatorial race is in doubt. He counts on a split in the Irish vote and the popular organization of Governor Saltonstall.

If Dewey wins two of these three states, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts he will win the election. The professional wagers, however, are still laying 13 to 5 on Roosevelt nationally, believing as does Mr. Baruch, that he will pull through somehow.

The Ball deflection in Minnesota is not likely to count in the results for this reason:

While Governor Stassen was one of Willie's best friends he could not carry the state for anyone but himself. If his influence was so limited, how can one of his appointees have any important influence?

Most authorities count the state for Dewey on the farm vote plus coolness toward world peace proposals that have aroused other sections, particularly the east.

I cannot bring myself to believe it but the authority I respect most on Kentucky says Dewey by 35,000. This same authority predicted the astonishing republican gubernatorial victory there several months in advance.

Keep Missouri doubtful and possible for Roosevelt because the Truman-Hannegan boys will do the counting, and the counting could have as much to do with the result as the voting.

Mr. Roosevelt always was hailed as the luckiest politico alive. He could ride to a speech in pouring rain, only to have the sun emerge at precisely the proper moment. His luck has been a White House byword.

This campaign has shown some signs of change. The weather broke badly for his New York triumph. Delays in the European campaign came at the wrong time for campaign laurels.

The Jap fleet broke better, but the revolution in Spain was

distinctly untimely in view of religious sensitivity over the rise of Russia and the Hillman-Browder connection with the campaign.

Clearly more oats are developing for Dewey, more thistles for Roosevelt.

The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

STOP, LOOK, LISTEN

AND THINK

To the Editor:

We have a visitor by the name of Willis Mahoney here in Oregon running for US senator.

It seems queer that the average person never hears anything about Mr. Mahoney when there is a US senator to elect. It seems that being a comparatively young man he would have taken a war job and helped out in manpower.

Mr. Mahoney informs us in his pamphlet he is for Mr. Roosevelt first, last and all the time. He is also going to give the unions the very best of service. He also says he is going to work and vote for the Townsend plan. Now he is going to be a Roosevelt yes man. Roosevelt is bitterly opposed to the Townsend plan. The head officials in all the unions are bitterly opposed to the Townsend plan.

Now how is Mr. Mahoney going to serve all these concerns at one and the same time? Remember, Mr. Mahoney is going to be a real Roosevelt yes man.

He has straddled Roosevelt, the new deal, the unions and the Townsend plan and started to ride into the US senate. If he doesn't get there it will be because he is too short in the straddle. He should have been named Straddle I. Mahoney instead of Willis.

Perhaps after the election he will take the lecture platform and stump the state on the subject of The Inconsistency of Inconsistency.

Now listen, folks. We have a man in the US senate who is a gentleman and not a politician. Yes, show him by our vote that we appreciate men of his character.

K. H. Blake
Rt. 5, Box 4, Salem, Ore.

Statesman Recommendations On State Measures

Amendment to provide alternative means of securing bank deposits, relieving shareholders of double liability.
300 X Yes

Amendment authorizing change to managerial form of county government, if voters so elect.
302 X Yes

Amendment creating state debt and permitting loans to veterans on farms and homes.
305 X No

Amendment to permit legislature to fix conditions by which ex-convicts may regain right to vote.
306 X Yes

Bill providing educational aid to Oregon veterans.
309 X No

Bill imposing retail sales tax of three per cent.
311 X No

Burke bill to restrict sales of fortified wines to state store.
312 X Yes

Amendment increasing state tax fund for school support.
314 X Yes

Amendment providing monthly annuities from gross income tax (Little Townsend plan).
317 X No

AT THE FRONT

By William F. Bond
(Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon)

WITH THE POLISH TROOPS
BELOW TILBURG, Holland.—It seems we visited the Polish troops fighting under the Canadian First army command at the wrong time.

"At the moment we have stopped while the lines are being straightened," said the cheery commander. "That means we are on the defensive. My men don't like the defensive because they don't like digging holes. They like to attack, then there is no time to dig holes."

That is one thing about the Poles—they are great fellows for the attack. As a matter of fact, they sometimes have been criticized because when given a mission they are likely to see a larger bunch of Germans in a different direction. Because that offers better prospects for a real fight, they make the necessary detour. Yet, by some accounts, that is how they managed to seal the Falaise gap in Normandy and that is a type of detour that is hard to criticize.

In their push toward Tilburg the Poles have had tough fighting

Poles Compile Fine Record on Fighters on Western Front

against enemy forces equipped with a considerable concentration of artillery. There have been desperate local fights for a series of small villages whose gutted homes and walls and razed farmhouses in open country lend silent testimony to the overland bitterness of the struggle.

In the last two months the Poles have taken more than 11,000 prisoners, over a tenth of them in operations since they left Ghent. They first cleared the Schelde river pocket west of Antwerp and then shifted over for the Tilburg drive.

"You almost can see them shake when they are brought in," said the second-in-command, who with the commander was among the leaders in the organization of this force. "Then they are surprised to an equal extent when they find we treat them well."

The prisoners taken recently by the Poles have been so numerous that the Germans have been forced to take out the units used against them. On the single sector of the line which the Poles are holding, 12 different German battalions have been identified in a comparatively short period.

In addition to more than 1100 prisoners bagged by the Poles in recent operations, they have taken 34 anti-tank guns, two 88s and four big railway guns and an ammunition depot.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

is one way to start a trend to prohibition, as is pretty well conceded by anti-prohibitionists who have no stake in the wine trade. The Burke bill doesn't prohibit the sale of fortified wines or any other alcoholic beverage. All it does is to confine the sale of these potent wines to state stores where they were placed by the original liquor control act of 1933. The word "give" in the pending bill is being used as a spook on a stick to advertise a ban on the serving of liquors, which is not its meaning under the law.

For years the people have complained of the evils growing out of fortified wines. Their easy accessibility in package stores, poolhalls, grocery stores, offering a ready temptation to minors, convenient for mixing with beer at bars to produce a synthetic drunk, certainly does not make for temperance. The Burke bill at best may only reduce the evils arising out of fortified wines. But it should accomplish some good by limiting sales to state stores which are fewer in number and where sales are made only to permit-holders.

In response to widespread public sentiment Senator Burke has worked for several sessions of the legislature to obtain this legislation. His bills have drawn the opposition of the well-entrenched wine lobby. In 1941 his bill was defeated in the closing hours of the session when one representative switched his vote. In 1943 the lobby nearly compassed defeat of the bill. The referendum held it up for two years—a very profitable deal for the opponents. Now it is up to the people. I believe they will see that this revived Bluebonnet Probi is only a ghost being used to frighten them and to arouse their fears of a condition which is not in prospect.

Veterans' Rights and Benefits

(This is a portion of an official pamphlet giving information on the rights and privileges of war veterans under federal laws.)

Disability Pensions

If you are discharged from the armed forces with a disability due to service, you may be entitled to disability benefits including a pension. The amount payable runs from \$11.50 a month for 10 per cent disability up to \$115 a month for 100 per cent disability. In addition there are special rates and allowances for specific injuries and more seriously disabling conditions. Apply through the Veterans' Administration.

CARE IN NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOMES

A veteran who is so disabled as to be unable to earn a living, and is without adequate means of support, may apply for admission to one of the numerous National Soldiers' Homes for disabled, located throughout the country, where former members of the armed forces may live and receive care.

Stevens

Diamonds

Each beautiful jewel enthroned in a handsome setting has a personality of its own. Choose yours with care and confidence from our select collection of fine stones.

Credit if Desired

Stevens & Son

Jewelry and Diamonds

"THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



"Where's your foresight, pop... wouldn't you like to retire eventually and have your famous band leader son support you?"