

# The Oregon Statesman

FRONTIER 1851  
"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Money Troubles

The Bible says that the love of money is the root of all evil, but in Europe the value of money is causing a deal of trouble. In occupied countries Germany circulated paper currency either its own or of the controlled country. As the Germans are driven out the value of the floating currency becomes very doubtful. The result is a price inflation in which people scramble to get their money in tangibles.

Belgium has tried to deflate its currency, but deflation brings disaster too. France has done nothing about currency devaluation yet, though it has fixed a rate of 50 francs to the dollar in exchange, or 200 to the pound sterling. French note circulation is around 600 billion francs which is about four times the prewar total. The Bank of France has issued no statement since mid-July and frankly admits it doesn't know its own condition.

Greece is going through the agony of inflation which seems to be erasing the value of the Greek drachma. In 24 hours its value evaporated, going from 10,000,000,000,000 to 22,000,000,000,000 for a British gold sovereign (nominally \$4.87).

These countries will have serious troubles getting their financial systems again in healthy functioning. They may have to draw a red line across all ledgers and start anew, with new currencies either old unit names with new values, or new units of money. Inflation and deflation work serious hardships; and the sooner Europe can get to fiscal stability the more quickly its rehabilitation can proceed. In this period of readjustment foreign help in the way of provisions, etc., and perhaps of loans for currency stabilization will be needed. We can't well free these lands from German oppression to let them starve through internal disintegration, but in the end the old rule must hold: they must help themselves.

## Initial Advantage

In the return trip to the Philippines the Americans have had the advantage of selecting the spots for invasion. They could do this because air power and seapower enabled them to neutralize the Jap strong points. Thus instead of making frontal assaults to capture the great Jap bases at Rabaul and Truk, which were the great dread of commentators for many months, the Americans with some Australian aid were able to render these bases useless for the enemy. Bombings from air destroyed shore installations and harbor shipping and air and sea patrols prevent reinforcement save by occasional barge or submarine.

This advantage was conspicuous in the Philippines operation when MacArthur selected a soft spot, Leyte island, for initial attack. It will also follow in future moves, especially on the China coast. We can select the place to launch our full-scale assault while the Japs, like the Germans in Europe, have to spread themselves thin to guard a long coastline.

Eventually though this advantage will be lost, because when we gain a foothold in Luzon or in China then we are committed and the enemy can concentrate its opposition. Both in Luzon and in China the Japs will be able to supply reinforcements for a long time, because we cannot effectively police all the seas from the Jap homelands to China and to Luzon. We must prepare therefore for a war of considerable duration. It will take many months to exterminate the Jap soldiers on Luzon and in China, and then there remain the home islands to be dealt with.

## Power of the Purse

A judge in Puerto Rico threw the cabinet members of Governor Tugwell's administration into jail because they spent money which had not been properly appropriated. How naive of the judge. What if American courts followed the same practice? Here there has grown up rather a cynical attitude on the part of government administrators as they spend money without too close scrutiny of the terms of the appropriation.

In the past however congress has been considerably at fault as it has appropriated money giving to the executive very liberal powers as to spending. That is dangerous policy. The power which the congress should guard most jealously is the "power of the purse."

## Editorial Comment

**WHO WANTS TRUMAN?**  
Who shelved Vice President Wallace for Senator Truman at the Chicago convention?  
The answer to that question has never been given, and it is too late now in this campaign to expect one.

But it would be interesting to know.  
For if President Roosevelt is beaten—and the president is going down hill daily as Governor Dewey is coming up—history might declare the selection of the Missouri senator responsible for it.

Yes, if this community is typical of the country as a whole, more and more independent voters are hesitating to make a ballot for four more years of Roosevelt; for fear it might mean putting Senator Truman in the White house.

And that they DON'T want!  
For if ever a promising and rather popular public figure has been completely discredited and deflated that is the case with Senator Harry Truman of Missouri.

Had the head of the Truman committee not been the nominee, and had he not been forced to show his hand and his character by slumping the country from one coast to the other, there would be no doubt still be a widespread belief that he was a man of capacity and integrity and resourcefulness, well qualified, in case of necessity, to take over the reins of the government.

But that hour has been one of complete disillusionment as far as the presidency and Harry Truman are concerned. The man may be entirely sincere and undoubtedly is loyal to the ticket and hard-working; but that he hasn't even a SLIVER of presidential timber in his makeup, has been made completely and convincingly certain!

No, Harry Truman has not got what it takes. He isn't even a second rate but a bad third. Instead of strengthening the Roosevelt ticket he has merely weakened it.—Medford Mail-Bulletin

## Truman Blunders

Senator Truman is proving a much bigger liability as vice presidential candidate than Wallace. His chickens are coming home to roost. He has been needling Governor Dewey to denounce the republican isolationist senators who are up for reelection, and claiming Dewey's assurances of support of world peace are insincere unless he does denounce these senators. Then a reporter from a Providence paper asked Truman back in New England, if he was denouncing Senator David Walsh of Massachusetts. Truman rather glibly acknowledged Walsh was an isolationist but said he was not a candidate for reelection and had two years yet to be redeemed to internationalism.

That touched off Senator Walsh who was as hostile to lend-lease and other administration prewar moves as any republican senator. Walsh had just previously endorsed Roosevelt for reelection, but he bridled at Truman's cavalier treatment of him. His reply left Truman with his jaw hanging down.

The fact is that Massachusetts is a critical state, and Walsh's help is needed there to carry it for Roosevelt. Truman's blundering might lose his ticket enough votes to cost it the state's 16 electoral votes.

Truman leaves the country "cold fish." The people do not like his unrepudiated connections with the old Pendergast machine, and his campaign appearances have shown a lack of structure for the president's office to which a vice president is the initial successor.

## Length of the War

The other day Prime Minister Churchill threw more cold water on suggestions of an early conclusion of the war when he told the commons that the German war might last into the closing months of 1945 and the Japanese war might continue for 18 months. Churchill made no definite commitments, naturally.

It should be noted however that his remarks were made in connection with a motion to extend the life of parliament another year. Because of the war a general election in Britain has been deferred long past its regular time. This is permissible under the British system. But to support the motion Churchill would have to justify extension of the present parliament by the prospect of the war's lasting at least another year. He was, in effect, assuring his own government of continuance. Clever as the prime minister is, he may have also been beaming his remarks toward the American electorate.

Twenty-five years is a long stretch for a man to be engaged in one business. A. A. Gueffroy thought it was long enough, so he has sold his Commercial Book store, one of the oldest business establishments in Salem, to Lawrence Ballmer, who comes here from Pendleton. "Gueff" was one of Prof. Stanley's boys, who took a business course in the Capital Business college and then went out and made good in the business world. The Statesman hopes that after a rest he will be back on the street where he has been active so long as to be regarded almost as a fixture.

A Los Angeles naval aviator, Commander David MacCampbell is credited with shooting down nine Jap fighters and two "probables" in one hour and 35 minutes of fighting in the aerial battle of the Philippines. His score now totals to 30. That speed record rivals that of a good duck-shooter.

## Interpreting The War News

KIRKE L. SIMPSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

Allied success in clearing Scheide estuary approaches to Antwerp of all substantial enemy resistance coupled with the forward surge of American first army troops in Hurligen forest southeast of captured Aachen could herald the opening of the next major phase of the battle of the Siegfried line.

These was no definite indication of that, in preliminary accounts from the front. They told of American seizure in surprise operations of villages close to the eastern edge of the forest.

At that point, in Hurligen woods, allied troops stand closer to the Rhine than at any other except in the Nijmegen-Arnhem sector to the north. The span of the river between Cologne and Bonn to the south, flanked on both sides by an intricate network of railroads, highways and power lines, is less than 30 miles from American positions in the forest.

The scene of operations suggests impending first army efforts to outflank from the south the important railway junction town of Duren, guarding the direct approach to Cologne from the southwest. First army advance lines have been poised for many days in the northeastern edge of Hurligen forest directly west of the town.

Duren's capture or investment would seem to be the next imperative step if an immediate advance on bomb blasted Cologne is in prospect. Isolating Duren and the whole northern end of the Siegfried line from river and riverside communications would be another step in preparation for a major British-American offensive from Holland. Nazi commands cannot ignore that possibility now that early allied use of the Antwerp sea base virtually has been assured by concerted British and Canadian army operations.

Nazi recognition of the importance to the allies of Antwerp and its undamaged port facilities and the road, rail and canal network south of the Maas has been obvious in the bitter-end defense the Germans have put up. The battle has been lost, Berlin admits, however, and with still time before the depth of winter comes for General Eisenhower to build upon that history.

Surrender of the Nazi commander and his troops in pockets south of the Scheide estuary virtually clears the south bank of the Ise. Combined British and Canadian land and amphibious attacks on Walcheren island north of the waterway means its complete occupation within hours or days at most. That will not only insure allied use of the Antwerp communication hub, but release powerful elements of Field Marshal Montgomery's forces for concentration elsewhere.



'Master Racer'

## News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON  
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WASHINGTON, Nov. 2—Just adding what they say on what they have said:

Ink was hardly dry on Assistant President Byrnes' naturally partisan headlines "Dewey Election Would Prolong War," before Mr. Churchill said non-partisanly it would probably be summer before the end in Europe and take two years more in the Pacific.

No authority here would lay a non-political guess as to what has happened to all this year's most optimistic prophecies. Few military men believe the presidential election has anything at all to do with it.

The length of the war will be determined by military factors, not domestic politics. For instance: General MacArthur's easy occupation of the east-central Philippines and Admiral Kinkaid's decisive destruction of the Jap fleets have roused some highly enthusiastic expectations which go far beyond the facts of the matter. The land lies ahead like this:

The Japs have 4,000,000 in their armies, mostly in China. The figure of 225,000 estimating their forces on Leyte (which has been published widely) really applies to all forces throughout the Philippines, mostly on Luzon and Mindanao. They only had a division or parts of a division on Leyte.

True enough, they tried no bloody suicidal death stands there, but this may not necessarily be a symptom of fully deteriorated morale. Here they had a chance to get away to other nearby islands whereas in their earlier death stands on the small Pacific dots they had no place to go except to their ancestors.

But to conquer the Philippines and recapture Manila we will have to defeat yet the bulk of the Jap force of a quarter of a million men which can still be reinforced.

Competent press authorities are charging China is conducting

Conquest of Luzon (Manila) itself involves such a tough prospect that MacArthur might yet decide to by-pass it. However, the next jumps to Formosa and the China coast are beyond the range of our land-based fighter planes and would require naval air coverage, and therefore, would not be easy or swift operations either.

We have the carrier aircraft with which to do it, but when we do, we will still not have defeated Japan. In short, MacArthur wisely picked the softest spot in the Philippines and from here on, the going will become increasingly difficult.

The sea before us is practically clear except for land-based Jap planes. Main pending sea question is how the Japs could have been so stupid as to send 70 of their biggest and best ships into two narrow straits where we could damage all but two (with naval aircraft using only one landing field on Leyte then open).

Does it indicate desperation? The answer considered most likely here is that the two-strait attack was a battle plan worked out earlier in the war by the Jap admirals and they just pulled it out of the desk when we went into Leyte, not thinking of our new naval carrier plane and ship strength which has so recently grown to overwhelming proportions.

Also this does not mean the whole Jap fleet has been destroyed, and probably not half of it.

The nearly open sea lane to Japan, however, probably will have to wait until we get land air bases from which to give full air coverage to landing operations. Most discouraging news in this respect was the recall of General Stilwell from China and the elevation of Chiang Kai-Shek to greater military authority.

Stilwell is as great a general as China could ever get to direct her war effort. Therefore, grave doubt is justified as to whether the change is an improvement.

Competent press authorities are charging China is conducting

## The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY

"GREAT SOLDIERS OF WORLD WAR II" by Major H. A. de Weerd (Norton; \$3.15).

It is perhaps true that if one excepts generals whose flair for the dramatic makes them stand out, men like MacArthur and Montgomery, the commanders have had less than their share of glory in this curious war. There has been a proper campaign to keep the ordinary fighting man foremost in the public mind. We may have overdone it, a little.

Anyway, Maj. H. A. de Weerd has provided a balance in a remarkably readable book he calls "Great Soldiers of World War II." He considers at some length 11 generals chosen from the armies of Germany as well as from those of the allies. Japan is not represented, and the Germans considered are only Rommel and a man named Hitler. The British men are Churchill (the word "soldier" is used loosely), Wavell and Montgom-

ing a "moribund, undemocratic regime," bent on protecting his precarious hold over China (against the communists) rather than trying sincerely to drive out the Japs.

China-Burma-India is our weakest front. Morale of our troops there is far from the best. The change could eventuate in a decision for us to fight more of our own war against Japan with less hope on China or Britain from India.

But even if we conquer the Jap mainland we have not defeated the Jap armies or destroyed their war industries which are largely in Manchuria. We desperately need air bases either on the China coast or in Russia (which is still neutral in that respect).

These are the true considerations involved in the length of the war in the Pacific, stripped of the political gilt with which recent partisan campaign utterances have adorned them.

## 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

Bill to restrict sales of tormented wines to state stores.  
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

Keneth L. Dixon  
AT THE FRONT!  
Mention Frontline Medics and Story Telling Bee Stars

WITH THE AEP IN FRANCE, Oct. 27—(Delayed)—(P)—Just mention the frontline medics and around the average bunch of doughboys and you'll start a story-telling session.

They'll tell you about PFC Gilbert Pardue of Booneville, NC, an aid man who had two patients shot out of his hands Kenneth L. Dixon while other medics were cut down around him and his company was surrounded and forced to withdraw.—And still he continued to roam the wooded hillside, rescuing seven other wounded infantrymen.

His unit had advanced along a road when the Germans flanked it and gained control of the high ground paralleling the highway. From that vantage point, their machineguns cut a bloody swath through the doughboys.

Pardue saw a wounded man writhing in a clump of bushes. He ran to him and began treatment. He was standing, ignoring the bullets chopping the ground around him, when the wounded man was killed, a bullet through his head. Nearby another aid man was hit three times in the side, another doughboy was shot in both legs. Still another was hit in the head.

Without help, Pardue dragged the infantryman to a nearby ditch and gave him aid. Then he stalked the still fire-lashed battlefield, gathering in five more wounded. He treated them and dragged them into the ditch. He carried two of them to the rear as the company was forced to withdraw temporarily, and he superintended the removal of others. The next morning, he took four littermen and a squad of riflemen and returned to the battle sector to get the rest of the wounded. He was busy giving treatments when again a German machinegun cut loose and swept the slope alongside the road.

Unable then to remove the wounded, the little squad took cover. The riflemen opened fire on the machinegun position. But there was work an aidman could do, so Pardue doggedly kept going, man to man, along the

ery; the French Gamelin and de Gaulle; Timoshenko represents Russia; Chiang Kai-Shek the Chinese and Eisenhower and MacArthur are the American wing.

I have not enough space to do more than suggest Major de Weerd's method, which is sound. He has written what seems to be a thumbnail military biography in each case, taking much of his comment from the quoted words of other authorities, and tying the bundle with, very often, the subject's own comment or his deeds when these speak louder. Gamelin, for example, emerges a highly competent professional soldier who grew less accessible to men and affairs the higher in station he rose, until in the end he was hardly in touch with his own ideas. Major de Weerd does not discount de Gaulle's odd personality, but believes that history will forget this, and remember only his great military shrewdness.

Rommel was a publicity hound, but also a great general when things tended toward his advantage. Hitler's numerous failures were greatest. Major de Weerd thinks, in the field of air warfare, Eisenhower's place in military history would have been secure even though the European invasion had failed, and this sentence characterizes MacArthur: "He survived almost fatal gifts of personal charm and language to be ranked among the great soldiers of his day."

Instead of looking on Bonneville as an intruder in the household, but also a great general when things tended toward his advantage. Hitler's numerous failures were greatest. Major de Weerd thinks, in the field of air warfare, Eisenhower's place in military history would have been secure even though the European invasion had failed, and this sentence characterizes MacArthur: "He survived almost fatal gifts of personal charm and language to be ranked among the great soldiers of his day."

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## 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.)

### Lapel Buttons

All those who served honorably in the armed forces of the United States on or after September 8, 1939 are entitled to wear the lapel button that signifies such service. If you did not get this button when discharged, it will be issued to you, free, upon presentation of your discharge certificate or other certificate of service at most military and naval installations.

Stevens  
Diamonds  
Each beautiful jewel entrusted 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