

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Fourth Inaugural

When Franklin D. Roosevelt was first inaugurated, on March 4, 1933, the country was about at the bottom of the economic depression. Banks were closed on enforced holiday. Deep gloom pervaded the business world. The country over people far removed from the excitement of Washington sat in sober mood to hear by radio what the new president would say. Roosevelt on that occasion struck a note of confidence—"our only fear is fear itself"—and gave a measure of reassurance to the country.

Saturday, in vastly changed circumstances, Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated for a fourth term. Now the nation and the world are locked in war. The flush of war prosperity contrasts sharply with the starved economy of 12 years ago. The spectre of unemployment which haunted the country for a decade has faded; and the congress, instead of being called on to legislate to spread employment, is urged to enact service legislation to augment the supply of war plant workers.

This time the inauguration itself was a quiet affair. No parades and marching bands, no huge crowds, no climax of an inaugural ball, no celebration to mark the return of the democratic party to power. A simple ceremony on the White house porch; a short address; a small crowd made up of what is distinctly an historic event.

For us the scene is, foreshortened. Ten decades hence it may be seen in different perspective. The people of that day will look back on the event as we now do on Lincoln's second inaugural. One prediction seems safe and that is, that the mistakes and the blunders of the war effort will diminish in significance as time passes. What will grow will be a sense of the difficulties and the achievements of this war. And in the center of it all, of course, will be Franklin D. Roosevelt.

History does not deal very kindly with those critics of George Washington during the revolutionary war, with the cabal of generals who tried to unseat him or with complaining members of the congress. History gives little favor to Lincoln's critics, either, those who were disgusted with Lincoln's mismanagement of the war, nor with the committee from congress which served as a vent for dissatisfaction. Washington and Lincoln stand out against the background of hardship and difficulty, rising high above their critics. With complete military success Roosevelt too will loom as a great war president. If to winning victory on the battlefield he can add success in statesmanship then surely his place in history will be doubly sure.

Ahead lies the last test, the test of world statesmanship, with many dragons, visible and invisible, lying in wait. Negotiating peace with victors and with vanquished, helping the peoples of earth to realize their dream of a sensible world order, clearing the way back to economic health—these are tasks which call for all that the man has of skill, of courage and of foresight. That the president realizes this task is clear from his own words Saturday—the "supreme test," he calls it. So his inaugural, like that of 12 years ago, is really a challenge for the whole country to meet its obligation, now international as then it was national.

If we meet that test—successfully and honorably—we shall perform a service of historic importance which men and women and children will honor throughout all time. The Statesman hopes sincerely that the president and the people will rise both to their responsibilities and their opportunities and meet this "supreme test" in the years immediately ahead.

The Hood River News remarks that a recent picture of the spouting horn at Depoe Bay reminds folk who live east of the Cascades that it's been a long time since they got to visit the Oregon coast. Same goes for valley folk whose cards just won't stretch to distance driving. But same goes also for soldiers in France and the Philippines.

The bill for a \$100,000 governor's mansion has stirred many native Oregonians to take pen in hand and write letters to the editor objecting to such extravagance. The figure seems a bit high, but not when you hear what prices seven-room houses 40 years old are bringing on today's market.

With the republican legislature in Oregon and the democratic legislature in Washington ordering probes of the joint distillery deal truth is going to have to do a lot of dodging to escape detection.

Alcoholism is a disease and alcoholics are sick people, is the current theory about an ancient evil. The worst thing about it is that the disease seems to be contagious, too.

## Editorial Comment

### NO TRIAL FOR HITLER?

Word that the allied commission on war crimes has decided against putting Hitler and the top-flight Nazis on trial after this war is shocking, for it indicates that the bigwigs are prepared to make a worse mistake than they did when they failed to hold the Kaiser responsible for starting the other war. For Hitler and his like are a hundred times more deserving of capital punishment than Hohenzollerns was.

The plan seems to be to confine the big Nazis somewhere, maybe on an island as Napoleon was, without a trial, and presumably under luxurious conditions, which wouldn't be much further punishment after they have lost the war because they would be safe at least. And after Hitler's death we supposed his body would be sent back to Germany to be placed in a marble tomb for the adulation of all future Germans, as Napoleon's was taken to Paris and put in a tomb that is one of the sights of the French capital today.

If this is the final word on Anglo-American policy it is to be hoped that the Russians, with their rough and ready ideas of justice, get to Berlin first and get hold of Hitler and his cohorts first. Evidently we are too effete to deal with such men as they deserve.—Baker Democrat-Herald.

## Mercury-cell Batteries

The trouble with flashlights is that when you want to use one you generally find its battery dead. Houses served with electricity, and most of them are around here, offer few occasions for using a flashlight; but on those few occasions its failure is annoying. Most every house has a batch of flashlights, dead, in closets, basements or attics, which will be rounded up and renewed come next camping trip.

Those who have suffered from flashlight failure—and who hasn't?—will be interested in a new mercury-cell battery which is said to last five times as long as the standard type of battery. It's a war development with great peacetime possibilities. So important is the new style of battery that mercury which dropped from around \$190 a flask of 76 lbs. to under \$100 has now bounced back to \$165. That interests Oregon, which is a big producer of mercury from cinabar mines.

Presently the new batteries are used in powering walkie-talkie sets as well as in flashlights. After the war their use should be widespread, too.

## Enabling Act

Some one at the state house is quoted as saying that there is nothing in the state constitution that prohibits the taxing of federal property. The constitution is silent on the subject but one of the conditions of statehood included in the enabling act of Feb. 14, 1859 and approved by the Oregon legislature June 3, 1859 specifies "that the state shall never tax the lands or the property of the United States in said state."

Incidentally, another of the provisions of the enabling act was that all salt springs within the state, not exceeding twelve in number, with six sections of land adjoining, were granted to the state for such disposition as the legislature might direct. What, we wonder, ever became of the state's twelve salt springs?

The Oregon Voter commends Senator Mahoney's bill to strike out the \$40 limit from old age assistance legislation. As the Voter says if a fixed limit is set, as proposed in some bills, then there is not the flexibility in case of change in the federal law. In 1941 the writer recommended removing the limit, then \$30, but the pension advocates insisted on putting in a \$40 figure. Now they want this limit changed. The figure is more or less a fiction anyway, because welfare boards have allowed higher grants for medical or nursing care. The real limits are needs of the individual and money available.

Riding across the continent in an army plane was not the only favor shown Mrs. Elliott Roosevelt's dog. Delivery was made in an army truck commanded by a major.

Most popular number at a recent program presented for the entertainment of inmates at the penitentiary was the song "Don't Fence Me In."

## Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

The Russian winter offensive dominates the war news of the world this week end. Reaching from the Baltic to the Danube, it out-modes every previous operation of this or any other war in size, power and speed.

It holds uncalculable potentialities despite official Allied reluctance to ascribe to it yet possibilities for bring an early end to the war in Europe. For that reason it overshadows even the impending new Churchill-Roosevelt-Stalin meeting, or the amazing spectacle of Japanese failure for many days to muster more than token resistance to MacArthur's power-laden invasion of Luzon or to react effectively to Admiral Halsey's surface and air sweeps of the south China sea.

Even the formal recapitulation of the battle of the Belgian bulge by General Eisenhower's headquarters, disclosing that the Nazi gambit "has not seriously affected our own plans and preparations for future operations," took a secondary news rating against the background of the Russian drive to end the war.

Whether the Nazi high command had sought to evade a total disaster in the east by a quick and deep retreat in the face of the Red army onslaught in Poland or been caught too extended to check the Russian juggernaut was still uncertain. There was no doubt at the week end, however, that every eastern gateway to Berlin from the upper Oder valley to the Baltic coastal plains was being menaced by the Russians, some of them like the Breslau and Poznan passes, at perilously close range. Day by day the victory guns of Moscow boomed ear-shattering salutes to new Red army successes.

Nazi evacuation of the Slovakian hump was reported by Berlin as the Russians drove beyond captured Krakow to sever its communication life lines and outflank the vital industrial heart of German Silesia now in sound of Russian guns. It was already outflanked from the north by Russian capture of Czesochowa. There seemed little prospect that the surging Red armies on the southern wing of the offensive could be brought to a stand short of the Vistula and Oder if there.

It seemed clear that in less than a week the two main Russian Vistula bridgehead drives had been welded into a single massive salient reaching clear across Poland. Northwest of recaptured Warsaw other Red forces were seven-league booting their way down the Warsaw-Danzig railway and flanking highways toward a trio of critical German communication hubs upon which contact between East Prussia and the rest of the reich depends.

In the west, crushing losses inflicted on the Nazis in the Belgian bulge battle as revealed by Eisenhower's headquarters went far to justify the belief of his staff that the foe had been stripped of the means of renewing his counter-attack anywhere on a major scale. There was definite confirmation, too, of the assertion that while the German gamble in Belgium had bought a little time at shocking cost in casualties, it had not materially delayed British-American plans for renewing the assault on the Siegfried line to match Russian pressure in the east.



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## Actions Speak Louder

## Your Federal Income Tax

No. 15 (Continued)  
Income to be Reported

Alimony and separate maintenance payments periodically received by a wife subsequent to decree of divorce or of separate maintenance must be reported as income.

If you are paid in whole or in part for your services in anything other than money, the fair market value of whatever was received must be reported as income. This applies to meals or living quarters furnished an employee as part of his compensation, with the exception of the rental value of parsonages furnished to ministers of the gospel, which is exempt by law. Where employees are on duty only part of the day and can, if they desire, obtain meals and lodging elsewhere and yet perform the duties required of them the value of food and lodging received from the employer is regarded as additional compensation.

If, however, meals or living quarters are furnished to employees for the convenience of the employer, they are not part of the compensation for services for income tax purposes, and need not be treated as income. In determining whether they are provided for the convenience of the employer, it is not sufficient merely to show that an employer requires the employee to eat or reside on the premises provided, but it must appear that because of the nature of the work it is necessary for the employee to eat or reside there in order properly to perform his duties and that the value of the food and quarters are not considered in determining the wages paid for services.

A farmer who trades or exchanges the produce of his farm for goods or services must report as income the fair market value of the stock at the date of receipt, regardless of its par value.

So also notes received in payment for services represent income to the extent of their fair market value when received. If a note does not bear interest and is not marketable at a fair discount value, there is no income until payments are received on it, but if a noninterest-bearing note is regarded as good for its face value at maturity, the fair discounted value of the note at the time of receipt should be reported as income. Then when payments are received on the note a part of each payment represents a part of the discounted value previously reported as income. The balance is a recovery of discount originally deducted and hence it should be reported as income when received.

## News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON  
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Everything is going to be a lot different in Washington in the fourth term.

You can see plain signs of the character of the change behind the action of the house in setting up this new committee to investigate un-American activities.

The skillful parliamentarian, Mr. Rankin, of Mississippi, who navigated the authorization for the committee through the apparently confused and uncertain house, has made a speech indicating he expects this to be a real investigation. His voice sounded to me a little hoarse, as if he were expressing a wan hope.

The infighting between the CIO boys plus the new dealers (with aid from the nominal administration leaders) and Rankin's somewhat cowed group has been softened but clever. It started this way.

When Rankin first astonished his opposition by even daring to propose an investigation, the house leaders had it killed in an unrecorded vote—the kind in which only numbers' on opposing sides are counted but not the names.

You would think that un-American activities would be the first subject congress would want to investigate in war times, but the Dies investigation, largely of the communists and their activity within the CIO and new deal, had been so bitterly opposed, that the idea even of a new fair investigation seems to have become repugnant to those forces, fresh from what they considered an election victory.

Rankin, however, forced a roll call in which the names of those voting would be known to their constituents—and he won them. An underlying, unstated reason was that such an inquiry actually gives the house member a hold on the radicals in downtown departments who are in frequent contact with them.

Particularly it branded some public people with the communist taint on the ground that they were under communist influence although they were presumably unaware of the nature of organizations which they joined. The Dies publicity was always handled in an accusing rather than a factual way.

The need for a fair and factual inquiry into the scope of all un-American influence in this country is plain, in view of current war and peace conditions apparent to all. The FBI only handles law violations. Congress could furnish a great resistance to subtle propaganda and methods. This need is likely to continue to exist for a long time.

## Mayor Commends Kiwanis Activities

Commending the community service activities of Kiwanis International, founded in Detroit 30 years ago this month, Mayor I. M. Doughton has issued a proclamation setting aside the period of January 21 to 27 as Kiwanis anniversary week in Salem. He credited Kiwanis with helping to provide much of the moral stimulus for the world war effort.

The Kiwanis club of Salem will observe the 30th anniversary of Kiwanis International at a meeting to be held at noon Tuesday, Jan. 23, at the Marion Hotel.

## "THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



"Have you two seats in the last row of the second balcony—behind a pillar, if possible?"

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

a real community event," mused the O. T. Reporter. "In fact, one of my early assignments on a small town daily was to cover one of these evangelistic campaigns. They always rated gobs of publicity.

"Talk about cooperation and community effort—you certainly had plenty of both on those occasions, fully as much as I see now on some of these patriotic campaigns. They had just as many committees, and they held preliminary cottage prayer meetings all over the town. Then there was the big union chorus. They always made a lot of music at these meetings. Usually the evangelist brought with him his own choir director. Sankey, you know, was Moody's song leader. Homer Rodeheaver—you still see his name on a lot of church music—went along with Sunday and some of the other big evangelists. If the director could blow a trumpet or a slip horn or if his wife could lead an orchestra, so much the better.

"Yes, they counted a lot on music to get the crowd in tune, emotionally. After a half-hour of singing by congregation and choir, with perhaps Nearer My God to Thee on a slide trombone, the evangelist would appear and go to work.

"And believe me, it was work. Billy Sunday has his sermons down in a little black book, but that was just for reference. He had a flow of words and a flow of gymnastics, too, and he poured himself out both ways. You could count on sermons on particular topics as regular as could be during the meetings. There would be one on astronomy, with figures about light years and galactic systems to prove the glory of God and the insignificance of mortal man. Always there was a stem-winder on liquor, and usually in those days a healthy blast at dancing and card-playing.

"Then there were special meetings—a mass meeting for men on Sunday afternoon; or one for women on Monday afternoon. Friday night might be high school students' night and Wednesday night lodge night—no group of size was overlooked.

"As the meetings advanced the pressure for conversions would grow. There was more exhortation to unbelievers to confess and to sinners to repent. There were more appeals to hit the sawdust trail to the altar where local preachers and church workers greeted and registered the converts.

"The last Sunday afternoon or night always allowed time for the freewill offering, which was the evangelist's compensation. Of course committees had previously done a pretty good job of canvassing, so the giving wasn't all spontaneous. In the aggregate the offerings would run well into five figures. That would start a backfire of criticism over the 'take' of the evangelists.

"There was always an argument about how permanent were the conversions. The critics insisted that the meetings were just an emotional orgy with very few permanent recruits to the church; but the defenders would claim there was some net gain. I suppose there are still a lot of men who trace their conversion to a Billy Sunday or a Gypsy Smith meeting. I don't believe the argument ever was settled; but somehow the union evangelistic meetings stopped. In fact I don't recall any since the first world war. Whether the preachers finally concluded the results weren't commensurate with the effort or whether the supply of great evangelists ran out I just don't know.

"I do know this," meditated the Old Time Reporter, "that, come late January or early February, good oyster stew weather, when there's snow on the ground and a stiff wind blowing I think of those Biederwolf meetings back in Fort Wayne. Maybe it's just nostalgia, but you know if Billy Sunday was preaching in this town or Sam Jones or Gypsy Smith I'd go and hear him, though I confess I haven't darkened a church door for 20 years, except for funerals and weddings. "I guess styles have changed

## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

"WITHIN THE CIRCLE," by Evelyn Stefansson (Scrivener's; \$2.50). This portrait of the Arctic is an unpretentious book. Its author stays so modestly out of the way that it's hard to say whether she herself has actually been in the northlands so familiar to her explorer husband Vilhjalmur. But she takes you there, with text and photograph. You travel along the land rim of the Polar Mediterranean; the present is emphasized, but there are exciting glimpses into the distant past and reasonable guesses at the future. It's 160 pages of information served up agreeably for young and old both to enjoy.

"HOW TO READ BETTER AND FASTER," by Norman Lewis (Thomas Y. Crowell; \$2.50). Here's a five-week assignment for you, and though I haven't been able to spend the required time on it, it looks as though it would perform all it promises. Most people's reading habits are slovenly; they don't use their eyes efficiently, nor their brains. This book is full of exercises and tests. It takes time, but it ought to save time. Recommended especially for book reviewers.

"SEA LANGUAGE COMES ASHORE," by Joanna Carver Colcord (Cornell Maritime Press; \$2.50). It is surprising, as you will discover in this book, how many words and phrases the landlubber owes to the sea; railroad men, flyers, motorists, baseball players, even newspapermen have picked up some of their vocabulary from the sailor.

This is really a glossary, but Miss Colcord so smartly turns nauticisms into witticisms that most people will not be able to wait until they need it for reference but will sit down and read it at once from cleft to earring. The author comes from five generations of seafarers and was born at sea. Sailors, she says, are Nice Nellies when women are about, but she managed to overhear enough so that this work is far from prudish.

## Practical Religion

—By Rev. John L. Knight, Jr.,  
Counselor on Religious Life,  
Willamette University.

Someone has very aptly said, "Every man who grows out grows." Here we have the basic principle that life is a process of growth, and that he who fails to grow physically, morally, intellectually, and spiritually, is failing to make his adjustment to life. We need to outgrow old ideas, old prejudices, and old philosophies just as much as for healthy development we need to outgrow old clothes. The person who fails to cast aside the garments of childhood and to take on the garments of maturity has ceased growing. And where there is no growth, there is no life.

Saint Paul expressed this process of growth in the spiritual realm as he said, "When I was a child I thought as a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, but when I became a man I put away childish things." His success in the spiritual life was due to the fact that he kept growing!

## Rare Goose Wintering In Bend's Mirror Pond

BEND, Jan. 20 (AP)—Discovery of a single Ross' goose among migrant birds wintering at Mirror pond here reported by H. H. Sheldon, naturalist and photographer.

The rare specimen, whose nesting habitat is known to be in the Alaskan interior, was named for Bernard E. Ross, British naturalist and pioneer of the Hudson Bay company operations. Only two other specimens have officially been reported in Oregon area.

now. The older churches seem to have left the sinner-trade to the sects. I'm afraid even the preacher would faint in one of the older denominations if a man called out Lord, save me from my sins."

"What's that? What's that you're saying? Where's that inter-view with the congressman?" Oh, yes—Coming right up."

"I guess I'm getting old, wool-gathering over the past. By the way, did I ever tell you about those summer camp-meetings in Foster's Grove?"

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