

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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The Radio Voice

Radio, itself a product of modern science, finds itself contemporaneous with scientific methods applied to the receiving end of radio as well as the producing end. Numerous organizations have set themselves up to test radio reception, listener habits and reactions. Perhaps you've been called on the telephone and asked: "What program are you listening to now?" Or "What are your favorite programs?" The query method is the one generally used, and is virtually the only method which lends itself to statistics, which is the ultimate desideratum of all studies in the so-called social sciences, it seems.

Well, radio as a new technique, needs to make these tests and learn what the public likes, how it likes it, and particularly what it thinks about commercials and their spacing.

Research has gone into the matter of the broadcaster's voice, which is not surprising, because radio fans are quite positive in their likes and dislikes of radio voices. Roosevelt's win in 1932 (and since) has been credited in part to his excellent radio voice, in which he has been matched only once, in 1944 by Dewey's rich baritone.

Dr. James F. Bender, writing in the New York Times magazine, reports the following conclusions of research on the matter of sex of radio voices:

1. People are much more sensitive to affectation in the voices of members of their own sex.
2. Women's voices are more frequently judged affected than men's.
3. Male voices are found more persuasive.
4. Although more than 90 per cent of the average radio audience prefers men broadcasters, women's voices are rated as more attractive than men's in over 50 per cent of the cases.
5. Women's voices are preferred for poetry reading.
6. Men's voices are preferred for political talks, weather and news reports, and announcements.

This field of radio performance is one calling for specialized training; and doubtless departments of public speaking are seeking to supply such training. Radio is a new and fascinating tool. As it matures its techniques will be refined and its programs improved; but always there will be the prime need for the cultivated radio voice.

Alcohol for Fuel

The synthetic rubber development has forced a big expansion in the manufacture of industrial alcohol. At Springfield, Ore., a plant is being built to produce this alcohol from wood waste. Naturally there is concern over the market for this big production if and when synthetic rubber production is curtailed because of availability of natural rubber. So there has been a renewed interest in the use of alcohol as fuel for motor vehicles.

It will be recalled that during the depression years when corn was in great over-supply and prices were low bills were introduced in congress to require the use of a certain volume of alcohol with petroleum products for engine fuel. Costs however proved too high to make the alcohol mix practical.

Experiments are going forward however both with engine design and with alcohol manufacture in an attempt to solve the economic problem involved. One big distilling company is experimenting with a mobile distillery, which, mounted on railroad flat cars would draw up at a grain elevator, turn the grain into ethyl alcohol which local consumers could haul away. Then the plant would move on to the next elevator.

There is the further dream of getting the distillery units small enough to be mounted on trailers, which could be pulled into farmers' fields, distilling grain alcohol to power his auto, truck, and tractor, and using low quality grain or potatoes for the purpose. The mash would be available for livestock feed.

That would be quite a system: grow more corn to produce more alcohol to power more tractors to grow more corn.

There would be this danger too if auto engines become highly refined in the use of alcohol. Drunken drivers might try to run their cars on their breath, which would be dangerous, with cars and drivers both under the influence of alcohol.

Editorial Comment

POSTWAR ALASKA

"Folly!" cried the American people in 1867 when President Andrew Johnson revealed purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 millions.

Today postwar planners vision Alaska as a land where hundreds of thousands, perhaps even millions, can find new homes and new lives.

But there's controversy over what to do with Alaska, with these opposing ideas: Rev. Bernard J. Hubbard, SJ, world-famed glacier priest—Colonize Alaska; develop its vast resources; make it economically sufficient. US Biological Survey's Frank Dufresne, veteran of 24 years' service in the territory—Keep it a great national park, one of the few spots of any size left on earth where people can go to see natural beauty unmarred by man.

Father Hubbard said Alaska could support 40 to 50 million persons without crowding; dairying and fisheries could care for a great part of them. Thousands of soldiers now in Alaska, he reported, plan to settle there after the war.

Dufresne, on the other hand, says that many folks claim Alaska's only trouble is there are too many people there already. He wants Alaska's natural wonders preserved, unmarred by civilization, and kept as a paradise for vacationers.

Taking a middle ground is Lorin T. Oldroyd, University of Alaska extension service director. He pictured Alaska as offering somewhat limited opportunities to war-weary Americans. He sees opportunities in farming, for those willing to work hard, supplement their income with trapping, fishing and hunting.

FDR puts Alaskan development high on his list of projects. Question is: Will Americans again cry "folly?"—Pathfinder Magazine.

Veterans and Seniority

While the law protects the war veteran in his job, it is vague on the matter of his seniority. The employer is required to give him his old job back, if he asks for it, or one equally good. But will his time spent in military service be credited on his service record for the private employer for pension credits or job and wage advancement?

If the employer wants to give the veteran these or extra credits he may get into difficulties with his other employees or with the labor union which guards jealously the seniority rights of its members.

We can't count too much on the absorption of returning soldiers and sailors into their old jobs. Many were young and unmarried when they left their jobs for war. When they come back they will be several years older, perhaps married, with families. They can't live on the junior positions most of them had when they went away. But can they be "jumped" to higher paying positions without trouble from those displaced or superseded?

This is just a hint of the difficulties that will come as veterans seek reinstatement with their old employers. It doesn't take into account the problems of mental readjustment and loss of efficiency. Clearly there will be deep human problems, and employers who are anxious to do all they fairly can for their former employees must be ready to meet these problems with large measures of tolerance and understanding; and should be ready too to bear some financial loss to help former employees become properly set up in employment.

Mr. Lewis's Card

The AFofL executive council is meeting at Miami, Fla. Again John L. Lewis has sent in his card, and the council is debating on whether to invite him in, or let him continue to cool his heels in the anteroom.

Lewis wants to get his now orphaned United Mine Workers back into the AFofL organization. With them he formed the CIO nine years ago; but since he fell out with the CIO in 1941 he is seeking readmission to the old AFofL. The latter organization has been divided on this question and last year made its conditions so stiff that no deal was made. Without doubt the AFofL would like to have the nation's 700,000 miners of UMW back in its fold; but it is not sure about Mr. Lewis himself. They fear that Lewis like the camel in the tent would crowd out everyone else.

Lewis may be anxious to be reinstated because he faces the termination of the coal mining contract on April 1 next. He may desire the backing which might come from the whole AFofL if negotiations end in no contract and a walkout ensues.

There is high politics in the labor movement (and low); and here the principals play for high stakes. The public, which has no direct voice, is nonetheless interested in the major moves of labor politics and politicians, because in the end the public is affected as the ultimate consumer of labor's production.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

Of outstanding importance in the final Crimea conference communique of Messrs. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin is their announcement of a joint military staff "close working partnership." It bodes ill for Nazi hopes of long staving off a complete military collapse.

That was the basis of the confidence expressed in the "big three" summary of the conference that it would "result in shortening the war" in Europe. It was fairly certain when the first "big three" announcement revealed full agreement on concerted military operations as the first action taken that a three-way overall staff control system had been included. With huge Russian armies breasting or beyond the Oder in the east and American-British-French forces closing in on the Rhine throughout its whole length, direct personal inter-staff communication between the two fronts is possible. Joint operational directives integrating troop movements can now be put into quick execution. Strategy can be reduced to its tactical application and made effective in a matter of hours, not days or weeks.

With the east and west battle lines hardly more than 300 miles apart now at their point of closest approach to each other on the central Oder and the lower German Rhine, intimate collaboration is feasible. That is hardly an hour's flight by a fast military plane.

At the very moment that the "big three" made public their final communication promising "new and even more powerful blows" into the heart of Germany from east, west, north and south, the armies in the field on both sides were making good on that pledge. The Klieve and Pruembolt positions west of the Rhine fell respectively to Canadian and American armies. Their capture obviously paved the way for a major British-American offensive drive into the Cologne plain from the Roer-Maas line in the center once the Nazi released flood waters of the Roer subsided.

Inclusion of the "north" among points from which the new and mighty attacks planned at Malta would be launched stirred speculation. Land bases for air strikes from that direction would require Allied landing operations in southwestern Norway or preferably on the Danish peninsula. With Berlin already swaying under Russian close range attack on the central Oder line, it is not inconceivable the Jutland peninsula of Denmark could become a forward base for Anglo-American air fleets now based in Britain. That would require powerful landing forces and good weather to insure their sea movement, however. If it is contemplated in the plans laid at Malta, it seems unlikely it would be attempted very soon.

The "east, west, north and south" phrase of the communique could have quite another meaning. It may be based on expectation that Berlin will shortly be in Russian hands and that an Allied breakthrough to the Rhine and beyond on the north flank in the west could provide air base sites in northern Germany itself from which to smash at close range at a Nazi last stand in the great central plain of Germany.



Appeal

Literary GUIDEPOST

By W. G. Rogers

"TOMORROW WILL SING," by Elliott Arnold (Duell, Sloan & Pearce; \$2.50).

This book begins like something pretty special. American flyers move in on the Foggia air field in southern Italy. They talk about their job, wine and women, and it is unusually convincing talk. They go on a bombing mission; though such events have been described by novelists and correspondents galore, Arnold gives us a fresh view. That lasts for maybe 25 pages and then it all goes sour. The author puts his best foot forward to begin with, but traveled on the other one the rest of the long way.

The Americans change from real and vital to dull and bogus; the incidents cease to be natural and start to be manufactured out of shoddy; the peppy conversation grows incredibly stilted.

One of these Americans, who runs a farm near New York, has an uncle near Foggia. He calls on him, learns to his surprise that he is the owner of uncle's farm. But perhaps the best way to tell it is to use the speech of the Italians as Arnold uses it endlessly, never saying Germans but always Tedeschi, turning lieutenant and captain into tenente and capitano, and making vino out of wine.

Tenente Amato of a truth learns it is a bad thing this of being alone. On trips to the home of the uncle Gennaro he meets Nina, who is of the age of the brother who was killed among the bullets of the Americans in Africa. If it is permitted by the parents of Nina, he wishes to become her husband. And she wishes to be of a comfort to him; she knows he is tired not only of the tiredness of the body.

It is for the reason of propaganda by the Tedeschi that May-LaGuardia enters this story. There had been a madness in Italy. The son of uncle Gennaro was afflicted by it; he was of politics, but not so Gennaro. "Awake," said other Italians to Riccardo, once a tenente himself, "the war is ended for you." But would he? He would not. Always had he been of evil.

It is all of a romantic ending that is beyond belief. But the ending is of a distance beyond the beginning that will be too vast for most Americans.

"THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



Now that I look too utterly handsome, tonight, how much do you need?

Your Federal Income Tax

Contributions Deduction Limitations

Certain limitations apply to the contributions you may deduct if you choose to itemize your non-business deductions in computing your tax liability on page 4 of the 1944 return, Form 1040. (If you file your Withholding Receipt Form W-2 (Rev.) as a return or if you file Form 1040 and use the tax table or standard deduction, you receive an allowance for charities and other deductible items, but you do not list them.)

Limitations as to deductibility are as follows:

(1) Only contributions which are actually paid in cash or property (not services) during the year for which the return is made are deductible. Gifts made in the form of property include expenditures made for gasoline and oil which you use in performing services gratuitously for public purposes in behalf of governmental or charitable organizations. It also includes the fair market value of equipment or supplies which you donate to them. Unpaid subscriptions or pledges are not deductible.

(2) Contributions made in the form of personal services are not deductible. The donation of the use of an automobile, or of premises (as for a picnic or garden party), is not deductible as a contribution.

(3) Gifts to an individual are not deductible. (4) Contributions to a political party or to any organization, a substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, are not deductible.

(5) Contributions to an organization, any part of the income of which goes to benefit any private shareholder or individual, are not deductible. For instance this provision excludes contributions to hospitals or schools privately operated for profit either by an organization or individuals irrespective of whether profits are being earned or not.

(6) The amount deductible is limited to 15 per cent of the adjusted gross income, which is the amount that you enter as item 5 on page 1 of the return, Form 1040.

Where husband and wife file a joint return the 15 per cent limitation for contributions must be figured on the combined adjusted gross income, which is the amount entered as item 5 on page 1 of the joint Form 1040.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

and was visiting with George Cochran, prominent lawyer of LaGrande, who happened to be a passenger. He told of the time in 1938 when the steamer Charles L. Wheeler was taken through Bonneville locks to The Dalles. The skipper told him then that the current was about the same as before the dam was built.

On reflection that would seem to be true, except where the width of the stream was increased when a dam is built. For the same volume of water pours into the pool and the same volume must be discharged at the lower end of the pool. So if the sides of the trough are vertical that is, if the water cannot spread out in width, then the flow will have to be the same as before to discharge the water. What happens is that the water piles up at the entrance to the pool to build up the gradient to where it discharges in constant flow at the bottom.

There is a real improvement in navigation in this, however, that the water is deeper, so there is less danger from striking rocks or going aground; and of course as a practical thing there is some flooding as in the Bonneville pool so the current is diffused. No river runs in a square canyon for any distance.

After the war it would seem quite practical, as the Willamette project proceeds, to revive navigation. This would not mean to bring back the old stern-wheelers or sidewheelers of pioneer days, but powerful tugs towing or pushing barges as are being used very successfully on the Columbia. Water transportation remains the cheapest, and there is surely a sufficient tonnage of bulky commodities to supply a barge-line operating on this river. The visit of General Robbins should serve to refresh our minds on this collateral feature of the Willamette project.

Flashes of Life

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—(AP)—It happened just like in the movies, but it was real enough to Miss Dorothy Kwid and Miss Jeanette Basor.

The two were taking \$8,000 in market receipts to a bank when a robber demanded they part with the bag. The women ran, and he chased them across the railroad tracks in front of an approaching train, grabbed the money and dashed back just before the train went by, while they stood helplessly on the other side.

SEATTLE, Wash.—(AP)—No one knew how it got there, but a hen was found loose on the roof of a five-story office building.

Photographer Harold Smith was sent up for pictures and he stalked the bird with care. Working slowly, he made the shots. Then, with a quick snap, he got himself a good dinner, too.

SALIDA, Colo.—(AP)—A panel of 50 men reported for district court jury service but the term was so short it wasn't necessary to check their names.

Four minutes after court opened all the defendants had pleaded guilty. The next day the jurors had scarcely sat down before the last defendant's case was postponed until March.

PHILADELPHIA—(AP)—A Philadelphia milk firm received a check for \$2 today from an anonymous donor to "pay for the bottles I broke when I was a boy."

Kenneth L. Dixon AT THE FRONT!

By Sid Feder
(Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—(AP)—There was this German strong point in a little two-street village in the Apennines at the entrance to the Bolognese road net, and it was giving the doughboys a tough time. So the regimental commanders told Lt. Linsey Wheeler to take a patrol out and find out about it.

The lieutenant, an Addy, Wash. infantryman who won his commission on the battlefield only last November, picked five solid doughboys and took off in the deep mountain snows. This is what happened: They crossed the Savena river, an icy stream alongside highway 65 in this area, and then inched their way over a snow-covered trail well into the enemy lines. When they got to within 50 yards of the group of buildings that made up the strongpoint they still hadn't been spotted. Wheeler deployed four of his men in covering position while he and Pfc. Thomas C. Wilson, a sharpshooting team gunner of Wauconia, Ill., pushed ahead.

They had reached the corner of the first house when a German sentry challenged them. Wheeler answered with a burst from his tommygun and killed him.

Then they had to work fast. Wheeler and Wilson formed an "assault force" of two and promptly "stormed" the building. As they passed by a window Wheeler heard a machinegun being loaded inside. He pushed his gun through the window, cut loose for a moment, then quickly raced around to the door and collided with a Nazi as he came out.

The German, a giant of a man, carried the machinegun cradled in his arms like a machine pistol, firing as he came through the door. For a brief moment there was a duel right there at the doorway. It cost the enemy his life. At that moment, unnoticed by Wheeler, another German gunner appeared in the doorway. Wilson hollered "duck" and began firing. The German fell wounded and was put away for keeps by Wheeler.

Another German soldier took up a position outside the house and although he was firing at pointblank range, Wheeler rushed him because he realized the

Yank Patrol Gives Nazi Strong Point Thoro Going-Over

value of a live prisoner for information purposes. He gave him a going over, took his gun away and had a prisoner.

The entire patrol got together then and headed home. On the way, with machinegun slugs chasing them, they ran into a mine field and one member of the patrol had a foot blown off. Wheeler sent half the patrol on ahead with the prisoner and he and the other two men brought their wounded mate in.

The German strong point of-fers less trouble now.

Funds Denied For Cemetery

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12—(AP)—Funds for establishment of a national cemetery at Portland, Ore., were denied by the house appropriations committee in its war department civil functions bill, introduced today.

Col. R. P. Harbold of the quartermaster corps had told the committee that "a real necessity" exists for the burial ground, authorized in 1941.

He explained that since there is no national cemetery in Oregon or Washington state, national cemetery burials of people from those states must be made in the Presidio or Golden Gate cemeteries in San Francisco or the Buster Battlefield cemetery in eastern Montana.

The senate in 1943 voted funds for the Portland cemetery but the house refused to go along.

Walker Will Speak At War Chest Meet

Ralph S. Walker, pastor of the White Temple First Baptist church of Portland, will be the speaker at the annual meeting of the United War Chest which will be held jointly with the Lions club on Thursday noon at the Marion hotel. Reverend Walker is one of the leaders in Portland's civic and religious activities. His address will deal with community cooperation to solve community welfare problems.

At this meeting reports of officers will be heard and election of directors will be held. All who are contributors to the war chest are eligible to attend, but reservations must be made in advance.

Getting 1943's Tax Bill?

By Alexander R. George
AP Newsfeatures Writer

WASHINGTON—Some 4,000,000 income taxpayers are getting notices from the collector of internal revenue requesting a payment on 1943 tax. Many are wondering why a dun now for an old tax?

It's because final payment is due March 15 on that "unforgotten" tax for 1943 (or 1942). Half of these they were allowed to postpone when they made out their returns a year ago.

When the government started the pay-as-you-go system in the summer of 1943, you already owed, and were in the process of paying, the tax on 1942 income. Remember that under the old system you paid tax on income you had received the preceding year.

To relieve you of paying both your 1942 and 1943 taxes in the same year, congress decided to "forgive" part of the tax for one of those years. You were forgiven part of the smaller year's tax but had to pay all of the larger year's tax. Since income generally was smaller in 1942 than in 1943, a majority of taxpayers had to take forgiveness on their 1942 tax.

Last March, when taxpayers made out these complicated 1943 returns, they figured forgiveness different ways. If your smaller year's tax (1942 or 1943) was \$50 or less, all of it was forgiven. If the smaller year's tax was more than \$50 but less than

\$66.68, the amount forgiven was a flat \$50.

If the smaller year's tax was more than \$66.67, the amount forgiven was 75 per cent of the tax. In that case, you still owed 25 per cent of the smaller tax (1942 or 1943). You had to pay half of that 25 per cent or other amount unforgiven when you filed your 1943 return last March 15. The other half, or any smaller proportion, which was postponed, is due this coming March 15.

The business of trying to catch up with pay-as-you-go is what has given so many taxpayers a prolonged headache. Here's the sort of thing that befuddled J. Average Taxpayer.

He had to make out a return in 1944 (last March), figure his tax for 1943, the amount of tax he already had paid in 1943 and 1942 including the now discarded Victory tax, and decide how much of it he could and would postpone paying until 1945 (this March 15).

Paying up your postponed 1943 or 1942 tax (if you have any) is entirely separate from your return and final payment of 1944 tax, although the due date is the same for both. Therefore the government requests that you make separate payments of each, and not a lump or combined payment of both bills.

Paul Mallon
Is On Vacation

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