

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

Member of the Associated Press
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this newspaper.

Battle Bombers

In the early stages of American participation in aerial warfare in Europe a sharp controversy arose over the relative merits of nighttime bombing as conducted by the British and precision daylight bombing as planned and conducted by American heavy bombers. The argument continued, but each side continued to use its preferred method. The result was that Germany got a double dose: British planes, the Lancaster and Halifax, working the night shift and American planes, Liberator and Flying Fortress taking the daylight run. We haven't heard very much about the relative merits of the two methods, in late months, perhaps because the German Luftwaffe has been so completely knocked from the skies. However, once the fighting stops, the contention will be picked up again and will be argued in aviation and military circles which seek in reviewing experience of this war to formulate plans for the next.

The subject is discussed in an article in the March number of Flying by Maj. Oliver Stewart, a British authority on aviation. He definitely is of the opinion that the British viewpoint is correct:

I think that the war communique reaching London during the past two months, taken with earlier experience, permit the statement that assault attacks by heavy bombers against a well-equipped enemy are militarily uneconomic. I would say that the heavy bomber to be fully effective, must work under cover.

By "under cover" he means planes operating at night or with ample fighter escort. He totals the score as follows:

Bigger bomb load: won by under cover bomber.

Lower loss rate: won by under cover bomber.

Higher accuracy: won by battle bomber.

He also concludes that the under cover bomber has it over the heavy, daylight "battle bomber" in manpower, fuel consumed, ammunition used and in organizational demands. Noting the success of the Superfortress in the war on Japan, he believes it is succeeding because it is technically ahead of Japanese equipment. It must be admitted, also, that the war department admits that the initial bombings of Japanese cities have not been overly effective as yet.

Major Stewart believes that as jet and rocket fighters come into service in greater numbers the heavy bombers will need cover (night or fog) or stronger escorts. "It is time," he says, "that those who plan technical development gave up the illusion of the self-defending heavy bomber."

For the future, observes Stewart, daylight precision work must be transferred to ultrahigh performance medium and light bombers, which would rely quite largely on instruments. He says that "we are near the time when an aircraft working entirely on instruments will be able to find a Jap battleship in mid-Pacific, bomb it by instruments, and return without ever getting a direct visual sight on the target."

While we do not like to be talking about a next war before this one is closed and when we are planning an organization to preserve peace, nevertheless we cannot neglect our own security. One thing is true, no nation can fight the next war just in terms of the last. The lessons of the past are of value only as interpreted in the light of the future's probabilities. This makes problems of aerial warfare, whose tools are still undergoing swift change, at once difficult and fascinating.

"My Dear Gaston"

The interchange between President Roosevelt and General de Gaulle by no means resembles the politeness of Alphonse and Gaston. Remember? "You first, my dear Alphonse;" "After you, my dear Gaston."

Because France was not invited to attend the three-power conference at Yalta, France declines the invitation of President Roosevelt to General de Gaulle to meet him at a point outside of France while he is in the Mediterranean area. France stood on its dignity.

Four and five years ago France was not standing on its dignity. It was not standing at all. It was flat on its back. And Vichy France was groveling, sorry minion of the nazis. De Gaulle was in London pleading for British help, and after we got into the war pleading for American help.

It was American aid which lifted France to its feet. It is American strength which keeps the boche from again overrunning France. It seems therefore in ill grace for France to set such store on its place in the sun which it has by no means earned. Let France make more contribution to victory before claiming to share so largely in the fruits of victory.

Editorial Comment

AT LAST: The famed and powerful KNX has announced that beginning March 1 it will close its microphones to news commentators, and that only its own announcers will present news to the public.

First reports on the action by the Los Angeles station do not state what prompted its decision. But, this seems well, an action that many—one would like to believe that most—will welcome with gratitude. At least here they will be able to listen in for their news and have the opportunity, if they want it, to evaluate it for themselves.

British Broadcasting Corporation listeners already enjoy this privilege, for Britons pride themselves on the fact that they get their wireless news without comment, and that they can think things out for themselves. They have never had to wait in the middle of a report of the progress of the allies on some front around the globe to listen to the gurgle of a patent medicine or while some perhaps "cute" to look at but tuneless blonde jizzes up a favorite music number of thousands in the smart-crack alleged jingles aimed at luring dollars from the pocketbooks of listeners who are told that this or that will drive all woes away.

Let us hope that KNX has opened the way to radio progress which will let us have our radio news as the British get it, and as you get it all the time in a free and independent American press, simply and best, as informative facts.—St. Helens Sentinel-Mist.

Breathing Spell

Costly as the German attack in Belgium last December was to the attackers, it is paying them dividends in time. At the moment when the Russian hammer is pounding and the Russian sickle cutting at Germany's eastern front, the only army which can attack in the west is the British-Canadian army under Marshal Montgomery. The American armies to the south have succeeded in rectifying their lines and expelling the Germans from their regained territory, but are not yet able to mount a power drive to or across the Rhine.

According to Wes Gallagher, AP correspondent, this condition in the west has permitted the nazis to shift their reserves from one point to another to meet attacks. They pulled troops from the west to shore up the line of the Oder river. They shifted forces north to meet the Canadian attack. In this they have of course the advantage of working on inner lines of communication.

If our armies had not been thrown off balance in December at considerable cost in men and supplies they would be able to synchronize their assault with the Russians, giving blows which the nazis could hardly bear. They will come, but without doubt the counter-attack in December has given the Germans a breathing spell.

Judge Curtis D. Wilbur of the ninth circuit court of appeals has announced his intention to retire on May 10 next, at the age of 78. Judge Wilbur had served as chief justice of the California supreme court and as secretary of the navy under President Coolidge. He was appointed to the federal bench by President Hoover. His announcement will undoubtedly precipitate a scramble for appointment as successor. This is a highly important judicial office. Is it too much to hope the president will name an outstanding jurist of the west and not merely reward a political hack who happens to be a lawyer?

Although the proposal comes late, the legislature still has time to act to pass a resolution submitting to the people an amendment to strike from the state constitution section eight of article XV which says that "no Chinaman" may hold real estate or a mining claim, except he was resident of the state when the constitution was adopted. The provision has been inoperative for years, by virtue of a federal court decision, and the section is so labeled in the printed copies of the constitution. It ought to be repealed. It imputes needless taunt to the Chinese.

General Mark Clark has said that signs point to German evacuation of northern Italy and a Berne newspaper prints a report that the withdrawal is in progress. This is good news, if true. It means first, that the situation in Germany has deteriorated to the point where Hitler must call his soldiers home; and second, that the long, hard battle for Italy will be over giving our forces there a well-earned respite.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

With seizure of pin-point Iwo Jima off the south coast of Japan under way by American naval forces, a beginning has been made on rolling history back almost a century.

Just 92 years ago next July Commodore Matthew C. Perry began the negotiations for the treaty of "Peace and Amity" that opened Japan to the world. By the time that anniversary rolls around it is a fair conclusion that another American naval officer, Admiral Nimitz, will have sealed Japan in again, blockading her by sea and air against any effective contact through the east and south China seas with the Chinese mainland.

That is the implication of the massive naval power blow that exposed Iwo Jima to landing operations destined to make it a plane base for American use a meager 750 miles from Tokyo. It means that land based medium bombers taking off from Iwo Jima's air strips can range over all the ports of southern Japan and blast at sea communications of the enemy army in northern China as well as at Japanese war industries.

It means, too, that Nimitz' mighty fleet can carry its bold sweep into Japanese home waters farther west and north at will under shelter of Luzon and Iwo Jima based heavy air power to supplement its own carrier plane strength. Iwo is a potential step toward American naval penetration of the Yellow sea to cut Japan off completely from huge Japanese armies deployed in China.

Strike a 1000-mile radius circle from Manila and another from Iwo Jima and they intersect over the Japanese Ryukyu islands just east of Formosa. One arc, representing the easy range of medium and light-heavy bombers, spans the whole south China sea sweep to east China covering all of Formosa. The arc from Iwo Jima covers all Japan south of latitude 40 degrees, the southern tip of the Korean peninsula and the mouth of the sea of Japan as well as all the central and northern islands of the Ryukyu chain.

While the amphibious attack on Iwo Jima has stirred Japanese fears of impending direct invasion of the homeland itself it is the blockade feature that most deeply concerns some enemy observers. They promptly noted that American penetration of the inner circle of Japanese insular outposts in the Pacific gravely menaced all sea contact with China sea sources of vital war materials and with troops in all the southern sectors of Japan's shriveling conquest sphere.

It seems doubtful, however, that invasion of Japan can be in very close prospect in allied planning. Until the war in Europe ends so far as organized German resistance is concerned it is unlikely that either the forces or the shipping for pushing on into Japan or into China to come to grips with the Japanese army can be available. That does not mean, nevertheless, that naval preparations for such sea-borne invasions in both directions cannot be carried through in advance. Seizure of Iwo Jima brings the war by air terribly close to Japan right now even though months might elapse before it could be followed by landings on the Japanese home islands themselves.



Distributed by King Features Syndicate by arrangement with The Washington Star

When Papa's Away . . .

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

"GENERALS IN THE WHITE HOUSE," by Dorothy B. and Julius Goebel, Jr. (Doubleday, Doran; \$2.75).

On the whole our generals have scared us just about as much as they have scared our enemies. We regarded them as potential Caesars or Napoleons. In wartime we couldn't get along without them; in peace we trembled in fear we couldn't get along without them.

In spite of our traditional Republican distrust of the military, nine Americans were generals before they became presidents; on nine occasions we laid aside prejudice and elected a candidate who might have been the Man on Horseback . . . as typified by the French General Boulanger, a too dangerous combination of soldier and politician who, however, finally rode his horse off to Brussels and shot himself.

Mr. and Mrs. Goebel have examined the careers of our nine, estimated their abilities and considered whether they were potential Caesars. Jackson, William Henry Harrison and Hayes are rated as equally capable in the field and in White House; Washington and Pierce are called better presidents than generals; Taylor, Grant, Garfield and Benjamin Harrison get more credit as generals than as presidents.

Except in the case of Grant, they were approximately as capable in the White House as their military abilities would have led us to expect. The Goebels find little or no evidence of Caesarism among them, either in act or in aspiration. "It was not the generals who moved us into our wars," they assert; and they maintain that the general-presidents conducted our foreign affairs with at least as much prudence as any other White House occupants.

The last of the nine were products of the Civil War. The Goebels say "it would be marvelous" if we didn't elect another soldier some day. That's what they say, but what they mean is, they think we are likely to, and think it would be perfectly safe to.

Pershing, in the last war, said no. MacArthur, in this war, said no-n-n-no. Eisenhower, Clark, Patton, Bradley . . . shall we be asking them?

ADA, Okla. (AP)—A purebred polled Hereford calf and a 16-year-old Seguin, Tex., farm boy, Reno Lehmann, took their first airplane ride today. The 175-pound calf was a gift of an Ada rancher. Boy and calf were loaded in the rancher's plane for the return trip to Seguin. The calf, its legs tied with rope, sat on the floor beside Reno with its head in his lap.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON
(Distribution by King Features Syndicate, Inc. Reproduction in whole or in part strictly prohibited.)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 19.—Words and Lyrics in praise of Mr. Henry Wallace are blowing over the country from the Washington and New York typewriters and mimeograph machines, furious words and thunderous lyrics.

Here they sound like the old wind and rain machines of the 10, 20 and 30 cent melodramas which made Eliza's crossing the stage ice so perilous and awful—for those who can be easily convinced. The Wallace grinders moan and howl: "If you're for Roosevelt, you're for Wallace" (signed national business men's committee for Wallace) . . .

"Wallace is a Yankee business man, howls Morgenthau" (oblivious of geography which has certified Yankees in New England where Wallace has never been, except on political trips). "The reactionary senators are trying to defeat the common man," moans a Florida columnist whose opinion is being republished throughout the state as a paid advertisement.

Why? Mr. Wallace is defeated. He was defeated within 48 hours after his nomination for secretary of commerce was sent to the senate, defeated for the only important aspect of his appointment, control of the lending agencies.

I know certainly Mr. Roosevelt called him in and talked to him then about giving up this \$40,000,000 part of the commerce secretary's job although Wallace then still wanted to go through with both jobs. Without that RFC, the commerce secretaryship is the least important cabinet office.

He was defeated not by a few "reactionary" senators, but by complete outraged majorities of the congress recently elected by the people with Mr. Roosevelt for the fourth term. They just would not stand for putting a farmer in to handle the new deal's financial lending empire.

Why all this hullabaloo, then? Why this fake campaign? It is a fake, because it simply is not true that if you are for Roosevelt, you are for Wallace.

Mr. Roosevelt himself, had to discard Wallace for the presidential campaign; is being compelled by congress now again to discard him for a financial control job for which few think him suited.

It is not true that he is either a Yankee or a business man. It is not true that the opposition represents reactionism while he represents the common man. Looking at it only from the Roosevelt liberal or any democratic viewpoint, the common man would best be served by an efficient management of the banks and lending companies through RFC in the interests of the government.

A man who knows nothing of such hardboiled highly technical management could cause the whole RFC empire to fall into a mess within a few months, disrupting the proposed job-lending and ruin the country. Would that help the common man?

In my solemn, sincere opinion, Wallace could be useful in that job only for those who want to ruin the country. You would hire a physician to do your dentistry or a dentist to take out your appendix, not unless you wanted the patient to die.

Why this campaign? The only possible explanation, it seems to me, is this: Radical leadership in this country has fallen far below par. The latest Hillman-CIO movement clearly was so uninspiring from its own standpoint that it searched for a more respectable front, even during the campaign, trying to get the late Sen. George Norris to head it.

Immediately after the election it started an ill-founded fight on the Stettinius sides and got only about one-tenth of the vote of the senate. Now it is trying to stir up just as ill-grounded and foolish a campaign to build Wallace up as a front for its activities. From the way they are going about it, I judge they expect to make the people believe Wallace a tin-god from his defeat, a

"THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



Copyright 1945 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Kenneth L. Dixon
AT THE FRONT!
M/Sgt. Jas. Powder
Part of Army Chief
Of Staff's Family

By Sid Feder
(Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon)
WITH THE 5TH ARMY IN ITALY (AP)—It is probably a fortunate coincidence that M/Sgt. James M. Powder, who practically goes with a lease in the United States army chiefs of staff official family, is a big man for his size—all six feet four and three quarter inches of him.

Otherwise he'd probably have to have an extension sewn on his sleeve to accommodate a set of hash marks that look like the winding staircase in the Statue of Liberty. After all, 27 years in this man's army are slightly longer than the world's record for the hundred yard dash. He has 9 hashmarks.

Powder was here with another soldier, George C. Marshall, general of the army and chief of staff. Powder's job, by his own description, is to "make the old man comfortable."

The two of them, along with Col. Frank McCarthy, pre-war police reporter on the Richmond (Va.) Times Dispatch and currently the youngest secretary the general staff has ever had, dropped in on their way home from the Crimean conference to see what was cooking on the "forgotten" Italian front. Just for the record, they didn't like the mud any more than the Joes who didn't get to the Crimean conference.

In between taking care of the general's two uniforms, five shirts and six suits of under-

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

by the general fund then if liquor revenues decline other state needs would suffer as the general fund is called on to old age assistance.

The fact is that in the past whenever liquor revenues did not seem to suffice appropriations from the general fund have been made for public welfare. In the biennium 1941-43 this amounted to \$2,343,831. Whether liquor revenues go direct to public welfare or not the legislature will have to provide funds for the welfare needs, just as it has in the past. Certainly no one would dispute the plain statement that provision for the aged, the blind and the needy should not depend on the amount of whiskey being consumed.

Because of the fears over whether our state finance is getting into an unbalanced situation

martyr for the "common man," a respectable show window man for future use.

Mr. Wallace is an honest, decent person and thus suitable for that purpose. He is not acute to the workings of those who have been using him for some time. Human and friendly, he has never been accused of being smart, or gifted with the qualities in sight for leadership.

The movement, therefore, is not likely to succeed. The leadership is still inept. True liberalism in the real interests of the people will not gain its day until young new men who are both clever and honest, now unknown, arise to take hold of it and lead it away from its current course of humbuggery and quackery which would hardly deceive a modern child.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

HALF A LOAF

To the Editor:
A casual survey of the Bush pasture park property leads this writer to believe that the proponents of the projected park purchase have given too much thought to the superficial value of the tract, and not enough thought to the manner and design potentialities of this land.

If a detailed study of the development had been made, before bringing the proposition to the people, these things might have become apparent:

- (1). That portion of the land which roughly lies west of the line of Church street if extended, and west of the Bush house, and also west of the very heavy oak timber is not essential to the development of a beautiful park.
- (2). This westerly part of the land, which is approximately 500 by 2200 feet in size, could well be the site of Salem's most desirable real estate subdivision, vastly enhanced in value by its proximity to the future park.
- (3). The park property under such a design scheme would be entirely east of an extended Church street, which would be built to follow the graceful present line of the heavy timber on the brow of the hill and would emerge at the south end to a connection with High, Church and Cottage streets.
- (4). Instead of the city spending \$175,000, it would be logical

to believe that this land could be acquired for not to exceed \$75,000, inasmuch as the land remaining to the present owners would have a value in excess of \$100,000.

This writer was in favor of the original idea to purchase the entire tract, but on the theory that half a loaf is still good to eat, it would seem to be a good thought to suggest that we find out what we are going to do with the land before we get it. Maybe we don't need as much of it as we thought we did.

Very truly
R. H. DOBELL

STEVENS DIAMONDS
Identification Bracelets
We do our own engraving . . . 5c per letter.
Stevens & Son
339 West St. Salem
Manufacturing Jewelers
Store Hours: 9:30 A. M. to 6 P. M.
Divided Payments