

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851
"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Ave"
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A Year of "Unrah"

"Unrah" as the UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) is popularly called, has been set up for a year and a quarter. It has spent millions of dollars but hasn't distributed enough food baskets yet to equal what the Salvation Army does at Christmas time in a good year. Of its \$2 billion dollar budget, \$1,217,091,869 has been appropriated by 30 member governments and 34 governments have contributed \$8,370,000 toward the \$10,000,000 allocated for administrative expense. UNRRA has sent missions to various nations of South America to find out what supplies are available, and has sent missions abroad to see what the needs are and how they may be met. But aside from very limited distribution of foodstuffs to Greece, which stopped when the shooting took in UNRRA trucks and men, virtually no relief has been provided.

"Unrah" has its excuses. Yugo-Slavia wouldn't let its agents in. Russia wouldn't admit its representatives into Poland or permit them to supervise food distribution there. Italy is still bossed by the Allied commission of the armies. France and Belgium haven't asked for its help.

As a result there is mounting criticism over the failure of UNRRA to provide the relief which reports reveal is desperately needed.

The worst impediment to field operations is lack of shipping. A few days ago Acting Secretary of State Grew announced that a limited number of ships had been made available for moving supplies to Italy, Poland and Czechoslovakia. Shipments are being started toward these last two countries although the USSR still withholds visas for admitting "Unrah's" agents to enter them. Agents now are entering Yugo-Slavia following a recent agreement. It now is expected that by April 1 and after the relief program of UNRRA will be really functioning.

For financially independent countries like France, Belgium and The Netherlands, UNRRA will not furnish the goods, but is supposed to assist them. They have the means, but again suffer because of lack of shipping and of breakdown of internal transport systems.

The far east is also in the scope of UNRRA's responsibility and a conference was held in Sydney, Australia, last week to develop plans to meet needs in liberated countries as fast as the Japs are driven out.

While immediate providing of provisions, fuel, clothing and medical supplies and service is generally regarded as the principal task of UNRRA, the organization itself seems to put more emphasis on rehabilitation, getting the countries in shape to help themselves. One of its most important and difficult tasks is care of displaced persons. It is estimated that about 12,000,000 people in Europe have been displaced from their own national territory. In addition, there are thousands who have been displaced within the boundaries of their countries. In China some 40,000,000 have been displaced. Instinctively the majority will want to turn back to their home villages and towns. But when they arrive they may find only ruins awaiting them.

It will take a competent, understanding organization to assist these homeless folk to restore their homes or erect new ones. UNRRA cannot finance the reconstruction of the war wastage in Europe and the far east. It can provide channels in which energies for rebuilding may flow and provide counsel and organization for the refugees. Already UNRRA has in the Mediterranean area camps of some 50,000 Greek and Yugo-Slav refugees who await repatriation.

While we grow impatient for lack of evidence of progress in getting bread and fuel to cold and hungry people and critical of the seeming impotence of UNRRA, we have to realize that it suffers many handicaps—the need of getting actual instead of just paper cooperation from the supporting nations; approval of allied military command and of governments of liberated countries; and then allotment of provisions and transport facilities. One thing is sure, though, that if "Unrah" doesn't really get rolling by mid-summer public criticism will grow louder and sharper.

Editorial Comment

ON STATE RETIREMENT FUNDS

Persons interested in the use of the state game fund for the promotion and the development of fish and game in Oregon are protesting the proposal made in the senate bill 204 for the payment of a pension from the fund to the widow of the late Matt Ryckman. It is set out in the bill that Mr. Ryckman was an employee of the game commission for 23 years, that he received "only modest compensation" for his services and "by the long and faithful service of the said Matt Ryckman and the small compensation he received therefor, a duty arises to reasonably provide for said widow."

It will be interesting to observe the action taken by the legislature with respect to this pension bill. We are told that the compensation described in it as "only modest" and "small" was, in the later years of employment, \$4,200 a year and if those adjectives fit that pay and a duty has been created to provide a pension then the legislature, in fairness to the surviving dependents of scores of other state employees, has an obligation to care for them, also.

We leave it to those who feel that game fund money should not be used for pension purposes to express themselves regarding this bill. For our part we suggest that the situation given publicity by its allegations calls for remedy by the creation of a sound state employee pension or retirement fund. Social security, within the meaning of the federal law, is not available for employees of the state and of lower levels of government. It should be made available.

Casualty Lists

We confess to being skeptical on the casualty lists covering Jap losses as announced by General MacArthur. On Leyte the number reported was around 115,000, on Luzon likewise a very large number. We wonder how much is body count and how much is guesstimating.

It is always possible after an engagement for a commander to compile accurate lists of his own casualties: dead, wounded and missing. Those who report at roll call are accounted for; others known to be dead or wounded are so listed, and all others may be designated as missing. But how is it possible to make the count of the enemy so quickly, perhaps even before the ground has been won, and especially under modern methods of warfare in which one shell may blow a dozen men to bits, or a bomb may bury them?

We readily accept the report that enemy losses are greater than our own, but we aren't too sure of the accuracy of reports of enemy losses. They are made too quickly and too positively to carry full confidence.

The casualty lists from Iwo Jima were, indeed, disturbing: 3600 listed for the first 48 hours of fighting. But aside from the first report that losses were "moderate," quickly revised to indicate heavier losses, there has not been the slightest attempt to minimize the seriousness of this struggle. The reports have said plainly that this was the toughest go of any of the operations on Jap-held islands. The fierceness of the fighting and the enemy's preparations for defense are reminiscent of Tarawa. It is most sincerely hoped that the experience of prior invasions—Tarawa, Saipan, Peleliu—will stand the marines in good stead in the conquest of this rocky islet guarding the approach to Tokyo.

Klamath Basin Water

The Klamath basin is up in arms over proposals to carry some of its water over into the central valley of California for use in irrigation. California is perpetually thirsty, and seeing the great stores of water in the Klamath country, far more than is presently used, would like to siphon some of the runoff over into the Pit watershed and down to the pool in the Sacramento river.

Army engineers have assured the Klamath people that nothing will be done to the injury of the Klamath basin, but at a hearing in Klamath Falls the first of the week the Klamath people made it clear that nothing would be done to share Klamath water with California except over their dead bodies.

Which leads up to this question: What plans do the Klamath people have for using the water surplus which the basin now has? Their best defense would be a plan of affirmative action.

Pay for election boards is increased from \$3 to \$4 a day. These jobs are usually "pin money" jobs, and have not been so popular lately when pin money was just—pin money.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

The aerial curtain-raiser for the culminating Russian-Allied winter attempt to reach the heart of bomb-riddled Germany with land armies is on.

London reports of 7000 planes teamed up in an attack that poured explosives into German rail hubs for 24 hours at a rate of 100 tons per minute can have no other meaning. It looks as a knock-out air blow at Nazi internal communications in preparation for virtually simultaneous Russian and Allied ground attacks to crush in the walls of the last German defense citadel.

Judged by its size and east-west scope as well as by its strict limitation to rail targets, no other construction could be placed on the massive air blasting over Germany. It outmatched every previous exhibition of air power in this war.

Yet the attack conformed strictly to the American air policy of striking only at military targets, not to terrorize civilian populations War Secretary Stimson told a news conference in Washington. If the conclusive attacks of the winter campaign by Russian and Allied armies are close at hand, the rail hub targets selected hold the answer to German ability to survive the two front storm.

Through them must shuttle the men and supplies from side to side to prop faltering defense lines. With her sources of natural or synthetic motor fuels lost or badly knocked out by air, the German web of hard-surfaced roads is an undependable prop for German battle fronts. The gasoline to drive motorized supply and troop caravans as well as tanks and mobile gun mounts is fast leaking away. It is upon her vast rail network and coal and even wood burning motive power Germans must increasingly rely as the final clutch of the war in Europe takes hold.

That is the outstanding significance of the cumulative Allied air concentration against rail targets that rose to unprecedented power in the Washington birthday mass sorties. It too clearly foreshadows Russian and Allied ground action on a hardly less unprecedented scale.

The daylight bomb deluge was preceded by British night-shift attacks sweeping widely over Germany with the aid of the first "bomber's moon" in weeks to reveal their targets. Daylight conditions generally over Germany were reported hardly less favorable for pin-point attack on rail junctions and assembly yards.

Authoritative recapitulations of the damage done were lacking as this was written. There could be no doubt, nevertheless, that Nazis means of meeting new major attacks on either front quickly and adequately had been gravely impaired. It will take days to restore blasted communications even if weather conditions do not invite immediate further air attacks on the same scale. And within those days the Nazi expected culminating breakthrough blows on the Oder-Neisse line in the east and the Roer-Maas line in the west may fall.

How long Germany can stand the ever increasing strain without an internal convulsion of some sort none can say. It seems clear, however, that this most devastating and far spread Allied bombing attack while directed at military targets must have some effect on German public morale.



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The Literary News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON
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"TROOPERS WEST," by Forbes Parkhill (Farrar & Rinehart, \$2.75); "THE TEN GRANDMOTHERS," by Alice Marriott (University of Oklahoma, \$3); "KICKAPOO INDIAN TRAILS," by Louise Green Hoad (Caxton, \$2.50).

One little, two little, three little Indians, some of them as good as gold and some as mean as poison—that's the subject of this column.

Parkhill, lone novelist among these three authors, weaves a yarn, or lazy-snow-stitches it, out of a young Army doctor in love with a girl and mad about a surgical device he has invented, an Indian agent as sanctimonious as he was stupid, an attack on the agency by Utes who had good reason for being angered, and a siege of an army force behind upturned wagons on the bank of Butterfly creek. It all took place, supposedly, in 1879.

It's a good story with which to while away an evening, and has a smart twist at the end. It pictures the Indian of more or less traditional fiction; you will recognize the bloodthirsty fellow as the one you as a boy used to imagine you were when you raced around the backyard letting your warwhorls and scalping your playmates.

It may be the Indian of fact, too, though it is not the one described, sort of from the distaff side, with hardly a tomahawk waved and hardly a shot fired, by Alice Marriott and Louise Green Hoad. Miss Marriott, an ethnologist, lived for two summers among the Kiowas; Mrs. Hoad was born in 1872 in Whiting, Kans., near the Kickapoo reservation. The Indians they write about would not inspire boys to play Indian games.

Miss Marriott's account begins in 1847, when her Kiowas were fighting Parkhill's Utes, and continues to 1942, when all Indians had joined white forces to fight on Germans and Japanese. There is a lot of authentic information stowed away in this volume, and palatably served. If you are seriously interested in the Indian, this is your book.

Mrs. Hoad writes in the first person for her mother, who was stationed on the Kickapoo reservation just after the Civil War. Offered as the stories Mrs. Green told to children, it's a bit elemental; it certainly debunks the ferocious Red man.

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—Mrs. Harper Sittler writes 30 letters a week to her five sons in the armed services—and she's blind. After long and discouraging practice she learned to do it with a typewriter. A sixth son, 15, reads their replies to her.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—(AP)—All inner, as well as public accounts of the Livadia understanding, indicate the Russian position has been accepted on most issues as the working basis for postwar.

The bulk of senators and representatives have reached this private conclusion, excepting, of course the new presiding vice president, Mr. Truman, who thinks Mr. Roosevelt won practically everything. He is apt to be a bit partisan in the matter.

The general run of congress is noting that headquarters for reparations are to be in Moscow, the Curson line was accepted, as well as the basic Lublin government for Poland and the Tito dominating regime in Yugoslavia, and most important—the voting setup of the United Nations to handle future war makers.

The particular visible point that Mr. Roosevelt won has a prescription for free and secret elections eventually in the many small European (Atlantic charter), and the yet invisible promise of Russian war against our enemy—Japan.

The limited evidence on the conference thus clearly shows Messrs. Roosevelt and Churchill gave on the political issues in order to get any agreement at all (Russia clearly was not eager) and they preserved their democratic ideals, at least in the language of the understanding.

You would not be able to guess it from the public reaction here, but congress does not like this. Furthermore, contradictory as it may sound, congress, or the senate, will probably approve the settlement.

Such a momentum for some kind of a peace agreement—any kind of a peace agreement in fact—has been built up that nearly any kind can be approved.

Michigan's Senator Vandenberg, for a good example, issued a half-pleased comment, pointing out he had won his point that the immediate postwar governments in these countries would be subject to later electoral review.

Ohio's Senator Burton, back from Europe, says the soldiers want a peace agreement and are not particular as to what it is. People at large do not pay much attention to details of these

international commitments, in fact do not attempt to understand them fully. Everyone here seems to figure Mr. Roosevelt was re-elected last November because he claimed and was thought to be more competent than Dewey to handle Stalin and Churchill in international negotiations—an indispensable man for that task, in fact.

There is not much inclination to look askance at what he got out of it, especially with part of it not made public. Opposition thus far has just about been limited to Senator Wheeler.

Even if the unpublished part of the agreement is as forecast, such fatalism has taken hold here that any heavy struggling is discouraged.

Nearly everyone thus is trying to cast the best possible light on the achievement to the disregard of its nature. It is being said that Russia was in control of Europe anyway, and therefore, if we got anything, it is all to the good.

If effective action to prevent war making by any of the Big Five proves impossible under the settlement, well, then, we can at least ourselves veto aggressions by other nations in Latin America.

If the prospect that "free elections" in Europe will not include democratic freedom of press and speech in a preparatory campaign by all parties, but may be controlled by pressure of the dominant elements, then there have been some happy, if vague, reports that the Europeans are so sick of totalitarianism, they may electorally turn against the dominant communist regimes in Poland, Yugoslavia, etc.

If the Poles lose, well, the Poles are split anyway (and incidentally their protests were surprisingly mild).

If Russia, directing reparations, is apt to take slave labor out of Germany, that is not so far from the Morgenthau plan of industrial seizure, which Mr. Roosevelt never disavowed (this is a contradiction because Germany would have to keep her industries in order to pay the kind of reparations Russia will exact).

This is what you hear here—a fatalistic determination to accept everything in the best possible light, with fingers crossed.

"THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



3-15. Copy, 1945 by United Features Syndicate, Inc.

"They wouldn't take dad and now he can't wear a uniform."

Kenneth L. Dixon
AT THE FRONT!

By Ruth Cowan (Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon.)
NICE—(P)—What do they think about these first service men and women to try out Uncle Sam's rest cure at this peacetime millionaire playground? Col. Thomas F. Gunn of Portland, Ore., director of the U. S. Riviera recreation area, said frankly that the initial groups of soldiers and WACs were guinea pigs and that the army was anxious to get their reactions. Both soldiers and WACs were enthusiastic in their praise of efforts of recreation officers to provide them a good time.

Sgt. Mary Jane "Chick" Young, San Diego, Calif., summed it up this way: "They treat you like an individual, instead of as a GI, and that's the way it should be when you are on a rest."

They raved about the friendliness of the French, the sheets, the hot water and other luxuries of the hotels. The GIs liked the facilities for tennis, football and basketball. The WACs liked the music with their meals played by Italian service unit orchestras. But they have their bees, too.

There is no saluting "which is great," but while the GI does not have to wear a tie at dinner, his sister soldier has a class A uniform.

The men are quartered at the Hotel Ruhl and the girls at the Hotel Negro. Neither liked the midday luncheon dance planned as a get acquainted party.

"We went because we were told to, but we didn't want to," was the general reaction. They don't want to be told where to go or with whom to date.

Many of these soldiers and WACs were on duty together in Italy. On the question of romance they were not over-friendly. The soldiers thought the WACs were snooty. The WACs said they didn't want the soldiers forced to lunch with them, but that, since they had to do it, they could have been more polite.

Most GIs, unless they have lost their heart to some WAC in the outfit, want to meet other WACs or French girls. That's quite all right with the WACs, who would like to meet other soldiers. Some WACs said that while on rest they feel they should be allowed to date any man, soldier or officer. Dating officers by enlisted women is frowned upon. They all want the army to go slow on "command" dates.

Special rules apply to members of the armed forces in determining the time when payment of the final balance due shall be made when they have been outside of the United States, as explained in article No. 51 in this series.

Payments of income taxes must be made to the office of the collector of internal revenue where the return is required to be filed—that is, to the collector for the district in which is located the taxpayer's legal residence or principal place of business. If he has no legal residence or principal place of business in the United States, payment should be made to the collector at Baltimore, Md.

Payments of tax may be made in cash, or by check or money order payable to "Collector of Internal Revenue." If payment is made in cash, the taxpayer should request and the collector should furnish a receipt. If however, payment is made by check or money order, the canceled check or the money order receipt is usually a sufficient receipt.

In the computation and payment of taxes, a fractional part of a cent is to be disregarded unless it amounts to one-half cent or more, in which case it shall be increased to 1 cent.

Individuals who exercised their right to postpone payment of part of their 1943 income tax until March 1, 1945, should by this time have received separate bills from the collector for this postponed tax. In each case, the bill is based upon an account which has been maintained by the collector as an item separate from other tax liabilities. Therefore, to secure proper credit for payment of the deferred tax and to avoid the confusion which would result from combining payments of several tax accounts in one check, money order or other remittance, the payment of a deferred 1943 tax should be made separately and should not be combined with any other tax payment.

The End

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